

## CITY OF LANCASTER, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1854.

## VOL. LIV.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE. [COL To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly.

GENTLEMEN :--- A beneficent Providence has GENTLEMENT.—A beneficient Providence nas favored the people of our Commonwealth with a high degree of health and general prosperity du-ring the year just closed, and with many other 'causes of pleasure and gratitude. Humbly ac-knowledging these blessings, let us ask His di-operations on the Columbia Railroad exhibit an 'ned irection in the discharge of our official ob-

gations. It affords me unaffected delight to welcome the Representatives of the people to the seat of government, and rely for a time upon the aid of the condition of affairs is entirely unsatisfactory. government, and rely for a time upon the aid of the condition of affairs is entirely unsatisfactory, their combined wisdom in the administration of The system of management heretofore practiced public affairs ; as it is also a grateful task to per-form the constitutional injunction that requires the Executive to "communicate to the General rmation of the State of the Com-Assembly i monwealth," and make such suggestions and re-commendations as the welfare of the people and the exigencies of the times niay scem to demand; and to the discharge of this obligation I now proceed.

The receipts of the treasury for the year 1853, exclusive of loans, and including the actual bal, ance in the treasury on the first day of December 1852, (being \$671.037 72), amounted to the sum of \$5,952,474 47.

The payments for the same period, exclusive of loans and other extraordinary expenditures, make a total sum of \$4,134,048 47, being \$1,-818,326 10-less than the receipts. Of this ex-cess, \$505,057 55 was paid to the Commission-ers of the Sinking Fund, and \$589,000 towards the payment of old debts and the construction of work on the North Branch canal and Port-

age railroad, being part of the temporary loans authorized by the Act of the nineteenth of April ast : which, together with the balance in the treasury applicable to the redemption of outstand-ing loans, reduces the actual balance on the first day of December last, to the sum of about six hundred and twenty five thousand dollars, to be used in the payment of the February interest.

The receipts for the year 1854, including the balance in the treasury on the first of December, 1853, may, in my opinion, be safely estimated at \$5,846,417 34.

The expenditures for the same period, including \$250,000 for the payment of old debts on the public works and \$300,000 for the sinking fund, should not, and if proper care be taken, will not exceed the sum of \$4,500,000, leaving a balance in the treasury on the first of Decen ber. 1854, of \$1,340,417 34. Deducting from his \$625,000, the amount that should remain the treasury to meet the interest due February 1, 1855, and we have a surflus revenue of over 00.000

700,000. It is thus made apparent to my mind, that the treasury will have the ability, during the coming year, to radeem the entire smount of the tempo rary loans now outstanding, and pay the debts to which I have already referred. But no additional draffs should be made upon it, without pro-vision being first made for their payment. At this time of my induction into office, the

inbilities of the State were as follows, to wit : The second secon 4 \$2,314.023 5 36,704,458 0

Total llabilities, Dec. 1. 1851, Add loan of April 2. 1852, for the comple-tion of the North Branch canal,

\$41,004,457 48

From which take the following payme To the sinking fund, \$0\$1.469 SU Incerest on outs'g certificates, 50,752 91

the state deviation of releve the people from tax-ation. These are great objects indeed, and should; as I have no doubt they will, receive your earnesi consideration; their realization, however, must depend mainly upon the price obtained. Should the interest on the public debt to be liquidated by the sale be less than the net profits encouraging state of affairs, as they also do on the North Branch canal and Delaware division

arising from the works, then it would be talse economy to sell. In that case the measure would not be one of relief to the people, but must necessarily increase their yearly burthens. And what reason is there to suppose that more can be obtained? Capitalists, it will be con-ceded when weighing the energing of a pur on the other divisions of the canal they are tolon that complicated and difficult work, would ceded, when weighing the question of a pur chase, will make the nett profits on their invest seem to demand a speedy and radical change .---chase, will make the nett profits on their invest-ments the basis of all their calculations. They will look at the past operations of these works, in connection with their prospects in the future --carefully considering every fact and circum-stance bearing on their real value; and it is But the Executive, under the laws as they now are, having no control or direction over the public works, it is right and proper that I should leave the explanation of the details of their workings and management to the people's agents, who have charge of the whole subject. I am, however, still entirely sanguine that with scarcely necessary to remark will only buy when perfectly satisfied that they have the best of the bargain. In attempting to determine the question of value, it will be perceived, therefore

the necessary change in the system of managequestion of value, it will be percerved, therefore that the inquiries, examinations and motives of buyer and seller must necessarily be identical. At is apparent then, that the effect of compe-tition on the value of these works: the inroads which may be made by science and mechanic arts on every description of transportation fa-cilities now in existence; the casualities that may result to them from the elements; in short, the mutability of human structures, and the duties of government. must constitute mainly ment, the public improvements can be made yield a very handsome revenue to the treasury ; indeed, even for the last year, had the exper on the Mountain division been confined to a reasonable sum, the net revenues would have reach ed near one million of dollars. Relieved from

these absorbing domands by the construction of the new road, or in some other way, and we shall realize, by the year 1855, a net profit equal duties of government, must constitute, mainly he considerations in favor of a separation beto the interest on twenty-two millions or more of On the other hand will be presented the hopes the public debt. The work on the railroad to avoid the inclined

