into market. and Georgetown,

the act of Congress.

measures have been taken, which, it is believed | reserved rights. will restore quiet and afford protection to our citizens.

selves peacefully, to the free exercise of that State. citizens of any of the States.

The southern boundary line of this Territory rapidly extending settlements in that region, and the fact that man route between Independence. in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is contiguous to this line, suggest the probability that embarrassing questions of jurusdiction may consequently arise. For these and other conattention.

CONSTITUTIONAL TREORY OF THE GOVERNMENT. of the federal government, whether of domestic or foreign relation, as it appears to me desirable and useful to bring to the special notice of Congreek. Unlike the great states f Europe and Asia and many of those of America, those United States are wasting there strength neither in foreign war nor dom stie strife. M'hatever of discontent or public dissati faction exists, is attribut-Mich numan wisdom can devise.

Such subjects of political agitation as occupy the public mind consist, to a great extent, of exaggeration of inevitable evils, or over zeal in social improvement, or mere imagination of grievsideration of the Executive and require to be presented by him to Congress.

Before the Thirteen Colonies became a consociated only by community of trans-atlantic State. origin, by geographical position, and by the mutual tie of common dependence on Great severally assumed the power and rights of absolute self government. The municipal and and of personal relation, even its political or-

In the language of the Declaration of Independence, each State had "full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, estabthings which independent States may of right The several colonies differed in climate. continued to differ in these respects when they voluntarily allied themselves, as States to carry on the war of the revolution.

The objects of that war was to disenthrall of danger to the durability of the Union. 'the United Colonies from foreign rule, which had proved to be oppressive, and to separate them permanently from the mother country; the political result was the foundation of a fedonies, constituted, as they were, in distinct and independent State governments.

As for the subject races, whether Indian or or social change, left them as they were, and thus preserved themselves and their posterity from the anarchy, and the ever-recurring civil States, conspicuous for their services in foun- which her people had chosen for themselves, ed in some other State. Fresh from groundwars, which have prevailed in other revolution-

ized European colonies of America. of the States, instead of confining it to action offensive and hopeless undertaking of reform- progress of time, to those which sprang from older and equally solemn compacts, which ason the States as such, they proceed to frame ing the domestic institutions of other States previous concessions made by the South. sure the equality of all the States. the existing constitution, adhering steadily to wholly beyond their control and authority. In To every thoughtful friend of the Union- But, deplorable as would be such a violaegated rights of the separate independent sov-

ereignties. Such is the constitutional theory of our goverament, the practical observance of which has carried us, and us alone, among modern reputlies, through nearly three generations of time perpetrated under cover of the Union. without the cost of one drop of blood shed in the butile field against foreign fors, has erevated the feeble colonies into powerful States, and has raised our industrial productions, and our commence which transports them to the level of the richest and growers marrons of Lurope. And the admirante adaptation of our pontical institutions to their objects, combiging lucal self-government with aggregate strengeli, has established the practicaban, of a govern-Leverale States.

grants for roads, and selected as swamp lands lengues for common action, from the wars, the by States, is twenty-four million five hundred mutual invasions, and vague aspirations after four acres have been surveyed; but, in con- government arsured to each by their accequal sideration of the quantity already subject to power in the Senate, was the fundamental The paculiar relation of the general governe desirous the larger States might be to re-orgament to the District of Columbia renders it wise the government so as to give to their popproper to command to your care not only its ulation its proportionate weight in the commaterial, but also its moral interests, including mon councils, they knew it was impossible, education, more especially in those parts of inness they conceded to the smaller ones authe District outside of the citles of Washington | thority to exercise at least a negative influence on all the measures of the government, wheth-Information has recently been received, that domestic interests against the aggregate force character among the tribes in that quarter, the whole, and of all its parts; but of utterly exmore serious in their possible effect by reason cloding all capability of reciprocal aggression. of the undetermined foreign interests existing | Each solemnly bound itself to all the others, in those territories, to which your attention has 'neither to undertake, nor permit; any encroachalready been especially invited. Efficient ments upon, or intermedding with another's

Where it was deemed expedient, particular acts projudicial to good order, but as yet none these rights were guarded by the limitation of the interposition of the federal executive. of all powers not granted, in the compact of South, That could only be in case of obstruction to union. Thus the great power of taxation was ritorial law, assuming the character of insur- | general welfare, excluding objects appertainrection, which, if it should occur, it would be ling to the local legislation of the several States; I cherish the hope, however, that the occur- mon defence were afterwards defined by sperence of any such unroward event will be pre- cific enumeration, as being matters of coterritory, who, by its organic law, possessing tween them and foreign governments, which, the right to determine their own domestic in- because of their common and general nature, Union. stitutions, are entitled, while deporting them- could be left to the separate control of each

right, and must be protected in the enjoyment | Of the circumstances of local condition, in-States, constituting one great section of the the southern than in the northern States.

