

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives

GENTLEMEN:—The general health of the people, the rich rewards of husbandry, the quickening spirit that pervades trade and industry, the enlarged prosperity of our country, and its advance in moral and intellectual attainments—these, under a just sense of our dependence, swell our grateful acknowledgments, at this time, to Him from whose beneficence they all proceed. Nothing has occurred since the adjournment of the Legislature, to interrupt the harmony or check the energies of our Commonwealth. On the contrary, intelligent enterprise has been every where crowned with success.

The exertions of our people to meet the engagements of the State have thus far been successful. The payment, by a number of Counties, of the whole amount of their taxes for 1845, several months before the time at which they have heretofore been collected, added more than \$200,000 to the effective revenues of the year; and the last Legislature having excluded certain classes of debts from the claims to be immediately provided for by the Treasury, we have been enabled to pay the interest which fell due on the funded debt within the past fiscal year. On the first day of the present Session, the balance remaining in the Treasury was about \$525,000, which, with the accruing revenues, will be applicable to the demands of the first of next month. We have thus the reasonable and gratifying assurance, that the interest will also be punctually paid. The public debt of Pennsylvania, on the 1st December, 1845, as appears from the report of the Auditor General, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt, Amount. Includes Funded Debt, Relief notes in circulation, Interest Certificates outstanding, Due to Domestic Creditors, etc.

The interest upon which according to the Auditor General's computation for 1845, is \$2,023,996 09

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of December, 1844, was \$663,851 88

The receipts into the same, during the year ending on the 30th November last, as appears in detail by the reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer, were 3,010,062 34

Making an aggregate sum of \$83,073,913 22

The payments from the Treasury, during the same period, were according to the reports of the same officers, \$83,200,928 13

Which being deducted from the above, shows the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Dec. 1845, being less by \$279,995 79, than it was on the 1st December, 1844.

The net amount of available outstanding taxes on real and personal estate, after making allowances for collections and exonerations, on the 1st Dec. 1844, was estimated by the late State Treasurer at \$857,301 71. It appears however, from a subsequent estimate, founded upon more full returns, and a more accurate knowledge of the extent of exonerations, that the amount actually outstanding on that day, was 1,009,778 03

The net and available amount outstanding on the 1st Dec. 1845, is estimated at 874,544 50

The amount of outstanding taxes on the 1st Dec. 1845, is, therefore, less than it was on the 1st Dec. 1844, by the sum of 133,233 33

Adding to this sum the difference between the balance in the Treasury on the 1st Dec. 1844, and the 1st Dec. 1845, 277,965 79

We have an aggregate reduction of the balance in the Treasury and of outstanding taxes on the 1st day of December, 1845, as compared with the same items on the 1st Dec. 1844, of 411,199 32

From this statement it is apparent, that the receipts into the Treasury, during the year, derived from taxation on real and personal estate, and other sources of revenue properly belonging to the year, were less than the demands upon the Treasury for the same period, by the amount above stated. And it is also apparent, that if the Legislature had not postponed the payment of the Domestic Creditors, and the interest on the certificates issued for interest, and if the cancellation of a portion of the relief notes, required under existing laws to be cancelled, had not been deferred, the whole balance in the Treasury would have been exhausted on the 1st of December last.

For the purpose of convenient reference, I have appended to this communication, a summary statement (marked A.) of the receipts and expenditures of the past year, with an estimate, prepared with much care and deliberation, for the current year, ending on the 30th November, 1846.

According to this, the receipts of the year from all sources, including \$1,300,000, from taxes on real and personal estate, will be \$3,217,700 00

Which added to the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Dec., 1845, 364,886 00

Makes an aggregate of \$3,602,686 00

Deducting from which the estimated payments during the same period, \$3,513,996 00

We arrive at an estimated balance in the Treasury on the 1st December, 1846, of \$88,690 00

Which is less by \$296,296 09, than it was on the 1st Dec. 1845.

The amount of outstanding taxes on real and personal estate, considered available, on the 1st Dec. 1845, was \$774,544 50

To this is to be added the assessment for 1846, which, according to the best estimates, will yield a net revenue, after deducting allowances for expenses of collection and exonerations, of \$1,160,000 00

Making an aggregate of \$2,054,544 50

If from this aggregate we deduct the estimated collections from these sources, during the year, 1846, \$1,300,000 00

The difference, \$754,544 50 will be the estimated amount of taxes, which, on the 1st Dec. 1846, will remain outstanding—being \$120,000 00 less than was outstanding on the 1st day of December, 1845.

