

increase for the last over the former year, of \$21,599.69. In the above comparative statement I have allowed for the payments made up to the 30<sup>th</sup> of November last, the period at which the fiscal year formerly terminated. I am happy to have it in my power to lay before you such a confirmation of the assurance I gave to your predecessors, that we had every reason to expect a continuance of the revenues which have been derived from the productive works for several years past.

The Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal Companies have paid to the State the sum of \$67,100, within the last year, which is the amount of current interest, less the unimportant sum of \$387.50; and the President assures me, in a recent communication, "that there is no doubt that it will continue to be punctually met in all the future". As the fiscal year of those companies terminated on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, I have not obtained any detailed information of their operations for the year just closed. The President, however, informs me, in general terms, that the works have earned, during the last year, an increased revenue over that of the year previous.

The indirect revenues of the State are in a sound and progressive condition. I have not been disappointed in regard to the estimates which I have heretofore given to your predecessors.

At the last Session of the General Assembly, the fiscal year was made to terminate on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, instead of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, as formerly. It was likewise enacted that the lists and accounts of all licenses issued by the Clerks of Courts should be returned semi-annually, on or before the first day of June and December; and those officers were required, on the said days respectively, or within ten days thereafter, to pay all sums of money received by them from that source. In order, therefore, that I might be able to present to you a comparative view of the results of the last and preceding year, I have obtained from the Comptroller a statement of the receipts from Clerks and Registers between the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1852, and the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1853; because, it is estimated that no more has been paid into the Treasury by those officers, to that date, than would have been accounted for by them on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> of November last. Had no change been made in the termination of the fiscal year and the periods for the settlement of their accounts, during the fiscal year 1852, the Clerks of the Circuit Courts for the several counties (Baltimore County included) paid into the Treasury the sum of \$76,215.14. During the last year, they paid \$94,870.22; showing an increase of \$18,655.78. In 1852, however, \$9,668.42 (on account of