Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1859.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

With the exception of one or two points in Governor Packer's Message, we like it, for besides giving a cheering view of the finances of the State, he makes some practical suggestions, and expresses his opinions frankly. It is a plain, straight forward, manly Pennsylvania Message. Financially, it shows that $621,495 of the public debt has been extinguished; that an excess over receipts for damages and old claims on the public works from which we shall be free hereafter, was paid to the amount of $245,065; and that, at the balancing of the books on the first of December, the true excess of the receipts over the ordinary expenditures, for the fiscal year, was $903,252.—The entire debt of the Commonwealth, funded and unfunded, is, at this time, $39,268,111; against which the State owns, of secured bonds received from the sale of the public works, $11,181,000, leaving a balance unprovided for of $28,087,111. The Governor thinks that this debt can be easily reduced at the rate of not less than a million a year, and urges the Legislature to adhere to a policy that shall look steadily to that end. The Governor declares that the Commonwealth, that is great gainer by the sale of the canals, would be a public calamity were it again to become the owner and manager of them. No doubt of it. The subject of education is commended to the attention and solicitude of the Legislature. During the year ending in June, the number of pupils in the Public Schools of the State was 628,201, who were taught an average term of little more than five months, in 11,281 schools, by 13,856 teachers, at a total cost of $2,427,632 41.—The Governor argues that a Department of Public Instruction be organized, with enlarged powers, for collecting fuller statistics and information, and also for adopting measures to secure a supply of well qualified teachers. The act of May 20th, 1857, is referred to as well adapted to secure the services of good teachers; but as the scarcity of money, since it was passed, has prevented the people from acting under it, it is recommended that the State render such aid as may be necessary to test the efficacy of the act. This, it is proposed to do by a law guaranteeing a moderate sum to one teacher's school in each district created by the act of 1857. This plan we have long been in favor of, and should like to see it carried effectively into operation.

The Governor alludes to other important matters at length, and we commend the perusal of the Message to our readers. It is well written and high-toned, and will afford satisfaction.

A PRINCELY CHARITY.—Not long since there was inaugurated at Halifax, England, a beautiful park, containing some twelve acres, laid out with taste, and ornamented with marble statuary and a fountain. It was presented to the town by Mr. Frank Crossley, for the use of the working people; it is named "People's Park," and cost the donor one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The only restrictions accompanying the gift are, that bands of music shall not perform in it on Sunday, and that dancing shall not be allowed in it at any time.

Mr. Crossley is a gentleman of humble birth, who has realized a fortune as a manufacturer.—He stated that when his father first engaged in the same business, his mother made a vow that if they prospered, the surplus of their wants, should be devoted to the poor. The son has been enabled to fulfill the obligation in the princely manner stated, while his aged mother still lives to witness its consummation.

A lesson can be drawn from the occurrence which might be profitable here. When we consider the fortunes that have been drawn from this Region, by persons who never expend a dollar within its boundaries, how are they put to shame by the action of Mr. Crossley. To the hard toil of the miners of the Anthracite Coal Region of Pennsylvania, is due the fact that many roll in wealth, many who have we are afraid, as little sympathy with the hands that produce their wealth, as if they had no existence. Must all connection between man and man cease, when the dollar which procures the necessaries of life, is paid? Has the laboring man less fortunate than his wealthy brother, in worldly goods, no further claim upon the attention of that brother? We think he has, and whether or not in this Region, it is enforced by the erection at no distant day, of a Miners' Hospital, or in any other way that will conduce to the happiness and comfort of the workingman, the precedent of Mr. Crossley will remain a brilliant example of what a man of wealth esteems to be his duty to those whose labor rendered him the man he is. "The poor are always with you," is too readily forgotten, and we need occasionally an act so munificent as that of Mr. Crossley, to warm remembrance within our freezing hearts.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY ALMS HOUSE.—We learn that a bill will shortly be reported in the Legislature, having for its end a change in the economy of this Institution. It is not the intention to abolish the Board of Directors, but that it shall co-operate with the Judges of the County in the management of the Institution. The bill provides for the employment of a competent man to work the farm; and also for the employment of a resident physician, part of whose duty it shall be to keep the books of the Institution. The appointments of all the officers to be in the hands of the Directors. This bill we think, is a huge step forward on the road to reducing the expenses of the Alms House, by instituting a system of rigid management, calculated not only to economize, but to develop any resources the Institution may possess. If successful it will be the initiative of a system of workshops connected with the Alms House; a system which has been adopted with success in the New England States.

