Democrat.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN NORTHERN PENN'A. E. B. CHASE & ALVIN DAY, EDITORS.

Mauteose, Fannary 5. 185-4 We are under obligations to Hon. G. A. Gnow for public favors received.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COMMISSIONERS. The Commissioners of this County have appointed WM A CROSSMAN, Clerk, FRANKLIN FRASER, Esq., Counsel, and GEO. W. LEWIS of Dimock, Mercantile Appraiser, for the ensuing year.

On our first page may be found an extract from a sketch of Marshal Lannes by J. T. Headley. No pen excels Mr. Headley's in power of vivid and life-like description, and none of the great battles of Napoleon, pictured by the author in his book of "Napoleon and his Marshals," is more thrilling than the battle of Essling at which the brave

organized on Tuesday by electing MAXWELL elected. The Clerk then appointed Wm. S. Pickering, of York, Assistant Clerk, and R. and Wm. B. Gillis, Transcribing Clerks.

The Governor's Message, which we publish this week, crowds out a large variety of mat- gy," as they have toiled their way for seventer prepared for this paper. Advertisements, Marriages, and other notices crowded out.

To the Patrons of the "Democrat" With the commencement of the present. year, closed my connection with the Montrose Democrat, as one of the Editors and Proprietors. The business of my profession et Great Bend, where I have been located for the past few months, requiring all my time and attention, I deemed it best to dispose of my half of the establishment to ALVIN DAY, hereafter conduct the paper.

- is are confided to his care; and in all reects a young man most worthy of the pat-1 hage of our democratic friends in the Coun-1... He has been in our office during the hole time since we assumed the control of of his God-given rights. the paper; and I know of no person whom I coubt whether any other person would have i and me willing to part with my interest. With the aid of the new material, they pre-Ant this week a sheet that challenges any

le co-extensive with their recent outlay, and the various improvements.

The crowded state of the columns this veek, occasioned by the Message, prevents the from making as many remarks as I intended. In leaving the Democrat I feel like parting with an old friend; and the pleasant t equaintances formed in all parts of the Coun-:, while I have been thus connected, will be cherished through the remainder of my life. Truly grateful for the increasing support the paper has received during my connection with it, I vacate the editorial chair; and bid S. B. CHASE.

Readers of the Democrat!

In accordance with previous announcement v. present you the Donocrat to-day in an calarged form, and, to our taste, printed in a vile unsurpassed by any paper in the State. We have made the expenditure necessary to per of very ordinary parts. rint the paper in the style of this number, in order that the citizens of this county, disinguished as they are for their intelligence and support of that circulating library, the Newspaper, may feel that, they can justly thoast of holding the first rank in respect to a paper identified by interest and patronage with their own locality; and that they may i el, too, that no reason now exists for preferanidst. With this object in view we present you the Democrat, and send the question with it,-shall our expectations be realized, and our anxious labors be requited, by a liberal and generous patronage at your hands?

We have no disposition to display false colors. We love every member of the noble family of Truth, and admire most of all in the ress, a bold, manly, and uncompromising independence, an independence that dare advocate and vindicate just and beneficent prinoples everywhere, at all times and under all rcumstances. It is above all else in this that a popular government finds security, as it is against this that wicked and despotic mbition first directs its power. "Give me the liberty of the Press,"-said the immortal SHERIDAN, - "and I will shake down corruption and wrong from their height, and bury them amidst the ruins of ages."

We shall strive to make the Democrat what its name imports,—a democratic paper, firmly and radically so, in whatever principles of public political policy it shall advocate. We do not mean by this that it shall be bound to mere partisan policy, for we may reasonably expect to differ in our opinions from others, at least abstractly. When such may be the case, we must be permitted to do our own thinking, and to act from the convictions of our own judgment enlightened by the opinions of others, and no man, or set of uary interest.

