GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—The term to which my eligibility, as the Chief Executive officer of the Commonwealth, is restricted by the Constitution, being about to close, I submit to the Legislature, the last annual message which the duty of my station enjoins upon me. In the performance of this duty, I cannot refrain from invoking your devout acknowledgements, with my own, to the Great Author of All Good, for His constant care and guardianship over the interests and welfare of our beloved Commonwealth. Upheld by His paternal arm, we have been rescued from the most distressing embarrassments and difficulties to which, in a time of peace, any people were ever subjected. Good has sprung out of evil—safety from danger—wisdom from folly—and justice from a spirit of ungenerous detraction. The clouds that for several years past, have hung upon our horizon, are breaking away; and the sunshine of prosperity once more begins to beam upon our path.

Within ten days after my induction into office, I felt myself called upon by the highest consideration of duty, to communicate to the Legislature, a full and frank exposition of the state of our pecuniary affairs. Upon a careful examination, it was ascertained the amount of the public debt, including surplus revenue from the United States, was a little upwards of thirty millions of dollars, and the deficit in the Treasury during the year 1839, beyond the income, from all sources, was about four millions of dollars. To meet this amount, immediate provision had to be made; and, to add to the perplexing embarrassments, the great commercial convulsion, which has since reached its height, was then just begining to be felt in its operation. For more than ten years immediately proceeding that period, the State of Pennsylvania, from her well known punctuality and great natural resources, had experienced no difficulty in procuring upon loans, on favorable terms, any amount of money she needed, to extend and carry on her stupendous system of internal improvements. Both Foreign and American capitalists were competitors for the acceptance of her loans; and there seemed to be no limits to her credit and resources, except those which her own discretion imposed. She made large loans for the undertaking and completion of her various lines of improvement, and paid the interest upon these loans by other loans. Stimulated by these facilities, and forgetting the day ever would arrive when her interest must be paid not by loans, but by taxation, a system of improvements, by railroad and canal, was undertaken, far more comprehensive than her necessities required and far beyond her means to complete.

The same reckless spirit which actuated the government, had seized upon her private citizens, and induced them to engage in undertakings equally indiscreet and unattainable. Within a very few years immediately preceding the commencement of my administration, banks were created to an extent, and with capital, unheard of in this Commonwealth at any former period. These banks controlled by men moved by such impulses, very speedily exploded, and, as every rational man ought to have foreseen, overwhelmed, in their downfall, the entire business of this community. Within about two years after I entered upon the discharge of the Executive functions, banks, the aggregate of capital which amounted to more than two-thirds of the entire banking capital of the State, and furnishing more than that proportion of its currency, were compelled to wind up their affairs; and, in doing so, not only extinguished this amount of the ostensible capital of the State, but crippled the remaining banks, compelled them to withhold facilities from the business men of the community, and, by forcing their debtors, constituting a large class of men engaged in various pursuits of life, to discharge their liabilities, almost crushed the large and flourishing class of business men in all parts of the Commonwealth. To add still farther to these perplexing evils, the condition of the pecuniary affairs of Europe became almost as deeply embarrassed as our own; and foreign capitalists, who had sought for opportunities to make investments in this country, were induced to withhold their usual loans.

During a short period previous to my entering upon the duties of my office, our internal improvement system, confessedly incomplete, was very largely extended by making appropriations towards the construction of the North and West Branch and Erie Extensions, Wiconisco Canal, Allegheny Feeder and Gettysburgh Railroad, besides guaranteeing the interest upon loans made to private companies, engaged in the construction of works leading into the improvements of the State. The amount which has been paid by the State for these and other improvements, which are wholly unproductive, is nearly nine millions of dollars.

The most strenuous exertions were required to obtain, during the first two years, a sufficient amount of money to pay the interest upon the State debt, defray the current expenses of the government, and to pay off the large class of domestic creditors, naturally and justly clamorous for the discharge of their demands upon the State. Rigid economy was recommended, and enforced in all the public expenditures. The extended lines of improvement, which might have been completed a few years earlier by loans, were suspended, in consequence of the inability of the State to raise the necessary funds; and finally, the interest upon the public debt failed to be paid from the same cause, and the want of time requisite to mature a plan of taxation which would produce the necessary sum for that object. Not a single dollar has been appropriated, or paid, under my administration, towards the commencement of any new work whatever. The state of affairs was such, at its outset, as to forbid any such undertaking, however meritorious in itself, and I have strictly adhered to this rule of conduct.

Shortly after I assumed the Executive duties of the State, I become satisfied that the procrastination of the evil day, when resort to taxation was demanded by the most imperative obligation of duty, could no longer be indulged; painful as was the alternative, I felt how deeply the honor of the State was involved, and recommended the imposition of a tax, which should supply an adequate fund to discharge the interest on the public debt, committing the details to the Legislature. This recommendation I reiterated in the most earnest manner, and ultimately it received the sanction of the Legislature.

