

tax of twenty five cents in the hundred dollars, payable annually under acts of April and December Sessions of the year 1841 to the \$622,389 due on the first of March next, in pursuance of the same laws, and the \$270,000 annual internal improvement tax of Baltimore City, we discover \$1,384,266 is to be paid within the year, equivalent to a levy of ninety seven cents in the hundred dollars for Baltimore, and of fifty seven cents for the State at large.

From what has been said, it is apparent, that it was the design of the Legislature to provide for the payment of the whole interest in arrears on or before the first of March next; and it is equally manifest, this object will not be accomplished. The interest in arrears is, as already stated \$859,656 and the revenue intended for its payment being only \$622,386, there will be a balance of \$237,270 chargeable on the assessment of 1843.

To this we are to add \$600,000, the anticipated deficit in the Treasury for the year 1843 making \$857,270, and from that sum to deduct \$491,877 the revenue to be expected from the direct tax for the same year, & there will be a balance of \$365,393 to be provided for.

As the sinking fund may be looked to by some, as a source of supply to the Treasury, it is proper to state that of this fund \$1,158,476 is invested in the bonds of the State, and that the balance of \$20,856 alone could alone be made available.

The general stagnation in business, the depression of prices and diminution in the amount of the currency, naturally lead us to enquire as to the policy of providing a medium, that would facilitate the payment of the very large amount of taxes to come into the Treasury within the present fiscal year. Neither inconvertible paper, nor an increase of the Bank issues are to be thought of. But it may not be considered to authorize to authorize the tax collectors to take in payment of the public dues, the coupons of the State bonds, and certificates of the Commissioner of Loans for interest, which it is proposed to pay out of the revenue to be collected. These evidences of debt are now much below their nominal value. They may be purchased by capitalists at present prices, and as the means for their ultimate payment are provided, the holders hereafter are to make a valuable speculation. If a certain portion of them were made serviceable in the payment of public dues, to be destroyed by the Treasurer upon being received, every tax payer could become a purchaser; the price of them would be increased, by competition in the Market, and the burthen of the taxes would be diminished to the extent of the difference, between the sum paid to the holders of claims for interest, and the par value of such claims. In the event of such a policy being adopted, it would be necessary, of course, to classify these claims against the Treasury, so as not to have those receivable in any one year to exceed the amount of revenue payable within the same period.

The expediency of authorizing the Treasurer to use the Bank stocks of the State by their transfer to its creditors, to meet the current demands upon the Treasury, is entitled to consideration. Such a measure would effectually separate the State Government from the banking corporations and in dissolving that alliance be productive of much good; and to the amount of the Bank stock relieve the people from heavy and burdensome taxation. It does not seem sound