

REPORT
OF THE
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
OF THE
STATE OF MARYLAND.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Annapolis, January 7th, 1880.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Maryland:

I respectfully submit my report for the last fiscal year, ended September 30th, 1879.

In my previous report, made to the Governor on the second day of January last, I gave a brief and general view and detailed exhibits of the condition of the State Treasury during and at the end of the fiscal year 1878. This report and that comprehend all the operations of the Treasury Department and afford a full statement of the financial proceedings which have taken place, since the report of my predecessor to the last Legislature.

In my report to the Governor is fully set forth the practice that prevails in the Treasury Department, in the indiscriminate use of its special funds for the general needs of the Treasury. This practice has the prestige of being old and time honored, and I know of no fault that has been found with it by a discriminating public sentiment. It is a necessity in administration and conduces to economy in taxation. It ought, therefore, to have the sanction of positive law for its justification, but there is no such authority for it anywhere in the financial legislation of the State. On the con-