When to the reductions, thus to take place, in the outstanding taxes within the current year, \$120,000 00

We add the difference between the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st day of December, 1845, and the estimated balance in the Treasury on the 1st of Dec. 1846, \$296,296 09

we arrive at an aggregate reduction of these two items, within the fiscal year, ending 31 Nov. 1846 of \$116,296 09

From this view of the subject it is apparent, that the assessment of the year 1846, on real and personal estates, and the revenues of the year proper, derivable from all other sources, taken together, will be insufficient to meet the demands upon the Treasury, during the same period, by the sum of \$416,296 09; and that in supplying the deficiency the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st of Dec. 1846, will have been reduced to \$88,690 00, and the arrears of outstanding taxes to the sum of \$754,544 50. It is plain, therefore, that our present financial system is inadequate to supply the means of meeting all the demands on the Treasury, except when aided from the balance which had accumulated before the payment of interest was resumed, and by collections from the arrearages of taxes of former years—both of which will soon be exhausted.

I am constrained to add, that all these calculations and estimates, presuppose that the demands on the Treasury will not be permitted to transcend their ordinary limits, and that no appropriations will be made by the Legislature to new objects. These are not anticipated, because in the present state of the finances, every new appropriation may well be regarded, not as a grant of money unincumbered in the Treasury, but rather as an abstraction of funds, specifically appropriated already, and rightfully belonging to the public creditors.

The deficit in our means, under existing laws, presents for the deliberation of the General Assembly, a topic of paramount importance. It may be remembered that, in the month of January last, I expressed the opinion, in an Executive message, that our finances had not then reached a condition to enable us, permanently, and at once, to resume payment of the full interest on our public debt.—I regret that subsequent examinations and reflection, have not permitted me to believe that I was then in error. But the Legislative action on the question has changed the entire aspect of our duties, and rendered it useless to revert to former views of policy.

The payment of interest on the funded debt of the Commonwealth, was, in fact, resumed on the first of February, 1845. By that act, the State asserted her present ability to meet her engagements; and it must be our care that the pledge, thus renewed, be not again violated. The credit, fidelity and honor of Pennsylvania, all demand that, henceforward, the interest on her public debt shall be punctually and fully paid.

Heretofore, we might have pleaded the unexpected failure of the Depository Bank of the State, a few days before the interest was payable, and when the moneys appropriated to its discharge were accumulated in her vaults.—The sudden destruction in value of nearly the entire currency in general use—the prostration of individual credit, and the deep and universal pecuniary embarrassment of the people. But now, all are prospering, the currency is restored to a good degree of soundness—our revenue system, though still imperfect, has greatly increased in effectiveness and certainty—enterprise is renewed, and the people, happy in their institutions, and confident in themselves, look to the appropriate action of the Legislature to make provision to satisfy the public wants.

The present period is, in truth, the crisis of our affairs. Prompt and effective measures now, to make a moderate addition to our revenue, will restore to Pennsylvania, for all future time, that proud position from which she has temporarily been made to stoop, by a course of policy that never met the approval of her people. But the addition must be made at once. Unless the estimates that have been presented, shall prove essentially erroneous, the balance in the Treasury, on the first of December, 1846, will not exceed one hundred thousand dollars. It is therefore, obvious, that if the receipts of the Treasury, during the months of December, 1846, and January, 1847, do not greatly exceed the receipts of the corresponding months of any preceding year, when the amount of outstanding taxes was greater than it will be, then a deficit must occur in the means of the Treasury to pay the interest, which will become due on the 1st of February, 1847. The necessity of the adoption of immediate and efficient measures, to guard against a result which would be so fatal to the renewed faith and honor of the State, cannot be too strongly enforced upon the attention of the Legislature.

