

We publish the following lines, on account of their originality and simplicity.

Melancholy Accident.

Which took place on the 2nd day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1826, in C. (Thomas) township, Columbia county, which filled the spectators with sorrow.

White men and colour'd too, Give ear to me while I do read to you Of two young men of either kind, Who disagreed while in their prime,

Soon after this they did agree, And from the world they were set free, And in one well, they did unite, And in their graves they lay aright.

Hyman Cleaver descended into the well; It was not long until he fell; The damp and sulphur strong was there, Which took from him the lovirg air.

This noble Samuel with speed went down, For to raise Hyman above the ground, But death laid hold of him likewise, And took him to the other world.

Their kind did then their bodies take, And laid them out in beauties shape; Their friends were set for all around, To come and lay them under ground.

W. M.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

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

FELLOW CITIZENS.—Among the various duties enjoined by the Constitution on the Executive magistrate, none is more important and more frequently perplexing than that of giving to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth, and recommending to their consideration, such measures as he should judge expedient.

On this occasion I am happily relieved from much of the anxiety and embarrassment attendant upon the discharge of this duty, by referring your attention to the annual message which I had the honor to transmit to the Legislature on the 8th day of January last.

In that message, I felt it to be my imperative duty, to enter into a full and elaborate exposition of my views on several deeply interesting subjects connected with the public welfare, and especially on the subjects of the internal improvements of the Commonwealth, the public debt, and the reformation of the banking system.

In regard to these leading questions of vital interest, and the numerous subordinate matters intimately associated and blended with them, I can add very little to the opinion I expressed, and the recommendations I made in the message to which I have just referred you.

The experience of the past year has not only confirmed, but strengthened my conviction of the justice and propriety of those opinions and recommendations; the people at large with unexampled unanimity have approved them, and I earnestly invite your exe-

cutive deliberation, as I did that of the last Legislature, upon those portions of the message, to which you will find convenient access upon your journal. So far as respects the reformation of the banking system, I perceive no necessity for changing or modifying, in any essential particular, the recommendations therein contained; and I now here respectfully, but earnestly recommend the adoption of the recommendations I then made on this subject, and trust that the present Legislature will not separate, until they shall have made a searching and thorough re-

form of the imperfections and manifold abuses of the present system. To me it has been a subject of deep regret, that my recommendations on that subject, did not meet the approbation of the last Legislature, persuaded as I am, that the most beneficial influences would have resulted from their adoption.

It is not, however, too late to apply the remedy still, and I again recommend, with anxious earnestness, such measures for reforming the abuses of the banking system, to your early attention.

The resumption of specie payments on the part of the banks, which constituted a year ago such a formidable portion of the difficulty in the way of efficient legislation, is about to be consummated, without your active interference at all.

Under the resolution passed on the 3rd day of April last, those institutions are required on and after the 15th day of January next, to pay on demand all their notes, bills, deposits, and other liabilities, in gold or silver coin, on penalty of the forfeiture of their charters, upon certain conditions set forth in said resolution.

It affords me great pleasure to see, that although the day fixed for the resumption was more remote than I wished at the time, yet the period of indulgence has nearly passed away, and there is now good ground to believe, that the banks of the Commonwealth will, as they are required to do, be prepared again to discharge their liabilities in specie. Should they do so, by continuing strictly to observe the law, and by fulfilling the just expectations of the public, they may regain the confidence which they have hitherto lost, and more particularly may they do this, if proper measures be adopted for the better regulation and control of their operations.

One of the most immediate advantages resulting to the community, from the resumption of specie payments, will be the entire expulsion from circulation of the illegal and base of small notes that have been poured in upon us, from the neighboring States on all sides, in defiance of law, and of the most active endeavors to suppress them. I cannot, however, conclude this part of my subject, without recommending that no increase of our banking capital be made under any circumstances, and that effectual provision be made by law, that if any bank shall at any time hereafter, suspend specie payments, it shall be ipso facto a forfeiture of its charter.

