AFTERTORING TO HERAL

Commonwealth.
In view of these facts, I carnestly repeat the recommendation made to the Legislature at its last session, that an Insurance Department be established, and a superintendent appointed by law, who shall have supervision and control over all insurance companies allowed to transact business within the State. The community is deeply interested in this matter, and demands legislative prefection.

Our laws in relation to life insurance companies are defective, and need re-vision and correction. Without the protection referred to these laws bear equally upon our own and foreign companies. The latter, being protected by Legislative enactment, are enabled to transact an immense amount of bus-iness within the limits of this Commonwealth, whilst our companies, having no such protection, can do but little in other States. The consequence is that foreign companies can readily afford to pay a license of five hundred dollars to conduct their extensive operations in Pennsylvania, whilst our companies would be according to the line. would be sorely oppassed by the imposition of the same license tax in States where their operations are exceedingly limited. And yet these other States have retaliated upon our license law by adopting its provisions, and demanding from our recognitions. from our companies the same amount of ticense in each State that we demand of their companies in ours. This is not only oppressive to our own neglected companies, but it fails to furnish a just and equitable revenue from the various companies for the amount of business transacted. The tax should be made to bear equally upon all companies, wheth-er home or foreign, and be adjusted proportionately to the extent of their would be just to all, oppressive to none. The abolishment, therefore, of the license law, and the substitution in its place of a reasonable and equitable tax, would meet the approbation of all comtranics in favor of equal and exact justice, whether belonging to this or any other State. At the same time it would insure a larger income to the treasury. For instance, there are thirty-seven life insurance companies thirty-seven life insurance companies from other States doing business in Pennsylvania, who cach pay a license of five hundred dollars, making the sum of eighteen thousand and five hundred dollars. Not one of these companies would object to paying an equal tax of one-half of one per cent upon the amount of their business. This, in the aggregate of the thirty-seven companies, is more than five millions of dollars, on which a tax of one-half of one per cent, would be

millions of dollars, on which a tax of one-half of one per cent, would be twenty-five thousand dollars, increasing the revenue of the State from this source more than six thousand dollars, and at the same time equalizing the tax in accordance with the business done and profits received. An efficient law establishing an Insurance Department, such as is recommended, would meet this and all matters connected with the subject of insurance in all its branches. THE AVONDALE DISASTER.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER.

The recent disaster in the Avondale coal mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people. It caused a thrill of horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers. Women and children who had been secured to the country of the sufferers. dren who had been accustomed to regard the occupation of the miner as one of ordinary character, now look upon it as ordinary character, now look upon it as fraught with danger, and part with relatives and friends, when about to pursue their perilous occupation, with fearful forebodings. And even the sturdy miner himself trembles at his dangerous calling, and demands greater protection than has hitherto been afforded.

The history of this terrible calamity seems to be as follows: Early on the morning of the 6th of September last, one hundred and eight men entered the

one hundred and eight men entered the one hundred and eight men entered the Avondale mine to prosecute their avoca-tion. None of them anticipated danger as they descended the fatal shaft; not one supposed that he was entering a tomb in which he was doomed to be buried alive. But the Destroying Angel hovered over them, and the shaft, con-structed principally of combustible mahovered over them, and the shaft, constructed principally of combustible materials, having become ignited from some cause yet undetermined, was soon a sheet of flame, and huge burning timbers came tumbling from above, choking up with fire and smoke the only avenue of escape. Sensible of their peril, the unfortunate men sought a place of safety, but it was not to be found. They cried for succor, but no earthly arm could give them help. Hopeless they huddled together, and, clasped in each other's arms, met death in one of its most frightful and agonizing forms.

ling forms,

Whilst this fearful scene was transpiring below, the immense wooden structure above the shaft took fire, and burning with frightful rapidity was soon reduced to a crumbling mass. Thousands of men, women, and children soon surrounded the place, and being unable to afford the slightest relief to their suffering frieds below, filled the air with lamentations, appealing even to the stoutest hearts. Never before was a scene more heartrendering even to the stoutest hearts. Never before was a scene more heartrendering witnessed within the limits of this Commonwealth, and it is trusted that

Commonwealth, and it is trusted that through your prompt and efficient legislative action another such will never be permitted to occur.

The mines in many cases are constructed and managed in the most selfish and parsimonions manner, the owners exacting the largest amount of profit from them, from the last possible outlay; consequently some of them, like that of Avondale, are nothing but underground man traps, without any like that of Avondale, are nothing but underground man traps, without any other outlets than wooden chimneys, and these constantly liable to become blazing voicanoes, through which escape is impossible. The lives of so useful a class of men as our miners should not and must not be permitted to be thus sacrificed upon the altar of human cupidity. Yet a reprehensible neglect to give them that protection by law which their valuable services, at w which their valuable services, at est laborious and dangerous, unquestionably deserve, renders our mining system worse than that of any other country, whilst our mining interests are unequalled by those of any other part of the world.

