The Lancaster Intelligencer.

"THAT COUNTRY IS THE MOST PROSPEROUS WHERE LABOR COMMANDS THE GREATEST REWARD."—BUCHANAN.

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
HARRISBURG January 4, 1860.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

GENTLEMEN:—In complying with that provision of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which makes it the duty of the Governor, from time to time, to give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth, I am most happy, on this occasion, again to congratulate the representatives of the people upon the highly favorable condition of the finances of the State.

The receipts at the State Treasury, from all sources, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of November, 1859, were $3,826,350 14, to which add balance in Treasury, December 1, 1858, $892,027 76, and it will be seen that the whole sum available for the year, was $4,718,377 90. The expenditures, for all purposes, during the same period, were $3,879,054 81. Leaving an available balance in the Treasury, on the 1st day of December, 1859, of $839,323 09. Included in the expenditures for the fiscal year, are the following sums, viz:

Loans redeemed	$840,302 30
Relief notes cancelled	4,137 00
Interest certificates paid	4,843 30
Making of the public debt actually paid, during the year, the sum of	$49,282 60

The funded and unfunded debt of the Commonwealth, on the 1st day of December, 1858, was as follows:—

FUNDED DEBT	
6 per cent. loans	$ 445,180 00
5 do.	38,420,905 67
4½ do.	388,200 90
4 do.	100,000 00
Total funded debt	$39,354,285 67
UNFUNDED DEBT.	
Relief notes outstanding	$105,350 00
Interest certificates	23,357 12
Do. do. unclaimed	4,448 38
Domestic creditors	802 50
Total unfunded debt	$133,958 00

Making the entire debt of the Commonwealth at the period named, $39,488,243 67.

The funded and unfunded debt of the State, at the close of the last fiscal year, December 1, 1859, stood as follows:

6 per cent. loans	$ 400,630 00
5 do.	37,625,153 37
4½ do.	388,200 00
4 do.	100,000 00
Total funded debt	38,513,083 37
UNFUNDED DEBT.	
Relief notes in circulation	$101,213 00
Interest certificates outstanding	18,513 82
do. unclaimed	4,418 38
Domestic creditors	802 50
Total unfunded debt	124,977 70

Making the public debt on the first day of December last, $38,638,061 07.

Since the close of the fiscal year, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have redeemed, of the five per cent. loans, the sum of $160,000, leaving the real debt of the Commonwealth, at this time, funded and unfunded, $38,478,961 07. If we deduct from this sum the amount of the bonds received by the State from the sale of her public works, and now held by her as follows:

Bonds of Penna. railroad co.	$7,300,000 00
Bonds of Sunbury and Erie r. r. co.	3,500,000 00
Bonds Wyoming canal co.	281,000 00
Total	11,081,000 00

we have $27,397,961 07, the remaining debt of the Commonwealth, the principal and interest to be provided for, from the ordinary sources of revenue.

It will be observed, that from the 1st day of December, 1858, to the 31st day of December, 1859, a period of thirteen months, besides meeting all the ordinary demands upon the Treasury, there has been actually paid, on the principal of the public debt, $1,009,282 60.

When it is remembered, that during this period, the law reducing the State tax upon real and personal estate, from three to two and a half mills, has been in full force, and that nothing for the last year has been received from the Pennsylvania railroad company, on account of tax on tonnage, making the receipts from these two sources of revenue, less by four hundred thousand dollars, than they were for the preceeding year, it is a source of congratulation that, under such circumstances, a result so favorable has been produced by the ordinary operations of the Treasury.

For nearly two years past, the State has been entirely free from the ownership or management of canals and railroads, and the gratifying result, thus far, is, that her public debt is now less than it has been since the year 1842, and is decreasing at the rate of nearly one million of dollars per annum. It is now morally certain, that nothing but the grossest mismanagement of the financial interests of the State, can prevent its sure and speedy extinguishment. Why should not Pennsylvania press onward until she is entirely free from debt? She is no longer engaged in the construction of great works of internal improvement, nor is she the proprietor of railroads or canals. Relieved of these, governmental action is greatly simplified, and is now happily limited to subjects of a purely governmental character. Having ceased to be interested in ordinary business pursuits, it is her plain duty to devote her best energies to relieving her people from the burden of an onerous debt. When this great result shall have been accomplished, the necessary expenditures of an economical administration of the government, can be readily met without the imposition of a State tax on real or personal estate—the remaining sources of revenue being more than sufficient for all legitimate purposes. Until that end, so anxiously looked to, is secured, true wisdom, as well as sound policy, dictates, that our resources should be carefully husbanded—that none of our present sources of revenue should be cut off, or diminished—that all departments of government should consult a proper economy—that all extravagant and unnecessary appropriations should be avoided—and that every new scheme for embarrassing the Treasury should meet with marked condemnation.

Encouraging, as are the results of the past two years, it must not be forgotten, that we have but just commenced the payment of the principal of our debt; and that to prevent a misapplication of the public finances, and thereby insure a continuance of its reduction, from year to year, is manifestly the first duty of those placed by the Constitution in charge of the Public Treasury, and to whom belongs the exclusive right of raising, economizing and appropriating the public revenue. I earnestly commend this whole subject to the careful attention of the Legislature—entirely satisfied, that, as it is the most vital of all the interests committed to the charge of the General Assembly, it will receive that consideration which its importance so eminently demands.

In my last annual message, I communicated to the General Assembly all that, up to that period, had been done under the act, entitled "An Act for the sale of the State Canals," approved April 21, 1858. Since the adjournment of the last Legislature, satisfactory evidence having been given to me, of the compliance of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, with the conditions mentioned in the third section of the act referred to, the State Treasurer, under my direction, has delivered to the company the canal bonds for two millions of dollars, deposited in the Treasury under the provisions of the said act.

