

Rocky Mountain

BY S. B. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1859.

VOL. 5.—NO. 20.

ON KISSING.

If kissing were not lawful,
The lawyers would not use it,
And if it were not pious,
The clergy would not choose it;
And if it were not dainty thing,
The ladies would not crave it;
And if it were not plentiful,
The poor girls could not have it.

JOHN CLARKE'S FORTUNE.

BY MRS. N. A. DENISON.

"Never mind the house, John, we've got one of our own," whispered John Clarke's wife.

She was a rosy little thing, only twenty summers old. How brightly and bewitchingly she shone—a star amid the sombre company.

"But what in the world has he left me?" muttered John Clarke. "I believe he hated me—I believe they all hate me."

"Flush, dear!"

"I bequeath to John Clarke, my dear beloved nephew," read the grim attorney, "as a reward of his firmness in resisting temptation the last two years, and his determination to improve in all acceptable things, my one-horse shay, which has stood in my barn over twenty-five years, requesting that he shall repair it, or cause it to be repaired, in a suitable manner."

That was all. Some of the people gathered there tittered, all seemed to enjoy the confusion of the poor young man. His eyes flashed fire, he trembled excessively; poor little Jenny fairly cried.

"To think," she said to herself, how hard he has tried to be good, and that is all his thought of it!"

"Wish you joy!" said a red-headed youth, with a grin, as he came out of the room.

John sprang up to collar the fellow, but a little white hand laid on his coat-sleeve restrained him.

"Let them triumph, John, it won't hurt you," said Jenny, with her sunny smile; "please don't notice them, for my sake."

"Served him right," said Susan Spriggs, the niece of the old man, just dead, and to whom he had left all his silver, "served him right for marrying that ignorant goose Jenny Brazier. I suppose he calculated a good deal on the old gentleman's generosity."

To which she added, in a whisper that only her own heart heard, "he might have married me. He had the chance, and I loved him better than any one else—better than that pretty little fool Jenny Brazier."

"Now we shall see how deep his goodness is," said a maiden aunt, through her nose; "he stopped short in wickedness just because he expected a fortune from my poor, dead brother. Thanks to mummy that he left me five hundred dollars. Now I can get that new carpet; but we'll see how much of a change there is in John Clarke—he always was an imp of wickedness."

"Well, I guess John Clarke'll have to be contented with his ten feet shanty," said the father of Susan Spriggs to good old Deacon Joe Hemp.

"Well, I reckon he is content—if he ain't he ought to be, with that little jewel of a wife; she's bright enough to make any four walls shine," was the deacon's reply.

"Phaw! you're all crazy about that gal. Why she ain't to be compared to my Susan. Susan plays on the forty-piano like sixty, and manages a house first-rate."

"Bless you, neighbor Spriggs, I'd rather have that innocent, blooming face to smile at me when I waked up in the mornings, than all the forty-piano gals you can scare up 'twixen here and the Indies—fact."

"I'd like to know what you mean!" exclaimed Mr. Spriggs, rising up.

"Just what I say," replied good old Deacon Joe, coolly.

"Well, that John Clarke'll die on the gallows yet, mark my words," said Mr. Spriggs, spitefully.

"That John Clarke will make one of our best citizens, and go to the Legislature yet," replied old Deacon Joe, complacently.

"Doug it?"

"Yes, may be you do; and that's a pretty way to build up a young fellow, isn't it, when he is trying his best. No, John Clarke won't be a good citizen if you can help it. People that cry 'mad dog,' are plagues willing to stone the critter while he's running, I take it; and if he ain't mad they're sure to drive him so."

"Why don't you step up to him and say, 'John, I'm glad you're right now, and I've got faith in you, and if you want any help, why come to me and I'll put you through. That's the way to do business, Mr. Spriggs.'"

"Well, I hope you'll do it, that's all," replied Mr. Spriggs, sulkily.

"I hope I shall, and I'm bound to, any way. If I have a chance. Fact is, he's got such a smart little wife that he can't really need any help."

"No?—it's a pity, then, that brother Jacob left him that one-horse shay."

"You needn't laugh at that; old Jacob never did nothing without a meaning to it. That old shay may help him to be a great man yet. Fact is, I think myself if Jacob had left him money, it might have been the ruin of him. Less things than a one-horse shay has made a man's fortune."

"Well, I'm glad you think so much of him; I don't."

