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creased efficiency in its general supervision increased means of support.

The experiment of the Gounty Superintendency wherever fathfully carried out, has not disappointed the expectations of the advocates of that measure. The improved condition of the schools, and the greater efficience of the system, clearly establish the proprinty and utility of such supervision. The official visits of an officer of the school department to some of the counties of the State, in connection with the County superintendency, have demonstrated that has voice of public authority to sustain, and the presence of an official separate of the school department conditions with the County superintendency, have demonstrated that has voice of public authority to sustain, and the presence of an official separate of the school department of the supervision. The most marked improvement recently effected in the system, has been in its corps of teachers. With almost unparalleled disinterestedness and devotion to the noble cause in which they are engaged, the common school teachers of the State, have in almost every county been using all the means and appliances, within their power, for self improvement. These efforts so creditable to them have been highly beneficial in their results; and clearly prove the necessity, and point with uncerting certain.

ficial in their results; and clearly prove the necessity, and point with unerring certainty to the establishment of State Normal schools. Teachers meetings for a day have given place to Institutes for a week; and these again to numerous Normal meetings continuing from one to three months. At every step in this progression, it has become more apparent that permanent institutions, with their proper professors and appliances, which nothing but the power of the State can provide, are demanded by, and would meet the wants of the system and the occasion.

and the occasion.
In conceding this boon to our children through their teachers, we are encouraged by the example of other countries, and the through their teachers, we are encounsied by the example of other countries, and the experience of the past. It is a remarkable fact, that no state of our Union, nor nation of the old world, has perfected its as stem of public instruction, without schools for the professional training of teachers, established and supported by the public authority and means; and it is no less remarkable, and still more encouraging that no such institution has over yet been abandoned.—From Prussia, whose experience in this regard, is that of a century and a quarter, to that of our young sister Michigan, whose existence is as of yesterday, the Normal achool has been tried throughout Christendom with unvarying success.

This result is in full harmony with the laws of mind and of luman society. Teaching is a high and honorable profession; and no profession has more arduous and complex duties to perform—no one greater re-

plex duties to perform—no one greater re-sponsibilities to meet—and no one operates on, or with such valuable and interesting on, or with such valuable and interesting material. The most thorough preparation is therefore requisite; and as the duties to be performed are not only responsible, but delicate, and may office the social, political, moral or religious feelings and rights of the citizen, no source is so safe, no authority for their discharge so free from suspicion or bias, as the state. Teachers trained by the state, and representing the vitality of its republicanism, will be the firm support and sure guarantee of its republican equality.

It is time also that the teaching wind

sure guarantee of its republican equality.

It is time also that the teaching mind should resume its true place in the schools. In the communication of knowledge, to be effective, mind, in sympathetic contact, must act upon mind, and with living, speaking energy, leave its impress there. The Great Master himselfithus trained the school which was to reform a world. But now the book has too much intruded itself between the teacher and the taught. The teacher has too much become the mere exponent of the printed page, and the mind of the learners the impressed copy of the text. In thus saying, the value and importance of books, as a means of knowledge are not intended to be overlooked or decried; but the uses of our best agencies have their limits; and when we find the book usurping the place of the teacher, to the injury of the mind of our youth, we should restore each to its proper position—require from each the performance of its appropriate functions, and thus confor upon both the full measure of their usefulness. the teacher and the taught. The teacher

their usefulness.

As an expedient to supply the place of regular Normal schools till established, and as a valuable auxillary to them when in operation, the Teachers! Institute would be of unquestionable value. It would bring together the together of a county under the best influences, for consultation and improvement, and exhibit them before their fellow citizens in their proper professional character. A portion of the means of the state, or of the respective counties, applicable to educational improvement, could not be more profitably applied, than to the encourage-

ment of the meeting of at least one such Institute, annually, in each county. An .ex-

ment of the meeting of at least too such Institute, annually, in each county. An experiment of this kind recently made in the county of Chester, is said to have been ominently successful; and strongly, indicative of the wiselow of the measure.