The assessment under the several laws, imposing a tax on real and personal property, and the amount paid into the Treasury are as follows:

Am't of tax assessed for 1841,	$416,794 85		
" " 1342,	659,512 47		
" " 1843,	9 8,708 46		
" " 1844, about	968,720 40		
Whole am't assessed for the past four years,			$3,013,724 12
Am't rec'd in 1841,		$33,292 77	
" " 1842,		486,735 85	
" " 1843,		553,911 38	
" " 1844,		715,210 01	$1,825 650 01
Leaving the amount of tax outstanding on the first of December last,			$1,188,674 41

subject to exonerations, commissions, &c., which may be estimated at ten per cent. The balance, it is fair to presume, will be made available the current year. Of the $751,210 06 paid into the Treasury during the past fiscal year, only $143 899 86 was received from the tax assessed for 1844, leaving outstanding, for the year alone, over $800,000 00. The receipts from this source, for the present year, may, therefore, be estimated at about $1,260,000 00.

The acts which have been passed upon the subject, and which are now in force, provide for the imposition of a tax, which, taking the valuation for 1843, of the real and personal property as a basis, will annually amount to the sum of $1,453,000. That valuation it may be remarked, was considerably below that of 1842. If, therefore, the provisions of the act of 1844 be fairly carried into effect, in the valuation of property, and the collection and prompt payment of the tax be enforced, the annual revenue hereafter to be derived from that source, will amount to at least $1,500,000. This sum, with the other resources of the Commonwealth, will be entirely adequate to furnish the necessary amount to discharge the interest upon the public debt, and thus ensure the fidelity of the State to her engagements.

Without expressing the opinion that the details of these laws are, in all their minutest particulars, the most equal and just, in the objects selected for taxation, and the rates imposed, I will remark that they seem to be substantially conformable to public opinion. There is a defect in providing for the punctual enforcement of the laws imposing and collecting the taxes, and I beg leave to recommend to the consideration of the Legislature, the adoption of some more efficient mode of attaining this end. This might be done by inflicting penalties on the collectors, or other officers, found delinquent in the discharge of their duties. That class of individuals is as little entitled to indulgence or sympathy as any others engaged in the execution of the laws.

The entire amount of the public debt at this time is:

Funded debt, 6 per cent stocks,	$4,370,916 21	
do 5	34,721,534 46	
do 4½	200,000 00	$39,292,450 67
Loan (relief issue) per act of 4th May, 1841, bearing interest of one per cent.,	$1,175,000 00	
do six	171,636 00	
do five	91,542 00	
Amount in circulation,		$1,438,178 00
Balance due domestic creditors on certificates issued by the Auditor Gen'l.,		104,384 93
Amounting to the sum of		$40,835,013 60

The increase in the State debt, since I assumed the duties of the Executive chair, may be properly understood, when it is stated that the interest which has accrued thereon, since that period, amounts to

	$10,362,186 00
The amount of interest guaranteed to private corporations, to	144,340 00
And the amount of appropriations towards the completion of unfinished lines of public improvements, commenced prior to that time, about	4,500,000 00
Amounting to	$15,006,526 00

The annual interest on the funded debt of the State, payable at the Bank of Pennsylvania, exclusive of interest on certificates issued for interest, is $1,747,030-12, falling due respectively on the 1st of February and August, of which the sum of $873,515 06, is payable on the first day of February next. If it should be determined to pay the interest on the interest certificates on the 2st February, then the further sum of $97,880-84, will be required.

The receipts into the Treasury during the fiscal year, ending on the 30th of November last, including a small available balance from the previous year, were

	$2,511,237 03
The expenditures for the same period, including the amount of relief notes cancelled, were	1,847,385 15
Leaving a balance in the Treasury on that day, of	$663,851 83
There was also an available balance in the Canal Treasury, on the same day, of	39,497 00
The receipts during the month of December, exclusive of disbursements, were	139,681 23
To which may be added the receipts over expenditures, for the present month, estimated at	120,000 00
Making the amount in the Treasury on 1st February, about	$963,030 11

This balance embraces the sum of $50 000 of relief notes, which the State Treasurer withheld from cancellation on the 31st December, and which, if needed, may be applied by the Legislature to the payment of interest on the public debt. From the facts here presented, it is evident that the Commonwealth will be prepared to meet her interest falling due on the 1st of February. Attempts, it is true, have been made to create doubts in the public mind in relation to the propriety of paying the interest on that day, lest there should be a deficiency in the Treasury, on the 1st of August. But it must be perfectly evident that the Treasury will be in ample funds, not only on the 1st of August next, but also on the first of February, 1845. And the very fact that the interest is paid on the first of February next, will increase the means and credit of the State to meet its interest in August, and afterwards, when it falls due. While, on the other hand, if when it is admitted that enough money to discharge interest on the first of February, is in the Treasury, applicable to that object, and it is not so applied, we shall, with much appearance of justice, subject ourselves to the reproach of our traducers, as wilfully dishonest, and regardless of the faith and honor of the State. With an exhausted Treasury and tarnished credit, we could plead our necessities in extenuation of our violation of contracts; but what shadow of excuse could be offered when this necessity has ceased to exist? None whatever, that good old-fashioned integrity does not brand as disgraceful, and unworthy our character as a sovereign State.

