GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Fullow Citizens :- The first and most important daty that devolves upon the Legislature, all be to examine into the financial embarrassments of the State, and to make suitable prousion for the discharge of her liabilities. entire amount of the funded debt of the State is \$39,084,000 40. This debt is reimbureable as tollows :

In the year 1841. 1844. 1846. 79 335 66 1.000,000 00 1950. 1853 9.000.000 00 1854, 1858. 7,070,661 44 1.950 000 00 1859. 120,000 00 2.265.400 00 1862. 1863, 200,000 00 1804 3 385,076 66 1.829.600 00 Loan payable at the expiration

569,503 50 of certain bank charters. 530,400,398 87 Interest due 1st August, 1842, for

which certificates of stock were issued, redeemable in 860,023 53 1843. Interest due 1st February, 1843, redeemable in 1846, Interest due 1st August, 1843, re-\$73,988 00 deemable in 1846, \$39,054,000 40

Upon this debt the annual interest to be paid mounts to \$1,941,827 23, to wit Permanent loan at 6 per cent. \$ 1,946,944 33 loans at 5 per cent., 32,083,189 80 200;000 00 loan at 45 per cent., 1,407,628 68 Relief notes at 1 per cent., at 6 per cent , 171.636 00 Arrears of interest due to our loan holders in August, 1842,

and February and August, 2.614.601 53 1543, at 6 per cent., \$39.084,000 40

There is also due to Domestic Creditors, on

certificates issued by the Auditor General, the sum of \$206,461 00 For the interest annually accruing, and for the

temporary debts and liabilities of the State, provision should be immediately made. The sources of the State are abundant, and all that is required is the right disposition, and a judicious and proper selection of the mode in which these resources are to be rendered available.

The amount of taxes levied and paid into the State Treasury, under existing tax laws, was as follows: In the year 1841, the amount levied, was \$416,794 S5-there was paid into the Treasury during that year, \$33,292 77. In 1842, the tax levied was \$659,512 47-the amount paid in the same year, was \$486,635 85. In 1843, the amount levied cannot be ascertained with accuracy, in consequence of failures on the part of the County Commissioners in several counties to make returns to the proper office; but making an estimate from the best data that can be obtained, it will not fall short of \$945,000 00. The tax paid into the Treasury the past year, was \$553,-911 38. The assessment for the ensuing year. may be fairly estimated at what it amounted to the past year, provided the Legislature repeal the proviso to the 16th section of the Act of 27th July, 1842, entitled "An Act to provide for the that tax, our financial difficulties mu ed, and the consequences be most disastrous to

It will be seen from the foregoing statement, that nearly a million of dollars, arising from taxation, remains unpaid; and there is no authority vested in the Executive, by law to enforce its collection. I have repeatedly recommended to and recovering from the embarrasements by the Legislature, the adoption of some legal method of compelling County Commissioners, Collectors and Treasurers, to perform their duties-but, | that we have lost, and to wipe from our escutthus far, no legislation has been had upon the subject. In the present defective state of the law, every temptation is held out to delinquents to presevere in setting at naught its injunctions. Permit me again to call the attention of the Legislature to this subject, and to express the hope that this evil will be remedied.

The whole receipts from our public improve ments, beyond the payment for repairs, and the expenses of their charge and management, during the past fiscal year, amount to \$482,657 34.

The current expenses of government, including the permanent appropriation to Common Schools and other purposes, may be estimated at about The resources of the State, independent of taxation, and the receipts from the public improvements, at about \$4,000 00. Fram an examination of all these receipts and liabilities of the State, supposing the tax levied, under existing laws, to be punctually collected and paid over, there would be an annual deficit of about \$850,000 00, independent of the balance due to Domestic Creditors; for the punctual payment of all which, the State is bound by every obligation of faith and honor. After a most careful consideration of the whole subject, I have been unable to devise any other mode of meeting this responsibility than that of augmented inxation.