The most appalling accidents on record have been traced to uneafe methods of restrictions and most appalling accidents.

of ventilation, and more especially to the employment of furnaces at or near the bottom of the shafts. Where the

been substituted, which, being worked by machinery at the surface, produces a more constant current of air, dispenses, it more freely through the gangways and chambers, and, in all respects, accomplishes the object desired with better effect; and, when the shafts and surface buildings are fire-proof, without the possibility of danger. This system of ventilation, with advantages so painor versally adopted. But the very nature of mining operations subjects them to suppose that our courts are daily and that resources. The recommendation made last year for the establishment of a desk for the collection and preservation of statistics relative to exports and imports agriculture, manufactures, coal, iron, of which 62, or per cent., were pathog objects, will, no doubt, be universally adopted. But the very nature of mining operations subjects them to in those of Pennsylvania that their business is almost entirely confined within the State limits; and even here foreign companies maintain an ascendency. To this same defect is attributable the operations of the number of worthless companies that have suddenly sprung into existence without any solid basis, and as suddenly expired, to the injury of those whose confidence they In the death of ten persons. Hence it is absolutely necessary, and should be im-peratively demanded, that every mine

peratively demanded, that every mine should have more than a single avenue of ingress and egress. Whether as regards fire, or any other source of danger to which the miner is exposed, this is his surest promise of safety. Whatever system of ventilation may be approved, or safety lamp adopted, the means of escape from the mines, when danger occurs, will depend very materially upon the provisions made for the exit of the miner.

The best mode of constructing, ventilating, and working the mines should be unhesitatingly adopted, and the system adopted rigidly enforced. The inquiry, therefore, into the causes which produced this shocking catastrophevarious theories that have been promulgated concerning it, the remedies for the prevention of similar occurrences hereafter, the construction and ventilation.

the prevention of similar occurrences bereafter, the construction and ventilation of collieries, and the modes of conducting their operations so that the operatives may prosecute their labor with out imperilling their lives, are proper subjects for legislative consideration.

Such laws as you may enact can most certainly be enforced by competent inspectors in the mining districts, who should be chosen with strict regard to character, integrity, capability, and scientific knowledge, and whose duties should be so specifically defined that they cannot be misunderstood.

1, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly recommend that this whole subject receive the attention its importance demands, and that a law be passed, so general in its character, and so stringent in its provisions, that the people of this Commonwealth will never again be appalled by a calamity within her limits so sad as that of Avondale.

BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES,

BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES. In accordance with an act of the last Legislature, a Board of Public Charities has been appointed, consisting of the following gentleman, viz; Gen. Thomas L. Kane, for five years; F. B. Penni-man, Esq., four years; Hon. G. Daw-son Coleman, three years; George L. Harrison, Esq. two years and Harrison, Esq., two years, and——, one year. The board organized by electing Gen. Kane, president, and Hon. Wilmer Worthington, secretary and general agent. From the establishment of this board, and especially from the high character and qualifications of the metallaneau who have accounted to the gentlemen who have consented to assume its important trusts and respon-sibilities, we have reason to hope for the most beneficial results. This change in the management of our charitable affairs is deemed of the highest impor-

tance by many persons intimately conversant with the workings and management of these institutions.

A thorough review of all the establishments receiving appropriations from the State by this brard will give an assurance to the Legislature and the acceptance. the state by this beard will give at assurance to the Legislature and the people, which they have never heretofore possessed, that their benefactions will be worthily bestowed and properly em-

ployed.

Some time during the present session the board will present to the Legislature a report of the condition and requirements of the various institutions, quirements of appropriaquirements of the various institutions, that have been recipients of appropriations from the State, with such recommendations as may be deemed necessary and, therefore, no information concernation concerns of the state of the ing them, except the annual reports of the superintendents, will at present be fore you.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Many prominent citizens have repre-sented that there exists great necessity for a more complete geological and mineralogical survey of the State than at There is no doubt but the develop-ments of mineral wealth that would ments of mineral wealth that would ments of mineral wealth that would result from such a survey would be im-mense, and the beneficial returns to the mense, and the beneficial returns to the State would many times more than reimburse the treasury for the expense attending it, including the printing of reports, maps, &c., sufficient for the information of the people. Should the Legislature concur in these

views, and pass a law authorizing such a survey, it will meet with Executive

approval.

INSPECTION OF GAS.

At the last session a law was passed creating the office of inspector of gas and gas meters for the county of Alleghany and in accordance therewith I have appointed an inspector possessing the necessary scientific qualifications.

The necessity for such a law has been long and extensively felt, and it has been earnestly demanded by a large number of highly respectable citizens, whose opinions are eminently worthy of consideration. I therefore respectfully recommend that the just and equitable provisions of the Aleghany county law be extended to other counties in which gas is largely consumed.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE. The law on this subject does not conemplate a full report from the com-missioners to revise the general statutes of the States before the session of 1871. of the States before the session of 1871. It may, however, be important to state that this work has so far progressed as to make it almost certain that it will be completed and ready for the press so soon after the close of the present session as will allow time to bring within the code such of your enactments as session as will allow time to bring within the code such of your enactments as
may with propriety be incorporated.

The commissioners will report for
your consideration the revised school
laws, as the present edition is exhausted, and it would be inexpedient to reprint them, when they might be superseded by others in the course of the current year.

rent year.

A general road law, and one for the support and maintenance of the poor, whave heretofore been reported, but not definitely reted upon and the frequent demands made for such enactments to correct many existing abuses and supply a common public want, render it desirable that these enactments should receive your early attention.

