Cambria Freeman.

H. A. M'PIKE, Editor and Publisher. HE IS A FREEMAN WHOM THE TRUTH MAKES FREE, AND ALL ARE SLAVES BESIDE. Terms, $2 per year in advance.

VOLUME 4. EBENSBURG, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1871. NUMBER 49

WOOD, MORRELL & CO.,

WASHINGTON STREET,

Near Pa. R. R. Depot, Johnstown, Pa.,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOODS,

MILLINERY GOODS,

HARDWARE,
QUEENSWARE,
BOOTS AND SHOES,
HATS AND CAPS,
IRON AND NAILS,
CARPETS AND OIL CLOTHS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
GLASS WARE, YELLOW WARE,
WOODEN AND WILLOW WARE,
PROVISIONS and FEED, ALL KINDS,
together with all manner of Western Produce, such as FLOUR, BACON, FISH, SALT, CARBON OIL, &c., &c.

☞ Wholesale and retail orders solicited and promptly filled on the shortest notice and at reasonable terms.

WOOD, MORRELL & CO.

Johnstown, April 28, 1870, 1y.

GEO. K. ZAHM . . . . . JAS. B. ZAHM.

ZAHM & SON,

DEALERS IN

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,

HARDWARE, QUEENSARE,

Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes,

AND ALL OTHER ARTICLES

Usually Kept in a Country Store.

WOOLAND COUNTRY PRODUCE

TAKEN IN EXCHANGE FOR GOODS!

STORE ON MAIN STREET,

Next Door to the Post Office,

June 10, 1869. EBENSBURG, PA.

REMOVAL AND ENLARGEMENT.

COOKING STOVES,
HEATING STOVES.

TIN, COPPER & SHEET-IRON WARE.

Having recently taken possession of the new, fine and commodious building on High st., two doors east of the Bank and nearly opposite the Mountain House, the subscriber is now prepared than ever to manufacture all articles in the TIN, COPPER and SHEET-IRON WARE line, all of which will be furnished to buyers at the very lowest living prices.

The subscriber also proposes to keep a full and varied assortment of

Cooking, Parlor and Heating Stoves

of the most approved designs.

☞ SPOUTING and ROOFING made to order and warranted perfect in manufacture and material. REPAIRING promptly attended to. All work done by me will be done right and on fair terms, and all STOVES and WARE sold by me can be depended upon as to quality and cannot be undersold in price. A continuance and a share of patronage is respectfully solicited, and no effort will be wanting to render entire satisfaction to all.

VALLIE LUTHINGER.

Ebensburg, Oct. 13, 1870.-tf.

GOOD NEWS!

NEW GOODS!

The undersigned, having received and opened a splendid assortment of

Fall and Winter Goods,

consisting of Cloths, Cassimeres, Satinetts, Kentucky Jeans, Waterproofs, Dress Goods of all kinds, such as French Merinoes, Alpacas, Lustres, Delaines, Armures, Prints, &c., &c. Also, an extra variety of Shawls, Veils, Gloves, Hosiery and Fancy Articles for Ladies' wear, together with a choice stock of

READE-UP CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS,

Boots, Shoes and Rubbers; a full assortment of GROCERIES; Hardware, Queensware, Drugs and Stuffs, Patent Medicines, &c.; CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS, and all other articles of goods usually kept in a country store.

These goods we pledge our word to

SELL AT VERY LOWEST PRICES,

We are determined to give as good bargains as any house in town or country.

Thankful for past favors, we hope to merit a continuance and increase of public patronage in the future.

P. H. SHIELDS & SON.

Carrolltown, Pa., Nov. 3, 1870.-tf.

JOHNSTOWN FURNITURE EMPORIUM.

WM. P. PATTON,

Manufacturer and Dealer in

ALL KINDS OF

CABINET FURNITURE

Nos. 150 and 152 Clinton Street,

JOHNSTOWN, PA.

