

per cent. State stocks,	\$200,000 00
per cent. State stocks,	50,000 00
per cent. State stocks,	100,000 00
per cent. State stocks,	1,411 00
per cent. State stocks,	41 52
per cent. State stocks,	100,000 00
per cent. State stocks,	\$ 520,000 26

Public debt December 4, 1862, \$40,448,213 82

Towards the extinguishment of the public debt the Sinking Fund holds securities amounting to \$10,771,000, as follows:

Bonds of Sanbury and Erie Railroad Company,	\$3,300,000
Bonds of Pennsylvania Railroad Company,	7,000,000
Bonds Wyoming Canal Comp'y	281,000
	\$10,781,000

Should there be no extraordinary demand on the Treasury, there can be appropriated from the large balance now on hand and the increasing revenues, at least a million and a half of dollars during the coming year towards the payment of the public debt.

The operations of the Sinking Fund during the last year have been, as shown by my Proclamation of the 8th of September last as follows:

Amount of debt of Commonwealth reduced,	\$262,801 67
As follows, viz:	
State loans,	\$261,178 74
Interest certificates,	370 41
Domestic creditors' certificates,	64 52
Relief notes cancelled,	11 88
	\$262,801 67

It will be observed that the fiscal year ends on the 30th November, and the Sinking Fund year on the first Monday of September. This is the reason for the apparent deficiency in the amount of debt paid as stated in the Treasurer's Report and by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

Under the Act of 11th April, 1862, I appointed William McClelland, R. B. McComb, and M. Russell Thayer, Esquires, as Revenue Commissioners, who have printed a report, and will no doubt exhibit the result of their labors to the Legislature, to which I invite attention.

I refer to the reports of the State Treasurer and Auditor General for the details of the financial affairs of the Commonwealth. The reports of the Surveyor General, Superintendent of Common Schools, and State Librarian, will exhibit the state of the departments under their care.

In accordance with the Act of 10th February, 1862, the quota of this State of the direct tax of the United States, amounting to \$1,945,719 33, was on the 14th June, 1862, paid to the United States, partly by a relinquishment of a portion of the sum claimed by this State from the Government, and partly in cash, after deducting the fifteen per cent. allowed by the act of Congress for prompt payment. Pennsylvania thus paid her quota of the direct tax before any other State. There is still due to the State, principally for advances since made for transportation and equipments of volunteers, about \$300,000.

On the 20th of February last, I issued my warrant authorizing the State Treasurer to deliver to the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company one thousand of the bonds deposited with the State in conformity with the Act of May 9, 1861. On the 20th November I issued a similar warrant. Both warrants were granted after receiving reports from John A. Wright, Esq., the commissioner appointed for the purpose, that the proceeds of the bonds previously issued had been appropriated in accordance with the provisions of the law. The company has now received three of the five millions of bonds deposited in the State Treasury. With the proceeds of the bonds issued, fifty-two miles of road have been completed, making with what had formerly been finished, a total of one hundred and ninety-nine miles, leaving eighty-nine miles unfinished, of which, nearly all is graded and ready for the iron. The bonds still in the Treasury will yield an amount ample to complete the road, and thus open this important route of trade and commerce. The development of the vast mineral and other resources of our north-western counties by this means, will undoubtedly in a few years render valuable the securities of the Sanbury and Erie Railroad Company, now forming part of the Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth.

The interest on the State debt was paid in August last, in specie or its equivalent, in conformity with the existing law, at the cost of \$146,631 22 for the difference between specie and paper currency, of which the banks under the provisions of the Act of 11th April, 1862, have already refunded to the State \$140,768 32 cents.

This burden on the banks has become heavier than in my judgment ought to be borne by any special interest.

Unless the Legislature should otherwise provide it will be the duty of the State Treasurer to pay in like manner the interest which shall fall due hereafter. We should all be careful not to violate the faith or impair the credit of the Commonwealth. The serious and early consideration of the Legislature is invited to the whole subject.

In my opinion there are already more incorporated banks in the Commonwealth than are at present required for the public convenience, and I therefore recommend that no more shall be incorporated.