"No," muttered Deacon Joe, as his neighbor turned away, "but if he had married your raw-boned darter that plays on the forty-piano, he'd been all right, and no mistake."

"A one-horse shay!" said the minister, laughing; "what a fortune!"

"And so it went from mouth to mouth. None of the relatives—some already rich—had offered the poorest man among them—the owner of the one-horse shay—a dollar of the bequest left to him or to her; but they had rather rejoiced in his disappointment.

The truth is, everybody had prophesied that John Clarke, a poor, motherless boy, would come to ruin. He had, in his youth, been wild and wayward, and somewhat profligate in the early years of his manhood; but his old uncle had encouraged him to reform—held out hopes to which he had hitherto been a stranger and the love of the sweet young Jenny Brazier completed, as it were, his reformation.

Jenny never appeared so lovely as she did on that unfortunate day of the reading of the will, as they had returned to the poor little house that was Jenny's own.

"No matter, John," she said, cheerfully, "you won't rise in spite of them. I wouldn't let them think I was in the least discouraged; that will only please them too well. We are doing nicely now, and you know that if we don't cut the railroad through our bit of land,

the money will set us up quite comfortably; isn't our home a happy one, if it is small; and oh! John, by-and-by!"

An eloquent blush—a glance toward her work-basket, out of which peeped the most delicate needlework, told the story—that ever new story of innocence, beauty and helplessness, that bring cares akin to angels' work.

For once, John Clarke stopped the gossips' mouths. He held his head up manfully—worked steadily at his trade, and every step seemed a sure advance, and an upward one.

Baby was just six months old when the corporation paid into John Clarke's hands the sum of six hundred dollars for the privilege of laying the track through his one little field.

"A handsome baby, a beautiful and industrious wife, and six hundred dollars," thought John, with an honest exultation, "well this is living!"

"John," said his wife, rising from her work, "look out!"

He did, and saw the old one-horse shay, dragged by a stalwart negro.

"Massa says as how the old barn is gwine to be pulled down, so he sent your shay," said the African.

"Thank him for nothing," said John, bitterly; "but a glance at his wife removed the evil spirit, and better one smiled out of his eyes."

"John, you can spare a little money now to have the old shay fixed up, can't you? You ought to, according to the will," said Jenny.

"The old trash!" muttered John.

"But you could at least sell it for what the repairs would cost," said Jenny, in her winning way.

"Yes, I suppose I could."

"Then I'd have it done, and bless me, I'd keep it, too. You've got a good horse, and can have the old shay made quite stylish for baby and me to ride in. Shan't we shine?"

"Well, I'll send it over to Hosmer's tomorrow, and see what he will do it for."

"Look here! Mr. Hosmer wants you to come right over to the shop!" shouted the carriage-maker's apprentice, at the top of his lungs; "old Deason Joe's there, an' says he's right down glad—golly, it's hundreds and hundreds, and hundreds, and hun—"

"Stop, boy! What in the world does he mean, Jenny?" cried John Clarke, putting the baby in the cradle face downwards.

"My patience, John, look at that child—precious darling! I'm sure I don't know, John. I'd go right over and see," said Jenny, by snatches, righting the baby; "sit his fun, I suppose."

"Tain't any fun, I tell ye," said the boy, while John hurried on his coat and hat; "my gracious; guess you'll say it ain't fun, when you come to see them 'ere gold things and the like."

This added wings to John Clark's speed, and in a moment he stood breathless in the old coach-maker's shop.

"Wish you joy, my fine fellow!" cried Deacon Joe.

"Look here—what'll you take for that old shay? I'll give you four thousand dollars."

"Four thousand!" cried John, agast.

"Yes; just look at it! You're a rich man, sir; and by George, I'm glad of it, for you deserve to be!" The carriage-maker shook his hand heartily.

What do you suppose were the consternation, delight, gratitude—the wild, wild joy that filled the heart of Clark, when he found the old shay filled with gold and bank bills?

I mean the cushions, the linings, and every place where they could be placed without danger or injury—thieves never would have descended to the one-horse shay.

Five thousand five hundred dollars in all! Poor John—or rather rich John—his head was nearly turned. It required all the balance of Jenny's nice equipage of character to keep his ecstatic brain from spinning like a humming-top.

He could not build two houses like the one his uncle had bequeathed to his red-headed cousin, who had wished him joy when the will was read—the dear old uncle! What genuine sorrow he felt as he thought of the many times he had heaped reproaches upon his memory!