WHEN John S. Hart, Esq., retired from the Superintendency of the Philadelphia High School, great and unfeigned was the regret. Yet the community, especially the youthful portion, is compensated by the fact that Mr. Hart's talents are now directed in a channel, not more useful perhaps; but more certain of being wide-spread. As the editor of the publications of the American Sunday School Union, at Philadelphia, prominent among which we may mention "The Sunday-School Times," and "The Sunday School Banner," the influence of Mr. Hart, especially adapted to the successful mental and moral education of the young, will be as widely extended, as our boundaries. We observe with pleasure the zeal with which Mr. Hart has entered upon the discharge of his arduous and responsible duties, and we really trust that the neat little sheets issued under his auspices, may have as extended a circulation as they merit, and as their talented editor can desire.

THE TRADE OF BALTIMORE.—The Baltimore *American* publishes in the form of a supplement, a complete and extended Statement of the Trade and Commerce of that flourishing City.—It embraces a large variety of statistics relating to the city's trade, commerce and navigation, prepared with great care and at the expense of much labor. From the estimate of the trade of Baltimore, we learn that its value is one hundred and thirty-three millions of dollars for the past year. This is claimed as being far more satisfactory than might have been anticipated. The publishers of the *American* are entitled to much credit for the admirable manner in which they have placed these interesting and important statistics before the commercial men of the Monumental City. Statements of the trade of all our principal cities, published in similar manner, would be of the greatest utility.

DANIEL WEBSTER was fortunate in those nearest relations which develop, feed, and make the soul glad. He was warmly devoted to his parents. He married the woman he loved, and the twenty years he lived with her brought him to the meridian of his greatness. An anecdote is current on this subject, which is not recorded in the books. Mr. Webster was becoming intimate with Miss Grace Fletcher, when the skein of silk getting in a knot Mr. Webster assisted in unravelling the snarl—then looking up to Miss Grace, he said, "We have untied a knot, don't you think we could tie one?" Grace was a little embarrassed, said not a word, but in the course of a few minutes, she tied a knot in a piece of tape and handed it to Mr. W. This piece of tape, the thread of his domestic joys, was found after the death of Mr. Webster, preserved as one of his most precious relics.

RAUCH of the Mauch Chunk *Gazette*, will accept our congratulations upon his election as one of the transcribing clerks of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg. Suppose the members went it on the principle, we "give thee all," as "cap no more," as Rauch was a candidate for Chief Clerk, and a capital one he would have made. However, we presume R. travels on the motto, "the smallest favors," etc., with a bright lookout for the main chances.

THE following communication from Mr. Rees Thomas, a former Supervisor of Blythe Township, this County, we publish with pleasure, inasmuch as it does to throw light upon a system calculated to impoverish a community where it is adopted. Mr. Thomas is an honest, worthy citizen, and accounts for the disposition of the taxes assessed and collected while he was Supervisor; but his statement is not at all flattering to the way things official have been conducted in that Township. The fact is, that the amount of the indebtedness of the Township is not known. The issuing of orders even by ex Supervisors, and trafficking in them, has been even so Mr. Thomas states, a business for years, until the orders, to any amount, can be purchased at fifty cents on the dollar. It is asserted that if the taxes of the Township were assessed at ten thousand dollars, orders would be forthcoming to cover the amount. It is not surprising that mismanagement exists, when salutary laws are repealed, at the instance of land agents and politicians, to compass their selfish ends. Rumor states though we do not vouch for its correctness, that even the influence of Associate Judge, to effect this County, was exercised, leading to check fast the repeal of laws once again under notice, these evils. Therefore will shortly present and and our respecting them. When salutary laws are again in effect, those who at any future period, either successfully or unsuccessfully, endeavor to effect their repeal, should be exposed, and will be while we oppose official direlection of duty.—In the meantime, we ask attention to the communication of Mr. Thomas:

MESSRS. EDS.—My attention has been drawn to an article in your issue of Dec. 25th, headed "County Reform," in which you remark that in Blythe township contracts were taken to repair the roads for $1000—yet taxes amounting to $4000 were collected for that purpose, seeming to infer that the difference between the two amounts was pocketed by the Supervisor.

I was Supervisor in 1857 when the repairing of the roads was let for about $1000; but other contracts were afterwards let for widening the roads and erecting railing in places where it had long been considered necessary to make a road, which a former Supervisor had not located upon the line laid out. These swelled the cost of the roads in that year to near $2200. I laid a tax amounting to $5000. The unseated lands not returned, however, reduce the amount to be collected to about $4000. At the time I was well aware that I should not receive more than six or seven hundred dollars in cash, knowing that large amounts of orders, issued by former Supervisors, were outstanding. In fact, dealing in the orders of Blythe township has been a business for years, and almost any amount can now be had at a discount of from 20 to 25 per cent.

The result proved that I was correct, as I only received in cash $700, the balance of the tax being paid in orders, thus paying about $1800 of the debt of the township.