The States census will be taken during the year, and the law for its regularent year.

The States census will be taken dur-ing the year, and the law for its regula-tion having in it some provisions not now required, a revised bill will be pres-ented by the commissioners for legisla-tive action. tive action.

In view of the changes which the re-

vised code is expected to produce, it is desirable that no more laws of a gener-al character be enacted than are indispensably necessary, as they might oc-casion a necessity for a revision of what has already received appropriate attention, and cause delay in the completion

STATISTICS.

ppropriate to such a department is res-ectfully renewed, with the suggestion hat the duties be attached to the office the Librarian and his assistant, with reasonable increase of compensation and an appropriation for the same. PRISON DISCIPLINE.

In accordance with a law approved April 13, 1867, Mahlon H. Dickinson, Esq., of Philadelphia, was appointed "to visit, for philanthropic purposes, the prisons and alm-houses in the various counties of the Commonwealth." His second report, which is herewith presented, embraces a vast amount of useful information, and will be found highly interesting and worthy of mature coninformation, and will be found highly interesting and worthy of mature consideration. It will be seen that while some of our county prisons have been constructed and are being conducted with strict regard to the proper objects of punishment, others are utterly unfit for any such purposes, and are a disgrace and reproach to a civilized age and a Christian people. The commissioner, in regard to some of these, describes them "as being unsafe, where prisoners could not be held unless loaded with chains, where the sexes were not separated, where there was no discipline, or ated, where there was no discipline, or any effort made towards the moral or any effort made towards the moral or religious improvement of the inmates; the buildings totally unfit for the purposes of a prison, and where the prison-ers become schooled in vice, and event-ually graduated, prepared for a life of lawlessness." In some of the prisons the cells are represented as contracted dungeons, into which not a ray of sunsine or a draft of pure air can enter, and in which a human being could not possibly live through a lengthy term of sentence. And in still others, in consequence of the want of proper accommonations, all classes of criminals, from the most hardened and aged to the youth of tender years, are permitted to congregate and indulge in card playing profaulty, and almost every species of immorality and crime. Under such mmorality and crime. Under such ircumstances, reformation, which is he grand object of divine, and should be of all human, laws and punishments, is rendered impossible; whilst hideous lessons of vice are taught and learned, to be practiced when future opportunity occurs. This is all wrong, and a reme-dy for the evil should by all means be applied. No community has a moral or legal right to inflict punishment as a mere retaliatory measure, or in such a manner as to endanger the health and life of the criminal, to deaden him to all the better sensibilities of his nature and to absolutely harden him to the

ommission of crime.

The commissioners appointed "to inquire into the various systems of prison liscipline, as practiced in other States and countries, as compared with what s know a sthe Pennsylvania system," will submit you their report at an early day, from which you will learn that the capacity of our penitentlaries is at present competent for the safekeeping and proper punishment of all offenders of the higher grades, and that work-buses and houses and correction are touses and houses of correction are seeded for those whose crimes are of a more trivial character, and whose reformation and future usefulness may be accomplished by a humane system of discipline, such as will be recommen-

THE JUDICIARY. Communications have been received from various parts of the State, representing that the present judicial force is liadequate for the purposes designed. Since the number of judges was fixed, the business of the courts has greatly increased with our rapidly expanding population, and the multiplication of commercial and business operations of our growing Commonwealth. How far relief should be afforded is well worthy of careful consideration.

of these involve very large amounts and important legal principles, and their proper consideration imposes up-on the judges great labor and responsibility. In the other districts of this court the argument lists are also becom-ing so crewded that it is impossible to dispose of the business with that promptness and intelligence demanded by the public interests; and, especially, with one of the judges, as now required by law, assigned to duty in the Court of Nisi Prius at Philadelphia. I, therefore, earnestly recommend an additional judge for this court, believing it a public necessity, in justice to the many suitors, and to the judges who have more work than should be required of the present number of men, let them be ever so laborious and efficient.

BOUNDARY LINE. In odedience to "an act to settle, de-In odedience to "an act to settle, de-termine, and locate the southern boun-dary line of the Commonwealth," ap-proved March 20th, 1869, I appointed James Worrall, Esq., of Harrisburg, and Strickland Kneass, Esq., of Phila-delphia, both civil engineers, commis-sioners on the part of Pennsylvania, to act "in conjunction with like commis sioners on the part of the state of Dela-ware."

ware."

The Governor of that State was promptly furnished with a copy of the act, and informed of the appointment of commissioners under it, and his cooperation invited. But, so far as 1 am advised, no action of any kind has been taken by Delaware on the subject, and consequently the work contemplated by the act referred to has not been performed.

Your special attention is invited to the report of our commissioners, which is herewith communicated.

IN MEMORIAM. It is eminently proper that special notice should be taken of the decease of such persors as have occupied prominent positions in and rendered distinguished services to the State. Conspicuous among these were Hon. Joseph Ritner, and Hon. David R. Porter, both of whom died during the present administration. During their eventful lives they shared largely in the public confidence and regard, and filled many posts of honor, trust, and responsibility. inof honor, trust, and responsibility, in-cluding that of Governor, with distin-guished fidelity and patriotism. They were conspicuously identified with all the grave and important questions of State policy and administration through the eventful period in which they listed the eventful period in which they lived, and contributed largely to shape and strengthen the firm foundations of our Commonwealth, upon which others have been enabled to build securely. They have passed away, ripe in years and full of honors; and it is respectfully submitted whether it be not proper for submitted whether it be not proper for the Legislature to take some appropri-ate notice of the lamented death of these two distinguished public servants.