Intimately connected with the subject of our finances, is that of the Banking system of the State. The evils that have resulted from the manner in which it has been administered, and some of those more essentially connected with its organization and tendencies, have been felt by all. Yet, it may well be doubted, whether the whole of the mischief which it has investigated, have been traced back to their fruitful and pernicious cause. Not only has it stimulated individuals to ruin, but States have been led by its seductive and corrupting influences, into a course of wild extravagance, and consequent bankruptcy. Public debt has been contracted, even the interest of which could scarcely be met, by the most onerous taxation; while, in other cases, the faith of the government, which ought always to be held sacred, has been violated in time of profound peace.

The history of Pennsylvania, since the beginning of the year 1836, is a painful illustration of this truth. In December, 1835, when Governor Wolf retired from office, two months before the incorporation of the Bank of the United States, the State debt of Pennsylvania was \$24,589,743 32. It is now, exclusive of the amount received as a deposit from the general government, \$40,986,383 22, making an increase of the State debt, in ten years, of \$16,396,640 00, notwithstanding the receipt, in the mean time, of \$2,967,514 78 of surplus revenue from the United States, and \$3,446,780 21 as premiums for Bank Charters.

In contemplating this startling fact, we naturally look round for the most obvious objects of State policy, for which this vast aggregate of twenty-two and three quarter millions of dollars has been expended.

We find none of any magnitude. The main line of Canal and Railway, between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, has been completed, and was in successful operation. The Delaware division, the Susquehanna and North Branch divisions, to the mouth of the Lackawanna, the West Branch division to Queens' Run, the Braver division to New Castle, the Franklin line, and the French Creek Feeder, were all substantially finished when Governor Wolf left the Executive Chair; and the sum of \$24,619,000, was all that remained to be paid for completing them.

The State had reached a point in her improvement system, at which she could have suspended operations without loss. The scheme of direct taxation, to pay the interest on State loans, which had been introduced under Governor Wolf's administration, was admonishing the people of the inconvenience of a public debt. Every thing indicated that the further progress of our State improvements was to be deferred, till time had tested the productiveness of the finished works and the increasing development of our resources had invited and justified their further extension.

It was at this time, that the act of 18th February, 1836, was passed, entitled "an act to repeal the State tax on real and personal property, and to continue and extend the improvement of the State by Rail Roads and Canals, and to charter a State Bank, to be called the United States Bank." The first section of this act repealed the system of taxes, which had been devised for the protection of the public credit—while, by other sections more than two millions of dollars to be received from the Bank, were appropriated at once to the prosecution of Company works, and the commencement of new ones, under direct charge of the State. To enable the Commonwealth to consummate this wild extension of improvements, six millions of dollars were promised as a premium at loan to the State, at an interest of four per cent., and other loans at the same rate were to be made when required, to the amount of one million of dollars annually. Under the impetus of this Act, and the influence which effected its passage, a new series of improvements were begun at once, a few of which after the expenditure of many millions, now forming part of the public debt, and the cause of increased taxation, have been abandoned by the State, and have passed, most of them, into the hands of companies, which have paid no consideration for them.

It even seems, that the State has not limited its gratuity to the works thus commenced. The Braver division, and the Wyoming line on the North Branch, embracing forty-three miles of Canal in actual use, and the French Creek Feeder, costing together, \$1,222,227 81, and which were finished in 1835, have been given away to companies, and leave the State with a less extended system of improvements now, than it had when the bank of the United States was chartered.

The progress of these works was marked by the declining credit of the State, until, after the most desperate efforts, the sale of a further suspension to the banks in 1840, and a loan in 1841 by the State to herself, by the device of issuing relief notes—the proclaimed bankruptcy of the Commonwealth locally arrested them.

But he will do not stop here. When the works were abandoned, the State was largely indebted to the contractors, whose claims were regarded as of primary obligation. To satisfy them, a law was passed requiring the sale of the Bank stock, and other stocks, which were owned by the State. These sales, which had cost the Treasury nearly \$1,200,000, were, at a most unpropitious moment, sacrificed for a fraction more than \$1,405,000.

However painful these recollections of pecuniary loss may be, there were attendant circumstances of a graver and more momentous concern to the State. A new element of power found its way into our elections. The elective franchise was violated and abused—the declarations of the public will were disregarded and defied, and the very existence of our free institutions was menaced with revolt and destruction. I allude to the memorable crisis of 1838, when a direct attempt was made, by the leaders of a minority, to usurp the government, and to substitute their dictation for the voice of the majority of the people.