To show the extent to which this business of buying township orders is carried, I merely state that one gentleman who is agent for two large tracts, the taxes on which amounted to $1000, paid me about $60 in cash, and the balance in orders, upon which interest had accrued, amounting to $90.

Another gentleman, whose tax was over $300, paid me $1 96 in cash, the balance in orders, upon which a large amount was charged for interest.

That corruption has existed, or that it does still exist among the officers of Blythe township, I do not feel called upon to deny. I content myself with clearing my skirts, and I hold myself in readiness at any time to submit my accounts to any person interested.

REES THOMAS.

Blythe Township, Jan. 3, 1859.

SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The annual Report of the Managers of this Company will be found in another part of to-day's JOURNAL. It is a satisfactory exhibit of the affairs and condition of the Company. The business of the Company during the past year was good, leaving a large balance to be carried to the credit of the profit and loss account; but in order to place the Company on a good financial footing, it has been resolved, and wisely, not to declare a dividend.—An interesting fact is exhibited in connection with the carrying capacity of the line. With its present facility the Co. can pass in a reasonably favorable shipping season, and with no impediments from strikes, an aggregate Coal tonnage of 1,900,000. By doubling its locks, at points where there is a combination of lockage, the line could transport 2,000,000 per annum. If steam should be successfully introduced on the line for canal and tide-water transport, it could under other favorable auspices attain the tonnage named above. The Schuylkill Navigation Company has apparently, a prosperous career before it, which good management can undoubtedly, render invulnerable to the most formidable attacks of competition.

Local Affairs.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

1859. January.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS.	MOON'S CHANGES.
			D. H. M.
8 SATURDAY,	7 25	4 49	New M. 4 6.30m.
9 SUNDAY,	7 25	4 50	First Q. 12 2 27m.
10 MONDAY,	7 24	4 51	Full M. 18 6 55e.
11 TUESDAY,	7 24	4 52	Last Q. 26 3 49e.
12 WEDNESDAY,	7 24	4 53	
13 THURSDAY,	7 23	4 54	
14 FRIDAY,	7 23	4 55	

Thermometrical Record for the Week.

P. R. & P., TELEGRAPH OFFICE.
Pennsylvanian Hall, Pottsville.

		6 A. M.	2 P. M.	7 P. M.
Sat.,	Jan. 1	29	0	0—clear.
Mon.,	" 3	22	26	24—cloudy.
Tues.,	" 4	22	30	29—snow.
Wed.,	" 5	24	32	24—cloudy.
Thurs.,	" 6	16	34	32—clear.
Fri.,	" 7	32	38	25—rain.

☞ *Yesterday's* rain and thaw have used up the sleighing. In some parts of the County it is still fair; but the main roads are bare.

☞ *The* alarm of fire on Tuesday night, was occasioned by the scattering and burning of some hard which was being rendered in the rear of a dwelling at Second and Callowhill streets.

☞ *Dr. D. B. Crist* will by request deliver a lecture at the Town Hall on Monday evening, January 10th; 1859.—Subject—Kingdom of Heaven, New Birth and Perfection. Commencing precisely at 7 o'clock. Front seats reserved for ladies.

☞ *Suicide in Tamaqua.*—We learn that John Bitner, a German, committed suicide in Tamaqua on Wednesday night, by cutting his throat from ear to ear. He deceased, it is stated, was melancholy resulting from a recent severe illness.

☞ *A Tea* meeting was held at the M. E. Church, St. Clair, on the 26th ult., the proceeds of which were devoted to paying the Pastor's salary. It was entirely successful. A letter containing an account of the proceedings, is unavoidably crowded out.

☞ *By the* Annual Report of the Pottsville Water Company, published in another column, it will be perceived that the Managers have declared a dividend of three per cent. This is a matter of considerable interest to the stockholders. Read the Statement.

☞ *The* officers elect for Swatara Lodge, No. 217, A. Y. M., held at Tremont, were installed on St. John's night, viz:

J. A. L. Tice, W. M.; Gabriel Drake, S. W.; Aaron Eckel, J. W.; Isaac Lehman, Treasurer; John K. Fernsler, Secretary.

☞ *At the* stated annual meeting of the Schuylkill County Medical Society, held Jan. 5th, 1859, the following officers were elected to serve during the present year:

President—JAS. S. CARPENTER, M. D.; *Vice President*—John T Nicholas, M. D.; *Corresponding Secretary*—JNO. T. CARPENTER, M. D.; *Recording Secretary*—H. R. SILLIMAN, M. D.; *Treasurer*—Geo. W. Brown, M. D.

☞ *The* following officers were installed in Pottsville Division, No. 52, Sons of Temperance, on Wednesday evening, January 5, 1859, to serve for the ensuing quarter:—

Joseph P. Houck, W. P.; Jesse Hawley, W. A.; Samuel R. Whitney, R. S.; Jeremiah Lord, A. R. S.; O. C. Boabyshell, F. S.; M. D. L. Dodson, T.; Joseph Spencer, C.; L. A Bright, A. C.; P. Houck, I. S.; D. Hartline, O. S.; H. Johnston, Ch.; R. A. Malogay, A. Ch.

