SUPPLEMENT

THE AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

To the Benate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsyl-

GENTLEMEN. -- 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

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 he inestimable blessings we enjoy, and the happy and prosperous condition of

is always a matter of deep interest to the people, and perhaps never more so than now, when an unusual amount of necessary general legislation will occupy your attention, and questions of the highest importance are to be discussed and determined upon. I sincerely trust your industry and faithfulness in the performance of the important work before you, the entire State liabilities. will win you the proud title of working Legislature."

Amid such circumstances our attention all the most important and essential interests of the State : and in the exercise of that discretion which the Constitution has confided to the Executive, I proceed to communicate such information, and to recommend to your consideration such measures as are deemed necessary and

As first in order and most important precise statement of the financial condition of the 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 insecurities of the Commonwealth as to you more fully and in detail in the reports of the Auditor General, State Treasarer, and Commissioners of the Sinking Fund. The following statement exhibits the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ending November, 30, 1870 :

Receipts. Total in Treasury during year anding 47 727 181 7 Disbursements.

Balance in Treasury. Nov. 30, 1870. . \$1,302,942 82

Public Debt.

missioners during the fiscal year onding Nov. \$0, 1570.....\$1,002,331 31 mount redeemed by Treasurer during same 100,557 74 Total public debt, Nov 35, 1870 \$31,111,661 93

The following statement shows the nature of the indebtedness of the Commonwealth, Nevember 30, 1870:

\$96,382 00

4,448 85 creditora' Cor-44 67

On the fifteenth day of January, 1867, thirty-seven million seven hundred and dollars and seventy-seven cents. Since then, and up to November 30, 1870, the the following: sum of six million five hundred and forty-seven dollars and eighty-seven cents thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine ting uniformly upon all. dollars and five conts.

hundred and eighty-seven dollars.

dollars of the public debt will be due, and in order that the Commonwealth may continue to meet all its obligations promptly at maturity, I recommend that such provisions be made by the Legislature, as will authorize the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to sell all the assets that may be in their possession, and apply the proceeds to the extinguishf the debt; or, at the option of the holders, to exchange them for the

The indebtedness of the State might

it is a great benefit to have so secure an investment. A certain reduction of one million dollars per annum on it would, perhaps, be more satisfactory to them and to the people, than to strive to pay it off so hastily. In an endeavor to force things under the present mode of taxa.

| Short of constitutional prohibition. | Fourth.—Special legislation is tion, there is great danger of driving capital away from our manufacturing centres. The landholder has been exempted from taxes on his land for upon the active, energetic and enterprising portions of the community, who have farmer is at ease, and runs no risk; more liberal policy towards those en- on its final passage. The meeting of the General Assembly gaged in mercantile, manufacturing, railroad and mining pursuits should be dopted. Unless these interests are fostered and kept in full operation, all as recently amended. classes of the people will suffer. They are the very life-blood of the State, and

The foregoing recommendations, in my opinion, embrace the true policy of the Commonwealth, and if adopted, will should be directed to a careful review of doubtless, receive a hearty response and endorsement from the people. The taxpayers demand that all their social, industrial commercial and financial operations shall be relieved from the burdens of any-more taxation than may be neces sary for the gradual payment of the debt, as is last above indicated, and to defray the frugal expenses of the administration of the government. Econ-I will present a carefully prepared and omy and reform should no longer be advocated as glittering generalities, or more but as vital, living realities.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Four years' experience as an executive fficer has given me abundant opportunity for careful observation upon the workings of our fundamental law, and the legislation of the State. This exspired such public confidence in the perience has strongly impressed me that there should be a thorough revision of cause them to command the highest the State Constitution, with such amendramiuma in the market. The operations | ments as the wisdom of a convention of this department will be presented to assembled for that purpose would undoubtedly suggest, and an enlightened

public sentiment demand.

The authority for holding such convention is found in the second section of the ninth article of the Constitution, and is declared in these words: "That all power is inherent in the people, and all remainded in the second section of 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 the case and allowance of the writ for remainder in the people, and all remainder in the people, and all remainder in the people in the second section of the case and allowance of the writ for remainder in the people. power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and handends, they have, at all times, an unalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or abolish their government, in such manner as they may

The last convention for this purpose was held in 1838. During the thirtytwo years which have since elapsed, sundry amendments have been made by joint resolutions of the General Assembly, voters of the State. The most important were those of 1850, making the judges o the courts elective; of 1857, creating

linking Fund, regulating the public debt and legislative districts; and of 1864, conferring the right of suffrage upon hose engaged in the military service of the State or Nation, and imposing sundry restraints on the power of the Legislature. These amendments, though important and valuable, give an incongruous and sort of patch-work character to the Constitution, and are not consonant with the requirements of the times.