dollars, to be used in the payment of the Febmissioners, demanded by public policy; and tien must attempt to control us. We own our press and type, and claim the same right to use them as we please as does the farmer his cattle, always receiving with kindness and consideration the suggestions of our patrons and friends in reference to anything connected with the general interest and prosperity sinking fund, should not, and if proper care of our paper. But we mean to say, that be taken, will not exceed the sum of \$4,500, whatever of political influence may surround 000, leaving a balance in the treasury on the the press, that influence cannot be used by Deducting from this \$625,000, the amount anybody to accomplish local, personal, or that should remain in the treasury to meet relfish purposes. We shall not edit a paper the interest due February 1st, 1855, and we for the narrow purpose of meddling with, and have a surplus revenue of over \$700,000. and apparent to my mind, that division; on the other division; on the other division; on the other division; on the canal the country, not at all. Such mere local the treasury will have the ability, during the country and at all. Such mere local the treasury will have the ability, during the country are tolerable; but on the Allegheny with the dignity of a great State, and certain with the dignity of a great state, and certain with the dignity of a great state, and certain without the exercise of an illight, and so far as might the country are tolerable; but on the Allegheny with the dignity of a great state, and certain without the exercise of an illight, and so far as might the country are tolerable; but on the Allegheny with the dignity of a great state, and certain without the exercise of an illight.

and never have involved in them, directly, ferred. But no additional drafts should, be cated and difficult work, would seem to dethe broad and distinctive principles upon which that party is founded. We then shall make the paper an earnest advocate of those principles, and the determined defender of organization to reduce them to practical utility. This we conceive to be the legitimate mission of the national democratic press, and as by such a course, the minds of the people become impressed with the importance to themselves that the politics of the country should be controlled by such principles, local organization and success will follow as a necessary and natural incident to ensure state

and national triumphs. Nor do we speak of the principles of democracy in a narrow, partisan sense. We mean by them those eternal principles of Right and Justice which lie at the foundation of republican government,-which clothe every man with sovereignty, and every one of God's children with equal rights,—the assertion of which long ago exploded the doctrine of the divine right of Kings to rule the consciences as well as the bodies of men, those principles of republicanism first digested and The Legislature of this State met and applied to the government of men under the bright sun and by the mercurial people of It- Interest on out-McCasus, of Green county, Speaker of the alv, when Roman valor reared a Common-Senate, and E. B. Chase, Speaker of the wealth in place of a Monaichy, and Amalfi. House of Representatives. Mr. Jack, of Blair, first gave republican institutions to the world. Clerk of the last House, was unanimously re- Under the benign influence of these principles the world is now marching forward with the strides of a giant. In them is summed up all M. Adams, Wnr. L. Gray, Charles Stockwell, of progress mankind has made since Adam; and tracing them from the "altars of the Pantheon, smoking to the divinities of mytholoteen centuries, gaining slowly and surely through bloody conflicts, defeats and victories, sufferings and transports, we find them at the present day enshrined in the hearts of men all over the world, and influencing the destiny of all humanity. Mind, too, with the progress of these principles, has struggled and broke away from old forms and checks.. Every sea of blood that has settled back over revolutionary ruins in Europe, since a King was first beheaded like a common felon for who in connection with my late partner will daring to encroach on the liberties of his sub-Mr. Day is a practical printer, a sound and ments more closely cemented for a more au-

jects, has kept collecting in its eddies eler liable Democrat, faithful to whatever inter- gry storm. Thus it is that these principles have kept in agitation the great heart of the political world, and thus it is that they will progress, as rude culture gives way to civilization and a correct understanding, by Man, We believe that the democratic party of

v suld sooner recommend, indeed I very much this country is the chosen representative of these principles; and the wonderful success Temporary loans, 590,000, 00 which attends every appeal it makes to the suffrages of the people is but the natural result of a firm adherence to them. That parcountry paper in the State; and I trust the ty must not now forsake its ancient tenets, additional patronage they will receive, may for mere party names cannot now hold men Difference between the two within their lines. Around the principles of the party only will the masses of the nation rally in future years.

> National Administrations, we believe the in- allove stated, is no new thing. It has always terests of the Democracy of the country rest existed to a greater or less degree, but has otherwise convinced, we shall stand by them with all our energies.

With our general political ideas enunciated, it remains only for us to say that we lowing appropriations and payments have shall use every effort to make the Democrat an acceptable family paper. The latest news will always be found in its, columns, while every department of science, art and industry | For the construction of a new will be carefully cared for. This much and we commit it to your consideration, asking for it a continuance of that generous support and liberal patronage, which, in a few years has made it what it now appears from a pa-

ALVIN DAY. GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the Gen-

favored the people of our Commonwealth with a high degree of health and prosperity during the year just closed, and with many othing a foreign paper to one published, in their er causes of pleasure and gratitude. Humbly acknowledging these blessings, let us ask His divine direction in the discharge of our official obligations. It affords me unaffected delight to welcome

the representatives of the people to the seat records \$23,163 52; for the improvement of of government, and rely for a time, upon the aid of their combined wisdom in the administration of public affairs; as it is also a grate-\$16,000; for the preparation of registration ful task to perform the constitutional injunction that requires the executive to "communicate to the General Assembly information of It will readily be perceived, therefore, that the state of the Commonwealth," and make. such suggestions and recommendations as the ed strictly to the ordinary expenses of governwelfare of the people and the exeigencies of ment, we shall have an annual surplus revethe times may seem to demand; and to the nue exceeding one million of dollars, applidischarge of this obligation I now proceed.

