

During the past fiscal year this company has paid to the State the sum of \$20,000, and in my opinion, you may expect from the same source for the current year a larger sum by at least \$5,000.

I have received no communications from the Annapolis and Trade Water Canal Company; but I have the pleasing intelligence to communicate, that during the past fiscal year, this company has paid into the treasury, the sum of \$74,800, leaving unpaid for its entire liabilities to the State for that period, the sum of \$9,750. You may I think for the current year, rely upon receiving from this company the entire amount of its liabilities for that period.

I am still impressed with the importance of having a Board authorized to supervise the vast interest of the State in her various works of internal improvement; but I will not again press the subject upon the attention of the Legislature.

It is certainly essential to the interest of the State, that some agent of the State, should be clothed with the power to control the tariff of tolls established by each company, so as to keep them all above the revenue standard; and I submit the subject to your consideration as one well worthy of your attention.

It will be necessary that one or more warehouses should be built in the City of Baltimore for the reception and inspection of tobacco. The inspection has increased during the present year, about twenty thousand hogsheads, and the amount paid by the Inspectors for storing ^{the} tobacco, which they could not store in the public Warehouses, has greatly exceeded the interest on the cost of such buildings as are required. If no untoward event should occur to impede the progressive improvement of the Country, the City of Baltimore will, in three years, be the largest tobacco mart in the world; and the number of hogsheads inspected at the State Warehouses in that City will reach one hundred thousand.

I have received and will lay before you the last report of the Directors of the Maryland Penitentiary, which will give you full information of the present situation of that institution; and I particularly invite your attention to the conflict which is supposed to exist, between the Act of 1836, Chap. 156, and the Act of 1839, Chap. 37, that the proper legislative remedy may be applied. This institution has ceased to be an expense to the State, and I am warranted in expressing the opinion that for the past year it has been as judiciously managed in view of the moral improvement of its inmates as any similar institution in the Country.

In reference to this subject, I must ask your examination of the existing criminal law of the State, in regard to the punishment of slaves. By the Act of 1809, Chap. 138, slaves were punished as other persons, by confinement in the Penitentiary; but by subsequent legislation, and as the law now stands, no slave can be confined in that institution; and in regard to slaves, whipping or transportation is substituted as the punishment for all that class of crimes for the commission of which all other persons are confined in the Penitentiary for periods varying from two to twenty