

collections (for 1851) were received into the Treasury from former County Clerks; which made an aggregate of receipts for that year of \$85,283.86. The actual increase in the revenue received from the Clerks of Counties, during the past year, is consequently \$9,586.36

The Registers of Mills for the several Counties (Baltimore County included) paid, in 1852, \$20,846.80; and in the last year \$35,130.69; being an increase of \$14,283.89. In 1852, \$5,224.39, were received from former Registers, making an aggregate for that year of \$26,071.19. The actual increase in the revenue received from the Registers for Counties, during the past year, is consequently \$9,059.50; and from Clerks and Registers \$18,645.86. The increase for 1852 over 1851, was \$15,043.98, so that, the aggregate increase in the revenue derived from Clerks and Registers, in the last two years, amounted to \$33,689.84.

The returns from the City of Baltimore, although by no means as gratifying as those from the Counties, furnish no reason to doubt the permanency and steady expansion of the indirect revenues. The Clerks of the Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas returned, in 1852, the aggregate sum of \$93,767.77; and in the past year, the aggregate sum of \$94,105.65; showing an increase of \$337.88. Whilst, however, the returns of the Clerk of the Superior Court, for the last year, are greater than those of 1852, by \$2,380.49, the receipts from the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas are less by \$2,042.61. The Clerk of the Criminal Court (who has nothing to do with the collection of the indirect taxes) returned during the last year principally on account of the excess of fees over the Constitutional limit of his salary, the sum of \$1,131.94; which made the aggregate receipts from the Clerks of the City amount to \$95,237.59; being an increase over the previous year of \$1,469.80. The Register for the City returned, in 1852, \$23,046.16; and, in 1853, \$30,671.31; showing an increase of \$7,625.15. The aggregate increase in the City, during the last year, was therefore, \$9,094.95; and in the whole State, \$27,740.81. I cannot present a full estimate of the revenues due for the year from the City of Baltimore, as I am informed by the Comptroller that the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas has made no report since June last. Enough, however, has been exhibited to furnish you good grounds for confidence in this branch of the public revenue, and to strengthen you in the resolution to maintain the financial policy recommended by me to your predecessors, and adopted by them at their last Session.

I am gratified to be able to inform you that the finances of the State are in a highly prosperous condition. None of the injurious consequences, which it was apprehended by some would probably follow a reduction of the taxes, have been experienced during