A population of this class, held in subjection, existed in nearly all the States, but was more namerous and of more serious concernment in the South than in the North, on acsiderations I commend the subject to your early count of natural differences of climate and production; and it was foreseen that, for the same reasons, while this population would diminish, I have thus passed in review the general state and, sooner or later, cease to exist, in some of the Union, including such particular concurns States, it might increase in others. The pe- provision which prohituted the use of service laculiar character and magnitude of this question of local rights, not in material relations dition of fugitives from service due in any other only, but still more in social ones, caused it part of the United States. Subsequently to the to enter into the special stipulations of the

as by those not enumerated, and therefore re- tion; and, when a second State, that of Missouri, incident to all governments, however perfect, which human wisdom can design the formed to the latter lerriin the sense of defence against either invasion or domestic violence, like all other local, in all its constitutional relations, nevertheless | constitution of the United States." ance, having but one remote connection with any expressly stipulated, as well for itself as for some slight modifications of line, to save the its merits alone. It was attacked with vioof the constitutional functions or duties of the fed. each and all of its citizens, and every citizen existing rights of the intended new State. It lence, on the false and delusive pretext, that it eral sovernment. To whatever extent these of each State became solemnly bound by his was reluctantly acquies ed in by Southern constituted a breach of faith. Never was obquestions exhibit a tendency menacing to the allegiance to the Constitution, that any person | States as a sacrifice to the cause of peace jection more utterly destitute of substantial stability of the Constitution, or the intergrity of held to service or labor in one State, e-caping and of the Union, not only of the rights stipu- justification. When, before, was it imagined the Union, and no farther, they demand the con- into another, should not, in consequence of any lated by the treaty of Louisiana, but of the by sensible men, that a regulative or declarasederation of independent States, they were as vice of labor might be due by the laws of his full condemnation and complaint, because it were in the facts any cause to impute bad

establish, wholly without interference from any terests, -if a portion of the States assume to hal territory of Louisiana. are no longer united triendly States, but dis- portion of the Union are they justly chargeable? tracted hostile ones, with little capacity left of lish commerce, and to do all other acts and common advantage, but abundant means of re- easion, nothing surviving it save the dormant It is not pretended that this principle, or any erprocal injury and mischief. -

Practically, it is immaterial whether aggresin soil, in natural-productions, in religion, in sive interference between the States, or delibsystems of education, in legislation, and in the | erate refusal on the part of any one of them to forms of political administration; and they comply with constitutional obligations, arise from erroneous conviction or blind prejudice. whether it be perpetrated by direction or indirection. In either case, it is full of threat and

CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS OF SLAVERY. the executive agent of the whole country, bound to take care that the laws be faithfully eral republic of the free white men of the col- executed, and specially enjoined by the Con- States of the supposed benefit of the provisions If the friends of the Constitution are to have stitution to give information to Congress on the state of the Union, it would be palpable neglect of duty on my part to pass over a sub-African, the wise and brave statesmen of that | ject like this, which, beyond all things at the day, being engaged in no extravagant scheme present time, vitally concerns individual and sectional prejudice and the political errors of from the Union because its domestic institupublic security.

ding this republic, and equally sharing its ad- & with express agreement, by the re annexing less imputations of breach of faith against vantages, disregard their constitutional obli- act, that she should be susceptible of subdivi- others, men will commence the agitation of When the confederated States found it con- gations to it. Although conscious of their in- sion into a plurality of States. venient to modify the conditions of their asso- ability to heal admitted and palpable social. Whatever advantage the interests of the of an express compact between the indepeninhabitants of the latter are permanently ofga- pean colony? Who would rejoice to hail tion of the Union? If a new State, formed former, by wrongful acts, which would be laxy of States? Who does not appreciate the absolutely excluded from admission therein, cause of war as between foreign powers, and incalculable benefits of the acquisition of that fact of itself constitutes the disruponly fail to be such in our system, because Louisiana? And yet narrow views and see- tion of Union between it and the other States.