This is a progressive period, and on law. That law should, therefore, be made to keep pace with the age in which we live. The existing Constitution, iucluding the amendments of 1857 and 1864, impose many wholesome restrictions or the power and jurisdiction of the Legislature : but experience has demonstrated their inadequacy to protect the people against the evils intended to be remedied and especially those of corporate power and of special and local legislation. The pamphlet laws for the last four years show that the general laws for each session made only about one hundred pages, whilst the local and special legistion for the same period amount annually to about thirteen hundred and the total indebtedness of the State was fifty. The resulting evils are manifold and aggravated; and prominent among four thousand four hundred and nine the reasons and suggestions why a remedy should be applied, I respectfully submit

First .- Different systems of laws for houses and many other things, are enhas been paid. The reduction during acted for the several counties, townships one million eeven hundred and two to be regulated by general laws, opera-

Second .- It is impossible for the citi-The average reduction per annum, for zens, judges of the courts, or members the last four years, is one million six of the legal profession, to acquire or rehundred and forty-eight thousand one tain an accurate knowledge of the varying systems of laws in their respect-In view of the fact that prior to the ive districts; and frequently on removal first of July, 1872, nearly eight millions from one country 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 to allow writs of error in cases of murder tative government is based on the much and voluntary manslaughter." The first of their property is \$600,000, and the the result of, the collective wisdom of section provides that a writ of error annual amount received for tuition the people's representatives. But what are the actual facts? The minds and outstanding bonds of the Common- efforts of the members are so wholly absorbed by private and local bills that it is almost impossible to get a general of the judges of the Supreme Court, in or public act considered or passed. The all such cases, to review both the law

only be made a partial restraint upon the evil; and nothing can eradicate it

Fourth.-Special legislation is the great and impure fountain of corruption, private speculations are public wrongs. It has become a reproach to republican government, and is one of the most whilst the business man, merchant and so desirable a consummation. In the

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

Sixth.—The subject of minority repre sentation is now much agitated, and is should not, in any way, be chilled or receiving a large share of consideration impeded, by overburdening them with among thoughtful and considerate men. taxation for the immediate payment of 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

greater security for the public funds and

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

Eleventh.-The day for holding the innual elections could, with great propriety, be changed from the second from other States for the purpose of interfering with our elections, as the citizens of each State would be activated 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

For these reasons, and many other equally important which might be the respective counties to make returns the Legislature make provision for a meration of taxables on or before the convention to thoroughly revise and mend the Constitution of the btate. REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE. The commissioners to revise the

The entire laws of the Commonwealth, including those of British origin, except such as relate to crime, have been revised, colluted and systematically arranged in a volume of less than three hundred pages, or about one-third the State has out-grown its fundamental size of Purdon's Digest. Our laws are the accretions of one hundred and seventy years. Many of them are incongruous and disjointed enactments, which have been increasing, from time to time, by fragmentary legislation, without any attempt at system, logical arrangement, over the preceding year of 31 districts; or conciseness of language. From the 276 schools; 447 graded schools; 200 examination I have been able to give the revision, I am satisfied that in the discharge of their duty, the commissioners exercised great diligence, ability and a conscientious desire for its successful accomplishment. It cannot be presumed that a work of such magnitude is perfect in every particular; and how far it may answer the purpose for which it was undertaken, remains to be determined. That it is an improvement upon what it is intended to supply there is no room for doubt. It adheres in the main to the text of existing laws, with occasional changes to meet present demands, but which were not needed when they were ninely-two thousand seven hundred and roads, bridges, schools, elections, poor- first enacted, and also additional provisions which the progress of the age requires. The work, as presented, the year ending November 30, 1870, is and boroughs, on subjects which ought properly be adopted, without material changes, making it the basis for such amendments as time and necessity may suggest, or as may be recommended referred for examination by the Legislature of last year. It will be seen that

> be disposed of with less inconvenience to interested parties, and a great saving WRITS OF ERROR IN CRIMINAL CASES. At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed, entitled "An Act "shall be of right, and may be sued out upon the oath of the defendant or defendants, as in civil cases."

