



BEDFORD, Pa.

Friday Morning, Jan. 13, 1860.

FEARLESS AND FREE.

D. OVER—Editor and Proprietor.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1860,

HON. SIMON CAMERON,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

(Subject to the decision of the National Convention.)

DISORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.—In the House on the 11th inst., Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, a violent Locofoco, said, "that if the House were not organized, the government itself would be overthrown. He did not think the disorganization chargeable to the Republicans as they had not a majority."

PETERSON'S DETECTOR.

Peterson's Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List for January has been received by us, and is corrected by Drexel & Co., the well known Bankers and Brokers, and is the best and most reliable Detector of Counterfeit and Altered Notes published in this country.

ANOTHER FIRE.—On Tuesday morning last, the dwelling house of Mr. Jacob Weaverling, on the Turnpike, a couple miles below Bloody Run, caught fire and burned to the ground.

The length of the Governor's Message excludes many articles intended for to-day's paper. The Message is favorably spoken of by the press.

Hon. Wm. P. Schell, of the State Senate, and G. W. Williams, Esq., of the House, have our thanks for favors.

Hons. Ed. McPherson and John Covode, have our thanks for recent favors.

GROW AND BRANCH.

During a discussion last week, Mr. Branch of North Carolina impugned the motives of Mr. Grow of Pennsylvania for resisting an amendment to the post office appropriation bill increasing the rates of letter and newspaper postage, which Mr. Grow stigmatized as unconstitutional and ungentlemanly, as it certainly was.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 30, 1859. 7 o'clock; P. M.

Sir:—Your note of the 29th inst. was placed in my hands, by your friend Governor Winslow, at 12 o'clock to-day. I know of nothing that makes it necessary for me to name a time and place outside the District of Columbia to receive from you a communication in writing.

Respectfully Yours, GALUSHA A. GROW. To Hon. L. O'B. BRANCH.

There will be a special election held in Dauphin county, on Saturday, the 21st inst., to elect a Representative to fill the place of Marks D. Whitman, dec'd.

GENERAL BOWMAN'S ASPIRATIONS FOR THE SENATE PRINTING.

"WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 8, 1859. Dear Sir: In answer to yours of the 6th inst., I would say that the following are the facts in relation to my transfer of the Union newspaper to George W. Bowman, presuming that he was at the time superintendent of the public printing, and that the following extract from the United States statutes at large, Thirty second Congress, first session, chapter 91, section 6, page 82, has an immediate bearing on the case:

"Sec. 6. That the superintendent of the public printing shall not be directly or indirectly interested in the public printing, &c., and for any violation &c., shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary of the District of Columbia for any term not less than one year nor more than five years, and in addition thereto may be fined in any sum from one thousand to ten thousand dollars."

"On the 26th of March, 1859, I stipulated to transfer the Union to Gen. G. W. Bowman, under certain conditions, and to pay him also the sum of \$20,000 per annum out of the profits of the public printing. In pursuance thereof, on the 11th of April following, I paid him, as per subjoined receipt, \$3,000."

"This shows that Bowman was interested in the public printing as early as March 26, and that he received three thousand dollars cash on the 11th of April. He floated as Superintendent of Public Printing, and drew his salary therefor up to the 12th of May, as per receipt on file in the Treasury Department; and reference being had thereto, it will more fully appear that, six weeks after, he became interested in the public printing. These are the simple facts in the case."

The statements of Wendell clearly indicate that our gallant Pennsylvania Brigadier has rendered himself liable to indictment.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.—The Pennsylvania Legislature commenced its session on Tuesday of last week. The Senate met at 9 o'clock, and organized by electing Wm. M. Francis, of Venango, Speaker. Russell Errett, of Pittsburgh, was elected Clerk. The House of Representatives met at 12 o'clock, and proceeded to the election of a Speaker. Messrs. W. C. A. Lawrence, of Dauphin, and Henry Dunlap, of Philadelphia, were placed in nomination, and a ballot being had, resulted as follows:—Lawrence, (Opp.) 65; Dunlap, (Dem.) 33.—E. H. Rauch, Opp. was chosen as Clerk.