Imagine, if you can, dear reader, the peculiar feelings of those kind friends who had prophesied that John Clark would come to ruin. At first Deacon Joe proposed to take the shay just as it was—linings stripped, bits of cloth hanging—upon a tin trumpet proclaim the glad tidings to the whole town, taking especial pains to stop before the house of Mr. Spriggs, and blowing loud enough to drown all the forty-pianos in the universe; but that was vetoed by John's kind little wife.

"Lad! they'll know of it soon enough," she said, kissing the baby; "I wouldn't hurt their feelings."

They did know of it, and a few hours after, when John Clark lived in a big house, they all voted for him to go to the "legislature."

So much for the old one-horse shay.

Santa Anna, ex-Dictator of Mexico, resides in St. Thomas, W. I. He has a beautiful villa and said to be worth—including all his possessions—about \$40,000,000. He seldom goes out and then in a gig of no pretensions.

A showman giving entertainments in Lafayette, Ind., was offered by one man a bushel of corn for admission. The manager declined it saying that all the members of his company had been corned for the last six weeks.

An editor of Indiana was attacked by a man for some personal grievance. The editor says:—"To avoid injuring him, and prevent his injuring us, we got out of the way!" Sensible man that.

True goodness of heart nourishes itself on the good which it does to others. The good loves him to whom he does good, as the bad hates him whom he has injured.

In Schuylkill County, Pa., there are four hundred and twenty steam engines employed in raising coal, draining mines, manufacturing, and other purposes.

Dr. Syntax is of opinion that in Cuba the heat of the weather must be greatly modified after the introduction of so many coolies.

Relieve misfortune quickly. A man is like an egg—the longer he is kept in hot water, the harder he is when taken out.

It is better to have a clear conscience and be slandered, than to have a bad one and be flattered.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

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 of the Treasury, from all sources, for the fiscal year, ending on the 30th day of Nov. 1858, were \$4,189,775 36; and the expenditures, for all purposes, during the same time, were \$3,775,857 07. Leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$413,918 29.

This exhibit shows that there was actually in the Treasury on the 1st day of December, 1858, the sum of \$398,921 29, more than there was on the 1st day of December, 1857.

In addition to this, among the expenditures for the year, were some redeemed \$30,206 85; Relief Notes redeemed \$41,071 00; Interest Certificates redeemed \$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: \$303,921 29, we have the sum of \$785,415 84.

But this is not all. The amount paid on the public improvements, including 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 \$95,070 06; making an excess of expenditures over receipts, which happily we will be relieved of in the future, of \$245,966 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 Commonwealth, to that amount. 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 \$1,031,382 36.

But from this, however, must be deducted the extraordinary receipts, which were, Ist. The amount paid by the Penna. Railroad Company, on the principal of the debt due by the said Company, for the purchase of the Main Line \$100,000; and 2d. The amount received from the Girard Bank, for loans of the Commonwealth, which that bank, \$28,000—in all \$128,000; which, deducted from the foregoing aggregate of \$1,031,382 36, leaves the true balance of ordinary receipts over the ordinary expenditures for the fiscal year at \$903,382 36.

The funded and unfunded debt of the Commonwealth, on the 1st day of Dec. 1857, was, Funded debt, \$39,734,592 52; Unfunded debt, \$175,145 70; making the entire debt of the State at the period named \$39,909,738 22.

The funded and unfunded debt of the State at the close of the last fiscal year, Dec. 1st 1858, was, Funded debt, \$39,454,285 67; Unfunded debt, \$138,958 00; making the public debt on the 1st of Dec. last, \$39,593,243 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 \$220,122 51, leaving the real debt of the State, at this time, funded and unfunded, \$39,283,111 16.

To meet this, besides the ordinary sources of public revenue, the State owes bonds received from the sale 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 \$28,087,111 16.

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, to at least \$1,000,000.

The present would seem to be the appropriate time, when our nation is at peace, and when health and reasonable prosperity prevail within our own borders,—to greatly reduce the debt of the public authorities, that I can only husband our legitimate resources, avoiding extravagant and unnecessary appropriations, and practicing a proper economy in all the departments of Government, to render the entire extinguishment of our debt a fixed task within a very brief period. To carefully guard the public treasury at this interesting epoch in our financial history, is so manifestly the duty of the public authorities, that I cannot for one moment believe that any other policy will be proposed. If there be any, who, relying on the improved condition of the finances of the State, would encourage the adoption of new schemes for depleting the Treasury, or would cut off the sources of our present revenue, and thus reduce it, let all such efforts, coming from whatever quarter they may, be sternly resisted. Let Pennsylvania be before she is generous. Let our good example be a light in the pathway of our sister States, as well as an admonition to our own local governments. This is due alike to the favors which Providence has so bountifully bestowed upon us, and to that high character for honesty and integrity which has ever distinguished the people of this good old Commonwealth.