of the judges of the Supreme Court, in ries number 95,000 volumes.

debt is now held firmly by those to whom worst of these hasty and badly considered was permitted to apply for his writ of society; social harmony; good and attention that have been bestowed upon volume, will be completed before the first cal report. New developments in min

will be the practical result in every such State purposes, and the burden shifted alarming evils of the times. Judicious case? This would seem like trifling with amendments to the Constitution would very serious matters; and I respectfully arrest and destroy the growing evil; and submit whether the act of last session The circumstances under which you always had their full share to bean. The it is the duty of every patriotic citizen to should not be repealed, or very material-farmer is at ease, and runs no risk; co-operate in all lawful measures to effect ly modified, without delay. In my message of tenth February, 1870, returning manufacturer are the motive power of enactment of laws a radical change is the bill with my objections, I gave sunthe community, upon which the farmer demanded. Every bill presented for dry reasons why it should not be aphimself must, in a great measure, depend for a realization of his industry. A full, and the year and nays be recorded remain unchanged; and the Supreme Court of the State, in the recent Schoppe case, express their opinion of this enact-

ment, as follows:

defects, and to the radical change in our criminal jurisprudence it will produce. It was passed for this case, but owing to the Governor's veto it came too late. I is another evidence that laws which ar he offspring of feeling are seldom wisely framed. It commands this court to review the evidence, and to determine whether the ingredients to constitute nurder in the first degree were proved to exist; and yet in forgetfulness of the

he may have murdered a whole family—
take out his writ of error, without limitation of time or condition, whether in
prison under sentence, or stepping upon
the trap of the gallows, with cause, or
without it, and suspend his case until
the next term of the Supreme Court. No
one could condemn him, if the death
warrent not presenting he should writ

The important duty devoir-

to apportion, in accordance with the Kau ensus, 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, t is presumed and trusted that you will o guided and governed by a strict sense f 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 commissioners of merated, I carnestly recommend that to the Governor of the septennial enufirst Tuesday of December. Not onefourth of these returns have yet been recommissioners was invited to the subject statutes have completed their work. by special circular from the Secretary of the Commonwealth. As soon as the reto the Legislature. COMMON SCHOOLS.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools shows that there are schools; 13,100 directors; 79 county and other superintendents; 17,612 teachers, and 828,891 pupils This is an increase directors; 3 superintendents; 470 teachers, and 13,138 pupils. The cost of tuition for the past year, was

\$3,745,475.81; building, purchasing and renting school houses, \$2,765,645.34; contingencies, \$1,175,224.05; other expenditures, \$95,475; making a total of \$7,771,761.20. Estimated value of school property, \$15,837,183. Average salary f male teachers, \$40.65 per month; length of school term, 6.06 months; and the cost per month of each pupil, 98 eents. In addition to the above, five Normal

schools are recognized by the State. These are intended specially to instruct in the art of teaching, and to furnish suitable teachers for the common schools. The many highly qualified instructor that have graduated therein, afford a sufficient assurance of their success and usefulness. They have aided materially in the rapid advancement of our general by the joint committee to which it was and widely approved educational system. Since their recognition, 12,390 students have been received into them; and 2,675 some of its provisions have been framed are now enrolled. There are 76 profeswith a view to throw much of our special sors and tutors. The libraries contain 8,135 volumes. The buildings and legislation into the courts, where it may grounds are valued at \$363,667; and the furniture and apparatus at \$75,000. Besides the schools that receive legisla

tive support, there are in the State 601 private schools, seminaries and academies, employing 848 teachers and having 24,815 students. The estimated value \$380,000. There are also thirteen colleges, with 157 professors and tutors, and 2,805 students enrolled. They own The second section makes it the duty much valuable property, and their libra-. These statistics will, doubtless, prove

interesting to all who peruse them, and

onactments are arrested every year by error. That limitation of thirty days healthful government; and all the mul-Executive interposition; but in the being now virtually repealed, and seven tiform blessings that conspire to produce nature of the case, the veto at best can years substituted therefor, is it expected human happiness, are its legitimate and the liberal encouragement and support only he made a partial restraint upon the warrant shall be withheld for the fruits. Morey judiciously expended by port they have received, have met the seven years? If not, when may it any community for the mental training properly issue? And if issued at any of its youth, cannot be lost; it will not time within the seven years, may not the criminal supersede it at any time he cral interest. The admirable workings and statesmen from foreign nations are pleases by his writ of error? And may of our Pennsylvania school system are it not be reasonably expected that this everywhere admitted, and its great suc-

