The Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, Publisher. $2 per Annum, in Advance.

VOLUME XXIX. TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA. JANUARY 14, 1869. NUMBER 34.

TERMS OF PUBLICATION.

THE REPORTER is published every Thursday Morning, by E. O. GOODRICH, at $2 per annum, in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS, exceeding fifteen lines are inserted at TEN CENTS per line for first insertion, and FIVE CENTS per line for subsequent insertions. Special notices inserted before Marriages and Deaths, will be charged FIFTEEN CENTS per line for each insertion. All resolutions of Associations; communications of limited or individual interest, and notices of Marriages or Deaths exceeding five lines, are charged TEN CENTS per line.

	1 Year.	6 mo.	3 mo.
One Column,	$100	$60	$40
Half "	60	35	25
One Square,	15	10	7½

Estray, Caution, Lost and Found, and other advertisements, not exceeding 10 lines, three weeks, or less, ... $1 50
Administrator's & Executor's Notices ... 2 00
Auditor's Notices ... 2 50
Business Cards, five lines, (per year) ... 5 00

Merchants and others, advertising their business, will be charged $25. They will be entitled to ¼ column, confined exclusively to their business, with privilege of quarterly changes.

☞ Advertising in all cases exclusive of subscription to the paper.

JOB PRINTING of every kind, in Plain and Fancy colors, done with neatness and dispatch. Handbills, Blanks, Cards, Pamphlets, &c., of every variety and style, printed at the shortest notice. The REPORTER OFFICE has just been re-fitted with Power Presses, and every thing in the Printing line can be executed in the most artistic manner and at the lowest rates. TERMS INVARIABLY CASH.

Cards.

HENRY PEET, *Attorney at Law*, Towanda, Pa. jun27, 66.

EDWARD OVERTON Jr., *Attorney at Law*, Towanda, Pa. Office in the Court House. July 13, 1865.

GEORGE D. MONTANYE, ATTORNEY AT LAW—Office corner of Main and Pine streets, opposite Porter's Drug Store.

W. A. PECK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. Office over the Bakery South of the Ward House and opposite the Court House. Nov. 3, 1868.

DR. H. WESTON, DENTIST.—Office in Patton's Block, over Gore's Drug and Chemical Store. 1jan68

H. B. McKEAN, ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. Particular attention paid to business in the Orphans' Court. July 20, 1866.

W. T. DAVIES, Attorney at Law, Towanda, Pa. Office with Wm. Watkins, Esq. Particular attention paid to Orphans' Court business and settlement of decedents estates.

DOCTOR H. A. BARTLETT, BURLINGTON BOROUGH, PA. July 29, 1868.

F. B. FORD—*Licensed Auctioneer*, TOWANDA, PA., Will attend promptly to all business entrusted to him. Charges moderate. Feb. 13, 1868.

PARSONS & CARNOCHAN, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Troy, Bradford Co. Practice in all the Courts of the county. Collections made and promptly remitted. E. B. PARSONS, d12 W. H. CARNOCHAN.

MISS E. H. BATES, M. D. (Graduate of Woman's Medical College, Philadelphia. Class 1854.) Office and residence No 11 Park street Owego. Particular attention given to Diseases of Women. Patients visited at their homes if requested. May 28, 1868

FRANCIS E. POST, *Painter, Towanda, Pa*, with 10 years experience, is confident he can give the best satisfaction in Painting, Graining, Staining, Glazing, Papering, &c. ☞ Particular attention paid to Jobbing in the country. April 9, 1866.

J. K. VAUGHAN—*Architect and Builder.*—All kinds of Architectural designs furnished. Ornamental work in Stone, Iron and Wood. Office on Main street, over Russell & Co.'s Bank. Attention given to Rural Architecture, such as laying out of grounds, &c., &c. April 1, 1867.—1y.

MERCUR & MORROW, *Attorneys at Law*, Towanda, Penn'a, The undersigned having associated themselves together in the practice of Law, offer their professional services to the public. ULYSSES MERCUR P. D. MORROW. March 9, 1865.

JOHN W. MIX, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Bradford Co. Pa. General insurance and Real Estate Agent.—Bounties and Pensions collected. N. B.—All business in the Orphan's Court attended to promptly and with care. Office Mercur's new block north side Public Square. Oct. 24, '67.

JOHN N. CALIFF, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. Particular attention given to Orphans' Court business, Conveyancing and Collections. ☞ Office at the Register's and Recorder's office—south of Court House. Dec. 1, 1864.

H. P. KIMBALL, Licensed Auctioneer, Pottersville, Bradford Co., Pa. Tenders his services to the public. Satisfaction guaranteed, or no pay required. All orders by mail, addressed as above, will receive prompt attention. Oct. 2, 1867.–6m

DR. T. B. JOHNSON, TOWANDA, PA. Having permanently located, offers his professional services to the public. Calls promptly attended to in or out of town. Office with J. DeWitt on Main street. Residence at Mrs. Humphrey's on Second Street. April 16, 1868.

DR. PRATT has removed to State street, (first above B. S. Russell & Co's Bank). Persons from a distance desirous of consulting him, will be most likely to find him on Saturday of each week. Especial attention will be given to surgical cases, and the extraction of teeth. Gas or Ether administered when desired. July 18, 1866. D. S. PRATT, M. D.

DRS. T. F. & WM. A. MADILL, PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, Office and residence in Wysox, Pa. Dr. T. F. Madill can be consulted at Gore's Drug Store in Towanda, every Saturday. Dr. Wm. A. Madill will give especial attention to diseases of the Eye, Ear, Throat and Lungs, having made a speciality of the above diseases for the past eight years. T. F. MADILL, M. D. WM. A. MADILL. June 11, 1868.