of future business and increased profits to the of luture business and increased profils to the treasury, predicated upon the growth of the Commonwealth; her vast and varied resources, and the influence of these upon transportation within her limits; the increasing demand for hacilities to transmit.her products to market; the endless consumption and unlimited supply of her great staples of coal and iron, and their proxim-uy to her works at all paints; the colored new planes on the Allegheny mountains, has not pro-gressed as rapidly as has been anticipated. It is n of the engineer, however, as will appear on reference to his report, that should the necessary means be promptly furnished, the en-tire line could be completed during the coming year. The grading for a double track is finished ity to her works, at all points; the charged pro-ducts of agriculture, and the rich variety of manufactures, so rapidly multiplying in every part of the State, constituting at once a home business, with ages of duration before it, which on hymer against one distance and the state of the state. with the exception of four miles, and the cost of this balance, together with the expenses of lay-ing down a single track, is estimated at six hunlred and five thousand dollars, in addition to the no human agency can disturb, and which must contribute at all times a fair income to the govvalue of the old track. The engineer also estimates the annual saving, as compared with the ermment. In addition to these considerations against a sale, may be urged the necessity which would be presented for the creation of a number expenditures on the old road, on a business equal to that of 1852, at two hundred and ninety thousand dollars. He also states that the ty incusand deliars. He also states that the of corporations, having community of interest road between plane No. 4 and Hollidaysburg, and feelings with similar bodies already in existence, and the danger of thus inducing the organization of a controling power in the Comwith a double track, will cost about eight hun dred thousand dollars less than the Pennsylvania

.ilroad, for a like distance.

pletion of the new road.

198,200 0 650,163 0

204.680 20

\$40,154,457 48 850 000 0

\$381.752 1 398,000 ( 621,838 (

\$2143,916 31

monwealth. But it is said that companies can manage Viewed in every aspect, it must be confessed these works with greater skilland economy than the State, and for that reason they would be most valuable in the hands of the former, and that this branch of the public affairs presents an embarrassing alternative. The prompt completion of the new work will involve the expendisale. It must be confessed, that it is to these considerations, and these only, that we can look ture of more capital than the State can command without resorting to farther temporary loans'; whilst on the other hand, the maintenance of the for arguments to sustain the idea that the State can gain anything, pecuniarily, by a sale of her improvements. That the difference in the exold road, at a cost of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum, is quite out of the question. Its exhausting domands on the treaspenses of the management of the works would amount to a fair per centage, in the estimation of some capitalists. I have no doubt; but it is not so great as estimated by some. Indeed ury must be speedily obviated, and for my part I can see no mode of doing this except by the comcertain portions of our own works are now well At the time I assumed the duties of my pres-ent station I found this work in progress of conmanaged, and it is hoped and believed that such

changes can be made in the system of direction cow practised by the State, as to lead to gen-eral skill and economy. But the main question will be the minimum struction; the western slope up to the summit having been placed under contract during the having been placed under contract during the summer of 1851. On referring to the reports of the Canal Commissioner and the engineer, the only data which I could properly consult as to the policy of the measure, I found that the total cost of a single track was estimated at \$1,015, 000. The materials on the old read were valued