These scenes had their origin, beyond doubt, in a spirit of reckless confidence in the power and corrupting influence of money to control the State.

As if from these political considerations, the influence of a vitiated paper system upon the general and ordinary interests of life, is painful and pernicious. Altho' there has virtually been nothing in the organization of Banks to limit the extent and define the character of their issue, but the discretion of the directors. A few individuals, constituting the official portion of the Boards of management, are, in fact, the depositaries of this discretion; and as a general rule, subject to no doubt to many honorable exceptions, it is exercised with primary, if not exclusive reference to the supposed interests of the Bank.

While the business of the country prospers, and the spirit of speculative enterprise is stimulated by success, they extend their accommodations liberally, and fill the channels of circulation with a redundant and a depraved currency. An unnatural rise of prices is the consequence. Importations increase in defiance of any discriminating tariff—extravagance invades all the departments of society—infinite credit invites to a limitless extension of indebtedness, till, at last, the laws of trade, unchanging as those of an ure, produce reaction, and the whole artificial machinery is crushed. The people of the country are indebted to the cities—the cities are indebted abroad, where the promoters of the banks are called upon to redeem their notes in coin. This they can only do by drawing in their means, refusing new accommodations, and pressing their debtors for payment. The circulation of the country is suddenly contracted, property is sacrificed, in many instances without relieving the debtor; and his energies are paralyzed by hopeless insolvency.

Such, within the recent memory of all of us, has been the action of a vitiated banking system on the faith of the State, the stability of her institutions, and the free energies of her people. It has taught us a grievous lesson of suffering; but it will not have been altogether unproductive of good, if it has impressed on the solemn and imperative duty of guarding against a recurrence of similar evils.

The abuses of the banking system are found in many forms; but they are essentially the same in their origin and result; excessive issue of paper, and its consequent depreciation. To give the power of manufacturing money, yet effectually to limit its exercise by legislation, is practically impossible. It is obvious, that no enactment can absolutely prevent the unlawful issue of paper by a bank, which has the lawful right to issue any.—Returns of bank officers, however exactly prescribed, or honestly made, give no security for the periods that elapse between their return; and inspections of the affairs of the Banks by commissioners, which have been resorted to in other States, are apt to induce a dangerous reliance on the vigilance of such officers.

It may be, that the principle of individual liability for corporate engagements, which has recently been invested in some of our charters, may, when properly extended and made more directly operative, secure not only the creditor from loss, but the currency from dangerous fluctuations. The experiment should be fairly made in the case of every Bank that may ask a renewal of its charter. That its progress may

be the better tested, I respectfully recommend that the Banks be required to make monthly returns of their condition, to the Auditor General; and that these be so arranged, as to present a more complete and exact view of their transactions, than is furnished under the existing law. This will facilitate the future inquiries of the Legislature; and the periodical publication of the returns, will secure to such of the banks, as are legitimately administered, the regard of their faithfulness; in the increased confidence of the public. I need scarcely add, that the claims of the banks to general confidence should be thoroughly investigated, and fully ascertained, before their charters are extended.

These recommendations have special reference to applications from existing banks. In any judgment the capital now invested in these institutions is amply adequate to the business wants of the community. The times do not indicate the present necessity of any additional stimulus to the spirit of enterprise, and I cannot allow myself to hazard, by any act of mine, a possible renewal of the excesses, which we have witnessed so recently.

Peninsular conditions in an eminent degree the three great elements of individual and national wealth, a prolific commerce, an manufacturing and the pursuits and industry of the people are profitably divided among them. Its hills and mountains are shrouded everywhere with inexhaustible supplies of iron ore, and mineral coal; and her valleys abound with water power for propelling machinery, in the midst of the finest agricultural regions. She has constructed, at great cost, a line of improvements by canals and railways, connecting the waters of the Atlantic with those of the great West; which not only affords our own citizens a cheap and convenient mode of transporting their products to market, but also benefits the internal trade and commerce of a large portion of the other States of the Union.

The North and West Branch Canals, and the Delaware Division, in connexion with various improvements owned by companies, besides opening markets to the productions of the farmer, furnish outlets for our coal and other minerals, by which not only our own citizens are supplied, but also those of the neighboring and Eastern States, to the great advantage of both. Many parts of the State are also abundantly favorably situated for the growing of wool, and other great staples of national industry; and the successful application of mineral coal to the smelting of iron, has given a new impetus, among us, to this most important of all the branches of manufactures.