In pursuance of the act entitled "An Act for the Sale of the State Canals," approved on the 21st day of April last, I did, as the Governor of the Commonwealth, on the 19th day of May, 1858, convey to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, all the public works belonging to the Commonwealth, then remaining unsold, consisting of the Delaware Division—the Upper and Lower Branch Divisions—the West Branch Division—and the Susquehanna Division of the Pennsylvania Canal, with all the property thereto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and all the estate, right, title and interest of this Commonwealth therein, for the sum of \$3,500,000. To secure the payment of this sum, the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company paid to the State Treasurer its bonds, secured by a mortgage, as directed by the act, for the amount of the purchase money. The company, also, complied with the provisions of the Act which required it, as additional security, to execute and deliver to the State Treasurer a mortgage on the Delaware Division for \$1,000,000—a mortgage on the Susquehanna and West Branch Divisions for \$600,000—and a mortgage on the Upper and Lower North Branch Divisions for \$500,000. The deeds and mortgages were all executed under the immediate supervision of the Attorney General, and were in strict conformity with the requirements of the law.

After the conveyances were duly executed and delivered, possession of the canals was given to the railroad company.

The act further provided that the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company should not re-sell the Canals, or any part of them, without the consent of the Governor; and that if a re-sale were made for a greater sum, in the aggregate, than \$3,500,000, seventy-five per centum of the excess should be paid to the Commonwealth, in the hands of the purchasers. It was also provided that upon a re-sale, the mortgages given by the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company to the Commonwealth, upon the Canals, should be cancelled by the State Treasurer and surrendered to the company by the Governor, on deposit made by the said company in the office of the State Treasurer, of an equal amount of the bonds of the canals or canals sold as aforesaid;—with a provision that no transfer of securities should be made until the Governor should be satisfied that the new securities to be given were sufficient to protect the interests of the State; and that his written approval of the change should be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Sales were made by the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company and reported to me, under the oath of the President of the different lines, as follows: The Upper and Lower North Branch Canal, to the North Branch Canal Company, for \$1,600,000; the West Branch and Susquehanna Divisions, to West Branch and Susquehanna Canal Company, for \$500,000; the Delaware Division, to the Delaware Division Canal Company, for \$1,775,000; in all the sum of \$3,875,000.

Upon investigation and inquiry, having become satisfied that these sales were made for fair prices, and upon such terms, and such persons, as to insure the payment of the purchase money, they were severally approved.

After the contract for the sale of the Delaware Division had been entered into, and my consent had been verbally given, and \$75,000 of the purchase money had been actually paid by the purchasers, upon the fall of the contract, and my assent thereto, I was informed that a higher price had been offered by responsible persons, for the canal. But under the circumstances, my opinion was that the offer came too late; and as the Railroad Company considered itself bound to consummate the agreement by a delivery of the deed and possession of the property to the first purchasers, I could not, in good faith, withhold my assent. The North Branch Canal Company, subsequent to the purchase of that division, and a portion of the Canal lying between Wilkesbarre and Northumberland, to the Wyoming Canal Company for the sum of \$985,000.

On the 13th of Sept., 1858, bonds of the various companies owning the different canals, secured by mortgages, were in pursuance of the act, and by my approval deposited with the State Treasurer to the amount of \$2,900,000; and the mortgages on the canals given by the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, were cancelled by me to the company in accordance with the directions of the law. At the same time a settlement was made between the Commonwealth and the Railroad Company, by which the latter paid to the State 70 per cent. of the proceeds of the re-sale over and above the contract price of \$3,500,000.—This amounted to \$281,250, and was paid in the following manner, viz: Bonds of the Wyoming Canal Company, secured by mortgage on the canal from Wilkesbarre to Northumberland, payable in twenty years with interest at six per cent. payable semi-annually \$281,000; cash 250; total \$281,250.

These bonds are well secured, and the accruing interest and principal, when due, will do so as be promptly paid.