PARDONS. It has grown into the custom to re-

ranced, the recent and so are still under advisement.

For some reason, not easily understood, it seems that public sentiment has become perverted on this important subject of pardons. The framers of our government, as I understand it, never contemplated or intended an indiscrimate was a sentiment. discriminate use of the pardoning pow-er. It was only designed for the correc-tion of manifest errors or oppressions, palpable mistakes, cases of after-discov-ered evidence, and others of exception-able character. Both the theory of our covernment and public veguino. government and public policy require that the pardoning power should be kept within these reasonable limits; and not be made an instrument to defeat not be made an instrument to defeat the execution of the laws and the ad-ministration of public justice. All or-dinary cases, therefore, are wholly out-side of, and in conflict with, the princi-ple on which Executive elemency should be based; and none such should be presented for consideration. It is carnestly hoped the public will under-stand and act in accordance with this view of the subject, as due alike to the Executive and a proper regard for the execution of the laws.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS. Having laid before you a general sur-vey of the affairs and condition of the State which relates to the common wel-fare, it affords me also the highest gratification to wid that the amicable inter-course and pleasant relations which have so long existed between the government of Pennsylvania and the gov-ernments of all the other States and of the Union, continue unimpaired; and consequently, our resolution, "to pres-erve, protect, and defend," these fun-damental principles of humanity, equal rights and justice to all, universal freedom and a united country, is greatly

strengthened.
The general relations of the National The general relations of the National Government, as set forth in the recent annual message of the President, continue to be "peace at home and without entangling alliances abroad," the reconstruction of the States lately in rebellion is being rapidly accomplished; the revenues are faithfully collected; the national debt is being liquidated at the rate of about one hundred million deliars per annum, and repudiation has rate of about one number million deli-ars per annum, and repudiation has been emphatically repudiated. A strict and uncompromising adherence to this policy by a prudent and economical administration has already restored the national character to the fullest confi-dence in the minds not only of our dence in the minds not only of our countrymen but of foreigners, and has allayed all-spirit of discontent that might have been dangerous to the stability of our institutions.

There is another subject also of national importance claiming our attention

There is another subject also of national importance claiming our attention, because it directly affects the industrial operations in which Pennsylvania is so largely interested. Movements, characterized by the greatest energy, are now being made by those interested in free trade, to induce Congress to take such action as will permit the free introduction of steel, iron and iron materials for ship building, and many other modifications of the tariff laws. Should such efforts be successful, the result must provedisastrous to the great Should such chords be successful, the result must provedisastrons to the great coal, iron, and other interests of our State, diminishing the production of iron and other manufactured articles, and consequently the consumption of coal, and be destructive to our valuable home markets. It would also prove disastrous to many of our capitalists and working people—depriving them of all reasonable prospects of future activity and remunerating wages—and bring our producers into a ruinous competition with pauper labor from abroad. So far as the present system affords protecfar us the present system affords protec-tion to the manufactures, labor, and products of Pennsylvania, it is obligaor careful consideration.

In one district of the Supreme Court over seven hundred new cases have been docketed within one year. Many of these involve year large of the proposed characteristics of Pennsylvania, it is obligatory upon us to use all favorable means to prevent any reduction of existing duties. Our miners, laborers, and manufacturers should not be thrown out of employment by the proposed characteristics. duties on foreign imports, which has always resulted in the prostration of every department of trade, labor, and business, and entalled upon us the man-ifold evils of National, State and individual bandrputcy. We owe it as a duty to our constituents to instruct our Senators and request our Representa-tives in Congress to oppose all such at-tempts. For the same reason we should oppose any reciprocity treaties by which the people of Canada can gain advantages over our own lumbermen, farmers, and other producers, within

our limits.

While acknowledging the rightful constitutional authority of the General Government to dispose of all questions relative to national affairs, and while in no manner seeking to interfere with the exercise of that authority, I cannot refrain from alluding to the fact that for more than a year a brave people in Cuba have been struggling for their independence against great odds, in the face of barbarities and atrocities which will forever be a foul blot mon the his. face of barbarities and atrocities which will forever be a foul blot upon the his-tory of Spain. We should indeed be unmindful of humanity and of the greatness of our nationality if we omit-ted to notice this patriotic effort by the Cubans to throw off the Spanish yoke, and, like our ancestors "the assume Cubans to throw off the Spanish yoke, and, like our ancestors, "to assume among the Powers of the earth the sep-arate and equal station to which nature and nature's God entitle them." The new organization has abolished slavery and attested its right not only to our and attested its right not only to our sympathy but to recognition, by the vigor and determination of its resistance to the oppressions of the mother country. Almost from the beginning of our National Government Congress has furnished numerous precedents for the action here indicated, even when the people struggling for liberty were not upon the American continent. They recognized Greece in her efforts to establish her nationality against Turkish oppression. The same spirit prevailed not only towards Poland, Italy, and Hungary, but to Ireland in all her movements to regain her long-lost nationality. These countries had the unmistakeable sympathy of the people of the United States, and our public men, in every branch of the Government, never hesitated to speak in their defence. In the case of the French revolution, the statesmen of America gave encouragement to the people of that country to establish a republican form of government. Upon this continent there are numerous instances of active sympathies with the struggles of the people of liberty in various nations. In the case of Texas, during her conflict with Mexico, she not only had our undiscase of Texas, during her conflict with Mexico, she not only had our undis-guised friendship, but obtained our rec-ognition of her independent nationality and soon afterwards she was annexed to our great sisterhood of States.

