

After considerable discussion over the matter in committee, the session expired without anything being done. The usual appropriation for Inspectors' salaries was passed, and there remains nothing for this Department to do, after seeing that the expenditures are legal and proper, but to pay the money.

It is proper to state in this connection that Warehouse No. 5 furnishes a notable exception to what I have stated, as well as a striking illustration of what is possible to be accomplished in the management of these warehouses. Although its gross receipts were less than some of the others, it paid all expenses and returned to the Treasury a sum more than sufficient to pay the Inspector's salary.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TAXES.

"Statement L," gives the levy, receipts and disbursements on account of the Public School Taxes from the year 1865 to 1886, inclusive.

The receipts on this account for the fiscal year 1886, amount to the sum of \$517,702.93, being \$11,291.09 less than for the year 1885, while the disbursements for the fiscal year, 1886, amount to the sum of \$486,387.36, being \$22,553.56 less than for the year 1885.

The Act of Assembly of 1878, chapter 91, requires the Comptroller to equalize as far as may be possible, the sums to be apportioned so as to apportion and distribute the same amount as far as may be practicable at each distribution.

In the execution of this law, I established a standard by which the distributions could be equalized with certainty. After running through the year 1885 and into 1886, when I made up the June and last distribution for that year, we were short of the amount required by the sum of \$26,654.37.

When I made the next distribution which was in October last, I not only distributed the usual amounts according to the standard fixed, but also gave to the schools in addition the amount of the deficiency in the June distribution.