

Message
Compulsion, to take effect from the first of October last, and consequent desire of the people to avail themselves of that medium of payment - and perhaps more than all these causes, the awakened desire of the citizens of our State to see the public faith maintained, and her ability to resume the payment of her liabilities fully established, have caused the receipts from the direct tax in the past year to exceed the estimate of the Treasurer by the sum of \$269,821, and to meet fully my expectations.

Whilst the accruing revenue from the direct tax being the one fourth of one per cent upon the assessed property of the State amounted to about \$500,000, the actual receipts from that source in the past year have amounted to \$769,821, making an excess of receipts over the revenue which accrued for that period, of \$269,821.

This excess derived to the extent of \$281,180 from the tax of 1847, will necessarily diminish the receipts from the direct tax for the current year; and although you may rely after the present fiscal year, upon the direct tax for the amount of revenue which it should regularly and legitimately produce, I shall only estimate the receipts for the current year at \$300,000. I must now gentlemen, direct your considerations to the sources of revenue other than the direct tax, upon which the State must mainly rely for this year, at least, for the ability to meet her engagements.

Without entering upon a field of inquiry, which has been heretofore too frequently explored by me to permit the indulgence of the hope that it could be made interesting or useful to you, I will content myself in giving you the actual receipts for the past year from those sources, and in asking your attention for a moment only to such of them, as will in my judgment certainly supply increased revenues for the future. The actual receipts for the past year from the sources of revenue other than the direct tax have amounted to about \$600,000. If you add to this sum \$300,000, the estimated receipt from the direct tax, you will have nine hundred thousand dollars, as the receipts for the current year; upon the hypothesis, that the receipts from those sources for the current, will only equal the receipts for the past year. Even upon this hypothesis, therefore, it is apparent that the receipts will exceed the demands upon the Treasury for the current year: and I will now proceed to show that from some of these collateral sources an increased revenue may be confidently expected.

I will first invite your attention to the Lottery