ing for them.
The large cash balance remaining in the Troas-rry on the 30th of November, 1867, has been used for the payment of the twenty-three million loan

no ordinary honor. by the enactment of such a law, strong and efficient, for the purpose indica-cated, and the enjoyment not only of the appro-

vation, but the permanent gratitude of every cit-

Notwithstanding the sati-factory 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 shuually. 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

arge the strictest economy in respect to every xpenditure and the utmost retrenchment in

Retrenchment is emphatically demanded by the prople in legislative expenditures, as well as in very other branch of the government. Their

eyes are open to investigate every transaction, and by their ballots they are ready to strike down hose 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

every one of whom has a just right to hold his representatives to a strict accontability for every doller 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 eight he bills without proper investigation, notwithstanding any objections he may have; suspend the means to defray the operations of the government for the ensuing year.

rations 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.

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; 2,382 graded schools; 11,698 school

These facts are exhibited with great satisfaction, as they show the average annual cost for the trition 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

number in the State is estimated to be not less than

and many of them contract habits of vice, which eventually cause them to be committed to houses

or refuge, county prisons or penitred to houses of refuge, county prisons or penitrentiaries. Humanity and sound public policy demand that comething be done to remedy this growing evil, at daiso that of the neglected condition of considerable numbers of children in the aims and poor houses in many of the counties.

Four Normal Schools are now recognized as

rour Normal Schools are now recognized as State institutions. The number of students at-tending 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 at Bioomsburg, Columbia county, and the other at California, Washington county. The varie of these institutions to the

county. The value of these institutions to the

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 specialty.

A meeting of the presidents and other authorities of a number of our colleges was held in Har-

risburg last winter, the object of which was to bring about a closer union of all our educational

nstitutions, and connect by a bond of sympathy. if not of organic structure, the common schools, high schools, academics and colleges. The establishment of such an educational department

reems 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 personnial vitality, pervades the nation, and are nurseries of

vitality, pervades the nation, and are nurseries of that inquiring spirit to which we are indebted for the purity and precervation 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

licentiousness; to preserve an inviolable respect for the laws, and exercise "eternal vigilance"

against any encroachments upon them. It is ad-

against any encroacements upon them. It is aumitted that a thoroughly educated people alone can be permanently free. By educational culture patriotism is expanded, and the principles, manuers 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

increased, and the structure of our free and happy system of government cemented, strength-ened and adorned.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' SCHOOLS.

soldiers or phans' 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, 3,431; average cost per pupil \$69 06½ for six months; and the average weekly expenses per pupil \$2 65½. The fiscal year of these schools, like that of the common schools terminates by law on the last days of

cventy-five thousand. These children grow up a ignorance, frequently without employment,

which its importance demands."

PRICE THREE CENTS.

## VOLUME XXII.—NO. 230. HXIIRA.

MESSAGE

of his excellency

## JOHN W. GEARY

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

January 6, 1869.

建油 经营销 化二氢基乙基 To the Benate 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 prosperous condition of the Commonwealth; for the glad signs of conling political tranquillity; and for the success which attends the progress of our free institutions, we owe a heavy debt of gratitude to Divice 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 accorded where to the legic

and to tender you a cordial welcome to the Legi-lative Halis of the State. This, indeed, affords me a higher gratification, because I participate with your constituents in the confidence manifested by them in relecting you to represent their indi-vidual interests as well as those of the Commonwealth. On your wisdom, integrity, judgment and discretion, all will undoubtedly rely for the corn of 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 retting upon me that I and greater.

responsibility resting upon me that I undertake the performance of a constitutional duty, regul-ring that the Governor "shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information of the state of of the Commonwealth, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient." In conformity with this re-quirement, your attention will be called only to such matters of public interest as in my judg-ment deserve careful consideration and action on your part during the present session.

Finances. The following is a carefully prepared state m at 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 20, 1867, was \$4,661,836 4 Ordinary receipts during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868.