It is impossible to present this subject as | ded them from the Union. civil war. With freedom and concertofac ion, truth and the occasion require, without noticing it has enabled us to exacted successfully on the reiterated, but groundless, allegation, that the South has persistently asserted claims and from Mexico, and it devolved on Congress to obtained advantages to the practical adminis- provide for the territories acquired by the place in presence of each other two irrecencitration of the general government, to the pre- treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The great rejudice of the North, and in which the latter has lations of the subject had now become distinct acquiesced. That is, the States, which either and clear to the perception of the public mind, jeets, the off-pring of that sectional agitation promote of tolerate attacks on the rights of which appreciated the evils of sectional con- now prevailing in some of the States, which guise their own injustice, pretend or imagine, new States. In that crisis intense solicitude tional, and which if persevered in must, and and constantly aver, that they, whose consti- pervaded the nation. But the patriotic impul- will end calamitously. It is either disunion meat like sure to cover a continent with con-The Congress of the United States is, in time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it superior to all the difficulties of the incorporative. Distance of public peace and tranquil
The Congress of the United States is, in time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it superior to all the difficulties of the incorporative. Distance of public peace and tranquil
Tagglossis. are themselves the aggressors. At the present itery advice of the Father of his Country, rose less disturbance of public peace and tranquil-

the South.

it extended to the opposite boundaries of the quisition in the special interest of the South.

above all sectional jealousies. It was, in truth, of the public judgment to such a degree that, the valley of the Mississippi, with commercial ganization of the Territory of Washington. rights of the States were expressly guarantied | access to the Gulf of Mexico, imparted unity & | In the territory of Kansas there have been by the Constitution; but, in all things beside, strength to the whole Confederation, and at organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kantached together by indissoluble ties the East | sas, it was the natural and legitimate, if not have occurred under circumstances to justify the powers granted, and by express reservation and the West as well as the North and the the inevitable consequence of previous events

federal law, or of organized resistence to ter- limited to purposes of common defence and | Spain to the United States of territory on the Utah and New Mexico should be applied to east side of the river Mississippi, in exchange them :- that they should stand exempt frnm for large territory which the United States the restrictions proposed in the act rola tive my duty promptly to overcome and suppress. and those purposes of general welfare and com- transferred to Spain on the west side of that to the State of Missouri. river, as the entire diplomatic hictory of the transaction serves to demonstrate. Moreover, many thoughtful men, null from the beginning, vented by the sound sense of the people of the relation between the States themselves, or be- it was an acquisition demanded by the com- unauthorized by the Constitution, contrary to mercial interests and the security of the whole the treaty stipulations for the cession, of

In the mean time the people of the United of the States. . States had grown up to a proper consciousness of it, without interference on the part of the terest, and rights, in which a portion of the France, and in a second serious war with Great Britain, they had shaken off all which They had been practically abrogated by the Union, differed from the rest, and from another remained of undue reverence for Europe, and legislation attending the organization of Utali, has never been surveyed and established. The section, the most important was the peculiar- emerged from the atmosphere of these transity of a larger relative colored population in atlantic influences which surrounded the in- ty remained in them, it world have been taken tention to the full and systematic development in the form originally proposed to the Senate of the internal resources of the Union.

Among the evanescent controversies of that pe ried, the most conspicuous was the question of r. g ntation by Congress of the social condition of the in are States to be founded in the Terrnory of

The ordinance for the government of the territory north-west of the river Ohio had contained a bor therein, subject to the condition of the extraadoption of the Constitution this provision ceased to remain as a law, for its operation as such was absolutely superseded by the Constitution. But the Hence, while the general government, as recollection of the fact excited the zeal of social well by the enumerated powers granted to it propagandism in some sections of the Confederatory the restriction originally applied to the country

This controversy passed away with the ocletter of the statute.

accession of the republic of Texas, the United to be by human passions. No form of govern-States were to take their next step in territorial | ment is exempt from its conveniences : but in greatness, a similar contingency occurred, and this case they are the result of the abuse, and to the redemption of the relief notes now in ers. became the occasion for systematized attempts, not of the legitimate exercise, of the powers to intervene in the domestic affairs of one sec-) reserved or conferred in the organization of a States, and of the stipulations of the constitution great principle of popular sovereigntion. These attempts assumed a practical Placed in the office of Chief Magistrate as direction, in the shape of persevering endeav-Houses of Congress, to deprive the Southern and silent but irresistible power. of the authorizing the organization of the

