

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN:—From the days of William Penn, the great and pious founder of our Commonwealth, it has been the universal custom of my predecessors, when making their annual communications to the General Assembly, to acknowledge their gratitude to and dependence upon the Great Law-giver of the Universe. In imitation of their noble example, let us earnestly invoke His blessing and guidance in our efforts to perform the great work of legislation now before us, in such manner as to meet His approbation, as well as that of our common constituents.

In transmitting to you the seventy-ninth annual message since the organization of the present State government, it affords me the highest gratification to congratulate you and our fellow-citizens generally on their enjoying, to an unusual degree, the blessings of health and unstinted prosperity; and that our principles and institutions, the pride and boast of every true-hearted patriot, although tried again in the crucible of a heated political contest, the heavings of popular passion, and the collision of parties, from which we have just emerged, remain unimpaired and vital in every part.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled, for the purpose of discharging the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you, with the greatest ability and devotion. It is gratifying to you in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and approval of all the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding the extremes of personal and party interests, and by being unimpaired of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, and the reach of human vision. A noble heritage was never given to man that which we possess geographically and politically of the greatest importance, an area of more fertile soil, more cultivated farms, and luxuriant fields, marked by the advancement of agriculture—the parent, supporter and stimulant of every species of industry, exchange and commerce, a land well supplied with the means of all the values of coal, iron, salt and other minerals; with farmers, manufacturers, mechanics, woolgrowers, coal and iron miners, oil producers, and merchants full of activity and enterprise, and thousands of miles of railroads and canals to transfer vast products to market, and accommodate the travel of four millions of happy and prosperous people. Nor should we be forgetful of education in all its branches, of the public charities, prisons, reformatories, the collection of properly imposed taxes, the speedy reduction of the State debt, the preservation of order, and the more certain protection of life, liberty and property. All these interests, and perhaps others of equal importance, demand legislation of the most enlightened, liberal and comprehensive character.

In conformity to the requirements of the Constitution, I propose to invite your attention to such measures as are deemed necessary for your consideration, and to assure you of my willingness to share with you the anxieties and responsibilities of all legislative enactments calculated to advance the prosperity of the people and the best interests of the Commonwealth.

From the reports of the Auditor General and the Treasurer, the following statement has been carefully prepared, and exhibits the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1869:

Receipts.
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1868, \$1,012,935 37
Ordinary receipts during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1869, 5,241,711 28
Total in the Treasury during the year ending Nov. 30, 1869, 6,254,650 66
Disbursements.
Ordinary expenses paid during the year ending Nov. 30, 1869, 5,245,114 27
Loans, as redeemed at Treasury, 109,644 09
Loans redeemed by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, 362,702 74
Interest paid by Commissioners of Sinking Fund, 1,725,587 97
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1869, 1,400,862 49

It will be observed from the above, that part of the loans and part of the interest are paid at the Treasury, and part of the interest is paid at the Sinking Fund. This produces a complication of accounts; which in order to avoid, and to simplify the financial statement, I recommend that authority be given by law to charge the disbursements with the whole amount of the State debt, and also with all the money applicable to the payment thereof, and that they alone be credited with all payments on both principal and interest of State debt.

The following is a statement showing the nature of the indebtedness of the Commonwealth, on November 30, 1869:

Funded debt, viz:
6 per cent. bonds, \$23,311,150 00
5 per cent. bonds, 7,277,384 28
4 per cent. bonds, 112,000 00
Total funded debt, \$30,700,534 28
Unfunded debt, viz:
Relief notes in circulation, \$99,397 00
Interest certificates on standing, 13,086 52
Interest certificates on advanced, 4,448 38
Domestic creditors' certificates, 44 67
Total unfunded debt, 117,976 57
Amount of public debt, Nov. 30, 69, \$30,818,510 85

The public debt Nov. 1869, \$32,269,947 13
Deduct the amount redeemed at the Treasury during the year ending Nov. 30, 1869, 19,000 00
Net public debt, \$13,269,947 13
Relief notes cancelled, 19 00
Public debt Nov. 30, 1869 as above, \$30,818,510 85

Reduction of the Public Debt.
At the commencement of the present administration in January, 1867, the total outstanding indebtedness of the State was thirty-seven million, seven hundred and four thousand, four hundred and nine dollars and seventy-seven cents. Since then, and up to November 30, 1869, the sum of four million, eight hundred and eighty-nine thousand, eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents have been paid, and at five per cent, the sum of \$244,493 44, in interest, is annually saved to the Commonwealth. Consequently, the total amount of indebtedness of the Commonwealth on November 30, 1869, was thirty-two million, eight hundred and forty-four thousand, five hundred and forty-four dollars and ninety-five cents.

