

sary buildings and other matters for the proper prosecution of this trade to individual enterprise. This department would be saved the unnecessary labor of examining, auditing and preserving the annual accounts of the several Inspectors, and the people of the State benefitted by a separation from all systems of this kind. Our financial operations would be less complicated and more productive. The fostering of one branch of industry to the prejudice of another should never be encouraged, but all alike should, after the reception of the State's assistance in their incipient efforts, be left to their own unaided exertions for support.

The receipts from the Inspection of Grain have increased since the modification of the original law made on the 8th day of March, 1864. Although not sufficient to pay the salaries of the officers in full, it has been such as to warrant the probability that after our commercial difficulties shall have ended a revenue will be received more than sufficient to pay all expenses and salaries. The gross amount of receipts returned for the fiscal year of 1864, was \$6,435.90, from which, after deducting \$884.53 for expenses, there was left applicable to the payment of the salaries of the Inspector General, and four Inspectors, \$5,591.91.

During the present year, there has been imposed upon this Department by the Acts of 1864, chapters 15, 246 and 373, the payment of bounties to Volunteers in the service of the United States. The enlistments were made up of white persons, free colored and others of African descent, formerly slaves. The sums due the two former have been paid to the Commissioners of the several counties, and the Register of Baltimore city, upon their drafts, to be disbursed by them, while the latter—the slaves—have been paid either in person at this office, or by our agent. The sums expended for these respective Volunteers are shewn by Statement L, to amount to \$1,281,668.90. Since the end of the fiscal year an adjustment with our agent, Dr. John F. Kurtz, of Dorchester county, who was sent to pay off those of the 19th, 30th and 39th Regiments, representing the slaves who were then either in actual service or in hospitals, exhibits the fact, that out of the whole return of 1400 men to this office, 741 could not be found, leaving 659 who were found and to whom have been paid their cash bounties, amounting to \$32,950, of which \$2,450 were paid in person at this office and \$30,500 by my agent, as will be seen by a note appended to table No. 24. The manner in which our agent performed his trust was highly satisfactory. I am convinced a considerable sum was thus saved, which under the usual course of powers of Attorney might have been either lost to the State or to those who were intended to be the recipients of this bounty. The difficulty arising upon the death of this class of Volunteers was early foreseen, and I steadily refused to pay, unless satisfied of their