Nothing short of an absolute and unconditional provision of this kind, can arrest the frequent over issues by the banks, induced by the inordinate cupidity of those under whose directions they may be conducted. Let the great principle be distinctly announced, as the foundation on which our banking institutions rest; that hereafter, there shall be no more suspensions of specie payments in Pennsylvania.

The condition of the public improvements during the past year, has been attended to by the officers entrusted with their management, with untiring assiduity. They are in a much better state of repair than they ever have been since their construction, and but little delay or interruption in business has occurred. The amount of business done on the main line, it is true, has been less than last year, but it has been owing to causes in no degree connected with the management of the public improvements.

I refer you to the Report of the Canal Commissioners, for a detailed and accurate statement of the present condition of the improvements, the sum required to complete the line in a state of forwardness, and the amount needed for repairs on the canals and rail roads now in operation, as well as the amount due for repairs heretofore done.

I feel it to be my duty again to state to the Legislature, that as soon as the portions of the unfinished lines of river, now almost completed, are finished, and upon which, if the work had been pushed on, more would have been lost to the Commonwealth than by hastening their completion, I think it full time for Pennsylvania to pause in her career of internal improvement, and test for a time the usefulness and value of the stupendous achievements she has already made.

I have been from the beginning the friend and advocate of the internal improvement system of this Commonwealth, and shall continue to be, so long as that system is confined to the main lines and their immediate tributaries; but our iron road debt, and the sacrifices which the people are called upon to make in consequence of it, for the payment of the interest, and of the principal as it falls due, freely admonish us to consult prudence and economy before we incur additional responsibilities, without a corresponding increase of means to meet them.

A revival of business, and the natural augmentation of our population and resources, will, in a short period of time, enable us to realize from our improvements, many of the advantages of which they are susceptible, and as I confidently trust, enough, and more than enough, to demonstrate the wisdom of their promoters, and the soundness of the policy, which led to the enormous investment of capital in their construction. When that day arrives, let canals and rail roads be constructed wherever they promise to be useful through out the wide extent of the Commonwealth; but until it does arrive, let us husband our resources, and diminish as much as practicable the burthens now imposed upon the people of the State.

The amount necessary to complete the main lines, and to put the improvements now in use in a thorough state of repair, will be fully informed by the Canal Commissioners, which amount of money I would respectfully suggest, should be immediately appropriated, so as to enable the Canal Commissioners to make proper arrangements to apply it with most advantage to the public service. Great and immediate repairs to our improvements are indispensable, if we hope to maintain the character of those improvements, and to prevent our immediate Northern and Southern neighbors from diverting from them a large share of the business of the West and South. The honor of Pennsylvania is too deeply involved in this measure, to admit of apathy or delay. Feeling as citizens of this Commonwealth should feel on this subject, I am sure no stronger motive to action could be presented to you, than that of enlightened and patrio-

tic pride, adding itself to you through the medium of official duty.

Very respectfully,  
J. M. SMITH,  
GOVERNOR.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The present amount of the public debt, is:

Table with 2 columns: Loan type and Amount.

PUBLIC PROPERTY.

Table with 2 columns: Property type and Amount.

Thus it appears that the resources of the Commonwealth are abundant, but not immediately available for the purpose of paying either the principal or the interest of the public debt.

It is proper here to remark, that it has not been the uniform practice of the Legislature, to provide sufficient revenue to meet the current demands upon the State Treasury. The various appropriations of the public treasure have exceeded the public income. Out of this state of things, a custom has grown up at the Treasury, to pay the de-

mands upon it, as they are from time to time presented, without reference to the specific appropriation of part of the monies thereon, to the payment of the interest upon the public debt, which falls due semi-annually, on the 1st of February and 1st of August.

Under this custom, it has happened, that from a deficiency of other means, the monies arising from tolls, auction duties, tax on collateral inheritances, dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks, and escheats, which had been set apart by law, towards the payment of the interest on the public debt, have been paid out indiscriminately to meet other demands upon the Treasury.