State of Missouri. But the good sonse of the people, and the It has been matter of painful regret to see the Union as she was, with social institutions; ideas of what is wise and expedient entertain-

sued, when our victorious armies returned.

during the last fiscal year, located with milita- but could never attain, and which imparts to apprehension, or this treme antagonism of opinion and action be- difficult to believe, that any considerable porry scrip or land warrants, taken up under America an exemption from the mutable principles and facts of the political organizatives, who sought, by tion of the people of this enlightened country tion of the new Territories of the U. States. the abusive and unconstitutional employment could have so currendered themselves to a fa-What is the voice of history? When the of the legislative powers of the Government, to instical devotion to the supposed interests of and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and the balance of power, which convulse from organization, which provided for the govern- interfere in the condition of the inchante States, the relatively few Africans in the United nine acres; of which the portion sold was fif- time to time the governments of Europe, Our ment of the territory northwest of the river and to impose their own social theories upon States, as totally to abandon and disregard the teen million seven handred and twenty-nine co-operative action rests in the conditions of Ohio, and for its eventual subdivision into the latter, and other representatives, who re- interests of the twenty-five millions of Amerithousand five hundred and twenty-four acres; permanent confederation prescribed by the new States, was adopted in the Congress of pelled the interposition of the General Govern- cans, to trample under foot the injunctions of rielding in receipts the sum of seven million Constitution. Our balance of power is in the the confederation, it is not to be supposed that ment in this respect, and maintained the self-moral and constitutional obligation—and to four hundred and eighty-five thousand three separate reserved rights of the States, and thequestion of intererelative power; as between constituting rights of the States. In truth, engage in plans of vindictive hostility against handred and eighty doilnrs. In the same po- their equal representation in the Senate, That the States which retained and those which did the thing attempted was, in form alone, action those who are associated with them in the enriod of time, eight million seven hundred and independent sovereignty in every one of the not retain a numerous colored population, esca- of the General Government, while in reality it joyment of the common heritage of our nationtwenty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty. States, with its reserved rights of local self- ped notice, or tailed to be considered. And was the endeavor, by the abuse of legislative yet the concession of that vast territory to the power, to force the ideas of internal policy eninterests and opinions of the northern States, tertained in particular States upon allied inde- zens of one section of the Union alone. The entry, no additional tracis have been brought condition of the Constitution. Without it the a territory new the seat of five among the lar- pendent States. Once more the Constitution interests, the honor, the duty, the peace, and Union would never have existed. However gest members of the Union, was, in great mea- and the Union triumphed signally. The new the prosperity of the people of all sections are sure, the act of the State of Virginia and of territories were organized without restrictions equally involved and imperilled in this queson the disputed point, and were thus left to tion. And are patriotic men in any part of When Louisiana was acquired by the Uni- judge in that particular for themselves; and the Union prepared, on such an issue, thus ted States, it was an acquisition not less to the the sense of constitutional faith proved vigo- madly to invite all the consequences of the North than to the South; for while it was im- rous enough in Congress not only to accom- forfeiture of their constitutional engagements? portant to the country at the mouth of the river plish this primary object, but also the inciden- It is impossible. The storm of phrensy and Mississippi to become the emporium of the tal and hardly less important one of so amend- faction must inevitably dash itself in vain The commissioners appointed to revise and er legislative or executive, through their equal country above it, so also it was even more im- ing the provisions of the statute for the extracodify the laws of the District have made such representation in the Senate. Indeed, the lar- portant to the whole Union to have that empo- dition of fugitives from service as to place that I shall never doubt it. I know that the Union progress in the performence of their task as to ger States themselves could not have failed to rium; and although the new province, by sea- public duty under the safeguard of the General is stronger a thousand times than all the wild insure its completion in the time prescribed by perceive, that the same power was equally ne- son of its imperfect settlement, was mainly re- Government, and thus relieve it from obstacles and chimerical scenes of social change, ressary to them, for the accurity of their own garded as on the gulf of Mexico, yet, in fact, raised up by the legislation of some of the States. which are generated, one after another, in the Vain declamation regarding the provisions of unstable minds of visionary sophists and intethe peace of the settlements in the Territories of the general government. In a word, the United States, with far greater breadth above law for the extradition of fugitives from ser- rested agitators. I rely confidently on the paof Oregon and Washington is disturbed by hos original States went into this permanent than below, and was in territory, as in every vice, with occasional episodes of frantic effort triotism of the people, on the dignity and selftilities on the part of the Indians, with indien- league on the agreed premises, of exerting | thing else, equally at least, an accession to the | to obstruct their execution by riot and murder, | respect of the States, on the wisdom of Contions of extensive combinations of a hostile their common strength for the defence of the Northern States. It is mere delusion and pre- continued, for a brief time, to agitate certain gress, and above all, on the continued gracious judice, therefore, to speak of Louisiana as ac- localities. But the true principle, of leaving each State and Territory to regulate its own all enemies, whether at home or abroad, the The patriotic and just men who participated laws of labor according to its own sense of sanctity of the Constitution and the integrity in that act were influenced by motives far right and expediency, had acquired fast hold of the Union. the great event which, by completing for us by common consent, it was observed in the or-