cess is chiefly owing to the generosity of the Legislature by which it has been so kindly and so benificently nurtured, and sults, and give frequent assurances of it is sincerely to be trusted that it will never weary in this praiseworthy work, which has thus far been so well, accomplished and so abundantly rewarded. Your attention is respectfully invited to the report of the Superintendent of

year terminating May 81, 1870. Since the first organization of these "It is not improper before closing to say a few words in reference to the act of 1870, to draw attention to some of its period, the discharges, including deaths, chools at the close of the year; of whom 2,137 are in "graded," and 793 in "primary schools," and 599 in "Homes."

During the year terminating May 31, age; in 1872, 477; in '73, 599; in '74, 646; in '75, 646; in '76, 602; in 77, 584; obtained by legislative enactments, the general principles involved are so elementary and radical, they should, it mentary and radical, they should, it former law, it provides no means to take, adopted, be incorporated into the fundamental law.

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

Assembly should be increased in number.

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

Winth.—There is absolute necessity for greater security for the prublic funds and the fundamental limitation funds and the fundamental limitation to the powers of the general carried and period of law contained in the bill.

Winth.—There is absolute necessity for greater security for the prublic funds and the fundamental limitation to the powers of the general principles involved are so clearly and radical, they should, it former law, it provides no means to take, former law, it provides no take, former law, it provides no take, the former law, it provides no take, in 18, 410; in '79, 291; and in '80, the former law, it provides no take, former law, it provides no take, in 18, 410; in '79, 291; and in '80, 410; in '79, 291; and in '80, 410; in ' in '78, 410; in '79, 291; and in '80, the glory. teen, will be discharged in ten years on it has been liberally endowed by the age alone. The reinforcements to the State. It has about sixty students who schools will hereafter consist only of are instructed, not only in the ordinary children born prior to January 1, 1866; branches of literature and science, but admitted must come in during the next thorough agricultural education.

> up the concern. The expenditures of the system for the school year ending May 31, 1870, are as

tion of the college, together with the 514.126 4: 494,700 00

\$19 426 4 The sum appropriated is for the consent, admitted a larger number acerned:

Under an act, entitled "An the above balance remain unpaid. No for the expenses of the current year, as highly important. which, in consequence of a reduction in

prices, I am informed will exceed them to about the amount of the said balance. The early passage of such a resolution hundred breach-loading rifle-muskets is necessary, because the institutions to which the money is due cannot afford to wait long for it without serious incon- have been distributed, as provided by the settled policy of the State, and highly venience. Provision should also be made by the Legislature that, as the said sum of \$16,800 is re-paid in quarterly instalments by institutions from which it is luc, it shall be applied to the reimburse ment of the funds appropriated for the

is confidently anticipated that hereafter each succeeding estimate for annual ex-penses will be much more largely de-therefore, recommend that his depart-

these institutions.

The establishment of these schools and the liberal encouragement and supother States of the Union, but of the enand statesmen from foreign nations are it will be invaluable to the Commonconstantly making inquiries concerning the laws governing and directing th operations of our soldiers' orphaus schools, their management and the reunqualified commendation

The foregoing exhibit is, I trust, suffi ciently satisfactory to prompt a continuance of the generous patronage already extended to an institution unsurpassed by any other of the kind in usefulness. Its benefits extend beyond the mere shelter, clothing, feeding and education the Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, for the of the sons and daughters of our heroic dead. In generations far remote its influences will stimulate to deeds of patrischools the whole number of children otic ardor and heroism. Hereafter the defenders of our country will not falter when they reflect that should they fall, amount to 1,524, leaving 3,520 in the they have in the Commonwealth a parental protector of their beloved ones, who otherwise would be left desolate and neglected. The State has abundant cause to rejoice in what it has done for 1871, 493 of these will be discharged on its soldiers' orphans, and to be proud of these schools, which now constitute the brightest jewels that adorn its crown of