On the 7th of July last, a call was made by the President for three hundred thousand volunteers. This State had already supplied nearly one hundred and ten thousand men, yet her people promptly bestirred themselves to respond to this new requirement. Although it was believed that no bounties would be necessary to induce the men of Pennsylvania to enter the service of their country on such an occasion, yet as some of the neighboring States offered large bounties, it was thought not right to expose our citizens to the temptation thus afforded to them to enlist in regiments of other States. There being no appropriation for the payment of bounties, I, of course, could not direct them to be paid out of the treasury, and it was evident that to call the Legislature together and wait for the negotiation of any laws which might be authorized for the purpose, would be attended by serious delay. Under these circumstances I confidently appealed by proclamation to a people who have never faltered in the performance of any duty of patriotism, calling on them to raise in their several counties, the same necessary to insure their proper

tion of the quota of this State. This appeal was abundantly answered. Public meetings were held, and liberal amounts subscribed by individuals. In the city of Philadelphia, besides a very large fund thus raised, the municipal authorities contributed heavily from their common treasury, and in several counties the county commissioners, generally under the guidance of a few of their eminent citizens, devoted county funds to the same purpose. I recommended that these proceedings be legalized, and submit to the wisdom of the Legislature the question of what legislation would be just and proper on the whole subject that the burden of this patriotic effort may fall equally on all classes of the people throughout the State.

The result of this manifestation of public spirit was that thirty-eight new regiments and three unattached companies of infantry were raised; four other regiments, which, previous to this call, had been authorized by the War Department to be raised are still in progress of organization. On special requisitions from the War Department there have been raised and are now in service five additional regiments, and three companies of cavalry, two batteries of heavy artillery, and one battery of light artillery. A battalion of heavy artillery is now being raised by Major Joseph Roberts, U. S. A., with my assent, also under special authority of the War Department.

Early in September last the rebel army crossed the Potomac into Maryland, with the design of invading this State. On the 4th of that month I called upon the people by Proclamation to organize into companies and hold themselves in readiness to be ordered into actual service for the defense of the State. And on the 11th of that month, under authority of the President, I issued orders for fifty thousand volunteer militia, to rendezvous at Harrisburg, for the defense of the State. This call was promptly responded to, and a large force was sent forward to the Cumberland Valley and its vicinity. The first part of this force, consisting of one regiment and eight companies of infantry, moved from Harrisburg on the night of the 12th of September, and were followed by other regiments as rapidly as they could be organized and transportation provided. The command of the whole force was taken by Brigadier General John F. Reynolds, who left his corps in the army of the Potomac at my urgent request, and hurried to the defence of his native State, for which he is entitled to the thanks of the Commonwealth. Fifteen thousand of the Volunteer Militia were pushed forward to Hagerstown and Boonsboro', in the State of Maryland; ten thousand were posted in the vicinity of Greencastle and Chambersburg; and about twenty-five thousand were at Harrisburg, on their way to Washington, or in readiness and waiting for transportation to proceed thither. One regiment, at the request of General Halleck, was sent to protect Dupont's powder mills, in the State of Delaware. On the 24th of September the Volunteer Militia were discharged by me from service, having by their spirited demonstration greatly aided in preventing the intended invasion of this State by the rebels, and in compelling their sudden evacuation of the portion of Maryland which they had polluted. For these services, the thanks of the Governor of Maryland and of the Commander of the Army of the Potomac were rendered to our patriotic troops through me. Measures have been taken to procure the payment in full of the troops, and of the expenses attending their services, by the United States, in accordance with the terms of the call by the President. A large portion of the amount has already been paid. Having accompanied this force to Hagerstown, I am enabled to speak of the courage, fidelity and cheerfulness with which the men suffered unaccustomed privations, and bore the fire of the rebel force, performing with alacrity all the service that was required of them.

On the 4th of August last, a draft of three hundred thousand militia to serve for nine months, was ordered by the President under the act of Congress of 17th July, 1862, and regulations were made by his authority in pursuance of that act, under which regulations the enrolment and draft were conducted in this State, our militia laws being found to be defective. Several counties and districts having already supplied by volunteers their proportion of the quota of this State, were exempted from the draft, and time was given to enable others to raise the required number of men by voluntary enlistments. The draft was generally proceeded with throughout the State on the 16th day of October last, and the drafted men were directed to be placed in the several camps of rendezvous established under the regulations, where they were organized and elected their officers, and have since gone forward to the army in the field. The draft was eminently successful, and when the men had been marched to the rendezvous, my agency in the matter ceased, and all authority and control over the men devolved on the United States officers. I cannot but commend the people of Pennsylvania for their cheerful obedience to the requirements of the Government on this occasion. All the expenses of the draft are, of course, to be paid by the United States, and I learn that officers are now in the State charged with the settlements and payments.

