The Lancaster Intelligencer.

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

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THE LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER.

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TERMS.

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ANNUAL MESSAGE OF THE Governor of Pennsylvania.

READ JANUARY 7, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

GENTLEMEN—Notwithstanding the pressure of public calamity which has weighed heavily on the country during the past year, it has pleased Divine Providence not only to enable the people of Pennsylvania to perform in full all their duties to our common government, but to give to this Commonwealth domestic peace, plenty and prosperity.

The balance in Treasury Nov. 29th, 1861, was		$1,551,605 72
Receipts during fiscal year ending Nov. 30th, 1861, were as follows:		
Ordinary Sources	$4,047,822 39	
6 per cent. loan, act May 15, 1861	327,850 00	
From various banks as an equivalent for coin for the payment of interest on Public debt	140,768 30	
Refunded cash, military	29,566 42	
United States Government	605,740 52	5,211,747 63
Total into Treasury for fiscal year ending November 30, 1861,		$6,763,353 35
And the payments have been as follows:		
For ordinary purposes,	$3,083,110 06	
Paid on State interest as an equivalent for coin,	146,631 22	
Military expenses, Act April 12, 1861,	7 62	
Military expenses, Act May 15, 1861,	460,548 68	
Military expenses, Act May 16, 1861,	1,217 26	
Military expenses, Act April 16, 1862,	20,607 04	
Military Pensions, Act May 15, 1861,	400 54	
Commissioners of Sinking Fund,	427,881 51	
Domestic Creditors	105 32	
Temporary Loan redeemed,	100,000 00	
United States Government Direct tax,	350,000 00	4,590,509.25
Leaving balance in Treasury Nov. 30, 1862,		$2,172,844 10
of which amount one hundred and ninety-five thousand five hundred and seventy-six dollars and twenty-seven cents is the balance of unexpended military loan, as follows:		
Balance of said fund Nov. 30, 1861,	390,507 41	
Receipts under Act May 15, 1861,	387,850 00	
		778,357 41
Paid for military expenses as above,	482,781 14	
Paid for redemption of temporary loan,	100,000 00	
		582,781 14
		$195,576 27
Receipts from ordinary sources:		
For year ending Nov. 30, 1862,	$4,047,822 39	
" " " " " 1861,	3,017,645 57	
Excess of receipts for '62,		$1,030,176,82
Payments for ordinary purposes,		
Excepting interest:		
For year ending Nov. 30, 1861,	$1,118,662 93	
" " " " " 1862,	1,023,345 77	
Decrease in expenditures of 1862,		$ 95,317 16

From the tables exhibited it will appear that the receipts from ordinary sources of revenues for the year 1862, are in excess of the receipts of the year 1861 one million thirty thousand one hundred and seventy six dollars and eightytwo cents, [the excess of interest paid in 1862 over that in 1861 being $144,095 37;] and that the ordinary expenditures for 1862 were ninety-five thousand three hundred and seventeen dollars and sixteen cents less then the year previous

The healthy condition of the revenues, and the excess of the receipts over the expenditures, secured by the rigid economy which has been practiced, (especially considering the necessary increase of taxation by the National Government,) seem to invite the attention of the Legislature to a revision of the revenue laws with a view to lightening the burthens of the people. In this connection it is proper to invite your attention to the justice and expediency of restricting the rate of local taxation, now, in some parts of the State, oppressive.

Amount of public debt of Pennsylvania, as it stood on the 1st day of December, 1861,		$40,580,666 08
Additional amount received at the State Treasury during the fiscal year ending Nov 30, 1852, on Military Loan, authorized per act of May 15, '61,		387,850 00
		$40,968,516 08
Deduct amount redeemed at the State Treasury during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1862, viz:		
5 per cent. State stocks	$268,809 49	
4½ per cent. State stocks	50,000 00	
4 per cent. State stocks	100,000 00	
Interest certificates	17 25	
Relief notes	1,411 00	
Domestic creditors' certificates	64 52	
Military Loan, per act of April 12, 1861, redeemed	100,000 00	
		$ 520,302 26
Public debt Dec. 1, 1862		$40,448,213 82