I took occasion in my annual message transmitted to the Legislature on the 8th of January. 1840, to speak upon this subject in the following pointed and unequivocal words. I beg leave to quote them, because I have reiterated, in every annual message to the Legislature since, substantially the same sentiments; and I desire the people of Pennsylvania, and the whole world, to know if there be ground to charge remissness of duty, to whem the fault is to be justly attribu-

"In expressing my own opinion in favor of a resort to taxation, I do it with no incons derable degree of reluctance; but it must be obvious to every citizen of the Commonwealth, that his house, his farm, and his property, are all pledged, beyond possibility of release, to the ultimate payment of the State debt, and the interest thereon secruing, agreeably to the stipulation with the loan holders. Nor is this the worst view of our situation. The State has been actually compounding for years past, from a million to a million and a half of interest, annually; and the question is now submitted, whether we are thus to continue adding, half yearly, this enormous amount of interest to the principal of our State debt, and continue in this pusilanimous course of day, and entailing this frightful legacy on posterity. It is a reproach on the people of Pennsylva-nia to suppose they can be longer kept in the dark, in regard to the situation in which we find them. All they want to know, to ensure a rea-dy compliance with this indispensable call upon their patriotism, is to know the accessity of the measure. The experience of more than half a century, fortifies the in the belief, that the good sense of the people of this great Commonwealth, is rarely appealed to in vain -In assuming the is, the manifest unfairness and inequality of the bows

responsibility of recommending this measure. I am fully sensible of what is to be encountered, and aware of the consequences that are to follow and if, in this expression of the honest convic tions of my own mind, and the fearless discharge of the duties incumbent on me, I shall not be borne out by my fellow citizen. I shall at least have the consolation to know, that I have done that which I conscientiously believe to be right. and which I think will bear the reflection of after years. The time for evasion is gone; the publie mind has been too long fed with miserable ex-\$ 55,922 60 pedients. The time for action is at hand. Our country expects every man to do his duty, and 3.686,342 08 | he that has not nerve enough for the crisis, should

give place to those better fitted for the emergen-Neither the present Legislature, nor myself, had anything to do with contracting this debt-3,000,000 00 it is fixed on as by those who have gone be-753,161 58 fore us; and the same rule of prudence and sound policy, that would govern the conduct of a private individual, holds equally good in the case 2,048,080 00 of the Commonwealth, under this state of things. The private individual would tax his industry of the debt, and the interest upon it, that was consuming the avails of his industry and his substance-so, also, it seems to me, should the representatives of a wise and judicious people. 2,524,000 00 Taxation would pay the interest-it would e-1,946,215 65 ventually constitute a sinking fund to pay off the principal of the State debt, and should be contined till the income of the public improvements would render longer taxation unnocessary. The crisis demands the exercise of the most far-reaching sagacity-the calmost judgment and the ment fearless patriotism. I am sure the Legislature will meet it in the right spirit, to disarm it of its perils. Coming, as you do, from all quarters of the State, and possessing a more intirender this important subject to you, satisfied that prudence and justice will direct your action

> I used strong terms in speaking to the Legislature on this subject at that time, because it was an boar of darkness, uncertainty and alarm. The explosion of the Banks, the paralysis of business energies of the country, and the murmurings of those whose ambition seeks no higher aim than that of finding fault, were all calculated to deter even bonest men from faithfully performing their duty. So far as I was concerned, I was resolved that both my opinions, and my course, should be openly avowed and clearly understood. Four years have now elapsed; time has been given to the excited to become calm, to the timid to become self-possessed, and for factions partizans to see the error of their way. I look back with pleasure on my course, because, as I had no doubt from the beginning. I have been triumphantly sustained by the honest yeomanry of Pennsylvania. They have borne, without repining, every butthen that was necessary to maintain the honor of the State, and they are ready to endure yet greater sacrifices, if they be necessary, for the same