The railroad company has also become entitled to, and has received, one million of dollars, of the mortgage bonds referred to in the sixth section of the same act; leaving mortgage bonds amounting to two and a half millions of dollars, still remaining in the Treasury of the Commonwealth, to be delivered to the company, "from time to time, *pari passu*, with the progress of the work, as ascertained by the returns and, estimates of the chief engineer of the said company." When the bonds, last mentioned, shall have been surrendered to the company, as directed by law, the State will still hold, as absolute owner, three and a half millions of dollars of the mortgage bonds of the company, payable in the year 1872, & in the 6 succeeding years, as mentioned in the act of Assembly, with interest, at the rate of five per centum, per annum, payable semi-annually, on the thirty-first days of January and July of each year. Interested, as the Commonwealth is, in the early completion of this important thoroughfare, it affords me great pleasure to be able to inform the General Assembly, that the progress of the work, for the past year, has been highly satisfactory.

The Eastern division of the road, extending from Sunbury, in the county of Northumberland, to Whetham, in the county of Clinton, a distance of eighty-one miles, is finished; passenger and freight trains passing over it daily. The Western division, extending from the city of Erie, to the borough of Warren, in Warren county, a distance of sixty six miles, is also completed, with regular passenger and freight trains now running over it daily. Making one hundred and forty seven miles of railway, along the line of the route, that have been already brought into practical operation—one hundred and seven miles of which, exclusive of sidings, were finished during the past year. On the intermediate portion of the line, between the borough of Warren and Whetham station, a distance of one hundred and forty miles, ninety-five and a half miles are graded, leaving but forty-four and a half miles yet to be graded, to place the whole of the unfinished portion of the road in a position to receive the superstructure. If no untoward event shall delay its vigorous prosecution, another year will not pass before the entire line of the road will be finished and in use; thus affording a direct and continuous communication, by railroad, from the city of Philadelphia to the harbor of Erie.

By the twenty-second section of the act approved the 13th day of April, 1846, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Pennsylvania railroad company," it is provided, "that all tonnage, of whatsoever kind or description, except the ordinary baggage of passengers, loaded or received at Harrisburg, or Pittsburg, or at any intermediate point, and carried or conveyed on or over said railroad, more than twenty miles, between the 10th day of March and the 1st day of December, in each and every year, shall be subject to a toll or duty, for the use of the Commonwealth, at the rate of five mills, per mile, for each ton of two thousand pounds; and it shall be the duty of said company, between the 20th and 30th days of July, and between the 1st and 10th days of December, in each and every year, after thirty miles or more of said railroad shall have been completed, and in use, to cause to be made out, and filed with the Auditor General, a true and correct statement, exhibiting the amount of said tonnage, so loaded or received, and the distance so carried and conveyed, during the respective periods intervening between the said 10th day of March, and the 20th day of July, and between the said 20th day of July and the 1st day of December, in each and every year; which said statement shall be verified by the oath or affirmation of the receiving or forwarding agent or agents, or other proper officer or officers, of said company, having knowledge of the premises; and at the time of filing said statement, or on or before the said 20th day of July, and the 10th day of December, in each and every year, the said company shall pay to the State Treasurer, the amount of said toll or duty, so accruingfor the use of the Commonwealth, during the respective intervening periods before mentioned." And, in a supplement to the act just referred to, passed on the same day, it is further provided, "that in case the said company shall, at any time, fail to pay the toll or charge on tonnage, which may accrue, or become due to the Commonwealth, under the provisions of said act, the same shall be and remain a lien on the property of the said company, and shall have precedence over all other liens or incumbrances thereon until paid." By the act of the 27th of March, 1848, the tax on tonnage of five mills per ton, per mile, from the 10th of March to the 1st of December, was commuted to a tax of three mills per ton, per mile, during the whole year. Subsequently, by the act of the 7th of May, 1855, lumber and coal, were made exempt from the tonnage tax.

In pursuance of the provisions of the several acts referred to, the Pennsylvania railroad company has paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth the following sums, viz:

For the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1851	$7,521 93
Do....do....do....1852	16,680 49
Do....do....do....1853	65,228 59
Do....do....do....1854	112,880 50
Do....do....do....1855	129,230 56
Do....do....do....1856	226,018 51
Do....do....do....1857	179,933 75
Do....do....do....1858	222,363 02

Since July, 1858, the railroad company has refused to pay this tax, and consequently there is now due from said company, on that account, exclusive of interest, the sum of $350,405 00.

On the 21st of February, 1859; an account was settled, by the Auditor General, against the company, for the tax on tonnage, from the 21st day of July, to the 30th day of November 1858, inclusive, amounting to the sum of $87,375 22. From this settlement, the company, on the 19th day of April, took an appeal to the court of common pleas of Dauphin county; and, in the speifications of objections which were filed, it was averred that the tax was unconstitutional, and an opinion to that effect, signed by eminent counsel, was filed in the Office of the Auditor General, at the time the appeal was entered. In August last, the cause was tried, and after a full investigation, and argument, the constitutionality of the law imposing the tax was affirmed by the court, and a verdict and judgement rendered in favor of the Commonwealth, for the amount claimed, with interest. The case has since been removed by a writ of error, to the Supreme Court of the State, and will, probably, be heard and determined, by that tribunal, in the course of the present winter.

On the 25th day of August last, another account was settled against the company, for the tax on tonnage, from the 30th day of November, 1858, to the 20th day of July, 1859, amounting to the sum of $159,368.58, from which an appeal has also been taken by the railroad company, and which will probably be tried during the present month.