The materials on the old road were valued anticipated from the results of the past. To these at \$248,650, which together with the appropria-tions previously made, reduced the amount to be we may look for a moment. or the years 1522 and 1523 and and even adding a larger amount for errors in the estimates, and the enormous expenditures of the old road in full view, I could not doubt the expediency and economy of the measure. But the unusual advance in the price of labor, mate-terial and subsistence, added to the obvious errors in the estimates; has changed the entire aspect of this enterprise. The sum of \$650,000 has been appropriated since that time, and over six hnndred thousand dollars is still required with the value of the old road, to bring the line into use. The estimated cost of completing the North Branch, tathe period already named, was \$772,000. One million of dollars has since been paid, and a sum exceeding one hundred and fif-ty thousand dollars is still required to pay for its completion. With such unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexponded demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unexpected demands unceressary and proper. Avenues of this kind thread the treasure date prof years, it would not be unreasonable to expect an increase of the liabilities of the State; but it is alike gratifying and astonishing to know, that this has not occurred. The Junction canal, extending from the New York line to Elmira, will be ready for business during the present month, and the State work from Pittston to the dam at Athens, a distance of ninety-three miles, has been completed. The only unfinished part of the work lies between Athens and the State lime, a space of about two ninety-three miles, has been completed. The only unfinished part of the work lies between Athens and the State lime, a space of about two should we entertain the proposition to part with the public works by the construction of a joint stock company, as heretofore repeatedly pro-posed, by which the Common wealth is to re-main a large shareholder, but the direction to be in the hands of individuals or corporations asso-ciated with her in the ownership. I have always received with bis as a most deproprise and inside and a half miles, the construction of which was delayed by an effort of the Canal Commissionrs and the Governor, under an act of Assembly, p negotiate with the Junction canal company completion. But even this section. I am regarded this as a most dangerous and insidiou ssured, will be ready in ample time for the regarden this as a most chargerous and institutes measure. If the proposition to sell be seriously entertained, under the present condition of the money market, it should be based on the idea of a bona fide sale, for a full "compensation, in exchange for the bonds of the State, and under ring trade. These works will complete the last link in ontinuous water communication between the Chesapeake bay and the northern lakes. The such salutary reservations and restrictions as the struggle for this achievement has been long and nterests of the people may demand. arduons, covering nearly a quarter of a century. But the triumph is still a brilliant one, and must nterests of the people may demand. But it is urged by many that the State's sys-em of managing the public works is susceptible of improvement—that much can be done by udicious reforms to sugment the receipts to the be cause of gratification to the people of the entire State. Most auspicious and promising is it tor the enterprising inhabitants of Northern Pennsyl-vania, to whose untiring efforts its final consumtreasury, and facilitate the business of trans-portation; and, as much of this system results from positive law, it may not be deemed offici-ous on my part to make suggestions on the submation may be mainly attributed. Through this channel, in the early part of next season, in a special message, communicated to the and during ach succeding years of next statistical will send greating, to the people of a neighbor-ing State—the evidence of fraternal affection— the assurance of political fidelity, and the bles-General Assembly, soon after my induction into office, I advocated the policy of making cash payments for labor and materials, and the interoffice, I advocated the policy of making cash payments for labor and materials, and the inter-diction by law of the creation of debt by the officers on the public works, and made alluaion to other radical defects in the system, which could scarcely be reached by the Canal Board. To some of these I shall now brieffy allude. In the first place, it is impossible to avoid the creation of debts, if the appropriations be insuf-ficient to meet unavoidable expenditures. The business or transportation and travel on these ing state—the evidence of fraternal affection—of ges and expenses; and showing, that if no new improvements had been in progress, two millions, at least, of the public debt could have been paid during the last two years. In addition to the extraofdinary expenditures, there was paid out of the treasury during said period, in pursuance of laws passed prior to 1852; for the State Lun-atic Asylum, \$70,700; for the publication of the Pennsylvania Archives and Colonial Records, \$23,163 52; for the irr provement of the State penitentiaries, \$25,000; for the publication of Professor Rogers' Geological Survey, \$16,000; for the preparation of the registration books, \$12,190 19; to the Sugar Valley and Deer Creek turnpike company, \$8,000. I will be readily perceived, therefore, that should the appropriations hereafter be confined strictly to the ordinary expenses of government, we shall have an annual supplicable to the part, ing one million of dollars, applicable to the part, ment of the funded debt. That such should be the policy of the State, after the completion of the works now in progress, will not be doubted. The importance of such ecdnowy in wiew of the the most satisfy the most skeptical as to the yate it ing one million of dollars, after the completion of the works now in progress, will not be doubted. ncient to meet unavolatione expensionaries. I ne business or transportation and travel on these highways must be kept up, whether the expen-ses be paid or not. These circumstances have defeated, to some extent, the administration of the law of May. 1852, requiring cash payments and prompt settlements by the officers on these works, and prohibiting the creation of debts— This result, Iregret, for I am still decidedly of the opinion, that no other charge in the system

commerce and trade. The expenditures for the year, according to the report of the Chail Commerce, and that believe to a fair profit, and that selecter, according to the report of the Chail Commerce, and that believe to a fair profit, and that selecter, according to the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce, and that neither, principal and the report of the Chail Commerce and the report of the chailed to the sum of \$1,177,742 and the second on the report and the report and general and the report of the construction of \$1,177,742 and the second on the report of the construction of the cost in the subject belongs should not be infringed (for the outper to chailed and the report indeed, and the first of the cost interest indeed, and the report of the cost interest indeed, and the interest indeed, and the interest indeed, and the interest indeed and the report of the cost interest indeed and with me, is equivalent to a fair profit, and that it is eminently so in the repair and general au-pervision of railroads and canals. This shift-ing practice has had the effect of making here works a species of Normal schools for the edu-cation of engineers and supervisors to take charge of other improvements. This instabil-tity results from the recognition of places on the State works, as political offices, instead of bringing to bear on their control and direction, our notions of rotation and short tenure in of-fice. These ideas are sound and republican, and should never be disregarded, in reference to the odifices appertaining? to our political or

to the offices appertaining to our" political organization as a government; but it must be conceded that a mere business operation to make money, in competition with the creatures of government and the efforts of individuals, was not contemplated as an office in the organ-ic law of the State; and hence, it is not strange that the principles proper for one do not apply usefully to the other. What, I would inquire, would be the condition of the Reading railroad, the Pennsylvania railroad and other similar works, were they required to change their en-gineers and superintendents, at short periods,

