

Should you decline to act upon this subject, I would then recommend that an adequate appropriation be made to the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the purpose of extending its accommodations for the care of the insane, as distinct as may be practicable from the other class of patients and inmates. The charter of this institution is liberal in its provisions, and comprehensive in the objects liable to be brought under its care: embracing the insane, as well as the sick, helpless and infirm.

In this connection I would commend to your attention the Pennsylvania Training School for Idiots and Feeble-minded children. The aid of the Commonwealth has heretofore been extended to this institution. It is a noble charity, and appeals to the best feelings of the heart. It deserves to share the bounty of the State.

The House of Refuge in Philadelphia, and the Western House of Refuge near Harrisburg, are institutions of great excellence, having for their object the reclaiming of wayward and erring youth—the employment of the idle—the instruction of the ignorant—the reformation of the vicious and depraved, and the relief of the wretched. They are schools, not prisons—homes, not places of punishment; they are a refuge to the neglected and outcast children and youth of our Commonwealth. The success of the past is a sure guarantee of their future usefulness. They should receive your aid and encouragement.

The "Blind" and the "Deaf and Dumb Asylums," in Philadelphia, invite our sympathy, and ask to share the benefactions of the Commonwealth. They should not be disappointed. The blind, in their darkness—the dumb, in their silence—will cherish the gift, and bless the generous donor.

Legislation, in relation to all questions of moral and social reform, should be carefully and wisely considered and matured. On no subject within the constitutional authority of the Legislature, are the people so sensitive; and no one more deeply interests every class and condition of society. Sumptuary laws, as a general rule, are of doubtful expediency; and as abridgements of the liberty and privileges of the citizen, can only be justified on the ground of necessity. Whilst this is admitted, it cannot be denied that the evils resulting from intemperance, create a necessity for regulating and restraining by legislative acts, the traffic and sale of intoxicating liquors. To what extent this traffic should be restrained by positive law, must depend upon the will of the people, determined by considerations of their own moral, physical and social welfare. Whatever may be my own opinion, or that of the Legislature or the people, in reference to the law of the last session "to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors," it must be admitted that a full return to the license system, in operation prior to the passage of the present law, is not demanded by enlightened public sentiment, and would not promote the good order or happiness of the community. That the laws then in existence were imperfect, and failed to check or control the evils of intemperance, is a proposition too plain to be doubted—that they need revision must also be conceded. In our large cities and towns the evils of the system were more severely felt. The facility and cheapness with which licenses were obtained, operated as a premium to vice and immorality, and multiplied tipping houses and places where intemperance, under the authority of the law, was not only permitted but encouraged. My immediate predecessor, in his last annual message to the Legislature, in reference to the then license laws, says: "So far as relates to the city of Philadelphia, they are peculiarly prejudicial to public morals, and seem to have been constructed to promote the convenience of drinking far more than to restrain its evil consequences." In this opinion I fully concur. That a remedy was demanded, all will concede. Whether the law of the last session was the proper remedy, it is not my province now to determine. Enacted by the representatives of the people, I gave that act my official approval. Recognizing the people as the source of all political power, and their representatives as the immediate exponents of their will, upon you you will devolve the responsibility of further legislation, if any, on this subject. In all its relations, economical, political, social and moral, the question is important, and its proper determination involves fearful responsibilities. It deserves, and should receive your serious consideration. If action is had, may we not hope that it will be such as will promote the virtue, morality, and true interests of our people and Commonwealth.

Legislation, so far as practicable, should be general and uniform. Local and special legislation should not be encouraged, when the desired object can be obtained by general laws. Such legislation is not only local and special in its character, but frequently temporary—the act of one session being repealed by the act of the next, and perhaps replaced by one still more objectionable, which, in turn, soon shares the fate of its predecessor. It crowds the statute book with useless and unnecessary laws—violates private rights—creates confusion and uncertainty—destroys uniformity of practice and decision—prolongs the sessions of the legislature, and increases the public expenses. Our general laws regulating roads, highways and bridges, and providing for the support and employment of the poor, constitute a well digested system for the accomplishment of those objects; and yet, under the system of local legislation heretofore practiced, we frequently find in different townships of the same county, local laws regulating these subjects, not only differing materially from the general law, but from one another. Reform in this regard is required, and to this I respectfully ask your attention.

