

THE DEMOCRAT

MONROE, PA., JANUARY 14, 1852

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

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

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In the abundance of our harvests, the universal health of our people, and the maintenance of peace, and individual and social prosperity, and to be found in the grateful homage, the acknowledgment of our dependence on his Almighty Will, it becomes as most cheerfully to render.

Never in the history of the Commonwealth, has there been a period of more prosperous tranquility. The citizens of this State, aside from other sources of contentment, have at last realized that a cause of disquiet, which has for the last twenty years oppressed them, is about to be removed. A beginning has been made in the practical liquidation of the public debt.

On the 1st Decr, 1848, the amount of the public debt was \$40,842,879.31 On the 1st Decr, 1851, \$40,114,235.99 Thus, within the last three years, there has been effected a reduction of upwards of seven hundred thousand dollars of indebtedness, without impairing the efficiency of the public works or retarding any plans of practical benevolence, such as the Legislature, according to a policy of wise economy, have thought proper to authorize.

I do not hesitate to attribute this important result to the successful operation of the efficient and re-sinking fund system, established by the act of the 10th April A. D. 1849. The detailed transactions of the commissioners of the fund will appear in their report, to be submitted to the Legislature.

This system, copied in its leading features from that which was established in the early years of our history, for the extinguishment of the national debt, has worked admirably. While there can be no precipitated cancellation of public securities, such as would derange and disturb our monetary relations, neither can there be, under the present law, any such accumulation of stocks in the hands of the commissioners as to tempt or permit the application of the fund, under any accidental emergency, to other purposes than that for which it is set apart.

Pledged to the payment of the public debt, it must be sacredly regarded. The creation of this fund, and the adoption of the system of making no loans, unless provision for their liquidation be made in the laws authorizing them, have already exercised a moral influence on public policy.

Like the protective system in national legislation, though by another process, they prevent the Representatives of the people from heedlessly incurring new debts;—they make the payment of the public debt a part of the fixed policy of the State, which no one will be willing to disavow or disturb; they interfere with no extension of public improvements or expenditures for beneficial purposes. The first application of surplus revenue is to pay a portion of the public debt, the next to extend and maintain such objects of public improvement as will, when completed, increase actual revenue and diffuse the greatest good.

To maintain that system of financial policy, which has for its object the gradual and certain extinguishment of the public debt, is as well the duty as it will be doubtless the earnest desire of the General Assembly. Believing that the revenues of the Commonwealth, if properly guarded, are adequately sufficient for both objects,—the payment of the debt and the completion of the public improvements, I again, and earnestly, press on the attention of the Legislature the claims of the great section of the State lying on the North Branch of the Susquehanna. The North Branch Canal ought to be finished without further delay. Its completion would ensure increased revenue to the Treasury, and would be a simple act of justice to a large portion of the people interested in its construction.

part of the Common School system, to create professional teachers. The ability to impart knowledge to others, particularly to young minds, is to be obtained only after long and patient study, assisted by all the facilities which science and learning can afford. The future greatness and happiness of the country depend so much upon the enlightenment of the public mind, that the student and patriot cannot devote his time, energies, and talents, to a more worthy object than its attainment.

The recent agricultural exhibition was so numerously attended, and so creditably to our people, in the display of works of skill and home industry, as well as of agricultural implements and stock, that I am convinced great public good must result from it. The urgent requests of a former message, believed to be of value and importance to this great interest, it is hoped will meet favorable action at your hands. These exhibitions should be repeated in other parts of the State, and a practical and scientific knowledge of Agriculture, the establishment of a State Society for Western Pennsylvania, would be highly advantageous to the people of that portion, deprived as they are, by the difficulty of transportation, of a full participation in the benefits of the present society.

Contracts have been made for the publication of the Colonial Records, and of the maps and other documents connected with the Geological Survey of the State. An interesting report from the gentlemen charged with the arrangement, for publication of the Pennsylvania Archives, accompanies this message. I invite to it and to their important and interesting papers your favorable attention.