It must be gratifying to every Pennsylvanian to reflect that the credit of this great State, which has been, for two years, subjected to reproach, will thus be restored to the unsullied purity of character which, until this unavoidable reverse of fortune, she had steadfastly maintained. The claims of all her honest creditors will be punctually discharged, and the gross imputations which have been heaped upon her name wiped out, and the abiding confidence which we have ever felt in the disposition and ability of the State to comply with all her engagements, will be fully realized.

The report of the Canal Commissioners will present to you, in detail, the operations on the public improvements, for the past year. The tolls collected in 1844, amount to $1,167,503 42, being an increase over 1843 of $172,199 19. The collections for the year exceed the expenditures the sum of $629,658 82.

The report of the State Treasurer will explain, in detail, our financial condition That officer estimates the receipts at the Treasury, for the current fiscal year ending 30th November, 1845, at $3,005,000 00

To which add balance in Treasury on 30th November last	$668,851 88	
Also the amount in Canal Treasury, on same day	39,497 00	$703,348 88
Making a total of		$3,708,343 88
He also estimates the expenditures of the Commonwealth, for the same period, including interest on public debt, at		3,061,013 56
Leaving a balance in Treasury, on 30th November, 1844, of		$647,335 22

There is, therefore, no manner of doubt that, henceforth, the State will be able to meet, not only the interest on her public debt, but all her other engagements of every description; the taxes now imposed by law, (if their collection and payment into the Treasury be strictly enforced, and the proceeds of the public improvements, with other sources of revenue, constituting a fund amply sufficient for that purpose.

Recurring to the history of the past six years, what a satisfactory answer does it furnish to the objections of the enemies of Republican Government, against its stability and its honor. Oppressed by personal embarrassments—weighed down by public liabilities—reproached for not doing what the most manful struggles were unable to accomplish, the people of Pennsylvania have still borne themselves steadily in the darkest hour, have submitted to taxation, grievous at all times, and particularly so in convulsions of business, and have at last reached the solid footing which public integrity and public fidelity in the end never fail to attain. The difficulties and embarrassments attending this struggle, will hardly be credited by those who have not shared them; and, I confess, it will ever be to me a source of proud satisfaction to compare the condition of the State, when the helm of Government was put into my hands, with its condition when I surrender it into the hands of my successor. I say not this to reproach those who preceded, nor to diminish the just credit of those who succeed me; but as an act of sheer justice to all who embarked with me in the gloomy and perilous voyage we have run since the 15th of January, 1839. It can hardly be possible for such a season of trial ever to occur again; but if unhappily it should, I trust those who are called upon to encounter it, will find something in our example to cheer and animate them to persevere in the discharge of their duty.

Having thus disposed of the financial concerns of the State, for the last few years, a subject of the deepest solicitude, I shall proceed to submit to you but few special recommendations; for, at the present time, I deem it no more than an act of respectful courtesy to my successor, to leave entirely in his hands those recommendations of a general nature, which are usually expected to emanate from the Executive Department. There are a few topics, however, upon which I feel it to be my duty to offer some suggestions for your consid ration.

The unexampled commotion and disturbance that recently prevailed in the business concerns of the country, have, in a great degree, subsided, and left us in a state to survey the field of disaster with a calm and experienced eye. The throes and convulsions of the banking system, for a time, menaced all those institutions with speedy downfall, but most of them have now outrode the storm. No man could witness the existing state of things, without feeling conscious that this system was essentially vicious, and needed effectual reform.

To make banks useful without being dangerous—to correct the evils without depriving them of all power to do good—to restrain them within their proper sphere, by rigid regulations, is an object at which I think all intelligent and honest legislation should aim. In this opinion, I presume, there will be no discordance whatever, among well informed men.

Early in the month of May last, a series of most alarming and sanguinary riots broke out in the District of Kensington, in the county of Philadelphia. On the origin of these riotous proceedings, I do not feel called upon to make any particular animadversions. It is enough to say, that a large amount of private propertty, dwelling houses and churches, were burnt & destroyed; and that a large number of valuable lives were sacrificed. To such an extent was the public safety endangered, that I was called upon, by the proper authorities of Philadelphia, for an adequate force to resist and quell these disturbances. I immediately ordered a very considerable number of troops, from adjoining districts, to repair to Philadelphia, and, by assuming a firm and determined position, peace and order were temporarily restored.