When, more recently, it became requisite to and legislation, that the same great and sound As to Florida, that was but the transfer by principle, which had already been applied to

These restrictions were, in the estimation of Louisiana, and inconsistent with the equality

They had been stripped of all moral authorof their strength, and in a brief contest with ity, by persistent efforts to procure their indirect repeal though contradictory enactments. New Moxico and Washington. If any vitalifant Republic, and had begun to turn their at- away, in effect, by the new territorial acts, at the first session of the last Congress. It was manly and ingenuous, as well as patriotic and just, to do this directly and plainly, and thus relieve the statute-book of an act, which might be of possible future injury, but of no possible future benefit; and the measure of its repeal was the final consumnation and complete recognition of the principle, that no portion of the United States shall undertake, through assumption of the powers of the general government, to dictate the social institutions of any other portion.

The scope and effect of the language of repeal were not left in doubt. It was declared, in terms, to be the "true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, out to leave the people thereof perfectly free under the general safeguard of the Union, situated between the rivers Ohio and Mississippi. to form and regulate their domestic institu-Most questionable as was this proposition | tions in their own way, subject only to the

interests of the several States. Each State it received the sanction of Congress, with The measure could not be withstood upon law or regulation thereof, be discharged from | principle of equality among the States guar- tive statute, whether enacted ten or forty years such service or labor, but should be delivered ancied by the Constitution. It was received ago, is irrepealable,—that an act of congress is up on claim of the party to whom such ser- by the northern States with angry and resent- above the constitution? If, indeed, there did not concede all which they had exactingly faith, it would attach to those only, who have Thus, and thus only, by the reciprocal gua- demanded. Having passed through the forms never ceased, from the time of the enactment ranty of all the rights of every State against of legislation it took its place in the statute of the restrictive provision to the present day, Britain. When that tie was sundered, they interference on the part of another, was the book, standing open to repeal, like any other to denounce and to condemn it; who have conpresent form of government established by our net of doubtful constitutionality, subject to be stantly refused to complete it by needful fathers and transmitted to as; and by no other pronounced null and void by the courts of law, supplementary legislation; who have themsocial institutions of each, its laws of property means is it possible for it to exist. If one and possessing no possible efficacy to control selves again and again attempted its repeal by State ceases to respect the rights of another, the rights of the States, which might thereaf- the enactment of incompatible provisions; and ganization, were such only as each one chose to and obtrusively intermeddles with its local in- ter be organized out of any part of the origi- who, by the inevitable reactionary effect of their own violence on the subject, awakened impose their institutions on the others, or re- | In all this, if any aggression there were, any the country to perception of the true constifuse to fulfill their obligations to them, -we innovation upon pre-existing rights, to which tutional principle, of leaving the matter involved to the discretion of the people of the respective existing or incipient States.

