## Annual Message of GOV. JOHN W. GEARY, Delivered January 6, 1869.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: GENTLEMEN: —For the harmony and general relations of comity and friendship existing between Pennsylvania and all the other States and Territories of the National Union; for the present prosperous condition of the Commonwealth; for the glad signs of com-ing political tranquility; and for the success which attends the progress of our free in-stitutions, we owe a heavy debt of gratitude to Divine Providence. In view of the favorable circumstances under which you are now assembled, it becomes my province and duty, as it is my pleasure, to offer you my hearty congratulations, and to tender you a cordial welcome to the Legislative Halls of the State. This, indeed, affords me a higher gratification because I participate with our constituents in the confidence manifested by them in selecting you to represent their individual interests as will as those of the Commonwealth. On your wisdom, integrity, judgment and discretion, all will undoubtedly rely for the correct determination of every question affecting the largest interests and gravest responsibilities, and for a continuance, and evenan increase, of that prosperity which has hitherto been so signally

It is not without a consciousness of the great responsibility resting upon me that I undertake the performance of a constitutional duty, requiring that the Governor "shall m time to time give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge expedient." In conformity with this requirement your attention will be called only to such matters of public interest as in my judgment deserve careful consideration and action on your part during the present session.

FINANCES.

The following is a carefully prepared statement of the financial condition of the State for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868:

The reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer show that the balance in the freasury, Nov. 30, 1867 was \$4.661 836 46; Ordinary receipts during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868, \$5.216,049 35; Depreciated funds in the Treasury, anavailable \$41.032 90; Total in Treasury for fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868, 9.918.918 01.

Payments, viz. Ordinary expenses during the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, 1868, \$2.454.506 99; Loans, etc., redeemed \$4.417.463 64; Other payments \$12.800 90; Interest on loans \$1.979.690 91; Depreciated funds unavailable \$41, 032 00; Total year ments \$8.905.492 64. The following is a carefully prepared statetal pa; ments \$3.905.492.64.

Balance in the Treasury, November 30, 1888, \$1,013,415.37.

SINKING FUND. By an act approved April 10, 1868, the transactions of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund were ordered to be thereafter reported annually to the 30th day of November. Their last report, therefore, includes a period of one year and three mouths.

The following is the "recapitulation" of the operations of the sinking fund, from the operations of the stoking fund, from September 3, 1867, to November 30, 1868; Belance in fund. Sept 3, 1867, \$1,737,912,41; Receipts in fund from Sept 3, 1867, to Nov 30, 1868, \$3,418,992,31; Total \$5,156,904,72. Paid interest \$1,808,005,84; Premiums paid as equivalent for coin \$49,93; Loans redeemed \$1,414,816,64; Total \$4,222,871,96. Balance in fund Nov. 30, 1888, \$934,032,76.

By the sixth section of the act of May 16, 1861, a special tax of one half mill on the dollar was especially set apart for the payment of the interest and redemption of the loan created by an act of May 18, 1861, entitled "An Act to create a loan and provide for arming the State." \*
Balance on hand Sept. 3, 1867, \$319,933 17; The

receipts from said tax and tax on gross receipts from September 3, 1867, to November 30, 1868, amount to \$423,979 20; Total \$743 912 37. Int paid in Jan and July. 1868, \$169 245 00. Balance in fund Nov. 30, 1868, \$574,667 37. CONDITION OF BALANCES.

Balance in sinking fund November 30th, 1868

8934.632.76; Balance in sinking fund November 36, 1868, 5574.667.37; Total \$1,508,700.13. Deduct balance in Treasury, November 30th, Balance in favor of sinking fund \$495.284 76. REDUCTION OF THE STATE DEBT.

By the report of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund for the year ending September 1867, the "loans redeemed" amounted to \$1,794,569 50, and by their report from Sept. 3, 1867, to November 30, 1868, the oausredeemed' amounted to \$2,414,816 64. making a total reduction of the State debt, in two years and three months, of four milon two hundred and nine thousand three hundred and eighty-six dollars and fourteen

The assets remaining in the Sinking Fund are as follows, viz: Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, six million, undred thousand dollars, and bonds of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company, three million, five hundred thousand dollars. These are non-interest bearing bonds and will not mature for many years. I therefore recommend to the consideration of the Legplature the propriety of the passage of a aw, authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to sell these bonds a: public sale to the highest bidder, and direct the proceeds to be applied to the liquidation of State debt

Public debt outstanding on December 1st, 1867. Deduct amount redeemed at StateTreasury dur ing the fixed year ending Nov. 30, 1868, viz: 5 per cent. Loans 84,354 253 64; 41 per cent. Loans \$62,000 00; Relief notes cancelled \$210 00; Total reduction, \$4,417,463 64.