On Wednesday the Senate proceeded to the election of the remaining officers of the body, when the following gentlemen, being the nominees of the Opposition caucus, were elected by a party vote:—Assistant Clerk—C. P. Ramsdell; Transcribing Clerk—E. Cowen; J. C. Lewis, G. W. Patton; Sergeant-at-Arms—G. M. Hill; Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms—Daniel W. H. J. Brady; Door-keeper—Peter S. Works; Assistant Door-keepers—J. B. Himes, J. Riblet; Messenger—T. Walker.

Mr. Rauch appointed the following officers for the House: Assistant Clerk—John Hall; Transcribing Clerk—J. S. Pickling, L. Rogers, S. C. Snyman, M. Wynn. The House then elected J. R. Matthews, opp. Sergeant-at-Arms; C. J. Morgan, Door-keeper; A. D. Smith, Messenger; and Israel Gontier, Postmaster. The officers elected were all the nominees of the Opposition caucus.

Twelve families Expelled from Kentucky for entertaining Free State Sentiments—Thirty-six Exiles in Cincinnati.

The despotism of Slavery has again discredited the soil of Kentucky. December 30th, 1859, a company of thirty-six persons arrived in Cincinnati from Kentucky, industrious, sober, peaceful citizens of that State, but driven from it for the crime of believing Slavery to be a sin! They resided at Berea, Madison county, and were neighbors, friends, and co-workers of the Rev. John G. Fee, a well-known anti-slavery man of Kentucky. "Among the exiles," the Commercial says, "are Rev. J. B. Rogers, principal of a flourishing school at Berea, and his family, J. D. Reed and family; John S. Hanson and family. Mr. Hanson is a native of Kentucky, and a hard working, thrifty man. He had recently erected a steam saw-mill, and owns five hundred acres of land in Madison Co., Ky. The Rev. J. F. Doughton; E. T. Hayes and S. Life, carpenters; A. G. W. Parker, a native of South Carolina, W. F. Toney, a native of Tennessee, John Smith, a native of Ohio, a farmer who has lived in Kentucky some years. Mr. Smith is described by Mr. Fee as a grey-haired father, a man of prayer, indeed of eminent piety and usefulness. More than half of the exiles are native Kentuckians. The only offense charged against any of them is that of entertaining Abolition sentiments."

THE LAST BALLOT FOR SPEAKER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—On the twenty-eight ballot for Speaker, taken in the House to-day, all the Democratic members voted for Hon. A. J. Hamilton, of Texas, with the exception of Messrs. Adrain, of New Jersey, and Horace F. Clark, of New York. The following is the result of the ballot: Whole number of votes, 211. Necessary to a choice, 106. Mr. Sherman, 103. Mr. Hamilton, 89. Mr. Gilmer, 14. Scattering, 5.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The Washington correspondent of the Tribune says a conference was held yesterday of the delegates of the South American anti-Locomotive and Democrats, at which it was agreed to vote down Hickman's plurality proposition, on the belief that this would exclude Sherman. No agreement was reached on the Speaker or other affairs.

DEATH OF DOW, JR.—Eldridge F. Paige, well known as "Dow, Jr.," was the author of the famous "Patent Sermons," was found dead in a house of prostitution in San Francisco, on the 4th inst. He was a native of Littlefield, Ct. Ten years ago he was the editor and proprietor of the New York Mercury, but meeting with reverses, he went to California, where he became addicted to liquor, and died in the most utter degradation and misery.

nd to properly direct, this fountain head of social influence, it seems to me, the great duty of the law maker, in his highest and most responsible capacity, as the framer of the future State.