BENJ. M. PECK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. All business intrusted to his care will receive prompt attention. Office in the office lately occupied by Mercur & Morrow, south of Ward House, up stairs. July 16, 1868.

DRS. MASON & ELY, *Physicians & Surgeons.*—Office on Pine street, Towanda, at the residence of Dr. Mason. Particular attention given to diseases of Women, and diseases of Eye, Ear and Throat. E. H. MASON, M. D. HENRY OLIVER ELY, M. D. April 9 1868.

J. NEWELL, COUNTY SURVEYOR, Orwell, Bradford Co., Pa., will promptly attend to all business in his line. Particular attention given to running and establishing old or disputed lines. Also to surveying of all unpatented lands as soon as warrants are obtained. my17

W. B. KELLY, *Dentist.* Office over Wickham & Black's, Towanda, Pa. All the various styles of work scientifically done and warranted. Particular attention is called to the Alluminum Base for Artificial Teeth, which is equally as good as Gold and far superior to either Rubber or Silver. Please call and examine specimens. Chloroform or Ether administered under the direction of a Physician when desired. Aug. 6, 1867.—tf.

ELWELL HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA., JOHN C. WILSON. Having leased this House, is now ready to accommodate the Travelling public. No pains nor expense will be spared to give satisfaction to those who may give him a call. ☞ North side of the public square, east of Mercur's new block [now building].

AMERICAN HOTEL, TOWANDA, PA., Having purchased this well known Hotel on Bridge Street, I have refurnished and refitted it with every convenience for the accommodation of all who may patronize me. No pains will be spared to make all pleasant and agreeable. May 3, '66.—tf. J. S. PATTERSON, Prop.

PATCHEN.—The well-known Trotting Stallion PATCHEN, by the celebrated George M. Patchen, out of Messenger mare will stand during the fall season at Kingsbury & Solomon's Livery Stable, Towanda. Terms—$30 to insure. All mares at the risk of owners. Owners parting with mares, will be held responsible for insurance. KINGSBURY & SOLOMON. Towanda, Nov. 2, 1868.—2m.

Cards.

MYERS' MILL! SPECIAL NOTICE.

Myer, Foster & Co., will deliver Flour, Feed, Meal, Graham Flour, or any thing else in their line in any part of the village.

Customers will find an Order Book at the store of Fox, Stevens, Mercur & Co. All orders left in said book will be promptly attended to.

Any inquiries in regard to Grinding, or other business of the Mill, entered in said Book, will be answered.

MYER, FOSTER & CO. Towanda, June 24, 1868.—tf.

SOLOMON COOPER—Has removed from the Ward House and has opened a SHAVING AND HAIR DRESSING SALOON Two doors south of the National Hotel, and adjoining Patton's Block, on Main Street, in the basement. This shop is open constantly from 6 a. m., to 9 p. m., to accommodate all that will favor him with a call. Two experienced workmen in this saloon, always ready to wait on customers in a satisfactory manner.—Gents and Ladies Hair Cutting in the latest fashionable style. Razors honed and set ready for use and warranted to suit. Ornamental Hair Work, Switches, Waterfalls, and Curls, made to order. Wigs made and repaired. Towanda, Aug. 19, 1868.—tf.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE opened a Banking House in Towanda, under the name of G. F. MASON & CO. They are prepared to draw Bills of Exchange, and make collections in New York, Philadelphia, and all portions of the United States, as also England, Germany, and France. To Loan money, receive deposits, and to do a general Banking business. G. F. Mason was one of the late firm of Laporte, Mason & Co., of Towanda, Pa., and his knowledge of the business men of Bradford and adjoining Counties, and having been in the banking business for about fifteen years, make this house a desirable one, through which to make collections. G. F. MASON, A. G. MASON. Towanda, Oct. 1, 1866.

BRADFORD COUNTY REAL ESTATE AGENCY, H. B. McKEAN, REAL ESTATE AGENT. Valuable Farms, Mill Properties, City and Town Lots for sale. Parties having property for sale will find it to their advantage by leaving a description of the same, with terms of sale at this agency, as parties are constantly enquiring for farms &c. H. B. McKEAN, Real Estate Agent. Office Montanye's Block, Towanda, Pa. Jan. 29, 1867.

REAL ESTATE AGENCY. H. B. McKEAN, REAL ESTATE AGENT, Offers the following Farms, Coal and Timber Lands for sale: Fine Timber lot, 3 miles from Towanda, containing 53 acres. Price $1,325. Farm in Asylum, containing 135 acres. Good buildings. Under a fine state of cultivation. Mostly improved. Price $8,000. Farm in West Burlington—on the Creek.—New house and barn. Under a fine state of cultivation. 95 acres. Price $5,450. Farms in Franklin. All under good cultivation. Good buildings. For sale cheap. Several very desirable Houses and Lots in Towanda. A large tract of Coal Lands in Tioga county. Towanda, July 18 '67.

MYERSBURG MILLS! The subscribers having purchased of Mr. Barns his interest in the MYERSBURG MILLS will carry on the business of Milling, and guarantee all work done by them to be of the very best quality. Wheat, Rye and Buckwheat Flour, and Feed constantly on hand, for sale at the lowest cash price. Also now on hand a large quantity of best Ground Cayuga Plaster for sale. MYER & FROST. Myersburg, Sept 24, 1868.

LERAYSVILLE PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.—Satisfaction guaranteed.—Life size, Large Photograph Cabinet Pictures, Ambrotypes and Card Photographs, in the latest style and at reduced prices. Copying and enlarging done to order. We charge nothing extra for Groups, Babies pictures or Copperheads with long faces. Call and see our specimens. Our stock of Albums, Frames, etc. HARNDEN & CO. LeRaysville, Oct. 22, 1868.