The receipts at the treasury for the year 1853, exclusive of loans, and including the after the completion of the works now in proactual balance in the treasury on the first day gress, will not be doubted. The importance of December, 1852, (being \$671,037 72,) amounted to the sum of \$5,952,474 47.

The payments for the same period, exclusive of loans and other extraordinary expenditures, make a total sum of \$4,134,048 47, being \$1,818,326 10 less than the receipts. of this excess, \$505,057 55 was paid to the Commissioners of the Sinking fund, and \$589,000 towards the payment of the old road, being part of the temporary loans auger by twenty per cent, than that of any forthorised by the act of the nineteenth of April mer year, and the gross receipts amounted to

The receipts for the year 1854, including the balance in the treasury on the first of December, 1853, may, in my opinion, be safely estimated at \$5,846,417 34.

The expenditures for the same period, in cluding \$250,000 for the payment of old debts 777,742 75, leaving a nett balance of \$754,752on the public works and \$300,000 for the

made upon it, without provision being first mand a speedy and radical change. But the made for their payment. At the time of my induction into office the

iabilities were as follows, to wit: Six per cent. bonds, 36,704,458 03 working and management to the people's a-gents, who have charge of the whole subject. Five do. do. Four and one half per cent Relief notes, per act of May 650,163 00 management, the public improvement can be 4, 1841 Certificates for unpaid interest on the public debt for

'45, with their accumlated interest. Domestic creditors' certifi-82,932 74

Total liabilities, Decem-\$40,154,457 ber 1, 1851, Add loan of April 2, 1852, for the completion of the North Branch ca-

sanding cer-

tificates.

the years 1843, '44, and

850,000 00 841,004,457, 48 From which take the follow-

50,752 91

Total amount of funded debt To meet this apparent increase of \$117,777 53 of the public debt, it should be observed that, by the cancellation of six per cent bonds we have a saving of \$20,000 dollars annually to the treasury, which is equivalent to a virtual payment of \$400,000 dollars of the five per cent. bonds. The amount thus saved will be a permanent resource, without making any exaction from the people, and constitute a substantial addition to the sinking fund. It will be a virtual reduction of temporary loans; whilst, on the other hand

the public debt to the amount of \$282,222 47. The floating liabilities and current demands upon the Treasury, at the period I have indicated, were as follows:

Damages, balances on contracts, and for labor and materials on the public works, prior to January. 1852 and since paid, as as appears on the books of the Auditor General. Temporary loans, Unpaid appropriations,

Total, The floating liabilities of the Commonwealth, and current demands upon the treasury at this time, are:

Railroad and canal Unpaid appropria-

305,695 00 1,223,429 00

In the keeping of our present State and should be remarked that floating debt, as to bring the line into use.

balance of unpaid appropriations is unavoidable, and has not been so small for many hundred and fifty thousand dollars is still re- and economy. years, as at present. During the years 1852 and 1653, the fol-

been made, towards the construction of new For re-laying the north track

of the Columbia railroad, road to avoid the innelin-

For the completion of the Western resevor, For the North Branch canal, 1,000,000 00 for the new locks on the Delaware Division, \$2,143,915 31 Total,

From the foregoing figures it is apparent that the operations of the treasury have excceded our most sanguine expectations, yielding over a million of dollars annually above the ordinary charges and expenses; and showing, that if no new improvements had been in progress, two millions; at least, of the public lebt could have been paid during the two last years. In addition to these extraordinary expenditures, there was paid out of the ticasury during said period, in pursuance of laws passed prior to 1852: for the State Lunatic Asylum, \$70,700; for the publication of the Pennsylvania Archives and Colonial the State penitentiaries \$35,000; for the publication of Professor Rogers' geological survey

books \$12,190 19; to the Sugar Valley and Deer Creek Turnpike company \$8,000. should the appropriations hereafter be confincable to the payment of the funded debt.-That such should be the policy of the State, of such economy in view of the great end to be attained—the liquidation of the public debt-and consequent relief of the people from taxation for State purposes, is too manifest for argument. Entertaining these views I could not give my assent to any new schem-