The supervision of the publication of these papers should be entrusted to the gentleman who has arranged them. The labor performed has greatly exceeded the amount contemplated by the Legislature, and hence demands additional compensation. The insane Asylum, as well as the other charitable institutions in which the State is directly interested, are in a prosperous condition. The kindly regards of the Assembly are solicited for these institutions.

It is pleasant reflection now, and will be a grateful reminiscence hereafter, that in the promotion of all these interests, the Administration of public affairs, while under my control, has faithfully and to some extent, effectually directed its labors. It is to be regretted that more was not accomplished; but it is still encouraging to know that so much of practical good has been done.

In the enactment of the revenue laws of the National Government, much injury has resulted to many of the industrial interests of this State. Their alteration is such a manner as will protect those interests, all most earnestly desire. I have, on former occasions, most fully expressed my views on this subject, and have urged upon the Legislature the propriety of such action as would influence favorably the National Congress. The great manufacturing, mining and agricultural interests of Pennsylvania require a demand a change of the present system of tariff laws.

The bill success attending former efforts, furnishes no excuse for an omission again to call attention to the subject. In the confederacy of States, we hold an important position. Pennsylvania, from the numbers of her population, and their acknowledged patriotism, has a right to demand for her industry that kindly legislation which it deserves and should receive. It is not the part of a high-minded people to make bargains for the security of their rights, and it is equally unbecoming, tamely to submit to oppression and wrong. A firm and manly demand for their change of policy which is rapidly impoverishing a portion of our citizens, retarding the growth of the State, and preventing the development of its mineral resources, would have an effect of securing from our National Government, such modifications of its laws, as would protect American labor against the ruinous competition it meets, in our markets, from the labor of foreign countries.

It is most sincerely to be hoped, that the present Assembly will determine, in its legislation on this subject, to be faithful to Pennsylvania. A communication from the Inspector of the Western Penitentiary has been laid before me. Its statement shows that the number of finished cells is inadequate to the accommodation of the convicts. To secure punishment by separate confinement, it is proposed to finish another tier of cells already commenced. While concurring fully in the recommendations of the worthy Inspectors, I desire to call your early attention to the letter hereto annexed.

My attention has been directed, by the occurrence as fearful accidents in the cities of our Commonwealth, to the necessity of precautionary legislation on the subject of the construction of private and public buildings in crowded communities. I respectfully ask your consideration of this matter. It is idle to say that a sense of individual self-interest is a sufficient protection on this subject. All experience shows it is not so; and that in localities where ground is very valuable, space restricted, and competition for profit in a trade, everything is lost sight of but temporary advantage. The public is not roused to this sense of impending danger until some frightful casualty, involving the loss of innocent human life, starts it from "false security" in legislation in prevention of the recurrence of these casualties is earnestly recommended.

message are respectfully referred to your careful consideration. I would refer you to the report of the Canal Commissioners, for a detailed statement of the proceeds on the public works during the past year, and to the Reports of the Auditor General, State Treasurer, Surveyor General, Superintendent of Common Schools, and Adjutant General, for information in relation to the operations, and condition of their several departments during the same period.

The following estimates of receipts and expenditures for the current year are duly submitted:

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS table with columns for item and amount. Items include Auction Commissions, Auction Duties, Tax on bank Dividends, etc.

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES table with columns for item and amount. Items include Public Works—superintendence and repair, Expenses of Government, Militia Expenses, etc.

Public Works—superintendence and repair, \$900,000. Expenses of Government, 240,000. Militia Expenses, 15,000. Penitentiary and Prisons, 1,000,000. Common Schools, 200,000. Commissioners of Sinking Fund, 233,000. Interest on Public Debt, 2,020,000. Guaranteed Interest, 30,000. Domestic Creditors, 5,000. Damage on Public Works, 20,000. Special Commission, 500. State Library, 500. Public Grounds and Buildings, 10,000. Penitentiaries, 40,000. House of Refuge, 2,000. Nicholson Lands, 2,000. Escheats, 1,000. Geological Survey, 8,000. Colonial Records, 5,000. A Statement of State Tax, 45,000. Relief Notes, 2,500. Court Fees, &c., 5,000. North Branch Canal, 350,000. Miscellaneous, 30,000.