As this question largely affects the revenues of the Commonwealth, and as the principle involved is one of the first importance, I have deemed it a duty to lay before the General Assembly, somewhat in detail, the history of this tax, and the present condition of the legal controversy growing out of its imposition and enforcement. It will be observed, that the power of the State to grant chartered rights, and corporate privileges, to a railroad company, upon the condition that it shall pay to the Commonwealth a portion of its earnings, in the shape of a fixed tax upon the freight carried over the road, is questioned by the company, and that, too, after the grant has taken effect, and while the corporation is in the full enjoyment of all the benefits conferred upon it by its charter. The question, it is true, is a legal one, and its decision, therefore, rests with the judicial department of the government; but I have not the slightest doubt, that the decision, when had, will entirely vindicate the right of the government to impose the tax, and to compel corporations of its own creation to obey the law from which they derive their existence. When it is remembered, that the tax was originally imposed, in order to indemnify the State, to some extent, for losses which she was sure to sustain from a competition, which was inevitable, between the railroad authorized, and her main line of public works; and that this competition did not only seriously affect the revenues of the Commonwealth derived from her public improvements, but ultimately induced the sale of the main line to the railroad company itself, at a price many millions of dollars below what it would have produced, in the absence of such competition, it is certainly not to be presumed that the Commonwealth will willingly yield her demand for revenue from this source, until she is, at least, fully indemnified for the pecuniary injury sustained in the depreciation of her own property, by her liberality extended to the company which now denies her power to enforce a contract, voluntarily entered into, upon a consideration entirely adequate.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, with the tables and documents accompanying it, will exhibit the condition of the vast engine of social improvement to which it relates. The number of pupils, in all the public schools of the State is 634,651—of schools, 11,485—and of teachers, 14,071. The schools have been in operation, on an average over the whole State, five months and nine days. The average salary of male teachers, is $24.36, and of female teachers, $17.79, and the cost of instruction per pupil, fifty-three cents per month. The average tax for tuition, &c., is about five and a half mills, and for building purposes, about three and one-sixth mills, on the dollar. Including the city of Philadelphia, the entire cost of tuition, &c., was $2,047,661.92; the building expenses, $531.413.85; and the whole expense of the system, in the State, for the year, $2,579,075.77.

Though the school year ending on the first Monday of June last, was one of unusual difficulty in money affairs, yet the system manifests an encouraging activity in all its departments, while the rate of taxation, both for tuition and buildings, would appear, from the official report, to have somewhat decreased. But, it is by a contrast of the present condition of the system, with that of 1854, when the agencies now operating so beneficially, were created, that results are most plainly seen. Within that period, the whole number of pupils has been increased nearly one seventh—of teachers, one-thirteenth—and the salary of teachers, the best index of improvement, one-sixth for males, and one fourth for females. These results, with the others which the official report will exhibit, unerringly point to the duty, as well as necessity, of the utmost care and attention, on the part of all public agents, to this primary social institution—primary in importance, no less than in the career of each citizen. To strengthen, to retain pure, and to properly direct, this fountain-head of social influence, is, it seems to me, the great duty of the law maker, in his highest and most responsible capacity, as the framer of the future of the State.

The attention of the General Assembly was called, somewhat at length, to the existing condition and further requirements of our school system, in the annual message of last year. It is not, therefore, necessary to repeat the suggestions and conclusions then presented. They are again, however, commended to your favorable consideration; the events and experience of the intervening period, having increased the conviction of their propriety.—This is especially the case, in regard to the plan devised by the act of 20th of May, 1857, for the due training of teachers for the common schools of the State. A full supply of competent teachers, is admitted by all, to be the great need of the system, and the first want to be provided for. Unerring indications, in every quarter, not only establish this fact, but point to the general adoption of the proposed means, at no distant day. The efforts of the teachers, themselves, for professional improvement, encouraged and sustained by all, who duly estimate the value and influence of the teacher's office, not only foretell this, but the strong public sentiment in favor of institutions for the purpose in question, confirms the probability of this result. In every quarter, indications of this kind are perceived—more or less strong in proportion to the force of local circumstances. In the Second Normal district composed of the counties of Lancaster, York and Lebanon, an institution, up to the full requirements of the law of 1857, has been established and officially recognized, and is now in successful operation as a State Normal School. For its details the Legislature is respectfully referred to the annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools; but, I should do injustice to the intelligent enterprise which moulded, and the enlarged philanthropy which produced, this noble institution, as well as to my own feelings, were I to forbear congratulating you upon the result. It is the first fruit of a law which seems to be as much in accordance with the cautious, yet generous, character of our people, as it is admirably adapted to effect the great end in view.

All that seems requisite to give full effect and general success to the plan, is, at this juncture, to guard it from mutilation, or radical change. If the intelligent and liberal minds that are now weighing the project, and contemplating its extension to other parts of the State, be assured that this is the settled policy, their efforts will be concentrated, their activity increased, and final success be hastened. Whereas, radical or important changes, will destroy this growing confidence, crush the hopeful efforts now being made, and postpone for years, if not totally destroy, all hope of success in this essential department of public instruction. The true course will be to cherish the law, and bring it into general operation, by holding out the certainty of State aid to each institution established under it, as soon as a certain number, to be fixed by law, shall have been legally recognized, and are in full operation. The money of the State appropriated, in this manner, will effect more benefit, in proportion to the outlay, than in any other of the operations of the system. The instruction of the child, is a duty; but the instruction of the teacher, is economy as well as duty. It will probably be advisable to make such appropriations, payable only when the schools are legally recognized and in full operation. This course will have the double effect of guarding against loss by the State, and of stimulating, into early existence, a sufficient number of institutions to supply the existing want in every quarter of the State.

The period for the third election of County Superintendents is rapidly approaching, and the public mind will naturally be turned to the results of the office. My own observation, as well as information from various and reliable sources, leads to the opinion, that this office, when filled by the proper person, and its duties discharged in full compliance with the design and spirit of the law creating it, has been of great advantage to the schools. Indeed, no candid person can deny the fact, apparent to even slight observation, that more improvement has been effected in the workings and results of the system, since the creation of the office of County Superintendent, than in any previous period of even double duration. It is true, that when exercised by incompetent officers, or crippled by insufficient compensation, little, if any, advantage has accrued. But this is no argument against the office itself; and it is to be hoped that the directors of counties thus heretofore deprived of the benefits of this agency, will, at the next election, acting under the teachings of experience at home, and the light of success from other parts, correct this evil and realize the full benefits of this provision of the law.