If, incaddition to these, or similar measures, the Legislature should feel varranted—and the measure has all the sanction falls executive document can give it—to make a large addition to the annual state appropriation to Common Schools, I believe that all will be done which the patriotism of the people's representatives can now effect; and I do not hestate to express the opinion that the time has come for this prompt, full and decisive action. Let the integrity of the system, in its great purposes and objects, be maintained; and if changed, changed only to render it more efficient, and to increase its power for greater usefulness. Whatever else may distinguish your present session, This hazarding little to predict, that more honor and benefit will result from the perfection of the Common School system of education, than from any other exercise of your legislative powers.

The public schools of Philadelphia are

fection of the Common School system of education, than from any other exercise of your legislative powers.

The public schools of Philadelphia are deserving of special notice and approval.—In their various gradations, from the primary up to the High School, they are models worthy of imitation; and their management and efficiency reflect great credit upon those to whom have been committed their supervision and control. It is to be regretted that these schools, so creditable to our great commercial and literary emporium, and so honorable to our Commonwealth, should find no place in the annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools. As at present organized, these schools are independent of the state superintendency, and do not report to the school department of the Commonwealth. As everything that relates to the operation of the Common School system, and the condition of the public schools in the state, is important and interesting, the statistics of those schools should be furnished to the State Superintendent, that the same might be embodied should b furnished to the State Superin

interesting, the statistics of those schools should be furnished to the State Superintendent, that the same might be embodied in the annual report of the Department. A modification of existing laws on this subject, so far as to require the controllers of the public schools of Philadelphia, to report to the school department, the number, grade, and condution of their schools—the number of pupils, and generally such information in relation to their government as may be deemed useful to the cause of oducation, is respectfully recommended.

To improve the social, intellectual and moral condition of the people—reclaim the erring, and ameliorate human suffering, are objects that commend themselves to the consideration of the philanthropist and the statesman. Our educational, charitable and reformatory institutions are justly the pride of the State, honorable airke to the wisdom that devised and the liberality that founded and sustains them. They have strong claims upon the bounty of the people, and I conduity recommend them to your care and the liberality of the Commonwealth.

The State Lunatic Hospital, at Harris-

your care and the liberality of the Common-wealth.

The State Lunatic Hospital, at Harris-burg, in its objects and results, merits our highest approbation. The first expectations of its projectors and founders have not been disappointed. Kimhness and love, with their softening and subduing influence, con-stitute the rule of its government. Many of its former unfortunate inmates have been restored to reason, to friends and home, and the enjoyments of social life. Those that remain require our sympathy and aid.— They should not be withheld. The report of the Directors will exhibit, in detail, the operations of the Institution.

of the Directors will exhibit, in detail, the openations of the Institution.

The necessity and importance of providing additional accommodation for the insance of western Pennsylvania have been strongly pressed upon my attention. The present accommodations are clearly insufficient, and these have been provided principally by the contributions of benevolent citizens. It is urged that the rapid advance of our population—the gloomy increase of the integer and the inview of the present the contributions of the present contributions. izens. It is urged that the rapid advance of our population—the gloony increase of the instance—the gloony increase of the instance—and the inadequacy of the present asylums for their care and management, render it imparatively necessary that effective aid should be given to that portion of the state, for the establishment of a new and entirely distinct western lassne Hospital, as a home to those of our fellow cilizens whose only alleviation is to be found in their own ignorance of the frightful malady with which they are burdened. The audject is worthy of calm and dispassionate inquiry. I will cheerfully co-operate with the legislature, in all proper efforts, to accomplish this object.

Should you decline to set upon this subject I would then recommend that an ado-

Should you decline to set upon this and-ject I would then recommend that an ade-quate appropriation be made to the western Pennsylvaula Hospital for the purpose of extending its accommodations for the care of the Insane, as distinct as may be practi-cable from the other class of patients and munates. The charter of this institution is thered in its provisions and comprehensive

cable from the other class of patients and immates. The charter of this institution is therai in its provisions, and comprehensive in the objects liable to be brought inder its care; embracing the insance as well as the sick, helpless and infirm.