other, precludes the possibility of evils in But, long afterwards, when by the proposed practice, disturbed as political action is liable be confidently expected. ty; on the contrary, they disappear before

whose constitution clearly embraces "a repubvital force of the constitution, triumphed over lican form of government," being excluded the day, and the State of Texas returned to tions may not in all respects comport with the this new question with indubitable violation

one guiding thought, which was, to delegate the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely un- to the true lovers of their country—to all who 'tion of compact in itself, and in all its direct only such power as was necessary and proper attainable, and which they may not legally atto the execution of specific purposes, or, in other tempt to compass, they peril the very existgreat experiment of republican institutions—
involved. When sectional agitators shall er words, to retain as much as possible, consistence of the Constitution, and all the countless it was cause of gratulation that such an optimize their pretensions fail to be met by counter their pr Powers of the individual States. For objects of people of the Southern States confine their attention to their authorized definition to the general government certain carefully-defined finite proposes, of the individual States. For objects of people of the Southern States confine their attention to their authorized definition to their authorized definition to their authorized definition to their own affairs, not presuming officient states and security, they entrusted tention to their own affairs, not presuming officient states and security they entrusted tention to their own affairs, not presuming officient states and security they entrusted tention to their own affairs, not presuming officients at the definition of the constitution.—

Total funded debt Total funded debt tention to their own affairs, not presuming officients with the world additional assurance of the compelled respectively to meet extremes with their own affairs, not presuming officients at the destance of the constitution.—

Solve the finite of the constitution and their attention to their own affairs, not presuming officients at the destance of the constitution.—

Solve the finite of the constitution and their attention to their own affairs, not presuming officients at the destance of the constitution.—

Solve the finite of the constitution and the finite nized in associations to inflict injury on the Texas as a lone star, instead of one in the gal- from the Territory of the United States, be tional purposes would inevitably have exclu- But the process of dissolution could not stop there. Would not a sectional decision, produ-But another struggle on the same point en- eing such result by a majority of votes either northern or southern, of necessity drive out the oppressed and aggrieved minority, and lably hostile confederations?

It is necessary to speak thus plainly of propersons and of property in other States, to dis- troversy upon the question of the admission of are as impracticable as they are unconstitugood men in the World have sought for, of political agitators, resulted notes, councils of Congress there was manifested ex- force the fact upon our attention, it would be Emmanded of the Entering of the En

al institutions.

Nor is its hostility against their fellow citiagainst the unshaken rock of the constitution. favor of Almighty God, to maintain, against

FRANKLIN PIERCE. Washington, December 31, 1855.

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

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

GENTLEMEN :- A kind Providence has greaty blessed our Commonwealth during the past year. No foreign war, no internal strife have interrupted or destroyed the peaceful quiet of our homes. All the great interests of the people have been eminently prosperous. The earth, in rich abundance, has yielded her increase to supply our wants, and reward with her bounties the labor of the husbandman. Labor, in every department of manufacturing and mechanical industry, has been stimulated and encouraged. The ravages of disease and the horrors of the pestilence have been averted from us; and whilst the cry of human suffering, from other States, has been heard invoking our sympathy and aid, we have been blessed with health and permitted to enjoy the comforts and happiness of social life. To Him who hath bestowed these blessings upon us. and upon whose care we are constantly dependent, should be ever paid the willing homage of our grateful hearts.

The report of the State Treasurer will exhibit to you, in detail, the operations of his department. The results are more satisfactory and encouraging than were anticipated.

The receipts at the Treasury for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1855, including the balance in the Treasury on the 1st day of December, 1854, (\$1,240,928 72) amounted to same period were \$5,385,705 52; leaving a balance in the treasury on the 30th November, 1855, of \$1 245,697 31. No loans, temporary fiscal year, as they were not required by the redemption. wants of the Treasury.

The receipts during tures of \$1,250,961 83.

completion of the new Portage railroad over

management of her finances, an annual reduc- the bonds proposed to be issued. tion of her debt, to a considerable extent, may

There is due by the Treasury to the sinking circulation, and to the funded debt of the Commonwealth. The greater part of the funded of six per cent., it has been deemed advisable, \$103,585 53. as a matter of economy, to apply the surplus another struggle, its enemies could not present revenues to the payment of those loans. When

by law. Notwithstanding the revenues for the last four or five years have largely exceeded the ordinary expendidures of the government, yet in consequence of the large and insatiable demands upon the Treasury for the completion of the North Branch canal, the Portage railroad and other kindred improvements, the public net revenues, as compared with the net reveciation, hy giving to the general government direct access, in some respects, to the people within their jurisdiction, they engage in the far inferior in results, as they unfolded in the and of the republic of Texas, as well as of the transportation lines from the condition of the debt at different periods, will main line of the canal, the aggregate revenues be seen in the following statements:

Statement of the funded and unfunded debt of 1851, as per report of the Auditor General.