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. This institution appears to be gradu

consequently all who may hereafter be in all the field operations necessary for a The Experimental Farms, established the whole doctrine of the criminal law as to the speed and certainty of punishment, and left to the felon both the hope and a door of escape, not only from the law's delay, but by prison breach, and all the various means of avoiding retributive justice. At this moment, two cases anything like the ratio of the pre-ent soil, its inception, growth, progress and results to my memory of convictions of the mature of the seed committed to the soil, its inception, growth, progress and results, together with the conducing occur to my memory of convictions of murder in Allegheny county, delayed by dilatory motions, where the prison doors opened by unknown means, and the prisoners escaped forever. Any murderer may, under this law—though like Probst he may have murdered a whole family—take out his write for force without limits—take out his write for force with the conducing causes, being accurately noted. The publication of these observations, made in different parts of the State, with various climates and soil, under the guidance of skilled agriculturalists, will impart which shall be deemed the best, to close of skilled agriculturalists, will impart valuable lessons for the benefit of the practical farmer, and, doubtless, be the means of establishing a "Science of Agriculture," having its foundation in the wisdom of experience. The report of the trustees furnishes a full description 101,475 58 of the educational and financial condi-

progress and results of the Experimental Farms during the year just ended.

Your attention is invited to the accompanying report of the Adjutant tions of his department during the past nount estimated by the Superintendent year. The necessity of a military power in his report of 1869, but owing to the in the State, subordinate and auxiliary extreme pressure of the guardians and to the civil authorities, has been so fully relatives of many indigent and suffering discussed, and so generally admitted, as applicants, the Superintendent, with my to render any argument on the subject of entirely superfluous. It is admitted, or children than he originally estimated for; all hands, that a thoroughly organized the balance, as above stated, has, for and well disciplined military force conthis reason, necessarily and unavoidably tributes essentially to the maintenance of the peace and good order of society, and to the security of the persons and provide means for the establishing a sol- property of citizens. It has been my diers' orphans' school in each State desire and aim to constitute such a force, Normal school district in this Common- to aid the civil authorities, should an wealth, now destitute thereof," approved emergency arise, in the suppression of April 15, 1867, and a supplement thereto, public tumult or disorder. This has coived, although the attention of the approved March 25, 1868, the sum of been effected more successfully than was twenty-one thousand dollars was ad- at first anticipated. In 1866, there were vanced out of the State Treasury as a but eight volunteer companies in the loan to five institutions. These being State; at the close of 1869, there were fully established, are re-paying this loan one hundred and eighty-four; to which stracts will be made out and forwarded at the rate of five per cent quarterly, as number one hundred and fifty-eight specified in the act. Sixteen thousand companies were added last year. In the eight hundred dollars of this loan re- meantime, thirty have been disbanded, mained unpaid on May 31, 1870, and leaving three hundred and eleven organowing to the change of the form of set- ized and active military companies, now tlements which, by law, went into opera- recognized by act of the Legislature, as

now within the State, 2,002 school districts; 14,212 schools; 2,982 graded to the Superintendent, deducted from From the Company organizations the appropriation by the accounting fourteen regiments and five battalions officers, and consequently bills for educa- have been formed. Whilst I am not tion and maintenance for that sum and disposed to encourage regimental organizations of cavalry or artillery, they special appropriation for this amount is being unnecessarily large and expensive, asked; but all that is required is the I regard separate or independent troops eral to give notice to the New York and passage of a joint resolution, authorizing and batteries of these branches of the Eric Railroad Company that the State its payment from the sum appropriated service, attached to brigades or divisions,

The quota of arms due Pennsylvania has been drawn from the General Government.. This amounted to forty-five and accoutrements, with a proportionate 1864, in such manner as in my judgmen military interests and necessities of the as relates to the bonus. Commonwealth."

As heretofore stated, all the State

As heretofore stated, all the state during the military departments created during the war have been merged into that of the Adjutant General. That department is now the depository of all our military treeds, the importance and value of \$500,000. After a careful examination 1 find it correct, and respectfully request an appropriation for that amount. This estimate will, it is believed, enable the Superintendent to admit all proper applicants. It is \$20,000 less than the applications. The definition of the assumption of the control of the telegraph lines, and the chartering of railroad companies within the State by the General Government, was partially considered by the Legislature at its last session, and is now receiving considerable attention. Regarding the subjects one of vast importance, in the state potential to control of the telegraph lines, and the chartering of railroad companies within the State by the General Government, was partially considered by the daily applications of officials of the State by the General foreventure at its last session, and is now receiving considerable attention. Regarding the subjects one of vast importance, in the state partially considered by the daily applications of officials of the State by the General Government, was partially considered by the daily applications of officials of the State by the General flovernments are entitled to the state partially considered by the Legislature at its last session, and is now receiving considered by the daily applications of officials of the State by the General Government, was partially considered by the daily applications of officials of the State by the General Covernments, or the correct, and respectively and control of the telegraph lines, and the chartering of railroad companies within the State by the General Covernments, or the correct, and respectively and control of propriation for the current year, and it | Adjutant General is also the responsible custodian of all the military property