Depreciated funds in the Treasury, unavailable. 41,032.00

Total in Treasury for fiscal year ending
Nev. 30, 1868. \$9,918,918 01
Paymenta, viz: \$9,918,918 01
Paymenta, viz: \$9,918,918 01

Paymenta, viz: \$9,918,918 01

Loans, &c. redeemed. \$2,454,506 09

Loans, &c. redeemed. \$4,417,463 64

Other payments. \$12,500 00

Interest on loans. \$1,679,690 91

Deputerland fouds apparell.

8,935,492 64 Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1863.....\$1,013,415 37

Balance in Treasury, Nov. of account of the Sinking Fusions of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund were ordered to be thereafter reported and the Sinking Fund were ordered to be thereafter reported and the Sinking Sinkin nually to the 80th day of November. Their last report, therefore, includes a period of one year and three months. The following is the "recapitulation" of the

c perations of the Sinking Fand, from September 1867. 10 November 30, 1868. 

-- \$4,222,571 9 Balance in fund November 30, 1868. . . . . . \$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 of May 18, 1861, entitled "An Act to create a loan Balanco on hand September 3, 1867.....
The receipts from said tax and tax on gross receipts from September 3, 1867, to November 80, 1868, amount to..... \$319,933 17

423.970 20 743,912 37

Balance in fund November 80, 1868.. \$574,667 37

CONDITION OF BALANCES. Balance in sinking fund, No-

Deduct balance in Treasury, November 30, 1868..... \$1,508,700 13 Balance in favor of sinking fund.... \$495,254 76

Balance in favor of sinking fund... \$495,224 76
EXDUCTION 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 \$2,214,316 64, making a total reduction of the State cebt, in two years and three months, of four million two hundred and nine thousand three hundred and eighty-six dollars and fourteen cents.

dollars and fourteen cents.

dollars and fourteen cents.

The assets remaining in the Sinking Fund are as follow, viz:—Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, six million, four hundred thousend dollars, and bonds of the Philadelphia and Eric Railroad Company, three million, five hundred thousand dollars. These are mon-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 of the Sinking Fund to sell these bonds at public

of the Sinking Fund to sell these bonds at public sale to the hispest bidder, and direct the proceeds to be applied to the liquidation of the State debt.

Public debt outstanding December 1,
1867. \$37,704,409 77

Deduct smount redeemed at State Treationly during the fiscal year ending Notavember 80, 1868, viz.:

per cent. loans. \$4,354,253 64

45 per cent. loans. \$4,354,253 64

46 per cent. loans. \$4,354,253 64

47 deficient notes cancelled. \$210 00

4,417,403 64 4,417,463 6 Public debt December 1, 1868......\$38,286,946 13

- \$33,172,951 56 Unfunded debt, viz: Relief notes in circulation. \$98,415 00 Interest certificate outst'ng unclaimed.

Domestic creditors' certifi-18,056 52 4,418 88

mestic creditors' certinimestic creditors, the secund schools, terminates by law on the last day of may of cach year. The present report of the Superintendent, therefore, embraces only six
months, and reports will be made up to the Sits
day of May, annually, hereafter. The special Total unfunded.....

OUR WHOLE COUNTRY.

PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1869.

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

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

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 unavollable funds and dispose of them to the best adventage 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.

plesented 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 manifect. 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 beath and with the brightest hopes of manhood, now sleep in death, leaving their widows and for the payment of the twenty-three million loan and for the liquidation of ontstanding claims against the State. The investment of the funds, in one of the modes recommended in my last annual message, has, therefore, in a great measure, ben rendered unnecessary for the present. But in the event of large accumulations of money hereafter, the recommendations therein given are respectfully referred for and renewed. Whenever there may be surplus funds in the Treasury, they can, with safety and benefit to the State, be exployed 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 forewarsed in regard to the inseceof them who left their homes in the bloom of bealth 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 can-not be awarded its people for the munificent and tender manner in which they have thus far, through their representatives, discharged the