"Omibus legislation" having been condemned and abandoned, should not be permitted again to sully the records of legislative action. It cannot receive my approval.

Numerous applications will doubtless be made for the incorporation of insurance, gas, water and boom companies. To facilitate action on these questions—economize time—reduce the expenses of legislation—secure uniformity and confine the companies thereafter incorporated to the legitimate purposes of their creation, I would recommend the propriety of enacting general laws regulating such corporations. Already laws of this kind for coal, iron, canal, railroad, turnpike, plank and bridge companies have been passed, and in practice have been found highly useful and economical. Such laws, well regulated and carefully guarded, would be productive of similar results in their application to insurance and the other companies named.

The propriety of limiting and restraining corporate bodies to the objects and purposes of their creation, will not be denied or controverted. In relation to the powers and privileges of insurance companies, this plain principle

has been overlooked and disregarded. By successive acts of legislation, many of these institutions have acquired discounting privileges and nearly all the powers of banks without their guards, restrictions and liabilities. This has been effected by the magic of some general provision in the act incorporating the company or by reference to some forgotten supplement, concealed in the folds of an "omnibus bill," or lost in the mazes of the pamphlet laws. General laws, whilst they would confer on such companies all the powers necessary to accomplish the objects of their incorporation, would at the same time prevent an extension of privileges foreign to such associations. This subject is commended to your consideration.

The jurisdiction of the courts in relation to real estate, trusts, the incorporation of literary, charitable and religious societies, manufacturing and other associations, has been greatly extended by recent legislation. This enlarged jurisdiction was conferred for the purpose of relieving the Legislature from the pressure of numerous applications for special legislation in the premises. The courts are, therefore, the proper tribunals to determine such questions; and in all cases where the subject matter is within their jurisdiction, the Legislature should refuse to entertain the application.

Divorces, unless in cases of extreme necessity and clearly beyond the jurisdiction of the courts, should not be granted by the Legislature.

By the act of the 16th of April, 1845, entitled "An Act to increase the revenues and diminish the legislative expenses of the Commonwealth," it was provided that thereafter no private bill, therein described and taxed, should be enrolled in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, or published, or have the force and effect of law, until the party asking or requiring the same should pay into the treasury of the Commonwealth the respective sums named in said act. A large number of acts passed by former Legislatures, and subject to this tax, remain in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the tax on them not having been paid. The number has been annually increasing, and will continue to increase, unless a summary remedy be afforded for the collection of the enrollment tax or in default of its payment after a certain period, the acts themselves be repealed. The amount of enrollment tax now due the Commonwealth is large, and should have been paid long since. I would, therefore, recommend the passage of a law repealing all acts heretofore passed, subject to such tax, unless the tax be paid within one year thereafter; and further, to provide that all such acts hereafter passed, shall not have the force and effect of law, unless the taxes respectively due thereon be paid within six months after their approval. Such a law would secure the payment of these taxes, increase the revenues, and at the same time check the demand for private acts designed to be used or abandoned, as the calculation of chances, or the loss or gain of the parties in interest might determine.

By a resolution of the Legislature, passed the 27th day of March, 1855, requiring the "New York and Erie railroad company to communicate to the Legislature of the Commonwealth, a statement, certified under oath by their president, setting forth what quantity of land said company now holds in Pennsylvania—its location—how much they have heretofore disposed of—its value—the value of what they now hold, and when the titles to said lands were acquired," it was made the duty of the Governor to transmit a copy of said resolution to the president of said company. A copy of the resolution was transmitted as directed; and the answer of the president of the company, communicating the information required, is herewith submitted to the Legislature.

By a resolution of the 26th day of April, 1855, I was requested to procure from the Attorney General, his opinion of the right of the State of New York to divert water from the natural bed and channel of the Chemung river, to the prejudice of the public improvements of Pennsylvania; the said river belonging to both States; and communicate the same to the Legislature. As requested, the opinion of the Attorney General has been obtained, and is herewith communicated to the Legislature.