There will, therefore, be a deficiency in the fund for the payment of interest on the public debt, upon the 1st of February next, of perhaps \$800,000. This, as well as every other subject relating to the revenue, belongs exclusively to the Legislative branch of the government, that no recommendation of the Executive can be required, to bespeak for it the necessity for some special legislation in relation to its future disbursement.

(To be concluded next week.)

THE AMERICAN. Saturday, January 9, 1841. Democratic Candidate for Governor, Gen. DAVID R. PORTER.

On Friday morning, the 1st day of January, it commenced snowing and continued until night. The depth of the snow that fell that day, was about 15 inches. Sleighing is unusually fine. The river at this place was frozen over about two weeks since.

The weather on Monday and Tuesday last, was exceedingly cold. The thermometer at this place on Monday morning stood at 26 degrees below zero.

The Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions on Monday last gave notice that the number of Tavern Licenses in this place would, after April term next, when licenses are granted, be reduced to four. The number now granted is seven.

Our Court commenced on Monday last, and what is most singular in our criminal jurisprudence, not a single recognizance was returned to the court. The Grand Jury, therefore, after remaining spectators for the first day, handed in their usual presentment and were discharged.

The Baltimore American states that the Flour Inspection for the past year exceeds that of any former period, which, in round numbers, amounts to seven hundred and eighty thousand barrels.

The Hon. Felix GRENRY, one of the most talented members of the United States Senate, and a warm personal and political friend of Gen. Jackson lately died at his residence in Tennessee.

We have received the Governor's Message, but too late to publish more than a part this week. It is an able document and fully sustains his former views and opinion.

Snubbury Literary Society. Mr. Davis, the agent of the National Society of Literature, &c., was at this place a few days since, and formed a society, to be called the "Snubbury Literary Society."

The Mormons have broken ground in a neighboring township in this county, and have already, we understand, made some converts to their religion or mode of worship.

Legislature.

Nothing of importance has been done in this body yet. On the 31st ballot Mr. Crabb of Philadelphia was elected Speaker, by a vote of 53 to 44 over Mr. Middlewarth. The first ballot was a tie between Messrs. Broadhead and Middlewarth. The second was a tie between Messrs. Fleniken and Middlewarth.

Mr. Crabb, though a young man, is a gentleman of some talents and experience, will we think give general satisfaction.

The Tariff.

Our neighbors of the Sunbury Gazette seem to think that our opinion in relation to a Protective Tariff are incorrect. As we freely express our opinions, whatever they may be, so we are always ready to defend them.

The editor of the Gazette asks us "how we would answer an insult to the understanding and feelings of some 200,000 democrats, to assert that in voting for Gen. Harrison, they were actuated by motives degrading to their character, and so unworthy the name of freemen."

The editor of the Gazette asks us "how we would understand the voice of the Southern States, which are opposed to a tariff and went as unanimously in favor of Harrison as did the Northern States?"

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury states that the government was obliged to issue upwards of \$5,000,000 in treasury notes, instead of others redeemed. Does this show a surplus? Mr. Woodbury further advises Congress to adopt some measures to make up the deficiency of the revenue.

The Gazette further states that a higher tariff would be a tax upon the many for the benefit of the few, or in other words, for the benefit of the rich. Let us see how that fact is established.

The President deems this to be a proper occasion to remind the Government of Great Britain that the case of the "Caroline" has been long since brought to the attention of her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Lyford's Baltimore Commercial Journal, speaking of the measures taken by the citizens of Baltimore to secure the trade of the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal, says:

It has been resolved, that the canal boats descending the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal, must come direct to Baltimore, without striking back, by one way if they cannot by another; and to carry this resolution into effect, a canal is to be cut from a point on Bear creek, connecting with the head waters at Buck, Middle, Gunpowder, and Bush rivers, and the intervening estuaries; and a glance at Lucas's map (of the Chesapeake bay is the best) will demonstrate the feasibility of it.

A reconnaissance was made some years since, we are informed, by a competent Engineer, who reported that the whole expense would not exceed \$600,000 which is a mere particle of dust in the balance, a gain of the millions of dollars in its favor.