Towards the extinguishment of the public debt, the Sinking Fund holds securities amounting to ten millions seven hundred and eighty-one thousand dollars, as follows:

Bonds of Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company.	$3,500 000
Bonds of Pennsylvania Railroad Company.	7,000 000
Bonds of Wyoming Canal Company.	281,000
	$10,781,000

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

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

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

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

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

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

In accordance with the Act of 10th of February 1862, the quota of this State of the direct tax of the United States, amounting to one mill on nine hundred and forty-six thousand seven hundred and nineteen dollars and thirty-three cents, was on the 14th June, 1862, paid to the United States, partly by a relinquishment of a portion of the sums claimed by this State from the Government and partly in cash, after deducting the fifteen per cent. allowvd by the act of Congress for prompt payment. Pennsylvania thus paid her quota of the direct tax before any other State.—There is still due to the State, principally for advances since made for transportation and equipments of volunteers, about three hundred thousand dollars.

On the 20th of February last, I issued my warrant authorizing the State Treasurer to deliver to the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company one thousand of the bonds deposited with the State in conformity with the Act of May 7, 1861. On the 20th of November I issued a similar warrant. Both warrants were granted after receiving reports from John A. Wright, Esq., the commissioner appointed for the purpose, that the proceeds of the bonds previously issued had been appropriated in accordance with the provisions of the law.—The company has now received three of the five millions of bonds deposited in the State Treasury. With the proceeds of the bonds issued, fifty-two miles of road have been completed, making with what had formerly been finished, a total of one hundred and ninety-nine miles, leaving eighty-nine miles unfinished, of which, nearly all is graded and ready for the iron. The bonds still in the Treasury will yield an amount ample to complete the road, and thus open this important route of trade and commerce. The development of the vast mineral and other resources of our north western counties by this means, will undoubtedly in a few years render valuable the securities of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, now forming part of the Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth.

The interest on the State debt was paid in August last in specie or its equivalent, in conformity with the existing law, at the cost of one hundred and forty six thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars and twenty-two cents, ($146,631.22,) for the difference between specie and paper currency, of which the banks under the provisions of the Act of 11th April, 1862, have already refunded to the State one hundred and forty thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars and thirty cents.

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

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

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

On the 7th of July last, a call was made by the President for three hundred thousand volunteers. This State had already supplied nearly one hundred and ten thousand men, yet her people promptly bestirred themselves to respond to this new requirement. Although it was believed that no bounties would be necessary to induce the men of Pennsylvania to enter the service of their country on such an occasion, yet as some of the neighboring States offered large bounties, it was thought not right to expose our citizens to the temptation thus afforded to them to enlist in regiments of other States. There being no appropriation for the payment of bounties, I, of course, could not direct them to be paid out of the treasury, and it was evident that to call the Legislature together and wait for the negotation of any loan which might be authorized for the purpose, would be attended by injurious delay. Under these circumstances I confidently appealed by proclamation to a people who have never faltered in the performance of any duty of patriotism, calling on them to raise in their several counties, the sum necessary to insure their proportion of the quota of the State. This appeal was effectually answered. Public meetings were held, and liberal amounts subscribed to individuals. In the city of Philadelphia, besides a very large fund thus raised, the municipal authorities contributed heavily from their common treasury, and in several counties the county commissioners, generally under the guarantee of a few of their eminent citizens, devoted county funds to the same purpose. I recommend that these proceedings be legalized, and submit to the wisdom of the Legislature the question of what legislation would be just and proper on the whole subject that the burden of this patriotic effort may fall equally on all classes of people throughout the State.

The result of this manifestation of public spirit was that thirty-eight new regiments and three unattached companies of infantry were raised; four other regiments, which, previous to this call, had been authorized by the War Department to be raised are still in progress of organization.

On special requisitions from the War Department there have been raised and are now in service five additional regiments, and three companies of cavalry, two batteries of heavy artillery, and one battery of light artillery. A battalion of heavy artillery is being raised by Maj. Jos. Roberts, U. S. A., with my assent, also under special authority of the War Department.