☞ *Pottsville Literary Society.*—The meeting of the Society last Tuesday evening was largely attended. The exercises consisted of a lecture by Ele Bowen, Esq., on "Pennsylvania," which was a very able production, full of instruction and dotted throughout with happy conceptions of wit and humor. D. B. Green, Esq., read a selection from Burns' Poetical Works. The debate on the question, "Should the rate of interest be established by law?" was ably argued by Messrs. Little and Wetherill on the affirmative, and Messrs. Hazen and Bartholomew on the negative. Notwithstanding the powerful arguments advanced by the negative, the affirmative gained the decision.

☞ *Military.*—On Saturday last at the Armory of the Washington Artillerists in this Borough, the Columbian Infantry, of Glen Carbon, was inspected by Major Nagle, and fully organized. The Infantry was escorted into the Borough by the Artillerists, and partook of a collation at the latter's Armory. They numbered some forty-five, and are large, powerful men. Attention paid to the drill, will make the Infantry as fine and effective a corps as there is in the County. Their uniform is very neat.—On Saturday after the Infantry had been organized, it marched for Glen Carbon, escorted out by the Artillerists.

To the annexed proceedings we ask attention:—

At a meeting of the Columbian Infantry, held at their Armory, Glen Carbon, January 6, 1859, it was

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be returned to the Washington Artillerists for their kind reception and entertainment, and likewise their gentlemanly and soldier-like conduct to us during our visit to them on New Year day. Also, to the Minersville Artillerists for their courtesy and attention to us during our stay in their Borough on our return home.

Resolved, That the above resolutions be tendered to the above Companies through the columns of the MINERS' JOURNAL.

JAMES BRENNAN, *Captain.*

☞ *Directors of the Poor.*—This body met at the Alms House on the first and third days of January, 1859.—Present, Amos Hoffman, Nathan H. Butz and Charles Focht.

On motion of Mr. Hoffman the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

WHEREAS, Certain interested parties have been endeavoring to prejudice the tax payers of the County against the present manner of conducting the affairs of Alms House, and have succeeded in many instances in so impressing the uninformed;

AND WHEREAS, The Directors to whom has been confided the management of said Institution, feel themselves aggrieved by said imputations; therefore—

Resolved, That inasmuch as they have nothing to conceal from the people from whom they derive their authority, and are disposed to give the tax-payers of the County all the information in regard to their doings; therefore—

Resolved, That hereafter the proceedings of the Board be published in at least two papers monthly, one English and one German. Be it further

Resolved, That hereafter, bills contracted by the steward of the Alms House, will not be paid unless ordered by the Directors of said Institution—and that a publication hereafter concerned in the business transactions of the Alms House, under such discretionary power as may be given him, by the Board of Directors.

The Steward reported the population of the house on the first day of January, 1859, as follows:

Men's side,	
Women's side,	
Insane Department,	50
Sick Ward,	18
Nursery,	19
In the House of Stone House,	357
Oakum House,	14

Bills amounting to $1[illegible] was granted, drawn for the amount.

Put door relief committee, appointed officers for the ensuing year.

The following officers were elected: *Clerk*—EDWARD LEBERGOTT; *Attending Physician*—S. H. and B. F. SHAFFNER; *Out Physician*—SAMUEL L. BERLIGHT; *Counsel*—OTTOMEN *Physician*—[illegible]

☞ *Robert Burns.*—*The Illustrated London News* notes that wherever the English language is read or spoken, wherever Scottish music is sung, and wherever the peculiar Doric of the Lowlands of Scotland is understood and enjoyed, people will be hastening themselves to render homage to the immortal memory of Robert Burns. On the 25th of this month it will be one hundred years since the great poet of the people was born; it is sixty-three years since he died, and in the interval his name has become the chief literary glory of his country. His songs have become the most intimate and familiar expression of the sentiments of a nation; and high above that of all his contemporaries and successors towers the fame of the sturdy ploughman, the sweet singer, the independent son of toil, who told the world in heart inspiring language, that he dared to be poor: that rank was but the stamp upon the guinea; that the man, the true man, who would not stoop to any kind of meanness or baseness, was the gold; and in one terse, immortal phrase, that "a man was a man for a' that."