Including the three months volunteers, Pennsylvania has furnished the general government, more than two hundred thousand men since the breaking out of the rebellion, besides some fifty thousand who were in the service, or actually ready for it, as volunteer militia under the call of 11th September last, making in the whole more than two hundred and fifty thousand men.

In October last, a body of rebel cavalry with a battery of artillery, suddenly crossed the Potomac and made their way as far as Chambersburg, plundering what they found of supplies useful to them and committing other depredations. They went out of the State by crossing the South Mountain, and thus reaching the Potomac below Harper's Ferry. The troops in the field were not prepared at the moment to punish this attempt on her soil, and it is to be much regretted that efficient measures could not have been taken by the army to capture the rebels on their return to the Potomac. Immediately after I received notice that this force had crossed the line of the State, I called into service the Anderson Cavalry, then encamped at Carlisle, and two companies of Regulars at that place. These troops were pushed forward in the direction of Chambersburg and South Mountain. The cavalry at Camp Curtin, consisting of one full and one imperfect regiment, were armed as

infantry and, together with 1000 companies of infantry and a battery of volunteer light artillery of Harrisburg, were held in readiness to go forward, when Major General Wool arrived and assumed the command of all the forces. He had previously ordered part of his command from Baltimore and marched the troops to Gettysburg.

The rebels marched with so much celerity that they did not encounter any of the forces of General Wool, and escaped from the State. I recommend that application be made to Congress for an appropriation to compensate our citizens for the damages which they suffered by the raid.

On the two emergencies to which I have referred, I acknowledge valuable counsel and assistance from Brigadier General Andrew Porter, of the United States Army, who thus testified his affection for his native State, and zeal in her service when threatened. And on the same, and other occasions, I am indebted to Colonel Thomas A. Scott, Colonel John A. Wright, and Colonel J. B. Parker, members of my Staff, who came promptly on my summons and served with their accustomed zeal and fidelity, without pecuniary compensation.

The militia law of this State is greatly defective, and I earnestly recommend the appointment of a commission to prepare and submit an efficient system, to be reported before the adjournment of the Legislature, so that action may be had on the subject at the present session. In the hurry of ordinary business the Legislature might not be able to give the necessary attention to the preparation of a proper measure, and events which have already occurred prove the necessity of some efficient legislation on the subject, so that our people may be adequately protected.

The State is in possession of the following Ordnance, Arms and Ammunition:

- 63 pieces of artillery, of which 22 need repairs
- 2 batteries of new cannon, consisting of 12 Griffin rifled cannon, 6 pounders, 2 caissons, and 2 battery wagons, presented to the State by the Committee of Safety of Philadelphia, in Sept. last.
- 26,492 muskets and rifles, of which 14,614 are ready for issue, 4,400 in the hands of mechanics for repairs, and the balance, having been used by the militia called out in Sept. last, require cleaning.
- 12,127 sets infantry accoutrements complete.
- 1,228 swords and sabres.
- 684 pistols.
- 1,958 rounds artillery ammunition.
- 1,522,000 rounds of ammunition for small arms.

The following arms, accoutrements and ammunition have been furnished according to law to the border counties, and to volunteer organizations formed under the Militia Act of 1861:

- 3,840 muskets and rifles with accoutrements complete, were issued to and are now in possession of border counties.
- 4,958 muskets and rifles, and 3,041 sets of accoutrements issued to and now in possession of organized companies. Also 80,000 rounds of ammunition issued to border counties and organized companies.
- 1,750 muskets and 895 sets of accoutrements, were issued to Colonel Brown and Giant's regiments on going into the service.
- 22 pieces of artillery, issued to First Pennsylvania Artillery, Colonel Charles T. Campbell, commanding, on going into the service.
- 528 sabres, 1,056 pistols and 528 sets of accoutrements, issued to organized cavalry companies.
- Showing an aggregate of 107 pieces of artillery.
- 39,045 muskets and rifles.
- 1,740 pistols.
- 1,826 sabres.
- 22,508 sets infantry accoutrements.
- 528 sets cavalry accoutrements.
- 1,603,938 rounds of ammunition.