The attention of the General Assembly was called, somewhat at length, to the existing condition and further requirements of our school system, in the annual message of last year.—It is not, therefore, necessary to repeat the suggestions and conclusions then presented. They are again, however, commended to your favorable consideration; the events and experience of the intervening period, having increased the conviction of their propriety. This is especially the case in regard to the plan devised by the act of 20th of May, 1857, for the due training of teachers for the common schools of the State. A full supply of competent teachers, is admitted by all, to be the great need of the system, and the first want to be provided for. Unerring indications, in every quarter, not only establish this fact, but point to the general adoption of the proposed means, at no distant day. The efforts of the teachers, themselves, for professional improvement, encouraged and sustained by all who duly estimate the value and influence of the teacher's office, not only foretell this, but the strong public sentiment in favor of institutions for the purpose in question, confirms the probability of this result. In every quarter, indications of this kind are perceived—more or less strong in proportion to the force of local circumstances. In the Second Normal district, composed of the counties of Lancaster, York and Lebanon, an institution, up to the full requirements of the law of 1857, has been established and officially recognized, and is now in successful operation, as a State Normal School. For its details the Legislature is respectfully referred to the annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, but I should do injustice to the intelligent enterprise which moulded, and the enlarged philanthropy which produced, this noble institution, as well as to my own feelings, were I to forbear congratulating you upon the result. It is the first fruit of a law which seems to be as much in accordance with the cautious, yet generous character of our people, as it is admirably adapted to effect the great end in view.

All second-class laws, to give full effect and general success to the plan, is, at this juncture, to guard it from mutilation, or radical change. If the intelligent and liberal minds that are now weighing the project, and contemplating its extension to other parts of the State, be assured that this is the method of its success, they will be concentrated, their activity increased, and final success hastened. Whereas, radical or important changes will destroy this growing confidence, crush the hopeful efforts now being made, and postpone for years, if not totally destroy, all hope of success in the essential department of public instruction. The true course will be to cherish the law, and bring it into general operation, by holding out the certainty of State aid to each institution established under it, as soon as a certain number, to be fixed by law, shall have been legally recognized, and are in full operation. The money of the State, appropriated in this manner, will effect more benefit, in proportion to the outlay, than in any other of the operations of the system. The instruction of the child is a duty; but the instruction of the teacher is equally so. It is the duty of the State to be advisable to make such appropriations, payable only when the schools are legally recognized, and of stimulating into early existence a sufficient number of institutions to supply the existing want in every quarter.

The period for the third election of County Superintendents is rapidly approaching, and the public mind will naturally be turned to the results of the office. My own observation, as well as information from various reliable sources, leads to the opinion, that this office, when filled by the proper person, and its duties discharged in full compliance with the design and spirit of the law creating it, has been of great advantage to the schools.—Indeed, no candid person can deny the fact, apparent to even slight observation, that more improvement has been effected in the workings and results of the system, since the creation of the office of County Superintendent, than in any previous period of even double duration. It is true, that when exercised by incompetent officers, or crippled by insufficient compensation, little, if any, advantage has accrued. But this is no argument against the office itself; and it is to be hoped that the directors of counties thus heretofore deprived of the benefits of this agency, will, at the next election, acting under the teachings of experience at home, and the light of success from other parts, correct this error, and realize the full benefits of this provision of the law.

The increasing ease and soundness of our financial condition, will, at no remote period, justify an addition to the common school appropriation. The general policy of the State has been that each district shall raise within itself the main support of its own schools; but an annual donation, distributed among them all, in proportion to population has also been a part of the policy.—The object of this State grant seems to be two-fold: First—It is a means of securing regularity in the proceedings and reports of the several districts, so that the Department of Common Schools shall have the requisite information for the due discharge of its functions. And second—It lightens, in degree, the burden of local taxation, to the relief of the poorer and more sparsely populated districts. An increase of the annual appropriation would enhance both these objects, and, whenever the finances of the government will justify it, commends itself to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

The aid which the Legislature has hitherto extended to the establishment of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania, strongly evinces their high appreciation of the advantages which it is anticipated will grow out of that institution. While it may be admitted that knowledge is essential to the art of farming, as it is to all the other occupations of life, we cannot but feel deeply interested, that a community so peculiarly agricultural as we are, should have in itself, as well the knowledge of the practical art, as the scientific acquirements which are especially applicable to its profitable pursuit.—A school where agriculture is practically taught, is a new field to which our attention has been called, and one which, because of its great importance, well deserves our attention. It embraces the principles, that while youth are taught habits of industry, they are impressed with the proud consideration, that the labor of their own hands contributes to their acquisition of knowledge. And thus, too, education is taught within the reach of many of our bright youths, who would otherwise struggle and languish for the want of the means of acquiring it. Our school, within its limited means, has been in successful operation during the past year, having under its charge one hundred boys, who, while they are carefully instructed in all those branches of science which pertain to a high order of education, are daily engaged in all the practical workings of the farm—fitting them to return to rural life, and to infuse throughout the State an amount and kind of knowledge which must ultimately produce a most beneficial influence upon this most cherished branch of industry. The practical workings of the school, for the past year, have impressed the trustees, who have it in charge, with the hopes of its complete success. The great interest which is everywhere felt throughout the Commonwealth, in the further extension and progress of the institution, commends it to our care and protection.