It is in singular contrast with these historic precedents that

historic precedents that the people of Cuba have as yet received no national encouragement or recognition, while they are imitating the example of our fathers, who as colonist struck down the hand which oppressed them, and established for themselves a free and independent government. There is no mession but that the series in STATISTICS.

A great inconvenience has long been furnacely and the smoke is carried through a wooden chimney, it seems almost certain that, sooner or nater, by the inevitable accumulation or nater, by the inevitable accumulation or much the furnace of the carried through a wooden chimney. It is is statistical information relating to find the heat of the furnace of the common wealth. It is inside the configuration of the property of the steady of the country of the ventilating furnace be still allowed to build the chimneys, the sides of the shaft, and the buildings surrounding it at the top, with incombastible materials. But even this precaution is not a sure extegnant for the fire is liable at any moment to communicate with the furnace of the country of the country of the property of the property of the property of the serving out of these produced, of more cut, or iron manifectured, without special of even approximate amount of any of our great natural resources of the Commonwealth. It is inside the chimneys, the sides of the shaft, and the buildings surrounding it at the top, with incombastible materials. But even this precaution is not a sure extegnant for the fire is liable at any of our great natural resources, and is the property of the gard an application for Executive elemency as an indispensable part of the machinery of criminal justice. Decause the Executive is invested with the power to pardon, it is by many supposed that he has not only the right, but that it is his duty to examine into every allegation of error, and give a favorable

important questions now under consideration by the American people, and while it is not my intention to offer any plan to settle a matter which seems to give so much trouble to many of our most experienced financiers, a few suggestions may not be out of place. gestions may not be out of place.

It will be remembered that by the establishment of our national banks, the best and safest paper currency that ever existed in this nation has been afforded. Great caution should therefore be taken not to mar a system that has been so generally beneficial. When the Government established the national banks our state banks were taxed out of exisour state canks were taxed out of exis-tence and destroyed as such, but in many instances they were renewed by the solemn enactment of Congress, un-der whose supervision they were prom-ised a just, kind, and fostering care. It seems unjust, therefore, that the Gov-ernment should propose to withdraw a part of their circulation from them, and give it to new ones, to be organized where none now exist. If new banks circulation from an increase of the amount now authorized by law, the circulation to be the same as the banks now have, and on the same kind of securities. In my opinion a policy of expansion of the currency should be adopted that will give ease and comfort to the people, and that will cheer up and reassure our business men, and put the wheels of commerce, manufactures, and labor in full operation. It will prevent a decline in the revenues derived

vent a decline in the revenues derived from the tariff and internal taxation, and will save thousands of citizens from the crushing effects of contraction. As a part of the same policy there should be no hesitation about the abandonment of the idea of reducing the currency by the adoption of any plan to curtail the amount of legal tenders now in circula-tion.

tion.

The constant and natural approach to specie payments is the only safe mode, in my opinion, to accomplish that desirable end. Any compulsory law that may be enacted will in all probability be a failure. I do not hesitate to say that the contraction of the currency. that the contraction of the currency at this time would be productive of great injury both to individuals and to the general interests of the nation. Let there be a liberal encouragement of railroads, manufactures, and every project that will afford employment and compensation to our tolling millions. Sucourage a vigorous collection of the revenue on luxuries. Maintain a strong treasury, with gold sufficient to keep a check upon those who might be disposed to disturb the natural tendency towards specie payments, or for the purposes of speculation. There should be a steady but moderate reduction of the national debt, a funding of the present six per cent. five-twenty bonds in others, at a lower rate of interest, not by compulsion but by fair dealing, and the establishing of a sinking fund, at such a rate as will pay off the debt in about thirty years. We shall then not only find the business of the country reviving, but our business men ready to expand their operations with the greatest encouragement. revenue on luxuries. Maintain a strong

greatest encouragement.

The foregoing are the only subjects connected with State and national affairs that I have deemed of sufficient importance to offer for your considera-tion at the present time; and I conclude by expressing the hope that your sess-ion will be marked by harmony among yourselves and the members of the sev-eral State departments, and your delib-crations result in leating benefit to the erations result in lasting benefit to the

Commonwealth.

JOHN W. GEARY.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, Jan. 5, 1870.

## The Columbian Bloomsburg Democrat.

BLOOMSBURG, PA. FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1870.

er THE COLUMBIAN has the Larges irculation of any paper published in orthern Pennsylvania, and is also a much larger sheet than any of its cotem poraries; and is therefore the best medium for advertising in this section of the State.