It has of late been fashionable, in certain quarters, to denounce Pennsylvania, and cite her, as an example in point, to sanction the repreach which has been attempted to be cast upon the American people, of seeking to carry into practical operation the scheme of repudiating their public debts. Those who have circulated and believed this calumny, betrayed a degree of ignorance, both of the character of the people, and of the course of her legislation, which is truly surprising. On every occasion, the liability of the State has been frankly avowed, both by the Executive and Legislative Departments; and although the recommendations of the Executive, to make provision for the payment of her interest, have not been adopted to the fullest extent, yet the Legislature has pasordinary expenses of the Government—payment sed laws imposing tax, amounting the last year of the interest upon the State debt," &c., which to a little less than a million of dollars, and this limits the assessment of the increased tax to one has been acceeded to by the people, without a year. Unless provision be immediately made marneur from any source entitled to a moment's for continuing the assessment and collection of consideration. The failure to pay the interest has not resulted from a want of disposition to do so, on the part of the citizens of Pennsylvania, but from the general disasters which have overwhelmed and crippled her, in common with almost every other government in the commercial world. We are regaining our energies which we have unfortunately been surrounded. A very few years will enable us to retrieve all cheon every blot with which unexpected misfortune has tarnished it. Whatever the interested or evil disposed may have asserted to the contrary, there is not an honest citizen of Pennsylvania who does not feel the proud consciousness that her faith and integrity can be held up to the world unsullied,

The valuation of the real and personal property owned by the citizens of the State, ascertained by reference to the valuation as taxed for county purposes, amounts to about four hunof the rate of this valuation is, no doubt, considerably below the actual value of the property

of the State. Among the receipts of the Treasury during the last year, there were from tolls, exclusive of \$755,155 29 Motive Power, Anction duties, Tax on collateral inheritances, 22,337 05 Dividends on Bridge, Turnpike

and Navigation Stocks, 19.161 29 1.010 00 Escheats,

8857,325 61 To which add the State Tax received.

553,911 38 \$1.411.226 89

This income, derived from the above sources, was specially appropriated to the payment of the interest on our public debt; and on the tanth of the State's adherence to its solemn engagements, those from whom the money was But, by the resolution passed 7th April, 1842, and the acts passed 27th July, 1842, and Sth April, 1-43, these funds were applied to other and different purposes, from what was decmed, by the Legislature, an imperative necessity induced by the inonetary embarrassments to Main Line.

which I have already adverted, It is thus shown that about three and a half per cent, of the interest could have been paid the just year, but for this subsequent legislation; and that the above sum of \$857,825 51, together with a tax of less than three mills on the assessed value of the real and personal estate of the entizens of the Commonwealth, would pay the interest on the public debt, beyond all doubt, and place Pennsylvania on that proud policy, from year to year of shuffling of the evil | eminence which the true character of her people, and the resources she possesses, designed her to occupy. But to satisfy the people of the propriety of this increase of the tax, assurance should be given that it would be applied to the payment of the interest on the State debt, to

the exclusion of every other object. There has been one objection made against taxation under the present state of things, which appears to be founded in justice and that

rates of assessment in the different counties, I wonex to this message a table showing the assessments in the various counties of the Com- Delaware Division. monwealth, an examination of which, will at once disclose the evils that ought to be remedied.

Most of our laws on the subject of taxes and revenue, require revision and amendment. Those relating to collateral inheritance, retailers and dealers in merchandize, anctions and auctioneers, and brokers, require revision and medification to prevent evasions. Indeed there is good reason to believe the revenue from these resources might be doubled. The county rates and levies are not augmented by them; nor does the State tax derived therefrom, bear any fair proportion to that expected from the land holder. The inequality and injustice of the matter become man f st when the proceeds derived from each are considered.