LAKE'S WOOD MILL Saws twenty-five cords of stove wood, shingle bolts or stave timber, per day. Is driven by one or two horses, are easily moved from place to place, and can in an hours time be set up anywhere. This machine is complete in itself, requiring the assistance of no other power. The horses draw by a sweep, making it much more safe than a tread power. It saws twice as fast, and is sold for one half the price. A number of these mills are now in use in Pike Herrick and Orwell Townships, and are giving universal satisfaction. Those wishing machines will apply to H. W. BOLLES, LeRaysville, or S. N. BRONSON, Orwell. Sept. 22, 1868.—3m*

HARDING & SMALLEY, Having entered into a co-partnership for the transaction of the PHOTOGRAPHIC business, at the rooms formerly occupied by Wood and Harding, would respectfully call the attention of the public to several styles of Pictures which we make specialties, as: Solar Photographs, Plain, Pencilled and Colored, Opaltypes, Porcelain Pictures, &c., which we claim for clearness and brilliancy of tone and Artistic finish, *can not be excelled*. We invite all to examine them as well as the more common kinds of Portraits which we make, knowing full well that they will bear the closest inspection. This Gallery claims the highest reputation for good work of any in this section of country, and we are determined by a strict attention to business and the superior quality of our work, to not only retain but increase its very *enviable reputation*. We keep constantly on hand the best variety of Frames and at lower prices than at any other establishment in town. Also Passepartouts Card frames, Card Easels, Holmes' Stereoscopes, Stereoscopic Vies, and everything else of importance pertaining to the business. Give us an early call. N. B.—Solar Printing for the trade on the most reasonable terms. D. HARDING. Aug. 29, '67. F. SMALLEY.

A CARD.—Dr. VANBUSKIRK has obtained a License, as required, of the Goodyear Vulcanite Company, to Vulcanise Rubber as a base for Artificial Teeth, and has now a good selection of those beautiful carved Block Teeth, and a superior article of Black English Rubber, which will enable him to supply all those in want of sets of teeth, with those unsurpassed for beauty and natural appearance. Filling, Cleaning, Correcting Irregularities, Extracting, and all operations belonging to the Surgical Department skillfully performed. Choloform administered for the extraction of Teeth when desired, an article being used for the purpose in which he has perfect confidence, having administered it with the most pleasing results during a practice of fourteen years. Being very grateful to the public for their liberal patronage heretofore received, he would say that by strict attention to the wants of his patients, he would continue to merit their confidence and approbation. Office in Beideman's Block, opposite the Means House, Towanda, Pa. Dec. 20, 1867—3m.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE IN DENTISTRY. J. S. SMITH, M. D., would respectfully inform the inhabitants of Bradford County that he is permanently located in Towanda, Pa. He would say that from his long and successful practice of TWENTY-FIVE YEARS duration he is familiar with all the different styles of work done in any and all Dental Establishments in city or country, and is better prepared than any other Dental operator in the vicinity to do work the best adapted to the many and different cases that present themselves oftentimes to the Dentist, as he understands the art of making his own artificial teeth, and has facilities for doing the same. To those requiring under sets of teeth he would call attention to his new kind of work which consists of porcelain for both plate and teeth, and forming a continuous gum. It is more durable, more natural in appearance, and much better adapted to the gum than any other kind of work. Those in need of the same are invited to call and examine specimens. Teeth filled to last for years and oftentimes for life. Chloroform, Ether, and "Nitrous Oxide" administered with perfect safety, as over four hundred patients within the last four years can testify. Office in Patton's Block. Jan. 23, 1868.

WARD HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA. On Main Street, near the Court House. C. T. SMITH, Proprietor. Oct. 8, 1866.

Governor's Message.

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

GENTLEMEN:—For the harmony and general relations of comity and friendship existing between Pennsylvania and all the other States and Territories of the National Union; for the present prosperous condition of the Commonwealth; for the glad signs of coming political tranquility; and for the success which attends the progress of our free institutions, we owe a heavy debt of gratitude to Divine Providence. In view of the favorable circumstances under which you are now assembled, it becomes my province and duty, as it is my pleasure, to offer you my hearty congratulations, and to tender you a cordial welcome to the Legislative Halls of the State. This, indeed, affords me a higher gratification because I participate with your constituents in the confidence manifested by them in selecting you to represent their individual interests as well as those of the Commonwealth. On your wisdom, integrity, judgment and discretion, all will undoubtedly rely for the correct determination of every question affecting the largest interests and gravest responsibilities, and for a continuance, and even an increase, of that prosperity which has hitherto been so signally enjoyed.

It is not without a consciousness of the great responsibility resting upon me that I undertake the performance of a constitutional duty, requiring that the Governor "shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient." In conformity with this requirement your attention will be called only to such matters of public interest as in my judgment deserve careful consideration and action on your part during the present session.

FINANCES.

The following is a carefully prepared statement of the financial condition of the State for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1868:

The reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer show that the balance in the Treasury, November 30, 1867, was	$4,661,836 46
Ordinary receipts during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1868	5,216,049 55
Depreciated funds in the Treasury unavailable	41,022 00
Total in Treasury, for fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868,	$9,918,918 01
Payments, viz:	
Ordinary expenses during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868	$2,454,506 09
Loans, &c., redeemed	4,417,463 64
Other payments	12,800 00
Interest on loans	1,979,690 91
Depreciated funds, unavailable	41,032 00
	8,905,492 64
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1868	$1,013,415 37

SINKING FUND.

By an act approved April 10, 1868, the transactions of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund were ordered to be thereafter reported annually to the 30th day of November. Their last report, therefore, includes a period of one year and three months.