gineers and superintendents, at snort periods, A large number of laws of the companies and bring strangers into their employ? The source of a second state of the companies answer may be readily discovered in the State's, to construct plank roads. This object, right and experience. I have long been of opinion that in reference to all the subordinates of the Can-la Commissioners, changes should not be perial Commissioners, changes should not be peri-odical and prefixed, but should be made as deways on proper conditions. In former communications I have Held the doctrine, that but little legislation of any kind (was essential to the ends of mere business enterodical and prenned, but should be made as de-manded by exigencies of the public service:-The delinquent in any one of the obligations of duty should be dismissed at once, and the only guarantee of continued employment should be found in the superiority of the serwas essential to the ends of more business enter-prise-to promote objects understood by all, and within the reach of moderate means; and that most cortainly, whatever might be deemed ex-pedient should be general in its character. That the Legislature had no moral right to grant vices rendered the State. All other rules for appointment and dismissal should be speedily

appointment and dismissal should be specify obliterated from the system. The present special advantages to one citizen and deny them to another; and I have declined to approve any practice deprives the State, to a great extent, of that incentive to excel, which actuates all act on this subject, where the corporators were not made liable in their individual estates for the debia of the corporation. 'No clearer evidence, it seems to me, can be men where character, position and emoluments are at stake. Of course, my suggestions in reference to the importance of experience will furnished to show that much of this special leg not be understood as applying to all the agents on the works; for instance, it requires but lit-

furnished to show that much of this special leg-islation is sought and is valuable only because it is special, than is found in its own history. It will be remembered by many of you, that dur-ing the administration of Governor Shunk, numerous applications were made for special acts to incorporate manufacturing companies, and that the Governor refused to give his assent to their passage. In 1849, a general law to en-course manufacturing lin pravailions tle experience to make a collector, but it has and always will require this to render an agent efficient in the construction and repair of railroads and canals, to foresee exigencies and give harmonious direction to the current oper-ations of this complicated branch of public to their passage. In 1849, a general law to en-courage manufacturing, liberal in its provisions, was adopted, and you will be astonished to learn service. In short, the management wants the service. In short, the management wants the application of business organization and prin-ciples. A system of books should supplant the use of check rolls, and the operations be so systematized that the receipts and expendihat at this time there are not a dozen companie. that at this time there are not a dozen companies in existence under it. During the sessions of 1852 and 1853, much time was consumed in the consideration of spe-cial acts to incorporate mining companies. Near the close of the last session a general law on the subject, applicable to all the counties in the State except six, was passed, and although this law is as favorable in its terms as the spe-cial actsolicited, but a single application has been made under it for mining purposes; and even in this instance operations have not been commenced. These are significant facts, and tures of each month, as the senson passes by,

ould be announced to the public Confusion, obscurity and redundancy in our Confusion, obscurity and requindancy in our annual volume of laws-weatious inroads upon private rights-attempts at the usurpa-tion of the power and consequent strivings and litigation, are, in my opinion, the legitimate fruits of our system of special and onnibus legislation. Indeed, the truth of these prop-ositions is too'palable to admit of argument. It is manifested in overy wears encourse, and commenced. These are significant facts, and in my opinion will fully justify the rejection of all special acts on the subject in the faura. I can see no reason why this general law should not be extended to the balance of the State, if is manifested in every year's experience, and in some instances the government, as a conse-quence. has been forced into the humiliating position of becoming a litigant against her own the people desire to have it ; but no special ac to organize companies within the counties not included in the general law, can receive my ap-provai, and such as are now in my possession of this character, will be returned without the Excreatures. Its demoralizing influence is marked and admitted on all hands and imperiously demands an efficient remedy. That the pres ent General Assembly may be distinguished ecutive sanction. and blessed for applying the axe at the root of the evil, and marking the era of its final ter-mination, is my sincere hope. A prolific source of mischief consists in the At the date of my last annual message, pro-

beedings were pending the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, to test the right of the Frank-A prolific source of mischief consists in the practice of passing a number of laws, entirely lissimilar in their characteristics; in the same bill, or in what is familiarly transma as the "Omnihus System" The inevitable, and in-deed, the frequently lamented effect of this mode of legislation, has been to facilitate the passage of bills through the General Assombly, and to secure the sanction of the Executive it bat the common wealth could be joined to without the test the common wealth could be guarded against with the ut-debts shouly be guarded against with the ut-should be poper opportunities, could render great ser-senbly. It is my duty to inform you that \$528,351 haw, but [the preliminary injunction prayed without that the commonwealth could was refused, on the nells of circulation. Under the pravisions of neget upon revisions of without that critical examination so indispen-sable to a clear comprehension of their true im port. In illustration of the difficulties which this system, in the payment of the enrolment tax upon private laws. In bills, such as I have already described, may be found a number of items, some taxable and others not, and the bill must be enrolled under its proper number and title, and the first tax be paid One party in terested in this legislation may pay his share another will refuse to do so, and a third, o seeing the amount of the tax, concludes that he can live without the law; and thus it has feneral has recently taken measures to obta been no uncommon thing for persons to be for ced to pay tax on laws in which they have no, interest, in order to avail themselves of what