The tax necessary for the payment of the in terest on our State debt, it has long been apparent to me, should be apportioned among the several counties of the State, and a liberal discount or drawlack ollowed for prompt collections and payment into the Treasury. The members of the legislature coming as they do from the several counties and each watchful of the right and interests of his immediate constititents, would certainly compose a board every way competent to make that apportionment. A more unequal one than that which now exists, cannot be readily devised. I am aware that each and every object and mode of taxation is more or less objectionable-but that should not absolve as from our duty. I have mate knowledge of the circumstances and wants submitted to the Legislature, my views again of the people than I can. I most cheerfully sur- and again, on this subject; and that it has at times differed with me, is no cause of complaint -that difference of opinion having proceeded from a conscientious dischar e of duty. But, if the suggestions here made, do not seem right and proper, permit me to express the enraest hope that the Legislature will devise some other mode, less objectionable, and that it will not separate until full and ample provision be made for the punctual payment of the interest on our public debt, semi-annually, as it becomes

Government, Before quitting the subject of taxation, it may be well to take a relative view of the taxes received at the Treasury, for the last three years, and the amount annualy paid out the several counties, for the purposes of education. The taxes received in

1841, amounted to 1842, 1843, 483,625 85 553 911 38

\$1,073,540,00 The moneys paid out for the purposes of education, during the same years, amoun-\$205,766 04 ted, in 1541, to 315,372 43 1842.

1843,

\$1,089,832 83

So that it appears more money has actually been paid out by the Commonwealth, for educating the people, than the amount of State tax paid into the Treasury.

It will be entirely practicable to make provision for the payment of the semi-annual interest, on and after the first of August next. And, to provide for every possible contingency, the State Treasurer might be authorized to borow, if necessary, a sufficient sum to make up any deficiency, and the taxes and other receipts of the State, upplicable to the discharge of interest, be pledged specifically for the re-payment of such loan, and applied as soon as received.

The arrears of interest due in 1842, and February and August, 1843, have been funded in conformity with the acts of Assembly upon that subject. This was the most that could be done for our creditors, under the circumstances, and if, hereafter, provision be made for the punctual discharge of the interest, it will, I believe, be as much as could reasonably be expected, by the holders of our loans.

There is now due from the State to certain banks the sum of \$1,167,678 68, on the issue of notes under the act of 4th May, 1841 which bears an interest of one per cent. By vir-tue of the set of Assembly passed the 8th day of April last, entitled "An act to provide for the payment of Domestic Creditors," &c., these notes are to be cancelled at the rate of one hundred thousand dollars per month. The funded debt of the State bears an interest of five and six per et. payable semi-annually. If this cancellation be ontinued at the same rate, it is very certain this interest cannot be paid, as a very large proportion of taxes and tolls will be paid in funds of this description. It is therefore, for the Legislature to dred and sixty millions of dollars. The average determine which of these measures it is the poliev of the State to pursue.

The revenues derived from the public works during the past fiscal year, although not realizing the estimates which were formed at the com mencement of the year, have yielded a very handsome profit to the Commonwealth over the expenditures required for their maintenance. The report of the Canal Commissioners, which will be laid before you, and to which your particular attention is invited, exhibits in detail the receipts and expenditures upon the several lines of canal and railroad. By that document, it appears, that, from the early closing of the canal by ce in the latter part of 1811, and its late open ng from the same cause in the following spring he ravigable season of 1843 was rendered about eight weeks shorter than that of the previous year. A combination, likewise, took place mong the beatmen on the Delaware Division. which existed for several weeks, putting a stop to transportation, and causing a loss of revenue to the Commonwealth of not less than \$30,000. Notwithstanding these impediments, added to that experienced from the high floods on the Junibitained, were doubtiess induced to make the sta in September last, the tolls amount to \$1. 017.841 12, being an increase over the receipts of 1849 of 877,697 43. An abstract of the recaipts and expenditures on the several lines exhibits the following result:

EXPENDITURES. RECEIPTS. \$405,036 89 \$837,919 94 Delaware Division. 22,553 112 92,565 41 Susquehanna, North and West branches, 50,926 so Beaver, Shenango and French Creek, 15,410 82 6.156 71 \$522,928 36 \$1,017.841 12 522,228 36 Deduct expenditures, Excess of receipts over expen-Deduct drawback on flour and pork, 29,436 80

And increase of stock on Columbia Railroad, Clear profit of all the works for

The increase and decrease of tolls on the diferent lines, as compared with 1812, were as fel-

DECREASE. \$2,193 67 Susquehanna North and West Branches. 13,000.08 Beaver, Shenango and French Creek. Increase in 1843,

And, on the same lines, the excess of receipts over expenditures and all liabilities, is as fol-Main Line Delaware Division Susquehanna, North and West

Beaver, Shepango and French Creek, excess of expenditures over re-

branches.

