

The license system of the State, as it now stands, works exceedingly well, and produces a handsome revenue. The only legislation called for, is in relation to Agents of Foreign Insurance Companies, in some suitable provision to punish infractions of the law by those acting without the required license. Attempts hitherto to reach such persons, have been unavailing by the mode provided.

A custom prevails with some of the Clerks of Circuit Courts to issue what they call "Permits," which are understood to be licenses from themselves without the Comptroller's stamp thereon. This custom destroys the check intended to be provided by the law requiring the Comptroller's stamp on every license issued, and requiring the Comptroller to keep always on hand the necessary licenses to meet the orders for them. It is difficult, under such circumstances, to keep the accounts with the Clerks for licenses furnished them; or to make the accounts of licenses delivered and charged to them, agree with those issued by the Clerks and those reported on hand.

By an oversight of the Legislature of 1862, the increase of Direct Tax by fifteen cents on each one hundred dollars, was not made applicable to the Section 103 of Article 81, Code of General Laws, relating to the tax on the Public Debt. At the time of providing the payment of the July interest of 1862, as required by Section 104 of same Article, the Treasurer believing that the intention of the Legislature was to tax all property alike, retained one quarter per cent. It was generally acquiesced in by the holders of State Stock at that time; but dissatisfaction having been expressed subsequently by some of the holders of the Stock, to avoid difficulty, the Treasurer, in providing the July interest for 1863, retained only a tax of one-tenth of one per cent., as authorized by the Section 103 of Article 81. To correct this matter, it is suggested that the Legislature pass an Explanatory Act, supplementary to the Act of 1862, legalizing the tax on this item at one-fourth of one per cent.; or otherwise refunding the additional fifteen cents on each one hundred dollars, retained by the Treasurer in July, 1862, to the then holders of the Public Debt.