to railroad stocks in, varions parts, of the promote all the great interest of the American State. These applications were invariably people. A practical, safe and afficient mode of pressed on this place of promoting public con... venience and the general, prosperity, and a number of laws of this character were adopted. Bo far as these apply to ditigs and boroughs, their operation has been rather successful; but when applied to contines it has certainly instances, and in others leading to violent the of a successful; fects apon our commercial operations with other been much less so; falling entirely in some instances, and in others leading to violent partiel consideration in the Legislature it is ob-jectionable, because of the great space it annu-lally occupied in the journals and laws. I am aware, however, that it has been suggested that the laws of the United States provide that the place for holding the members of Congress shall be fixed by the Legislature of the several States, and that, therefore, the end in view can-not be attained. Th' answet to this objection, it may be remarked, that the Legislature having in other instances delegated doubtful powers, uch as the right to make 'paper' morey, it is been much less so; failing entirely, in some instances, and in others leading to violent controversies amongst the people, destructive to the value of the municipal bonds thus created. Viewed in every aspect, as a mere question of expediency; the experiment al-ready made would seem to weigh heavily against the policy of such subscriptions; in-deed, I have no hesitation in saying that the aversion I have always entertained towards this principle, and especially is extraosion to counties, has been greatly strengthened by this experience; and we should now, it seems to me, as a prudent; people, profit by this uch as the right to make paper money, it is scarcely necessary to raise the question of the right to delegate a function so expressly confer-red. A large number of laws of the last session to me, as a prudenti poople, profit by this lesson and svoid the practice in future. Al-ways doubling the policy of such subscrip-tions, and declaring my views freely against them, I. have not felt required to interpose the Threadulys negativity in the form

them, i. have not reit required to interpose the Ercoutive prerogative against the judg-mant of the people directly interested in the question; or in other words, to judge for-oltizens of a particular lecality on a subject relating merely to their pecuniary interests, or to resist the wishes of their immediate reentatives. In a communication addressed to the General

Assembly in March, 1852, on this subject, I Assembly in March; 1852, on this subject, I remarked, "that the power to subscribe should never be exercised by municipal corporations, unless the interests of the people represented by such authority are directly and certainly identified with the project on which the money is to be expended. The operation of the prin-ciple may be equitable, when applied to the people of a city or town, whose interests are identical, but when applied to the people of a county, it may not be so. On the coldrary it may prove most unjust and concession-methy may prove most unjust and oppressive-sub-jecting the people to burthens in the shape of taxes for the construction of public improvements, from which they may never realize benefit, direct or remote. The people in one section of a county may derive valuable advantages from the construction of a public work, whilst those of another section, equally taxed for the payment of the interest and principal of the dath, so contracted, may possibly realize no benefit at all." It is to these effects that may be "attributed the violent contests that have grown up in certain counties. to which have grown up in certain counties, to which

have grown up in certain countres, to which the principle has been extended. In the State of Ohio, where this dangerous practice also prevailed, a constitutional pro-hibition has been deemed necessary by the people, and municipal subscriptions cannot now be made, even with the assent of those affected by the messure. The experience of the State as Lhow lawned was allo accided that State, as I have learned, was alike against the practice of making improvements in this way, and that in the end it became inefficient, through the disposition of capitalists and others to rely alone upon municipal corporations for the means of constructing public improvements; I am decidedly of the opinion, that a similar desision would and should be made by

signifar decision would and should be made by the people of this State, when the proper op-portunity is presented. In the meantime, this insidious and dangerous mode of contracting debts shouly be guarded against with the ut-most yigliance. I shall indulge the hope, that all fature applications for legislation of this character may be rejected by the General As-

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give the people the full benefit of its salutary ef-fects apon our commercial operations with other hations must be common to the whole country. The efforts of a single member of the Confederation however thorough and well directed, can achieve, but partial success. Even in a local point of view they can scarcely exercise a control influence. For instance, vacuums in the channels of paper circulation in one State are too liable to be supplied by the issues of others, interdicted, though the circulation of the latter may be, by positive law. These considerations have sugge portance of a simultaneous action of the States on the subject, and it has occurred to my mind, that a convention of delegates from each, appointed by the respective legislatures, might be a good mode of directing public attention to the subject, and seing efficient action.

In the meantime, our State can take the lead in this work, as 'she can also carefully restrict the evil tendencies of the present system, by requiring the institutions now in existence to more frequent settlements, and render more efficient her presen system, by confining the amount of banking capital, as a basis of paper issues, to the lowest po consistent with the demands of legitimate business. I believe the amount we now have comes up to this standard, and that the best interests of the people require that it should not be increased. Efforts, extensive, energetic and highly com-

mendable, are being made in all parts of the coun-try to advance the interests of agriculture, by the dissemination of correct information concerning this great pursuit, and in this way bestow up the farmer the blessings of a scientific, as well as a greatly refined practical understanding of the no-ble work in which he is engaged.