BUREAUS, BEDSTEADS, WASHSTANDS, SIDEBOARDS, DRAWER SIDES, PARLOR SUITS, WARDROBES, ROLL CASES, LOCKERS, &c., &c., &c.

CANE CHAIRS, WOOD SEAT CHAIRS, KITCHEN FURNITURE, RED LOUNGES, MATTRESSES, TETE-A-TETES, EXTENSION TABLES, DINNING TABLES, CUPBOARDS, &c., &c., &c.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF

SCHOOL AND HALL FURNITURE

Made to order in excellent style and at fair prices. Cabinet and Chairmakers' materials of all kinds for sale. Furniture delivered at any place in Johnstown or at Railroad Station free of extra charge.

WM. P. PATTON.

Johnstown, Oct. 13, 1870.-tf.

HOMES IN THE WEST!

AND

HOW TO OBTAIN THEM.

S. F. Brown, of Pittsburgh, has compiled and published a neat little book of ninety-six pages, under the above title. It gives a description of the leading Western states; all the Homestead and Pre-emption Laws, including the Act of June 25, 1868 granting

160 Acres Choice Land

to all Officers, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who served ninety days and upwards. Price 50 cents.—Address on receipt of fifty cents and name of state,

S. F. BROWN,

New Gazette Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Nov. 10, 1870.-2t.

1870. WINTER. 1871.

I am now prepared to offer

SUPERIOR INDUCEMENTS

TO CASH PURCHASERS OF

TIN, SHEET-IRON & COPPER WARE

EITHER AT

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.

My stock consists in part of every variety of

Tin, Sheet-Iron,

COPPER AND BRASS WARES,

ENAMELLED AND PLAIN

SAUCE-PANS, BOILERS &c.,

COAL SHOVELS, MINE LAMPS, OIL CANS, HOUSEFURNISHING HARDWARE OF EVERY KIND.

Spear's Anti-Dust

HEATING AND COOKING STOVES,

EXCELSIOR COOKING STOVES,

NOBLE, TRIUMPH AND PARLOR COOKING STOVES,

And any Cooking Stove desired I will get when ordered at manufacturer's prices.—Odd Stove Plates and Grates, &c., for repairs, on hand for the Stoves I sell; others will be ordered when wanted. Particular attention given to

Spouting, Valleys and Conductors,

all of which will be made out of best materials and put up by competent workmen.

Lamp Burners, Wick and Chimneys

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.

I would call particular attention to the Light House Burner, with Glass Cone, for giving more light than any other in use. Also, the Paragon Burner, for Crude Oil.

SUGAR KETTLES AND CAULDRONS

of all sizes constantly on hand.

Special attention given to

Jobbing in Tin, Copper and Sheet-Iron,

at lowest possible rates.

WHOLESALE MERCHANTS' LISTS now ready, and will be sent on application by mail or in person

Hoping to see all my old customers and many new ones this Spring, I return my most sincere thanks for the very liberal patronage I have already received, and will endeavor to please all who may call, whether they buy or not.

FRANCIS W. HAY.

Johnstown, March 7, 1867.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES!

TO CASH BUYERS!

AT THE EBENSBURG

HOUSE-FURNISHING STORE.