In the connection I would commend to your attention the Ponnsylvania Training School for Idiotic and Feeble-minded Children. The aid of the Commonwealth has heretotore been extended to this institution. It is a noble charity, and appeals to the best technigs of the heart. It deserves to share the bounty of the State.

The House of Refuge in Philadelphia, and the Western House of Refuge in Philadelphia, and

burg, are institutions of great excellence, hising for their object the reclaiming of wayward and erring youth—the employment of the idle—the instruction of the ignorant-the reformation of the victoria and deprayed, and the relief of the wretched.— They are schools, not prisons—homes, not places of ponishment; they are a refuge to the neglected and outcast children and youth of our Commonwealth. The success of the past is a sure guarantee of their future usefulness. They should reserve your

ture usefulness. They should receive your and and encouragement.

The "Blind" and the "Peaf and Dumb Asylums," In Philadelphia, invite our sympathy, and ask to share the benefactions of the Commonwealth. They should not be disappointed. The blind in their darkness—the dumb in their silencs—will cherish the git, and bluss the generous dupor.

Legislation, in relation to all questions of

Legislation, in relation to all questions of moral and social reform, should be carefully and wisely considered and matured. On no subject, within the constitutional authority of the Legislature, are the people so sensitive; and no one more deeply interests every class and condition of society. Samptury laws, as a general rule, are of doubtful expediency; and as abridgments of the liberty and privileges of the citizen, can only be justified on the ground of necessity. Whilst this is admitted, it cannot be denied that the evils resulting from intemperated that the evils resulting from intemperated. Whits this is admitted, it cannot be denied that the ovils resulting from intemporance, create a necessity for regulating and restraining, by legislative acts, the traffic and sale of intexicating liquors. To what extent this traffic should be restrained by positive law, must depend upon the will of the people, determined by considerations of their own moral, physical and social welfare. Whatever may be my own opinion. the people, determined by considerations of their own moral, physical and social weltare. Whatever may be my own opinion, or that of the Legislature or the people, in roference to the law of the last session "to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquora," it must be admitted that a full return to the liceuse system, in operation prior to the passage of the present law, is not demanded by enlightened public sentiment, and would not promote the good order or happiness of the community. That the laws then in existence were imperfect and failed to check or control the evils of intemperance, is a proposition too plain to be doubted—that they needed revision must also be conceded. In our large cities and towns, the evils of the system were more severely, folt. The facility and cheapness with which licenses were obtained, operated as a premium to vice and immorality, and multiplied tippling houses and places where intemperance, under the authority of law, was not only permitted, but oncouraged. My immediate predecessor, in his last annual message to the Legislature, in reference to the then license laws, anys: "So far as relates to the city of Philadelphia, they are lates to the city of Philadelphia, they are peculiarly prejudicial to public morals, and seem to have been constructed to promote the convenience of drinking far more than to restrain its evil consequences." In this

opinion I fully concur. That a remedy was domanded, all will concede. Whether the law of the last session was the proper pine edy, it is not my, province now to delerate the first in the session was the proper pine edy, it is not my, province now to delerate in the session. The problem is the proper pine edy, it is not my, province now to delerate provided the provided in the proper in the p ent townships of the same county, loca laws regulating these subjects, not only dif-fering materially from the general law, but from one another. Reform in this regard is required, and to this I respectfully ask your

attention.

"Onnibus legislation" having been condemud and abandoned, should not be permitted again to sully the records of legislative action. It cannot receive my approxi-

demucd and abandoned, should not be permitted again to sully the records of legislative action. It cannot receive my approral.

Numerous applications will doubtless be made for the incorporation of insurance; Gas, Water and Boom Companies. To facilitate action on these questions—economise time—reduce the expenses of legislantion—secure uniformity, and confine the companies thereafter incorporated to the legitimate purposes of their creation, I would recommend the propriety of enacting general laws regulating such corporations.—Already laws of this character for Coal, Iron, Canal, Railroad, Turnpike, Plank and Bridge Companies have been passed, and in practice have been found highly economical and useful. Such laws, well regulated and carefully guarded, would be productive of similar results in their application to insurance and other companies named.