From information of a reliable character recently communicated to me by the President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, it appears that the prospects of an early completion of that public highway are very encouraging. A large amount of work has been done on the line of the road during the past season, and at this time, very considerable progress has been made in grading and rapidly approaching completion. It is the opinion of the President of the company that within two years the work will be entirely finished, so that cars will be running directly from the city of Philadelphia to the harbor of Erie.

When this great enterprise shall be consummated, and the desire of its friends finally accomplished, the payment of the \$3,500,000 of mortgage bonds, which the State has received in exchange for the canals, will unquestionably be well secured—whilst the railroad, itself, will prove of incalculable advantage to our great commercial emporium as well as to the important, but long neglected region through which it passes. Its construction will undoubtedly add to the value of the real estate of the Commonwealth, and its rich resources will be brought into use. The rich resources of a country which have hitherto remained as they were lavishly strewn by the hand of nature. I have an abiding confidence that the result will abundantly prove the wisdom of the measure, which, while it guaranteed the completion of one of the greatest improvements ever projected in the Commonwealth, it, at the same time, divorced the State from the unprofitable and demoralizing management of her railroads and canals.

Whatever difference of opinion may, at any time, have been entertained in regard to the propriety of the details of the legislation authorizing the sale of the main line, or the branches, it can scarcely be doubted that the public welfare will, in every respect, be vastly promoted by the transfer of the management of the public works from the State to individual owners.

The short experience that we have had already, proves conclusively that the Commonwealth is greatly the gainer, in a financial point of view, and it has been equally demonstrated that the people at large have been as well, if not better, accommodated, by the change.

It would, in my judgment, be a public calamity, if, by the happening of any contingency, the Commonwealth should be constrained to again become the owner, and resume the management of any portion of the public improvements.

The power of the General Assembly to pass the Act of the 21st of April, 1858, relative to the sale of the State canals was questioned before the Supreme Court of the State, since the transfer of the Canals; and, after full argument, the Constitutionality of the Act was sustained by the unanimous judgement of the Court.

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.

In view of the foregoing exhibit of our resources and financial condition, it is apparent that a most interesting era has been reached in the history of the Commonwealth. Relieved from the entangling embarrassments of an extensive system of internal improvements, the means of the State are now ample for all legitimate purposes, and her public debt is gradually but certainly disappearing. From these and other causes, governmental action has become greatly simplified, and the nature of the subjects of its operation has changed in a degree no less remarkable.

The almost entire disposal of the lands which belonged to the State, has already dispensed with one of the Departments created for their care, and will, ultimately, render the other unnecessary, except for preserving the evidences of their transfer.

The sale of the public works has relieved the Executive branch of the Government of many of its most responsible and perplexing duties, and in effect, dispensed with one of its most formidable and difficult departments.

In the same proportion, the action of the Legislature will, if the representatives of the people be true to the interests reposed, and sternly refuse to entangle the public with those numerous projects and enterprises which are continually seeking its alliance, be simplified and economized, purified and strengthened.

And it is as remarkable as it is propitious, that an era which has thus relieved the State authorities of burthens that consist either of more material interests, or the care of local administration,—committing the one to the local sovereignty of the people, and the other to private or associated enterprise,—should also present for consideration and promotion the solution of a lit over five months, intellectual and moral claims of peculiar importance.

It is at this period in our history that the system of public education challenges the attention of the most unsolvant. And I shall be much mistaken in the cautious but steadfast character of the people of Pennsylvania, if their Representatives do not make it the first object of their solicitude.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools will lay before you the condition of our public school system, and of its operations during the past year.—Your close and scrutinizing 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 the State, during the year which terminated on the first Monday of last June, 928,201 pupils; these were instructed during an average term of a little over five months, in 11,281 schools, by 13,859 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, its important powers over the present which it wields, or its incalculable influence upon the future,—undoubtedly transcends all others, and leads 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 population and industrial 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 needed 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 success of the school. But the facts are startling, that of the 12,828 teachers of our public schools, exclusive of those in Philadelphia, for their important trust; while 5,387 are returned as "medium," or such as are only tolerated till better can be obtained; and that 2,314 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 can not be shut out; and, though a great and commendable effort has recently been 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 materials for improvement is found to be of a 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 proportion than in most of the other States are permanently devoted to the profession of teaching. To

render these fit for the position 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 fully tested?

The passage of a law guaranteeing the payment of a moderate sum to one Teachers' 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 are 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 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 amount appropriated is 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 Farmer's 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 adapted 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 business of the farm. Here,