On the sixth day of October last, I approved and signed the bill, entitled "An Act to repeal the charter of the Erie and North East railroad company, and to provide for the disposal of the same." In pursuance of its provisions, I appointed the Hon. Joseph Casey to take possession and have the charge and custody of the road. Before possession was taken, application was made by the company to one of the judges of the Supreme Court of this Commonwealth for an injunction to restrain the agent of the State from taking possession of the road; and subsequently a cautionary order was made by the Supreme Court, in banc, to stay his proceeding under the act. The questions involved in the application for an injunction are now pending before the court, and will, it is expected, be determined early in the present month. The result will be made the subject of a special communication to the Legislature.

The recent fraudulent, if not felonious abstraction of a large quantity of arms from the arsenal at Harrisburg, has shown the necessity of additional legislation for the protection of the arms and other public property of the Commonwealth deposited in the arsenals of the State. The taking and sale of the public arms and property, without authority of the law, by the keepers of the arsenals, or by others having them in charge, should be declared a felony, and punished with severity; and all persons purchasing or receiving the same, without proper authority, and knowing them to be the property of the Commonwealth should be regarded as principals, and punished accordingly.

The bonds now required to be given by the Adjutant General and the keepers of the arsenals, for the faithful discharge of their duties are insufficient in amount to secure the Commonwealth against loss from the fraudulent sale or taking of the property committed to their care. The sum in which these bonds are taken should be increased to an amount proportionate to the value of the property which is or may be deposited in the arsenals.

Since the sale of the arsenal in Philadelphia, the public arms have been placed in a room or out-house procured for that purpose. As a depository, it is unsafe and insecure. Better provision should be made for their safe-keeping.

The sum of thirty thousand dollars, arising from the sale of the Philadelphia arsenal, is now in the Treasury, to be expended under the direction of the Governor, in the purchase of a suitable lot and the erection of a new arsenal. This sum is wholly insufficient for that purpose, and without additional appropriations, which are not recommended, this object cannot

be accomplished. As arms and munitions of war can, when required, be transmitted with facility and rapidity, to distant parts of the State, the necessity for more than one arsenal no longer exists. If the arsenal at Meadville can be dispensed with without detriment to the public service, I would suggest for your consideration the propriety of authorizing its sale, and the sale of the one at Harrisburg, and with the funds arising therefrom, and the money in the Treasury applicable to that purpose, the erection of a large and commodious arsenal at Harrisburg, or elsewhere, as may be deemed most economical, safe and convenient.

The Legislature, at their last session, having failed to elect a Senator to represent this State in the Senate of the United States, for six years from the 4th of March last, it becomes your duty to provide for an election to supply such vacancy. By reference to the existing laws regulating the election of Senators to represent this State in the Senate of the United States, it will be perceived that their provisions do not embrace a case like the present.

Having, at the time of my induction into office, declared to my fellow-citizens and their representatives, my sentiments in relation to our national politics, their reiteration now will not be expected. To the opinions then expressed, and now re-affirmed, you are respectfully referred.

To maintain in their integrity the Constitution of our Republic, and the Union of the States—protect the civil and religious privileges of the people—guard with jealous care the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government—of freedom and human rights—and vindicate by a true and single devotion to home and country, the great doctrine of American Nationality, are objects that awaken the patriotism and claim the energies and the heart of every American citizen.

In obedience to the requirements of the Constitution and laws of the State, as the representatives of the people, you have assembled to perform that devolve upon you. As a coordinate branch of the government, it will be alike my duty and pleasure, to unite with you in the enactment of all such laws as will protect the rights of the people, and advance the honor and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

With a sole desire for the public good—actuated by a spirit of enlarged and enlightened patriotism, and guided by that wisdom which hath its beginning in the fear of God, may our efforts, in harmonious action, be directed to the accomplishment of these objects, and to the promotion of that righteousness which exalteth a nation, and constitutes the true glory of a free and independent people.

JAMES POLLOCK.  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
Harrisburg, January 1, 1856.

#### Two Horrible Murders in Connecticut.

The most horrible murder that ever took place in the State of Connecticut, or perhaps in the civilized world, was perpetrated on Monday, in the town of Woodbridge, in that State, about eight miles from the city of New Haven. It was a far more atrocious murder than the one so recently committed by Samuel Sly and the gang of Wakemans. It is to be sincerely hoped that the citizens of that State have now witnessed the last scene in the Wakeman tragedy.