The spectacle about to be presented, of the world honoring the memory of the author of "Tam o'Shanter," the "Address to the Deiny," the "Epistle to a Young Friend," "A man's a man for a' that," and a hundred other songs, is so singular, as well as so grand, that one may well inquire what is the spirit that prompts it? Is it because he wrote better songs and better music than any other man of his own or subsequent times? Not entirely. It is because he so thoroughly identified his own proud heart with the proud heart of his people; it is because he was a peasant who taught other peasants to hold up their heads and stand erect in the presence of all men, however great or grand they might be; it is because he preached the dignity and the worth of manhood; and it is because he taught the humblest sons of labor to value their personal independence above all the gifts of fortune which a sacrifice of such independence might have procured for them, that Burns has taken so noble a place in the history of literature. He taught the humblest that the "poony tee" of honest industry was a greater treasure than tons of thousands if gained by the specious knaveries of trade, extorted by unfair means from the public credulity, or wrung from the sinews of the poor by a grinding oppression of their labor. Burns was no leveler, but an exalter. His great song, "A man's a man," is the keynote of his fame, and has done more for the elevation of the multitude than all the poems, books, or articles ever written in the language. It is for this great and leading characteristic of his genius that the people have resolved to do him honor. Here in the Coal Region of Pennsylvania, Scotchmen, sons of Scotchmen, Englishmen, and Americans, will meet on the 25th instant, to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the birth of Scotland's really noble son, and the poet of the world. We have every reason to believe that the Town Hall in this Borough, will be graced by a brilliant assemblage on the occasion. It is the intention of the Committee of Arrangements that every preparation shall be so made, so that ladies may participate. This is well. Such will be the case in London, and at other points, and we hope the ladies will in goodly numbers, grace with their presence, the Festival here.

☞ *Proceedings of the Borough Council.*—A stated meeting of the Borough Council was held on Tuesday evening, January 4, 1859. Present—Messrs. Sherlis, McBarron, Mensig, Kinsley, Fellingle, Christian, Evert, Hoover, Nice, Evans and Reppller, the President in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Committee of Accounts on unfinished business in its hands, was continued.

Special Committee on claim of S. Heffner, for bill, was continued.

Special Committee on lot corner of Centre and East Market streets, read an opinion of F. W. Hughes in the matter. On motion it was resolved that the Committee be empowered to prosecute the claim the Borough has on the property, to a final issue.

Committee on refitting Council Chamber, made a final report, and was discharged.

Committee of Fire Apparatus on repairing fire plugs of the Borough, was continued.

Street Committee on constructing culvert in Third street, near Minersville Road, reported work done, and was discharged.

Committee of Fire Apparatus was continued on repairing Rough and Ready fire engine.

Street Committee on conveying water from Burd Patterson's property, Mahantongo street, was discharged.

Street Committee on constructing culvert in Norwegian street, was continued.

Committee of Lamp and Watch on placing lamp at Mauch Chunk street and Palo Alto road, reported work done and was discharged.

Street Committee on crossings in Market, and Norwegian streets, was discharged.

Committee of Lamp and Watch on introducing gas into the Humane Hose house, was discharged.

Special Committee on indebtedness of the Borough, was continued.

Committee of Lamp and Watch on removal of watchmen made report, which was accepted and ordered to be filed.

Committee of Accounts made a report on claim of W. Kline. On motion it was resolved that an order for $236 02, be drawn in his favor.

Committee of Accounts on G. P. Lippe's bill, was continued.

Committee on claim of Martin Weaver, was continued.

The Council then went into an election for watchmen, which resulted as follows:—*South Ward*—Wm. Becker. *Middle Ward*—H. Quinn. *North-West Ward*—H. Lindemuth. *North-East Ward*—Wm Riland.

Monthly statement of Borough Treasurer was received and ordered to be filed.

On motion it was resolved that the Chief Burgess be authorized to stop persons using the streets of the Borough for coasting purposes.

Mr. Nice offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the watchmen be under the charge and control of the Chief Burgess who shall report any direlection of duty on the part of said watchmen to the Committee of Lamp and Watch, said Committee having power to remove and substitute, until the next meeting of Council who will fill any vacancy by an election.

In the matter of *I. P. Brooke's* bill, $75 40, it was directed that an order for $60 on account, be drawn in his favor.

The bill of Schuylkill County Lumber Co.—$55 46—was referred to the Street Committee.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

F. W. Hughes	$45 00
Mining Record	14 75
B. Hoover	65 00
J. Quinn	4 95
Thos. B. Reed	85 00
Jacob Medara	51 55
A. Shilling	72 50
C. Worman	20 00
A. Pratt	4 50
Smith & Downing	35 00
S. Shoener	12 00
M. Zerbe	22 00
B. Evert	2 96
L. P. Brooke	60 00
W. Kline	236 02
Watchmen	50 00
S. Hartz	30 00
Total	$897 44
Amount brought forward	7,456 60
Grand total	8,364 04

Adjourned.