I regret to state that the last Legislature, although fully forewarded 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 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 are arrived to the several States. mechanic arts, and prior to the time whon Pennsylvania endowed the Agricultural College with her share of these lands, it was dependent wholly noon individual influence, without any other means for its support than its own earnings. History proves that seminaries of learning canot be distinct and the state of the st netroy 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, com-bined with those of its friends, were not equal to a contest with the want of means. Hence the chool did not command the confidence of far-

mers who were able to educate their cons, and who could not forget that the character of the college 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 bethe world would place upon the education it be-stowed. This seature has now been removed. The people, through their Legislature, have en-dowed this institution with the interest upon a fund of \$318,590 00 (invested in United States and Pennsylvania State six per cent. bonds), pay-able to it semi-annually. Last year this interest amounted to \$25,642 78. The residue of the tund, \$43,886 60, 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 00, one in Chester county for \$17,750 00, and one in Indiana county for \$18,136 50. The board has also recently reorganized the faculty and re-modeled the course of studies; so as to adapt also recently reorganized the faculty and remodeled the course of studies; so as to adapt
them to the wants of the agricultural community.
This 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 calting in life where the
value of bacwledge and the lights of science, and
the practical application of both, are so potent
for profitable results as in their adaptation to
agricultural purruits. And in this truiv practical
age it is well worthy of the consideration of parents, whether they should not avail themselves rents, whether they should not avail themselves of the benefits of this institution, now so gencrously endowed by the State.

13 766 schools; 2,382 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 \$3,273,268 43; of building, purchasing and renting school houses, \$1,991,152 55; of contingencies, \$854,263 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 Military. From the report of the Adjutant-General you will learn the condition of the dilitary Depart ment. The inactivity in military affairs after the cessation of bostilities and upon the return o reace, has in a great measure been dispelled, and an active martial 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 outy. 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 presented to you as an important subject for

not only upon the teachers but the manner in which their dutics are performed.

Your attention is called to the fact that, notwithstanding the smple provision now made by is we for the education of all persons between the eges of six and twenty-one years, large numbers of children, principally in our cities, do not attend any kied 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 spreament to you as an important subject to your deliberation.

Every possible encouragement of volunteers has been afforded, 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-eeven, and a number of others in preparation for aganization.

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 a required to the maximum number if required be recruited to the maximum number if required for active service. The State that always tains the highest degree of preparation accom-plishes most and suffers least in the conflict of rms; and by being in readiness it often prevents improper encroachments upon her rights. The Adjutant General presents a full and de-

tailed statement of the disbursements in his de-partment during the year ending November 30, 1868, with an estimate for the necessary appro priations for the current year, and also for such amounts as have been discovered to be due from the Transportance during the war.

STATE AGENCY. the Transportation Department, contracted for

The existence of the Military State Agency at Washington terminated on the 31st 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 Angust after the agency free of charge. In August, after the agency ceased to exist, there still remained a considera-ble number of unsettled claims, and as no one knew more about their condition, or could possibly obtain an earlier sottlement of them than the late agent, Colonel 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 oneholf 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 add, with very general satisfaction. All the books and papers of the agency will be transmitted 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 at a majority of the Saverne 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 alteged that fraude were perpetrated, surpassing in magnitude, perhave 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 accom-plish 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 f it by any means whatever, his beasted freedom

appropriation of February 25, 1858, made in ac cordance with an estimate of the Superintendent, presented in my last annual message, exceeded the actual expenses \$6,004 74. is entitled to a vote, if that vote is to be nullifled 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, by visited with the pains and penalties of perjury, and with perpetual disfranchisement.

and with pricinal distranchisement.

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 how 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 despotiem, 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 ald for the accomplishment of any and every measure that may tend to secure to each 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 volueless by illegolity, 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 east upon spurious naturalization papers, and thus fully secure the purity of the elective franchise.

Bevision 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 eightn, 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 bile, with brief abstracts of the several sections of each, which have been matured, Bevision of the Civil Code.

