

page had antecedently accrued, & I had confidently expected that these Companies would have paid in the past year one half the arrears of interest due ^{from} them, in addition to the accruing interest for the year; and but for the concurrence of a series of untoward events such as may not again be expected to happen, that expectations would have been realized, or that, in the past year, although the frosts which have occurred have been more frequent, and in their effects upon works of this description more disastrous than in any previous year, I am informed by the President of these Companies that this Canal has sustained no direct injury. We are justified, I think, in concluding from this fact that these Companies taught by the experience resulting from the disasters of 1846, have now so constructed their Canal as to render it less subject to those casualties in future. Every one who will look for a moment to the position of this Canal, connected at its northern terminus with the gigantic works of internal improvement constructed by Pennsylvania, and forming one of the means by which the immense trade of those works reaches the seaboard, will at once comprehend the extent of the diminution of profits which must have resulted from the suspension of trade on the Pennsylvania works, caused by the frosts of October and November of the present year. It has however been very properly suggested by the President of those Companies that this may be considered rather as a suspension than as a loss of profits, as the prospects which have been for the time arrested, will be the first to seek a market upon the opening of those works in the spring of the next year, and the profits of this suspended trade will of course swell the receipts of the Canal for the current fiscal year.

I do not believe, therefore, that it shall be thought wrong in estimating, that the receipts from these Companies for the current will exceed the receipts for the past year, by one half the arrears of interest now due from them. If I am right in this estimate, you will receive from these Companies for the current year about \$100,000, being an excess of \$38,500, over the receipts for the past year.

The act of December Session 1845, which directs the Treasurer to retain the tax imposed upon the stock of this State, which is made operative by the resumption of payment by the State, will furnish another item of additional revenue for the present year, which may be estimated at \$28,000.

I have attempted to show, gentlemen, that, from the four sources of revenue specified by me, the excess of receipts for the current over the past year will amount to \$107,900, which if realized will make the whole receipts for the year