Public debt Dec 1, 1848, \$33,286,946 13.
Statement showing the condition of the inebtedness of the Commonwealth on the first

day of December, 1868: Funded debt. vir: 6 per cent Loans, \$25.311,-50 06; 5 per cent Loans, \$7,749.771 56; 42 per ent Loans, \$112,000 00; Total \$33,172.951 56. ided debt viz: Reliaf notes in circula-

tion \$96,415 00; Interest certificates outstanding \$13.654 32; Int. certificates unclaimed \$4.448 38; creditors' certificates \$44 67; Total un funded \$113,994 57

stal funded and unfunded \$33,286 945 13. Which is the amount of the State debt as before

During the last eighteen years there has their several public statements, "depreciated funds unavailable" to the amount of fortyone thousand and thirty-two dollars. I rec ommend the appointment of a joint commitee, by the Legislature, whose duty it shall examine the said depreciated and unavailable funds, and dispose of them to the est advantage of the Treasury ; or, it found be worthless, to cancel and destroy them, othat the accounting officers may be relieved roun the necessity and responsibility of

annually accounting for them. The large cash balance remaining in the Treasury on the 30th of November, 1867, has been used for the payment of the twentyavestment of the funds, in one of the modes recommended in my last annual message, has, therefore, in a great measure been rendered free and happy system of government ce-unpecessary for the present. But in the mented, strengthened and adorned.

event of large accumulations of money, hereafter, the recommendations therein given are respectfully referred to, and renewed. Whenever there may be surplus funds in the Treasury, they can, with safety and benefit to the State, be employed in the purchase of its outstanding bonds, and in saving the interest on them which would accumulate

prior to their maturity. I regret to state that the last Legislature. although fully forewarned in regard to the insecurity and want of proper and sufficient guards for the safe keeping of the money of the Commonwealth, failed to determine upon any mode by which the Treasury may be effectually guarded against the possibility of loss. The present Legislature has it in its power to secure for itself no ordinary honor, by the enactment of such a law, strong and efficient for the purpose indicated, and the enjoyment not only of the approbation, but the permanent gratitude of every citizen.

Notwithstanding the satisfactory reduction of the public indebtedness, as shown in the foregoing statements, an immense State debt is still upon us, requiring nearly two million of dollars to be collected to pay the interest accruing upon it annually. Its extinguish-ment at the earliest practicable period, not nconsistent with other public interests, is of the highest importance to every tax-payer. I cannot, therefore, too strongly urge the strictest economy in respect to every expenditure and the utmost retrenchment in every department.

Retrenchment is emphatically demanded by the people, in legislative expenditures, as well as in every other branch of the Government. Their eyes are open to investigate every transaction; and by their ballots they are ready to strike down those who will not take effective action in favor of positive and radical reform. The money paid into the Treasury is the property of the people every one of whom has a just right to hold his representatives to a strict accountability for every dollar that may be appropriated or

expended. I here renew the remarks made last year on the subject of "annual appropriations. to which you are respectfully referred. For four successive years the general appropria-tion bills have been signed on the 11th day of April, being about the time of adjourn-ment. The Governor has been forced either to sign the bills without proper investigation, notwithstanding any objections he may have; suspend the means to defray the operations of the government for the ensuing year, or call an extra session of the Legislature. I repeat that "it is earr estly desired that the appropriation bill be taken up, discussed and passed at a sufficiently early period during the session to enable it to receive that thorough examination which its importance de-EDUCATION-COMMON SCHOOLS.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools exhibits the condition of that department in a highly satisfactory Within the State there are 1.918 manner. Within the State there are 1.918 school districts; 13,766 schools; 2,382 graded schools; 11,698 school directors; 73 county, city and borough superintendents; 16,771 teachers; and 800,515 pupils. The cost of tuition for the year was \$3,273,269 43; of building, purchasing and renting school houses, \$1,991,152 55; of contingencies, \$854,243 21. These three items, with expenditures for all other purposes connected therewith, amount to the aggregate sum of