Total excess of receipts over expen-\$189,657,31 diffures.

From these statements it appears that, with the exception of the small excess on the Susque banna and North and West Branch Divisions. the profits upon the year's business, have been lerived from the Main line and the Pelaware Division .-- The last named division has yielded a profit of five per cent, upon the cest of its contruction, which, but for the loss of revenues sustained from the condination among the heat-men before referred to, and interruption from brenches, would have been increased to over

labits a very gratifying result. The clear pre- one description of persons after another h railway and the motive power department.

March, 1843, a charter was issued, on the 16th facts to your notice, to ensure an early correction day of June last, to "The Eric Canal Company." of the evil. The company is vigorously prosecuting the work. and give fair promise of its early completion. That portion of the division from the Ohio River of the charter, remains in the possession of the due, and thus smooth the way for those who Commonwealth, until the completion of the may come after us in the administration of the whole line. A large portion of the expenditures

the works since frustrated. It is evident from the foregoing abstracts, and nal Commissioners' report, that the Main line monwealth, by the exercise of a proper vigilance over the disbursements. Much has been done to is berewith transmitted to the Legislature. I conwards introducing a system of strict economy, curred with him and accordingly declined to apexpenditures. If the system, thus begun, he carried out and perfected, all doubt must vanish as ties and rested reason to complain of the course to the value of these two portions of the public pursued by the Executive, they might have apworks when considered as means of revenue.

To the more general introduction of section hoats, in consequence of the State having per-408,694,36 chased trucks for their convayance over the two raidroads, may be traced the principal cause of the increase of Tolls and tonnage on the Main line. The experiment has fully been tested to the satistaction of the most sanguine friends of the system of individual competition in the carrying trade. These boats during the past year have prevented combinations, reduced the price of freights, increased the amount of tolls and tonnage, and given to our Main line a character for heapness in transportation, which must make it the principal avenue to a market between the waters of the West and the Eastern Atlantic cities. A system of transportation which in its incipient state, has been productive of such good benefits, and which is so closely identified with the property of the improvements of the Commonwealth, is entitled to the fostering care of the Legislature. In 1843, the amount of tolls paid by section boats was \$114,227 47; of which

\$10,051 65 was for the use of the State trucks. To give efficiency to the system; to meet the lemands consequent upon the continued increase in the number of section boats; and to prevent vexations delays at the milroad slips, an increase in the number of trains of trucks has become absolutely necessary. As these additional trains will be required at the opening of the spring business, the expectation is entertained that an carly appropriation will be made to that object -Such an appropriation will give an impetus to the spring trade, by giving assurance of promptness in the delivery of produce, goods, and merchan-dise; hold out inducements to further increase of section boats; place the system upon a per manent basis ; and insure to the Commonwealth all the advantages which must necessarily result from this improved made of transportation over our disjoined lines of canal and railroad. I would further recommend that the appropriation be made direct, and not made payable out of the tolls for the use of trucks, so as to enable the Canal Commissioners to make the purchase on more economical terms than can otherwise be done and to free the rates of tell, and the method of

I will refer you to my message, returning, without the Executive sanction a bill entitled 'An Art to authorize the Governor to becorporate the Pennsylvania Canal and Railread Company from Philadelphia to Pittsburg," for my views in relation to the impolicy of selling or transferring the public improvements to private companies. I deem it however proper to add that, although my own judgement on this subject is perfectly clear, yet, it a second Legislature deem it advisable to concur with the former in providing for this sale or transfer. I do not know that I will consider the duty incumbent on me of offering further resistance to this project ; provided sufficient safeguards be established to protect the public against frauds and collusions in the sale, and to ensure a proper regard for the public interests, on the part of those into whose ands they are subsequently to be transferred.

keeping the accounts, from their present com-

No report has been made by the Commissioners named in the act entitled "An Act to author ize the Governor to incorporate the Delaware Canal Company," passed 15th April last; nor am I in possession of any official information in relation to the same.