The following is the "recapitulation" of the operations of the sinking fund, from September 3, 1866, to November 30, 1868:

Balance in fund, September 3, 1866	$1,737,612 41
Receipts in fund from September 3, 1867, to November 30, 1868	3,418,992 31
	5,156,994 72
Paid interest	$1,808,006 84
Premiums paid as equivalent for coin	49 98
Loans redeemed	2,414,814 64
	4,222,871 96
Balance in fund Nov. 30, '68.	$934,032 76

By the sixth section of the act of May 16, 1861, a special tax of one-half mill on the dollar was especially set apart for the payment of the interest and redemption of the loan created by an act May 15, 1861, entitled "An Act to create a loan and provide for arming the State."

Balance on hand Sept. 3, 1867	$316,833 17
The receipts from said tax and tax on gross receipts from Sept. 3, 1867, to Nov. 3, 1868, amount to	423,979 20
Total	743,912 37
Interest paid in January and July, 1868	169,245 00
Balance in fund Nov. 30, 1868	$574,667 37

CONDITION OF BALANCES.

Balance in sinking fund November 30, 1868	$934,032 76
Balance in sinking fund November 30, 1868	571,667 37
	$1,508,700 13
Deduct balance in Treasury, November 30, 1868	1,013,415 37
Balance in favor of sinking fund	$495,284 76

REDUCTION OF THE STATE DEBT.

By the report of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund for the year ending September 3, 1867, the "loans redeemed" amounted to $1,794,569 50 and by their report from September 3, 1867, to November 30, 1868, the "loans redeemed" amounted to $2,414,816 64, making a total reduction of the State debt, in two years and three months, of four million two hundred and nine thousand three hundred and eighty-six dollars and fourteen cents.

The assets remaining in the Sinking fund are as follows, viz: Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, six million, four hundred thousand dollars, and bonds of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company, three million, five hundred thousand dollars. These are non-interest bearing bonds and will not mature for many years. I, therefore, recommend to the consideration of the Legislature the propriety of the passage of a law authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking fund to sell these bonds at public sale to the highest bidder, and direct the proceeds to be applied to the liquidation of the State debt.

PUBLIC DEBT.

Public debt outstanding December 1, 1867	$37,704,4[illegible]
Deduct amount redeemed at State Treasury during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1868, viz:	
6 per cent. loans	$4,354,253 64
4½ per cent. loans	63,000 00
Relief notes cancelled	210 00
	4,417,463 64
Public debt Dec. 1, 1868	$33,286,946 13

Statement showing the condition of the indebtedness of the Commonwealth on the first day of December, 1868.

6 per cent. loans	$25,311,180 00
5 per cent. loans	7,749,771 56
4½ per cent. loans	112,000 00
	$33,172,951 56
Amount brought forward	33,172,951 56
Unfunded debt, viz:	
Relief notes in circulation	$94,415 00
Interest certificates outstanding	13,086 52
Interest certificates unclaimed	4,448 38
Domestic creditors' certificates	44 67
Total unfunded	113,994 57
Total funded and unfunded	$33,286,946 13

Which is the amount of the State debt as before stated.

During the last eighteen years there has been carried upon the accounts of the Auditor General and State Treasurer, and in their several public statements, "depreciated funds unavailable" to the amount of forty-one thousand and thirty-two dollars. I recommend the appointment of a joint committee, by the Legislature, whose duty it shall be to examine the said depreciated and unavailable funds and dispose of them to the best advantage of the Treasury; or, if found to be worthless, to cancel and destroy them, so that the accounting officers may be relieved from the necessity and responsibility of annually accounting for them.

The large cash balance remaining in the Treasury on the 30th of November, 1867, has been used for the payment of the twenty-three million loan for the liquidation of outstanding claims against the State. The investment of the funds is one of the modes recommended in my last annual message, has, therefore, in a great measure been rendered unnecessary for the present. But in the event of large accumulations of money hereafter, the recommendations therein given are respectfully referred to, and renewed. Whenever there may be surplus funds in the Treasury, they can, with safety and benefit to the State, be employed in the purchase of its outstanding bonds, and in saving the interest on them which would accumulate prior to their maturity.

I regret to state that the last Legislature, although fully forewarned in regard to the insecurity and want of proper and sufficient guards for the safe keeping of the money of the Commonwealth, failed to determine upon any mode by which the Treasury may be effectually guarded against the possibility of loss. The present Legislature has it in its power to secure for itself no ordinary honor, by the enactment of such a law, strong and efficient for the purpose indicated, and the enjoyment not only of the approbation, but the permanent gratitude of every citizen.

Notwithstanding the satisfactory reduction of the public indebtedness, as shown in the foregoing statements, an immense State debt is still upon us, requiring nearly two million of dollars to be collected to pay the interest accruing upon it annually. Its extinguishment at the earliest practicable period, not inconsistent with other public interests, is of the highest importance to every tax-payer. I cannot, therefore, too strongly urge the strictest economy in respect to every expenditure and the utmost retrenchment in every department.

Retrenchment is emphatically demanded by the people, in legislative expenditures, as well as in every other branch of the government. Their eyes are open to investigate every transaction, and by their ballots they are ready to strike down those who will not take effective action in favor of positive and radical reform. The money paid into the Treasury is the property of the people, every one of whom has a just right to hold his representatives to a strict accountability for every dollar that may be appropriated or expended.

I here renew the remarks made last year on the subject of "annual appropriations," to which you are respectfully referred. For four successive years the general appropriation bills have been signed on the eleventh day of April, being about the time of adjournment. The Governor has been forced either to sign the bills without proper investigation, notwithstanding any objections he may have; suspend the means to defray the operations of the government for the ensuing year; or call an extra session of the Legislature. I repeat that "it is earnestly desired that the appropriation bill be taken up, discussed and passed at a sufficiently early period during the session to enable it to receive that thorough examination which its importance demands."