\$6,200,537 96. These facts are exhibited with great satisfaction, as they show the average annual cost for the tuition of each pupil to be about seven dollars and seventy four and a half cents. The average amount paid to each teacher is about \$195 172 per annum. This, in my opinion, is too small a salary to secure the services of competent teachers; and I am fully justified in urging the necessity of increased compensation. It is but just, and it will have an elevating tendency not only upon the teachers but the manner in which

their duties are performed. Your attention is called to the fact that, notwithstanding the ample provision now made by law for the education of all persons between the ages of six and twenty-one years, large numbers of children, principally in our cities, do not attend any kind of school. Over twenty thousand of this class are found in Philadelphia, and the number in the State is estimated to be not less than seventy five thousand. These children grow up in ignorance, frequently without employment, and many of them contract habits of vice. which eventually cause them to be committed to houses of refuge, county prisons or penitentiaries. Humanity and sound public policy demand that something be done to remedy this growing evil, and also that of the neglected condition of considerable numbers of children in the alms and poor houses

in many of the counties. Four Normal schools are now recognized as State Institutions. The number of students attending them during the past year was 2,115, of whom eighty graduated. Two additional Normal Schools will probably go into operation during this year, one located at Bloomsburg, Columbia county, and the other at California, Washington county. The value of these institutions to the common school system cannot be estimated. Our schools are comparatively worthless without qualified teachers, and such teachers can most easily be obtained from the Normal institutes, where the art of teaching is made

a speciality. A meeting of the presidents and other authorities of a number of our principal coleges was held in Harrisburg last winter, the object of which was to bring about a closer union of all our educational institutions, and connect by a bond of sympathy, if not of organic structure, the common schools, high schools, academies and colleges. The es tablishment of such an educational department seems to be desirable.

There is no subject more worthy the delib-erations of the Legislature than the promoion of the welfare of our common schools. They immediately underlie the characteristic features of our social system; they are fountains of that widespread intelligence, dior General and State Treasurer, and in nation, and are nurseries of that inquiring nation, and are nurseries of that inquiring spirit to which we are indebted for the purity and preservation of our free institutions. In a republican government education is a sure basis of power and public prosperity. By it the people are taught to discern and estimate the value of their own rights; to distinguish between oppression and the exercise of lawtul authority; to discriminate between liberty and licentiousness: to preserve an inviolable respect for the laws, and exercise "eternal vigilance" against any encroachments upon them. It is admitted that a thoroughly educated people alone can be permanently free. By educational culture patriotism is expanded, and the principles, manners and bree million loan and for the liquidation of sentiments of the whole people are assimilaoutstanding claims against the State. The ted. Many of the sources of jealousy and prejudice are diminished, social barmony largely increased, and the structure of our

In his report the Superintendent of Sol-

SOLDTERS' ORPHANS' SCHOOLS.

diers' Orphans' Schools exhibits the total schools 3,431; average cost per pupil \$69,064 for six months; and the average weekly expenses per pupil \$2.654. The fiscal year of these schools, like that of the common schools, terminates by law on the last day of May of each year. The present re-port of the Superintendent, therefore, embraces only six months, and reports will be made up to the 31st day of May, annually, hereafter. The special appropriation of February 25, 1868, made in accordance with an estimate of the Superintendent, presented in my last annual message, exceeded the actual expenses \$6,004 74.

Notwithstanding every possible effort has been, and will continue to be made, to economize in the expenses of the present year, and to keep them as far as possible within the appropriation made by the last Legislature, it will readily be observed that there will be a deficit for the year ending May 31,1869, the amount of which will be carefully ascertained and presented to the Legislature prior to the close of the present session.

The schools are all in good condition and been so liberally endowed and upon our peo-ple by whom they are sustained. The chil-dren who are the recipients of their benefits are the offspring of brave men who voluntathe noblest men in the world's history. Thousands of them who left their homes in the bloom of health and with the brightest hopes of manhood, now sleep in death, leaving their widows and little ones to the care of the country in whose service they fell, and which promised them its protection. Their children are the wards of this great Com-monw alth; and too much praise cannot be awarded its people for the munificent and tender manner in which they have thus far. through their representatives, discharged the sacred and delicate trust.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. Before the General Government approriated public lands to the several States for the purpose of agricultural and military education and the mechanic arts, and prior to the time when Pennsylvania endowed the Agricultural College with her share of these lands, it was dependent wholly upon individual influence, without any other means for its support than its own earnings. History proves that seminaries of learning cannot be efficiently sustained by their own internal resources. The education of youth in the higher brances of knowledge seems to require the aid of philanthropic contributions. This institution had not these benefits to any adequate extent, and though the board of trustees bestowed upon it the most anxious care, their zeal and labor, combined with those of its friends, were not equal to a contest with the want of means. Hence the school did not command the confidence of farmers who were able to educate their sons. and who could not forget that the character of the college attached to the characters of its graduates; and that its failure would enter into the estimate which the world would place upon the education it bestowed This feature has now been removed. The people, through their Legislature, have endowed this institution with the interest upon a fund of \$318,500 00, (invested in United States and Pennsylvania State six per cent. bonds] payable to it semi-annually. Last year this interest amounted to \$25.642 78. The residue of the fund, \$43,886 50, has been appropriated, under the law, by the trustees, to the purchase of three model and experimental farms; one at the college, in Centre county, for \$8,000 00, one in Chester county for \$17,750 00, and one in Indiana county for \$18,136 50. The board has also re

cently re-organized the faculty and remodeled the course of studies, so as to adapt them to the wants of the agricultural community. This new order of things goes into operation at the commencement of the next session, and it is earnestly hoped it will be a success. There is no profession, trade or calling in life, where the value of knowl-edge and the lights of science, and the practical application of both, are so potent for profitable results as in their adaptation to agricultural pursuits. And in this truly practical age it is well worthy of the consideration of parents, whether they should not avail themselves of the benefits of this institution, now so generously endowed by the MILITARY.