Notes of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Co., of one dollar altered to five, are in circulation. Counterfeit Notes of the Bank of Wilmington and Brandywine, are rather freely circulated in this neighborhood.

The Baltimore Bank of Baltimore has stopped payment. Salem Banking Co. N. J. its letter B payable to E. Ward, dated last of January 1839. Jas. Elwell, Cashier, Calvin Holden, President. Paper dark and thick.

The Legislature of the State terminated its annual session on the 19th ultimo, after having passed only twenty-seven acts, being the only state Legislature which put so commendable a restraint upon its legislative propensities. One of the acts, we observe, is "An act to provide against the suspension of specie payments by the banks of the state."

The Caroline.

Mr. Fox the British Minister has written a letter to Mr. Forsyth Secretary of state, demanding the liberation of Mr. McLeod, who was arrested and confined in the Lockport Jail a short time since, as one of the persons engaged in the destruction of the Steam-Boat Caroline.

It is with unfeigned regret that the President finds himself unable to recognize the validity of a demand, a compliance with which you deem so material to the preservation of the good understanding which has been hitherto manifested between the two countries.

The jurisdiction of the several States which constitute the Union is, within its appropriate sphere, perfectly independent of the Federal Government.

The President is not aware of any principle of international law, or indeed of reason or justice, which entitles such offenders to impunity before the legal tribunals, when coming so entirely within their independent and undoubted jurisdiction, because they acted in obedience to their superior authorities, or because their acts have become the subject of diplomatic discussion between the two Governments.

The method of redress, the legal prosecution of the offenders, and the application of their Government for satisfaction, are independent of each other, and may be separately and simultaneously pursued.

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ITEMS.

FATAL ECONOMY.—An actor in France was not long since poisoned fatally, by drinking a colored liquid which the manager had provided to be used in a play where wine was to be drank on the stage.

CURIOUS HISTORICAL FACT.—There have been five queens regnant of England, Victoria making the fifth. Victoria is the first who has brought an heir to the throne; and yet Elizabeth was the only unmarried queen regnant who preceded her.

PROSECUTIONS.—Our friend of the Phil, Spirit of the Times declines in future receiving any original poetry whatever. We recommend some of our correspondents to him, they never being able to send in an original piece.

Of the fifteen monarchs who were upon the thrones of Europe in 1788 five were deposed, two died of insanity, two poisoned, one murdered, one assassinated, one driven from his country, one died of sudden visitation, and only one of natural death.

The Oswego Commercial Herald states, that since September 1st, more than 100,000 lbs. flour were manufactured at the mills at that place—500,000 bushels of wheat were received, a \$10,000 paid for barrels since the time mentioned.

It seems that the fate of the Amistad negroes, depends upon a translation from a Spanish document, made to the last session of Congress. Mr. Janney declares that the translation is erroneous, and has asked for a committee of investigation.

Gen. Jackson came to Nashville on Monday, the Union of the 17th ult., and stopped at the Nashville Inn, where many of his friends called to pay their respects. He visited Judge Grady on Tuesday morning, and in the evening returned to Hermitage.

LETTERS. The Acadia brought out upward twenty thousand letters, being the largest amount is believed, ever brought by one ship.

A VILE RAUCAL. A black rascal in New-Orleans sneaked up behind a lady who was returning to market, snatched her purse, containing nine dollars, and ran off with it.

ALtered Notes. We yesterday saw a note of the issue of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, of the denomination of one dollar altered to five.

Roaring Creek Furnace. We learn that Dr. Steinberger, the enterprising proprietor of the Roaring Creek Iron works, has contracted with Mr. Samuel Ollis, Steam Engine Builder of this place for the rebuilding of the Machinery of the Furnace, to be in full blast again the first of February next.

Imports and Exports. The exports from the U. States have exceeded the imports only in seven years out of the fifty, viz:

The aggregate excess of imports in the other 43 years of the 50, reaches the enormous amount of \$803,438 11. Deduct excess of exports as above 51,331 20. Net excess of imports in 50 years \$752,106 91.