

The Tioga County Agitator.

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THE AGITATOR

Devoted to the Extension of the Area of Freedom and the Spread of Healthy Reform.

WELLSBORO, TIOGA COUNTY, PA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 20, 1864. NO. 21

Rates of Advertising. Advertisements will be charged \$1 per square of 10 lines...

JAS. LOWREY & S. F. WELSH, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLORS AT LAW.

DICKINSON HOUSE, CORNING, N. Y.

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE, CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND THE AVENUE, Wellsboro, Pa.

IZAAK WALTON HOUSE, Gaines, Tioga County, Pa.

WELLSBORO HOTEL, B. B. HOLIDAY, Proprietor.

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A. FOLEY, Watches, Clocks, Jewels, &c., No. 5, UNION BLOCK.

E. R. BLACK, BARBER & HAIR-DRESSER, SHOP OVER C. L. WILCOX'S STORE.

FLOUR AND FEED STORE, WRIGHT & BAILEY.

Wool Garding and Cloth Dressing, THE subscriber informs his old customers...

MARBLE SHOP, I AM NOW RECEIVING A STOCK OF ITALIAN AND BELAND MARBLE...

JOHN A. ROY, DEALER IN DRUGS AND MEDICINES, Chemicals, Varieties, Paints, Dyes, &c.

Insurance Agency, THE Insurance Company of North America have appointed the undersigned agent for Tioga County and vicinity.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, [For the 5th District, Pa.] AND Mansfield Classical Seminary.

GOV. CURTIN'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania: The past year has afforded us new cause of thankfulness to the Almighty for the moral and material blessings which he has bestowed upon us.

Table with financial data: Total in Treasury for fiscal year end, Receipts during the fiscal year, Balance in Treasury, November 30, 1863.

Amount of public debt of Pennsylvania as it stood on the 1st day of December, 1862...

By the act of the 15th of May, 1861, authorizing the military loan of \$300,000,000, a tax of one-half mill was laid on real and personal property...

By the act of the 12th of June, 1860, it was provided that the interest on the State loans should always be paid in specie or its equivalent...

By the act of the 11th of April, 1862, it was provided that for the purpose of paying in specie or its equivalent, all interest that should thereafter be due by the Commonwealth, as required by the act of the 12th of June, 1860...

By the act of the 30th of January, 1863, it was provided that the State Treasurer should exchange with the banks an amount of currency sufficient to pay the interest on the State debt falling due on the first day of February and August, 1863...

Under the provisions of the act of 1862, certain banks paid into the State Treasury \$140,708.30 as an equivalent for coin for the payment of interest on the public debt.

THE DUTY OF STATE FINANCES TO UNITED STATES CURRENCY—CURRENTLY PAYMENT NECESSARY.

In the face of all difficulties, this Commonwealth, actuated by a sentiment which does its people honor, has hitherto paid its interest in coin or its equivalent.

The exigencies of the times have compelled the Government of the United States to issue large amounts of Treasury notes for circulation, which are not redeemable in coin, and which form the great mass of our circulating medium.

It is our duty as a loyal State—it is our interest as a State whose welfare, and even safety, depend emphatically upon the maintenance of the credit and the success of the military operations of the General Government—to do nothing to impair its credit.

It is believed to have been the uniform practice of such governments to pay their interest in paper currency, however depreciated, during a legalized suspension of specie payments.

At the present rate of premium on gold, the sum necessary to pay on an amount sufficient to discharge the annual interest on the State debt would be more than \$1,000,000, and to meet this, additional taxation to that extent would be unavoidable.

At the close of the last session, nineteen bills renewing the charters of certain banks for another period of five years were presented to me.

RECOMMENDS INCREASE OF OFFICE SALARIES—WAR DAMAGES, &c. The increased expenses of living invite attention to the salaries of our public officers.

Under the act of 1863, public certificates have been given to the banks, amounting in the whole to \$1,968,904.97, which, with the accruing interest, will fall due on the first Monday of March next.

As the provisions of this act were of a temporary character, the only acts now in force on the subject are those of 1840 and 1862, above mentioned, under which it will be the duty of the State authorities to pay the interest on the 1st of February, 1864, and thereafter, in coin or its equivalent, and look to the banks that may be liable under the act of 1862 for reimbursements of the premium paid by the Commonwealth.

