

You cannot, gentlemen of the Senate and House of Delegates, too earnestly, seek to establish some permanent policy, that will eventuate in making a final disposition of every question connected with, or growing out of our complicated and embarrassed finances. Our large public debt, is a serious public calamity. It sits like an incubus on the hearts of an enterprising and patriotic population. It will, if not removed, drive from the jurisdiction of the State, vast amounts of capital; many of its best citizens; and by turning the whole tide of emigration, to other and more favored lands, will leave within our boundaries, broad tracts of territory, deserted and waste, blasted memorials of unwise, evil and cruel legislation. It will poison the source and fountain of all our laws, by congregating, as it has for years congregated in the avenues of our halls of legislation, crowds of men, eager and clamorous for measures to draw from the body politic, more and more, of that vital fluid, which, by its circulation through the channels of trade, gives life and vigour to all the industrial pursuits and avocations of man. No Marylander ought to shrink from the responsibilities, that the condition of our public affairs imposes upon every good citizen. Each and every man in public and private life, must stand ready to take his share of the difficulties, with which your legislation is surrounded.

By the 5th section of chapter 269, of last session, it was provided, that in all cases in which any collector of State taxes, shall fail to pay the amount due, by him into the Treasury, at the time required by law, it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to report the fact to the Governor, who is required, if in his judgment, the interest of the State requires it, to order suit on such collectors bond. By the 6th section of the same act, the taxes for 1841 and 1842 were made payable into the Treasury, one-half on or before the first day of June, and the residue on or before the first of September, last. In the execution of this act, a principle was adopted, similar to that contained in the second section of the act of December session 1829, chapter 90, which requires the Treasurer to put in suit any pecuniary right of the State, that has been withheld three months or more, and the bonds of collectors, in arrear on the 1st September, for the June instalment, were ordered to be put in suit. The Senate and House are now respectfully informed, that the bonds of all such collectors, as shall be in arrear on the 20th day of January, for the September instalment, will also be put in suit, unless the Legislature shall otherwise direct.

In August last, a communication was received from the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, respecting the rate of fare for passengers on the Washington rail road, and detailing facts to which may be ascribed, the falling off of the receipts from that source; and suggesting, whether the Executive, on a consideration of them, would not feel himself authorized to direct a reduction. The President of the company was informed, in answer to this communication, that the Executive did not feel justified in interfering in this instance, inasmuch as the Legislature, at its last session, had the whole subject under consideration, and did not think proper