In the month of July, similar outrages again were committed in the District of Southwark, in the county of Philadelphia, with similar painful and bloody results. I was again called upon to interfere, and, a second time, repaired to the city of Philadelphia, having made similar requisition upon the volunteers of neighboring districts, and, by the adoption of similar proceedings, lawless outrage was again suppressed, and public tranquility, as I trust, thoroughly restored.—On these occasions, the mob had procured fire-arms of nearly all descriptions, and used them both against private citizens and against the military, with deadly effect. I had the gratification to witness that the citizen soldiery, thus called, at an hour's warning, from their homes to the scene of bloody conflict, acted, in all emergencies, with a coolness, steadiness and courage worthy of veterans, and with a degree of forbearance, without shrinking from their duty, infinitely more to their honor. Officers and men all behaved in a manner entitled to the highest commendation. I refer you to the report of Major General Patterson, herewith transmitted, for the detailed operations of the military, on the occasions to which I have referred.—It is due to these citizen soldiers, to make speedy and adequate remuneration for their services. I submit to the Legislature to ascertain the time to be allowed them, and fix the amount they ought to receive; but I must urge upon its consideration, in the most earnest terms, the justice and propriety of their claims. Men who abandon their daily pursuits of life, leave their wives and children without protection or support, and peril their lives in the public service, either against foreign or domestic foes, are justly entitled to a liberal compensation from that public whose laws they have defended. The salutary lesson taught by the rigid, though considerate enforcement of the laws, by means of the military, and the firm and enlightened course pursued by the judicial tribunals and the officers in Philadelphia, entrusted with the duty of bringing offenders before them, will doubtless prevent a recurrence of these evils, and guarantee, hereafter, the peace and good order of that community.

Although the system of imprisonment adopted by Pennsylvania, some years ago, at the establishment of her Penitentiaries, has been justly regarded as the most admirable to be found among all nations, yet there is one department which remains to be provided for, that of establishing, in connection with each of our State Penitentiaries, a department for the charge of the insane inmates. There have been, almost every year, since I have been Governor of the Commonwealth, some unfortunate persons confined in the Penitentiary, of this description, who, either were partially insane when committed, or became so afterwards. As the law now stands there is no remedy for these cases, but to pardon them, or confine them in the same manner as other criminals are confined. Both these modes are often times wrong, and I respectfully urge it upon your consideration to make some provision for redressing the evil in future.

The State debt now consists of thirty-seven distinct loans, for each of which, a separate set of books must be kept in the loan office of the Commonwealth. Constant divisions, sub-divisions, and transfers of stock are taking place, and the whole system is becoming daily more laborious and complicated. I recomend an inquiry into the subject, and if practicable, the consolidation of those loans into some uniform system.

The careless manner in which bills are transcribed, is a subject which calls for some remedy. It not frequently happens that the Executive is compelled to return bills to the committees, for correction, before he can give them his approval. Bills presented during the last hours of the session, and, as is usually the case, on the day after the adjournment, cannot undergo this correcting process, and are necessarily placed upon the statute book, with such errors as they may contain.—It has likewise been discovered, after the publication of the laws, that whole sections which had passed both houses, had been omitted in the transcribed bill, and sections inserted which had never received the sanction of the Legislature. I deem it only necessary to call your attention to this evil, without making any recommendation as to the proper remedy.

During the time I have been in office, no appropriations have been made to furnish the Executive Chamber, in a manner which seems to me to be suitable to the character of the State. I have avoided calling the attention of the Legislature to this subject for obvious reasons; but a sense of delicacy no longer restrains me from pressing upon your attention, the necessity of supplying the Executive Chamber with furniture and conveniences, a little less unbecoming than those that are found there at present.

The public grounds surrounding the Capitol, notwithstanding that considerable sums have been appropriated to improve and embellish them, are still in a condition not at all creditable to the capitol of the State, and especially that portion not enclosed, upon the south-east side of the Capitol, stands in need of improvement and care. This ground was a donation to the State by the respected founder of Harrisburg, and it is scarcely just to his memory to treat his munificence with such negligence.

The taste and self-respect of a people are strikingly exemplified in the structure of their public buildings, and in the embellishments surrounding them. If strangers were to adopt this as a criterion by which to estimate the character of the citizens of Pennsylvania, we should have little cause to be proud of the judgment they would form of us. I beg leave to recommend that a suitable appropriation be made to render our public grounds somewhat more worthy the character of the people of the State.

The unfortunate destruction of the bridge of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company, over the Susquehanna, at Harrisburgh, by fire, has, in a great measure, cut off the trade and business which that valuable tributary to our public improvements supplied. The State holds in that company, stock to the amount of $70.000. The original cost of the bridge was $124 000—and it will probably cost $90,000 to rebuild it on the most approved plan. The condition of the company is such as to forbid the hope of its being able to raise the whole of the funds necessary to re-construct it. Many of the numerous bridges erected over that river, have been, from time to time, destroyed by floods and otherwise, and I believe that the legislature, in every instance, has thought it right and proper to assist in their reconstruction. I would, therefore, recommend the subject to the favorable consideration of the Legislature, and urge the propriety of making a reasonable appropriation to aid the company in this undertaking.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, will acquaint you with the progress and condition of these institutions, during the year, together with his views respecting the improvement of the school system, and the means to be adopted for that purpose. It is highly essential to the success of our system of education, that the appropriation from the State should be fixed and permanent. Uncertainty in this respect, is attended with deleterious consequences, and productive of derangement in the practical operation of the system. Whatever is calculated to promote the cause of popular education, is worthy your most serious and earnest attention. On it depends, in an eminent degree, the honor of our Commonwealth, the distinction and happiness of her citizens, and the perfection and perpetuity of our political institutions.