The State Librarian will report to you the completion of the descriptive and classified catalogue of the books in the State Library, authorized by the act of the 16th of April, 1856,—a work, from the details it embraces, of much labor, but which will greatly facilitate the use of the Library. It will be seen, from his report, that the origin of the Library dates far back in the history of the Provincial gov-

ernment, and that it received the fostering care of the Commonwealth during the period of "the Revolution. It is gratifying, that, notwithstanding the waste to which it has been subject in past years, owing to the want of proper attention,—under the careful supervision of the present Librarian, it has, since he had the charge of it, nearly doubled its number of volumes, and now contains in all 22,000 volumes—the largest State Library in the Union with the single exception of that of the State of New York. The collection of law books, and especially law reports, is considered by those competent to judge, among the best in the country. The Library, from its intrinsic value and importance, and its historic relations, deserves, and I trust it will receive, the continued liberality of the Legislature.

In my inaugural address, as well as in my last annual message, I expressed the opinion that our present banking system was extremely defective, and that, unless it were radically changed, I should consider it an imperative duty to withhold the Executive approval from all bills creating new banks. Without again giving in detail the reasons which influenced my action on this question, or repeating the suggestions and recommendations heretofore made to the Legislature, it is proper to remark, at this time, that my convictions have been confirmed, by time and reflection,—that my opinions remain unchanged, and that I cannot approve of any increase of banking corporations under existing laws. If corporate privileges, for banking purposes, are needed, to accommodate the business wants of any portion of the State, justice requires, that such institutions should be compelled to protect the community receiving its circulation, by requiring that ample security shall be given for the prompt redemption of its notes, the sufficiency of which no act of the corporation could impair.

All experience in this State, and elsewhere, has demonstrated, that the present system affords little or no protection to note holders, beyond the personal integrity of the officers controlling the management of the several banks. For a full exposition of my views on this question, I respectfully call the attention of the General Assembly to my last annual message.

The reports of the Auditor General, the State Treasurer, the Surveyor General, the Adjutant General, and the Attorney General, will be laid before you, and will show, in detail, the operations of their respective departments for the past year.

Deeply impressed with the belief that the present mode of receiving, keeping and disbursing the public revenue is entirely unsafe, and inadequate to the complete protection of the interests of the Commonwealth involved, I again respectfully, though earnestly, invoke legislative action on this highly important subject. The receipts and disbursements of the Treasury are each, annually, from three to four millions of dollars. At times there is on hand a balance exceeding one million of dollars.—The State Treasurer gives security to the Commonwealth in the sum of only eighty thousand dollars. He deposits the money of the State when and where he pleases, and it is paid out upon his own check exclusively. His accounts are settled by the Auditor General, once a month, and this is apparently, the only safeguard provided by law to prevent the illegal use of the public funds while under the control of the State Treasurer. That the Treasury of the Commonwealth has hitherto escaped from disastrous default, is owing to the integrity of the officer, and not to the efficiency of the laws; and while our main reliance, in the future, must be on the honesty of the officer, nevertheless, the plain duty of the government by proper legislative enactments, to prevent, as far as possible, the illegal, improper or fraudulent use of the funds of the State by a faithless or dishonest public agent. I respectfully recommend, that provision be made by law that no money shall be deposited in any bank, or elsewhere, by the State Treasurer, without first requiring security to be given to the Commonwealth for the prompt re-payment of the sums deposited; that all checks, issued by the State Treasurer, shall be countersigned by the Auditor General before they are used; and that daily accounts of the moneys received, deposited and disbursed, shall be kept in the office of the Auditor General as well as in the Treasury Department; and that weekly statements of the balances in the Treasury, and the places and amounts of deposits, shall be kept in a book to be provided for that purpose in each department.

The Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the resolutions of the 19th of April, 1858, to revise the Penal Code of this Commonwealth have presented to me their final report, which is herewith transmitted to the General Assembly. Its importance to our whole community, and the great labor devoted to its preparation, commend it to your early and earnest attention. The manner in which the duties of the commission have been performed cannot fail, in my opinion, to receive your approbation. I commend to your fostering care the State Lunatic Asylum, at Harrisburg, the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the insane, at Pittsburgh, the asylum for the Blind, at Philadelphia, the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Training School for idiotic and feeble minded children, at Media, the House of Refuge, at Philadelphia, and the Western House of Refuge, at Pittsburgh. These excellent, charitable and reformatory State institutions have done, and are doing, almost incalculable good, in the relief of suffering humanity, and in the reclamation and reform of the erring young. They have strong claims upon the continued bounty of the Commonwealth. The annual report of these noble charities will be laid before you, and will exhibit, in detail, their operations during the past year.

I refrain from recommending, as proper objects for the bounty of the State, a number of benevolent and charitable associations, equally humane and beneficent in their operations, because they are entirely local in their character, and however meritorious their claims may be, and unquestionably are, upon the respective communities for whose particular use they are founded and conducted, in my opinion, they have no claims upon the Treasury of the State, which can be recognized with a just regard to the interests and rights of other sections of the Commonwealth.

The editor of the Colonial Records and Pennsylvania Archives has prepared a copious index to the whole work, which will be laid before the Legislature, at an early day of the session. This publication is now completed, and it is a satisfaction to know, that the records of the colony, as well as those of the State, preceding the adoption of the Constitution of 1790, are now of easy access to the public, and in a condition which renders their entire destruction impossible. I recommend that a suitable sum be paid, by the Commonwealth, to the editor of the Record and Archives, for the work performed by him since the discontinuance of his salary.

I have so repeatedly presented my views to the Legislature, of the evils arising from local and class legislation, that it is not necessary again to repeat them. I desire, however, to call the attention of the General Assembly to the fact that we have, on our statute books, general laws providing for the incorporation of railroad, turnpike, bridge, plank road, gas, water, insurance and other similar companies, and that all corporate powers granted by the Legislature, to such companies, should be under these general laws, so that there may be uniformity in the provisions of similar associations, and that the time of the General Assembly may not be occupied in passing bills of great length, when a simple reference to the details of the general laws would answer every purpose.

The practice of sending to the Executive a large number of bills immediately preceding the final adjournment of the Legislature, is highly objectionable, and ought, as far as practicable, to be discontinued. Its necessary consequence is, either to compel the Executive to approve bills which he has not fully examined, to sign them after the final adjournment, or, if he disapprove them, to return them to the General Assembly, with his objections. Thus imposing upon a succeeding Legislature the final disposition of bills, with the origin and passage of which it had no connection. To illustrate the evils resulting from this practice, it is only necessary to inform you that, of the large number of bills presented for my approval, within a day or two of the adjournment of the last Legislature, I am constrained, by a sense of duty, to return, with my objections, twenty three to the present Legislature, for reconsideration.

It is apparent from the exhibit of the financial condition of the General Government, recently made public, that the wants of the Federal Treasury will demand a revision of the existing tariff laws of the United States, with a view to an increase of the revenue derivable from imports. When this revision shall take place, it is greatly to be desired, that a proper regard for the industrial interests of the country will prompt the Congress of the U. States, to place her revenue laws upon such a basis, as to afford to our great mining and manufacturing interests the largest incidental protection. To substitute specific for ad valorem duties, on a certain class of articles which form their nature are of equal or nearly equal value,—or to change the foreign to a home valuation,—with a moderate increase of the rates now imposed, would, in my satisfied, infuse new life and vigor into all the various departments of industry, and, at the same time, without imposing burdens upon the people, afford to the General Government a revenue amply sufficient for all its wants.

