

quehanna rail road can no longer be relied upon for the payment of any portion of the interest on its debt. After the year 1859, no further revenue will be received from the Lottery system, which will make a further difference of \$51,000 a year. The receipts from ordinary licenses for the past year amounted to \$31,000: if the prohibitory liquor law should go into operation, the greater part of this amount will be lost to the State. The revenue from the Susquehanna and Tide Water canals has been paid into the Treasury for some years past, but all such enterprises are liable to serious accidents and the recurrence of such disasters as these works experienced from freshets a few years since, would deprive the State of the revenue from this source for years.

These considerations, together with the fact that the last Legislature reduced the direct tax two-fifths, that the present balances due from collectors will soon cease to yield any revenue, and that the larger part of the item of \$10,000 for interest will therefore disappear, have led the committee to believe that no change should be made in the present revenue system, except to insure a prompter compliance with the laws upon those subjects.

The committee have thought it proper to make mention of these contingences attending the future revenues, as prudence would suggest an under estimate rather than too flattering a picture of the probable receipts. The yearly increase of the taxable property in the State, will contribute to supply any deficiencies if the present system of taxation is undisturbed.

The relief which the tax payer would experience from a reduction of the tax would be inconsiderable, while the continuance of the present system gives him the certain assurance that his burdens may soon be entirely removed. There has never existed a period in the history of the State, when the citizen could better afford to contribute his quota to the public. The nation is at peace with the whole world; the State is in the enjoyment of unexampled prosperity; the labor of every class receives a liberal reward. No prudent and honest man would agree to postpone the discharge of his debts, if he possessed the means of their present payment: wisdom and economy combine to dictate a contrary course. A rule so manifestly proper in individual affairs cannot but be correct when applied to the concerns of the State.

The irregularity attending the returns from registers and clerks of the tax upon the commissions of executors and administrators, trustees and receivers and on collateral inheritances, has more than once been brought to the notice of the Legislature by the Comptroller. In view of these representatives, the committee have reported a bill which, it is hoped, may remedy this evil.

In conformity with the act of 1853, ch. 86, the licenses formerly granted by the clerks of the counties are issued by the Comptroller. To produce uniformity on this subject, the committee have reported a bill requiring the licenses heretofore granted by