It is not surprising, therefore, that our people feel a deep anxiety in regard to the adoption or the change of any policy, on the part of the federal government, which may be supposed to affect such great interests. The regulation of a tariff on imports, so as to favor the development of our domestic resources, and give satisfaction to the various parts of the Empire, has long been a vexatious and exciting question. Its influences for good or evil have no doubt been greatly exaggerated in different sections of the country. The true policy of the nation would seem to lie between the extremes of those, who claim high duties for the mere purpose of protecting particular interests, and those who would not discriminate at all, in laying revenue duties, for the purpose of favoring the productions and industry of our own country.

Any course of policy which would have the effect to check the intelligence and honest enterprise of our citizens, and to retard the development of our national resources, can never receive the sanction or acquiescence of the people of this confederacy. It is readily conceded, that no more moneys ought to be collected from imports than are necessary to meet the constitutional requirements of the government, economically administered. But, on the other hand, it is maintained with entire confidence, that in laying duties for this purpose, such discrimination as to protect as well as revenue ought to be made, as will favor our own productions and industry, particularly in reference to articles which are of primary national importance, and indispensable in time of war.

This policy was expressly avowed in the first revenue law for levying duties upon imports, passed after the adoption of the federal constitution, and has been recognized and adhered to by the federal government, and sanctioned by the people of the States, from that day to the present, unless, indeed, the compromise act of 1833 be considered an exception; and it will be adhered to so long as we have a due regard to our individual and national prosperity and independence.

A tariff of discriminating duties based on the principles indicated, and so adjusted as to secure permanence in its provisions,—sustained in its protective effects by the operations of a constitutional treasury, in regulating the issues of our currency, and checking excessive importations of merchandise, will, it is believed, give more stability to the general interests and business of the country, than any other system of policy within the control of the federal government.

The Governor here adverts to the Report of the Canal Commissioners, and our public works, which are yearly increasing in value. It appears that \$6,231 tons of Iron, in various forms, passed over the canals and rail roads. About 2,000,000 tons of anthracite coal have been mined and carried to market. Not less than 13,000,000 bushels of bituminous coal was consumed at Pittsburg, and 6,000,000 taken from thence down the Ohio.

I advert, with great satisfaction, to the growing confidence of the people in the success and management of our State improvements, which has been secured by the vigilance and economy of the Canal Commissioners.

The importance of these works, as a contribution to the national defence, and their value to the citizens of other States, as well as our own, cannot be too highly appreciated. They are now yielding a considerable portion of the revenue to meet the claims upon the Treasury. The security of the public creditors, and the faith and honor of the State, are most intimately connected with their success and productiveness. They therefore, demand the special care and vigilance of the Legislature, by which the income they are now yielding may be secured and advanced with the increasing business of the country.

In this connection, there are few objects of national concern in which Pennsylvania has a deeper interest, than in the appropriation for removing the obstructions to the navigation of the Ohio river, to the city of Pittsburg, which is a part of commercial entry. The claims upon the State, and having guarded them, have every reason to believe, that these laws are strictly and honestly administered by the accountant and Treasury Departments, and that the influence of their authority and example, has had a salutary effect upon all the public agents. Much,

however, remains to be done to perfect our system of taxation. Complaints are made, that several of the taxes now levied are rendered unproductive, as well as oppressive, by imperfections in their assessment. Personal estates, that should bear a share of the public burthens, escape altogether, by the interposition of a trust, between the ostensible and the beneficial owners. The property of many corporations is exempted from taxation by special laws, while that of others of the same classes, and equally meritorious, remains bound. Securities for the payment of money, are by the words of the laws, most taxable, which are, in fact, the mere evidence of passing transactions, and can, in no degree, be regarded as even temporary investments of the property of those in whose hands they are found. The simple exhibit, by the citizen, of his professional estate, made without any other sanction, is substituted, generally for a less equivocal mode of ascertaining its amount and character. It should not be forgotten, that the tax which one citizen evades, or is legally relieved from, is distributed among the rest, and forms an addition to their burthens. Justice to the tax-payers requires that this should not be suffered. The whole subject, however, is one peculiarly within your province, and I commend it to your prompt and serious consideration.