The early admission of the Territory of Kansas as one of the sovereign States of the Union, under a constitution legally enacted, and fully and fairly ratified by the direct votes of a large majority of the people of the Territory, will remove from the National Legislature a subject which has hitherto, in no inconsiderable degree, attracted the attention of the Nation, and which, from the nature and extent of the discussions in Congress, has been productive of much serious and unprofitable controversy. The sovereignty having finally prevailed, in the full, free and fair adoption of the fundamental law of the Territory, according to the wishes of the people, this vexed and dangerous question, in that Territory, may now be considered as satisfactorily and perpetually settled.

Copies of the correspondence between the Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Pennsylvania, on the subject of the recent outrage at Harper's Ferry, are herewith transmitted to the Legislature. The letter addressed by the Governor of Virginia to the Governor of Pennsylvania, was addressed to Harrisburg, Virginia, and hence was not received until the first day of December, one day before the execution of John Brown; and, therefore, it was impossible to reply to it, by mail, in time to reach the Governor of Virginia before the execution.—The answer was consequently sent by telegraph, which will account for its brevity and sententious character.

The recent seizure of the public property of the United States at Harper's Ferry, and the invasion of the State of Virginia, by a small band of desperadoes, with an intention to excite the slave population to insurrection, have drawn attention to the dangers which beset our federal relations. It is a source of satisfaction to know that the authorities of Virginia possessed the means and the determination to punish offenders with promptness and justice;—that the military force of the United States was power immediately available to aid in putting down the outbreak against the public peace;—that the slave population were contented with their condition, and unwilling to unite with disorderly white men in acts of treason and murder;—and that the great masses of the people have no sympathy, whatever, with any attack upon the rights and institutions of any of the States, and have a deep and abiding devotion to our great and glorious Union. To us, as Pennsylvanians, it is gratifying to believe that the citizens of this Commonwealth have not, in any manner, participated in this unlawful proceeding, and to know that when some of the guilty perpetrators were arrested, within our jurisdiction, they were promptly surrendered to the justice of the offended and injured State.

The several States of the Union are independent sovereignties, except so far as they have granted certain enumerated powers to the Federal Government. In cases not provided for in the Federal Constitution; the several States, in their relations to each other, ought to be governed by the principles which regulate the conduct of civilized nations. These principles forbid, in all nations, "every evil practice tending to excite disturbance in another State," and are founded on the maxim, that "different nations ought, in time of peace, to do one another all the good they can, without prejudicing their real interests." This maxim, recognized by all civilized governments, applies with peculiar force to the several States of this Union, born together, as they are, by a sacred compact for mutual support and protection; and, therefore, any attempt in one State, to excite insurrection in another, is an offense against all the States, because all are bound by the Constitution to put down such disturbance; and the act of Congress authorizes the President of the United States to call out the militia of the several States for the purpose. It is a high infamy against the peace of our Commonwealth, for disorderly persons within our jurisdiction, to combine together for the purpose of stringing up insurrection, in any of the States, or to induce the slaves in the Southern States to abscond from their masters; and it would be proper, in my judgment, for the General Assembly to consider whether additional legislation may not be necessary to insure the prompt punishment of such offenders against our peace and security.

In determining our relative duties towards our sister States, the morality of servitude is not an open question, for we are bound by the legal and moral obligation of the compact of the Union, under which we have been brought into existence, and preserved as independent States, as well as by the principles of international law, to respect the institutions which the laws of the several States recognize, and in no other way can we faithfully fulfill our obligations, as members of this confederacy.

While I entertain no doubt, that the great Republican experiment on this continent, so happily commenced, and carried forward to its present exalted position, in the eyes of the world, will continue, under the Providence of God, to be successful to the latest generations, it is the part of wisdom and patriotism to be watchful and vigilant, and to carefully guard a treasure so priceless. Let moderate counsels prevail—let a spirit of harmony and good will, and a national fraternal sentiment be cultivated among the people, everywhere—North and South—and the disturbing elements which temporarily threaten our Union, will now, as they have always heretofore, assuredly pass away.