In addition to the above, the following military property of the city of Philadelphia is reported by the "Home Guard of the city of Philadelphia, to be in its possession, viz:

- 60 20-pounder Parrot rifled guns.
- 2 10-pounder Prussian rifled guns.
- 1 10-pounder English rifled gun.
- 12 caissons for 20-pounder Parrot rifled guns.
- 1 12-pounder rifled howitzer, 750 lbs. Dahlgreen.
- 2 field carriages for ditto.
- 2 small howitzer guns, 12-pounders, with carriages, tools and stores.
- 1 12-pounder rifled howitzer, Dahlgreen.
- 1 12-pounder smooth bore, 950 lbs. Dahlgreen.
- 2 field carriages for ditto.
- 2 small 12-pounder howitzers, with carriages, tools and stores.
- 195 saddles.
- 67 saddles, with traces, breast strap, &c.
- 61 saddles, incomplete.
- 2,236 muskets and rifles.
- 230 pistols and 124 holsters.
- 1,997 rounds of shot and shell.
- 672,884 rounds musket and rifle cartridges.

The foregoing does not include the arms and equipments that have been issued to the several regiments of the Home Guard, and which are in their possession.

For the details of military operations and of statistics, I refer you to the Reports of the Adjutant General, Quartermaster General, Commissary General, Surgeon General, and the Chief of Transportation, which accompany this message.

In regard to the election of officers in the Reserve Corps and the recruitment of the regiments of that corps and of our other gallant regiments of volunteers, I propose to send a special message in a few days, as I desire to treat these subjects somewhat at large, and to submit to the Legislature some documents relating to them.

By the thirteenth section of the act of May 15th, 1861, I was authorized to draw my warrants on the treasury for a sum not exceeding twenty thousand dollars for compensation to such persons as might be required to serve the country in a military capacity. At the date of my last annual message, I had drawn from the treasury eight thousand five hundred dollars, and had paid out up to the 1st of December, 1861, six thousand four hundred dollars, when my account was settled. Since that time I have drawn two thousand dollars from the treasury. Part of which, with the balance in my hands has been expend-

ed to the payment of members of my personal staff in service when I required assistance, and in procuring information, and persons employed when the State was threatened with invasion in Sept. '62, and during the raid in October last.

An account of these expenditures will be found on file in the office of the Auditor General.

Under the act of 20th April, 1862, it is my intention to take early measures for the sale of the powder magazine in the city of Philadelphia. The powder magazine at Harrisburg is not judiciously located. A State powder magazine ought, in my judgment, to be erected on a suitable site in the vicinity of this place, and I recommend the attention of the Legislature to the subject.

In September last two batteries rifled cannon were presented to the Commonwealth by a committee of citizens of Philadelphia, through S. V. Merriek, Esq., which are now in the Arsenal in that city. I recommend that provision be made for procuring carriages, caissons and other equipments for them. The liberal donors are entitled to the thanks of the Commonwealth for their patriotic gift.

Under the joint resolutions of 28th of February, 1862, measures were promptly taken for the relief of our sick and wounded men in the field.

The wounded at Winchester, Strasburg, Front Royal, Williamsburg and Fair Oaks, and those in the corps of Major General Banks were duly attended on the field or in the vicinity by Surgeon General Smith and a corps of surgeons under his direction, and were brought into this State. The same system would have been continued, but in June last, I received a letter from the Surgeon General of the United States, representing that it was found inconvenient to the service, and must create difficulties in the regular identification of the soldiers for pay and pensions.

In compliance with his views, I was reluctantly obliged to discontinue the system, but I have not ceased to urge on the War Department the propriety of sending our sick and wounded men into the State, where they can be nursed and cared for by their friends, and have to say that at length such an arrangement was made with the authorities at Washington which it was hoped would be effective, but there has been such tardiness in putting it into practical operation, that I recommend the Legislature to invite the attention of the War Department to the subject. Our suffering men have a right to the sympathy and aid of their State, to be so rendered as not to injure the service. If the bringing them home to be attended could produce even inconvenience to that, I would not urge it. But it is cruel to leave them to the care and (I regret to say it) frequently to the neglect or worse, of strange officials, at points in the immediate vicinity of all the abundant comforts which the solicitude of their families and friends would rejoice to provide for them.