On the subject of the Panks I have little to rerecommend. My views in relation to the system have heretofore been very fully expressed, and de not now need reiteration. Most if not all the solvent institutions have now resumed specie payments; and, taught by past experience, it is hoped they will so regulate their business, and circumscribe their liabilities within the bounds of prudence, that we shall not see a recurrence of the pecuniary embarrassments which have for some years past distressed the community. The gradual restoration of public and private confidence, will enable the solvent institutions of the State to furnish a currency as fast as required by the wants of the country, which will be redeemable in specie on demand.

As no bank charters will expire during the remainder of the present executive term, there will be no necessity for enacting laws for their renewal at present. The practice of renewing acts of incorporation long before the expiration of the existing charters, is manifestly wrong, even where it may eventually be considered proper to continue them. Under present circumstances, I think it would not be right to embarrasa the administration of ner successor, by premature legislation upon subjects that will belong trete almost every one of these mineral regions, Hoboken.

501,262 46 ment. The situation of the country and its business certainly does not require the granting of the public welfare, are but true to their trust, banking are corrected by the good sense of the the day is not far distant, when Penpsylvania community I congratulate the Legislature upon must become the great workshop of the Appari 16,636 63 | the prospect of being relieved from the immedi ate consideration of the subject for the present season at least.

The report of the Supenterindent of Common Schools, will exhibit their condition in detail. Every thing calculated to advance the interest of this most important of all our public institutions. cannot be too strongly commended to your atten-69,711 49 tion. The vital interests of religion, merality and civil liberty itself, are dependent upon the cherishing aid and enlightened support imparted to our Common Schools and higher Seminaries of learning. Here must be implanted the seeds of virtue of intelligence, and of all that confers distinction upon our citizens.

The report of the Adjutant General will be laid before you. I took occasion, in my amoust message of 1839, to say that your militia system is a tax, to a considerable amount, upon the State Treasury, which might be considerably lessened if the Adjutant General were charged with the duty of personally superintending the system in its details, and properly compensated therefor, In every annual message since. I have arged the importance of some attention to this subject. The office of Adjutant General has been fille several years by a gentlemen of great practical knowledge and experience, who has devoted much time and attention to the discharge of its duties; and it has been a matter of regret that his suggestions have not had the weight with the Legislature, to which they were so justly en-The Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad ex- titled. By the legislation of the last few years. fits of the road over expenditures and liabilities exempted from the payment of fines, until the nather past year amount to \$202,906 65—equal to mount received at the Treasury, during the past about five per cent, on the original cost of the year, falls short of the expenses the sum of \$42. 418 59. The state of things is so palpably wrong In pursuance of the provision of the act of 7th that nothing more is required than to bring the

Pennsylvania has a force of moverds of thirtyfive thousand volunteers, that will compare with any troops in this or any other country. to the town of New Castle, according to the terms | not too earnestly recommend them to the fostering care of the Logislature.

Under the act of the 24th March last, entitled whale line. A large portion of the expenditures on it during the year, was caused by repairs to Printer." Isaac G. M Kinley and Hutter & Eigfer baying claimed to be State Printers; the former to do the English, and the latter to do the rough review of the details, contained in the Ca- German pointing, of the Commonwealth. The half Commissioners' report, that the Main line language of the Act of Assembly seemed to me and Delaware Division, can, at all times, by to render the validity of this election doubtful. made sources of profitable revenue to the Com- and I caused the question to be submitted to the and dispensing with officers, agents and laborers. | prove the bonds tendered, informing the parties whose services tend only to swell the amount of that the whole matter would be submitted to the lied to the Supreme Court, during its session in Harrishurg, for a writ of mandamus, directing the Governor to approve their bonds, which was a mere ministerial duty, unless he could show some legal reasons for his refusal. I was at all times ready to have met this issue before that tribunal and have at no time entertained a doubt of the result, or propriety of my course.

