

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly.

Yours obedient servant, in obedience to the Constitution and laws, I have the honor to inform you that the annual session of the General Assembly... In the discharge of my duties, it will be a pleasure to cooperate with you in the accomplishment of our common objects.

and resources of the Commonwealth—the increase of population—the value of real estate, and of the amount and value of property of every description, the revenues must and will continue to increase. This natural increase of revenue will supply every deficiency and every demand upon the Treasury that falls within the range of probability. If, then, the sum of one million dollars be appropriated annually in liquidation of the public debt, and the increasing interest on the sums paid be applied in the manner of a sinking fund, the entire indebtedness of the Commonwealth will be extinguished in less than twenty-three years.

This work was commenced in 1836—suspended in 1841—resumed in 1849, and finished in 1856; although its completion was officially announced in 1853. It extends from Pittston to the New York State line, a distance of about thirty miles, and crosses the valley of the Susquehanna at Athens, and thence along the Chemung river to the State line, where it joins the "Junction Canal," and is thus connected with the New York improvement of the same name.

The social and moral improvement of her people, more valuable than canals and rail-roads—the titles of her youth to the boundless fields of knowledge higher than any of earth or might growing out of its friendship, claim a honorable position, and receive a care and aid commensurate with their greater value and usefulness.

military system. Volunteer companies should be encouraged; our entire military system should be reorganized, and made to occupy that honorable position which from its importance and necessity it deserves.

four National Congress, has not only stirred sectional jealousies and renewed the agitation of vexed and distracting questions, but, as a consequence, it has filled our land with fraud, delusion and strife—has stained its soil with blood, and by a system of territorial legislation, justly styled "Manifest Destiny," has made freedom, peace and the press a costly and perilous acquisition.

After the Board agreed to the exchange, this defrauding the Bank out of either the year's interest on the James' Loan or the two dividends on the 23d share of Lancaster Bank Stock.

For the fiscal year ending November 30, 1856, the receipts at the Treasury, including the balance in the Treasury on the first day of December, 1855, of \$1,243,697 33 have been \$6,621,937 64. The total expenditures for the same period were \$5,377,742 22, leaving a balance in the Treasury, December 1, 1856, of \$1,244,795 42.

By the thirty-eighth section of the act of the 13th of April, 1856, entitled "An act to improve the canals and railroads of the Commonwealth," the Governor was authorized to cause to be surveyed, by a competent officer, to all persons or bodies corporate holding certificates for the payment of interest on the funded debt of the State, which should fall due on the first day of August, 1842, the first days of February and August, 1843, and the first days of February and August, 1844, in an amount equal to the amount of certificates so held, upon their delivering up said certificates to the Auditor General.

In relation to the propriety and policy of the sale of the main line of our public improvement canal and railroads, it is considered that the public policy, of every kind and nature, requires the separation of the State from the management and control of that portion of the line, between the Junction and Pittsburg, largely exceeding the revenues, the excess averaging annually not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

It is a former communication to the Legislature the establishment of State Normal schools, for the education of teachers, was urged as indispensably necessary to the permanent and efficient management of our public schools.

The Hon. of Refuge in Philadelphia, and the State Normal School, are institutions of great excellence, and their results clearly establish the wisdom of the policy that founded and sustains them.

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Another cause of the insolvency of the Bank was the taking away from it, by David Loxness, of \$14,000 of first mortgage Sunbury Railroad bonds, which had been taken by the Bank as collateral and returned to it in full thereof an equal amount of the second mortgage bonds.

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The receipts at the Treasury from the several divisions, were as follows: Main line—\$1,222,375 88; Delmarva—\$23,922 39; Delaware—\$23,922 39. Total receipts—\$1,270,220 66.

The aggregate expenditures for the same year were \$1,943,898 82, being an increase over those of the previous year, of \$105,105 84, the increase exceeding the expenditures only \$62,118 84.

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REPORT OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE LANCASTER BANK TO THE EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, JANUARY 7, 1857.

The undersigned committee of Stockholders of the Lancaster Bank, appointed to investigate its condition and make a report—

Whether said Bank is solvent or insolvent: 1. If not solvent, to report the cause or causes of its insolvency, and the measures which are proposed therefor.

2. If the names of the officers and directors whose administration the Bank is believed to be the cause of its insolvency, and the reasons therefor, are ascertained, to report the same.

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W. W. BROWN, Chairman.