1870, about thirty-one million dollars, from which amount, if the said assetz, from which amount of labor and responsible undertaking lie throw the frame in the said assetz, from which amount of labor and responsible undertaking lie task do the interstance of the common scholis which and the first, as into the frame in the said assetz, from which and responsible undertaking lie task of the children, as uncreaptionable asset of the children, as uncreaptionable asset of the children, as uncreaptionable asset of the children, as uncreaptionable asset, the frame in the said assetz, the frame in the case of the children, as uncreaptionable asset of the children, as unc

of June next. The book, itself, affords the best commentary or criticism of the manner in which the author has disapproval and admiration, not only of the form and perpetuates the most important

enclosing a copy of a communication from the Minister of France to the United States, resident at Washington. That letter, accompanied by said seventh article, and a copy of my reply thereto. (marked A and B,) are herewith submitted to the Legislature for information, and with the recommendation that the subject be carefully considered, and such action taken thereon as will make

the consent of the several States in which other scientific operations, has been prethey are located. This consent has already been given as in the cometory of Gettysburg, by the act approved April 14, 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

of the act of July 1, 1870, (marked C and D,) are herewith transmitted, with the recommendation that the consent of the State be given, in compliance with

the laws of the United States. The objections heretofore existing to the payment of the appropriation for the use of the Antietam cemetery having been removed, the sum appropriated has

IMMIGRATION.

been paid over to the treasurer.

In accordance with a request to that effect, I submit, for your consideration, a copy of the proceedings of the National a copy of the proceedings of the National Immigration Convention. The Main and Immigration Convention. The Main and Immigration Convention, Indiana, on the twenty-third of November last. The main object of the convention, it appears, was the adoption of such resolutions as might induce the different States of the Union to importune Congress to enact such laws as would afford immigration. This should be made sufficiently capacious, and so arranged as to afford enact such laws as would afford immigrants, while in transitu from other an opportunity for the display of the lands, and upon their arrival in this country protection against the always to country, protection against the abuses to they are not jected. As the encouragement of immi gration, of a useful character, has al ways been the approved policy of our government, the object as presented, is regarded as deserving of your attention. THE MILFORD AND MATAMORAS RAIL ROAD.

About the close of the last session of the Legislature, an act was passed and approved, entitled "A supplement to the Milford and Matamoras Railroad Company." The fourth section of this enactment seems to have been intended to take from the State, and give to the material difference in the penal codes of company, the ten thousand dollars bonus the two States, and that the code of company, the ten thousand dollars bonus paid into the State Treasury annually by the New York and Eric Railroad Company, under the fifth section of the act of twenty-sixth March, 1846. Soon after the adjournment, my attention was directed to the subject, and to guard against loss I caused the Attorney Genwould look to that corporation for the payment of the annual bonus, as heretofore, notwithstanding the passage of the supplement referred to, I regard the latter as having been enacted and approved through inadvertency in the hurry of a closing session, and as hasty and inconclosing session, and as hasty and inconsupply of the proper ammunition. These | siderate legislation, at variance with the fifty-seventh section of act of May 4, prejudicial to the public interest; and I therefore, earnestly recommend its im-"will most effectually subserve the mediate repeal, or at least so much of it TELEGRAPH LINES AND RAILROADS.

The question of the assumption of the serious examination of it, and your early GEOLOGICÀL SURVEY.

seach succeeding estimate for annual expenses will be much more largely decreased.

I have personally visited, inspected and examined quite a number of these schools since the adjournment of the last Legislature; and I do not hesitate to pronounce most of them superior, in all respects, to any other institutions of a similar character in the country. The supervision of the Experimentent, and the male and female inspectors has been exceedingly faithful and effective; and those having the schools in charge, with but few exceptions, have displayed a devotion to their duties, and to the inter-

the best commentary or criticism of the manner in which the author has discharged his duties. It puts in concise form and perpetuates the most important portion of our history, which otherwise would have been forever lost. Hereafter it will be invaluable to the Commonwealth.