ANNUAL MESSAGE OF GOV. PACKER.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN:—Although the year just closed has been one of great depression in the business and monetary affairs of the country, I am happy to be able to announce to the Representatives of the People that the finances of Pennsylvania are in a most satisfactory condition.

The receipts at the Treasury, from all sources, for the fiscal year, ending on the 30th day of November, 1858, were $4,130,778 35; and the expenditures, for all purposes, during the same time, were $3,775,857 06. Leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of $363,921 29.

This exhibit shows that there was actually in the Treasury, on the first day of December, 1858, the sum of $363,921 29, more than there was on the first day of December, 1857. In addition to this, among the expenditures for the year, were

Loans redeemed,	$350,366 85
Relief Notes Redeemed,	41,071 00
Interest Certificates "	116 70
Making of the public debt, funded and unfunded, paid during the year, the sum of	421,494 55

If we add to this the excess of money on hand, at the end of the fiscal year, over what remained in the Treasury at the same time last year, viz: 363,921 29

We have the sum of $785,415 84

But this is not all. The amount paid on the public improvements, including the damages and old claims, during the fiscal year, was $341,036 58

While the amount of revenue, from the same source, for the same period, was only 95,970 66

Making an excess of expenditures over receipts, which happily we will be relieved from in the future, of $245,066 52

This sum should, also, be credited to the operations of the Treasury, during the year, for it was an extraordinary expenditure, which cannot again occur; and was, in fact, a reduction of the liabilities of the Common wealth to that extent.

If we add this sum to the amount of debt paid, and the excess of cash on hand, we have for the year, a balance in favor of the receipts, over the ordinary expenditures, amounting in the aggregate to $1,031,352 36.

But from this, however, should be deducted the extraordinary receipts, which were,

1st. The amount paid by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, on the principal of the debt due by the said Company, to the Commonwealth, for the purchase of the Main Line; $100,000

2d. The amount received from the Girard Bank, for the loans of the Commonwealth sold by that [illegible] 128,000

In all, [illegible] aggregate

Which deducted [illegible] 382 36 balance of the ordinary expenditures for the [illegible]

☞ [illegible] FUNDED DEBT.

[illegible] cent. loan,	$448,150 00
[illegible] per cent. loan,	38,173,212 52
4½ per cent. loan,	388,200 00
4 per cent. loan,	100,000 00
To this should be added 5 per cent. Coupon Bonds sold by Girard Bank, not before reported,	28,000 00
Total funded debt,	$39,134,592 53

UNFUNDED DEBT.

Relief Notes outstanding,	$145,421 00
Interest certificates do.,	23,473 82
Do., do., unclaimed,	4,448 38
Domestic creditors,	802 50
Total unfunded debt,	$175,145 70

Making the entire debt of the Commonwealth at the period named $39,909,738 22

The funded and unfunded debt of the State at the close of the fiscal year, December 1st, 1858, stood as follows:

FUNDED DEBT.

6 per cent. loans,	$445,150 00
5 per cent. loans,	38,420,905 67
4½ per cent. loans,	388,200 00
4 per cent. loans,	100,000 00
Total funded debt,	$39,354,255 67

UNFUNDED DEBT.

Relief Notes outstanding,	$105,350 00
Interest Certificates,	22,357 15
Do., do. unclaimed,	4,448 38
Domestic Creditors,	802 50
Total unfunded debt,	$133,958 00

Making the public debt on the first of December last, $39,488,243 67. Since the close of the fiscal year, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have redeemed of the five per cent. loan, the sum of $220,152 41, leaving the real debt of the Commonwealth, at this time, funded and unfunded, $39,268,111 16.

To meet this, besides the ordinary sources of public revenue, the State owns bonds received from the sales of the public works, and which I have every reason to believe, are well secured, amounting to eleven millions one hundred and eighty-one dollars. Deducting this from the outstanding debt, it leaves to be otherwise provided for, the sum of twenty-eight millions eighty-seven thousand one hundred and eleven dollars and sixteen cents.

It is believed that, with the existing sources of revenue, and the observance of strict economy, this sum may be reduced, during the current year, at least one million of dollars.

[The Governor then alludes at length to the sale of the public works to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, and says that by it "the short experience that we have had already, proves conclusively that the Commonwealth is greatly the gainer, in a financial point of view, and has been equally demonstrated that the people at large have been as well, if not better, accommodated by the change." The Governor says:]

Since the sale of the public works, and the settlement of the principal outstanding claims against the State, it is obvious that there is no further necessity for a Board of Canal Commissioners, or a Canal Department. I, therefore, recommend the abolition of the Board, and that provision be made for the transfer of the records to the office of the Auditor General.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, will lay before you the present condition of the Common School System and of its operations during the past year. Your close and scrutinising attention is invited to the details of that document.