ATTENDANCE AT HARRISBURG, WHICH WAS NOT FORMERLY REQUIRED.

Under the act of April 16th, 1862, and its supplement passed April 22d, 1863, the Adjutant General, Quartermaster General and Commissary General have been acting as the Board of Military Claims.

Under the act of 22d April, 1863, (P. L. 529) the Court of Common Pleas appointed three appraisers to ascertain the damage done in the counties on the southern border by the militia called into service in September, 1862, and by the rebels in their raid on the 10th and 11th of October, 1862.

These expenses have been mainly incurred in keeping up the necessary correspondence of the military departments and in the transportation of sick and wounded and the dead bodies of our volunteers, as will be seen by the report of the Chief of Transportation, herewith communicated.

By the thirteenth section of the act of the 15th of May, 1861, the sum of \$20,000 was appropriated to be expended by the Governor for the compensation of such persons as he might require to serve the Commonwealth in the military organization of the State or the General Government, and for the expenses incident to the business in which they might be employed.

On the invasion of the State during the last summer, the President made a call for militia, and with his assent I subsequently made a call for volunteer militia for the defence of the State.

On the subject I refer the Legislature to the report of Colonel R. Biggle Roberts, late Adjutant of the State, at Washington, herewith communicated, and commend it to your careful examination.

After the battle of Gettysburg, in which loyal volunteers from eighteen States, including Pennsylvania, were engaged, it appeared to me proper that all these States should unite in establishing a cemetery on the spot in that conflict, should be honorably interred.

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THE BODIES OF THE SLAIN, HAVE THIS FAR AMOUNTED TO \$5,200.38, AND AN APPROPRIATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THESE EXPENSES.

It will appear by the proceedings of the Commissioners that their due proportions of the expenses already incurred are to be refunded by the States on whose account they were made.

THE FAMILIES AND ORPHANS OF SOLDIERS.—The act for the relief of the families of volunteers in service may require some revision. It is alleged that in some parts of the State the county authorities are backward in executing the law.

THE INVASION OF THE STATE—A MONUMENT TO GEN. REYNOLDS. In May last it was believed from information received, that General Lee intended to invade this State.

THE REPRESENTATION MADE BY HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE HIGHEST RESPECTABILITY FROM THIS STATE, ARE OF THE MOST HEART-FELT CHARACTER.

RECOMMENDED REVISION OF REVENUE LAWS. I should be glad if the Legislature would make a general revision of our Revenue Laws, with a view to their increased productiveness.

REVENUE LAWS, &c. I renew most earnestly the recommendation made in my last annual message of a revision of the militia laws.

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at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, till paid, and shall continue to be the first lien on the land, till paid, and shall not be divested by any judicial or other sale whatever.

Upon satisfactory reports, according to law, made by Colonel John A. Wright, I have drawn my warrant for the delivery to the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company of another million of the bonds deposited in the State Treasury.

I refer to the Auditor General's and State Treasurer's reports for the details of our financial affairs, and the reports of the Surveyor General, Adjutant General, Quartermaster General, Surgeon General, Agent at Washington, Chief of Transportation and Telegraph Department, and Superintendent of Common Schools, in regard to their several departments.

Early in June, Major-General Couch arrived at Harrisburg and assumed command of his department, which he has since exercised with the soldier-like promptness, energy and discretion which were to be expected from his known character.

The rebels having actually entered the State in some force, and the approach of their whole army being imminent, the President made a requisition for militia from this and some of the neighboring States, and several regiments from New York and New Jersey were promptly sent, and our own volunteer militia began to assemble.

Under these calls 5,168 of the men of Pennsylvania were assembled in the Department of General Brooks, and 31,422 of that of General Couch. To give the details, or even a summary of the operations which ensued, would be impracticable within the limits of a message.

Some of the militia called in 1862 and in 1863 were killed and others disabled. In all these cases, where there are no laws for the relief of their families, I recommend the enactment of a law for that purpose.

The campaign on our soil was closed by the victory of Gettysburg, gained by the veteran Army of the Potomac, under the command of Major-General Meade, the officers and men of which displayed all their accustomed valor and endurance in the conflict, and in the forced and rapid marches which immediately preceded it.