The increasing ease and soundness of our financial condition, will, at no remote period, justify an addition to the common school appropriation. The general policy of the State has been that each district shall raise within itself the main support of its own schools; but, an annual donation, distributable amongst them all, in proportion to population, has also been a part of that policy. The object of this State grant seems to be two-fold: First—It is a means of securing regularity in the proceeeings and reports of the several districts, so that the Department of Common Schools shall have the requisite information for the due discharge of its functions: And second—It lightens, in some degree, the burden of local taxation, to the relief of the poorer and more sparsely peopled districts. An increase of the annual appropriation would enhance both these objects, and, whenever the finances of the government will justify it, commends itself to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

The aid which the Legislature has hitherto extended to the establishment of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania. strongly evinces their high appreciation of the advantages which it is anticipated will grow out of that institution. While it must be admitted that knowledge is as essential to the art of farming, as it is to all the other employments of life, we cannot but feel deeply interested, that a community so peculiarly agricultural as we are, should have all the advantages of an education which combines in itself, as well the knowledge of the practical art of agriculture, as scientific acquirements in all those branches of learning which are especially applicable to its profitable pursuit. A shool where agriculture is practically taught is a new field to which our attention has been called; and one which, because of its great importance, well deserves our attention. It embraces the principle, that while youth are taught habits of industry, they are impressed with the proud consideration, that the labor of their own hands contributes to the acquisition of knowledge. And thus, too, education is brought within the reach of many a bright genius, who would otherwise struggle and languish for the means of acquiring it Our school, within its limited means, has been in successful operation during the past year; having under its charge one hundred boys, who, while they are carefully instructed in all those branches of science which pertain to a high order of education, are daily engaged in all the practical operations of the farm—fitting them to return to rural life, and to infuse throughout the State an amount and kind of knowledge, which must ultimately produce a most beneficial influence upon this most cherished branch of industry. The practical workings of the school, for the past year, have impressed the trustees, who have it in charge with the highest hopes of its complete success. The great interest which is everywhere felt throughout the Commonwealth, in the further extension and progress of the institution, commends it to our care and protection.

The State Librarian will report to you the completion of the descriptive and classified catalogue of the books in the State Library, authorized by the act of 16th of April, 1858,—a work, from the details it embraces, of much labor, but which will greatly facilitate the use of the Library. It will be seen, from his report, that the origin of the Library dates far back in the history of the Provincial government, and that it received the fostering care of the Commonwealth during the period of the Revolution. It is gratifying that, notwithstanding the waste to which it has been subject in past years, owing to the want of proper attention,—under the careful supervision of the present Librarian, it has, since he has had the charge of it, nearly doubled its number of volumes, and now contains in all 22,000 volumes—the largest State Library in the Union with the single exception of that of the State of New York. The collection of law books, and especially law reports, is considered by those competent to judge, among the best in the country. The Library, from its intrinsic value and importance, and its historic relations, deserves, and I trust it will receive, the continued liberality of the Legislature.

In my inaugural address, as well as in my last annual message, I expressed the opinion that our present banking system was extremely defective, and that, unless it were radically changed, I should consider it an imperative duty to withhold the Executive approval from all bills creating new banks. Without again giving in detail the reasons which influenced my action on this question, or repeating the suggestions and recommendations heretofore made to the Legislature, it is proper to remark, at this time, that my convictions have been confirmed, by time and reflection—that my opinions remain unchanged, and that I cannot approve of any increase of banking corporations under existing laws. If corporate privileges, for banking purposes, are needed, to accommodate the business wants of any portion of the State, justice requires, that such institution should be compelled to protect the community receiving its circulation, by requiring that ample security shall be given for the prompt redemption of its notes, the sufficiency of which no act of the corporation could impair. All experience in this State, and elsewhere, has demonstrated, that the present system affords little or no protiction to noteholders, beyond the personal integrity of the officers controlling the management of the several banks. For a full exposition of my views on this question, I respectfully call the attention of the General Assembly to my last annual message.

The reports of the Auditor General, the State Treasurer, the Surveyor General, the Adjutant General, and the Attorney General, will be laid before you, and will show, in detail, the operations of their respective departments for the past year.

Deeply impressed with the belief that the present mode of receiving, keeping and disbursing the public revenue, is entirely, unsafe, and inadequate to the complete protection of the interests of the Commonwealth involved, I again respectfully, though earnestly, invoke legislative action on this highly important subject. The receipts and disbursements of the Treasury are each, annually, from three to four millions of dollars.—At times there is on hand a balance exceeding one million of dollars. The State Treasurer gives security to the Commonwealth in the sum of only eighty thousand dollars. He deposits the money of the State when and where he pleases, and it is paid out upon his own check exclusively. His accounts are settled by the Auditor General, once a month, and this is, apparently, the only safeguard provided by law to prevent the illegal use of the public funds while under the control of the State Treasurer. That the Treasury of the Commonwealth has hitherto escaped from disastrous defalcation, is owing to the integity of the officer, and not to the efficiency of the laws; and while our main reliance, in the future, must be on the honesty of the officers to whom the department is entrusted, it is, nevertheless, the plain duty of the government, by proper legislative enactments, to prevent, as far as possible, the illegal, improper or fraudulent use of the funds of the State by a faithless or dishonest public agent. I respectfully recommend, that provision be made by law that no money shall be deposited in any bank, or elsewhere, by the State Treasurer, without first requiring security to be given to the Commonwealth for the prompt re-payment of the sums deposited;—that all checks, issued by State the Treasurer, shall be countersigned by the Auditor General, before they are used;—and that daily accounts of the moneys received, deposited and disbursed, shall be kept in the office of the Auditor General as well as in the Treasury Department; and that weekly statements of the balances in the Treasury, and the places and amounts of deposits, shall be kept in a book to be provided for that purpose in each department.

The Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the resolutions of the 19th of April, 1858, to revise the Penal Code of this Commonwealth, have presented to me their final report, which is herewith transmitted to the General Assembly. Its importance to our whole community, and the great labor devoted to its preparation, commend it to your early and earnest attention. The manner in which the duties of the commission have been performed cannot fail in my opinion, to receive your approbation.

I commend to your fostering care the State Lunatic Asylum, at Harrisburg—the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the insane at Pittsburg,—the Asylum for the Blind, at Philadelphia—the asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia—the Pennsylvania Training School for idiotic and feeble minded children, at Media—the House of Refuge at Philadelphia—and the Western House of Refuge, at Pittsburg. These excellent, charitable and reformatory State institutions have done, and are doing, almost incalculable good, in the reiief of suffering humanity, and in the reclamation and reform of the erring young. They have strong claims upon the continued bounty of the Commonwealth. The annual report of these noble charities will be laid before you, and will exhibit, in detail, their operations during the past year.

