

want of funds ; nor anything on account of the additional disbursements made necessary by the regular session of the Legislature occurring in 1862. It will be seen from the foregoing, however, that the receipts of the Treasury in 1862 from ordinary sources were increased to amount of nearly half a million of dollars, over receipts of preceding year, and that increase was maintained within a comparatively trifling amount for the year 1863, whilst the disbursements on ordinary account in last mentioned year—to say nothing of the large amount paid for exchange on transmitting abroad the interest on public debt, amounting to upwards of \$90,000—were less than in either of the preceding years.

The gratifying result of all the Treasury operations is that at the end of the fiscal year 1863—with no new debt contracted—with more than \$100,000 of the old extinguished, and upwards of \$371,000 paid the General Government, there is a balance on hand of more than a million of dollars, exclusive of the cash to the credit of the Sinking and the School Funds.

Whilst various circumstances have of course concurred in producing these gratifying exhibits of the state of the Treasury, I cannot suffer the occasion to pass without giving the credit so justly due to the ability which has distinguished the management of that Department, whilst under the direction of the present Comptroller. The intelligence, assiduity, and patient industry with which he has discharged his arduous and responsible duties, the strict accountability to which he has held all receivers of public moneys, and the vigilance and fidelity with which he has guarded every public interest committed to him, would have secured the successful administration of any office, but have been invaluable to such a Department as has been for the last two years under his control.

You will perceive, by adverting to the tables which accompany the Comptroller's report, that whilst the apparent debt of the State on the 30th of September last, was \$14,793,742.-51, yet, under the system pursued of annually investing the accruing interest of the Sinking Fund in the bonds of the State, that Fund is at present the holder of upwards of half that portion of said debt, for which the State is required to provide interest ; for deducting from the above amount of apparent debt the sum of \$3,269,321.11, the interest on which is provided by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and the whole debt of the State, on which she is in fact required to pay interest, is reduced to the sum of \$11,524,421.-40 ; and of this there was held by the Sinking Fund, on the 30th of September last, the sum of \$5,649,656.83, and other bonds to the amount of \$144,423.39, have been purchased on