

disbursement of the public money.

The reports of the several internal improvement companies in which the State is interested, and from whose annual receipts revenue has heretofore been derived, present their affairs in a prosperous and improving condition. Of these the first in importance, as well in respect to the magnitude of its design, as of the aids it is expected to accomplish, is the Baltimore and Chesapeake Railroad Company. The relations of confidence and amity between that corporation and the authorities of the State, which, for causes not now necessary to be adverted to, were for some years unfortunately interrupted, since my induction into office, have been happily restored, and while their mutual intercourse is now conducted with reciprocal friendship and cordiality, there is every reason to believe, that the Councils of the Company, under the auspices of the efficient and able officers having charge of its affairs, have, at all times been directed by a due regard to every interest of the State. It is worthy to transmit the reports of the President and Directors to the stockholders of that company, for the two years last past, ending respectively on the thirtieth of September 1848, and the thirtieth of September 1849. From these reports it will be perceived, that the aggregate income of the Company from the "Main Stem" for the year ending the thirtieth of September 1848, was \$1,213,664, 57, its expenditure \$662, 106, 50, and its net revenue \$551,558, 07; and for the year ending on the thirtieth of September 1849, its aggregate income was \$1,241,205, 45, its expenditure \$644,634, 15, and its net \$596,571, 30, showing an increase in the latter over the former year, in gross revenue of \$27,540, 88, and in net revenue of \$45,013, 23 with a diminution in expenditure of \$17,472, 35, notwithstanding a decrease in the receipts from passengers of \$72,000, 00 occasioned by the prevailing epidemic. The same favorable results are found to exist, in the operations of the Company on the Washington Branch; while its entire indebtedness, exclusive of the Sterling bond, and of the debt of the branch road, for the payment of the last of which, an ample sinking fund is provided, has been reduced to six hundred and fifty thousand dollars of bond yet to become due. By a resolution of the Board of Directors adopted on the fifth of December 1847, it was determined thereafter to apply the net earnings of the main stem to its extension westward and to the increase of the capital stock. Under this policy two dividends, one of three and a half, the other of five per centum, have been declared. The interest of the State in this work, exclusive of the three millions of Sterling bond, consists of

Subscription to Capital Stock of the Company	\$500,000, 00
Subscription to Washington Branch augmented	500,000, 00
Augmented stock by dividend of 1848 175 Shares	17,500, 00
Augmented stock by dividend of 1849, 258 Shares	25,800, 00
Total	\$1,593,300, 00

During the fiscal year of the Treasury, ending on the thirtieth of November 1848, there was received from the Washington Branch for capitation tax on passengers \$45,864, 78 and for semi-annual dividends \$24,750, making together \$70,634, 78; and for the fiscal year ending on the thirtieth of November 1849, for capitation tax on passengers \$52,019, 77, and for semi-annual dividends \$33,000, amounting to \$85,019, 77, being an increase over the preceding year of \$14,384, 99. It will thus appear, that the payments