About half past 10 o'clock on Monday, Mr. Enoch Sperry, of Woodbridge, left his home, and was proceeding through a piece of woods near his house, with his horse and sleigh, and when near a little brook, in a solitary part of the woods, was attacked by a man named Chas. Sanford, and knocked down and most brutally murdered.

Sanford had an axe in his hand, with which he struck Mr. Sperry over the right eye, inflicting a fearful gash, and prostrating him beside the road. He then struck him again with the head of the axe upon the back of his head, and then deliberately attempted to chop off his head, nearly severing it from his body. It was connected with his body only by a little skin at the back of the neck.

The horse of Mr. Sperry was allowed to pass on the road, and after proceeding by the house of Mr. Samuel F. Perkins, halted at a shed near by. Mr. Perkins, thinking all was not right, went in search of Mr. Sperry, and found his body lying beside the road, with every indication that he had been waylaid and murdered.

Mr. Perkins alarmed the neighborhood, and having procured assistance, took the body of Mr. Sperry to his family, who live only about a hundred rods from the place where the murder was committed.

A jury of inquest was assembled in the evening, and after due deliberation, rendered a verdict that the deceased came to his death at the hands of some person or persons unknown.

In the evening the murderer was arrested and taken to jail, and confessed that he had not only murdered Mr. Sperry, but that he had also murdered Mr. Ichabod Underfield, who lived about a mile east of Mr. Sperry's house.

It seems that after murdering Mr. Sperry, he went to the house of Mr. Underfield and entered it, and while he (Mr. Underfield) was sitting by the stove in the kitchen, he struck him with the same axe with which he murdered Mr. Sperry, and after breaking his skull, nearly severed his head from his body.

The family set up the cry of "Murder!" but he told them to stop their noise or he would chop their heads off also.

He went out of the house to wipe the blood off his axe upon the snow, and while he was out the family fastened the door and prevented his getting in again. He then went into the woods, but was soon pursued by several neighbors, who succeeded in arresting him after a bloody fight, in which Mr. Doolittle came near getting killed.

A jury of inquest was impanelled and returned a verdict that Mr. Underfield came to his death by wounds inflicted in the head and neck by Charles Sanford, of Bethany.

This Charles Sanford is a fanatic who has formerly attended the meetings of the Wakemans in Hampton. He is subject to fits of insanity, and was probably insane when he committed these dreadful murders. He confessed having murdered both Mr. Sperry and Mr. Underfield while on the way to jail. He said he had a cramp, and if he had not murdered Mr. Sperry and Mr. Underfield, the cramp would have killed him.

Mr. Underfield was a man seventy-one years of age, and Mr. Sperry was sixty-nine years old.

The powder in the rolling-mill at the works of Messrs. Dupont exploded on Wednesday evening last, about 7 o'clock. The concussion was very sensibly felt in Wilmington, although there was but about sixty pounds of powder in the mill at the time.

## Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

TOWANDA:

Saturday Morning, January 12, 1856.

TERMS.—One Dollar per annum, invariably in advance. Four weeks previous to the expiration of a subscription, notice will be given by a printed wrapper, and if not received, the paper will in all cases be stopped.

CLEANING.—The Reporter will be sent to Clubs at the following extremely low rates: 6 copies for \$5.00 15 copies for \$12.00 10 copies for \$8.00 20 copies for \$16.00

ADVERTISEMENTS.—For a square of ten lines or less, One Dollar for three or less insertions, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion.

Job-Work.—Executed with accuracy and dispatch, and at reasonable prices—with every facility for doing Books, Blankets, Hand-bills, Ball-tickets, &c.

Money may be sent by mail, at our risk—enclosed in an envelope, and properly directed, we will be responsible for its safe delivery.

#### Republican Standing Committee.

The Republican Standing Committee for Bradford County, will meet at the Court House, in Towanda, on TUESDAY, the 15th of January inst., at one o'clock, P. M., for the transaction of such business as shall be legitimately brought before them. A general attendance of the Committee is requested.

ALLEN M'KEAN, Chairman.  
The following named gentlemen compose said committee:—Allen M'Kean, E. O. Goodrich, Wm. C. Bogart, G. P. Mason, J. B. G. Babcock, Eugene Keeler, John A. Coddling, H. M. Vanduse, V. S. Vincent, Samuel Davidson, E. C. Kellogg, C. F. Nichols, Ira C. Ballack.