The undersigned respectfully informs the citizens of Ebensburg and the public generally that he has made a great reduction in prices to CASH BUYERS. My stock will consist, in part, of *Cooking, Parlor and Heating Stoves*, of the most popular kinds; *Tinware* of every description, of my own manufacture; *Hardware* of all kind, such as Locks, Screws, Butt Hinges, Table Hinges, Shutter Hinges, Bolts, Iron and Nails, Window Glass, Putty, Table Knives and Forks, Carving Knives and Forks, Meat Cutters, Apple Parers, Pen and Pocket Knives in great variety, Scissors, Shears, Razors and Strops Axes, Hatchets, Hammers, Boring Machines, Augers, Chissels, Planes, Compasses, Squares, Files, Rasps, Anvils, Vises, Wrenches, Rip, Panel and Cross-Cut Saws, Chains of all kinds, Shovels, Spades, Scythes and Snaths, Rakes, Forks, Sleigh Bells, Shoe Lasts, Pegs, Wax Bristles, Clothes Wringers, Grind Stones, Patent Molasses Gates and Measures, Lumber Sticks, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Cast Steel, Rifles, Shot Guns, Revolvers, Pistols, Cartridges, Powder, Caps, Lead, &c., Odd Stove Plates, Grates and Fire Bricks, Well and Cistern Pumps and Tubing; *Harness and Saddlery Ware* of all kind; *Wooden and Willow Ware* in great variety; Carbon Oil and Oil Lamps, Fish Oil, Lard Oil, Linseed Oil, Lubricating Oil, Rosin, Tar, Glassware, Paints, Varnishes, Turpentine, Alcohol, &c.

FAMILY GROCERIES,

such as Tea, Coffee, Sugars, Molasses, Syrups, Spices, Dried Peaches, Dried Apples, Fish, Hominy, Crackers, Rice and Pearl Barley; Soaps, Candles; TOBACCO and CIGARS; Paint, Whitewash, Scrub, Horse, Shoe, Dusting, Varnish, Stove, Clothes and Tooth Brushes, all kinds and sizes; Bed Cords and Manilla Ropes, and many other articles at the lowest rates for CASH.

☞ *House Spouting* made, painted and put up at low rates for *cash*. A liberal discount made to country dealers buying Tinware wholesale. GEO. HUNTLEY

Ebensburg, Feb, 28, 1867.-tf.

GEORGE W. YEAGER,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

HEATING AND COOK STOVES

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

TIN, COPPER AND SHEET-IRON WARE

OF HIS OWN MANUFACTURE,

And GENERAL JOBBER in SPOUTING

and all other work in his line.

Virginia Street, near Caroline Street

ALTOONA, PA.

The only dealer in the city having the right to sell the renowned "BARLEY SHEAF" COOK STOVE, the most perfect complete and satisfactory Stove ever introduced to the public.

STOCK IMMENSE. - PRICES LOW.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

T. R. SCANLAN, *Attorney-at-Law*, Carrolltown, Cambria Co., Pa. All manner of legal business attended to promptly and carefully. Collections a specialty.

The Poet's Department.

REMEMBER THE POOR.

Remember the poor, for bleak winds are blowing,
And brightly the frost pearls are glist'ning around;
The streamlets have ceased all their musical flowing,
And snow-drifts lie scattered all over the ground.
Remember the poor in their comfortless dwellings,
Ill-clad and ill-fed and o'erburdened with care;
O, turn not away with a look so repelling—
Thy kindness may save them perhaps from despair.

Remember the poor when thy hearth-stone is cheerful,
And happy hearts gather around its bright blaze;
There are hearts that are sad and eyes that are tearful,
As bright as thine own in their sunnier days
Misfortunes may scatter thy present possessions,
And plenty to poverty leave thee a prey;
How bitterly then wilt thou think of the blessings
That charity asks from thy riches to-day.

Remember the poor as ye thankfully gather
Each round his rich table with luxury spread;
Thou too are a pensioner on a rich Father,
For health and for friendship, for raiment and bread.
If He hath been bountiful, with a like spirit
Dispense of that bounty what charity claims;
For greater the treasure thy soul shall inherit
When thy bread on the waters returneth again.

Remember the poor—this thou art commanded—
Thy Saviour thus kindly remembered the poor;
"The destitute thou shalt not send empty handed,
Unclad, and unwarmed, and unfed from the door."
Thy peace in this life shall be like the deep river,
And dying, thy welcome to heaven shall be:
"Ye faithful and blessed of my Father—come hither;
Ye did it to others—ye did it to Me."

Tales, Sketches, Anecdotes, &c.

SUBTERRANEAN.

Interesting Discoveries—Cave of Skeletons and Curiosities in Iowa.

