

General message to the General Assembly

Office of the Governor, Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 1, 1901. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The two years just closed have perhaps been the most prosperous two years in succession that this state has ever experienced.

On the first of January, 1900, there was a deficit in the state treasury of about \$200,000. It is a happy state that owing to the unexpected increase in the revenues this deficit has been entirely liquidated.

On the twenty-first of September last a very serious affray occurred in Shenandoah, Schuylkill county, growing out of a quarrel between two men existing in the anthracite coal fields.

Without showing any partiality or discussing the merits of the dispute between employer and employee, they felt that their presence in the anthracite region was unwelcome.

When we come to consider that this industrial campaign which has been going on in this state since the year 1898, is not yet closed.

The office of the state authorities is an important one. The state troops are sent to the anthracite region to maintain order and preserve the life and property of the people.

Under the act of assembly which set apart each year \$100,000 for the liquidation of the state funded debt.

When the legislation convened in January, 1899, there was a deficit in the treasury of about three millions of dollars.

The legislature appropriated \$11,000,000 for the support of the common schools for the two years beginning June 1, 1899.

There are still in the treasury of the state three millions of dollars.

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It will not be a disgrace to the state, and that will not justify unfavorable criticism in comparison with the Capitol buildings of other states.

It is therefore, respectfully recommended that the passage of a law appropriating annually so much of the general revenues of the state during the next four years as the legislature shall deem necessary to complete the same.

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