#### CONGRESS.

We are obliged to defer any extended report of the proceedings of Congress and our readers are not the losers thereby. Since our last publication, the time has been taken up with personal explanations and debates, devoid of public interest, desultory motions, and unsuccessful ballotings, without material change, the latest of which, being the ninety-eighth, we append:

The falling off in the vote of Mr. Banks is owing to the absence of several of his friends, and the defection of Mr. Brewster, of Indiana.

On Monday the House adjourned until Wednesday, and the Democrats held a caucus Monday night and resolved to stick to their candidates, platform and course. They also resolved not to adjourn on Wednesday, until a Speaker is chosen, unless it should be over the Sabbath. Several Members gave notice that they would vote for the plurality rule if the measure should be proposed. The general impression is that we shall have a Speaker this week.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The steamer Canada arrived at Halifax, on Tuesday last, bringing one week later intelligence. Rumors of peace are abundant. Count Valentine Esterhazy has gone from Vienna to St. Petersburg, as the bearer of new propositions of peace, invented by Austria and assented to by both France and England. The terms thus submitted to the Czar are: 1. The Black Sea to be closed against war vessels of all nations, Russian, Turkish and other. 2. A general protection of the great powers over the Christians of Turkey. 3. The free navigation of the Danube to be secured. 4. The fortress of Bomarsund and Sevastopol not to be rebuilt. The Czar is to have a fortnight to consider these proposals; if he rejects them there will be an end of negotiations till after the next campaign, in which there is a vague, but we dare say most fallacious, notion that Austria will take some part. If he accepts, a new Conference will take place at Dresden or Munich.

There is not much reason to believe that Count Esterhazy will have to wait for his answer, or that it will be other than a flat negative. Russia is not yet sufficiently humiliated to accept such terms.

From Kars, we have at last positive intelligence of the capitulation of the garrison to the Russians—all their heroism being unable to contend against starvation. The Muhiir, commanding the Turkish army of Anatolia, together with some ten other general officers, including the British gen. Williams, were taken, but the Hungarians, Kmetty, Kollman and Tashler, succeeded in making their escape from Erzeroum, rather than run the risk of being surrendered to the Austrians, which the Russians would possibly have done. Of Omer Pasha we hear nothing; it is said, however, that Belutoff is about to march from Kaitais to attack him, and the British journals are clamorous for sending re-enforcements to him from Sevastopol.

It is reported that a treaty has been concluded between Sweden and the Western Powers, which is, however, from an entry into the league against Russia. The stipulations seem to be on the one hand that Sweden shall not alienate any part of her territory to Russia, while on the other hand the Western Powers guarantee her integrity. Moreover the parties agree to communicate to each other any propositions of peace that may be made.

On Monday night the house of Nicholas Beaker, near Ebersburg, Pa., was burned down, and Mr. Beaker, his wife and two daughters perished in the flames. Two of the sons, and some of the smaller children, made their escape.

FULLER ENDORSED.—The editor of the Louisville Journal endorses his brother Know Nothing in the following style:

"Mr. Fuller, of Pennsylvania, is as sound upon the slavery question as Mr. Richardson, of Illinois, besides being a better man." After this Fuller may well claim rank as the Prince of Dough-Faces.

Snow fell at the depth of two feet in Philadelphia, last week.

#### LOCAL ITEMS.

LOCAL PAPERS.—The following remarks from the Weekly Bulletin, contain some sensible advice. The necessity of supporting local papers must be at once apparent to every one who will take the trouble of giving the matter a moment's thought. For instance, how would the people of Bradford like to have all the papers published in the County, discontinued, and become as favored as Wisk once boasted his Congressional district was. We do not believe there is a single intelligent citizen who would rejoice at such a result—and yet we know there are many who utterly neglect to do anything towards supporting their County papers. Not that they do not feel an interest in them, but they are content to read their neighbor's paper, or for some other reason, never think of subscribing for it themselves.

The small sum of one dollar per year, is all the outlay now required, an amount within the reach of every one. We consider the Reporter worth more than that, to every citizen and taxpayer of the County for its legal advertisements alone. We know of men, who are abundantly able to take a dozen papers, that are so stinging, or mean, that they are constantly troubling their neighbors for the loan of the Reporter to see who are drawn on the jury, or they want to see the Trial List, or Sheriff's sales, &c.