In addition to the expenses of attending and bringing home our sick and wounded as above stated, I have expended less than \$4000 in the transportation of friends of sick, killed, or wounded volunteers, and other persons sent by me for their care to the several battle-fields and hospitals, and in bringing home for instruction the bodies of those slain. The whole expense incurred under the joint resolution was five thousand one hundred and nineteen dollars and eighty-three cents, the details of which will be found in the report of the Surgeon General and of the Chief of Transportation.

I have uniformly, when applied to, allowed the expense of transportation of one person to the field to bring home the body of his friend or relation, and the expense of his return with the body. The cost of this has not exceeded \$600, which is included in the sum of less than \$4,000, above stated.

In this connection I must speak with applause of the active benevolence of our citizens, who have, without compensation, devoted their time and care to their suffering fellow-citizens, disabled by the casualties of war. Not only have many gone to the field, to administer their kind offices, but in every part of the Commonwealth thousands have applied their means and exertions to the same end; and especially have the women of Pennsylvania, obeying their true womanly instincts, shown that they are worthy to be the mothers, wives and sisters of the brave men, whom they have stimulated to their duty, and soothed and nursed in the sufferings that have ensued the performance of it.

The city of Philadelphia having patriotically offered to the United States, League Island as a donation for a Navy Yard, Congress directed a commission to report upon the availability of that site and also of New London. To the general astonishment, a majority of the commission have reported in favor of New London, but the minority has presented a report, which is fortified by the approval of the Secretary of the Navy, showing so conclusively the superiority of League Island that it is scarcely possible that Congress should hesitate to select that location.

To establish a Navy Yard for the construction of iron clad vessels at a point remote from all necessary supplies, situated on salt water, and accessible by more than one route to any enemy, who may have a momentary superiority at sea, would appear to be quite inconsistent with the wisdom of Congress, especially when a site is offered convenient to iron, coal and other necessary supplies, situated on fresh water with a sufficient depth for the draught of large vessels, and safe from hostile attack by its position.

Capt. Henry E. Wrigley, of the city of Philadelphia, at my request, and without compensation, has made a report to me on the defences of the Delaware, which I herewith transmit for information.

In July last, I received, at Pittsburg, by telegraph, an offer from the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, of a donation of fifty thousand dollars to assist in paying bounties to volunteers. I declined this offer, because I had no authority to accept it on behalf of the public, and was unwilling to undertake the disbursement of the fund in my private capacity. I have since received a letter on the subject from the company suggesting other modes of disposing of the money, a copy of which is annexed to this message.

If the Legislature should accept the donation towards the erection of an asylum for our disabled soldiers, and that the trustees appointed to superintend the erection and management of the asylum be authorized to accept such further contributions as our citizens may offer. In a well managed establishment of that kind, it is probable that the pensions to be allowed by the Government to the men, well enable

them to support themselves with comfort. By an act of Congress passed on the 20th day of July, 1862, lands were granted to the several States for the establishment, support and maintenance by such States, of at least one college for teaching such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics.

I recommend that proper provision be made by the Legislature for having the lands thus granted to this State selected, and the title made to the State, and that Congress be requested to allow the lands and their proceeds to be used by the State in the construction and support of such an asylum as I have above suggested.

The details of the operations of the common school system, during the school year that terminated on the first Monday in June, 1862, manifest severely any evil effects from the troubled state of the country. Absence of the usual degree of progress in the various departments is the only result observable. To have held its own, however, during the severe ordeal to which, in common with all our great social interests and enterprises, it has been subjected, is the strongest proof of its inherent vigor, and of the hold it possesses upon the affections as well as the judgment of the people of the State.

It has come to my knowledge that in some parts of the State a system exists of paying the wages of workmen and laborers not in money but in orders on storekeepers for merchandise and other articles. The system, by preventing all competition, leaves the men to the uncontrolled discretion of the storekeepers. It is a system most unjust and unjust, and it affects classes of useful citizens, who as they live by the proceeds of their daily labor, have not adequate means to resist it. I have no doubt that most of the difficulties which occasionally occur between employers and their workmen are due to the prevalence of this system. That every man, for a fair day's labor, should receive a fair day's wage, is but the dictate of common honesty; and while it would be most unwise for the State to interfere at all with the rate of wages, it is in my judgment incumbent on her to protect her laboring population by requiring that whatever may be the wages stipulated, they shall be so paid that the recipient may purchase necessities for himself and his family, where they can be had best and cheapest. I do most earnestly recommend this subject to the Legislature for prompt and effectual action.