The propriety of limiting and restraining corporate bodies as to the objects and purposes of their creation, will not be denied or controverted. In relation to the powers and privileges of insurance companies, this plan principle has been overlooked and disregarded. By successive acts of legislation many of these institutions have acquired discounting privileges, and nearly all the powers of banks without their guards, restrictions and liabilities. This has been effected by the magic of some general provision in the act incorporating the company, or by reference to some forgotten supplement concealed in the folds of an omnibus bill," or lost in the mazes of the pamphlet laws. General laws, whilst they would conier on such companies all the powers necessary to accomplish the objects of their incorporation, would at the same time prevent an extension of privileges for the purpose of relieving the Legislature from the pressure of numerous application. This enlarged jurisdiction was conferred for the purpose of relieving the Legislature from the pressure of numerous applications, and in all cases where the subject matter is within their jurisdiction, the Legislation.

plication.

Divorces, unless in cases of extreme necessity and clearly beyond the jurisdiction of the courts, should not be granted by the Legislature.

By the act of the 16th of April, 1846, en-

By the act of the 16th of April, 1846, entitled "An Act to increase the revenues and diminish the legislative expenses of the Commonwealth," it was provided that thereafter no private bill, theruin described and taxed, should be enrolled in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, or published, or have the force and effect of law, until the party asking and requiring the same should pay into the treasury of the Commonwealth the respective suma named in said act. A large number of Acts passed by former Legislatures, and ambiect to this tax, remain in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the tax on them not having been paid. The number has been annually increasing and will continue to increase, unless, a summary remedy be afforded for the collection of the enrollment tax, or in default of its payment after a certain poriod the acts their after a certain period the acts them-selves be repealed. The amount of en-rollment tax now due the Commonwealth is large, and should have been paid long since. I would therefore recommend the passage of a law repealing all acts hereto fore subject to such tax, unless the tax be fore subject to such tax, unless the tax be paid one year thereafter, and fitther to provide that all such acts Hereafter passed shall not have the force and effect of law, unless the taxes respectively due thereon be paid within six months after their approval. Such a law would secure the payment of these taxes, increase the revenues, and at the same time check the demand for private soid designed to be used or abandoned, as the calculation of chances, or the loss or gain of the parties in lateroet might determine. determine.

By a resolution of the Legislature, passed the 27th day of March, 1850, requiring the "New York and Eric Railroad Compa-

the "New York and Eric Railroad Compa-ny to communicate to the Legislature of this Commonwealth, a statement, certified under cath by their President, setting forth what quantity of land said company now holds in Pensaytvania—its location—how much they have bestofore disposed of-its value—the value of what they now hold, and when the title to said lands were acquired," it was made the duty of the Governor to transmit a copy of said resolution to the President of said Compa-ny. A copy of the resolution was transmit-

of the Governor to transmit a sopy of asid resolution to the Prosident of said Company. A copy of the resolution was francinited as directed: and the asswer of the President of the Company, e-mmunicating the information required, is herewith submitted to the Legislature.

By a resolution of the 26th day of April, 1855, I was requested to procure from the Attornoy General, his opinion of the right of the State of New York, to divort water from the natural bed and channel of the Chemung River, to the prejudice of the public improvements of Pennsylvania; the said river belonging to both States; and communicate the same to the Legislature. As requested, the opinion of the Attornoy General has been obtained, and is herewith committed to the Legislature.