Pennsylvania, so eminently an agricultural State and therefore so deeply interested, cannot be indifferent to the merits of this enterprise. Her best energies may wisely be exercised to secure its suc-cess. Already much has been accomplished in the way of removing prejudices heretofore extensively hed against any system of agricultural' education, and by the extinguishment or doubts as to the utility, or even the practicability, of applying the principles of science to the business of farming. The belief that these principles can be so ap-Lie beitet that mese principles can be so ap-plied, I am gratified to perceive is rapidly gaining popular favor. Indeed, the experiments which have been made in this country and in Europe, clearly establish the utility of scientific farming, and in

both, the necessity for such a system is manifest. A proper understanding of the constituent ele-ments of the soil-the influence of these in the production of vegetable matter-the means of maintaing these elements in their original strength -the nature of stimulants for the soil, and their proper use-the quaitity of seeds, and the breed of animals, make up the main features of this sys-tem. These subjects will constitute an agreeable, and I have no doubt, a highly advantageous study the tarming commonity

In my last annual message I suggested the probe paid a moderate salary, and whose labors should be given to the State and County societies. I still

of the relief issues of many, lot in the chan-existence, and (continue to pollute the chan-nels of circulation. Under the provisions of the act of April last, \$121,512 of these notes, of a less denomination than five dollars, have been obscieled, and the whole amount can, maticipated, nor is it sufficiently so to meet the demands of theburblic weal. I respectfully suggest, therefore, that the law be so amended as to make it-the dhty of the State Treasurer ed by the advocates of the proposed institution, will commend the subject to your favorable con-sideration. It is believed that such an institution substantiation is believed that such an institution can be successfully organized under the auspices of the State and County societies. A highly useful institution has recently been organized at Phifadelphia; under the auspices of liberal and patriotic citizens of that city and viinberai and pairiotic cutzens of that city and vi-cinity, in pursuance of an act of the last session, named The Polytechnic College of Pennsylvania, in which the education of youth in a practical knowledge of mining, manufacturing and the me-chanic arts is united in the ordinary literary studies. Surely, as much cau be done to impart a practical understanding of the pursuit of the farmer.

Total amt, of funded debt at this time, \$40,272,235 0 To meet this apparent increase of \$117,777 53 of the public debt. it should be observed that, h the cancellation of six per cent. bonds, we have a saving of \$20,000 annually to the treasury which is equivalent to a virtual payment of \$400,000 of the five per cont. bonds. The amount thus saved will be a permanent resource without making any exaction from the people and constitute a substantial addition to the side ing fund. It will be a virtual reduction public debt to the amount of \$282,222.33 The floating liabilities and current demand upon the treasury, at the period I have indicated

were as follows : were as follows: Damages, balances on contracts, and for labor and materials on the public works prior to January, 1852, and since paid, as appears on the books of the Auditor General, Temporary loans, Unpaid appropriations,

\$1.401.090 Total, floating liabilities of the C wealth, and current demands upon the treasury at this time, are 2 Railroad and canal debts, \$827,734 00 \$827,734 00 Cemporary loans, Capald appropriations, 590,000 00 805,695 00 1,223,429

Difference between the two periods, \$177,661 15 It will thus appear that the floating liabiliti are \$177.661 15 less than when I assumed the duties of my present station. It should be re-marked that floating debt, as shove stated, is no new thing. It has always existed to a grea or less degree, but has not issually been exhibit ted in this form. A balance of unpaid appro-priations is unavoidable, and has not been so mall for many years, as at present.

During the years 1852 and 1853, the follow-ing appropriations and payments the been made, towards the construction of new improvements :

For re-laying the north track of the Col-\$355,500

umbia rairoad, For the construction of a new road to avoid the inclined planes on the Alle-gheopy mountains. 656,034 gheny mountains, For the completion of the Western reser-

52,380,41 For the North Branch canal. 1,000,000 0 For the new locks on the Delaware division, 80,000 0

Total.

From the foregoing figures it is apparent that the operations of the treasury have exceeded our most sanguine expectations, yielding over a million of dollars annually above the ordinary charges and expenses; and showing, that if no new

the works now in progress, will not be doubted. The importance of such economy in view of the the works now in progress, will not be doubted. The importance of such economy in view of the great end to be attained—the liquidation of the public debt—and consequent relief of the people from taxation for State purposes, is too manifest for argument. Entertaining these views, I could not big my assent to any new schemes of improvement by the State. The operations on the public works for the

improvement by the State. The expediency of selling the public works The operations on the public works for the year just closed do not present a very flatte ring picture, so far as to relates to net revenue. The aggregate amount of business was larger by and the gross receipts amounted to the sum of \$1,922,495 33, being an excess of but \$35,683 tions incident to and growing out of the prope-\$21,022,495 33, being an excess of but \$35,683 tions incident to and growing out of the prope-state of a solution of a solution of a solution of the solution of a so toms incident to and growing out of the considera-tomage without a corresponding increase of re-ceipts, is the consequence of a very great redu tion in the rate of tolls, a measure, in the opinion of the Canal Commissioners, demanded by pub-lic policy; and it may be said that whatever has been lost to the treasury was given to external