I refrain from recommending, as proper objects for the bounty of the State, a number of benevolent and charitable associations, equally humane and beneficent in their operations; because they are entirely local in their character, and however meritorious their claims may be, and unquestionably are, upon the respective communities for whose particular use they are founded and conducted, in my opinion, they have no claims upon the Treasury of the State, which can be recognized with a just regard to the interests and rights of other sections of the Commonwealth.

The editor of the Colonial Records and Pennsylvania Archives has prepared a copious index to the whole work, which will be laid before the Legislature, at an early day of the session. The publication is now completed, and it is a satisfaction to know, that the records of the colony, as well as those of the State, preceding the adoption of the Constitution of 1790, are now of easy access to the public, and in a condition which renders their entire destruction impossible. I recommend that a suitable sum be paid, by the Commonwealth, to the editor of the Records and Archives, for the work performed by him since the discontinuance of his salary.

I have so repeatedly presented my views to the Legislature, of the evils arising from local and class legislation, that it is necessary again to repeat them. I desire, however, to call the attention of the General Assembly to the fact that we have, on our statute books, general laws providing for the incorporation of railroad, turnpike, bridge, plank road, gas, water, insurance and other similar companies and that all corporate powers granted by the Legislature, to such companies, should be under these general laws so that there may be uniformity in the provisions of similar associations, and that the time of the General Assembly may not be occupied in passing bills of great length, when a simple reference to the details of the general laws would answer every purpose.

The practice of sending to the Executive a large number of bills immediately preceding the final adjournment of the Legislature, is highly objectionable, and ought, as far as practicable, to be discontinued. Its necessary consequence is, either to compel the Executive to approve bills which he has not fully examined, to sign them after the final adjournment, or, if he disapprove them, to return them to the next General Assembly, with his objections. Thus imposing upon a succeeding Legislature the final disposition of bills, with the origin and passage of which it had no connection. To illustrate the evils resulting from this practice, it is only necessary to inform you, that, of the large number of bills presented for my approval, within a day or two of the adjournment of the last Legislature, I am constrained, by a sense of duty, to return, with my objections, twenty-three to the present Legislature, for re-consideration.

It is apparent from the exhibit of the financial condition of the General Government, recently made public, that the wants of the Federal Treasury will demand a revision of the existing tariff laws of the United States, with a view to an increase of the revenue derivable from imports. When this revision shall take place, it is greatly to be desired, that a proper regard for the industrial interests of the country will prompt the Congress of the United States, to place her revenue laws upon such a basis, as to afford to our great mining and manufacturing interests the largest incidental protection. To substitute specific for ad valorem duties, on a certain class of articles which from their nature are of equal or nearly equal value,—or to change the foreign to a home valuation,—with a moderate increase of the rates now impossd, would, I am satisfied, infuse new life and vigor into all the various departments of industry, and, at the same time, without imposing burdens upon the people, afford to the General Government a revenue amply sufficient for all its wants.

The early admission of the Territory of Kansas as one of the sovereign States of the Union, under a constitution legally enacted, and fully and fairly ratified by the direct votes of a large majority of the people of the Territory, will remove from the National Legislature a subject which has hitherto, in no inconsiderable degree, attracted the attention of the Nation, and which, from the nature and extent of the discussions in Congress, has been productive of much crimination and recrimination between the various sections of our common country. Popular Sovereignty having finally prevailed, in the full, free and fair adoption of the fundamental law of the Territory, according to the wishes of the people, this vexed and dangerous question, in that Territory, may now be considered as satisfactorily and perpetually settled.

Copies of the correspondence between the Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Pennsylvania, on the subject of the recent outrage at Harper's Ferry, are herewith transmitted to the Legislature. The letter addressed by the Governor of Virginia to the Governor of Pennsylvania, was missent to Harrisonburg, Virginia, and hence was not received until the first day of December, one day before the execution of John Brown; and, therefore, it was impossible to reply to it, by mail, in time to reach the Governor of Virginia before the execution. The answer was consequently sent by telegraph, which will account for its brevity and sententious character.

The recent seizure of the public property of the United States at Harper's Ferry, and the invasion of the State of Virginia, by a small band of desperadoes, with an intention to excite the slave population to insurrection, have drawn attention to the dangers which beset our federal relations. It is a source of satisfaction to know that the authorites of Virginia possessed the means and the determination to punish offenders with promptness and justice;—that the military force of the United States was in power immediately available to aid in putting down the outbreak against the public peace;—that the slave population were contented with their condition, and unwilling to unite with disorderly white men in acts of treason and murder;—and that the great masses of the people have no sympathy, whatever, with any attack upon the rights and institutions of any of the States, and have a deep and abiding devotion to our great and glorious Union. To us, as Pennsylvanians, it is gratifying to believe that the citizens of this Commonwealth have not, in any manner, participated in this unlawful proceeding, and to know that when some of the guilty perpetrators were arrested, within our jurisdiction, they were promptly surrendered to the justice of the offended and injured State.

The several States of this Union are independant sovereignties, except so far as they have granted certain enumerated powers to the Federal Government. In cases not provided for in the Federal Constitution, the several States in their relation to each other, ought to be governed by the principles which regulate the conduct of civilized nations. These principles forbid, in all nations, "every evil practice tending to excite disturbance in another State:" and are founded on the maxim, that "different nations ought, in time of peace, to do one another all the good they possibly can without prejudicing their real interests." This maxim, recognized by all civilized governments, applies with peculiar force to the several States of this Union, bound together, as they are, by a sacred compact for mutual support and protection; and, therefore, any attempt in one State, to excite insurrection in another, is an offence against all the States, because all are bound by the Constitution to put down such disturbance; and the act of Congress authorizes the President of the United States to call out the militia of the several States for the purpose. It is a high offence against the peace of our Commonwealth, for disorderly persons within our jurisdiction, to combine together for the purpose of stirring up insurrection, in any of the States, or to induce the slaves in the Southern States to abscond from their masters; and it would be proper, in my judgment, for the General Assembly to consider whether additional legislation may not be necessaay to insure the prompt punishment of such offenders against our peace and security.