Insurance Department. Among the subjects of importance to the citizens of Pennsylvania is the establishment of an Ireurance 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 them. upervicion is had over the transactions of insurance companies that frauds are rendered almost impossible, and sputions companies can have bo existence. The result of the protection thus efforded, is, that whilst foreign companies, thus protected, do immense business in this State, so ittle confidence is had in those of Penusylvania that their business is almost entirely confined within the State limits; and lately some of them have withdrawn their agencies from other States ecause 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 worthers companies which have suddenly sprung up, without any solid basis, and as suddenly expired. to the injury of all whose confidence they ob-tained, and to the dishonor of the Commonwealth. Whilst Pennsylvanis insurance companies transset little business outside of the State, it is alleged that foreign life insurance companies alone hald takes hast year on three million eight hundred: thousand dollars of premiums received in Pennylvania, 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 ect little business outside of the State, it is alleged in force for more than five thousand million of dollars; and it is believed that the risks in Penn-sylvania companies, which, for want of a proper lucurance Department, can not be obtained, would swell the amount to over six thousand

ence 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 superin-tendent appointed by law, who shall have super-vision 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 ression "to establish an additional State Hospital for the Insane," have notified me that they will present a report of their proceedings some-time during the present month, which will be communicated when received.

Damages by Raids. In accordance with an act of the last seesion, roylding for an investigation and adjudication f the claims of citizens of several counties whose property was destroyed, damaged or appropriated for the public service, and in the ommon defence in the war to suppress the re-ellion," a commission of three competent genthemen was appointed, who have performed the bilotted 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 et ecimens of Pennsylvania anthracite coal ex biblited at the Paris Exposition in 1867. These tributes to an important branch of the internal esources of Pennsylvania have been assigned a lace among other valuable relics in the Executive Chamber.

State Coat of Arms. Diligent but unsuccessful search has been repeatedly made for the cost 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 recom-incuded 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 appropria-tions 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 fisherics has been submitted by Col. Jas. 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 cannot be ascertained until early Permission has therefore been granted to ary. 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.

The prevalence of contagious or epidemic disease 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 emed important to call a convention of comretent persons to take into consideration the neans 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, assem-bled in Springfield, Illinois, on the first of De-cember last, and an account of their transactions is herewith presented.

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 dellars, to defray which I recommend that an appropriation be made.

Statistics

In view of the vast amount and great variety of In view of the vast amount and great variety of the products of the State, a desk for the collec-tion of statistic-relative to exports and imports, agriculture, meanfactures, coal fron, oil, lumber, &c. might, with propriety and profit, be estab-lished. This could be accomplished by the em-ployment of a competent clerk, under the su-pervision of one of the present heads of depart-ment. These duty should be to collect and pervision 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, instil new life and vigor into 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. to be appropriated as a receptacle for books, papers, mineralogical and geological spectmens, and other articles that might be contributed appropriate to such a department and which in a few years would form an invaluable collection. Under Legislative direction, the good results would be almost incalculable, and they are required by the progressive spirit of the age in which we live.

Resolutions of the Vermont Legisla-ture.

Your attention is called to the accompanying joint resolutions, passed at the last seed on 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 Soldier's National Cemetery to the General Government, National Cometery to the General Government, upon the completion of the same."

In Memoriam. It has been the misforume of the State during the past year to lose by death two of her more-entatives in the Congress of the nation: Hon. Thaddens Stevens, of the Ninth, and Hon. Darwin A. Finney, of the Twentieth District. Both win A. Finney, of the Twentleth 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 graveafter along life of public usefulness and in well matured honors; the other usefulness and in well majured 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, sympathizing neigh-bors and other interested parties, there is no doubt; but in the majority of instances it is cer-tain that the facts not only justified but domained from the company

Executive channers.

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 ie a little over six-and-a-half per cent. Of those pardoned about five per cent have been again trought before the courts in consequence of their return to the commission of crime. I am fully impressed with the weighty respon-

I am fully impressed with the weighty responsibility of the pardoning power, which ranks among the most difficult and embarrassing dattes of the Executive office. Daily best with powerful and phiful 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 better which sideration the action of the court before the convict has been tried; the majesty of the law which may or may not have been violated; the condition of the prisoner; his temp-tation to err; the injury that may be inflicted upon his nelpless and depend-ent relatives, and the arguments and ap-peals 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 preparative.

pertant and merciful prerogative.