In addition to the legal argument presented by the Attorney General, which I regard as unanswerab'e, there are some other circumstances connected with that election, which make it peculiarly necessary that they should be brought to your most serious consideration. The election was postponed from time to time, from the 27th day of March, the third day after the passage of the law, and on which, according to its provisions, it should have taken place, to the 15th day of April, on which, according to the certificate presented to me, it was made During this interval of time, and before the day on which the election was consummated, I have the whole amount demanded. The peculiar been informed, and have good reason to besed to have influence with members of the Legislature, by which large sums of money were and or contracted to be paid, by the individuals instances, as I have been assured, the sums paid, or contracted to be paid, depended upon the number of votes procured by the contracting parties for the successful candidates; and thus was exhibited a scene of scandalous bargaining and selling, alike disgraceful to the parties concerned, and dangerous to the purity of electious. It is not to be presumed that this scheme of office purchasing was known to any member of the Legislature; for, if it had been, the parties concerned would, I have no doubt, been exposed and consequently defeated. As this transaction more immediately concerns the purity and honor of the Legislature itself, I need and have no doubt you will feel it to be your duty to institute a thorough investigation into the frauds, thus practiced upon the Legislature, to procure an election. Should the facts upon examination, be found to be, as I have the strongest reason to think they are, can it be, that a single member of the Legislature will recogni the validity of an election thus procured ! Let it be known that candidates can resort to such means to accomplish their purposes, and there is an end to all confidence and respect for our Legislatures. It is one of the elementary principles of every enlightened system of jurispradeace, that fraud vitiates every contract into they gave a verdict for the defence accordingly. which it enters; and, in every stage of completion, these contracts are arrested as soon as the fraud is discovered. There can be no fraudulent practice more odious than one like this, striking at the parity of legislation, and I am confident the representatives of the people will apply a thorough corrective the instant they are made acquainted with the facts,

No inconvenience has arisen thus far, nor detriment to the public interest, from my relusal to approve the bonds offered by the individuals claiming to have been elected. The pertion of the law, therefore, pointing out the mode of electing State Printers, not having been complied with the matter rests with you to make such provision on this subject, as you believe the subject requires. The frauds practiced upon the public by some of those persons entrusted with the public printing, the last few years, are too palpable and notorious to pass unnoticed, and whatever measures the Legislature may think proper to adopt, will, I trust, provide security against their recurrence.

It is no disparagement to her sister States to assume, that Pennsylvania, in her geographical position, and in her mineral and agricultural resources, is surpassed by none in the Union. Her population, for hardy and effective industry, presents a model worthy of all praise, and this industry, devoted to a constant development of her vast mineral wealth, cannot fail, in good time, to produce the most astonishing results,

There is hardly a mountain or valley within

INCREASE, I to that period of the administration of the govern- and furnish them with a cheap and ready high-

must become the great workshop of the American Union, for the production of coal and iron.

and the fabries constructed from these materials. If these great interests are surrendered to some imaginary, theoretic, Arcadian scheme of free trade, we may still continue to serve as hewers of wood and drawers of water to foreign capitalists and artizans, and our incalculable mineral deposits, may lie useless for ages. I trust, however, the people of this Commonwealth will never be seduced into a sacrifice of their dearest rights.

The policy of standing by her own interests, has been, for the last half century, too deeply fixed in Pennsylvania, to be abandoned without a struggle; and those of her public servants who would advise the surrender of any of her stanle productions, without the festering succour of the Government, will soon find on how mistaken un estimate of popular feeling they have relied. It is idle to talk of reciprocity of trade, when England will not receive our flour under a prohibitary duty of less than three dollars per barrel-for us to receive her coal and iron free of daty.