From the report of the Adjutant General ou will learn the condition of the Military Department. The inactivity in military af-fairs after the cessation of hostilities and upon the return of peace, has in a great measure been dispelled, and an active martial spirit now prevails througout the State; more particularly in Philadelphia, where, by a special legislative enactment, the minimum number of men required to form a company has been reduced, and a brigade fund is raised by a tax upon those who are not members of a military organization, but liable to the performance of military duty. I recommend the passage of a similar law for the whole State. For the sake of preserving the great interests involved, which include the lives, property and happiness of our people, this is presented to you as an important subject for your deliberation.

Every possible encouragement of volun-teers has been afforded, and notwithstanding the difficulties indicated it has resulted as follows: In 1866 there were eight volunteer companies in the State; in 1867, thirty-eight; and in 1868, seventy-seven, and number of others in preparation for organ-

ization. By a reduction of the number for a company from that now required to an aggregate of fifty officers and men, companies would soon be numbered by the hundred, any of which could easily be recruited to the maxium number if required for active service. The State that always maintains the highest degree of preparation, accomplishes most and suffers least in the conflict of arms; and by being in readiness it often prevents improper encroachments upon her

rights. The Adjutant General presents a full and detailed statement of the disbursments in his department during the year ending Nov. 30, 1868, with an estimate for the necessary appropriations for the current year, and also for such amounts as have been discovered to be due from the Transportation Department, contracted during the war.

STATE AGENCY. The existence of the Military State Agency at Washington terminated on the 31st its last session, that an Insurance Depart | ly less brilliant career.

expenditure for their support from December 1, 1867 to May 31, 1868, to be \$236, sentatives, from this office, in which their support from December 1, 1867 to May 31, 1868, to be \$236, sentatives, from this office, in which their and annually publish, under eath, full report so their transactions. The communitary of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of their transactions. The communitary of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of their transactions. The communitary of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of our State, and their representatives from the United States Governors of the soldiers of the soldiers of our States from the United States Governors of the soldiers of the soldiers of our States from the United States Governors of the soldiers of the soldiers of the soldiers of our States from the United States Governors of the soldiers of the soldi ment were collected and transmitted to them free of charge. In August, after the agen-cy ceased to exist, there still remained a considerable number of unsettled claims, and as no one knew more about their condition, or could possibly obtain an earlier settlement of them than the late agent, Col. Cook, I permitted him, upon his own offer, to close up the business of the office, and to transact any other business for the soldiers of Pennsylvania at one half the fees that are charged by any other private agency in Washington City. This arrangement has thus far been carried out, and I am pleased to add, with very general satisfaction. All the books and papers of the agency will be judication of the claims of citizens of sev-transferred to the office of the Adjutant Gen-eral counties "whose property was destroy-

REGISTRY LAW

At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed known as the "Registry Law," the intention of which was to protect the ballot box against corruption and fraudulent voting, to which it has for many years been disgracefully exposed. This law seems to improving, and their usefulness is daily becoming more manifest. They are among the most philanthropic institutions of the age, and reflect high honor on the patriotism of the Legislature by which they have tism of the Legislature by which they have been so liberally endowed and upon our people age. nitude, perhaps, any that have been consumated heretofore in the history of the Comrily endangered their lives in the cause of their country in the most trying bour of its ted the necessity of the passage of some law existence, and who, glowing with patriotic or laws, that will accomplish the desired obardor, fought as bravely and as heroically as ject, without being subject to the exceptionable features pointed out by the learned gentlemen who pronounced the opinion of the Supreme Bench.