This result, iregret, for I am still decidedly of the opinion, that no other change in the system is so likely to beget economy, purity and effi-ciency in their general direction. For the last year, however, this law was strictly carried out on some of the divisions, and it is sincerely de-sized that hereafter the practice may be extend-ed to all. I need not discuss the consequences of the custom of making data on the public workscustom of making debts on the public works-its errors are too palpable to need refutation by argument; and I shall only repeat what I sub-gtanually said to the General Assembly on a

stantially said to the General Assembly on a former occasion, that in addition to the opportu-nity it afforded for extorion off the State, if not actual fraud upon the treasury, the idea, that officers, for the time being, should be silowed to scatter the credit of the Commonwealth broadcast, to be discovered and redeemed, at some future period, by their successors, is a monstrosity in the economy of public affairs. There assems to be some numeribuity if nut The expediency of selling the public works There seems to be some plausibility, if not actual truth, in the allegation, that the State's

licy; and it may be said that whatever has and incorporating boroughs, the courts' have universe in this and incorporating boroughs, the courts' have universe in the affirmative have distinct' ideas as to what prived her of the benefit of experience in this and incorporating boroughs, the courts' have universe in the second the price should be, and that unless such consid. Work; and this, in any business you will agree limited power; and in the matter of welling re-

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the Legislature had expressly granted. Such a state of affairs is scarcely consistent with the a state of affairs is scarcely consistent with the dignity of a great State, and certainly demand cating not only the propriety, but necessity for prompt and decisive legislative action, as efficient remedy.

Some of my predecessors have urged the General Assembly to change this system, and in several previous communications, I have suggested the propriety and justice of passing each proposition separately, at least so far as the obline. Indeed, the highest judicial tribunal in the State has expressed the opinion, that no ects were dissimilar. But the evil still exists, and I am deeply sensible of the difficulty which such authority can be found in the charter of the Franklin cenal company; and in my opin-ion, the grant should be made hereafter on such conditions only, as will protect and adhe application of a prompt and effectual remy must always present to the General Assemedy must always present to the tremeral Assem-bly. After much reflection on the magnitude of this evil—its vexatious inroads upon private rights, and its demoralizing tendency upon the interests of the people, and the more elevated purposes of legislation, I have determined to vance the interests of the people of Pennsylva-nia, so far as they may be involved in the subject. It so happens that Pennsylvania holds the key to this important link of connec-tion between the East and West, and I most operate with the General Assembly in the pplication of the most efficient means which unhesitatingly say, that where no principle heir wisdom may devise for its removal ; but the meantime, as a restraining part of the of amity or commerce is to be violated, it is the right and duty of the State to turn her law-making power, I must beg leave to be in-dulged in claiming the privilege of considering each subject of legislation separately, and on It may be said that a restriction that would

its own merits, as contemplated by the spirit of the Constitution. Henceforth, therefore, bills containing a variety of subjects of legislation. dissimilar in their character and purpe . 198. CAT not receive the sanction of the present Brecutive.

tive. Another branch of the evil, and if possible a still greater one, consists of special and local legislation. It is to this practice, that we are mainly indebted for an annual volume of laws of mainty indected for all atmost voltage of raws of most unseemly dimensions, and for a spearatie code for nearly every locality in the State. The rempdy for this must be found in the adoption of a few more "general laws, and the rigid ad-ministration of those already in existence...-Special acts, you will agree with me, should in o instance be passed where the object con be to instance be passed where the object can be eached under general laws.

reached under general laws. The law of 1791 and its several anpplements make provision for the creation and amendment of corporations for literary, charitable and reli-gious purposes, and to create baneficiary socie-ties and fire engine and hose companies, through the instrumentation he instrumentality of the Attorney General a the Supreme Court. The act of the thirteenth of October, 1829, extended this power to the courts of the several counties. The acts of 1836. and 1838 make provision for the association of

and 1835 make provision for the association of individuals, through the instrumentality of the Atorney Genneral and the Governor, for the is purpose of manufacturing iron from mineral coal. It in addition to these acts, the law to encourage manufacturing; passed in 1849, and its supple-ments, provide for associations for the purpose of manufacturing woollen, conton, flar and silk goods, or for making iron; glass, salt; paper, lumber, oil from rosin, mineral 'paints, artificial alate, and for printing and publishing; and the supplements of 1853 extends its provisions, in a most every description.

ground / that the Commonwealth could not under the law, give security for costs! The effect of this decision was to place the privi-leges plaimed by the company within the con-trol of the Legislature. In anticipation of this result, y had suggested to the General Assembly the propriety of taking charge of these valua-ble rights, and so far as might be practicable, suggest, therefore, that the law be so amended as to make it the daty of the State Treasurer without the exercise of an illiberal principl render this important link of communication be tween the sea-board and the great West, sub to retain from time to time, as near as pracservient to the interests of the people of Penn-sylvania. The subject was considered, but ticable, the amount, in relief notes, necessary to meet the entre demands of the enking fund. I also recommend the repeal of the act of April 10, 1849, authorizing the re-issue ot finally disposed of. In May last I received a communication from

of this currency. The occurrences of the past year greatly the president of the company, covering the proceedings of a meeting of the board of direc-tors, in which, atter an allusion to the action of the Supreme Court and the Legislature, a strengthen the views I expressed in my last strengthen the views I expressed in my last annual message, on the aubject of the curren-oy. The dangers of an inflated paper system have been mote strikingly manifested in the experience of a number of the surrounding States, and nothing, in my opinion, saved our metropolis, and possibly other parts of the State, from the consequences of a severe conon the Softene Court and the Legislature, indi-cating the willingness of the company to pay certain rates of taxation for the unrestrained use of the road, until after the coming session of the Legislature, or until that branch of government should act on the subject. Believ-ing that I had no right to make conditions with traction of the currency, but our vast agricul-tural and mineral productions, and the musu-ally high prices which these command in forthe company, or 'even to receive the money which they were willing to pay, I declined to entertain the proposition. The relations of the company toward the State, therefore, have un-I have always held the dootrine that our

rgone no change since the adjournment of a last Legislature, except that the Attorney for prompt and declaye registered active, do is to mitigate its consequences where the rights of this company. It must be clear to the impartial observer, that the Legislature never intended, by any previous act, to authorize the construction of a individual liability of the stockholders, is as

