

TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN," HENRY B. MASSEY, PUBLISHERS AND JOSEPH EISELY, PROPRIETORS.

SUNBURY AMERICAN AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL.

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THE "AMERICAN" is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum to be paid half yearly in advance.

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of Republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism.

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. FELLOW CITIZENS: In performance of the duty enjoined on me by the Constitution, I proceed to give you such information of the state of the Commonwealth, and to recommend to your consideration such measures, as I think expedient, at the present time.

the counties, although required by the 6th section of the said act, to be transmitted to the Auditor General on or before the first Monday of September, in each year. It is, therefore, out of my power to inform you of the amount assessed under said act.

shrink from a duty enjoined by such considerations as these. It will be found on reference to the amount of taxes paid by the people, that comparatively a small portion is levied to discharge the interest on the public debt.

there can be little doubt that this class of claimants will not go away unassured and unsatisfied. The farmer whose lands have been cut up and destroyed will also be a just claimant for compensation for the injury he has sustained.

trolled, and now controls the transportation on our public works. It may possibly be supposed that the Canal Commissioners possess adequate power to do for this purpose, but this is to mistake the case.

Table with 3 columns: Amount, Year, and Description. Total: \$36,331,005 68.

During the existing state of things, the continuance of taxes assessed, for the payment of this interest, or at least of taxes of some kind for this purpose, appears to be indispensable.

The unprejudiced increase of our population and resources, cannot fail, in a few years to render our improvements so productive as to supercede the necessity for taxation.

For the debts now due to contractors on these lines, as well as for repairs on the other lines, rendered indispensable, and without which many portions of our canals would have been unavailable and useless throughout the season.

It is now, throughout the country, a matter of idle sport to talk of these investigations. The made by which they are brought about is well understood.

Table with 3 columns: Amount, Year, and Description. Total: \$36,426,239 78.

As the most efficient means that have occurred to my mind, I would suggest the following course. Let the Legislature ascertain from the financial departments, both the ordinary revenue, and the amount necessary to be raised annually, for the payment of the interest on the state debt, and the ordinary expenses of government.

These internal improvements, for the construction of which the principal amount of the State debt has been incurred, consists of 708 1/2 miles of canal and railways completed, and 165 1/2 miles of canal in progress of construction and nearly completed.

There is always, even under the most economical administration of affairs, a greater amount of expense incurred in managing and keeping in repair the great public improvements for the Commonwealth, than it would cost if they were in the hands of individuals.

The act of the last session entitled, "an act to provide revenue to meet the demands on the treasury, and for other purposes," under the provisions of which, these small notes have been thrown into circulation, having become a law by the sanction of two-thirds of the Legislature, according to the forms of the Constitution, notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, I have exerted myself to the utmost, to see its provisions properly carried into effect.

Table with 3 columns: Amount, Year, and Description. Total: \$924,959 15.

It is not to be disguised that we are deeply in debt; and that the times call for an unquailing fearlessness in our public functionaries, to meet the emergency, and to provide the means for our extrication.

When I first entered into the duties of the executive department, the question of completing the North Branch and Erie extensions was submitted to the action of the legislature.

That the public works should be unproductive, is owing in a great measure to a want of proper legislation on the subject, and unless this be remedied, it must impair public confidence in their ultimate utility.

On the 30th August, 1841, I accepted an offer of the Towanda Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars of the said loan, and on the same day I accepted an offer of the Erie Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The sum in the treasury, applicable to this object, on the first day of this month, independent of what will be received during the month was \$1,020,936 38, being \$124,042 62 more than is necessary to pay the interest due on the first of February next.

The means to pay off the loan under the act of 4th May, 1841—to pay the foregoing creditors of the state, and the interest on the public debt, must be provided before the Legislature adjourns.

Under all the circumstances, those two lines are to be forthwith finished, or abandoned for all time to come, and the entire amount of labor and money expended upon them thrown away.

This can only be remedied by vesting the Canal Commissioners with full and ample authority to adopt such measures, as in their judgment will be best calculated to avert individual enterprise, and to counteract the effects of the selfish and monopolizing system, that has controlled, and now controls the transportation on our public works.

After the most patient reflection on this subject, I am persuaded that the only effectual and certain remedy is to repeal the act so far as relates to the issue of these notes, and to provide adequate means to discharge the loan on which they are based.

it will be deemed a very inconsiderable matter, compared with the inconvenience the people suffer from the present state of things.

Connected with the repeal of this law, should be the enforcement of specie payments by the banks. An early day should be fixed for this event, at least as early as the first of June.

It seems to me it would be far better, to bring matters to a crisis at once, than to suffer under the slow, but death-like torpor that has already seized upon all.

The forbearance hitherto extended to the banks has not been without its uses. It has enabled the banks to test their alleged ability, and to extricate themselves from their difficulties, and has added much to the stock of our experience.

I have recommended to three several legislatures the propriety of selling the stock which the State owns in the Bank of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Bank, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, & used every argument that I could bring to bear upon the subject.

I have recommended to the Legislature the propriety of selling the stock which the State owns in the Bank of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Bank, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, & used every argument that I could bring to bear upon the subject.

Before I discuss the subject touching the banks, I desire to call your attention to the policy of rechartering banks, by the legislature, pending the present session, at all.

On the contrary, the very limitation shows that its existence is to be terminated at the time designated. Its stockholders know this, and cannot complain if held to their bargain.

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