EDUCATION.—COMMON SCHOOLS.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools exhibits the condition of that department in a highly satisfactory manner. Within the State there are 1,918 school districts; 13,766 schools; 2,882 graded schools; 11,698 school directors; 73 county, city and borough superintendents; 16,771 teachers; and 800,515 pupils. The cost of tuition for the year was $3,273,269 43; of building, purchasing and renting school houses, $1,991,152 55; of contingencies, $854,253 21. These three items, with expenditures for all other purposes connected therewith, amount to the aggregate sum of $6,200,537 96.

These facts are exhibited with great satisfaction, as they show the average annual cost for the tuition of each pupil to be about seven dollars and seventy-four and a half cents.—The average amount paid to each teacher is about $195 17½ per annum. This, in my opinion, is too small a salary to secure the services of competent teachers; and I am fully justified in urging the necessity of increased compensation. It is but just, and it will have an elevating tendency not only upon the teachers but the manner in which their duties are performed.

Your attention is called to the fact that, notwithstanding the ample provision now made by law for the education of all persons between the ages of six and twenty-one years, large numbers of children, principally in our cities, do not attend any kind of school. Over twenty thousand of this class are found in Philadelphia, and the number in the State is estimated to be not less than seventy-five thousand. These children grow up in ignorance, frequently without employment, and many of them contract habits of vice, which eventually cause them to be committed to houses of refuge, county prisons or penitentiaries. Humanity and sound public policy demand that something be done to remedy this growing evil, and also that of the neglected condition of considerable numbers of children in the alms and poor houses in many of the counties.

Four Normal Schools are now recognized as State institutions. The number of students attending them during the past year was 2,115, of whom eighty graduated. Two additional Normal Schools will probably go into operation during this year, one located in Bloomsburg, Columbia county, and the other at California, Washington county. The value of these institutions to the common school system cannot be estimated. Our schools are comparatively worthless without qualified teachers, and such teachers can most easily be obtained from the Normal institutes, where the art of teaching is made a speciality.

A meeting of the presidents and other authorities of a number of our principal colleges was held in Harrisburg last winter, the object of which was to bring about a closer union of all our educational institutions, and connect by a bond of sympathy, if not of organic structure, the common schools, high schools, academies and colleges. The establishment of such an educational department seems to be desirable.

There is no subject more worthy the deliberations of the Legislature than the promotion of the welfare of our common schools. They immediately underlie the characteristic features of our social system; they are fountains of that wide-spread intelligence, which, like a perennial vitality, pervades the nation, and are nurseries of that inquiring spirit to which we are indebted for the purity and preservation of our free institutions. In a republican government education is a sure basis of power and public prosperity. By it the people are taught to discern and estimate the value of their own rights; to distinguish between oppression and the exercise of lawful authority; to discriminate between liberty and licentiousness; to preserve an inviolable respect for the laws, and exercise "eternal vigilance" against any encroachment upon them. It is admitted that a thoroughly educated people alone can be permanently free. By educational culture patriotism is expanded, and the principles, manners and sentiments of the whole people are assimilated. Many of the sources of jealousy and prejudice are diminished, social harmony largely increased, and the structure of our free and happy system of government cemented, strengthened and adorned.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' SCHOOLS.

In his report the Superintendent of Soldiers' Orphans' Schools exhibits the total expenditure for their support from December 1, 1867 to May 31, 1868, to be $236,970 26; total number of pupils in the schools 3,481; average cost per pupil $69 06¼ for six months; and the average weekly expenses per pupil $2 65¾. The fiscal year of these schools, like that of the common schools, terminates by law on the last day of May of each year. The present report of the Superintendent, therefore, embraces only six months, and reports will be made up to the 31st day of May, annually, hereafter. The special appropriation of February 25, 1868, made in accordance with an estimate of the Superintendent, presented in my last annual message, exceeded the actual expenses $6,004 74.

Notwithstanding every possible effort has been, and will continue to be made, to economize in the expenses of the present year, and to keep them as far as possible within the appropriation made by the last Legislature, it will readily be observed that there will be a deficit for the year ending May 31, 1869, the amount of which will be carefully ascertained and presented to the Legislature prior to the close of the present session.

The schools are all in good condition and improving, and their usefulness is daily becoming more manifest. They are among the most philanthropic institutions of the age, and reflect high honor on the patriotism of the Legislature by which they have been so liberally endowed and upon our people by whom they are sustained. The children who are the recipients of their benefits are the offspring of brave men who voluntarily endangered their lives in the cause of their country in the most trying hour of its existence, and who, glowing with patriotic ardor, fought as bravely and as heroically as the noblest men in the world's history. Thousands of them who left their homes in the bloom of health and with the brightest hopes of manhood, now sleep in death, leaving their widows and little ones to the care of the country in whose service they fell, and which promised them its protection. Their children are the wards of this great Commonwealth; and too much praise cannot be awarded its people for the munificent and tender manner in which they have thus far, through their representatives, discharged the sacred and delicate trust.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Before the General Government appropriated public lands to the several States for the purpose of agricultural and military education and the mechanic arts, and prior to the time when Pennsylvania endowed the Agricultural College with her share of these lands, it was dependent wholly upon individual influence, without any other means for its support than its own earnings. History proves that seminaries of learning cannot be efficiently sustained by their own internal resources. The education of youth in the higher branches of knowledge seems to require the aid of philanthropic contributions. This institution had not these benefits to any adequate extent, and though the board of trustees bestowed upon it the most anxious care, their zeal and labor, combined with those of its friends, were not equal to a contest with the want of means. Hence the school did not command the confidence of farmers who were able to educate their sons, and who could not forget that the character of the college is attached to the character of its graduates; and that its failure would enter into the estimate which the world would place upon the education it bestowed. This feature has now been removed. The people, through their Legislature, have endowed this institution with the interest upon a fund of $318,500, (invested in United States and Pennsylvania State six per cent. bonds,) payable to it semi-annually. Last year this interest amounted to $25,643 78. The residue of the fund, $43,888 50, has been appropriated, under the law, by the board of trustees, to the purchase of three model and experimental farms; one at the college, in Centre county, for $8,000, one in Chester county for $17,750.—The board has also recently re-organized the faculty and remodeled the course of studies, so as to adapt them to the wants of the agricultural community. The new order of things goes into operation at the commencement of the next session, and it is earnestly hoped will be a success.—There is no profession, trade or calling in life, where the value of knowledge and the lights of science, and the practical application of both, are so potent for profitable results as in their adaptation to agricultural pursuits. And in this truly practical age it is well worthy of the consideration of parents, whether they should not avail themselves of the benefits of this institution, now so generously endowed by the State.