On the 6th day of October last, I approved and signed the bill entitled "An Act to repeal the Charter of the Erls and North East Railroad Company, and to provide for disposing of the same." In pursuance of its provisions, I appointed the Hon. Joseph Clayey to take possession and have the charge and custody of the road. Before possession was taken, application was made by the Company to no of the Judges of the Sapremo Court of this Commonwealth for an higuaction to restrain the Agent of the State from taking possession of the road; and subsequently a cautionary order was made by the Supreme Gourt, In banc, to say his proceeding under the Act. The questions involved in the application for injunction are now pending before that Court, and will, it is expected, be determined early in the present month. The

result will be made the wallest of a special communication to the Logislature will be recent fraudulent, if not felonious, abstraction of a large quantity of arms from the Arsenal Stufferisburg has shown the uccessity of additional legislation for the protection of the arms' and other public property of the Commonwealth deposited in the Arsenals of the State. The Reposited in the Arsenals, or the Others having them in the Arsenals, or by others having them in charge, should be declared, a felony, and punished with severity; and all propers purphasing or receiving the same, without property of the Commonwealth, should be reparded as principals, and punished accordingly.

be regarded as principals, and punished accordingly.

The bonds now required to be given by the Adjutant General and the keepera of the areanals, for the fathful discharge of their duties, are insufficient in against loss from the fraudylent sate, or taking of the property committed to their care. The sum in which these bonds are taken should, be increased to an amount proportionate to the value of the property which is or may be deposited in the Arsenals.

Since the sale of the Arganal la Paris.

an amount proportionate to the value of the proporty which is or may be deposited in the Arsenal In Philadelphia, the public arms; in that city have been placed in a room or out-house procursed for that purpose. As a depository it is unasic and inaccure. Better provision should be made for their safe keeping.

The sum of thirty thousand dollars stating from the safe of the Philadelphia Arsenal, is now in the Tressury to be expended under the direction of the Governor, in the purchase of a suitable lot and the erection of a new Arsenal. This sum is wholly insimilation for that purpose, and without additional appropriations, which are not recommended; this object cannot be accomplished. As areas and munitions of warcan, when regulared, be transmitted with actility and rapidity; to distant parts of the State, the necessity for mior than one Arsenal as Medville can be disposised with without without detriment to the public service, Two understand the propriety of authorizing its safe, and the sale of the one at Harrisburg, and with the rions and many applicable, to that purpose, the crection of a large and commodious Arsenal at Harrisburg, or classifier, as may be deemed most economical, safe and convenient.

The Legislature, at their last session, having failed to elect a Senator to represent this State in the Senate of the United States, for six years from the 4th of March last, it becomes your duty to provide for an election of Senators to represent this State in the Senate of the United States, it will be preceived that their provisions do not embrace a case like the present.

Having, at the time of my induction into office, declared to my follow citizens and their representatives, my seniments in relation to questions connected with our national contents.

Having, at the time of my induction into office, declared to my follow clittens and their representatives, my sentiments in relation to questions connected with our national politics, their reiteration now will not be expected. To the opinions then expressed, and now re-affirmed, you are respectfully referred.

To maintain in integrity the Constitution of our Republic, and the Union of the States—protect the civil and religious pirtieges of the people—guard with Jealous care the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government—of freedom and human rights—and vindicate by a true and single devotion to home and country, the great doctrine of American nationality, are objects that awaken the particulam and claim the energies and the heart of every American citizen.

In obedience to the requirements of the Constitution and laws of the State, as the representatives of the people, you have assombled to perform the hight and responsible duties that devolve upon you. As a co-ordinate branch of the government, if will be attice my duty and pleasure, to unite with you in the enactment of all such laws as will protect the rights of the people, and advance the honer and prosperity of the Commonwealth. With a "sole-desire for the public good—actuated by, a spirit of enlarged and enlightened natirolism."

advance the house, and prosperity of the Commonwealth. With a 'sole-desire for the public good—actuated by a spirit of enlarged and enlightened patrictism, and guided by that wisdom which hath its beginning in the fear of God, may our efforts in harmonions action be directed to the secomplishment of these objects, and to the promotion of that righteousness which exact the nation, and constitutes the true gloss of a free and independent people.

EXECUTIVE GLAMMER.

JAMES POLL Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, Jan. 1, 1855.

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