es of improvement by the State. The operations on the public works for the year just closed do not present a very flatterdebts and the construction of new work on ing picture, so far as relates to nett revenue. the North Branch canal and Portage rail. The aggregate amount of business was larlast: which together with the balance in the the sum of \$1932,495 33, being an excess of treasury applicable to the redemption of out- but \$35,683 91 over the receipts of 1852. standing loans, reduces the actual balance on This increase of tonage without a corresponthe first day of December last, to the sum of ding increase of receipts, is the consequence about six hundred and twenty-five thousand of a very great reduction in the rate of tolls, it may be said that whatever has been lost to ment. the treasury has been given to extend commerce and trade. The expendiatures for the year, necording to the report of the Canal Commissioners, amounted to the sum of \$1,-

proper proportion of these will leave the sum of \$704.752 58 as the actual nett balance. The receipts and expenditures and general operations on the Columbia railroad exhibit have deemed it my duty to discuss some ex- lusion to other radical defects in the system, an encouraging state of affairs, as they also planation as to the price of the works and the which could scarcely be reached by the Cado on the North Branch canal and Delaware conditions of sale. contests are only incident to the organization of the great democratic party of the great democratic party of the mation, pay the debts to which I have already re-

58; but as this sum does not include any portion

of the cost of new locomotive engines and the

erection of farm bridges, the deduction of the

having no control or direction over the pub-lic works, it is right and proper that I should leave the explanation of the details of their I am, however, still entirely sanguine that

with the necessary change in the system of

the treasury; indeed, even for the last year,

had the expense on the mountain division

been confined to a reasonable sum, the nett

demands by the construction of the new road

or in some other way, and we shall realize, by

the year 1855, a nett profit equal to the in-

terest on twenty-two smillions or more of the

The work on the railroad to avoid the

inclined planes on the Allegheny mountains,

I five thousand dollars, in addition to the value

penditures on the old road, on a business

equal to that of 1852, at two hundred and

road between plane No. 4 and Hollidays-

Viewed in every aspect, it must be con-

fessed that this branch of public affairs pre-

expenditure of more capital than the State

can command without resorting to farther

the maintainance of the old road, at a cost of

\$450,000 per annum, is quite out of the ques-

tion. Its exhausting demands on the treasu-

previously made, reduced the amount to be

in ample time for the spring trade.

The struggle for this achievement has been

long and arduous, covering nearly a quarter of

a century. But the triumph is still a brilliant

one, and must be cause of gratification to the

people of the entire State.

Most auspicious and promising is it for the

nhabitants of Northern Pennsylvania to whose

mainly attributed. Through this channel, in

succeeding year, Pennsylvania will send gree-

ting to the people of a neighboring state-

the evidence of fraternal affection—the assur-

an extended commerce, in the shape of inland

State, now teening with wealth in all its va-

tion, fidelity and commerce. And in due

the value and importance of this improve-

I congratulate you, therefore, upon the com-

sumation of an enterprize which will be thus

profitable to the State, and beneficial to the

The expediency of selling the public works

State, for some months past and without indi-

for a like distance.

public debt.

the price obtained.
Should the interest on the public debt liquidated by the the sale be less than the net made to yield a very handsome revenue to profits arising from the works, then it would be false economy to sell. In that case the of the divisions, and it is sincerely desired I have determined to co-operate with the Genmeasure would not be one of relief to the peo- that hereafter the practice may be extended eral Assembly in the application of the most ple, but must necessarily increase their yearly to all. revenues would have reached near one million of dollars. Relieved of these absorbing burthens. And what reason is there to suppose that

more can be obtained? Capitalists, it will has not progressed as had been unticipated. It is the opinion of the engineer, however, as will appear on reference to his report, that should the necessary means be promptly fur- the best of the bargain. In attempting to denished, the entire line could be completed du termine the question of value, it will be perring the coming year. The grading for a ceived, therefore, that inquires, examinations necessarily be identical. of four miles, and the cost of this balance, to-