MILITARY.

From the report of the Adjutant General you will learn the condition of the Military Department. The inactivity in military affairs after the cessation of hostilities and upon the return of peace, has in a great measure been dispelled, and an active material spirit now prevails throughout the State; more particularly in Philadelphia, where, by a special legislative enactment, the minimum number of men required to form a company has been reduced, and a brigade fund is raised by a tax upon those who are not members of a military organization, but liable to the performance of military duty. I recommend the passage of a similar law for the whole State. For the sake of preserving the great interests involved, which include the lives, property and happiness of our people, this is presented to you as an important subject for your deliberation.

Every possible encouragement of volunteers has been offered, and notwithstanding the difficulties indicated it has resulted as follows. In 1866 there were eight volunteer companies in the State; in 1867, thirty-eight; and in 1868, seventy-seven, and a number of others in preparation for organization.

By a reduction of the number for a company from that now required to an aggregate of fifty officers and men, companies would soon be numbered by the hundred, any of which could easily be recruited to the maximum number if required for active service. The State that always maintains the highest degree of preparation, accomplishes most and suffers least in the conflict of arms; and by being in readiness it often prevents improper encroachments upon her rights.

The Adjutant General presents a full detail statement of the disbursements in his department during the year ending November 30, 1868, with an estimate for the necessary appropriations for the current year, and also for such amounts as have been discovered to be due from the Transportation Department, contracted during the war.

STATE AGENCY.

The existence of the Military State Agency at Washington terminated to the 31st day of July last, at which time the appropriation for the payment of its expenses was exhausted. Much benefit resulted to many of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives, from this office, in which their just dues from the United States Government were collected and transmitted to them free of charge. In August, after the agency ceased to exist, there still remained a considerable number of unsettled claims, and as no one knew more about their condition, or could possibly obtain an earlier settlement of them than the late agent, Col. Cook, I permitted him upon his own offer, to close up the business of the office, and to transact any other business for the soldiers of Pennsylvania at *one half the fees* that are charged by any other private agency in Washington City. This arrangement has thus far been carried out, and I am pleased to add, with very general satisfaction. All the books and papers of the agency will be transferred to the office of the Adjutant General.

REGISTRY LAW.

At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed known as the "Registry Law," the intention of which was to protect the ballot-box against corruption and fraudulent voting, to which it has for many years been disgracefully exposed. This law seems to have been so defective in some of its provisions as to have received the condemnation of a majority of the Supreme Court, by which it was pronounced "incongruous and unconstitutional." At the election immediately after this decision, it is alleged that frauds were perpetrated, surpassing in magnitude, perhaps, any that have been consummated heretofore in the history of the Commonwealth. These frauds have demonstrated the necessity of the passage of some law, or laws, that will accomplish the desired object, without being subject to the exceptionable features pointed out by the learned gentlemen who pronounced the opinion of the Supreme Bench.

There is no subject of such vital importance to the whole country as the sanctity of the ballot-box, and the protection of all citizens in their right to the elective franchise. This right is our proudest boast. It endows the American citizen with a freedom and a power not possessed by the subject of any other government. It makes him the peer of his fellow man, whatever may be his rank, station, or position in life. To be deprived of it by any means whatever, his boasted freedom becomes a sham—his especial and exalted prerogative a mockery and a farce. What avails it to the citizen that he is entitled to a vote, if that vote is to be nullified by fraud? Such guards, then, should be thrown around the polls as will effectually, if possible, preserve them from the taint of a single illegal vote. Not only should false voting be severely punished, but false swearing to obtain a vote, be visited with the pains and penalties of perjury and with perpetual disfranchisement.

The people must be perfectly free to regulate their public business in their own way, and when the voice of the majority is fairly and clearly expressed all should bow to it as to the voice of God. They are the sovereign rulers, and their will must be the law of the land. Corruption of suffrage in a republican government is the deadliest crime that can be perpetrated; it is assassination of the sovereignty of the people, and will be followed by a despotism, the motive power of which will be money and perjury. And, if this privilege be tampered with, sooner or later the sure and indignant popular condemnation will be rendered and condign punishment administered. All good citizens, of whatever political opinion, should lend their aid for the accomplishment of any and every measure that may tend to secure to each voter, not only his right to the elective franchise, but the assurance that his vote will not be rendered valueless by illegality, corruption or fraud.

Every proper facility for the naturalization of citizens of foreign birth should be afforded; but the Legislature, in its combined wisdom, can surely enact some mode to prevent the possibility of a single vote being cast upon spurious naturalization papers, and thus fully secure the purity of the elective franchise.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE.