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

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

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

In October last, a body of rebel cavelry with a battery of artillery suddenly crossed the Potomac and made their way as far as Chambersburg, plundering what they found of supplies useful to them and committing other depredations. They went out of the State by crossing the South Mountain, and thus reaching the Potomac below Harper's Ferry. The troops in the field were not prepared at the moment to punish this attempt on her soil, and it is to be much regretted that efficient measures could not have been taken by the army to capture the rebels on their return to the Potomac. Immediately after I received notice that this force had crossed the line of the State, I called into strvice the Anderson Cavalry, then encamped at Carlisle, and two companies or Regulars at the Barricks at that place. These troops were pushed foward in the direction of Chambersburg and South Mountain. The cavalry at Camp Curtin, consisting of one full and two imperfect regiments, were armed as infantry and a battery a volunteer light artillery of Harrisburg, were held in readiness to go forward, when Major General Wool arrived and assumed command of all the forces. He had previously ordered part of his command from Baltimore and marched the troops to Gettysburg.

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

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

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

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

63 pieces of artillery, of which 22 need repairs.
2 batteries of new cannon, consisting of 12 Griffin rifled cannon, 6-pounders, 2 caissons and 2 battery wagons, presented to the State by the Committee of Safety of Philadelphia, in September last.
26,492 muskets and rifles, of which 11,614 are ready for issue, 4,460 in the hands of mechanics for repairs, and the balance, having been used by the militia called out in September last, require cleaning.
12,427 setts infantry accoutrements complete.
1,293 swords and sabres.
684 pistols.
1,938 rounds artillery ammunition.
1,522,000 rounds of ammunition for small arms.

The following arms, accoutrements and ammunition have been furnished according to law to the border counties, and to volunteer organizations formed under the Militia Act of 1858:

5,840 muskets and rifles with accoutrements complete, were issued to and are now in possession of border counties.
4,958 muskets and rifles, and 3,041 setts of accoutrements issued to and now in possession of organized companies. Also 80,000 rounds of ammunition issued to border counties and organized companies.
1,755 muskets and 895 sets of accoutrements, were issued to Cols. Brown and Glantz's regiments on going into the service.
32 pieces of artillery, issued to First Pennsylvania Artillery, Colonel Charles T. Campbell, commanding, on going into the service.
528 sabres, 1,056 pistols and 528 sets of accoutrements, issued to organized cavalry companies.

Showing an aggregate of

107 pieces of artillery.
39,045 muskets and rifles.
1,740 pistols.
1,826 sabres.
22,203 sets infantry accoutrements.
528 sets cavalry accoutrements.
1,603,938 rounds of amunition.

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

6 20-pounder Parrot rifled guns.
2 10-pounder Prussian rifled guns.
1 10-pounder English rifled gun.
12 cassions for 20-poundor Parrot rifled guns.
2 cassions for 10-pounder Prussian rifled guns, with tools and stores.
1 12-pounder rifled howitzer, Dahlgreen.
1 12-pounder rifle howitzer, 750 lbs., Dahlgreen.
2 field carriages for ditto.
2 small howitzer guns, 12-pounders, with carriages, tools and stores.
1 12-pounder rifled howitzer, Dahlgreen.
1 12 pounder smooth bore, 750 lbs., Dahlgreen.
2 field carriages for ditto.
2 small 12-pounder howitzers, with carriages, tools and stores.
195 saddles.
127 saddles, with traces, breast strap, &c.
68 saddles, incomplete.
2,296 muskets and rifles.
200 pistols and 124 holsters.
1,997 rounds of shot and shell.
672,884 rounds musket and rifle cartridges.

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

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

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

By the thirteenth section of the act of May 15th, 1861, I was authorized to draw my warrants on the treasury for a sum not exceeding twenty thousand dollars for compensation to such persons as might be required to serve the country in a military capacity. At the date of my last annual message, I had drawn from the treasury eight thousand five hundred dollars, and had paid out up to the 1st of December, 1861, six thousand four hundred dollars, when my account was settled. Since that time I have drawn two thousand dollars from the treasury, part of which, with the balance in my hands, has been expended in the payment of members of my personal staff in service when I required assistance, and in procuring information, and to persons employed when the State was threatened with invasion in September, 1862, and during the raid in October last.