By the seventh article of a Consular Convention between France and the United States, signed February 23, 1853, it was stipulated that the citizens of the respective counties should mutually have the same rights to hold real and personal estate, and to enjoy and transmit the same My attention has been invited to this subject by a letter from Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State of the United States, dated May 9, 1870, enclosing a copy of a communication regions; railways traverse whole countier, and proposed in a consular control of the United States, dated May 9, 1870, enclosing a copy of a communication regions; railways traverse whole countier, and proposed to the consular control of the United States, dated May 9, 1870, enclosing a copy of a communication regions; railways traverse whole countiers were comparatively unsettled, and searcely any openings were made in our mineral districts, except in the anthracite coal basins and around Pittsburg. Now, the State is full of trial shafts and private explorations; extensive forests have been cleared; roads penetrate what were inaccessible regions; railways traverse whole countiers. regions; railways traverse whole counties with instrumental field work; many ties with instrumental field work; many thousands of oil and salt wells have been bored; valuable mines put in working order; the population has advanced in intelligence and grown more observant and enterprising, and the skill of the geologist, metallurgist, and surveyor haveached a higher degree of perfection. Posterity has its claims upon us; and it should be considered that whatever is done in the present generation is so much such action taken thereon as will make the statutes of the State conform to our obligations under the provisiors of said convention.

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 engineer. The gooder they fire authorized, the better will it be for the prospective interests of the State, as well as

BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES. Lebanon, Mount Moriah, Odd Fellows, and Woodland, in Philadelphia; and also those at Harrisburg, Pittsburg and York.

Copies of a communication on this subject, from the Secretary of War, and State; and at least one a in every year. State; and at least once in every year visit all such as are receiving State aid, visit all such as are receiving State and, to examine everything connected with their management, and especially to ascertain whether the funds appropriated to them are economically and judiciously expended. The requisite number of gentlemen, possessing the necessary qualifications, have generously consented to serve on this Board, which is now fully organized, and the objects contemplated are being accomplished. Early during the session their first annual report will be presented for your consideration, which will give a full account of the extent and importance of their philanthropic transactions in behalf of the Commonwealth.

capacious, and so arranged as to affor

DELAWARE BOUNDARY LINE.

The Legislature, at its session of 1869, bassed an act, entitled "An Act to settle, letermine and locate the southeri owever, has failed, thus far, to make the necessary appointments. The work, consequently, remains unaccomplished, and the boundary line is not definitely

under ordinary circumstances this might not be regarded as important; but when it is considered that there is a Delaware contains certain provisions, and authorizes the infliction of punish-ments repugnant to all the citizens of ments repugnant to all the citizens of Pennsylvania, serious evils may some day arise out of the neglect to determine this line. It is impossible to tell what night transpire, should the State of Delaware seize upon a citizen and sub-ject him to the disgraceful and abhorrent punishment of the pillory and the whip-ping post, who, upon subsequent investiation, was ascertained to have his re-idence in Pennsylvania. The injured sidence in Pennsylvauia. The injured party would have aright to demand, and we would be compelled to grant him satisfaction for the wrong he suffered.

FISHERIES. The Supreme Court has decided that

the law requiring the owners of dams in the Susquehanna river to make fish-ways in the same, at least in cases where they nad purchased their works from the State, is unconstitutional and void, From this decision it does not appear State, is unconstitutional and void. From this decision it does not appear that the State cannot have such ways constructed at its lown expense. But this does not seem ladvisable until concurrent legislation can be obtained with Maryland, that State holding both banks of the Susquehanda river at its mouth and for many miles above. The subject has been brought to the attention of Maryland, the Legislature of which State, at its last session, passed a law providing for the appointment of commissioners of fisheries, to report at its next session, which will not occur until next whiter. The fisheries under consideration are nearly, if not quite, as much deteriorated by the want of statusery laws for their protection as by the mechanical obstructions in the streams. The New England States and New York have commenced the experiment of fish propagation in the large streams north of us on quite an extensive scale. Their experience will be useful to us when all obstacles arising from the divided State ownership of the river shores shall have been obviated. Now Jersey appointed fish commissioners at the last session of her Legislature, and the commissioner of Pennsylvania is now in treaty with them in reference to needed concurrent legislation. The subject is receiving careful attention in both States by their delegated agents. It is hoped that Delaware will join with Pennsylvania and New Jersey in the reforms needed on the Delaware river.