Including the city of Philadelphia, it will be observed, that there were in the public schools of this State, during the year which terminated on the first Monday of last June, 628,201 pupils; these were instructed during an average term of a little over five months, in 11,281 schools, 13,856 teachers, at a total cost of $2,427,632 41.

Here is a public interest, which,—whether we regard its ramifications into every portion of our social fabric, its large cost, the important powers over the present which it wields, or its incalculable influence upon the future,—undoubtedly transcends all others committed to the care of the secular authorities. This being the case, I have no hesitation in asserting that the time has arrived when its full importance should be recognized, and that its due administration should be made the duty of a fully organized and effective, as well as a separate department in the government.

But the mere care and promotion of our system of Common Schools—important and extensive as it obviously is,—should not be the sole object of such a Department. If it is true that the power to punish crime includes also the right to prevent it, by providing for the proper intellectual and moral training of the people, it would seem to follow that the department charged with the latter momentous duty, should also be in possession of all the sources and subjects of information, calculated to shed light upon the object of its action. Hence the collection, arrangement, and practical deductions from the various educational statistics; from natural defects, such as deafness and dumbness, blindness and lunacy; from crime in its various forms and developments; together with such control over all the literary and scientific institutions in the State, as shall bring their full condition into view—should also belong to the same Department.

Therefore, I most respectfully, but earnestly, urge upon your favorable consideration, at the present propitious moment, the organization of such a Department, in the room of those for the care of mere matter whose agency has been or soon will be discontinued by the onward and upward progress of the Commonwealth.

A suitable Department of Public Instruction, will not, however, of itself, effect all that is intended in this direction. The general results of the Common School system, already cited, show the importance of its nature, and the magnitude of its operations. If we look, also, into its special statistics, the conclusion will be equally clear that certain improvements in its working machinery, are equally indispensable.

It is needless to attempt to prove the truism that the properly qualified teacher is the life and soul of the school. But the facts are startling, that of the 12,828 teachers of our public schools, exclusive of those in Philadelphia, only 5,087 are reported as "qualified" for their important trust; while 5,387 are returned as "medium," or such as are only tolerated till better can be obtained, and that 2,323 are stated to be "unfit." In other words, of the 569,880 children attending the schools out of Philadelphia, only about 230,000 (less than one-half) are under proper instruction and training; while about 240,000 are receiving insufficient instruction from inferior teachers; 100,000 are actually in charge of persons wholly unfit for the task.

This presents the subject in a light that cannot be shut out; and, though the great and commendable efforts recently made by the teachers of Pennsylvania, for their own improvement, are fully recognized, it cannot be concealed that there is a work yet to be done, in this relation, which would seem to be beyond their unaided power to accomplish.

When, however, we look further into the special statistics of this branch of the system, the material of improvement is found to be of the most promising kind. Of the 12,828 teachers of our common schools, 10,889 are under thirty years of age, and 10,946 are natives of Pennsylvania; and a larger portion than in most of the other States, are permanently devoted to the profession of teaching. To render them fit for the position to which they aspire—undoubtedly one of the most useful and honorable in the world—and to raise up a constant supply of well qualified successors, is the work to be done.

Various modes of effecting this object have been suggested or tried; but, after mature reflection, I am led to prefer that devised by the Act of May 20, 1857, entitled "An Act to provide for the due training of teachers for the Common Schools of the State." It places, in relation to the State, the teacher on the same footing with the members of such of the other learned professions as have been recognized by public authority; and it is to be regretted that the prostration of business and scarcity of money, that so soon followed the passage of the act, had the effect of checking many laudable efforts to put its provisions into operation. Under these circumstances, does it not become the duty of the State to afford such aid, or at least hold out such inducements as shall enable this measure to be fairly tested?

The passage of a law guaranteeing the payment of a moderate sum to one Teacher's School in each of the districts created by the Act of 1857, would no doubt cause a sufficient number to establish the efficiency and practicability of the plan, to be completed in a few years; the money not to be paid till the schools were in full and approved operation. It is not probable that this grant would cause any considerable draft on the treasury; but, even if the whole twelve schools should ultimately be established, the boon would neither be out of proportion to that which has been conceded to other literary institutions, nor the number of graduates beyond the wants of the community. Up to the present time, Pennsylvania has appropriated about $600,000 in aid of her colleges and academies, and this mainly in the hope of obtaining from them teachers for the common schools. Though the benefits of this munificence have been, in other respects, quite equal to the amount given, it will be asserted by no one that the avowed object has been to any considerable extent, effected. It would therefore appear to be time that the aid of the State should be brought directly to bear in favor of the great object so long contemplated.

I have thus briefly laid before you the condition of our noble educational system. It will afford me sincere pleasure to concur in the adoption of these, or any other measures, for its perfection, that the wisdom of the Legislature may devise.