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

Under the act of 20th April, 1858, it is my intention to take early measures for the sale of the powder magazine in the city of Philadelphia. The powder magazine at Harrisburg is not judiciously located. A State powder magazine ought, in my judgment, to be erected on a suitable site in the vicinity of this place, and I recommend the attention of the Legislasure to the subject.

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

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

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

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

In addition to the expenses of attending and bringing home our sick and wounded as above stated, I have expended less than $4000 in the transportation of friends of sick killed or wounded volunteers, and other persons sent by me for their care to the several battle-fields and hospitals, and in bringing home for interment the bodies of those slain. The whole expense incurred under the joint resolution was $5,118 83, the details of which will be found in the report of the Surgeon General and Chief of Transportation.

Ihave uniformly, when applied to, allowed the expense of transportation of one person to the field to bring home the body of his friend or relation, and the expense of his return with the body. The cost of this has not exceeded $600, which is iucluded in the sum of less than $4000 as above stated.

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

The city of Philadelphia having patriotically offered to the United States, League Island as a donation for a Navy Yard, Congress directed a commission to report upon the availability of that site and also of New London.—To the general astonishment, a majority of the commission have reported in favor of New London, but the minority has presented a report, which is fortified by the approval of the Secretary of the Navy, showing so conclusively the superiority of League Island that it is scarcely possiple that Congress should hesitate to select that location. To establish a Navy Yard for the construction of iron clad vessels at a point remote from all necessary supplies situated on salt water, and accessible by more than one route to any enemy, who may have a momentary superiority at sea, would appear to be quite inconsistent with the wisdom of Congres, especially when a site is offered convenient to iron, coal and other necessary supplies, situated on fresh water with a sufficient depth for the draught of large vessels, and safe from hostile attack by its position.

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

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

If the Legislature should accept the donation, I recomend that it be applied towards the erection of an asylum for our disabled soldiers, and that the trustees appointed to superintend the erection and management of the asylum be authorized to accept such further contributions as one citizens may offer. In a well managed establishment of that kind, it is probable that the pensions to be allowed by the Government to the men, will enable them to support themselves with comfort. By an act of Congress passed on the second day of July, 1862, lands were granted to the several States for the endowment, support and maintenance by each State, of at least one college for teaching such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic art, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics.

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

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

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

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

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

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

In accordance with the provisions of the Act of 6th May, 1862, an information in equity was filed by the Attorney General against the Delaware and Hudson Canal Compnay and the Pennsylvania Coal Company. The case was argued before the Supreme Court at Sunbury in October last.

By an Act passed on the 16th day of May, 1861, a company was incorporated by the name of the Navy Yard, Broad street and Fairmount Railway Company. It being alleged that the company, instead of making a railway on the route and in the manner prescribed by its charter, is constructing a railroad of a different character by a route extending from the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad depot to the Philadelphia and Trenton railroad depot, both within the city of Philadelphia, the Attorney General has proceeded against the company by *quo warranto* for the violation of its charter, and has also filed an information for the purpose of restraining the company from proceeding in the construction of their road. Both these proceedings are now pending.

By the act of 29th March, 1813, it was provided that citizens absent from home in actual military service, might exercise their right of suffrage as if they were present at the usual places of election. This act was substantially re-enacted in the general election law passed on the 2d of July, 1839. The Supreme Court has recently decided that by reason of a phrase in the constitutional amendments of 1838, this provision has become unconstitutional. Pennsylvania has sent to the service about two hundred thousand citizens, who, by this decision, are disfranchised. This seems to be a hard measure—that men who testify their devotion to the country by going to the field should thereby lose the most inestimable right of a citizen. I recommend that the necessary steps be forthwith commenced to amend the constitution, so as to give the right of suffrage to the citizens who are thus excluded.

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

This State has furnished more men for the defence of our institutions, and has lost more by the casualties of war, than any other State. She has given her blood and treasure freely, and is ready to give as much more of both as may be needful. Her people intend that by the blessing of God, this rebellion shall be suppressed, and will not be turned from their settled purpose by the wiles of masked enemies or the vacillations of feeble friends. On the contrary, they will, (as is their right,) insist that competent Integrity, Earnestness, Intellect and Vigor shall be employed in the public service, to preserve the Government, and to maintain the unity of the country.

