

Statement E contains an account of the balances in the hands of Collectors, for 1854, which shows them to amount to \$226,921 84.

Considerable difficulty arises in the collection of the tax upon the assessed capital of Incorporated Institutions, from the failure of the County Commissioners to report to this office the amount of such assessments; and it is necessary that some law should be passed, making it the duty of said Commissioners to make such returns annually.

Action should also be taken by the Legislature in equalizing and regulating the Tax upon Mutual Fire Insurance Companies.

In some of the counties these companies are properly assessed and pay their quota of taxation; while in others they either pay no tax upon their capital, or some inadequate amount. To this subject, however, it is proposed to call the attention of the Legislature hereafter.

STAMP DUTIES.

Statement No. 9, contains an account of the moneys received from stamp duties, during the fiscal year, amounting to \$71,010 92, of which \$47,844.87 were received from the Commissioner of Stamps, and \$23,166 05 from the clerks of the several courts.

It will be seen by a comparison of the amounts received during this fiscal year, with the sum received in the year ended 30th September, 1853, and in October and November succeeding, which in the aggregate amounted to \$61,450 64, that there is a large excess in favor of this year, to the amount of \$9,560 28.

Indeed, the payments into the Treasury for this year are the largest, by far, ever made from this source of the Public Revenue.

While, therefore, credit is due to the Commissioner and other officers engaged in the collection of this Tax, it is suggested that the present system may be amended to the advantage of the State, both in the increase of the amount, as well as the security of its collection.

Such amendments should, however, be more properly suggested to the Legislature.

REVENUE FROM CLERKS OF COURTS, &c.

Statement No. 9, also discloses the Receipts into the Treasury from Sales of Licenses, Tax on Plaintiffs, on Commissions of Trustees and Receivers, Excess of Officers' Fees &c., which are received through the Clerks of Courts, Commissioners of Stamps,