Geary's Message. We give up a large amount of our space to the Governor's Message, It is a great improvement on his former efforts, and contains many excellent points. His remarks about the fraud and corruption of his own party relative to the election of State Treasurer, show an independence that would be creditable were it not for the fact that has been vested in the Legislature ever he can by no possibility be again nominated. His message is wordy, and sadly needs concentration. Governor Geary's remedy for our financial troubles is an "expansion of the bank curreny;" "no contraction of greenbacks;" liberal appropriations [by Congress, of course, to railroads, manufactures, and every project that will afford em-· ployment to toiling millions;" and (!) 'a "natural and constant return to specie payments." On this neutral mixture prescription we have no comment to make.

His views on national affairs are crude illogical, and sadly mar the message. His advice to recognize Cuban Independence comes at just the time, when the Revolution has been declared a failure. We bespeak for it, however, a careful perusal.

The Randall Resolution.

Resolved-That the Senator from the District composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Sullivan, be instructed not to vote, in any event, for William M. Randall of Schuylkill for Speaker of the Senate. Passed by the Conference. MICHAEL MEYLERT, Sec'y.

Northumberland, Sept. 4, 1869. The above Resolution was the appropriite response of our District Senatorial onference last fall, to the raid upon them organized in Philadelphia. The Resolution which has been faithfully

THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT. The Democratic Legislature of New York has promptly repealed the raitfi cation of the proposed Fifteenth Amendment, and the Reform members of the Ohio Legislature have united with the Democrats in the organization of that body. The attempt to force negro equality upon the country seems likely to meet with serious checks when its advocates were just congratulating themselves on the accomplishment of their

The length of the Governor's message precludes us from publishing the 29th number of the "Columbia County Invasion." We expect to conclude the

The Legislature.

WE gave last week the brief telegrams of the associated press which announced the organization of the two Houses of the Legislature and some of the earlier matters of business transacted. But additional information concerning the commencement of the session obtained from our exchanges and ther sources, will be timely; particularly that which indicates the character of legislation to be expected during the resent session and the improvement of the membership of the two Houses in integrity and independence. For years past the character of the Legislature has been seriously impugned by the press, and all good citizens must rejoice at the slightest evidence of reformation and improvement. For Speaker of the House the Repub-

licans selected Mr. Strang of Tioga, who was a "ring" man at former sessions but who now declares his intention to play honest man and pursue a fair and honorable course of conduct. His selection by the majority of the House does not promise well for the future, but the action of the Democratic minority of the House does. They met in caucus and after selecting Mr. Scott, the Representative from this district to preside, should be created wherever they may proceeded to nominate Mr. Brown of be required, they should receive their Clarion for Speaker over Josephs of circulation from an increase of the Philadelphia, the latter being recognized as an agent of corrupt influence at former sessions. Josephs received but eight votes in the caucus, and Mr. Brown was selected distinctly upon the ground of his integrity and consequent fitness to represent our party in the House. For this action the Democratic members of the House deserve the thanks of their constituents and the commendation of the whole people. For Speaker of the Sen ite the Repub-

lican majority chose Mr. Stinson of Montgomery county of whom we have little information except that he is reported to have declared himself free from all "entangling alliances" with outside parties. His selection was probably a reasonable one for the majority to make. The Democratic minority of the Senate, with two exceptions, assented to the nomination of Randall of Schuylkill in caucus and afterwards voted for him in the Senate upon the plea made to them that he had been named for Speaker at the end of last session and that a renomination in such cases was usual. Mr. Brown of Northampton and Mr. Buckalew, however, took no part in his nomination and re-fused to vote for him afterwards, the former for the reason that he believed Randall to be corrupt and the latter for the additional reason that he had been instructed to vote against him by our district conference. Thus an open and proper protest was made against bestowing a compliment where it was not deserved.

It has been incorrectly stated that Mr. Brown of Northampton was himself a candidate for nomination in the recent caucus. He was a candidate for Speaker at the last session and came within one vote of being nominated, but he was not a candidate this year nor desirous of being one. He is a man of signal integrity and character and will leave the Senate at the end of his term greatly respected by his colleagues and by his people at home.

and in fact of scandal. In another column we give the proceedings of Legislature upon the election of the present year. It is a common belief that large sums are made out of this office by improper uses of the public funds and the demand has become urgent for reform in its management. To this end several propositions are made by Gov. Geary in his annual message accompanied by the very significant statement that all recent State Treasurers have gone out of office rich men, and Mr. Wallace has reintroduced into the Senate his bill of last session for the management of the Treasury so as to prevent abuses. A more radical though slower measure of reform was proposed by Mr. Buckalew on the first day of the session when he introduced a joint Resolution for an amendment of the constitution taking away from the Legislature the power to choose State Treasurers and lodging It directly with the people at popular elections. Although the selection of State Treasurers since 1790, the argument of long usage cannot prevail against the strong reasons for now lodging it with the people, Our recent experience proves that the two Houses of the Legislature are very injuriously affected by the possession of this power and it is equally clear that they cannot exercise it in a satisfactory manner, Two Resolutions passed in the alleged corrupt management of the Treasury as hinted at if not directly charged by the Governor; and these State Treasurers made by the Legislature will continue to require investigation as ong as the present plan of selecting them shall be allowed.