The pardon report will exhibit that in many instances in which Executive elemency has been invoked, youthful prisoners, charged with their first offences, and those of a trivial character, have breat the recipients. The object of panishment, in all cases, should not be so much to inflict pain as to reform the sofferer and pr. vent the septition of evil deeds. This fact is frequently tost sight of in imposing punishment upon criminals, especially when hexperienced youths are shut up a close cells gith men bardened in experients. pecially when inexperienced youths are shut up in close cells with men hardened in crime, where its arts are daily taught, and a romance throwing around its commission. Instead of being improved, they come forth at the end of their terms of rentence 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 rather than lessen the quantity of crime. bouses 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 sen-tence of death, for whose execution warrants ience 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; Nuwton Champion, December I, 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 em-The latter punishment, with the additional em-bitterment constantly preying upon the mind that a death warrant may at any moment be iscued, is, perhaps, the severest that could be in-flicted. It would be both just and merciful to flicted. 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 a sense of justice require the commutation of his sentence in tice 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 co-operate with you in the prosecution of any measures that may tend to preserve and increase the prosperity of the State and the happiness of inspeople, with the firm belief that your united wisdom will aim constantly to promote these desirable results.

sirable 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 the 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 acr future struggle about slavery. Involuntary ger

vitude, as a monopoly of labor, is forever de stroyed. The monater obstacle to the addonal progress has been removed, and henceforward all the faculties of our professioners.

stroyed. The monster obstacle to the addloss progress has been removed, and henceforward all the faculties of our people can be developed without let or hindrance." 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.

Hardly less magical has been the effect upon other nations. General Grant's election has confirmed the hopes of our nation's friends, and the fears of its foes in the Old World. It supplements and seals the verdict of arms and the progress of republican principles. The downfall of the rebellion in the United States was quickly followed by the great civil revolution in England; the peaceful expulsion of the last of the Bourbons from Spain; the unrest of Caba; the concession of more liberal principles in Germany; and the necessary acquiescence of the Emperor of the French in the republican sentiments he fears even as he has betrayed them. What are these but the cchoes of the dire catastrophe that has overwhelmed the aristocracy of the United States.

Notwithstanding the importance of the issues involved in the late canvass, and the bitterness of feeling as well as the expressions with which it was conducted, its termination has happily mat with the acquiescence of nearly the whole people; and at no time in the history of the nation has there been opened before us a brighter prospect of continued peace and increasing prosperity; and we have no greater cause for universal congratulation than that no differences of opinion now exist that can materially mar our national happiness, retard our onward progress, or threaten the peace or perpetuity of our government.

piness, retard our onward progress, or threaten the peace or perpetuity of our government. In conclusion, permit me to remark that the

orderesion, permit me to remark that the voice of Fennsylvania, as well as that of a majority of the States, has at the ballot-box projectaimed to the world that alf our national indebt-coness, no matter how heavy the burden, will be paid according to "the letter and spirit" of the agreements made and entered into at the time the debt was contracted; and that in this as in all other respects our individual and national honor "must and shall be preserved;" that we are determined by all honorable means in our power to secure suple encouragement and protection to each and every branch of Home Industry, and every manly enterprise that contributes capital, labor, skill and industry to our material wealth, social advancement and political tranquillity; that for all our citizens, the children of the Common wealth, being also citizens of the United States, we demand the fullest greements made and entered into at the tim children of the Commonwealth, being also citizens of the United States, we demand the fullest protection, in their persons, their property, and in all their rights and privileges wherever; they may go within the national jurisdiction or in fareign lands; and that whilst our financial policy shall be such about maintain untrammelled our national credit, it is to be hoped that it may at the same time, be such as will permit and sanction the construction of the great railways now in progress and stretching out their giant arms to grasp the mighty commerce of the Pacific, to develop the untell resources of wealth in the intervening Territories, and to connect the most distant portions of our country in a common union, not only with iron bands, but by the still stronger and more indissoluble ties of a common interest and a common brotherhood. interest and a common brotherhood.