Free trade and reciprecity of daty, like the old a rule, are beautiful and benign in theory, and, if universally carried out in practice, would render mankied better and more acceptable to their Maker; but, unhappily, this obligation is voluntary, and is assumed only by the less crafty and grasping of men and nations who are used for their own ends by the rest. This fundamental truth is taught by all history, and was familiar to our fathers. Come what may, we cannot desert the standard of Pennsylvania; and I, for one, have battled under it too long to see it struck without a manly effort to uphold If we are true to ourselves, and those who come after us but do their duty without shrinking. Pennsylvania will be placed in her true position.

Our agriculturists, manufacturers, mechanica, and every class of citizens, are alike interested in a stedfast adherence to the solicy of protecting and encouraging our own peculiar State productions; for on this policy rest our uspes of future greatness and independence. A permanent home consumption, is, after all, the only market on which our farmers and other producers can always depend for a steady demand for their commodities, without the fluctuations of price that will ever attend foreign markets. It will afford me great pleasure to co-operate with you, in giving the most effective support to it, both in our domestic and national leg slation, so far as may be compatible

I am not aware of any other subject that requires to be specially brought to your notice, although there are a number of minor importance referred to in my former messages on which no legislative action has been taken. I have discharged my daty by submitting them to the consideration of the representatives of the people, and shall be ready, at all times, to unite with them in the adoption of such measures in relation to them and other matters, as are deemed conducive to the public good.

DAVID R. PORTER. EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, 7 Harrisburg, January 3, 1841. 5

VALUE OF A KISS .- Different persons have different tastes, and this peculiarity extends even to juries. One, some time ago, gave a gentleman five hundred dollars, because another man kissed his wife, but a jury in Dedham, Mass, declared that one was not worth \$300, characteristics in the latter instance of the completed between the said Issae G. McKin. mouth kissed are not mentioned, and there may ley, Hutter & Bigler and other persons, suppo- be something in the lips themselves which would probably justify the jury's decision, but as the lady is described as twenty-five, and as elected, to those third persons, for their aid and he is said to have kissed her with apparent satinfluence in procuring their election. In some | isfaction, the importation of bad taste would seem to rest upon the jury. The case was as follows: a Mr. Horsam, of Dorchester, brought an action on a promini-sory note of \$300 against Lydia Withington; and the payment of the note was resisted on the ground that it was given without consideration. It was set up and proved in defence that the brother of the defendant had kissed the plaintiff's wife; and being caught in the "catastrophe," the plaintiff compelled him to obtain his sister's note for \$300, under threat of a criminal prosecution, only call your attention to these circumstances. Major Samuel Withington, the man who bestowed the kiss upon Mrs. Horsam, described the kiss as being one of pure friendship, docile in its nature, and perfectly harmless. She was a perfect stranger to him; he had called upon her at her house, and became so interested, that on parting, he ventured to kiss her. It not appearing that this intimacy had gone any forther than a kiss, the jury decided it not worth \$300; or if it was, that the sister of the gay Major was not the proper person to pay for it; and

> The lady of the Roy. Wm, Henry Holt, of St. Albans, Vt. has presented the Episcopul Church of that place with a splendid organ, valued at

> READY FOR ANYTHING .- The Germantown (D. C.) Advocate says that one of the candidates for the Doorkeepership of the House, travelled all the way from Michigan to Washington to obtain his object, but being unsuccessful in that particular, again placed his name before the House as a candidate for the Chaplaincy ! But again failing, he solicited and optained the post, which he is now filling, of messenger to one of the committees.

KIDNAPPING MORMONS, --Information from Nauvoo says, that two Mormons have been kidnapped from that place, and carried to Missouri. The Governor of Illinois has been called upon to demand the men of the Governor of Missouri, but refused to do it.

New Jersey .- It is said, in the Newark Post, that Mr. Webster has purchased the Wecher borders, that does not abound in deposits of hawken House, tormerly owned by Judge Bercoal or iron. Our capals and railroads pene- gen, for \$25,000, situate about two miles from