It is apparent then, that the effect of comgether with the expenses of laying down a single track, is estimated at six hundred and petition on the value of these works; the inroads which may be made by science and of the old track. The engineer also estimates mechanic arts on every description of transthe annual saving, as compared with the exements; in short, the mutability of human ninety thousand dollars. He also states that structures, and the propriety of simplifying the duties of government, must constitute, burg with a double track, will cost about mainly the considerations in favor of a separ-\$800,000 less than the Pennsylvania railroad ation between the State and her improve- and that it is eminently so in the repair and On the other hand will be presented the

ption and unlimited supply of her great staples of coal and iron, and their proximity to ry must be speedily obviated, and for my part her works at all points; the enlarged products I can see no mode of doing this except by the of agriculture, and the rich variety of manufactures, so rapidly multiplying in every part political organization as a government; but paper, lumber, oil freyn rosis, mineral paints, during the summer of 1851. On referring to the government. In addition to these conproperly consult as to the policy of the meas- creation of a number of corporations, having

650, which together with the appropriations controlling power in the Commowealth. But it is said that companies can manage these works with greater skill and economy provided to complete the work to the meagre sum of \$591,350. With these calculations than the State, and for that reason they wo'ld before me, and even adding a larger amount be most valuable in the hands of the former, and that the State can realize this difference for errors in the estimates, and the enormous

But the main question will be the miniquired to pay for its completion. With such unexpected demands upon the treasury within the short space of two years, it would not be unnreasonable to expect an increase of the much careful examination. And in referliabilities of the State : but it is alike gratifying and astonishing to know, that this has

The Junction canal, extending from the N. during the present month, and the State work look for a moment For the years 1852 and 1853, the net refrom Pitiston to the dam at Athens, a distance of 93 miles has been completed. The only unfinished part of the work lies between | nual interest upon about fifteen millions of the Athens and the State line, a space of about without any increase of trade except on the could be announced to the public. two and a half miles, the construction of which was delayed by an effort of the Canal North Branch, the net profits for the ensuing Commissioners and the Governor, under an year may be estimated at a sum equal to the tion canal company for its completion. But the debt, and that the completion of the road even this section I am assurred, will be ready These works will complete the last link in continuous water communication between the Chesepeake Bay and the northern lakes .-

ions of the State bonds. ders. We are prone to murmur against the policy that dictated their construction, because of the debt we have thus incurred, and untiring efforts its final consumation may be cel this liability by their destruction of dis-

the early part of next season, and during each use, we should be compelled to reject it. At the time of its adoption, this policy was necessary and proper. Avenues of this kind through the body of the State, to convey her ance of political fidelity, and the blessings of vast productions to market, and as indispen- bill, or in what is familiarly known as the sable to her vigorous growth and physical de- "Omnibus System." The inevitable, and invelopement as are the veins and arteries to deed the frequently lamented effect of this and receive in feturn, as she certainly will be the human system, to give circulation to the mode of legislation, has been to facilitate the offered, from the vast vallies of the Empire | the blood and consequent health and vigor to | passage of bills through the General Assembthe body. To stop or clog these, in either Ig, and to secure the sanction of the Execuriety, assurances of full reciprocity, in affect case, would produce stagnation and ultimate tive without that critical examination so in-

destruction. time the coffers of the State, I am confident connexions formed, this canal will be patro- proposition to sell be seriously entertained, dicated by the transcribed title. nized up to its full capacity. A glance at under the present condition of the money the vast, rich and populous section of coun- market, it should be based on the idea of a at the facilities offered by the New York ca- the interests of the people may demand. nals and the lakes, to reach all points of that

country, must satisfy the most sceptical as to system of managing the public works is susceptible of improvement—that much can be tution. Great inconvenience also results to Court of Pennsylvania, to test the right done by judicous reforms to augment the re- the people, under this system, in the payment the Franklin canal company to construct ceipts to the treasury, and facilitate the busof the enrolment tax upon private laws. In railroad faom the city of Erie to the Ohio iness of transportation; and as much of this bills, such as I have already described, may State line. The decision of the Court was system results from positive law, it may not be found a number of items, some taxable, against the company on the main point, and gestions on the subject.

In a special message communicated to the has been a topic of discussion in the press of the General Assembly, soon after my induction cating a policy for the General Assembly, or into office, I advocated the policy of making intending the slightest discourtesy to the peo- cash payments for labor and materials, and ple's agents to whom the management of this the interdiction by law of the creation of debt branch of public affairs has been confided, I by officers on the public works, and made al-

The business of transportation and travel on General Assembly to change this system, and between the sea board and the great west,