On Saturday last a discovery, fully as wonderful as any yet reported in the northwest was made by the workmen on the Dubuque and Minnesota railroad, near the base of one of the tall, frowning bluffs overlooking the river, a short distance above Eagle Point. At the foot of the bluff a squad of workmen were engaged in excavating the loose stratified limestone rock for the railroad track, and while digging away with pick, spade and crowbar in the side of the bank they suddenly found their further progress arrested by a large, smooth, square stone, on the outer surface of which was inscribed a number of strange characters and devices, which none of the unlettered workmen, of course, could make out. Under the direction of the foreman, and by the united exertions of a number of men, the stone was removed, when, to their great astonishment, there succeeded a violent rush of cold air, from a large, square opening, which extended into the bluff in a horizontal direction, the air rushing out with such force that a lighted taper held in the mouth of the opening was extinguished in an instant. Inspired by the thoughts of hidden treasure and thinking that perhaps a *cache* of some of the early explorers had been unearthed, was resolved to explore the mystery at once, and bring out the strong chests and precious gems reposing somewhere therein. Lights were procured, and, holding a candle in each hand, five men, headed by the foreman, set out to explore the subterranean passage, which was about four feet wide, and high enough to permit a man to walk by bending over a little. Groping their way along cautiously, and casting many fearful glances around them, as though they expected every moment to encounter some dreadful spectre, the party proceeded along the tunnel, which extended directly into the heart of the bluff about fifty feet, when they found their way impeded by another large stone. Removing this they found a flight of stone steps leading downward a distance of ten feet, and descending these, the party found themselves in what appeared to be a huge chamber, cut out of the solid rock, about twenty-five feet square, and twenty feet high. For a moment the men stood lost in admiration at this wonderful work. The floor beneath was hard and perfectly smooth, while by the dim light of the candles they could see that the walls were embellished with a multitude of uncouth characters and figures, intended to represent birds, trees, and other natural objects, all carved in solid limestone. On the south wall appeared a representation of the sun, and immediately below this was the figure of a man clad in a loose, flowing robe, in the act of stepping out of a boat, and holding in his hand a dove. The roof of the chamber was embellished with stars, serpents and chariots, the outlines of all being revealed plain and distinct. In the center of the apartment was a large flat slab, and upon removing this a large vault was revealed below, which was filled with the skeletons of some unknown race, all of them being in a sitting or standing posture, and almost perfectly preserved, even to the smaller bones. It was noticed that all had originally been interred with their faces to the southwest. By the side of each skeleton stood a small vase of the most perfect form and finish, each being filled with a species of yellow colored earth. One of the vases was examined, and at the base found to contain some animal bones and dark particles of animal matter, which had evidently been placed in the sepulchre to support the departed to the spirit land, a funeral rite in obedience to a wide-spread custom among many barbaric nations. Heads of arrows, stone hatchets, and pieces of shells perforated with holes, were found scattered about the vault in profusion. The skeletons were arranged in the form of a semi-circle, the largest being placed in the centre. This skeleton by actual measurement, stood seven feet eight inches high. The teeth were white and glistened like ivory, while in the palm of one of the outstretched hands, reposed a small pearl ornament. This person had evidently been the chief of the tribe and was consequently buried with unusual honors. By the side of the cranium were two ear ornaments of shell, while numerous minute bone and copper heads covered the floor of the vault. Vestiges of a fibrous cloth were also discovered near the lower extremities of each skeleton, but so thin and impalpable that it crumbled away at the slightest touch. No ornaments of gold or silver were found, but various implements in copper were scattered thickly about, which had evidently been procured from the mines of Lake Superior, as the evidences are accumulating that these mines were worked at a date long prior to the deluge.

After making a thorough examination of the chamber of death and its ghostly occupants, the men came out, closing the entrance behind them. To what race the skeletons belong, by whose hands their tomb was constructed, must ever remain a mystery. It is another leaf looking to the long ages of the past, another evidence of the fact that of this world and its founders we know but little.