We are glad to perceive some evider Legislature and in the Executive Chamreform should begin.

THE RAILEOAD ACCIDENT NEAR MILTON,-In our "State News" column mention was made, on Friday morning, of two young men having been killed on the railroad near Mil ton, on the Wednesday preceding. We have since learned that the unfortunate persons-William B. Marr and Henry Boyle, the former of Milton and the latter of Kentucky-were driving along in a buggy, and when the engineer of the rapidly coming train saw them performance of the "ring" agent was they were almost on the track. He did duly resented and condemned by a all in his power to save them but the momentum of the train was too great executed by the Senator from the 15th and the distance too small. Boyle was struck on the head, and survived until late at night. Marr had his neck broken, and was instantly killed. The young men were students of Princeton College, New Jersey. The remains of Marr were interred at Milton on Saturday, a large concourse accompanying them to the tomb. The body of Boyle was taken through this city the same morning on its way to Kentucky. The father of the young man is General Boyle, who with all the conditions of reconstruction, served in the Union army with dis- the Radical members of the House of tinction, and is now largely identified Representatives propose to oust two with railroad interests in his State. -Patriot.

> The total registration in Mississippi is 189,937, of whom 59,176 are white, and 80,761 colored.

Communication.

CATAWISSA, PA. Jan., 5th, 1870 EDITOR COLUMBIAN-Dear Sir After several requests of my friends, I have consented to send you the enclosed report for publication, hoping you will give it place in your next issue. TO THE OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE E. L. S. SCHOOL, CATAWISSA.

average attendance during the year 868, as per report was one hundred and twenty-five (125). The average attendance for the year 1869 was one hundred an'l thirty-two and seven-eighths, (1921) an increase on the previous year of seven and seven-eighths (71). At the beginning of the present year, or rather the first Sunday of 1869, the attendance on that day was one hundred and five. The roll now numbers two hundred and thirty-six an increase of one hundred and thirty-one, or an average of nearly eleven of an increase per month, which in itself is very flattering. You will readily discover the average of 1868 exceeds the attendance for the first Sabbath of 1869, which is very properly attributed to the extreme inclemency of the weather on that day. It is with deep regret that I have to record the absence of one Teacher and one scholar, both of whom have been gathered from amongst us, in compliance with the flat of an all seeing and wise dispensing Providence. You no doubt are all cognizant of whom I referto, which render it unnecessary for me to name. With this report (which is the 15th annual one I have made of the same kind as Secretary) I reluctantly and respectfully sever my connection with the School, with which I have so long been identified, and during the continuance, of said term. I have endeavored to do my whole duty. I further desire to return my sincere and heartfelt thanks to our late Supt., officers and teachers, for the courte-y, kindness and willing assistance extending to me while Secretary. Too much praise cannot be ascribed to our late Superintendent S. D. Rinard, for his unceasing toil, untiring energy, and ever willing attention and interest, which he has manifested in the school, From an incipiency of almost naught, he has through unparalled exertion, the pleasure of witnessing the most flourishing Sabbath School in our vicinity, and which has arisen to what it now is under his care and supervision. In my withdrawing myself from you, I would advise a continuation of mutual interest, and entire harmony throughout your deliberations and actions, a very slight misunderstanding, or unmerted aspersion, may sometimes cause undue chaos, which by one word of explanation in a proper and christianlike mood, would never be anticipated. I beg your forbearance in expressing my ppinion in the selection of Supt., I may perhaps be wrong but at the present I think it a very injudicious act, at this time to make so decided and as it appears so antagonistic a change, in that office, as appears manifest from the ac-The election of State Treasurer (which tion of your body at your last meeting. is made annually by the Legislature in joint Convention,) has always been of while a member of your body, of which late years a subject of much excitement you are the proper judges, allow me to

Faithfully your obedient servant. M. M. BROBST, Late Sec'y., E. L. S. S.

0. U. A. M.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE Whereas, It has pleased God, in his allwise Providence, to remove from our midst our worthy Bro. Wm. Savits; and, whereas he has always been a worthy and acceptable member of our order, Therefore, Resolved, That, while we deeply feel

our loss, we bow with reverence to the will of Him who doeth all things well, knowing that He is too wise to err, and too good to be unkind.

Resolved, That we heartily sympathize with the widow and orphan children of Bro. Savits, and recommend them to the care of Him who has promed to be the "Father of the fatherless and God of the widows." Resolved, That a copy of these desolutions be presented to the widow

and that the Council be draped in mourning for thirty days.