The reduction during the year end-

ing November 30, 1869, amounts to four hundred and seventy-two thousand four hundred and six dollars and eighty-two cents.

The assets remaining in the Sinking Fund are as follows, viz:—Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, six million, three hundred thousand dollars. Agreeably to an act dated March 30, 1869, the Sinking Fund Commissioners delivered all the obligations of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, being third mortgage bonds, to the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and received therefor thirty-five second mortgage bonds of one hundred thousand dollars each, making in all three million, five hundred thousand dollars, executed by the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and guaranteed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the Northern Central Railroad Company, and the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company payable to the Commonwealth, viz:

The principal of one of said bonds (\$100,000) shall be payable each and every year beginning January 1, 1870, and so continuing annually thereafter until the said sum of three million, five hundred thousand dollars shall be paid, with interest thereon from January 1, 1870.

The citizens of Pennsylvania have always borne taxation not only patiently but cheerfully, and they are still as willing as ever to contribute to the payment of all the obligations resting upon the State, but they expect their public servants who are intrusted with the management of their affairs, to act upon the most prudent and economical basis. If they demand reform in the management of the financial affairs of the State, and as far as possible, the retrenchment of all unnecessary expenditures.

On the 30th of January last, replying to a resolution of the Senate, I said:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, through the Clerk of your Honorable body, a copy of the following resolution, passed on the 12th inst., to wit:

"Resolved, That the Governor be requested to submit some plan to the Senate to secure the State from loss by the accumulation of large amounts of surplus funds in the Treasury."

I beg to leave to you to direct your attention to my message of January 8, 1868, in which I say, "the balance now in the Treasury might be rendered productive by being invested in the purchase of United States bonds, and in saving the interest on them which would accumulate prior to their maturity."

Since making these suggestions, and maturely deliberating upon the subject, I have seen no reason to change my opinion in relation to the same. I would still the same plan, more specifically set forth, based upon the following statement of the loans of the Commonwealth, viz:

Amount of notes, loans, including bank charters:
Am't payable in '87, 1870, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065, 2067, 2069, 2071, 2073, 2075, 2077, 2079, 2081, 2083, 2085, 2087, 2089, 2091, 2093, 2095, 2097, 2099, 2101, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2109, 2111, 2113, 2115, 2117, 2119, 2121, 2123, 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2137, 2139, 2141, 2143, 2145, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2155, 2157, 2159, 2161, 2163, 2165, 2167, 2169, 2171, 2173, 2175, 2177, 2179, 2181, 2183, 2185, 2187, 2189, 2191, 2193, 2195, 2197, 2199, 2201, 2203, 2205, 2207, 2209, 2211, 2213, 2215, 2217, 2219, 2221, 2223, 2225, 2227, 2229, 2231, 2233, 2235, 2237, 2239, 2241, 2243, 2245, 2247, 2249, 2251, 2253, 2255, 2257, 2259, 2261, 2263, 2265, 2267, 2269, 2271, 2273, 2275, 2277, 2279, 2281, 2283, 2285, 2287, 2289, 2291, 2293, 2295, 2297, 2299, 2301, 2303, 2305, 2307, 2309, 2311, 2313, 2315, 2317, 2319, 2321, 2323, 2325, 2327, 2329, 2331, 2333, 2335, 2337, 2339, 2341, 2343, 2345, 2347, 2349, 2351, 2353, 2355, 2357, 2359, 2361, 2363, 2365, 2367, 2369, 2371, 2373, 2375, 2377, 2379, 2381, 2383, 2385, 2387, 2389, 2391, 2393, 2395, 2397, 2399, 2401, 2403, 2405, 2407, 2409, 2411, 2413, 2415, 2417, 2419, 2421, 2423, 2425, 2427, 2429, 2431, 2433, 2435, 2437, 2439, 2441, 2443, 2445, 2447, 2449, 2451, 2453, 2455, 2457, 2459, 2461, 2463, 2465, 2467, 2469, 2471, 2473, 2475, 2477, 2479, 2481, 2483, 2485, 2487, 2489, 2491, 2493, 2495, 2497, 2499, 2501, 2503, 2505, 2507, 2509, 2511, 2513, 2515, 2517, 2519, 2521, 2523, 2525, 2527, 2529, 2531, 2533, 2535, 2537, 2539, 2541, 2543, 2545, 2547, 2549, 2551, 2553, 2555, 2557, 2559, 2561, 2563, 2565, 2567, 2569, 2571, 2573, 2575, 2577, 2579, 2581, 2583, 2585, 2587, 2589, 2591, 2593, 2595, 2597, 2599, 2601, 2603, 2605, 2607, 2609, 2611, 2613, 2615, 2617, 2619, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, 2629, 2631, 2633, 2635, 2637, 2639, 2641, 2643, 2645, 2647, 2649, 2651, 2653, 2655, 2657, 2659, 2661, 2663, 2665, 2667, 2669, 2671, 2673, 2675, 2677, 2679, 2681, 2683, 2685, 2687, 2689, 2691, 2693, 2695, 2697, 2699, 2701, 2703, 2705, 2707, 2709, 2711, 2713, 2715, 2717, 2719, 2721, 2723, 2725, 2727, 2729, 2731, 2733, 2735, 2737, 2739, 2741, 2743, 2745, 2747, 2749, 2751, 2753, 2755, 2757, 2759, 2761, 2763, 2765, 2767, 2769, 2771, 2773, 2775, 2777, 2779, 2781, 2783, 2785, 2787, 2789, 2791, 2793, 2795, 2797, 2799, 2801, 2803, 2805, 2807, 2809, 2811, 2813, 2815, 2817, 2819, 2821, 2823, 2825, 2827, 2829, 2831, 2833, 2835, 2837, 2839, 2841, 2843, 2845, 2847, 2849, 2851, 2853, 2855, 2857, 2859, 2861, 2863, 2865, 2867, 2869, 2871, 2873, 2875, 2877, 2879, 2881, 2883, 2885, 2887, 2889, 2891, 2893, 2895, 2897, 2899, 2901, 2903, 2905, 2907, 2909, 2911, 2913, 2915, 2917, 2919, 2921, 2923, 2925, 2927, 2929, 2931, 2933, 2935, 2937, 2939, 2941, 2943, 2945, 2947, 2949, 2951, 2953, 2955, 2957, 2959, 2961, 2963, 2965, 2967, 2969, 2971, 2973, 2975, 2977, 2979, 2981, 2983, 2985, 2987, 