In determining our relative duties towards our sister States, the morality of servitude is not an open question, for we are bound by the legal and moral obligation of the compact of the Union, under which we have been brought into existence, and preserved as independent States, as well as by the principles of international law, to respect the institutions which the laws of the several States recognize, and in no other way can we fulfil our obligations, as members of this confederacy.

While I entertain no doubt that the great Republican experiment on this continent, so happily commenced, and carried forward to its present exalted position, in the eyes of the world, will continue, under the Providence of God, to be successful to the latest generations, it is the part of wisdom and patriotism to be watchful and vigilant, and to carefully guard a treasure so priceless. Let moderate councils prevail—let a spirit of harmony and good will, and a national fraternal sentiment be cultivated among the people, everywhere—North and South—and the disturbing elements which temporarily threaten our Union, will now, as they have always heretofore, assuredly pass away.

Pennsylvania, in the past, has performed her part with unfaltering firmness—let her now, and in the future, be ever ready to discharge her confederate duties with unflinching integrity. Then will her proud position entitle her, boldly and effectually, to rebuke, and assist in crushing, treason, whether it shall raise its crest in other States, in the guise of a fanatical and irrepressible conflict, between the North and the South; or assume the equally reprehensible form of nullification, secession, and a dissolution of the Union. Her central geographical position, stretching from the bay of Delaware to the lakes—with her three millions of conservative population—entitles her to say, with emphasis, to the plotters of treason, on either hand, that neither shall be permitted to succeed—that it is not in the power of either to disturb the perpetuity of this Union, cemented and sanctified, as it is, by the blood of our patriotic fathers—that, at every sacrifice, and at every hazard, the constitutional rights of the people and the States shall be maintained—that equal and exact justice shall be done to the North and to the South—and that these States shall be forever United.

We, as a people, have great reason to acknowledge the Providence of God, who rules over the nations of the earth. Under His guardianship, hitherto so signally enjoyed, we feel an unabated confidence in the permanency of our free government, and look forward, with cheerful hope, to a future glorious destiny.—In the blessings that have crowned our own Commonwealth the past year—in the success that has accompanied all our industrial pursuits—in the steady advance of our educational institutions—in the quiet and peace of our domestic homes—in all that can advance a nation's prosperity and happiness— we recognize the hand of the Great Giver of all Good.

WILLIAM F. PACKER.

Correspondence between the Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Pennsylvania, referred to in the foregoing Message.

[GOVERNOR WISE TO GOVERNOR PACKER.]

RICHMOND, VA., November 25, 1859.

To his Excellency, the Governor of Penna:

DEAR SIR.—I respectfully send to you the information contained in a letter to the President of the United States, of which the enclosed is a copy. I submit it to you in the confidence that you will faithfully co-operate with the authorities of this State in preserving the peace of our coterminous borders. Necessity may compel us to pursue invaders of our jurisdiction into yours; if so, you may be assured that it will be done with no disrespect to the sovereignty of your State. But this State expects the confederate duty to be observed, of guarding your territory from becoming dangerous to our peace and safety, by affording places of depot and rendezvous to lawless desperadoes who may seek to war upon our people. With the highest respect,

I am, sir, yours truly,
HENRY A. WISE.

[GOVERNOR WISE TO JAMES BUCHANAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

RICHMOND, VA., November 25, 1859.

To his Excellency, JAMES BUCHANAN, *President of the United States:*

SIR:—I have information from various quarters, upon which I rely, that a conspiracy of formidable extent in means and numbers, is formed in Ohio, Pennsslvania, New York and other States, to rescue John Brown and his associates, prisoners at Charlestown, Va. The information is specific enough to be reliable. It convinces me that an attempt will be made to rescue the prisoners, and, if that fails, then to sieze citizens of this State as hostages, and victims in case of execution. The execution will take place next Friday as certainly as that Virginia can and will enforce her laws. I have been obliged to call out one thousand men, who are now under arms, and if necessary, shall call out the whole available force of the State to carry into effect the sentence of our laws on the 2d and 16th proximo. Places in Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania have been occupied as depots and rendezvous by these desperadoes, unobstructed by guards or otherwise, to invade this State, and we are kept in continued apprehension of outrage from fire and rapine on our borders. I apprise you of these facts in order that you may take steps to preserve peace between the States. I protest that my purpose is peaceful, and that I disclaim all threats when I say, with all the might of meaning, that if another invasion assails this State or its citizens from any quarter, I will pursue the invaders wherever they may go into any territory, and punish them wherever arms can reach them.

I shall send copies of this to the Governors of Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania. With due respect and consideration,

Yours truly,
HENRY A. WISE.

[TELEGRAPHIC REPLY OF GOVERNOR PACKER TO GOVERNOR WISE.]

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, Dec. 1, 1859.

To His Excellency, the Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va.:

SIR:—Your letter of the 25th, having been missent to Harrisonburg, Virginia, was not received until this morning. Of all the desperadoes to whom you refer, not a man, so far as I can learn, was a citizen of Pennsylvania; nor was their rendezvous, (which you say was unobtsructed by guards or otherwise,) in this State, but in Maryland or Virginia. In relation to them, Pennsylvania has done her duty. Virginia has no right to anticipate that she will not do so in the future. The information you have received in regard to a conspiracy to rescue John Brown, will, undoubtedly, be found, in the sequel, utterly and entirely without foundation, so far as Pennsylvania is concerned. Nor will we permit any portion of our territory, along our borders, or elsewhere, to be made a depot, a rendezous, or a refuge, for lawless desperadoes, from other States, who may seek to make war upon our southern neighbors. When that contingency shall happen, the constitutional and confederate duty of Pennsylvania shall be performed; and under all circumstances, she will take care to see that her honor is, fully vindicated.

WM. F. PACKER.

CARDS.