We understand that measures are on foot to remove the skeletons, and all of the most important articles, to the hall of the Iowa institute of science and art.—*Dubuque Times.*

MARK TWAIN'S ADVICE TO LITTLE GIRLS.—Good little girls oughtn't to make mouths at their teachers for every trifling offense. This retaliation should only be resorted to under peculiarly aggravating circumstances.

If you have nothing but a rag doll stuffed with sawdust, while one of your more fortunate little playmates has a costly china one, you should treat her with a show of kindness nevertheless. And you ought not to attempt to make a forcible swap with her unless your conscience would justify you in it and you know you are able to do it.

You ought never to take your little brother's "chewing gum" away from him by main force; it is better to rope him in with the promise of the first two dollars and a half you find floating down the river on a grindstone. In the artless simplicity of his time of life he will regard it as a perfectly fair transaction. In all ages of the world this eminently plausible fiction has lured the obtuse infant to financial ruin and disaster.

If any time you find it necessary to correct your brother, do not correct him with mud—never on any account throw mud at him, because it will soil his clothes It is better to scald him a little; for then you attain desirable results—you secure his immediate attention to the lessons you are inculcating, and at the same time your hot water will have a tendency to remove impurities from his person—and possibly the skin also, in spots.

If your mother tells you to do a thing, it is wrong to reply that you won't. It is better and more becoming to intimate that you will do as she bids you, and then afterwards act quietly in the matter according to the dictates of your better judgment.

Good little girls always show marked deference for the aged. You ought never to "sass" old people unless they "sass" you first.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD "QUIZ."—Very few words ever took such a run as this, and probably none ever arose in a similar way. Webster endeavored to trace it to Norman and Spanish roots; but in reality it has no meaning, nor is it derived from any language in the world ever known, from the Babylonish confusion to this day. When Richard Daly was patentee of the Irish theatres, he spent the evening of a Saturday in company with many of the wits and men of the day; betting was introduced, when the manager staked a large sum that he would hear spoken, all through the principal streets of Dublin, by a certain hour next day, Sunday, a word having no meaning, and being derived from no known language. Wagers were laid, and stakes deposited. Daly repaired to the theatre, and despatched all the servants and supernumeraries with the word "quiz," which they chalked on every door and every shop window in town. Shops being shut all next day, everybody going to and coming from their different places of worship saw the word, and everybody repeated it, so that "quiz" was heard all through Dublin; the circumstance of so strange a word being on every door and window caused much surprise; and ever since, should a strange story be attempted to pass current, it draws forth the expression, "You are quizzing me."

Curiosities of Art.

Jerome Faba, an Italian priest, a native of Calabria, exercised himself in a species of industry, wonderful for its difficulty. He finished a work of boxwood, which represented all the mysteries of the Passion and which might be put in the shell of a walnut. To him was attributed a coach the size of a grain of wheat, within which there were to be seen a man and woman, a coachman who drove it, and horses that drew it. These were presented to Francis I, and Charles V.

In China, the tomb of Confucius has been made in small miniature no larger than a nut, but wonderfully composed of precious metals, and adorned with a profusion of gems; but its value consists of the labor expended on ins execution. Its landscapes, dragons, angels, animals, and human beings, would require several pages of description, which would, after all, without a view of the model, prove tedious and unintelligible.

Charles V of Spain, had a watch which was confined to the jewel of his ring; and a watchmaker in London presented George III, with one set in the same manner. Its size was something less than a silver two-pence, and it contained one hundred and twenty-five different parts, and weighed, altogether, not more than five penny-weights and five grains.

