

FIRST ANNUAL MESSAGE

OF ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of Pennsylvania,

To Both Houses of the Legislature, READ, JANUARY 8, 1862.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

GENTLEMEN: It has pleased Divine Providence, during the last season, to give us abundant crops, unbroken peace within our borders, unanimity among our people, and thus to enable this Commonwealth to do her full duty to the country, to herself, and to posterity. For those blessings we have cause to be grateful.

The balance in the Treasury on the 30th Nov., 1860, was \$681,438.08

Total into Treasury for fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1861, 7,424,958.10

Received from temporary loan, under Act Apr. 12, 1861, 475,000

Remaining unpaid, (exclusive of military loans above mentioned), Nov. 30, 1861, 37,868,616.08

Receipts from military loan under Act Apr. 12, 1861, 475,000

Balance in Treasury, from ordinary sources, Nov. 30, 1860, 681,438.08

It will be observed that the fiscal year ends on the 30th of November, and the sinking fund year on the first Monday in September, which accounts for the apparent deficiency in the amount of debt paid as stated in the Treasurer's report, and by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

It will be observed that the receipts from ordinary sources of revenue for the year 1861 have decreased, but as payments have been made on some of them since the settlement at the end of the fiscal year on the first of December, and more may reasonably be expected in addition to the payments to be made by the National Government as hereinafter stated the balance available in the treasury will be largely increased.

evidence of the confidence of the people in the stability and integrity of the Commonwealth, and of their determination to support the Government.

The operations of the Sinking Fund during the last year have been shown by my Proclamation of 6th September last, as follows: Debt redeemed from 4th September, 1860, to 1st Sept. 1861, \$900,801 01

On the expiration of the term of the three months men in July last, some eight or ten thousand discharged Pennsylvania volunteers were thrown into Harrisburg without notice and detained here, waiting to be paid, for an average time of some ten days.

By the act of the 21st April, 1862, for the sale of the State canals to the Sunbury and Erie railroad company it was provided that if the company should sell said canals for a greater sum in the aggregate than three and a half millions of dollars, seventy-five per centum of such excess should be paid to the Commonwealth by a transfer of so much of such bonds and securities as said company should receive for the same and payable in like manner.

The company sold the canals and reported that the share of the profit on such sale, due to the Commonwealth was \$281,250 of which \$250,000 the Commonwealth received coupon bonds of the Wyoming canal company to that amount, being a portion of bonds for \$900,000 issued by that company and secured by a mortgage of the Wyoming canal, formerly called the Lower North Branch canal.

I suggest that the Act passed 8th of April, 1861, entitled, "An Act concerning the sale of railroads, canals, &c.," should be modified so that in all cases in which a debt may be due to the Commonwealth by the company as whose property a public work may be sold, the purchaser thereof shall not be entitled to the benefits and privileges conferred by the Act unless they shall have first paid the debt due to the State, or secured the same by their bonds to the Commonwealth secured by a first mortgage on the work itself.

I commend the subject to the immediate consideration of the Legislature, as an effort may be made at an early day to enforce a sale of the canal, and some provision by law to protect the interests of the State would in that case be necessary.

The wicked and monstrous rebellion which broke out many months ago, has not yet been quenched. Everlasting loyalty and patriotism demands its effectual suppression.

In my messages of the 9th and 30th of April last, I set forth at length my views of the character and objects of the contest which is still pending. Subsequent reflection has confirmed me in the correctness of the opinions then expressed and to which I refer. In addition it ought to be understood, that looking to the variety and character of her products and industry, her material interest alone would render the preservation of the Union from the present assault upon it, indispensable to Pennsylvania.

in this State should be clothed, armed, equipped, subsisted and transported, by the State in consequence of the then inability of the United States.

At the special session of the Legislature which commenced on the 30th of April last, I recommended the organization of a reserve corps, to be armed, equipped, clothed, subsisted and transported by the State, and drilled in camps of instruction, in anticipation of the exigencies of the country, and by the Act of the 15th of May last, such a corps was directed to be raised, and a loan of \$3,000,000 was authorized to defray the expenses of that and other military preparations.

Towards the close of July the whole Corps was called for under requisition, and taken into the service of the United States. Within four days after the disaster at Bull Run, eleven regiments of this fine body of men (armed, drilled, clothed, equipped, and in all respects ready for active service), were in Washington.

The General Government requested that the States would abstain from purchasing arms, as their competition was found injurious in the market, and in view of the large expenditures of money in arming and equipping the volunteer force of the State, provided for the defence of the National Government, I did not purchase arms as authorized by the 28th section of the act of the 15th of May, 1861.

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of the three months regiments have continued in service under the late requisitions, and retain their original numbers. Deducting the remaining twenty-three three months regiments, there are ninety-two regiments in service and preparing for it.

REGIMENTS IN SERVICE. 66 regiments of infantry of which 6 were the regiments, 71,189

COMPANIES IN SERVICE. 7 companies of infantry, 707

REGIMENTS PREPARING FOR SERVICE. 12 regiments of infantry, 13,002

COMPANIES PREPARING FOR SERVICE. 1 company of cavalry, 109

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men at that camp, viz., forty-four from sickness, two (belonging to regiments from other States), who had been injured on railroads, two accidentally killed in Camp Curtin and one shot in Harrisburg.

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the lake. On examination it is found that there are no defences on the lake, and that the ordnance at the city of Erie was withdrawn by the National Government in the summer of 1861.

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