I believe that the several charitable institutions to which the Legislature has been accustomed to grant aid, have been well managed during the past year.

The Wyoming Canal is still in the hands of the receiver. Certain creditors of the company having instituted proceedings in the Supreme Court for selling the canal under the mortgage, the Attorney General has intervened in the suit to oppose the making of a decree of sale. No decree has been made, and the proceedings are yet pending. Meanwhile, it being alleged that the subscribers and stockholders have paid up but a small part of the nominal capital of the company, an information has been filed in the Supreme Court by the Attorney General, to compel them to pay up the capital, or such charges and assessments as may be necessary to extinguish the debt due to the Commonwealth. This proceeding is also still pending. It is understood that the gross receipts of the canal during the last season have been about one hundred and thirty thousand dollars and the annual interest on the mortgage bonds of the company a little over fifty thousand dollars.

In pursuance of the joint resolution passed 11th April, 1862, the Attorney General has instituted proceedings on the proper cashier's bonds, to recover the money due to the Commonwealth by the Bank of Commerce at Erie, and I have employed John H. Walker, Esq., as special counsel for the Commonwealth, in the prosecution of the officers of the Bank in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Erie county.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act of 9th May 1862, an information in equity was filed by the Attorney General against the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and the Pennsylvania Coal Company. The case was argued before the Supreme Court at Saratoga, in October last.

By an Act passed on 16th May, 1862, a company was incorporated by the name of the Navy Yard, Broad street and Fairmount railway company. It being alleged that the company, instead of making a railway on the route and in the manner prescribed by its charter, is constructing a railroad of a different character by a route extending from the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad depot to the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad depot, both within the city of Philadelphia, the Attorney General has proceeded against the company by *quo warranto* for the violation of its charter, and has also filed an information for the purpose of restraining the company from proceeding in the construction of their road. Both these proceedings are now pending.

By the act of 20th March, 1813, it was provided that citizens absent from home in actual military service, might exercise their right of suffrage as if they were present at the usual places of election. This act was substantially re-enacted in the general election law passed on the 2d of April, 1839. The Supreme Court has recently decided that by reason of a phrase in the constitutional amendments of 1835, this provision has become unconstitutional. Pennsylvania has sent to the service about two hundred thousand citizens, who, by this decision, are disfranchised. This seems a hard measure—that men who testify their devotion to the country by going to the field should thereby lose the most inestimable right of a citizen. I recommend that the necessary steps be forthwith commenced to amend the constitution, so as to give the right of suffrage to the citizens who are thus excluded!

I cannot close this message without speaking of the unbroken loyalty and spirit of the freemen of Pennsylvania.—They feel that on the preservation of the Union and the suppression of the most causeless and wicked rebellion which history records, depend the honor, the interests and the whole future welfare of the Commonwealth. They will never tolerate schemes for destroying the Government of the United States, or for forming Confederacies, or any other scheme for creating general confusion and ruin, and aiding and comforting the traitors who are in arms against their country.

This State has furnished more men for the defence of our institutions, and has lost more by the casualties of war, than

any other State. She has given blood and treasure freely, and has received as much more of both as any other State. Her people intend that by the blessing of God, this rebellion shall be suppressed, and will not be tolerated for a settled purpose to be worn out by the operations or the vindictive of traitors. On the contrary, they will, (as it is right,) insist that competent Intelligence, Earnestness, Intellect and Vigor shall be employed in the public service, to preserve the Government, and to maintain the unity of the country.