The report of the Adjutant General will be submitted to you, and will exhibit particulars in relation to the militia system. During the last session of the Legislature, an act was passed to reduce the expenses of the militia system, and provide a more rigid mode for the collection of militia fines. The provisions of this act are found to be highly beneficial in their operation, and it is believed will enable the system to sustain itself without having recourse, as heretofore, to the Treasury of the State for aid. The amount of fines assessed the last year for non-performance of militia duty, is more than sufficient to defray the expenses for the same time. The brief period from the enactment of the law, until the collectors were required to accomplish their duties under it, was not sufficient for them to complete their collections. The outstanding fines for the past year, however, may be collected with those of the present, and thus a sum obtained sufficient for the expenses of both.

I cannot too strongly recommend to your care and encouragement, the volunteer troops of our Commonwealth. They will lose nothing when compared with the troops of this or any other country. Their courage and efficiency as soldiers have been tested and established, and they have deservedly become favorites with the people. In cases of exigency, we must chiefly depend upon them to protect from injury and destruction our individual property, our national honor, and our political liberties.

Under the provisions of the act of the 29th April, 1844, entitled "An act to reduce the State debt, and to incorporate the Pennsylvania Canal and Railroad Company," the question of a sale of the main line of improvements, submitted to a vote of the people at the election of October last, was decided in the affirmative. The requisite notice was given by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the commissioners named in the act, and they have proceeded so far in the performance of their duties as to advertise that the sale of the stock of the proposed company will commence, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 20th of January inst. The time has, therefore, not yet arrived when the practicability of disposing of these improvements, on the terms specified in the law, will be tested. I am not aware that any legislative proceedings on this subject are called for at the present time.

The proceedings of the commissioners named in the act of the 13th April, 1844, entiled "An act to authorize the Governor to incorporate the Delaware Canal Company," will appear from a report accompanying this message, setting forth their inability to dispose of the Stock. It will be for the Legislature to determine what further action, if any, on this subject, is necessary.

In my last annual message I informed the Legislature that in pursuance of the act of the 7th March, 1843, a charter had been issued to the Erie Canal Company, and possession given to it of that portion of the public improvements from the town of New Castle, to the harbor of Erie. On the 13th December last, the necessary proof having been laid before me, that the work had been completed, and was in actual use for the transportation of merchandize throughout its whole length, I directed, in conformity with the terms of the act, notice to be given to the superintendent of the line, to deliver the company possession of the Beaver division, from the mouth of the Beaver river to New Castle.

The District Court of the city and county of Philadelphia, exercising a jurisdiction in all civil demands above the sum of one hundred dollars, will expire during the present session of the Legislature, by a limitation contained in the act creating it. This court, on which, from the nature of its jurisdiction, it necessarily devolves to determine the majority of the more important cases arising in that judicial district, has been laboriously engaged in the discharge of its duties, for a space of nearly ten years. The manner in which these duties have been performed, besides securing the confidence of the bar and the community, would seem to have produced the very general impression that this tribunal is indispensable to a due administration of the law in that city and county. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend the passage of an act continuing the court in its present form, and securing to it, in every proper manner, the services of faithful and able judges.

Fortunately for the Legislature and the people, the subject of the public printing, for a long time a topic of just complaint, on account of the unreasonable amount expended for that purpose, was put to rest during the last session, by allotting it to the lowest bidders, after the just precaution of exacting security for its faithful execution. The parties to whom it was given, fixed their own rates of compensation, and have no doubt made ample provision against all hazard of loss; and we may, therefore, hope that this item of the public expenditure will not be swelled to its usual alarming amount by demands for extra compensation.

Before I conclude this communication, I will call your attention to a subject in which, I believe, the State of Pennsylvania has a deeper stake than in any other now pending, or likely to be brought, either before her own Legislature or the Legislature of the Union. I refer to the maintenance, in all substantial points, of the existing revenue laws of the Union, more generally known as the Tariff laws. The great variety and complexity of interests in the different quarters of the Union, render the adjustment of any tariff system, an extremely difficult and delicate undertaking. Could the people of every section of the Union, survey the entire circle of national interests, with a perfectly cool and unprejudiced eye, this difficulty and delicacy would vanish. But while certain sections of the Union are wedded to certain notions, without regard to their foundation in reason and in truth, it will be almost impossible to expect from any body of men, assembled in Congress, a perfectly free and unprejudiced examination of this exciting question. We must deal with men and things, as we find them, and not as we would desire to have them.

In a conflict where prejudice and self-interest bias the judgment, it behoves the representatives of every section, while they yield a due regard to the claims of others, to stand firmly by their own. I have, from year to year, in addressing communications to the Legislature, referred to this subject, not so much for the purpose of inducing action in the National Legislature, as to keep it before the citizens of this Commonwealth, to familiarize it in their minds, and to prepare them to unite in maintaining their own interests, whenever those interests might be endangered. I was assailed when I first took this high ground in defence of the welfare of Pennsylvania, from various quarters, and denounced for advocating doctrines to which the majority of the people of this State were asserted to be opposed; but, regardless of these idle and futile assaults, I have reiterated the same sentiments, and have the satisfaction of knowing that, in the recent Presidential election, in which the tariff was believed to be involved, both political parties, nearly to a man, assumed the same positions I had taken, and advocated the same doctrines which I had endeavored to enforce upon the consideration of the Legislature. I advert to this matter now, not so much to justify myself, as to prove whatever has been alleged to the countrary, that there is but one party on this question, in Pennsylvania, and that party is nearly the entire mass of her citizens. I hazard nothing in asserting that neither of the Presidential candidates could have hoped, for a moment, to get a majority of the votes in this State, had not his claims been based upon the assurance that he was friendly to the continuance of the present tariff laws, substantially as they stand.