There is no object of such vital importance to the whole country as the sanctity of the ballot-tox, and the protection of all eitizens in their right to the elective franchise. This right is our proudest boast. It endows the American citizen with a freedom and a power not possessed by the subject of any other government. It makes him the peer of his fellow man, whatever may be his rank station, or position in life. To be deprived of it by any means whatever, his boasted freedom becomes a sham-his especial and exalted prerogative a mockery and a farce. What avails it to the citizen that he is entitled to a vote, it that vote is to be nullified by fraud? Such guards, then, should be thrown around the polls as will effectually, if possible, preserve them from the taint of a single illegal vote. Not only should false voting be severely punished, but false swear itg to obtain a vote, be visited with the pains and penaities of perjury and with per

petual disfranchisement. The people must be perfectly free to regulate their public busing and when the voice of the majority is fairly and clearly expressed all should bow to it as to the voice of God. They are the sovereign rulers, and their will must be the law of the land. Corruption of suffrage in a republican government is the deadliest crime of which will be money and perjury. And if this privilege be tampered with, sooner or later the sure and indignant popular condemnation will be rendered and condign punishment administered. All good citizens, of whatever political opinion, should lend their aid for the accomplishment of any and every measure that may tend to secure to each voter, not only his right to the elective franchise, but the assurance that his vote will not be rendered valueless by illegality, corruption or fraud.

Every proper facility for the naturaliza tion of citizens of foreign birth should be af-forded; but the Legislature, in its con bined wisdom, can surely enact some mode to prevent the possibility of a single vote being cast upon spurious naturalization papers. and thus fully secure the purity of the tive franchise.

REVISION OF THE CIVIL CODE.

The commissioners appointed to codify the statute laws of the State have diligently prosecuted the work assigned them, and with every prospect that it will be fully com-pleted within the time prescribed by the legislative resolutions of April 8, 1868; and in further compliance with them, they will cause to be laid before each branch of the General Assembly, at its present session, various titles of bills, with brief abstracts been matured.

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT Among the subjects of importance to the citizens of Pennsylvania is the establishment of an Insurance Department. Such departments are in successful operation in several neighboring States, by means of which the interests of insurers are guarded and promoted. So careful a supervision is had over the transactions of insurance companies that frauds are rendered almost impossible, and spurious companies can have no existence. The result of the protection thus afforded, is, that whilst foreign companies, thus protected, do immense business in this State, so little confidence is had in those of Pennsylvania that their business is almost entirely confined within the State limits; and lately some of them have withdrawn their agencies from other States, because no risks will be taken, in consequence of the inadequacy of the laws to afford protection to insurers. To this defect, moreover, may be attributed the operations of the number of worthless companies which bave suddenly sprung up, without any solid basis, and as suddenly expired, to the injury of all whose confidence they obtained, and to the dishonor of the Commonwealth. Whilst Pennsylvania insurance companies transact little business outside of the State. it is alleged that foreign life insurance companies alone paid taxes last year on three million eight hundred thousand dollars of premiums received in Pennsylvania, a great portion of which would be confined to this State if the same protection was given by law to its citizens as is afforded by other States. The report of the Insurance Department o? New York, puplished in 1867, shows that the companies which were doing business in 1866, in Pennsylvania, and also in New York, had risks in force for more than five thousard million of dollars; and it is believed that the risks in Pennsylvania companies, which, for want of a proper Insurance Department, cannot be obtained would swell the amount to over six thousand mil-

In view of these facts, and of the costly experience of the people who have been imposed upon and defrauded by unsubstantial commendation made to the Legislature at of manhood, which gave promise of a scarce-

day of July last, at which time the appro- | ment be established, and a superintendent priation for the payment of its expenses was exhausted. Much benefit resulted to many ion and control over all insurance companies allowed to transact business within the State, ty is deeply interrested in this matter, and demands the protection which can thus only be afforded. NEW HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

The commissioners appointed by an act of

the last session "to establish an additional State Hospital for the Insane," have notified me that they will present a report of their proceedings sometime during the pres-ent month, which will be communicated when received DAMAGES BY RAIDS. In accordance with an act of the last ses-

sion, providing for an investigation and adjudication of the claims of citizens of seved, damaged or appropriated for the public service, and in the common defence in the war to suppress the rebellion," a commission of three competent gentlemen was appointed, who have performed the allotted duties, and will soon make a full report of their

PARIS EXPOSITION. I have received through the Secretary of State of the United States, a bronze medal and diploma from the Imperial Commissioners for the best specimens of Pennsylvania anthracite coal exhibited at the Paris Expo-sition in 1867. These tributes to an impor-tant branch of the internal resources of temptation to err; the injury that may be Pennsylvania have been assigned a place among other valuable relies in the Executive

STATE COAT OF ARMS. Diligent but unsuccessful search has been epeatedly made for the coat of arms of the State, and for the authority under which the present design was established. It seems that for years past no trace of either the original authority or design could anywhere found, and it is recommended that the Logi lature take the necessary steps to supply the omission, by such means as they in their wisdom shall determine.

STATE BENEFICIARIES. A number of benevolent, charitable and ther similar institutions annually receive appropriations from the State for their support. These appropriations, in most, if not in all cases, appear to have been adequate for the purposes to which it was intended they should be applied, and are as liberal as can reasonably be expected in the present condition of the Treasury of the State.