The tomb of Raphael, executed by an Italian named Raccavala, is indeed a wonder. It is only twelve inches in height, and from an inch to four in diameter. It is adorned with various architectural ornaments, in the richest style of Gothic. The work is said to be unrivaled in merit as also in beauty. The model is contained in a box of wrought gold, and is itself of boxwood. The general design may be regarded as architectural, embellished with several compartments of sculpture, or of carving, consisting of various groups of figures These display different events in the life of Christ. Some of the figures are less than a quarter of an inch in height, but though thus minute, all are finished with the greatest precision and skill: and what makes this execution still more curious and admirable, is the delicacy and beauty with which the back and distant figures are executed.

A SMART YOUTH.—Don Piatt made the acquaintance of several boot-blacks while at Saratoga, who had strayed up there from New York to get the run of business during the races, and thus interviewed one:

I was passing one evening when I was hailed with:

"I say, mister."

"Hold your jaw, Dick: he's a Brigadier General."

"Well, boy, what is it?"

"Couldn't you get old Fisticuffs to let us in on the course to-morrow?"

"Who do you mean by old Fisticuffs?"

"Why, John Morrissey, to be sure."

"Why, what do you want on the race course?"

"Ain't it nat'ral a feller'd like to see the races, and came so far."

"You don't want to see the races; you want to pick up a few things lying around loose, to give to the good missionaries."

"That's gassin'."

"I say, boys, why don't you go out West?" There's a demand for boys at the West, and a society in New York that sends them out free of expense. Go there, and make men of yourselves."

"O, go to thunder! I know'd a boy that tried that, and they put him in a cornfield, and worked him like a mule, with nothin' to eat and no clothes. He stole a lesther apron and put it in the seat of his breeches, and was kicked thousands uv miles before he got home. They just wore that apron out a kickin.' Fool who?"

Good advice was quite thrown away on this little man of a bad world. He had been up both those apple trees known as the Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life.

BACHELORS, ATTENTION!—The attention of all bachelors is invited to the following "wail":

"There are some sad sights in this world; a city sacked and burned—a battle-field after a great slaughter—a London in the midst of a plague—a ship burning at sea—a family pining in starvation—a jug of molasses wrecked on the pavement. All bad, it is true. But to our mind, the saddest sight of all is an old bachelor wearing towards the end of his journey of life, his great duties undone. Miserable creature! just look at him; his shirt-buttons off—his stockings out at the toes—not a son or daughter, nor a relative to drop a tear, to close his eyes in death, or to leave his money to—nobody, in fact, to care for him—shunned by saint and sinner. Poor old bachelor!"

☞ ESSEX, MASS., has a champion *pater familias.* He refused to have the pegs of a new pair of shoes he was buying for his boy rasped off, because in that case the boy would run all over town, and the shoes wouldn't last him three weeks.

AN Evansville girl was singing, "Put me in my little bed" to her beau, when the profane accents of her male parent broke the stillness, remarking that if she didn't put him in d—n soon, he'd have to shift for himself out doors.

SYNOPSIS OF THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The great length of the Governor's Message, delivered before the Pennsylvania Legislature on the 4th inst., precludes the possibility of our giving it in full in our columns, but the following synopsis, for which we are indebted to the Pittsburgh *Post*, will be found to contain all of public interest embodied in that somewhat prosy document:

INTRODUCTORY.

An All-wise Providence has permitted you to assemble under circumstances demanding profound gratitude to the Great Lawgiver of the Universe. Our acknowledgments are first due to Him whose hand has not grown weary in showering blessings in profusion upon the people in every department of industry, and crowning their toil with richest rewards.

The circumstances under which you commence the duties of the present session are, indeed, auspicious; and at no former period in our history has there been greater cause for felicitation upon the inestimable blessings we enjoy, and the happy and prosperous condition of our great and growing Commonwealth.

FINANCES.

It affords me pleasure to congratulate the people upon the satisfactory condition of the Treasury. Every demand upon it for ordinary and other expenses has been promptly paid, and the public debt materially reduced, which has inspired such public confidence in the securities of the Commonwealth as to cause them to command the highest premiums in the market. The operations of this department will be presented to you more fully and in detail in the reports of the Auditor General, State Treasurer, and Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT.