A. G. CURTIN,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Harrisburg, Jan. 7, 1863.

A Good Story—How Political Prejudice was Overcome. The Hartford Times relate the following:

A Congregational Church, in a neighboring State, got so completely enlightened in one of the Presidential contests that the following attention was given to religious questions. The minister was constantly preaching, praying and exhorting upon political issues, and his sermons and laymen followed suit at the prayer and conference meetings. Finally, a worthy old farmer, one of the staunchest and best members of the church, and a firm, undeviating Democrat, was called upon to offer a prayer: "O, Lord," said he, "may I hold the Democratic party, which has deceived Thy support ever since the Jeffersonian struggle. Continue to bless that party which has, under Thy protection and providence, brought great blessings upon the Republic. If it be Thy pleasure, and I believe it will, O, carry that party through this struggle to a complete triumph. Oh, bless the opponents of Democracy personally, but utterly destroy their financial and injurious schemes, if they will do so, as I verily believe it is. Be on the side of Democracy, O, Lord, as Thou hast been, and in Thy peaceful pursuits, instead of warring wickedly, man against brother. And, O, bless these especially to free the Christian churches from the political strife and bitterness which are rending them asunder, destroying their usefulness and turning them unhappily into mere political associations. Let us hear something of Thy word and mercy on the Sabbath. We have already been plied to fulness with political fanaticism, and our minister has become a stump orator against the good old party which Thou, in Thy wisdom, hath upheld so long and so repeatedly guided to victory, and sustained in the establishment of sound measures. O, turn his mind from these things and direct his attention to his legitimate religious duties, or turn him over directly into the hands of the Abolition party and let them take care of him and provide us a true minister of the Gospel. At any rate, the present state of things cannot last. If politics are to rule, I shall claim one-half the time in behalf of the Democratic party so that there may be a fair discussion within these walls. Amen."

This was a stunner. It was the first prayer ever publicly offered in that church for the success of the Democratic party and its nominees. Though hundreds of prayers and exhortations had been made against that party, when the old man finished, there was a silence of half an hour, and the meeting then adjourned. And thus ended the political preaching in that church. From that time forward the minister attended to his Gospel duties, and left all political questions to be settled by the people outside of the church. Again the society prospered, and there was a better feeling among its members—more Christian charity, more brotherly love. The old man's earnest prayer was answered in more respects than one.

The Democratic State Convention will be held at Harrisburg on Wednesday the 17th day of June next, to nominate a candidate for Governor, and also a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, in the place of Judge Lowrie, whose term expires next December.

REV. COMMISSIONER.—John T. Hoover, Esq., of Bellefonte has been appointed Revenue Commissioner, from this Judicial District. The Board meets some time in February next.

Relief Notice.

THE BOARD OF RELIEF for the county of Clearfield, will meet at the Commissioners' office, on Wednesday and Thursday the 25th and 26th days of January, A. D. 1863.

The Board of Relief have directed that the wife of the soldier must appear before the Board and produce her own statement detailing names of soldier, regiment and company; who enlisted; the number of children, with age and sex of each; the township in which they resided at the time of enlistment; and their present residence; and that she is without the means of support for herself and children, who are dependent upon her.

Two witnesses of credibility, from the township in which she resides, must also be produced whose certificates, errors to before the Board, must set forth that the applicant is the person she represents herself to be; that the statement of the number and age of her family is true; that she is in destitute circumstances, and her family in actual want; and that all the facts set forth in her application are just and true.

Forms containing these regulations can be obtained at the office of the Board of Relief, upon application is made and the witness appears.

Witness of the applicant, properly proven, will excuse personal attendance.

W. M. S. BRADLEY, CLK.
Jan. 7, 1863.

JOSEPH R. MMURRAY
Merchant,
AND DEALER IN LUMBER,
New Washington, Clearfield County, Pa.
December, 3rd, 1862, ly

MEAT MARKET!
I occupy the basement of the Clearfield House on the corner of Market and Front streets, Clearfield, Pa.

All kinds of meat constantly kept on hand. The public are respectfully invited to call and acquaint themselves with our terms and prices.
Dec. 31, 1862.

STRAYHEIFER.—Came to the premises of the subscriber in Lawrence township, about the first of November last, a Spring Cal and white spotted. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take her away, or she will be disposed of according to law.
MATTHEW OGDEN.
Dec. 31, 1862.—p1.

CAUTION.—All persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing a certain note of TWENTY-FOUR Dollars and SIXTY Cents, on of A. Weilmann to Samuel Anker, dated Nov. 2d, 1867. The undersigned hereby gives notice that he will not pay the same unless compelled by due process of law.
AUGUSTUS WEITMAN.
Dec. 31, 1862.