A. G. CURTIN.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Harrisburg Jan. 7, 1863.

Charge of Murat at Eylau.

It is at Eylau that Murat always appears in his terrible aspect. This battle, fought in mid-winter in 1807, was the most important and bloody one that had then occurred. France and Russia had never before opposed such strength to each other, and a complete victory on either side would have settled the fate of Europe. Bonaparte remained in possession of the field, and that was all; no victory was ever so like a defeat.

The field of Eylau was covered with snow, and the little ponds that were scattered over it were frozen sufficiently hard to bear the artillery; 71,000 men on one side and 85,000 on the other, arose from the frozen field on which they had slept that night of February, without tent or covering, to battle for a continent. Angereau, on the left, was utterly routed in the morning. Advancing through a snow storm so thick he could not see the enemy, the Russian cannon mowed down his ranks with their destructive fire, while the Cossack cavalry, which were ordered to charge, came thundering on, almost hitting the French infantry with their long lances before they were visible through the storm.

Hemmed in and overthrown, the whole division, composed of 16,000 men, with the exception of 1,500, were captured or slain. Just then the snow storm clearing up, revealed to Napoleon the peril to which he was brought, and he immediately ordered a grand charge of the Imperial Guard and the whole cavalry. Nothing was further from Napoleon's wishes or expectations than the bringing of his reserve into the engagement at this early stage of the battle, but there was no other resource left him.

Murat sustained his high reputation on this occasion, and proved himself, for the hundredth time, worthy of the great confidence Napoleon placed in him. Nothing could be more imposing than the battle field at this moment. Bonaparte and the Empire trembled in the balance, while Murat prepared to lead down his cavalry to save them. 70 squadrons, making in all 14,000 well mounted men, began to move over the slope, with the Old Guard marching sternly behind him.

Bonaparte, it is said, was more agitated at this crisis than when, a moment before, he was so near being captured by the Russians. But as he saw those seventy squadrons come down on a plunge trot, pressing hard after the white plume of Murat, that streamed through the snow storm far in front, a smile passed over his countenance.

The earth groaned and trembled as they passed, and the sabres, above the dark and angry mass below, looked like the foam of a sea wave at its crest on the deep. The rattling of their armor, and the muffled thunder of their tread, drowned all the roar of the battle, as with firm set array, and swift, steady motion they broke down with terrible front on the foe.

The shock of that immense host was like a falling mountain, and the front line of the Russian army went down like network before it. Then commenced a protracted fight of hand to hand, and sword to sword, as in the cavalry action of Eckmuhl. The clashing of steel was like the ringing of countless hammers, and horses and riders were blended in wild confusion together, the Russian reserve was ordered up, and on these Murat fell with his fierce horsemen, crushing and trampling them down by thousands. But the obstinate Russians disdained to fly, and rallied again so that it was no longer cavalry charging on infantry, but squadrons of horses galloping through the broken host that gathered into knots, still disputing with unparalleled bravery, the red and rent field.

It was during this strange fight that Murat was seen to perform one of those desperate deeds for which he was so renowned. Excited to the highest pitch of passion by the obstacles that opposed him, he seemed endowed with a ten fold strength, and looked more like a superhuman being treading down helpless mortals, than an ordinary man. Amid the roar of artillery and the rattling of sabre strokes like lightning about him, that lofty white plume never once went down, while ever and anon it was seen glaring through the smoke of battle, the star hope to Napoleon, and showing that his "right arm" was still uplifted and striking for victory.

He raged like an unloosed lion amid the foe; and his eyes, always terrible in battle, burned with increased lustre, while his clear and steady voice, heard above the turmoil of strife, was worth more than a thousand trumpets to cheer on his followers. At length seeing a knot of Russian soldiers that had kept up a devouring fire on his men, he wheeled his horse and drove in full gallop upon their leveled muskets.

A few of his guards, that never allowed that white plume to leave their sight charged after him. Without waiting to count his foes, he seized his bridle in his teeth, and with his pistol in one hand and his sword in the other, burst in headlong fury upon them, and scattered them as if a hurricane had swept by. Murat was a thunderbolt on that day, and the deeds that were wrought by him will forever furnish themes for the poet and the painter.

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