\$2,314,023 51 per cent. loans, 198,200 00 -\$39,216,707 54 claimed ce. tificates, when funded, 9,752 91 Domestic creditors,

40.114,236 39 Total debt December 1, 1851, Statement showing the indebtedness of the Commonwealth on the 1st day of December, 1854, as per Auditor General's report. Funded debt, viz: 8532 104, 93 6 per cent. loans,

388,200 00 100,000 00 Total funded debt, Unfunded debt. viz: Relief notes in circulation, 491,361 00 Interest certiacates outstanding, 24.507 21 Do, do, uncaimed, Interest on outstanding and un-4.445 38 claimed certificates, when tun led, 1,570 97

Domestic c editors' certificates, Balance of temporary loan of April 360,000 00 19, 1833. 560,000 00 Bal face of temporary loan of May 9, 1854, 450,435 of Total unturded debt, and tempoenclassing acquired fulfile received a

ter liank, not charged on State Treasurer's books. Relief notes put in circulation September, 1854, and not redesired December 1, 1854, Total public debt December 1, 1854, Do do 1851, Increase of debt in three years. 1.584.359 35
The funded and nofunded debt, including unpaid temporary loans, on the 1st day of December. 1855, the close of the last fiscal year, as per report of the Auditor General and

State Treasurer, was as follows, to wit : Funded debt, viz : 6 per cent. loan, **-\$**516,154 93 do. 38,903,445 54 - 385,200 C0 100,000 00 Total funded debt, Unlunded debt, viz:
Relief notes in circulation,
Interest certificates outstanding, 29,157 25 Domestic creditors, Balance of temporary local of April 19, 1853, Balance of temporary loan of May 346,000 00 9, 1854. Total unfunded debt, 1.160.194 25 Total debt December 1, 1855, 41,067,994 72 Total debt, as above stated, December 1, 1854, 41,698,595 74
Do. do. 1, 1855, 41,007,994 72

\$25,000 00

75,000 00

41,698,595 74 40,114,236 33

1.584,359 35

Decrease during the fiscal year, 630,691 02 This statement exhibits the gratifying fact that during the fiscal year ending November 30, 1855, the indebtedness of the Commonwealth has been reduced \$630,601 02. During the same period large appropriations and payments were made for the completion of the new Portage railroad, re-laying the track of the Columbia railroad, and for other purposes. \* These demands upon the Preasury were, without the aid of loans, promptly paid.

Refusing to undertake any new schemes of internal improvement, limiting all appropriations to the actual demands of the occasion, practising strict economy in all departments of the government, and holding the receiving and disbursing agents of the Commonwealth to a rigid accountability, will greatly reduce the expenditures, and, under ordinary circumstances, leave an annual subjust of the revenues to be applied to the redemption of the public debt.

The estimated receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year will be presented to you in the report of the State Treasurer. The receipts from the usual sources of revenue, above the ordinary expenditures, may exceed the sum of one million and a half of dollars. These estimates may approximate the true result; but cannot be relied upon with certainty.

By the thirty-eighth section of the act of the 16th of April, 1845, entitled "An Act to provide for the ordinary expenses of government, the repair of the canals and railroads of the State, and other claims upon the Commonwealth," the Governor was authorized to cause certificates of State stock to be assued to all persons or bodies corporate holding certificates for the payment of interest on the funded debt of the State, which fell due on the 1st day of August, 1842, the 1st days of February and August, 1843, and the 1st days of February and Angust 1844, in an amount equal to the amount of certificates so held, upon their delivering up said certificates to the Auditor General. In pursuance of the authority thus given, certificates of State stock to the amount of four millions one hundred and five thousand one hundred and fitty dollars and twenty cents, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent, per annum, payable semi-annually, on the 1st days of February and August in each year, and redeem-\$6,631,402 83. The total payments for the able on or after the 1st day of Angust, 1855, were issued. The minimum period fixed by law for the redemption of these certificates, expired on the 1st day of Angust last. No or otherwise, were negotiated during the past provision has been made for their renewal or