2989, 2991, 2993, 2995, 2997, 2999, 3001, 3003, 3005, 3007, 3009, 3011, 3013, 3015, 3017, 3019, 3021, 3023, 3025, 3027, 3029, 3031, 3033, 3035, 3037, 3039, 3041, 3043, 3045, 3047, 3049, 3051, 3053, 3055, 3057, 3059, 3061, 3063, 3065, 3067, 3069, 3071, 3073, 3075, 3077, 3079, 3081, 3083, 3085, 3087, 3089, 3091, 3093, 3095, 3097, 3099, 3101, 3103, 3105, 3107, 3109, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3121, 3123, 3125, 3127, 3129, 3131, 3133, 3135, 3137, 3139, 3141, 3143, 3145, 3147, 3149, 3151, 3153, 3155, 3157, 3159, 3161, 3163, 3165, 3167, 3169, 3171, 3173, 3175, 3177, 3179, 3181, 3183, 3185, 3187, 3189, 3191, 3193, 3195, 3197, 3199, 3201, 3203, 3205, 3207, 3209, 3211, 3213, 3215, 3217, 3219, 3221, 3223, 3225, 3227, 3229, 3231, 3233, 3235, 3237, 3239, 3241, 3243, 3245, 3247, 3249, 3251, 3253, 3255, 3257, 3259, 3261, 3263, 3265, 3267, 3269, 3271, 3273, 3275, 3277, 3279, 3281, 3283, 3285, 3287, 3289, 3291, 3293, 3295, 3297, 3299, 3301, 3303, 3305, 3307, 3309, 3311, 3313, 3315, 3317, 3319, 3321, 3323, 3325, 3327, 3329, 3331, 3333, 3335, 3337, 3339, 3341, 3343, 3345, 3347, 3349, 3351, 3353, 3355, 3357, 3359, 3361, 3363, 3365, 3367, 3369, 3371, 3373, 3375, 3377, 3379, 3381, 3383, 3385, 3387, 3389, 3391, 3393, 3395, 3397, 3399, 3401, 3403, 3405, 3407, 3409, 3411, 3413, 3415, 3417, 3419, 3421, 3423, 3425, 3427, 3429, 3431, 3433, 3435, 3437, 3439, 3441, 3443, 3445, 3447, 3449, 3451, 3453, 3455, 3457, 3459, 3461, 3463, 3465, 3467, 3469, 3471, 3473, 3475, 3477, 3479, 3481, 3483, 3485, 3487, 3489, 3491, 3493, 3495, 3497, 3499, 3501, 3503, 3505, 3507, 3509, 3511, 3513, 3515, 3517, 3519, 3521, 3523, 3525, 3527, 3529, 3531, 3533, 3535, 3537, 3539, 3541, 3543, 3545, 3547, 3549, 3551, 3553, 3555, 3557, 3559, 3561, 3563, 3565, 3567, 3569, 3571, 3573, 3575, 3577, 3579, 3581, 3583, 3585, 3587, 3589, 3591, 3593, 3595, 3597, 3599, 3601, 3603, 3605, 3607, 3609, 3611, 3613, 3615, 3617, 3619, 3621, 3623, 3625, 3627, 3629, 3631, 3633, 3635, 3637, 3639, 3641, 3643, 3645, 3647, 3649, 3651, 3653, 3655, 3657, 3659, 3661, 3663, 3665, 3667, 3669, 3671, 3673, 3675, 3677, 3679, 3681, 3683, 3685, 3687, 3689, 3691, 3693, 3695, 3697, 3699, 3701, 3703, 3705, 3707, 3709, 3711, 3713, 3715, 3717, 3719, 3721, 3723, 3725, 3727, 3729, 3731, 3733, 3735, 3737, 3739, 3741, 3743, 3745, 3747, 3749, 3751, 3753, 3755, 3757, 3759, 3761, 3763, 3765, 3767, 3769, 3771, 3773, 3775, 3777, 3779, 3781, 3783, 3785, 3787, 3789, 3791, 3793, 3795, 3797, 3799, 3801, 3803, 3805, 3807, 3809, 3811, 3813, 3815, 3817, 3819, 3821, 3823, 3825, 3827, 3829, 3831, 3833, 3835, 3837, 3839, 3841, 3843, 3845, 3847, 3849, 3851, 3853, 3855, 3857, 3859, 3861, 3863, 3865, 3867, 3869, 3871, 3873, 3875, 3877, 3879, 3881, 3883, 3885, 3887, 3889, 3891, 3893, 3895, 3897, 3899, 3901, 3903, 3905, 3907, 3909, 3911, 3913, 3915, 3917, 3919, 3921, 3923, 3925, 3927, 3929, 3931, 3933, 3935, 3937, 3939, 3941, 3943, 3945, 3947, 3949, 3951, 3953, 3955, 3957, 3959, 3961, 3963, 3965, 3967, 3969, 3971, 3973, 3975, 3977, 3979, 3981, 3983, 