The first inquiry therefore is, why should these highways must be kept up, whether the in several previous communications. I have these works be sold? The answer usually expenses be paid or not. These circumstant suggested the propriety and justice of passing mand a speedy and radical change. But the these works be sold to the answer usually expensed the proposition separately, at least so far as having no control or direction over the public works it is right and proper that I should from taxanon. These are great objects in cash payments and prompt settlements by deed, and should, as I have no doubt they will the officers on these works, and prohibiting ty which the application of a prompt and efreceive your earnest consideration; their re- the creation of debts. This result, I regret, feetual remedy must always present to the alization however, must depend mainly upon for I am still decidely of the opinion, that General Assembly. After much reflection on no other change in the system is so likely to the magnitude of this evil—its vexatious in-

> I need not discuss the consequences of the vise for its removal; but in the mean time, custom of making debts on the public works as a restraining part of the law-making pow--its errors are too palpable to need refuta- er, I must beg to be indulged in claiming be conceded, when weighing the question of tion by argument; and shall only repeat what the privilege of considering each subject of a purchase, will make the net profits on their I substantially said to the General Assembly legislation separately, and on its own merits. a purchase, win make the net profile on the constant of the co They will look at the past operations of these opportunity it afforded for extortion off the tution. Henceforth, therefore, bills containworks, in connexion with their prospects in the State, if not actual fraud upon the treasury, future, carefully considering every fact and cir- the idea that officers, for the time being, should counstance bearing on their real value; and, be allowed to scatter the credit of the Com- receive the sanction of the present Executive. it is scarcely necessary to remark, will only monwealth broadcast, to be discovered and Another branch of the evil, and if possible buy when perfectly satisfied that they have reduced, at some future period, by their suc- a still greater one, consists of special and lo-

There seems to be some plausibility, if not double track is finished with the exception, and motives of the buyer and seller, must actual truth, in the allegation, that the State's management of these works is expensive and inefficient; and yet is not clear to my mind, that treated as a more business affair, her supervision would not be as cheap and efficient existence. Special acts you will agree with as that of corporations and individuals. But me, should in no instance be passed where ualities that may result to them from the el- cy and economy exceedingly difficult. Her prived her of the benefit of experience in this work; and this, in any business, you will agree with me, is equivulent to a fair profit, ary societies and fire engine and hose compageneral supervision of railroads and canals. This shifting practice has had the effect of hopes of future business and increased profits making her works a species of Normal schools ded this power to the courts of the several to the treasury, predicated upon the rapid for the education of engineers and supervicompletion of the new work will involve the growth of the Commonwealth; her vast and sors to take charge of other improvements. varied resources, and the influence of these This instability results from the recognition upon transportation within her limits; the of places on the State works, as political ofincreasing demand for facilities to transmit ficers, instead of scientific and mechanical work her products to market; the endless consum- shops; and bringing to bear on their control and direction, or notions of rotation and short tenure in office. These ideas are sound and republican, and should never be disregarded;

in reference to the office appertaining to our At the time I assumed the duties of my present station, I found this work in progress of construction; the western slope up to the summit having been placed under contract must contribute at all times a fair income to individuals, was not contemplated as an of mining of almost every description. fice in the organic law of the State; and hence the reports of the Canal Commissioners and siderations against a sale, may be urged the it is not strange, that the principles proper the engineer, the only data which I could necessity which would be presented for the for one do not apply usefully to the other. What, I would inquire, would be the condiure, I found that the total cost of a single a community of interest and feeling with sim-tion of the Reading railroad, the Pennsylvatrack was estimated at \$1,015,000. The ma- ilar bodies already in existence, and the dan- nia railroad and other similar works, were terials on the old road were valued at \$248, ger of thus inducing the organization of a they required to change their engineers and superintendents, at short periods, and bring strangers into their own employ? The answer may be readily discovered in the State's mately to the courts.

in reference to all the subordinates of the Canal Commissioners, changes should not be peexpenditures of the old road in full view, I by a sale. It must be confessed, that it is to riodical and prefixed, but should be made could not doubt the expediency and economy these considerations, and these only that we as demanded by the exegencies of the rublic of the measure. But the unusual advance in can look for arguments to sustain the idea that service. The delinquent in any one of the ob- rangement would best subserve the conventhe price of labor material and subsistence, the State can gain anything pecuniarily, by a ligations of duty should be dismissed at once lience of the electors. In addition to the fact, added to the obvious errors in the estimates, sale of her improvements. That a difference and the only gnaranty of continued employ which will not be disputed, that this business has changed the entire aspect of this enterin the expenses of the management of the management of the prise. The sum of \$650,000 has been apworks would amount to a fair per centage, in the services rendered the State. All other islature it is objectionable, because of the propriated since that time, and over \$600,000 the estimation of some capitalists, I have no rules for appointment and dismissal should is still required with the value of the old road, doubt; but it is not so great as estimated be speedily obliterated from the system. I am aware however that it by some. Indeed, certain portions of our The present practice deprives the State, to a has been suggested that the laws of the to bring the line into use.