The iron and coal interests in this State, great as they have been considered to be, are yet in their infancy. Deposits of these minerals, scattered throughout almost every hill and valley in the Commonwealth, are exhaustless, and are so peculiarly distributed, in all quarters, as to create a direct interest on the part of nearly every citizen, in the developement and encouragement of every system of policy which can render them available. The owners of the lands in which they are embedded, the agriculturist who furnish the workmen with their supplies, the merchants, mechanics and artizans of all descriptions, look to these resources ultimately, as the great fountain from which State and individual prosperity must be derived. Here, it is believed, must be founded and sustained the great counterpoise to foreign importations of all species of iron, raw and manufactured, with which the whole American people are to be supplied. Here, too, is to be found a deposite of fuel for the family use of the poor, as well as for the more extensive use in the manufacturing purposes of the rich. Possessing such advantages, how can any rational man consent to relinquish and forego them, to gratify the caprices of those who certainly mistake their own, and are incapable of appreciating the interests of others? We seek no unreasonable prohibitions. We ask not the protection of the government at the expense of the rights of our sister States, but we do ask, and we think we have a right to ask, that the system of encouraging and protecting the domestic interests of this country, the corner stone of which was laid in the act of Congress of 1st June, 1789, should not be abandoned without some more substantial reason than the empty notions of visionary theorists.

We believe that the tariff law of 1842, now in force, making reasonable allowance for inaccuracy and inconsistency in its minute details, is founded in a spirit of compromise and fair dealing, equally just to all the great national interests of the different sections of the Union. To disturb it now, except to correct its minor details, is to unsettle the whole system to weaken its stability, and to destroy the confidence, at home and abroad, in the wisdom and consistency of the National Government, and to break down, now and forever, all hope of competing with foreign rivalry in the interests to which this law extends some cherishing protection. The great interests of Pennsylvania do not ask for additional protection, or for new safe-guards; but, so all as the discriminations are in their behalf, to let them remain as they are, with a certainty that they shall not be changed without substantial reasons, and the concurrence of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

There seems to be a disposition among some members of the National Legislature to interfere with this subject, and I think the present a proper occasion for the Legislature of Pennsylvania to speak out in decided terms, and announce to those who represent the people of this great Commonwealth in the councils of the nation, what course it is expected by their constituents they will pursue. If the issue is to be distinctly made between the coal and iron interests of Pennsylvania, and those of foreign nations, the sooner it is known the better; and I trust whenever such an issue is to be determined, every citizen in Pennsylvania, whether in office or out of office, will be found on the side of his country. For my own part, in such an emergency, I shall not hesitate in resolving to take my stand on the same side where I have always been found, whenever this subject has been agitated.

It will afford me pleasure during the few remaining days of my administration, to co-operate with you in the adoption of any measures, which we mutually believe to be conducive to the public good. I do not doubt that we shall fully harmonize in opinion on this subject.

I have had frequent occasion to employ the veto power entrusted to the Executive, by the constitution, to arrest the success of measures which appeared to me fraught with evil; but, I have, on no occasion resorted to this great power of preservation, until all other hope of rescue had failed. In such emergencies, I have appealed to it without scruple or reservation, and I have yet to learn that the acts defeated by its operation have been regretted by the people. Confederacies to thwart Executive recommendations; combinations to promote particular, personal or political interests have, it is true, clamored loudly against Executive tyranny, and imputed motives to me, which existed only in the imaginations of those whose objects were frustrated; but the vast body of the enlightened community has looked on, not only without murmuring, but with unequivocal commendation. I find abundant reason to be satisfied in this manifestation of popular opinion.

I retire from the cares and solicitudes of office, with feelings of no ordinary satisfaction, and with a heart grateful to the honest and intelligent yeomanry of my native State, for the cordial and undeviating support which they have given me, in the midst of the worst difficulties it has been my fortune to encounter. On this support, I have steadfastly relied, as a guarantee that, come what might, Pennsylvania would speedily regain the confidence she had lost—prove to the world, the falsity of the reproach heaped on her integrity, and rise with renewed vigor, to run her race, from the temporary depression that hadborne her down. My confidence has been realized: the day of her redemption is at hand, and every true-hearted Pennsylvanian must rejoice, to see her proud escutcheon purified from the only stain that had ever defaced it, since the landing of her founder upon the shores of the Delaware.

DAVID R PORTER.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburgh, January 8, 1344

The Daily Morning Post.

THOS. PHILLIPS & WM. H. SMITH, EDITORS.