Pennsylvania, in the past, has performed her part with unflinching firmness—let her now, and in future, be ever ready to discharge her confederate duties with unflinching integrity. Then will her proud position entitle her, boldly and effectually, to rebuke and assist in crushing treason, whether it shall rise its crest in other States, in the guise of a fanatical and irrepressible conflict, between the North and the South, or assume the equally reprehensible form of nullification, secession, and a dissolution of the Union. Her central geographical position, stretching from the bay of Delaware to the lakes—with her three millions of conservative population—entitles her to say, with emphasis, to the plotters of treason, on either hand, that neither shall be permitted to succeed—that it is not in the power of either to disturb the perpetuity of this Union, cemented and sanctified, as it is, by the blood of our patriotic fathers—that, at every sacrifice, and at every hazard, the constitutional rights of the people and the States shall be maintained—that equal and exact justice shall be done to the North and to the South—and that these States shall be forever united.

We, as a people, have great reason to acknowledge the Providence of God, who rules over the nations of the earth. Under His guardianship, hitherto so signally enjoyed, we feel an unabated confidence in the permanency of our free government, and look forward, with cheerful hope, to a future glorious destiny. In the blessings that have crowned our own Commonwealth the past year—in the success that has accompanied all our industrial pursuits—in the steady advance of our educational institutions—in the quiet and peace of our domestic homes—in all that can advance a nation's prosperity and happiness—we recognize the hand of the Great Giver of all Good.

WILLIAM F. PACKER. Correspondence. The Governor of Pennsylvania, referred to in the foregoing Message. GOVERNOR WISE TO GOVERNOR PACKER. RICHMOND, VA., November 25, 1859. To His Excellency, the Governor of Penna: DEAR SIR:—I respectfully sent to you the information contained in a letter to the President of the United States, of which the enclosed is a copy. I submit it to you in the confidence that you will faithfully co-operate with the authorities of this State in preserving the peace of our common borders. Necessarily may compel us to pursue invaders of our jurisdiction into yours; if so, you may be assured that it will be done with no disrespect to the sovereignty of your State. But this State expects the confederate duty to be observed, of guarding your territory from becoming dangerous to our peace and safety, by affording places of depot and rendezvous to lawless desperadoes who may seek to war upon our people.

With the highest respect, I am, sir, yours truly, HENRY A. WISE. GOVERNOR WISE TO JAMES BUCHANAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. RICHMOND, VA., November 25, 1859. To His Excellency, JAMES BUCHANAN, President of the United States: SIR:—I have information from various quarters, upon which I rely, that a conspiracy, of formidable extent in means and numbers, is formed in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and other States, to resist John Brown and his associates, prisoners at Charleston, Va. The information is so specific and reliable, it convinces me that an attempt will be made to rescue the prisoners, and that that fails, then to seize citizens of this State as hostages and victims in case of execution. The execution will take place next Friday at 10 o'clock, at the State Prison in Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania have been occupied as depots and rendezvous by these desperadoes, unobstructed by guards or otherwise, to invade this State, and we are kept in continual apprehension of outrages from fire and rapine on our borders. I apprehend you of these facts in order that you may take steps to preserve peace between the States. I protest that my purpose is peaceful, and that I disclaim all threats when I say, with all the might of meaning, that if another invasion assails this State or its borders, I will pursue the invaders wherever they may go into any territory, and punish them wherever arms can reach them. I shall send copies of this to the Governors of Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

With due respect and consideration, Yours truly, HENRY A. WISE. TELEGRAPHIC REPLY OF GOVERNOR PACKER TO GOVERNOR WISE. STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, Dec. 1, '59. To His Excellency, the Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va.: SIR:—Your letter of the 25th, having been mis-sent to Harrisburg, Virginia, was not received until this morning. Of all the desperadoes to whom you refer, not a man, so far as I can learn, was a citizen of Pennsylvania; nor was their rendezvous (which you say was unobscured by guards or otherwise), in this State, but in Maryland or Virginia. In relation to them, Pennsylvania has done her duty. Virginia has no right to anticipate that she will not do so in the future. The information you have received in regard to a conspiracy to rescue John Brown, will, undoubtedly, be found, in the sequel, utterly and entirely without foundation, so far as Pennsylvania is concerned. Nor will we permit any portion of our territory, along our borders, or elsewhere, to be made a depot, a rendezvous, or a refuge, for lawless desperadoes, from other States, who may seek to make war upon our southern neighbors. When that contingency shall happen, the constitution and confederate duty of Pennsylvania shall be performed, and, under all circumstances, she will take care to see that her honor is fully vindicated.

WM. F. PACKER.