ALDUS J. NEFF, Attorney at Law.—Office with B. A. Shæffer, Esq., south-west corner of Centre Square, Lancaster. may 15, '55 1y 17

EDWARD M'GOVERN, ATTORNEY AT LAW, No. 3 South Queen street, in Reed, McGrann, Kelly & Co.'s Banking Building, Lancaster, Pa. apr 6 tf 12

FREDERICK S. PYFER, ATTORNEY AT LAW. OFFICE—No. 11 NORTH DUKE STREET, (WEST SIDE,) LANCASTER, Pa. apr 20 tf 14

REMOVAL.—WILLIAM S. AMWEG, Attorney at Law, has removed his office from his former place into South Duke street, nearly opposite the Trinity Lutheran Church. apr 8 tf 12

T. HALL FOREMAN, *ATTORNEY AT LAW.* OFFICE WITH T. E. FRANKLIN, ESQ., No. 26 EAST KING ST., LANCASTER, PA. nov 15 1y 44

JOHN F. BRINTON, ATTORNEY AT LAW, PHILADELPHIA, PA., Has removed his office to his residence, No. 249 South 6th Street, above Spruce.
Refers by permission to Hon. H. G. LONG, " A. L. HAYES, " FERREE BRINTON, " THADDEUS STEVENS. nov 24 1y* 45

SAMUEL H. REYNOLDS, Attorney at Law. Office, No. 14 North Duke street, opposite the Court House. may 5 tf 16

ABRAM SHANK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, OFFICE WITH D. G. ESHLEMAN, ESQ., No. 36 NORTH DUKE ST., *LANCASTER, PA.* mar 22 1y* 10

NEWTON LIGHTNER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, has his Office in North Duke street, nearly opposite the Court House. Lancaster, apr 1 tf 11

JESSE LANDIS, Attorney at Law.—Office one door east of Lechler's Hotel, East King street, Lancaster, Pa. All kinds of Scrivening—such as writing Wills, Deeds, Mortgages, Accounts, &c., will be attended to with correctness and despatch. may 15, '55 tf-17

REMOVAL.—DR. J. T. BAKER, HOMŒPATHIC PHYSICIAN, has removed his office to No. 69 East King street, next door above King's Grocery. Reference—Professor W. A. Gardner, Philadelphia. Calls from the country will be promptly attended to. apr 6 tf 12

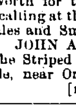
JAMES BLACK, Attorney at Law.—Office in East King street, two doors east of Lechler's Hotel, Lancaster, Pa. All business connected with his profession, and all kinds of writing, such as preparing Deeds, Mortgages, Wills, Stating Accounts, &c., promptly attended to. m 15. tf-17

COLEMAN, FRANKLIN HALL, *41½ North Queen street, Lancaster.* The well-known Franklin Hall Clothing Establishment has been thoroughly refitted and enlarged, and the subscriber begs leave to inform his numerous friends and customers that he has now on hand one of the largest assortments of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, AND READY-MADE CLOTHING ever offered in the city, and at prices to suit the times.

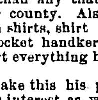
He employs none but the best and most experienced workmen, and all clothing sold is made under the immediate supervision of the proprietor or his assistants. It is therefore warranted to be what it is represented.
The subscriber, by strict attention to business, and his desire to please all who may favor him with their custom, asks from the public an increased share of patronage. In conclusion, he returns his sincere thanks to his many customers who have purchased entirely from him during his seven years' business in this city.
THOMAS COLEMAN, Franklin Hall, 41½ North Queen street. oct 18 3m 40

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS AND HOLIDAY GIFTS OF BOOKS AND STATIONERY. *JOHN SHEAFFER,* NORTH QUEEN STREET, LANCASTER, PA., Takes pleasure in informing his customers, and the public generally, that he has just received a large and well-assorted stock of elegant Books for the coming Holidays. The variety, the elegance, the novelty, and the low prices offered for the inspection of those wishing to make Christmas Presents cannot be surpassed. The assortment comprises Standard and Miscellaneous Books, in fine bindings. Library editions of the best authors. Choice copies of Illustrated Works. Elegantly bound Gift Books. The New Annuals for 1860.—Bibles, Prayer and Hymn Books, of all sizes, from the largest family size to the smallest pocket editon, in every variety of style and binding.

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS! A great show of Juveniles for the Holiday season! The Books of the Sea—the Books of the Forest—the Books of the Desert—the Books of the Fairies—the books of beautiful Prints and Engravings—the Books of the Nursery—the Books on Linen, beautifully colored—Colored Alphabets—Colored Blocks in Boxes—Letters on Pasteboard and Games of all kinds. In fact! everything for the young people, to make them happy, wiser and better.
Don't forget, you can buy Books of every kind, from the six-penny Toy for Children, to the handsome Book worth many dollars, at JOHN SHEAFFER'S Cheap Book Store, North Queen Street, Lancaster. dec 13 tf 48

CLOTHING!!! CLOTHING!!!! *FOR FALL AND WINTER.* JOHN A. ERBEN, Sign of the Striped Coat, No. 42 NORTH QUEEN Street, East side, near Orange street, Lancaster, Pa.
The subscriber returns his thanks to a generous public, for the exceedingly liberal patronage heretofore extended, and respectfully asks a continuance of the same.
He has now in store the largest, best and cheapest assortment of MENS' AND BOYS' FALL AND WINTER READY MADE CLOTHING in the City of Lancaster.
Among his extensive assortment may be found: BANGUPS, OVER-SACKS, RAGLANS, DRESS COATS, FROCK COATS, SACK COATS, SILK VESTS, VALENCIA VESTS, SATIN VESTS, CLOTH PANTS, CASSIMERE PANTS, SATINETT PANTS, PEA JACKETS, &c.
Also, a full assortment of Undershirts and Drawers, Fine Shirts and Shirt Collars, Cravats, Ties, Stocks, Suspenders, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Hosiery, Umbrellas, &c.
Also, just finished, the largest and cheapest assortment of BOYS' CLOTHING, consisting of Boys' Frock, Sack, Over-Sack and Monkey Coats, Roundabouts, Pants and Vests of all sizes and qualities.
Also, just received a very large and well-assorted stock of CLOTHS and CASSIMERES, SATINETTS, VESTINGS, &c., which will be promptly made up to order, and warranted to give satisfaction in fit and in quality.