PITTSBURGH, MONDAY, JAAUARY 13, 1845.

FOR MAYOR,
HENRY S. MAGRAW.

MR HAY'S "LAND BILL."—We understand that his Honor the Mayor, has published a letter in the Chronicle, in which he declares himself in favor of some plan of disposing of the public lands. The letter is written, we believe, to suit the views and catch the votes of a new association known by the name of "National Reformers." As Mr Hay has declared himself in favor of their principles—which, we are told, are much like those of the anti-rent party of New York—it is desired that he will give the public a detailed explanation of his new "notions" about the public lands, and inform his constituents in what manner he, as Mayor of the city of Pittsburgh, can exercise over our western territory. He might, indeed have something to say in disposing of the site of the old Basin, or the lot on which the Hay Scales stand, but we do not know that his authority extends over any other "public domain." Will his Honor explain his new notions so that the public may judge how far they will accord with common justice and common honesty?

FOR THE POST.

THE CITY ELECTION.

Every election which the people are called upon to make, involves some principle which is of sufficient importance to require that it be determined correctly. In every case which occurs, the people have it in their power to set their mark of approval or dislike, upon either measures or men, or both. And the effect produced by these decisions upon individual character, is of the highest importance to the public. For it is worse than nugatory and in vain, even to *gravely preach* against certain doctrines and conduct, if after so doing, men will go to the polls and vote for persons who are known to maintain the very doctrines and conduct preached against. Now I propose to show that at the approaching election for Mayor, the people will have it in their power to give their judgment for or against several important matters, among which are Masonry, Nativeism and rotation in office.

There appears to be no pretensions to disguise it, that masonry is striving to reinstate itself in the places of profit, of power and control in this county and city. Hence we see that one of the brotherhood has procured the nomination for the Mayoralty from what was but recently the dominant party in this city; and he is the only mason out of five candidates in the field.—Amongst our whole population, there may be men having different opinions on this subject. But those who know the ways of the Lodge, know well how some kinds of accidents are brought to pass. At the coming election the people will determine whether a Mason shall be mayor of the once antimasonic City of Pittsburgh.

With regard to *Nativeism*:—the doctrines of this faction are the most *foreign* to the spirit of American institutions of any thing which has hitherto shown itself in the history of our country. It is also at variance with the sympathies of our common nature, which have hitherto been left to act freely in the kindly reception of brethren from all countries, fleeing from oppression and straitened circumstances, to this land of plenty and equality of rights. But Nativeism has something worse in it than all this. Its foundation and essence is opposition to the Catholic religion. This is an entirely new and *foreign* element in the politics of this country, and is of most dangerous character. Besides being directly against the constitution, which declares that no religious tests shall ever be created, and that every man HAS A RIGHT to worship God according to his conscience; it revives and nourishes the most *antichristian* principles of our nature,—the one which has so often shewn itself in persecutions for opinion's sake. I put it to the reason of every man in the country to say, if *Native Americanism* has any other principle upon which the least reliance would be placed in a war against foreigners, but this one of hostility to the Catholic religion. I put it to the christian spirit and sentiments existing among Protestants, to say, if the conversion of the catholics, is desirable, whether this way of *approaching* them, is calculated to prepare the way for their being converted by Protestant instrumentality. For if it is not but its necessary effect is to embitter the feud which has so long existed between Protestants and Catholics on matters of religion, then every man who wishes their conversion, is bound to discountenance this political crusade of native Americanism, by every means in his power.

If the . principle of Orangeism as it exists in Great Britain, be analyzed, it will be found to be of the same nature with the persecuting feeling of hostility to Catholics [Nor will it excuse this to say, that the Catholics have the same feeling towards Protestants.] I trust therefore, that no good man will do any thing calculated to bring into being, or nourish the religious factions of Orangemen and Ribbonmen in this country, happily free from them hitherto.

Now I would not willingly say any thing of any man or party which I cannot sustain by reasoning and facts; but my opinion is, that in regard to the doctrine of Nativism, the only difference between the whig politicians of this place and the natives, is, the one assumes the cognomen and acts boldly on the principle, while the other rejects the name, but embraces the principle. The natives have certainly the most merit in this matter; for if there be any truth in the very grave statements which we have seen in the leading whig papers, as to the dangers impending over our country from the influx of foreigners, and the alleged machinations of foreign agencies and governments, then are the Natives in the right in organizing to resist such evils. But leading whig papers say to the Natives, we are with you in all your principles and objects, while they shrink from the odium which they fear will attach to the name.

Let every man opposed to the introduction of this factional religious element into party politics, cast his vote against it at the coming election, and on every other occasion. Let it be left to demagogues to stir up and make use of whatever of the spirit of European factions has been transferred to this country; but let no man who wishes all our inhabitants to become truly Americanized, be found in any sort of fraternity with them.

As my article is already long, I cannot dwell upon the disregard shewn by one of the candidates for the Mayoralty, for the rule of "rotation in office." It ought to be sufficient to say, that every democrat who holds to that republican opinion, should vote against the present incumbent, and thus show his opinions *impressively*, by his acts. Nothing but the carrying out in all their fullness and meaning, of the principles of the democratic party, can save the country from the various evil tendencies of the aristocracy of Whigism, monopoly of the offices, and the factious and illiberal theories of the so called Native Americans. Then I urge it again, let every man opposed to all these evils, show it by his vote on to-morrow.