Although by the terms of the actanthorizing these certificates of State stock, as also by the sources, (excluding the balance in the Treasu- conditions of the certificates issued in pursury on the first day of December, 1854.) were ance thereof, the time of payment, after the ex-\$5,390,474 11. The ordinary expenditures piration of the minimum period, is optional for the same period, including the interest on with the debtor-the Commonwealth-yet a the public debt, were \$4,139.512 28, showing | due regard to the credit of the State requires an excess of receipts over ordinary expendi- that provision should be made for their renewal or redemption. To redeem these certificates a The extraordinary payments for the year loan would become necessary, and as a loan were \$1.246,193 24, as follows, viz :- To the cannot be effected, in the present financial condition of the country, on terms more favorthe Allegheny mountains, \$446.762 12; to able to the State, than those on which these the North Branch canal, \$87,562 67; to the certificates were issued, I would recommend Columbia railroad, to re-lay south track, that authority be given to issue the bonds of \$133,100 00; to the payment of domestic cred- the Commonwealth in renewal of said certifiitors, \$1.629 85; to the redemption of loans, cates, bearing interest at the rate of five per \$316,550 60, and to relief notes cancelled, cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and redeemable on or after the expiration of twen-The balance in the Treasury will be required ty years; and that the bonds be issued with for the payment of the interest on the State | coupons or certificates of interest attached, in debt falling due in February next, and for un- sums equal in amount to the semi-annual inpaid appropriations. The interest on the fund- terest thereon, payable on the first days of ed debt of the Commonwealth, which became February and August in each and every year, due in February and August last, was prompt- at such place as may be designated. This ly paid; and it is gratifying to state that the change in the form and character of the certiinterest due in February next will be paid with ficates, it is believed, will be so advantageous equa! promptness. The credit of the State to the holders, without increasing the liabilimay be regarded as firmly established, and ties of the Commonwealth, as to induce a willwith proper economy and a careful and honest ling and prompt exchange, at a premium, for

The condition of the public works, their general operation, and the receipts and expenditures for the past fical year, will be presented Fund the sum of \$335.011 39, to be applied to you in the report of the Canal Commission-

The aggregate receipts at the Treasury from the public works, for the year ending Novemtion of the Union, in defiance of their rights as territory. They are not to be charged to debt bears interest at the rate of five per cent. ber 30, 1855, were \$1,942,376 71. The agper annum; the balance bears a still less rate gregate expenditures, including ordinary and of interest. But as the temporary loans, which extraordinary payments, for the same period, the intelligence and patriotism of the people; by law are to be first paid out of the available amounted to \$1,838,791 18, showing an exors, by some of the representatives, in both exerting through the ballot-box their peaceful means of the treasury, bear interest at the rate cess of receipts, over all expenditures, of

The extraordinary payments for the same year, (excluding \$133,100 00 paid for re-laya more acceptable issue, than that of a State, these are liquidated, the amount due and proping the south track of the Columbia milroad, erly applicable to the Sinking Fund will be and \$28,000 00 for re-building the Freeport paid, and its operation continued as directed aqueduct) were \$690,427 78. The ordinary expenditures were \$1,148,363 40. Aggregate receipts, as above

\$1.942.376 71 stated. Ordinary expenditures. 1.148,363 40

Net revenues for the fiscal year, This balance exhibits a small increase in the for the last year have exceeded the revenues of 1854 by more than twenty-three thousand the Commonwealth on the 1st day of December, | dollars. From the abundant crops of the past year, the improved condition of the monetary affairs of the country and the general revival of business, a large increase in the revenues for the current year may be confidently expected.

The sum of \$161,125 25, has been paid into the Treasury by the Pennsylvania railroad company and other railroad companies, as the tax on tonnage passing over their roads. This amount largely exceeds the sum paid by the same companies in 1851.

The Delaware division exhibits a sa tisfactory result. The total receipts were \$392,-673 42; expenditures, \$60.097 86; showing a net revenue of \$332,575 56. It all our lines of improvement exhibited a similar balance sheet, the people would have less cause of complaint and more confidence in the general operation of the system. There has been a large increase in the busi-

ness and tonnage of the Columbia rai Iroad. and a corresponding increase in the receipts therefrom. The operation of this road for the past year have been highly satisfactory. The operations of that part of the main line from the Junction to Pitisburg, including the Portage railroad, do not present so favorable a resuit. The receipts have greatly diminished. and were not sufficient to meet the ordinary expenditures. The revenues from the main line do not equal the receipts of the previous years. The causes of this reduction are ap-