The Gov. then refers to the Adjutant General's Report, and the Militia System, and pays a respectful compliment to our volunteers, as a well disciplined body of soldiers. The incalculable benefits of our system of Common School instruction, are extending themselves throughout the whole Commonwealth, strengthening, improving, and elevating mind, and preparing the generation which is to succeed us, for usefulness and just apprehensions of duty. In country districts, where the population is scattered, and a large portion of the children find active employment for near half the year, the system cannot reach all the ends that are accomplished in cities and towns. But the signal and extensive advantages resulting from it, throughout the State, as shown in the comprehensive report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, give assurance, that Pennsylvania has laid the broad and deep foundation for the perpetuity of her institutions, by securing a sound, intellectual and moral education, for all her children.

The Gov. then refers to his visit to the Schools in Philadelphia; and also recommends a rule giving the Executive time to deliberate on bills presented to him at the close of the session. He then concludes with a tribute to the memory of General Jackson.

FRANCIS R. SHUNK, EXECUTIVE CHIEF, Harrisburg, January 7th, 1846.

THE AMERICAN. Saturday, January 10, 1846.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.—We lay before our readers, this week, the Governor's Message, with the exception of a few paragraphs, which we have condensed for want of room. Its brevity is a great recommendation, and we trust the Governor's example, in this particular, will not be lost on his successors. The Message contains a plain and sensible abstract of the affairs of the Commonwealth. Though brief, it is sufficiently explicit in all its details, and will, in its recommendations, meet with general approbation.

The Governor's Message this week necessarily crowds out much other matter. See first page for a number of interesting articles.—On our last page, a Mill-rice Miracle.

We are under obligations to Sec'y Buchanan, Vice President Dallas, Hon. Simon Cameron, of the Senate, and the Hon. James Pollock, for valuable public documents, for which they will accept our thanks.

WASHINGTON LETTER.—Our readers will find in this week's paper, another interesting letter from our correspondent at Washington. The news from the seat of Government is now eagerly looked for, and as our correspondent has the means of acquiring the most early and authentic information, his statements may be relied on.

The soft weather has nearly destroyed the sleighing. Unless we soon have another edition of freezing weather, we fear that we shall have a break up in the river.

UNION TIMES.—John M. Easom has retired from this paper, which is now under the editorial control of John R. Eck, under whose care it makes a handsome appearance. We wish both gentlemen success in their undertakings.

EDWARDS PROMOTED.—John W. Forney, Esq., late of the Lancaster Intelligencer, has been appointed Aid-de-camp to the Governor, with the rank of Lieut. Colonel. We congratulate friend Forney upon his promotion in the military line. We are willing to wait our turn, but will mention in time, that we expect our next Governor to favor us with an appointment in his staff, with the highest rank possible. In "these piping times of peace," editors do more fighting than any other species of paper heroes.

GREAT ON HOGS.—Our friends of the Everlasting State of Williamsport, produce not only great men, but great grunter also, as appears by the following from the Locomotive Gazette. No people can long remain in darkness, when Greece in its most flourishing state is so near, to afford them light.

OUR FRIEND and fellow citizen, HERBERT McCUBBER, Esq., (some are informed,) butchered a brace of hogs last week, which together weighed TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN POUNDS! Clever pigs these, and the heaviest of the season, unless we except the one killed a few weeks since by Mr. S. Caldwell, also of the "Everlasting State," which weighed, we believe, THIRTY HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE!

THE PLANET VENUS may now be seen in clear weather at mid-day, about three hours behind the sun, and a few degrees north of the sun's path. The intensity of its light will continue to increase till the 26th of January, which is the time of its greatest brilliancy.

CANAL COMMISSIONER.—The Harrisburg Union contains a communication recommending Col. H. C. Eyer, as a candidate for Canal Commissioner. Col. Eyer was a prominent candidate before the last convention, but withdrew, for the purpose of promoting the harmony of the party. E. Y. Bright, Esq., of this county, has also been recommended. Either of these gentlemen would make a good officer.

CORN COCK.—The Halifax Herald thus speaks of the virtue of corn cobs as food for cattle during the winter. It is a subject of great importance at present, when food is scarce and high, and well merits the attention of our farmers and others.

