

seventeen hundred and ninety-one, and a certificate of the amount ascertained, in accordance with the directions of the Resolution referred to, has been filed in this office, "for the further action of the General Assembly of Maryland."

It will be perceived by a reference to TABLE No. 15 of the Appendix, that the receipts from the tax on Policies of Insurance have very much decreased, as compared with the receipts in former years.

This is unquestionably, attributable to the imperfections of the laws on this subject, and the difficulties attending their execution.

The revenue would be enhanced by the repeal of the existing laws, and the passage of others of a more direct and stringent character.

The licenses to Agents of Insurance Companies not incorporated by this State, should issue from this Office, and the price of the license might be increased, as was suggested by my predecessor in his Report for 1855, and all other taxes on this account abolished.

The receipts from the Hay Scales in Baltimore will be found in TABLE No. 12. They amounted in the year to \$863.84 which is an increase upon the year preceding.

TABLE No. 12, also shows the receipts from the *Live Stock Scales* during the fiscal year. The revenue derived by the State from this source, was \$6,394.35, a falling off as compared with former years, in consequence of the extensive repairs, which the Weighmaster has deemed it his duty to make during the years 1856 and 1857. In this connection the Comptroller begs leave to renew the suggestion made in his Report to the Governor in the preceding year.

The Revenue from the State Wharves in Baltimore likewise appears in No. 12 of the Tables. Upon the representations of the State Wharfinger, and in the absence of an appropriation; the Comptroller was induced to allow a portion of the receipts to be applied in the making of repairs, which appeared to be absolutely necessary to preserve the property of the State. It would, doubtless, be of service for a Com-