Committee. FREAS BROWN,
JACOB SHAFER,

THE appearance of Chas. R. Buckale w the State Senate after having just recently closed a brilliant career in the U. S. Senate, is an incident not often observed in the career of Pennsylvania statesmen, no ex-Senator of the U. S. the Senate last week for investigating having heretofore occupied a seat in the State Senate. Unquestionably one of the ablest as he is one of the most honest men of his party, Mr. Buckalew's appearance in the State Senate is a great acquisition to the Democratic side of that body, as I feel it will be an honor to its general deliberations. To show how entirely independent Mr. B. intends to ces of a disposition toward reform in the act, I need only refer to what was his reported course in the Democratic cauber at Harrisburg. It is kigh time that cus for the nomination of candidates for officers of the Senate. When he discovered that a certain Senator was to be placed in nomination for Speaker, Mr. B asked to be excused from voting, and when his reason for such a singular course was asked he replied that the conference which nominated him for the enate exacted a pledge that he would vote against all ring men and measures. It required a strong man to give such a eason for his independence of action, and Buckalew is of that material. Surely such men are worthy of all honor, regardless of the party which sends them here, and as the people elect such Senators and Representatives, so will they the sooner establish, in all branches of the Government purity, patriotism, and practical business management,

> AT it again, to be sure! Not satisfied with excluding Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas from representation in Congress, or with remanding to military rule Georgia after it had complied Democratic members (one from New York and one from Pennsylvania) and put in their seats two notorious men of their own party, C. H. Van Wyck and JOB John Covode, How long shall these things be?

Mr. Buckalew's future course in the

Senate will be watched with great in-

terest by men of all parties .- Press.

NEW ADVERTISEMENT

DMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE Catawissa, Jan. 11, 1970 @. NOTICE. SPECIFIC PERFO In accordance with precedent and

eneral custom since the organization COLUMBIA COUNTY, 88:

The Commons
for Wollington and Herrich Reine, Elvin
bertson, Heir Riine, Elvin
kline, A. Kline, Lake
Clark Athertam freeting
You and each of You are
manded to be and You are
manded to be and you are of our Sunday School, I now beg leave to submit my annual report as Secretary of that institution for the year 1860. In so doing I call your attention particularly to the following statistics as compared with the previous year. The

> ee to A. J. Kline. mple. Bloomsburg, Jan. 14, 187 A PPLICANTS FOR LICEN FERRUARY TERM, 1831 Notice is hereby given that the ersons have made application

Gilbert & Kline, John B. Klinger, James V. Gilmsple, J. E. Longenberger, Mary E. Green, Thomas Monroe, Thomas Monroe, Humphrey Parker, Ramhardt Berger, Patrick Langden, W m. Peilfer, Benj, J. Williams, William Butler, Clemuel M'Henry, Dantel F. Carry, Daniel F. Carry, Wm. H. G ilmore, Bogart & Kramer, Patrick F. Burke, John Leggott,

Bloomsburg, Jan. 14, 1850. DUBLIC SALE

OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE ole, late of Catawissa, d, will expose to pub LOT OF GROUND

unte in Catawissa, bound nd of Catawissa Rail B nds of Stephen Baily m auth by Second street of a est by lands of A. J. Pros. TWO STORY FRAME HOP

ate the estate of said decreed, shownship and county approach.

Jan, 14,70-3t. DUBLIC SALE

OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. Will be exposed to public sale, at the

TWO BROWN MARES

GRAIN BY THE BUSHEL

he goods are not all sold on the fint, se continued the following days.

\*\*\*Ferms made known on day of a WM, HAGEN Orangeville, Jan, 14, 1870.

A NNUAL STATEMENT
of the Poor District of Bloom issueds
unry ard 1879. M. C. Woodward acting Treasurer, with the Directors of the Poor of Rice

DH. To total amount of cash received from duplicates, 1839 By amount of orders redeem January 3rd, 1870,—On exam of M. C. Woodward, acting I rectors of the Poor of Blood find he has redeemed orders?

JOHN A. FUNSTON JACOB SCHUYLER B. F. HARTMAN WITH BLOOM TWP, DISTRICT

By am't paid M. C. Woodward Tree urer Salary By Errors in assessment and relac-tions from taxes levied on money sy exoneration on displicate for rey commission on Sa, 715 70 at 1 per 6,
fy ann't paid Auditors,
fy ann't paid Directors, editry
fy am't paid Clerk, salary
fy am't paid clerk, salary
fy am't paid clerk, salary
fy am't paid disteward, 9 mos, salary
fy am't paid for Brick House, wsf.
familer, stamps, &c.
35 am't paid outside relief to Ms.
Heen for keeping Alex, File issore
buildings were finished.
39 am't paid outside relief to Ms.
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39 am't paid outside relief to Ms.
Heeltel.

39 am't paid outside relief to Ms.

By am't paid outside relief to H. Long y am't pd. funeral expense Division y am't paid Lunstic Asylum for M. Mercellib Meredith.

By an't paid Penna, Training schefor feeble minded persons, Resly
Jackson.

Jy am't pid, insurance on new bushes
y am't pid Taxes on Farm.

By an't paid Taxes on Farm.

Sy an't paid D. J. Waller for grain in
ground. By sm't pand gardening and care

REAL ESTATE WITH RECENT usehold furniture... 'arm questis.
Iorses and cattle.
Iay, grain and folder.
'otatoes, beans, seeds are
5 acres of wheat in the groors.

DEBTS AND LIABILITIES 

PRODUCTS OF PARM, 1881 17 tons of lay 93 246 250 bus, wheat 19 21, 29 500 bus, oats 9 45 248 1000 bus, oath cars 6 45 248 1000 bus, pointon 6 30 218 200 bus, pointon 6 30 218 1500 bundles con 100 der 500 beads cabbage at 6 cts Vegetables in garden... Butter, eggs and poultry Live stock raised

of paupers admitted in Post

PRINTING