In this country, the want of a school which shall combine the elements of learning and agricultural labor, and thus adapt itself to the education of the farmer, has been most seriously felt; for, whilst our many colleges will fill the measure of usefulness in their appropriate sphere of influence, it must be conceded that the training they impart is badly adapted to the art of practical agriculture. In Pennsylvania that interest is so important as to demand at all times our anxious attention, and active support. "The Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania," lately projected and planned by a few public spirited individuals, and which has received, to some extent, the patronage of the State, and the contributions of a number of our patriotic citizens, is destined to afford a place where young men may be educated at an expense commensurate with their means, and to a condition qualifying them for the pursuit of the business of the farm. Here, whilst daily occupation will train the body to the ability to labor, and give to the student the enviable feeling that he contributes to his own support and education, it will instruct and enlarge his mind, that it may give force and effect to all his future efforts. The design of the institution is to afford a school where boys may be thoroughly educated in all [illegible] science, and, at the same [illegible] to the performance of labor; so at their graduation they may return to their parents abundantly prepared to join the domestic circle, to give a right direction to the business of agriculture, and act well their part in every department of life. An object so fraught with usefulness is entitled to the highest commendation.

The application of scientific principles to the practical purposes of life, is but realising the full benefit of those laws of nature, to discover and to profit by which, is undoubtedly one of the great ends of human reason. The more this important object is held in view, and effected by our higher institutions of learning, the more valuable and useful will they become. The Polytechnic College of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, is founded on this basis; and its attempt to popularize science, and connect high acquirement with practical ability, is presented to your favorable consideration.

[The Governor recommends a careful inquiry into the present condition of the Tioga County Bank, the Crawford County Bank, and the Bank of Shamokin, and if it shall be ascertained that the public is likely to suffer injury from the further existence of either, a speedy and certain remedy may be found in a legislative repeal of the rights and privileges granted by the acts of incorporation. The Governor continues:—

In this connection I deem it my duty to reiterate the views expressed in my inaugural address. I then stated as my decided opinion, that there should be no further increase of banks or banking capital under the present system—expressed a decided hostility to the issue of notes of a small denomination—and recommended such a change in our laws relative to banks, their organization and management, as would afford, at least secure, beyond all question, the prompt redemption of all bills or notes put in circulation by the several banking institutions of the Commonwealth.

Well satisfied of the imperfection of existing laws relative to banks and banking, I deem it a duty to inform the General Assembly that I cannot give the Executive approval to any bills chartering additional banks without a radical change in the entire system.

[The Governor then speaks of the necessity of protecting the note holders of banks, and says:]

The certificates of loan issued by the General Government, or by this Commonwealth, at a value to be fixed upon, with the power to receive additional deposits of security, from time to time as the loans depreciate in the market, would be safe and available as any guaranty which could be provided.

A law requiring all issues of banks hereafter organized to be secured by the pledge of these loans, would enhance the value of the present issue, and thus give the holders a premium not contemplated when they became purchasers, and for which they never gave any valuable consideration. This enhanced value would be derived from a privilege granted by the State, and the State ought, therefore, to have the benefit of it, as far as this may be secured by legislation. The recent amendment of the Constitution circumscribes the power of the Legislature in creating State debts, with an exception in favor of debts contracted "to redeem the present outstanding indebtedness of the State." A law authorizing an issue of loans for the purpose of redeeming the present over due debt, would be within the constitutional exception, and would be free from objection on constitutional grounds. The new loans thus authorized, would extend the duplication of twenty years, with the banking privileges attached to them, would undoubtedly sell at a high premium. The proceeds of that sale should be applied to the payment of the present State debt, now overdue, amounting to more than seventeen millions of dollars. Under this system the State loans would no longer be held by foreigners, and the semi-annual shipments of specie, to pay interest, would cease.

As the currency would be limited to the amount actually secured, the danger from expansions which have heretofore stimulated the speculator to embark in ruinous enterprises, in over-trading, and in extravagance in their expenditures, would be greatly lessened, if not entirely overcome. As the securities would be in the hands of a high and responsible officer of the State, with authority to sell them for the purpose of replenishing the circulation, the power of the banks to arrest specie payments at their own pleasure would be at an end. The system proposed is as near an approach to a specie basis as the condition and habits of the people are at present prepared for. The duty of securing the community from losses continually arising from unreal currency, cannot be longer delayed without a most culpable disregard of the public interests. The subject is therefore commended to your early attention.

[It is stated that a monument to the memory of citizens of Pennsylvania, who were slain or died while serving in the late war with Mexico, cannot be erected at a less cost than thirty thousand dollars. The Governor continues:—]

The Militia Law of 1858, has not been fully tested; but it is believed to be, in the main, an improvement on the laws in force at the time of its passage. One of its best features, and one that should be strictly enforced