by some. Indeed, certain portions of our The present practice deprives the State, to a plant over that places for holding The estimated cost of completing the North own works are now well managed, and it is great extent, of the benefit of that incentive United States provide that places for holding own works are now well managed, and it is great extent, of the benefit of that incentive United States provide that places for holding which actuates all men where the elections for Members of Congress shall be fixed by the Legislature of the several was \$115,000. The million of dollars has since been paid, and a sum exceeding one ed by the State, as to lead to general skill stake. Of course, my suggestions in reference States, and that, therefore, the end in view mum price that shall be fixed on these im- the works; for instance, it requires but little having in other instances delegated doubtful provements; and the proper disposition of experience to make a collector but it has and powers, such as the right to make paper mothis it must be readily seen, will demand always will require this to render an agent ney, it is scarcely necessary to raise the ques-

understood as applying to all the agents on ence to this point the wisest and best may roads and canals, or foresee excigencies and pressly conferred. honestly differ, for the issue belongs mainly give harmonious direction to the current op-to the future, and can only be anticipated erations of this complicated branch of public Y. line to Elmira, will be ready for business from the results of the past. To these we may service. In short, the management wants the panies to construct plank roads. This object application of business organization and prin- right and proper in itself, might it seems to ciples. A system of books should supplant me, be reached by a general law, authorizing ceigts may be put down as equal to the an- the use of check rolls, and the operations be so systemized that the receipts and expendipublic debt; and I am inclined to believe that tures of each month, as the season passes by,

Confusion, obscurity and redundancy in our annual volvme of laws—vexations inroads act of Assembly, to negotiate with the Junc- interest on seventeen or eighteen millions of upon private rights-attempts at the usurpathe debt, and that the completion of the road tion of power snd consequent savings and lit- and that most certainly, whatever might be over the mountains, or relief in some other tigation, are, in my opinion, the legitmate deemed expedient should be general in its way, from the leeching demands of that por- fruits of our system of special and omnibus tion of our improvements, will see the net legislation. Indeed, the truth of these proprevenues, from this source, swelled to a sum ositions is too palpable to admit of argument equal to the interest upon twenty two mil- It is manifested in every year's experience; and in some instances the government, as a If it be desirable to sell the public works, censequence, has been forced into the humilwe should not underate their importance, nor ating position of becoming a liftgant against is it just to disparge the wisdom of their foun- her own creatures. Its demoralizing influence We are prone to murmur against the is marked and admitted on all hands and imperiously demands an efficient remedy. That the present General Assembly may be distinyel, if the proposition were submitted to can- guished and blessed for applying the axe at history. It will be remembered by many the era of its final termination, is my sincere

A public source of mischief consists in the practice of passing a number of laws, entirely dissimilar in their characterestics, in the same dispensible to a clear comprehension of their Without reference to the abstract question true import. In its illustration of the diffiwill receive an ample reward from these new of a sale, I may say, that under no circum- culties which the practice imposes upon this relations of trade. Indeed, on this point, the stances should we entertain the proposition to branch of the government, it is only necessalarge increase of profits on the old line, for part with the public works by the creation of ry to state, that within two days, pieceding the year just closed furnishes the most reliable a joint stock company, as heretofroe repeat the final adjournment of the last Legislature, indication of what we may anticipate from the edly proposed, by which the Commonwealth no less than one hundred and six, bills were new. The constantly increasing demand for is to remain a large shareholder, but the dir- presented for Executive consideration, concoal, outrunning, as it has done for years past ection to be in the hands of individuals or taining three hundred and thirty-flour differthe means of supply, justifies, if it does not corporations, associated with her in the own-ent subjects. Some of these, bills contained force upon us the conclusion, that so soon as ership. I have always regarded this as a most as many as twenty dissimilar items of legisboats can be constructed, and proper business dangerous and insiduous measure. If the lation; and of these, some were not even in-