Receipts during the year	$7,137,405.73
Balance in Treasury Nov. 1, 1870	1,973,982.23
Total debt Nov. 1, 1870	31,111,081.99

REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

On the 15th day of January, 1867, the total 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, 1870, the sum of six million five hundred and ninety-two thousand seven hundred and forty-seven dollars and eighty-seven cents has been paid. The reduction during the year ending November 30, 1870, is one million seven hundred and two thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine dollars and five cents.

The average reduction per annum, for the last four years, is one million six hundred and forty-eight thousand one hundred and eighty-seven dollars.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

In relation to a Constitutional Convention the Governor submits the following:

First—Different systems of laws for roads, bridges, schools, elections, poor-houses, and many other things, are enacted for the several counties, townships and boroughs, on subjects which ought to be regulated by general laws, operating uniformly upon all.

Second—It is impossible for the citizens, judges of the courts, or members of the legal profession, to acquire or retain an accurate knowledge of the varying systems of laws in their respective districts; and frequently, on removal from one county to another, our people find themselves under almost entirely different codes.

Third—Practically, the whole theory of our Constitution and government is subverted and destroyed by the present system of local enactments. Representative government is based on the idea that the laws shall be framed by, and be the result of, the collective wisdom of the people's representatives. But what are the actual facts? The minds and efforts of the members are so wholly absorbed by private and local bills that it is almost impossible to get a general or public act considered or passed. The special and local bills are usually drawn by the member representing the locality, or by some one from the district interested in the proposed law. By what is called courtesy, it is considered a breach of etiquette for any member of the Senate or House to interfere with or oppose a merely private or local bill of any other member. The result is, the bills are passed as originally prepared, without examination or comparison of views—often crude and ill-digested—and without regard to constitutional requirements, or sound public policy. Some of the worst of those hasty and badly considered enactments are arrested by Executive interposition; but in the nature of the case, the veto at best can only be made a partial restraint upon the evil; and nothing can eradicate it short of constitutional prohibition.

Fourth—Special legislation is the great and impure fountain of corruption, private speculations and public wrongs. It has become a reproach to Republican Government and is one of the most alarming evils of the time. Judicious amendments to the Constitution would arrest and destroy the growing evil; and it is the duty of every patriotic citizen to co-operate in all lawful measures to effect so desirable a consummation. In the enactment laws a radical change is demanded. Every bill presented for adoption should be read, at least once in full, and the yeas and nays be recorded on its final passage.

Fifth—It is important that the State Constitution should be made to conform to the Constitution of the United States as recently amended.

Sixth—The subject of minority representation is now much agitated, and is receiving a large share of consideration among thoughtful and considerate men. It embraces problems of great political importance, and its manifest justice commends it to public favor. Whilst some of the objects it proposes might be obtained by legislative enactments, the general principles involved are so elementary and radical, they should, if adopted, be incorporated into the fundamental law.

Seventh—The members of the General Assembly should be increased in number.

Eighth—There should be a fundamental limitation to the powers of corporations.

Ninth—There is absolute necessity for greater security for the public funds and for their proper distribution.

Tenth—The State Treasurer, Superintendent of Common Schools, and a Lieutenant Governor, the latter to preside over the Senate, and perform the duties of Governor, in any case of his absence, sickness or death, should be elected by the people. The Attorney General, Secretary of State, and the Adjutant General should, for obvious reasons, continue to be appointed by the Governor.

Eleventh—The day for holding the annual elections could, with great propriety, be changed from the second Tuesday in October to the same day in November on which nearly all the surrounding States now hold theirs. This would dispense with one election every fourth year and prevent invasion from other States for the purpose of interfering with our elections, as the citizens of each State would be occupied with their own. The season, too, would be more satisfactory to the people of the agricultural districts, as it would not interfere with the harvesting of their corn and other summer productions.

The necessity for constitutional reform is appreciated and admitted by all who have reflected upon the subject, and without distinction of party, the press has been outspoken, and has almost unanimously sanctioned the calling, at an early day, of a constitutional convention.