The commissioners appointed to codify the statute laws of the State have diligently prosecuted the work assigned them, and with every prospect that it will be fully completed within the time prescribed by the legislative resolutions of April 8, 1868; and in further compliance with them, they will cause to be laid before each branch of the General Assembly, at its present session, various titles of bills, with brief abstracts of the several sections of each, which have been matured.

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Among the subjects of importance to the citizens of Pennsylvania is the establishment of an Insurance Department. Such departments are in successful operation in several neighboring States, by means of which the interests of insurers are guarded and promoted. So careful a supervision is had over the transactions of insurance companies that frauds are rendered almost impossible, and spurious companies can have no existence. The result of the protection thus afforded, is, that whilst foreign companies, thus protected, do immense business in this State, so little confidence is had in those of Pennsylvania that their business is almost entirely confined within the State limits; and lately some of them have withdrawn their agencies from other States, because no risks will be taken, in consequence of the inadequacy of the laws to afford protection to insurers. To this defect, moreover, may be attributed the operations of the number of worthless companies which have suddenly sprung up, without any solid basis, and as suddenly expired, to the injury of all whose confidence they obtained, and to the dishonor of the Commonwealth. Whilst Pennsylvania insurance companies transact little business outside of the State, it is alleged that foreign life insurance companies alone paid taxes last year on three million eight hundred thousand dollars of premiums received in Pennsylvania, a great proportion of which would be confined to this State if the same protection was given by law to its citizens as is afforded by other States. The report of the Insurance Department of New York, published in 1867, shows that the companies which were doing business in 1866, in Pennsylvania, and also in New York, had risks in force for more than five thousand million of dollars; and it is believed that the risks in Pennsylvania companies, which, for want of a proper Insurance Department, can not be obtained, would swell the amount to over six thousand million.

In view of these facts, and of the costly experience of the people who have been imposed upon and defrauded by unsubstantial and ephemeral companies, I repeat the recommendation made to the Legislature at its last session, that an Insurance Department be established, and a superintendent appointed by law, who shall have supervision and control over all insurance companies allowed to transact business within the State, and annually publish, under oath, full reports of their transactions. The community is deeply interested in this matter, and demands the protection which can thus only be afforded.

NEW HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

The commissioners appointed by an act of the last session "to establish an additional State Hospital for the Insane," have notified me that they will present a report of their proceedings sometime during the present month, which will be communicated when received.

DAMAGES BY RAIDS.

In accordance with an act of the last session, providing for an investigation and adjudication of the claims of citizens of several counties "whose property was destroyed, damaged or appropriated for the public service, and in the common defence in the war to suppress the rebellion," a commission of three competent gentlemen was appointed, who have performed the allotted duties, and will soon make a full report of their transactions.

PARIS EXPOSITION.

I have received through the Secretary of State of the United States, a bronze medal and diploma from the Imperial Commissioners for the best specimens of Pennsylvania anthracite coal exhibited at the Paris Exposition in 1867. These tributes to an important branch of the internal resources of Pennsylvania have been assigned a place among other valuable relics in the Executive Chamber.

STATE COAT OF ARMS.

Diligent but unsuccessful search has been repeatedly made for the coat of arms of the State, and for the authority under which the present design was established. It seems that for years past no trace of either the original authority or design could anywhere be found, and it is recommended that the Legislature take the necessary steps to supply the omission, by such means as they in their wisdom shall determine.

STATE BENEFICIARIES.

A number of benevolent, charitable and other similar institutions annually receive appropriations from the State for their support. These appropriations, in most, if not in all cases, appear to have been adequate for the purposes to which it was intended they should be applied, and are as liberal as can reasonably be expected in the present condition of the Treasury of the State.

THE SUSQUEHANNA FISHERIES.

A preliminary report on the Susquehanna fisheries has been submitted by Col. James Worrall, Civil Engineer, Commissioner under the act of the Legislature in reference thereto. There are some facts which should be embodied in the report, but which can not be ascertained until early in January. Permission has therefore been granted to the Commissioner, at his request, to postpone the submission of his regular report until the earliest day practicable during the present month.

CATTLE DISEASE.

The prevalence of contagious or epidemic diseases among cattle and other animals has for some years past been a prolific source of anxiety and alarm among the producers and consumers of meats in many of the States. It was therefore deemed important to call a convention of competent persons to take into consideration the means best calculated to remedy this great and growing evil. This convention, composed of three commissioners each from the fourteen States represented, appointed in accordance with an agreement by the several Governors, assembled at Springfield, Illinois, on the first of December last, and an account of their transactions is herewith presented.

Without legislative authority, but believing my action would be sanctioned by the people's representatives, I appointed Dr. Hiram Corson and Messrs. E. C. Humes and A. Boyd Hamilton, commissioners to represent Pennsylvania in that convention. These gentlemen freely gave their time and experience, and also incurred a pecuniary expense of about three hundred dollars, to defray which I recommend that an appropriation be made.

STATISTICS.

In view of the vast amount and great variety of the products of the State, a desk for the collection of statistics, relative to exports and imports, agriculture, manufacturers, coal, iron, lumber, &c., might, with propriety and profit be established. This could be accomplished by the employment of a competent clerk, under the supervision of one of the present heads of department, whose duty should be to collect and publish such facts as might tend to stimulate and increase our productive energies, instill new life and vigor in to our manufacturing interests, and lead to more accurate knowledge of all our internal resources and the proper methods for their development. There is abundant space in the Capitol buildings to be appropriated as a receptacle for books, papers, mineralogical and geological specimens, and other, articles that might be contributed appropriate to such a department and which in a few years would form an invaluable collection. Under legislatitive direction, the good results would be almost incalculable, and are required by the progressive spirit of the age in which we live.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE VERMONT LEGISLATURE.