THE SUSQUEHANNA FISHERIES. A preliminary report on the Susquehanna sheries has been submitted by Col. James Worrall, Civil Engineer, Commissioner ander the act of the Legislature in reference thereto. There are some facts which should not be ascertained until early in January. the Commissioner, at his request, to post-pone the submission of his regular report

until the earliest day practicable during the present month.

CATTLE DISEASE. The prevalence of contagious or epidemic that can be perpetrated ; it is assassination of diseases among cattle and other animals has county prison the following named convicts, the sovreignty of the people, and will be for some years past been a prolific source of followed by a despotism, the motive power anxiety and alarm among the producers and warrants have not been issued: Edward Ford, consumers of meats in many of the States. It was therefore deemed important to a convention of competent persons to take into consideration, the means best calculated to remedy this great and growing evil. This ors, for satisfactory reasons, have declined convention, composed of three commissioners each from the fourteen States represented, appointed in accordance with an agree- accordance with the sentence, unconditionally ment by the several Governors assemble 1 at | pardoned or held in close confinement in the Springfield, Illinois, on the first day of December last, and an account of their transactions is herewith presented.

Without legislative authority, but believing my action would be sanctioned by the perhaps, the severest that could be inflicted. people's representatives, I appointed Dr. It would be both just and merciful to give and A. Boyd Hamitton, commissioners to tence of death in the above named cases to represent Ponnsylvania in that convention. imprisonment, at labor, in the penitentiary, These gentlemen freely gave their time and experience, and also incurred a pecuniary ex-pense of about three hundred dollars, to defray which I reccommend that an appropriation be made.

STATISTICS.

In view of the vast amount and great variety of the products of the State, a desk for the collection of statistics, relative to exports and imports, agriculture, manufactures, coal, iron, oil, lumber, &c., might, with propriety and profit be established. This could be accomplished by the employment of the several sections of each, which have of a competent clerk, under the supervision of one of the present heads of the department, whose duty should be to collect and publish such facts as might tend to stimulate and increase our productive energies. instil new life and vigor into our manufacturing interests, and lead to more accurate knowledge of all our internal resources and the proper methods for their development. There is abundant space in the capitol build ings to be appropriated as a receptacle for books, papers, mineralogical and geological specimens, and other articles that might be contributed appropriate to such a department and which in a few years would form an invaluable collection. Under legislative direction, the good results would be almost incalculable, and are required by the pro

gressive spirit of the age in which we live. RESOLUTIONS OF THE VERMONT LEGISLATURE Your attention is called to the accompanying joint resolutions, passed at the last session of the Vermont Legislature, bearing a just tribute to the late Hon. Thad. Stevens. Joint resolutions from the same body are also sent you, which I regard as worthy of your consideration, relative to the act of Congress "to establish and protect National Cemeteries," and recommending "to the Legislasure of the State of Pennsylvania the of our people can be developed "without let passage of an act empowering the board of commissioners having charge of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg, to transfer all the right, title, interest and care of said Soldiers' National Cemetery to the General Government, upon the completion

IN MEMORIAM. It has been the misfortune of the State

during the past year to lose by death two of her representatives in the Congress of the nation, Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, of the Ninth, and Hon. Darwin A. Finney, of the Twen-tieth District. Both were natives of Vermont.but in early life selected Pennsylvania for their home, and identified themselves with her interests, which they were chosen to guard in the Legislature; and the people of the Commonwealth will long remember with gratitude their faithful and efficient services. The first went down to his grave after a long life of public usefulness and in and ephemeral companies. I repeat the rec | well matured honors; the other in the prime

The list of pardons issued during the past year will be found among the papers to which your attention is called. The principal reasons upon which they were based, and the names of some of the prominent petitioners, are given in every case. That a few of these pardons may have been unworthily granted, through misrepresentations of relatives, friends, sympathizing neighbors and other interested parties, there is no doubt, but in the majority of instances it is certain that the facts not only justified but demanded Executive elemency.

The whole number of applications for par-

dons during the year has been sixteen hundred and twenty-three. The number of pardons granted in that time has been one hundred and six, which is a little over six and a half per cent. Of those pardoned

ties, as well as conflicting representations, from those in whom he should be enabled to place the fullest confidence, in order to avoid errors in the decision of any case, the Gov-ernor is compelled to take into consideration the action of the court before which the for the exercise of this most important and merciful prerogative.