That any system of banking that authorizes the smission of small paper as a medium of circulation, must entail evil consequences upon the country, has been too clearly demonstrated by pur own experience to need elucidation by by but own experiences to nece unintarticle by argument. It is, believed, therefore, that it is, the true policy of this and of all the States, to vestrict the paper "circulation "to" notes of is large denomination." Hose of is email denom instign should be gradually withdrawn from circulation, in order to make room for the yast-argement of the preciser match from Califoruis bor of Erie, would be the use of an illiferal principie. The answer is, that the necessity for a break of guage, between the Ohio line and the sea-board exists as a consequence of a difference in the width of the New York and Ohio roads. The only question to settle, there fore. relates to the pont at which it should and silver, and so also with those of a greater sons, founded in the public policy, why the apply with equal force in favor of Erie. dual withdrawal of the smaller denomination of paper, presents to my mind, the greatest practical reform that can be applied to our sys-tem of currency. The exchange of one paper aystem for another, and the incorporation of The balance of the set of the set

Similar institut a status ages, wordt give inter policy to to discover any fact in their former policy to instit, such a conclusion. I shall await your. The subscriptions of the cities of Philadel-The subscriptions of the cities of Philadel-The subscriptions of the cities of Philadel-toring a very sudden alteration in our system railroad, and the prompt payment of the in-tieres to at begat and necessary, can the institution with anticity. The subscriptions of the cities of Philadel-toring a very sudden alteration in our system railroad, and the prompt payment of the in-tieres to at begat and in the flattering prospects of that improvement, had the effect of extending the belief that municipal sub-scriptions could be safely made to any similar enterprise what had been alleged by some; a minicipal truth, what had been alleged by some; a minicipal truth, what had been alleged by some; a minicipal truth, what had been alleged by some; a minicipal truth, what had been alleged by some; a minicipal truth what

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Within a few years past the general government has expended a large som of money in the construction of a dry dock at the Philadelphia

I have always held the dootrine that our country, like all others, must have a system of currency; and whils, therefore, I have resist-ed the excesive increase of banking capital, I have not sought to morooy, entirely, the system General has recently taken measures to obtain a final decree in the plea for an injunction and by writ of *quo* typarranto to revoke the fran-chises elaimed by the company. Becent occurrences at the aity of Eris evince an intensity of feeling among the people, sel-dom equalled on a question of this kind, indi-cating not only the propriety, but necessity for prompt and decisive legislative action, as do is to mitigate its consequences while it passed by those surrounding the mavy yards of any endures, and throw it off by degrees. I believe other section of the Union. There is, then no rea-that the Pennsylvanis system of paper money, son why it should not receive a full share of patronage from the government. "Why'it has not been so favored, I shall not at this time attempt safe as any other. I) prefer it vastly to the loose plan existing in some of the neighboring States or to the scheme of free banking adop-ted in other sections of the Union.

tions of public interests, which I have been able to discover, would seem to demand this policy. mently and cheaply procured (as Philadelphia as , at any other point in the contrary, and her mechan-ics stand as light as any others in point of skill and efficiency in all the braitches of this busines, and pre-primert in the construction of steam mathe hope that a more equal distribution of patron-age shall bereatter distringuish the action of the department at Wächington.

"The consolidation of the city" and county of Philadelphia into one municipal government, is a subject that will be present geong you; songiletar : non during the present session. Without desiring. too during the present session. Without destring to express an opinion on the policy of the meas-ure, I may bay, that I regard it as involving was considerations connected with the welfare of our re-metropolis, and consequently to the State at large...

metropolis, and consequently w the State, as tage-ind as such it should, as I have no doubt it will command prompt and anxious consideration. I have longobaiteved that the loams of the State should be consolidated into there or four classes, and under the direct control of the Treasury department at Harrisburg. The Books are now kept at the Bank of Pennsylvania, where the loans are transferred; re-sizied and out op in into any analytic transferred; re-sizied and out op in into any abape to suit the winnes of the holder; for which before that institution is claiming a heavy yearly compensation. There would be no difficulty whatever, I am confident, in exchanging new conpon bonds for the certificates of loan now outstand ing, without any avarage extension of the maturity of the loans, at a cost of a few thousand dollars. Indeed, on this point I am entirely certain that the exchange can be made a source of profit to the State above all expenses. This accompliance and the interest can be paid at the treasury, and the whole business of that department ; rendered the

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most every description. On the subject of erecting new townships