The remarks which we append point out some other reasons why local papers should be supported:—"At present, however, the man who takes but a single paper, is almost in the relative condition of one who, fifty years ago, took no paper at all. It is impossible to point out any one journal which supplies the variety requisite, or which contains all that one requires who does not happen to reside in a city. To all thus situated we would say, 'Do not neglect your local paper. That which is taking place immediately around you, is, or should be, of the greatest importance to you. If one number does not contain something which an intelligent scheming mind may turn to advantage, the next may, and even if the paper do not display that ability which you require, it is all the more your duty to encourage it, for genius, like everything else, requires substantial food. The country editor has much to contend against; he represents you and your interests, and if you withhold your patronage from him you may rest assured that you disgrace yourself by losing your share in that distinctive trait of the American, which is, that go where he may he must have a newspaper of his own. And if you are a creditable member of a respectable neighborhood the excellence and influence of your local paper soon will—or ought to be—a matter of personal pride with you. Many a place which would otherwise be nothing—without business and without name—has become known, has attracted, first attention and then business, merely because a few inhabitants had the spirit to patronize a good paper and keep it going. There are towns and even cities in the West which have been literally newspapered into prosperity, and that not by empty humbug, but by attracting attention through a talented press."

The Commissioners of Bradford Co., have made the following appointments for the ensuing year:

Clerk.—E. M. FARRAR.  
Counsel.—ULYSES MERCUR.  
Mercantile Appraiser.—A. D. MONTAGNE.

The appointment of Mr. FARRAR is evidence of his fidelity and usefulness in the office, and to the manner in which he has discharged the duties of Clerk. The present year being the tri-annual assessment, rendered the labors of an experienced Clerk, a matter of necessity, and Mr. F. is admirably qualified to meet all the exigencies of the occasion.

SINGULAR AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—An extraordinary accident occurred at the Steam Mill of Col. John F. Means, in Monroe Twp., on the 31st ult., resulting in the death of JESSE SEEBACH. The deceased, with two others, was engaged in chopping down a large tree, when the axe of one of the others slipped from the helve, the bit striking him on the thigh, severing the main arteries, and causing his death in less than five minutes. The deceased was a German, about 31 years of age, and had been in this country about three years, and was a temperate and industrious man. The affliction of so sudden a death is, in this instance, greatly aggravated by the circumstance that he was to have been married the following day.

MUSICAL CONVENTION.—It is announced that a Musical Convention will commence at this place, on Tuesday the 29th day of Jan., instant, to continue four days and conclude with a concert. The convention is to be under the direction of Prof. Wm. B. BRADBURY, of New York city, whose reputation is well known as an able and popular leader of such Musical assemblages. The holding of a musical convention is no longer a matter of question or of doubt since the experience of last winter.

The one already held here has demonstrated to our musical population, and to all others, in fact, their immense utility as a means of disseminating a correct musical taste, and imparting information in this highly pleasing and very necessary art. We shall expect to see in attendance on this occasion, all the musical celebrities of the County, as well as all those who wish to correct their style of singing or learn what may be new in the art. The necessary arrangements will be made, both for the meetings of the Convention, and for the comfort of those who may attend.

The river, opposite this place, is now firmly frozen over, making a capital bridge over which to pass. We can hardly expect to be as greatly favored as last winter, but we trust it will remain some time undisturbed.

SLEIGHING.—The sleighing for some days past has been capital, and it seems to be well improved. Tuesday night was the coldest of the season, the thermometer going down to 20 degrees below zero.

The Grand Secretary of the Sons of Temperance of this State gives notice that a meeting of the Grand Division will be held at Le Raysville, commencing on the 23d inst. The Grand Officers, also expect to speak at various points in the County as advertised.

The Grand Master of Masons for the State of Pennsylvania has appointed George H. Bull his deputy for the District composed of the Counties of Bradford, Wilkes and Tioga, for the ensuing year.

Pennsylvania Legislature.  
HARRISBURG, JANUARY 2, 1856.

SENATE.—The Senate proceeded to elect its officers, when Thomas A. Maguire, of Cambria, was elected Clerk; Henry Pettibone, of Luzerne, Assistant; Wm. Corey, Sergeant-at-Arms; Wm. P. Brady, Assistant.