For these reasons, and many others equally important which might be enumerated, I earnestly recommend that the Legislature make provision for a convention to thoroughly revise and amend the Constitution of the State.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE.

The commissioners to revise the statutes have completed their work. The entire laws of the Commonwealth, including those of British origin, except such as relate to crime, have been revised, collated and systematically arranged in a Supreme Court, in all such cases, to review both the law and the evidence.

APPORTIONMENT.

The important duty devolves upon you to apportion, in accordance with the last census, the representation to the General Assembly and to Congress. This will be among the most laborious and difficult works of the session. In its performance, it is presumed and trusted that you will be guided and governed by a strict sense of justice and impartiality to all parties and to every district in the State, so that no well-founded reason be given for complaint or censure.

Under the laws of the State it is made the duty of the County Commissioner of the respective counties to make returns to the Governor of the septennial enumeration of taxables on or before the first Tuesday of December. Not one-fourth of these returns have yet been received, although the attention of the Commissioners was invited to the subject by special circular from the Secretary of the Commonwealth. As soon as the returns come to hand, the necessary abstracts will be made out and forwarded to the Legislature.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools show that there are now within the State, 2,602 school districts; 14,212 schools; 2,892 graded schools; 13,100 directors; 79 county and other superintendents; 17,612 teachers, and 828,891 pupils. This is an increase over the preceding year of 81 districts; 276 schools; 447 graded schools; 209 directors; 3 superintendents; 470 teachers, and 13,138 pupils.

The cost of tuition for the past year, was $2,745,475 81; building, purchasing and renting school houses, $2,765 644 34; contingencies, $1,165,226 05; other expenditures, $95,475; making a total of $7,771,761 20. Estimated value of school property, $15,837,183. Average salary of male teachers, 40 05 per month; length of school term 6.05 months; and the cost per month of each pupil, 98 cents.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' SCHOOLS.

Your attention is respectsully invited to the report of the Superintendent of the Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, for the year terminating May 31, 1870.

Since the first organizatian of these schools the whole number of children admitted is 5,053. And during the same period, the discharges, including deaths, amount to 1,524, leaving 3,529 in the schools at the close of the year; of whom 2,137 are in "graded" and 793 in "primary schools," and 599 in "Homes."

The expenditures of the system for the school year ending May 31, 1870, are as follows, viz:

For education and maintenance of children in advanced schools	$283,000.07
For education and maintenance of children in primary schools	101,475.58
For education and maintenance of children in homes	65,263.42
For clothing, shoes, making, mending, etc	53,993.75
For partial relief of 13 children, at $30 each	390.00
For general expenses	9,100.00
Total expenses	$514,126.42
Total appropriations	494,700.00
Balance	$19,426.42

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

This institution appears to be gradually accomplishing the objects for which it has been liberally endowed by the State. It has about sixty students, who are instructed not only in the ordinary branches of literature and science, but in all the field operations necessary for a thorough agricultural education. The experimental farms, established under the supervision of the officers, have thus far answered their expectations.

NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

On the first of July, 1870, an act of Congress was passed amendatory to the act, entitled "An Act to establish and protect National Cemeteries," approved February 22, 1867. The object of these laws is to place under the National Government the management and preservation of these cemeteries, and to secure the consent of the several States in which they are located. This consent has already been given as to the cemetery at Gettysburg, by the act approved April 14th, 1868; and the National authorities now ask for the same action by the State as to the cemeteries at Glenwood, Lebanon, Mount Moriah, Odd Fellows' and Woodland, in Philadelphia; and also those at Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and York.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

A reliable geological and mineralogical survey would be of incalculable value to the State. Without it we have indefinite ideas of our vast undeveloped mineral wealth, and the expense attending it would be utterly insignificant when compared with the beneficial results. We are, at present, without even a reliable map to indicate the locality, character and resources of our mineral re-