TRUE AMERICAN.

FOR THE POST.

Trouble in the Camp—A Singular Movement—A Caucus Meeting on Seventh street.

MESSRS. PHILLIPS & SMITH:—A caucus meeting was held in a grocery store on Seventh street, on last Friday night, by a portion of the whig citizens of the Ward. The object of the meeting was to form a plan to defeat one of the whig nominees on the Council ticket.

It seems that Mr M——— voted against Captain Pratt, one of the whig candidates for Overseer of the Poor, and gave as a reason for it, that Capt Pratt had not sent orders on his store during the last year, as he expected he would do, and therefore he would not vote for him again. A paper was passed round in the caucus, and it is said that sixty names were signed to it, pledging themselves to vote against Mr M——— on next Tuesday. Poor M———! "*Fus calamitus.*"

NATHAN.

FOR THE POST.

Messrs. Editors:—I perceive my name to a handbill purporting to be a letter addressed to the Hon. Alex. Hay, requesting him to run as a citizen's candidate for Mayor of this city. As I know of no other person of the same name in the city, I presume it is intended for me. I wish to say that it was put there without my knowledge or consent. I have always supported the nominee of the democratic party, and have not seen any cause why I should not support Mr. Magraw on Tuesday next.

W. BENNETT.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE.

WILLIAM JACK, Esq., of Westmoreland, was renominated in the Democratic caucus held last evening, for the Clerkship of the House of Representatives.—The election came off to day, and much to the mortification of the democratic representatives, no choice was effected. The ballotings were as follows:

	2st.	2d.	3d.
William Jack, (caucus nom.)	46	47	46
David Fleming, (whig)	39	39	39
A. D. Tair, (native)	8	8	8
G. M. Lauman, (dem.)	3	2	2

The failure to elect is the result of the course of two representatives chosen as Democrats, Messrs. BRIGHT of Northumberland, and STRUTHERS of Carbon, who held off from the caucus nominee, although themselves elected by means of regular nominations. The election was postponed until to-morrow, when, it is to be hoped, truth and right will yet triumph over treachery. [*Dem. Union, Wednesday.*

CLERK OF THE SENATE.

ELISHA S. GOODRICH, Esq., editor of the Bradford Reporter, was yesterday evening settled upon in a caucus of the Democratic Senators, as the Clerk of that body, and will doubtless be chosen at the election fixed for to-morrow *Harrisburg Union.*

Pittsburgh Navigation and Fire Insurance Company.

IN compliance with the sixth section of an act of Assembly, approved 5th April, 1842, the following statement of the resources of the above Company, (Capital $250,000,) is published, as approved by the Directors, January 2d, 1845:

Promissory notes, (with approved endorsers,)	$182,800 00
Bills discounted, (with approved endorsers,)	43,716 31
482 shares stock in Bank of Pittsb'gh., (par $50) cost	24,283 40
344 shares stock in Exchange Bank, (par $50) cost,	12,898 94
179 shares stock in Merchant and Manufacturers Bank, (par $50) cost	6,462 94
39 shares stock in Pittsburgh Navigation and Fire Insurance Company, (par $100) cost	3,313 00
215 shares stock in Pittsburgh Navigation and Fire Insurance Company, (par $100) cost	5,634 67
20 shares Pittsburgh Gas stock, (par $50) cost	835 00
100 shares stock in Allegheny Bridge Company, (par $25) cost	2,002 00
100 shares stock in Monongahela Bridge Company, (par $25) cost	1,400 00
Premium Notes	4,523 34
Cash. in Merchants and Manufacturers and Exchange Banks	8,759 94
Uncollected premiums	2,113 59
jan 13 3td&1tw	$299,745 13

Lake Shad.

A CONSTANT supply of this delicious Fish will be kept on hand at retail by
REINHART & STRONG,
jan 13 140 Liberty street.

Fruit.

10 BOXES Prime Sicily Lemons;
4 " Fresh Prunes;
2 Cases " " in Glass;
3 Drums Sultana Raisins;
10 Boxes bunch "
6 Half " "
French Olives and Capers, just received and for sale by
REINHART & STRONG,
jan 13 140 Liberty street.

White Fish.

WE have just opened a bbl. of White Lake Fish. This article is esteemed by those who have tried them, the most delicious of Salt Fish. Call and get some.
REINHART & STRONG,
jan 13 140 Liberty st.

Canal Transportation.

THE subscriber, having disposed of his Stock and interest in the *American Portable Boat Line*, has retired from the Transportation business.

In doing so, he tenders to his numerous friends in this city, as well as in the "Far West," his sincere thanks for their kind patronage, and begs to introduce to them his successors, Messrs Clarkson & Co., of this city, and E. G. Whitesides & Co., of Philadelphia, for whom he solicits a continuance of their favors.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 10, 1845. H. DEVINE.