In addition to the difficulty of comprehending the import of such a heterogenious mass try which it will be called upon to supply bong fide sale, for a full compensation, in exwith coal, for every imaginable purpose, do- change for the bonds of the State, and under self forced into the dilemma of signing a law mestic, mechanical and manufacturing, and such salutary reservations and restrictions as which his judgment rejects, or returning another which he really appproves. Neither al-But it is urged by many that the State's ternative, you will agree with me, is in strict accordance with the mandates of the Constibe deemed officious on my part to make sug- and others not, and the bill must be enrolled the opinion of Chief Justice Black shows under its proper number and title, and the most clearly that the construction of their

tax be first paid. One party interested in this road was without authority of law, but the legislation may pay his share, another will re- preliminary injunction prayed for by the comfuse to do so, and a third, on seeing the plainant was refused, on the ground that the amount of the tax, concludes that he can live Commonwealth could not, under the law. without the law; and thus it has been no un- give security for costs. The effect of this decommon thing for persons to be forced to cision was to place the priviliges claimed by pay tax-on laws in which they have no in-the company within the control of the Legis terest, in order to avail themselves of what lature. In anticipation of this result, I had

beget economy, purity and efficiency in their roads upon private rights, and its demoraliz-general direction. For the last year, howeving tendency upon the interests of the people, er, this law was strictly carried out on some and the more elevated purposes of legislation, efficient means which their wisdom may deing a variety of subjects of legislation, dissimilar in their character and purposes, cannot

cessors, is a monstrocity in the economy of cal legislation. It is to this practice that we public affairs. laws of most uncernly dimensions, and for a separate code for nearly every locality in the State. The remedy for this must be found in the adoption of a few more general laws, and the rigid administration of those already in periodical change of officers has always de- make provisions for the creation and amendment of corporations for literary, charable and religious purposes, and to create benefici-

nies, through the instrumentality of the Attorney General and the Supreme Court. The act of the thirteenth of October, 1829, extencounties. The acts of 1836 and 1838 make provision for the association of individuals. hrough the instrumentality of the Atlornev General and the Govenor, for the purpose of manufacturing iron from mineral coal. In addition to these acts, the law to encourage manufacturing, passed in 1849, and its supplements, provide for associations for the purpose of manufacturing woollen, cotton, flax and silk goods, or for marking iron, glass, salt

On the subject of efecting new townships and incorporating boroughs, the courts have unlimited power: and in the matter of selling real estate, the property of minors, by guardians, executors or others, acting in a fiduciary capacity, the act of last session on this subject will, in my opinion, seach every imaginable case. Its provisions should not be infringed, for the subject belongs most legin-

experience. I have long been of opinion that I can see no reason why the power to des ignate election houses should not be confided to the commissioners of the several dounties. These officers are usually familiar with the localities, and can readily determine what arto the importance of experience will not be cannot be attained. In answer to this objection, it may be remarked, that the Leisislature efficient in the construction and repair of rail- tion of the right to delegate a function so ex-

A large number of the laws of the last session consist of special acts to incorporate comthe association of any number of citizens to construct these highways on proper conditions.

In former communications I have held the doctrine, that but little legislation of any kind was essential to the ends of mere business enterprise—to promote objects understood by al right to grant special advantages to one citizen and deny them to another; and I have declined to approve any act on this subject, where the corporators were not made liable in their individual estates for the debts

of the corporation. No clearer evidence it seems to me. can be furnished to show that much of this special legislation is sought and is valuable only because it is special, than is found in its own you, that during the administration of Gov. Shunk, numerous applications were made for special acts to incorporate manufacturing, companies, and that the Governor refused to give his assent to their passage. In 1849, a general law to encourage manufacturing, liberal in its provisions, was adopted, and you will be astonished to learn that at this time there are not a dozen companies in existence under it. During the sessions of 1852 and 1853, much time was consumed in the consideration of special acts to incorporate mining companies. Near the close of the last session a general law on the subject, applicable to all the counties in the State except six, was passed, and although this law is as favorable in its terms as the special acts solicited, but a single application has been made under it for mining purposes; and even in this instance operations have not been commenced. These are significant facts, and in my opinion will fully justify the rejection of all special acts on the subject in the future. I can see no reason why this general law should not be extended to the balance of the State, if the people desire to have it; but no special act to organize companies within the counties not included in the general law can receive my approval, and such as are now in my possession of this character, will be re-

turned without the Executive sanction. At the date of my dast annual message, proceedings were pending in the Suprement nall Board. To some of them I shall now briefly the Legislature had expressly granted.— suggested to the General Assembly the pro-labled. Such a state of affairs is scarcely consistent priety of taking charge of these valuable. without the exercise of an illiberal principle,