To less a the burdens of the people, and to keep the expenses of the State as nearly as possible within the limits of its absolute necessities, will always be among the chief objects of whee and just legislation. Let us, then, with a due sense of our obligations and high responsibilities, sense of our obligations and night responsibilities, endeavor so to discharge our duties as to secure the greatest good of the community and mailthe approbation of Him by whom our Commonwealth has been so abundantly blessed.

John W. Grary.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, Harrisburg, January 6, 1869.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

-The best linguist among the European severeigns is the Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria, who speaks every language spoken in his check-ered empire with the greatest case and fluency. His wife, the Empress Elizabeth, however, is a poor linguist. She talks a little Italian besides her German and French, and some broken Hun-garian. Her efforts to converse with the Mag-yars in their own strange and difficult language generally excit the score mixth of the burder. generally excite the secret mirth of the bystand-

-Father Ignatius, who has been lecturing in London on 'The Christianity of the Low Church Party," makes one sensible remark. He says that in essentials all Christian people—the Church of Rome, Anglicans, Evangelicals, and Protestants of all shades of belief—are one, and that, seeing that there are 900,000,000 of people in the world who don't believe in Christ at all, it is a great pity that believers in him should quarrel

—Louis Ulbach says, in the last number of Loc Clocke (The Bell): "The Procureur Imperial said, in his late address to the Court: 'The Empire rests on a pedestal formed by universal suffrage of ten million serried shoulders and twenty milion hands joined.' I won't object to the phrase that the Empire rests on our shoulders; but I woulder only that a distinguished functionary should take us Franchmen for monkeys and in wonder only that a distinguished functionary should take us Frenchmen for monkeys, and invite us to think that our Empire is an Empire of quadrumanes. He speaks of the million shoulders: every man, as a general thing, has two shoulders. Ten million shoulders, therefore, give us a contingent of five million individuals; now five million individuals having twenty million hands at their disposal can not but be quadrumanes. And thus our functionaries occasionally speak in the most disparaging terms of our citizens." -Alton Shee, the French Count and ex-Peer,

—Alton snee, see renca Count and extremine the is now publishing his 'Reminiscences' in the Revue Moderne, relates in the last number of that megazine some interesting incidents regarding Louis Napoleon's trial before the French House of Lords, to which Alton Shee belonged to the time. Shee slone voted for the death of House of Lords, to which Alton Shee belonged at that time. Shee alone voted for the death of the Pretender. He save: "Louis Napoleon had at that time stready justreless eyes and the physiognomy of a man just, aroused from his dreams. He presented a decidedly contemptinous appearance, despite the order with which he had decorated his black dress coat. Nothing in his looks indicated the majesty which the supreme rank never fails to majesty which the supreme rank never fails to develop. Nearly eighty Generals of the Empire were members of the court. The first words of the Prince were listened to in a kindly manner, but he suddenly stopped short, and, after hesita-ting for some time, and trying to refresh his no more, he drew a small paper from his pocket and read his defence, which greatly diminished the impression he made on his judges." Jules Favre defended Aladenize, one of Louis Napoleon's accomplices with the Prince segmed delighted with Favre's impassioned appear. A Sample of Economical Mail Service.

The apochryphal story told of Bob Eccles, who raffled and won seven turkeys, but never was able to find more than one of them, is placed in the background by a recent discovery made in the Post-office Department. Two years ago a post route was established in the Territory of Arizons, and the contract, for the handsome sum of \$90,000. awarded to a brother of a delegate from that Territory. The new route gave general satisfaction—no complaints were made concerning the agent, and the \$90,000 were paid promptly to the contractor. When the first year's bill was paid, Governor McCormick heard of it in "an indirect manner." He examined the matter thoroughly, and sent in a letter to the Department, signed in his official capacity, asserting that "not a single letter or an ounce of mail matter had ever been carried over the route,"pronouncing it a swindle, and protested against the payment of any more money. Motwithstanding this fact, it is asserted the contractor succeeded in getting the pay for the second year. If this story be true (and such things have happened before), that route should be dis continued at an early day.