Your attention is called to the accompanying joint resolutions, passed at the last session of the Vermont Legislature, bearing a just tribute to the late Hon. Thaddeus Stevens. Joint resolutions from the same body are also sent you, which I regard as worthy of your consideration, relative to the act of Congress "to establish and protect National Cemeteries," and recommending "to the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania the passage of an act empowering the board of commissioners having charge of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg, to transfer all the right, title, interest and care of said Soldiers' National Cemetery to the General Government, upon the completion of the same."

IN MEMORIAM.

It has been the misfortune of the State during the past year to lose by death two of her representatives in the Congress of the nation, Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, of the Ninth, and Hon. Darwin A. Finney, of the Twentieth District. Both were natives of Vermont, but in early life selected Pennsylvania for their home, and identified themselves with her interests, which they were chosen to guard in the Legislature; and the people of the Commonwealth will long remember with gratitude their faithful and efficient services. The first went down to his grave after a long life of public usefulness and in well matured honors; the other in the prime of manhood, which gave promise of a scarcely less brilliant career.

PARDONS.

The list of pardons issued during the past year will be found among the papers to which your attention is called. The principal reasons upon which they were based, and the names of some of the prominent petitioners, are given in every case. That a few of these pardons may have been unworthily granted, through misrepresentations of relatives, friends, sympathising neighbors and other interested parties, there is no doubt, but in the majority of instances it is certain that the facts not only justified, but demanded Executive clemency.

The whole number of applications for pardons during the year has been sixteen hundred and twenty-three. The number of pardons granted in that time has been one hundred and six, which is a little over 6½ per cent. Of those pardoned about five per cent have been again brought before the courts in consequence of their return to the commission of crime.

I am fully impressed with the weighty responsibility of the pardoning power, which ranks among the most difficult and embarrassing duties of the Executive office. Daily beset with powerful and pitiful importunities, as well as conflicting representations, from those in whom he should be enabled to place the fullest confidence, in order to avoid errors in the decision of any case, the Governor is compelled to take into consideration the action of the court before which the convict has been tried; the majesty of the law which may or may not have been violated; the condition of the prisoner; his temptation to err; the injury that may be inflicted upon his helpless and dependent relatives, and the arguments and appeals of citizens whose opinions and wishes he is bound to respect. And however just his decision and humane and generous his action, either in favor of or against the petitioner for clemency, he must expect to have his motives impugned, his name and character maligned, and to suffer virulent attacks for the exercise of this most important and merciful prerogative.

The pardon report will exhibit that many instances in which Executive clemency has been invoked, youthful prisoners, charged with their first offences, and those of a trivial character, have been the recipients. The object of punishment, in all cases, should not be so much to inflict pain as to reform the sufferer and prevent the repetition of evil deeds. This fact is frequently lost sight of in imposing punishment upon criminals, especially when inexperienced youths are shut up in close cells with men hardened in crime, where its arts are daily taught and a romance thrown around its commission. Instead of being improved, they come forth at the expiration of their terms of sentence with the loss of self-respect, their moral sentiments blunted, and prepared to practice upon society the infamous lessons they have learned. Such punishments tend to increase rather than lessen the quantity of crime. When houses of correction and reformatories are constructed, or a proper system of confinement and prison discipline is adopted, there will be a material decrease of crime, and comparatively few cases to demand the exercise of the pardoning power.

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCES.

There are confined in the Philadelphia county prison the following named convicts, under sentence of death, for whose execution warrants have not been issued: Edward Ford, sentenced May 12, 1851; Jerry Dixon, May 30, 1863; Patrick Finnegan, February 9, 1863; Newton Champion, December 1, 1866; and Alfred Alexander and Hester Vaughn, July 3, 1868. Successive Governors, for satisfactory reasons, have declined to order the execution of these persons. The law requires that they shall be executed in accordance with the sentence, unconditionally pardoned, or held in close confinement in the county jail during life. The latter punishment, with the additional embitterment constantly preying upon the mind that a death warrant may at any moment be issued, is, perhaps, the severest that could be inflicted. It would be both just and merciful to give the Governor authority to commute the sentence of death in the above named cases to imprisonment, at labor, in the penitentiary, for such a term of years as the ameliorating circumstances may seem to justify and demand. One of the convicts named has been imprisoned about eighteen years, and although it might not be advisable to set him at liberty, humanity and the ends of justice require the commutation of his sentence in the manner suggested.

CONCLUSION.

The foregoing subjects have been deemed of sufficient importance to submit at the present time for your information and consideration. Others may occur before the close of the session which may be worthy of special communications. It will be my constant care and determination to cooperate with you in the prosecution of any measures that may tend to preserve and increase the prosperity of the State and the happiness of its people, with the firm belief that your united wisdom will aim constantly to promote these desirable results.

Many of the events that have transpired since my last annual communication to the Legislature have been unusually interesting and significant. They have been infinitely more than political, and bear directly upon the great interests and most sacred destinies of the nation. Apart from the vindication of the principles of the party which sustained the government and the army during the contest for the preservation of the Union, and the election to the Presidency of the first soldier of the age is a fact that the people have by triumphant majorities forever settled our controversy upon certain fundamental principles. Parties may and undoubtedly will arise upon other issues, but there can be no future struggle about slavery. Involuntary servitude, as a monopoly of labor, is forever destroyed. The monster obstacle to the national progress has been removed, and henceforward all the faculties of our people can be developed "without let or hinderance." The fair and exuberantly fertile States of the South, heretofore comparatively retrogressive and unproductive, relieved from this terrible curse, with the influx of northern immigration and capital, will soon become the rivals of their northern sister States in all the arts of peace, and additional markets will be developed in which to exchange the varied products of the heretofore hostile sections.

[*Concluded on Fourth Page.*]