The pardon report will exhibit that many instances in which Executive elemency has een invoked, youthful prisoners, charged with their first offences, and those of a trivial character, have been the recipients. The object of punishment, in all cases, should not be so much to inflict pain as to reform the sufferer and prevent the repetition of evildeeds. This fact is frequently lost sight of in imposing punishment upon criminals, especially when inexperienced vouths are shut up in close cells with men hardened in crime, where its arts are daily taught and a romance thrown around its commission. Instead of being improved, they come forth at the expiration of their terms of sentence with the loss of self-respect, their moral sentiments blunted, and prepared to prac-tice upon society the infamous lessons they have learned. Such punishments tend to be embodied in the report, but which can-not be ascertained until early in January. tories are constructed, or a prope demand the exercise of the pardoning power. COMMUTATION OF SENTENCES.

There are confined in the Philadelphia under rentence of death, for whose execution sentenced May 12, 1851; Jerry Dixon, May 30, 1863; Newton Champion, December I, 1866, and Altred Alexander and Hester Vaughn, July 3, 1868. Successive Governto order the execution of these persons. The law requires that they shall be executed in county jail during life. The latter punishment, with the additional embitterment constantly preying upon the mind that a death warrant may at any moment be issued, is, Hiram Corson and Messrs. E. C. Humes the Governor authority to commute the senfor such a term of years as the ameliorating circumstances may seem to justify and demand. One of the convicts named has been imprisoned about eighteen years, and al though it might not be advisable to set him ar liberty, hu nanity and the ends of justice require the commutation of his sentence in the manner suggested.

CONCLUSION. The foregoing subjects have been deemed of sufficient importance to submit at the present time for your information and consideration. Others may cecur before the close of the session which may be worthy of special communications. It will be my con stant care and determination to co-operate with you in the prosecution of any measures that may tend to preserve and increase the prosperity of the State and the happiness of its people, with the firm belief that your united wisdom will aim constantly to promote these desirable results. Many of the events that have transpired

since my last annual communication to the Legislature have been unusually interesting and significant. They have been infinitely more than political, and bear directly upon the great interests and most sacred destinies of the nation. Apart from the vindication of the principles of the party which sustained the government and the army during the contest for the preservation of the Union, and the election to the Presidency of the first soldier of the age, is the fact that the people have by triumphant majorities forever settled our controversy upon certain fundamental principles. Parties may and undoubtedly will arise upon other issues, but there can be no future struggle about slavery. Involuntary servitude, as a monopoly of labor, is torever destroyed. The monster obstacle to the national progress has been removed, and henceforward all the faculties or hindrance. The fair and exuberantly fertile States of the South, heretofore comparatively retrogressive and unproductive. relieved from this terrible curse, with the influx of northern immigration and capital, will soon become the rivals of their northern sister States in all the arts of peace, and additional markets will be developed in which to exchange the varied products of the here-

tofore hostile sections. Hardly less magical has been the effect upon other nations. Gen. Grant's election has confirmed the hopes of our nation's friends, and the fears of its foes in the Old It supplements and seals the verdict of arms and the progress of republican principles. The downfall of the rebellion in the United States was quickly followed by the great civil revolution in England; the peaceful expulsion of the last of the Bourons from Spain; the unrest of Cuba; the concession of more liberal principles in Germany; and the necessary acquiescence of the Emperor of the French in the republithe Emperor of the French in the republi-can sentiments he fears even as he has be-trayed them. What are these but the ech-for sale by

COAL Whale, and Linseed Oil, Family Dyes, Varnish and Paints of all kind ground in Oil, for sale by

HARTSWICK & IRWIN.

oes of the dire catastrophe that has overwhethed suistocracy in the United States?

Notwithstanding the importance of the issues involved in the late canvass, and the bitterness of feeling as well as the carpesness with which it was conducted, its termination has happily met with the acquiescence of nearly the whole people; and at no time in the history of the nation has there been opened before us a brighter prospect of continued peace and increasing prosperity; and we have no greater cause for universal con-gratulation than that no differences of opin-ion now exist that can materially mar our national happiness, retard our onward progress, or threaten the peace or perpetuity of our government,

In conclusion, permit me to remark that the voice of Pennsylvania, as well that of a majority of the States, has at the ballot-box I am fully impressed with the weighty responsibility of the pardoning power, which ranks among the most difficult and embarrassing duties of the Executive office. Daily beset with powerful and pitiful importunities, as well as conflictions and process our individual spects our individual spects. proclaimed to the world that all our nationour power to secure ample encouragement and protection to each and every branch of Home Industry, and every manly enterprise that contributes capital, labor, skill and industry to our material wealth, social adconviet has been tried; the majesty of the vancement and political tranquility; that law which may or may not have been viola- for all our citizens, the children of the Cominflicted upon his helpless and dependent and in their rights and privileges wherever relatives, and the arguments and appeals of they may go within the national jurisdiction citizens whose opinions and wishes he is or in foreign lands; and that whilst our fibound to respect. And however just his nancial policy shall be such as to maintain decision and humane and generous his action, either in favor of or against the peti | hoped that it may at the same time, be such tioner for elemency, he must expect to have as will permit and sanction the construction his motives impugned, his name and char- of the great railways now in progress and acter maligned and to suffer virulent attacks stretching out their giant arms to grasp the for the exercise of this most important and mighty commerce of the Pacific, to develop the untold resources of weath in the intervening terfitories, and to connect the most distant portions of our country in a common union, not only with iron bands, but by the still stronger and more indissoluble ties of a common interest and a common brotherhood.