3985, 3987, 3989, 3991, 3993, 3995, 3997, 3999, 4001, 4003, 4005, 4007, 4009, 4011, 4013, 4015, 4017, 4019, 4021, 4023, 4025, 4027, 4029, 4031, 4033, 4035, 4037, 4039, 4041, 4043, 4045, 4047, 4049, 4051, 4053, 4055, 4057, 4059, 4061, 4063, 4065, 4067, 4069, 4071, 4073, 4075, 4077, 4079, 4081, 4083, 4085, 4087, 4089, 4091, 4093, 4095, 4097, 4099, 4101, 4103, 4105, 4107, 4109, 4111, 4113, 4115, 4117, 4119, 4121, 4123, 4125, 4127, 4129, 4131, 4133, 4135, 4137, 4139, 4141, 4143, 4145, 4147, 4149, 4151, 4153, 4155, 4157, 4159, 4161, 4163, 4165, 4167, 4169, 4171, 4173, 4175, 4177, 4179, 4181, 4183, 4185, 4187, 4189, 4191, 4193, 4195, 4197, 4199, 4201, 4203, 4205, 4207, 4209, 4211, 4213, 4215, 4217, 4219, 4221, 4223, 4225, 4227, 4229, 4231, 4233, 4235, 4237, 4239, 4241, 4243, 4245, 4247, 4249, 4251, 4253, 4255, 4257, 4259, 4261, 4263, 4265, 4267, 4269, 4271, 4273, 4275, 4277, 4279, 4281, 4283, 4285, 4287, 4289, 4291, 4293, 4295, 4297, 4299, 4301, 4303, 4305, 4307, 4309, 4311, 4313, 4315, 4317, 4319, 4321, 4323, 4325, 4327, 4329, 4331, 4333, 4335, 4337, 4339, 4341, 4343, 4345, 4347, 4349, 4351, 4353, 4355, 4357, 4359, 4361, 4363, 4365, 4367, 4369, 4371, 4373, 4375, 4377, 4379, 4381, 4383, 4385, 4387, 4389, 4391, 4393, 4395, 4397, 4399, 4401, 4403, 4405, 4407, 4409, 4411, 4413, 4415, 4417, 4419, 4421, 4423, 4425, 4427, 4429, 4431, 4433, 4435, 4437, 4439, 4441, 4443, 4445, 4447, 4449, 4451, 4453, 4455, 4457, 4459, 4461, 4463, 4465, 4467, 4469, 4471, 4473, 4475, 4477, 4479, 4481, 4483, 4485, 4487, 4489, 4491, 4493, 4495, 4497, 4499, 4501, 4503, 4505, 4507, 4509, 4511, 4513, 4515, 4517, 4519, 4521, 4523, 4525, 4527, 4529, 4531, 4533, 4535, 4537, 4539, 4541, 4543, 4545, 4547, 4549, 4551, 4553, 4555, 4557, 4559, 4561, 4563, 4565, 4567, 4569, 4571, 4573, 4575, 4577, 4579, 4581, 4583, 4585, 4587, 4589, 4591, 4593, 4595, 4597, 4599, 4601, 4603, 4605, 4607, 4609, 4611, 4613, 4615, 4617, 4619, 4621, 4623, 4625, 4627, 4629, 4631, 4633, 4635, 4637, 4639, 4641, 4643, 4645, 4647, 4649, 4651, 4653, 4655, 4657, 4659, 4661, 4663, 4665, 4667, 4669, 4671, 4673, 4675, 4677, 4679, 4681, 4683, 4685, 4687, 4689, 4691, 4693, 4695, 4697, 4699, 4701, 4703, 4705, 4707, 4709, 4711, 4713, 4715, 4717, 4719, 4721, 4723, 4725, 4727, 4729, 4731, 4733, 4735, 4737, 4739, 4741, 4743, 4745, 4747, 4749, 4751, 4753, 4755, 4757, 4759, 4761, 4763, 4765, 4767, 4769, 4771, 4773, 4775, 4777, 4779, 4781, 4783, 4785, 4787, 4789, 4791, 4793, 4795, 4797, 4799, 4801, 4803, 4805, 4807, 4809, 4811, 4813, 4815, 4817, 4819, 4821, 4823, 4825, 4827, 4829, 4831, 4833, 4835, 4837, 4839, 4841, 4843, 4845, 4847, 4849, 4851, 4853, 4855, 4857, 4859, 4861, 4863, 4865, 4867, 4869, 4871, 4873, 4875, 4877, 4879, 4881, 4883, 4885, 4887, 4889, 4891, 4893, 4895, 4897, 4899, 4901, 4903, 4905, 4907, 4909, 4911, 4913, 4915, 4917, 4919, 4921, 4923, 4925, 4927, 4929, 4931, 4933, 4935, 4937, 4939, 4941, 4943, 4945, 4947, 4949, 4951, 4953, 4955, 4957, 4959, 4961, 4963, 4965, 4967, 4969, 4971, 4973, 4975, 4977, 4979, 4981, 4983, 4985, 49