The subscriber would particularly call the attention of the public to the fact that the clothing sold at this establishment is all of the proprietor's own manufacture, and is not only sold CHEAP, but it is BETTER MADE than any other in the City of Lancaster.
All therefore who would practice economy in the purchase of clothing, by getting full worth for their money, can save from 25 to 50 per cent. by calling at this establishment—my motto being, "Quick Sales and Small Profits."
JOHN A. ERBEN.
Remember the Old Stand, Sign of the Striped Coat, No. 42 NORTH QUEEN Street, East side, near Orange street, Lancaster, Pa. [nov 1 tf 42

'Tis said that clothing makes the man,—
And verily 'tis true,
Then call at Hiester's where you can
Get Green, Brown, Black and Blue.

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES AND VESTINGS AT J. K. HIESTER'S, No. 31½ NORTH QUEEN STREET, 4th door South of Orange, West side.
Just received and ready for sale a splendid lot of seasonable goods consisting as above stated of plain and fancy colored Cloths, Cassimeres and Sattinets of any quality that may be desired, and one of the most extensive, fashionable and beautiful assortments of Vestings ever opened in this city, comprising plain and fancy silk velvets and silks, to which I invite particular attention, as they are of the finest quality and most beautiful style. Also a large lot of Valencia and other vestings suitable for the season, in connexion with a regular assortment of first-rate trimmings, without which no garment can be got up in good order. Being in possession of the above with Mr. Winters, to fit all who think fit to try his fits we cannot fail to give fits and good fits to all who will favor us with their patronage. All work warranted.

READY MADE CLOTHING, consisting of black and fancy colored dress, frock and sack coats, with pants and vests to correspond of various prices and qualities, got up in a much better manner, with better trimmings, &c., than any that have heretofore been offered in this city or county. Also, the usual assortment of fine and common shirts, shirt collars and bosoms, cravats, suspenders, pocket handkerchiets, gloves, hosiery, umbrellas and in short everything belonging to this line of business.
The subscriber has determined to make this his permanent business; it will therefore be his interest as well as the interest of patrons to give them full value for their money; call early and favor us with your orders and secure to yourselves the advantage of the best goods and lowest prices in the county.
J. K. HIESTER,
No 31½ North Queen street 4th door south of Orange, west [sep 13 tf 35

PRESENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS. The undersigned would call the attention of his friends and the public, to his large and choice assortment of goods suitable for Holiday Gifts, consisting in part of *BOOKS,*
Court of Napoleon.
Poets of America and England.
Female Poets of America and England.
" " " Great Britain.
Josephine Gallery.
Lady of the Lake, *Fine.*
Gems of Beauty.
Festus, by Bailey, *Fine.*
Poets and Poetry of America.
Christian Keepsake.
The Emblem.
Book of Beauty.
Byron's Poetical Works.
Shakspear's " "
Woodsworth's " "
Cowper's " "
Heman's " "
Romance of American Landscape.
Prayer Books, Bibles and Hymn Books in great variety, &c., &c., &c.
JUVENILES.
The Aimwell Stories.
" Holland Library.
" Parlor "
" Little One's "
Aunt Hatty's Stories.
Little Stories for Children.
Arthur's Juvenile Library.
Youth's Cabinet.
The Florence Stories.
" Oakland "
" Tiny Library,
and hundreds of miscellaneous juveniles.
AMUSING GAMES AND PUZZLES.

Dissected Maps and Pictures.	Dr. Buzby Cards.
Chinese Puzzle.	Red Man "
Game of Old Soldier.	Snake Game.
" " Yankee Pedler.	Game of Engagements.
Japan Puzzle.	A. B. C. Blocks.
Merry Goose.	Moveable "
Old Maid Cards.	Conversation Cards.
Dr. Fusby "	Golden Egg Game, &c., &c.

Paper Dolls and Soldiers, *new.*
" Furniture "
Among other things very appropriate for Holiday Gifts are Writing Desks, Papetries, Purses, Portemonales, Morocco Bags, Albums, Autograph Books, &c. &c.
A kindly invitation is extended to all to call, examine, and choose for themselves.
J. M. WESTHAEFFER, Corner of Orange and North Queen streets. dec 20 tf 49

COURT PROCLAMATION.—Whereas, the Hon. HENRY G. LONG, President, Hon. A. L. HAYES and FERREE BRINTON, Esq., Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for the county of Lancaster, and Assistant Justices of the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery and Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in and for the county of Lancaster, have issued their Precept to me directed, requiring me, among other things, to make public Proclamation throughout my Bailiwick, that a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery; also, a Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery, will commence in the Court House, in the City of Lancaster, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on the THIRD MONDAY IN JANUARY, 1860: In pursuance of which precept, PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, to the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Lancaster, in said county, and all the Justices of the Peace, the Coroner, and Constables of the said city and county of Lancaster, that they be then and there in their own proper persons, with their rolls, records and examinations, and inquisitions, and their other remembrances, to do those things which to their offices appertain, in their behalf to be done; and also all those who will prosecute against the prisoners who are, or then shall be, in the Jail of the said county of Lancaster, are to be then and there to prosecute against them as shall be just.
Dated at Lancaster, the 8th day of December, 1859.
BENJAMIN F. ROWE, Sheriff.
N. B.—Punctual attendance of the Jurors and Witnesses will hereafter be expected and required on the first day of the sessions. Aldermen and Justices of the Peace are required by an order of Court, dated Nov. 21, 1848, to return their recognizances to Samuel Evans, Clerk of Quarter Sessions, within one week from the day of final action in each case, and in default thereof, the Magistrates' costs will not be allowed. dec 20 tc 49

JAMES H. BARNES, FANCY AND WINDSOR CHAIR MAKER, *No. 59½ East King street, Lancaster,* Takes pleasure in inviting the public to call at his Warerooms, and examine his BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT OF CHAIRS OF VARIOUS PATTERNS.
ORDERS received and promptly attended to at the shortest notice. None but the best workmen are employed in this establishment, consequently Chairs purchased at this house are fully equal to any article sold in the Eastern Cities. Call and examine for yourselves. [aug 16 1y 31

TATTERSALL'S HEAVE POWDER. Powdered Rosin, Antimony, Fennigreek, Sulphur, Saltpetre, Assafœtida, Alum, &c. For sale at THOMAS ELLMAKER'S Drug and Chemical Store, West King st. apr 21 tf 14