To lessen the burdens of the people, and to keep the expenses of the State as nearly as possible within the limits of its absolute necessities, will always be among the chief objects of wise and just legislation. Let us, then, with a due sense of our obligations and high resposibilities, endeavor so to discharge our duties as to secure the greatest good of the community and merit the approbation of Him by whom our Commonwealth has been so abundantly blessed. Jan. 6, 1869. JOHN W. GEARY.

QUEEN OF ENGLAND SOAP. QUEEN OF ENGLAND SOAP.

For doing a family washing in the best and system of confinement and prison discipline is adopted, there will be a material decrease of crime, and comparatively few cases to ALDEN CHEMICAL WORKS. 48 North Front

> P. KRATZER, Clearfield, Penn'a,

Goods, Groceries, Hard-ware, Queens-ware, Stone-ware, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Flour, Bacon, Fish Salt, etc., is constantly receiving new at the lowest market prices, to customers. purchasing elsewhere, examine his stock. Clearfield, August 28, 1867.

FURNITURE ROOMS. JOHN GUELICH,

Desires to inform his old friends and customer that, having enlarged his shop and increased his facilities for manufacturing, he is now prepared to make to order such furniture as may be desired, in good style and at cheap rates for cash. He mostly has on hand at his "Furniture Rooms," a varied assortment of furniture, among which is

BUREAUS AND SIDEBOARDS. Wardrobes and Book-cases; Centre, Sofa, Parlor, Breakfast and Dining extension Tables. Common, French-posts, Cottage, Jen-

ny-Lind and other Bedsteads. SOFAS OF ALL KINDS, WORK-STANDS, HAT RACKS, WASH-STANDS, &c. Spring-seat. Cain-bottom, and Parlor Chairs; And common and other Chairs.

LOOKING-GLASSES Of every description on hand, and new glasses for old frames, which will be put it, on very reasonable terms, on short notice.

He also keeps on hand, or furnishes to order, Hair, Corn-husk, Hair and Cotton top Mattresses. COPFINS, OF EVERY KIND, Made to order, and funerals attended with a Hearse, whenever desirable. Also, liouse painting done to order.

The above, and many other articles are furnished to customers cheap for cash or exchanged for approved country produce. Cherry, Maple, Poplar, Lin-wood and other Lumber suitable for the business, taken in exchange for furniture.

Remember the shop is on Market street, Clearfield, and nearly opposite the "Old Jew Store."

December 4, 1551

JOHN GUELICH

A NOTHER BIG "FLOP!"

WM. P. JOHNSON. : : : : : J. H. BAILEY. Some two months ago it was formally announced that Pennville was "Right side up."

Recent events have proven the announcement

premature. Another "Flop" recently occurred, and chief among the improved, "interesting, and important" phases presented, is the one portraying the New, LARGE, AND COMMODICES STORE HOUSE, of JOHNSON & BAILEY

who have just returned from the East with a large and carefully selected stock of seasonable goods—of greater variety, and of better quality, than have heretofore been offered in this section of the county. Call at the New Store Ro Dry Goods and Groceries Hats, Caps. Boots and Shoes, Hard-ware, Queens ware, Hollow-ware, Wood and Stone-ware, Drugs, Oils,

Paints and Varnishes, Glass, Putty, Read ande Clothing, Clocks, Contectionary, Cheese, Flour,

Confectionary, Cheese, Flour,

Fish, and Provisions generally. Our stock of Hardware wall hear imspection, as it is full and of the hest fundity Our stock of Boots and Shees is unequalled in quality and low prices.

To the ladies, we would say—we intend to make the Notion and Dress department worthy their patronage. Articles not on hand will be specially ordered, to suit our customers.

The striking feature in the "Flop," and the one we would keep before the people is, the very Low PRICES AT WHICH WEARE SELLIME. The public are invited to give us a call. Bring on your Produce, your Boards, Shingles, Grain, Perk, Butter, Eggs. Dried Apples, Rags. &c. Our motio, "Chearest & Best. JOHNSON & BAILEY."

Pennville, August 28, 1867.

G ROCERIES—the cheapest in the county, at Mossop's.