An act, entitled "An Act to graduate lands on which money is due and unpaid to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," passed the 10th day of April, A. D. 1835, expired, by its own limitation, on the 10th day of December last. Its re-enactment would secure to many the advantages of its provisions, who, from pecuniary inability, or other causes, have been unable to avail themselves of its provisions.

It will develop upon the present Assembly, to make an appropriation of the State, for the election of the members of the House of Representatives of the United States. I feel confident the great care will be observed, to give to every portion of the Commonwealth its just claims, and to make the arrangement of the Congressional Districts strictly conformable to those considerations of population and locality which should apply to them.

And now, gentlemen of the General Assembly, as this is the last occasion upon which I shall formally, by message, address you, I beg to present to you, at parting, assurances of my highest esteem and regard. Wm. F. JOHNSON, Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, January 5, 1852.

Business Cards: Charles Tillman, S. S. Winchester, D. D. Hinds & Co., E. B. S. Chase, Job N. Congdon, W. D. Trowbridge, C. M. Simmons, Dr. C. C. Edwards, Dr. James Brooks, John H. Dimock, H. L. Trussell, J. C. Edwards, S. H. Pierson.

The time to Buy! CANNELL'S... Philadelphia Medical House... Established fifteen years ago, by Dr. KINKEAD.

New Arrangement! Extensive Chair and Furniture Establishment. WM. W. SMITH & Co. have now fully completed their arrangements for the manufacture and sale of household furniture.

Binghamton, N. Y. L. FAYETTE BURR MILL STONE MANUFACTORY. THE UNDERSIGNED, former Foreman for many years of the Lafayette Burr Mill Stone Manufactory, 240 Washington St., N. Y., has established a BURR MILL STONE MANUFACTORY in Binghamton, N. Y.

Joseph L. Merriman. THE UNDERSIGNED has received from the public good, and has just received from the public good, a large quantity of French Burr Mill Stone, and is now manufacturing the same in Binghamton, N. Y.

\$2000 WANTED. BY full stock, he offers to his numerous customers, his present large stock of lower price, and any similar establishment in Western New York. This is a rare opportunity for the present.

NEW GOODS. BENTLEY & READ. A FULL AND COMPLETE assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, and other articles, at the lowest prices.

New and popular School book. COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF GENERAL ARITHMETIC, TOGETHER WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY OF HERBERT SPENCER, NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, GENERAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

First in Market. NEW GOODS. H. J. WEBB HAS just returned from New York, with a large and complete assortment of the latest styles of clothing, hats, and shoes.

Notice. A good second-hand cooking stove, also a good new one, for sale at a low price. Nails, 3 to 4 Penny Nails, and other articles.

AFFLICTED READ. Philadelphia Medical House. Established fifteen years ago, by Dr. KINKEAD. North West Corner of Third and Union Streets, Philadelphia.

Health Assurance. Mechanic's Mutual Benefit Association. OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS. Branch office, 289 Broadway, N. Y.

Accumulated Cash Capital. \$33,000. Guaranty Capital. \$60,000. This is an Association of Mechanics and others, formed for the mutual benefit of each member, in case of sickness or accident.

To Dairymen and Farmers. Valuable property for sale. A FARM of 200 acres situated in Berks County, Pennsylvania, containing a large and well improved orchard, and a large and commodious dwelling house.

Notice to the Public. Great Bend Clothing Store. The largest and best assortment of Ready Made Clothing in the Village of Great Bend, Pa.

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STOVES! STOVES!! THE subscribers having entered into partnership with the Stoves and Sheet Iron business, are prepared to attend to all orders in relation to the manufacture and sale of stoves, sheet iron, and other articles.

Farms for Sale. THE subscribers will act as agents for the sale of all vacant Farms, Houses and other lands in Susquehanna County, Pa. All who wish to offer their property for sale, or who wish to purchase, will do so by sending a description of the property to the subscribers.

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WYOMING SEMINARY. Kingston, Luzerne County, Pa. This Institution has one of the most desirable locations in the State. It is situated on a beautiful hillside, and is surrounded by a large and fertile farm.

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