A poor woman, in Reading, whose dependence for herself and several small children, was upon her cow, the keeping of which was a heavy item. Having noticed a large quantity of corn cobs that had been thrown away, (a practice which many would be wise farmers are guilty of) this poor woman asked permission to take some of the cobs, which she pruned and boiled and fed to her cow. She again went for more cobs, a Tanner observed the use she made of them, broke them for her in his bark mill. In the spring the Tanner had a curiosity to see how the woman's cow had fared upon corn cobs, went to look at her, and to his surprise, instead of getting her hide he found the cow sick, and in fine order, and was assured that her only food during the winter had been boiled cobs, and she had produced more milk and butter, than other cows feed in the usual way.

The Correspondent of the Phila. Ledger, speaking of the policy of Mr. Calhoun, says: "The Whigs may ultimately demand that the tariff of '42 shall not be disturbed, as a condition of their support to the policy of the great southern statesman. The interest of the Tariff States might lead them to deem, that the question should remain in an unsettled state; though it is, perhaps, presuming too much, to suppose that they could be influenced by a desire to preserve the tariff to advocate measures calculated to create a necessity for revenue. The Oregon question, in itself, has such unquestionable merits, that it might fairly be supposed to influence their action, irrespective of any other consideration."

The decision in the House yesterday and to day, I think conclusively shows that the crisis is not passed. The remarks of Messrs. Adams, Ingersoll, Harralson, Darrah, King, Douglass, Owen and Baker, will satisfy those who keep themselves "posted up" on this Oregon question, that the movement of Mr. Calhoun, however statesmanlike and patriotic his policy, may not result in the compromise so ardently desired.

The remarks of Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, clearly justify the inference that this committee, which it is understood will soon report on the subject, will recommend the giving of the notice to England, necessary under the treaty, to terminate the joint occupation.

The remarks of Mr. Preston King, of New York, are equally important, as indicating the feelings of that great State on this important question. It is well known that Mr. King in the House, and Mr. Dix in the Senate, represent the peculiar views of the majority of the democratic party in New York. Mr. King read, at the commencement of his speech to-day an extract from the London Times, predicting the probable course of Mr. Calhoun on the question, in the event of his return to the Senate of the United States. The prediction, in substance, was, that Mr. Calhoun would pursue the course which he actually had pursued on this question; and Mr. King asked, very significantly, how it happened that the views of the South Carolina Senator should thus be known in advance by the London editor? He referred them to a remark of Mr. Douglass, made yesterday, that a game was playing in this House to prevent speedy action on the Oregon question, and expressed his regret that Mr. Douglass's bill, of which he was in favor had not been postponed—it was the proper way to act at once on the bill for giving the notice. The British government, he said, whatever we may think of it, is a sagacious one—and they seem to rely with perfect security upon the word of the United States Senate. It was an extraordinary fact that the organ of the British government should foreshadow the ground of an American Senator, and claim a pledge on this subject. From whom could this have been communicated? But they do not understand the state of the question if they suppose that President Polk is playing a game in this matter, and endeavoring to humbug the people. It is not so. The President felt positive that the offer would be rejected by the British government, or it would not have been made. It was rejected, and thus the administration is saved from the injury of any supposed discrepancy in his views.

He was rejoiced when he heard from the President that negotiation had terminated, and that the question was to be left to the people of the United States and their representative. He believed that England would be rejoiced if this question would be settled by a division of Oregon on the terms proposed. But Oregon is ours. We have proclaimed to the whole world that Great Britain has no right to interfere on this Continent, even with other governments, and shall she be permitted to deprive us of what is clearly our own territory? This question, he was glad to say, was out of the hands of diplomacy. By diplomacy, our rights had more than once before been surrendered to Great Britain.

Great Britain did not desire a territory which she had declared to be a barren waste, valuable for its timber only—but desires a road over which she may send her powder, her balls, and her scalping knives, to her northern allies, in the long northern winters, which shut up the mouth of the St. Lawrence! This she hoped to accomplish by her diplomacy. He hoped that all the members of this house, who felt an interest in the question, would come up manfully and take a part in the discussion, and be careful to see that there is no cheating in the game in any quarter whatever.