Nelson Weiser, James M. Bredin, and Adolphus Yerkes, were appointed Transcribing Clerks.

Doorkeeper.—Wm. Ralston; Geo. Bolton and Samuel Carson Assistants.

Henry Menald was appointed Messenger, and C. P. Hazleton assistant.

After some other unimportant business the Secretary of the Commonwealth presented the annual message of the Governor, which was read.

HOUSE.—The House also proceeded to the election of Clerk and other officers, when Wm. Jack, of Blair, was elected Clerk; Jacob Zeigler, appointed Assistant Clerk; Wm. S. Picking, of York, Isaac W. Moore, of Philadelphia, Wm. B. Gibbs, of Elk, and G. W. K. Minor, of Fayette, Transcribing Clerks; Jas. B. Sansom, of Fulton, Sergeant-at-Arms; George A. Kurtz, of Allegheny, and Jacob Glassmyer, of Philadelphia, Assistants; and Jacob Coleman, of Berks, Door-keeper.

Perrine J. Cook, of Philadelphia, Geo. Freeman, of Westmoreland, and Wm. McCabe, of York, were appointed Assistant Door-keepers.

John Leisinger, of Northumberland, was elected Messenger, and appointed John M'Clay and D. A. Yarrington, his Assistants.

Mr. Getz proposed the appointment of four additional Door-keepers, but after debate, it was ruled out of order.

A bill fixing the election of U. S. Senator on the 14th instant, was passed. Adjourned.

JANUARY 3.

SENATE.—The Secretary of the Commonwealth was introduced and presented a message from the Governor, transmitting the resolutions of the Legislature of Maine, on the Slavery question, and also his objections to the compensation bill passed at the last session, and the provisions of which were embodied in the general appropriation bill. He says he would not have signed it standing alone.

On motion, Edward C. Swartz was appointed a page in the Senate.

Mr. Evans, read in place a bill to incorporate the Reading and Lehigh Railroad Company.

Mr. Buckalew read in place, a supplement to the act incorporating the Hazleton Coal Company, which was taken up and passed Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Price, a bill relative to the property of husbands and wives.

Mr. Ely, on leave given, presented a petition from citizens of Bucks county, for the repeal of the restraining license law.

The joint resolution from the House, providing for the election of a United States Senator on Monday, January 14, was taken up and passed.

The supplement to the act incorporating the Lebanon Valley Railroad Company, passed finally.

The resolution for the appointment of a committee to contact for the publication of a daily record of the proceedings of the House was taken up and adopted.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Mangle, of Bucks, appeared, and after being called, took his seat.

Messrs. Johnson, of Bucks, and Hanaker, of Philadelphia, presented petitions for the repeal of the restraining liquor law.

The officers of the last House, were, on motion, retained until Wednesday next.

On motion, 15,000 copies of the Governor's Message were ordered to be printed in the English language, and 3,000 copies in German.

A long contest then ensued with reference to the appointment of additional Assistant Door-keepers, which resulted in the whole subject being referred to a select committee of five.

The following, among a number of other bills, were read in place:

A bill for the better protection of laborers.

A bill to incorporate the Uniontown Railroad Company.

A bill to require the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad Company to fence their road in Berks and Lawrence counties.

The Governor returned to the House, with his objections, the bill passed at the last session, relative to military companies; and the question recurring upon the passage of a bill, it was negatived—yeas 59.

The Governor also transmitted to the House the resolutions of the Legislature of Maine, on the subject of slavery, and the annual report of the Surveyor General.

The House then adjourned.

JANUARY 4.

SENATE.—A message was received from the Governor, nominating E. Beatty, of Cumberland county, as the Superintendent of State Printing; a message communicating his approval of the joint resolution relative to the election of U. S. Senator, and announcing that the bill passed last session relative to the New Prison of Philadelphia, had become a law by the lapse of time.

The Speaker announced the standing committees, with the following as chairman of the committees named:

Finance.—Mr. BUCKALEW.  
Judiciary.—Mr. WILKINS.  
Corporations.—Mr. BROWN.  
Banks.—Mr. CRESSWELL.  
Education.—Mr. M'GINTOCK.  
Vice and Immorality.—Mr. PRICE.