

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

GENTLEMEN.—The Legislature has assembled at a season which is distinguished for the general health and prosperity of the people.

While we deplore the waste and wretchedness of our race, resulting principally from the influence of unjust governments, we are enabled, by comparing our condition with theirs, to appreciate the inestimable value of our own free institutions, and are moved to unite our grateful hearts in adoration and praise for the wonderful goodness of our Heavenly Father, who has multiplied our civil and religious blessings, and has not only preserved us from the horrors of want, but has enabled us, out of our abundance, to feed the hungry, and has made us a great and a happy people.

Since the last adjournment of the General Assembly, the peace which had so long subsisted between this nation and the other nations of the world, has been disturbed by the war between the United States and Mexico. The grave causes which have produced this rupture are as fully and satisfactorily set forth in the late annual message of the President to Congress. They show a dignified forbearance on the part of this government, under multiplied wrongs and aggressions, and a laudable desire to preserve peace while its blessings could be secured consistently with the national honor.—A free people, conscious that they ask nothing but what is right, cannot submit to wrong, and however much they may deplore the evils of war, their rights must be maintained. Hence Congress, on the 13th of May, 1846, announced, that by the act of Mexico a state of war existed between that government and the United States, and for the purpose of prosecuting it to a speedy and successful termination, the President was authorized to employ the militia, naval and military forces of the United States, and to call for and accept the services of fifty thousand volunteers.

In pursuance of the authority derived from this act, the President, on the 19th of May, 1846, requested the Executive of this State, to cause to be enrolled and held in readiness, for muster into the service of the United States, six regiments of volunteer infantry, each to consist of ten companies, to serve for twelve months, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged.

In accordance with this request, general orders were issued on the 23d of May, 1846, announcing to the citizen soldiers that the offer of six regiments of volunteer infantry would be accepted, to be held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States. In pursuance of this announcement, the offers of many companies of volunteer infantry, sufficient to fill nine regiments, were received and transmitted on the 15th day of July, 1846, to the War Department. The patriotism and zeal which were so promptly and cheerfully manifested on this occasion, by the volunteers of Pennsylvania, give proof of their devotion to the service of the country, highly creditable to themselves and honorable to the State.

The six regiments thus called for, were not mustered into the service.

On the 16th of November, 1846, a request was made by the President for one regiment of volunteers from this State, to consist of ten companies, to be continued in service during the war, with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. The request was announced on the 18th of November, 1846, to the volunteers who had previously tendered their services, and the request was promptly filled and mustered into the service of the United States at Pittsburg, on the 15th day of December. Six of the companies composing the regiment, were organized in Philadelphia; one in Pottsville; one in Wilkesbarre, and two in Pittsburg.

On the 14th December, 1846, a request was made by the President, for another regiment of volunteer infantry from this State, to serve during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. This request was filled, even with more promptitude than the former, and ordered to rendezvous at Pittsburg, on the 5th instant. One of the companies composing this regiment, was organized in Philadelphia; one in Reading; one in Mauch Chunk; one in Harrisburg; one in Danville; two in Cambria county; one in Westmoreland county; one in Fayette county, and one in Pittsburg.

The energy and the exalted patriotism which have thus been evinced by the citizen soldiers of Pennsylvania, are an admirable illustration of the workings of our free system, and of the strength of our government.

The officers and soldiers who have entered into the service of the country, are independent freemen, in the vigor of youth and manhood, intelligent and energetic, animated with the love of liberty, and proud of the dignity of being citizens of the United States. Such are the volunteers of Pennsylvania, who have filled ten regiments, and are ready to furnish any additional number that may be required.

In referring to the manly zeal of the soldiers, allusion to the benevolence of the citizens who provided for their comfort on the march, and who became the guardians of them when they left behind, and were dependent upon them, cannot be omitted.—These generous feelings, so admirably expressed, in which woman mingled the fulness of her patriotism, and the charms of her influence, cast a halo around the volunteer, when with lingering looks at the loved objects of home, he commended his wintry march for the seat of war, and gave him the assurance that the blessings of the soldiers' friends of the whole country, were upon him, and their protecting care around his family.

That compensation, in addition to the small allowance made by the laws of the U. States, should be provided for these brave men, who have devoted themselves to the country, is most reasonable. I submit, respectfully, to the General Assembly, the propriety and justice of invoking Congress to appropriate, for their use, such portion of the public land as may be sufficient to furnish a competent freehold to each of the officers and soldiers, who have, in compliance with the request of the President, volunteered to serve in the war with Mexico, and are mustered into the service of the United States. A better disposition, could not, in my opinion, be made of a part of the public domain.

It is to be regretted that, as the contingency which has arisen was not foreseen, there was no provision made by the Legislature, for defraying the expenses of the marching the volunteers to the place of rendezvous. The allowance made by the general government, for this purpose, was little more than sufficient, with the most rigid economy, to pay the cost of transportation. These men were hurried from their homes, with little time for preparation, and when they arrived, and were mustered into the service, the small sum for defraying their travelling expenses, which was their only compensation up to that period, was nearly exhausted. I submit to the General Assembly, the propriety and justice of refunding to them, the expenses

of the march to Pittsburg. The sacrifices they have made, and the spirit they have evinced, merit, in my opinion, this small acknowledgment from the representatives of the people.

It is proper to add, that although this subject has been presented to the general government, no provision has yet been made to defray the expenses incurred by the volunteers, in preparing themselves for muster into the service, under the request of the President, of the 19th of May, last. This subject, too, is worthy of the immediate consideration of the General Assembly.

A detailed report of the proceedings in this State, for organizing the troops, to serve in the Mexican war, will be made as early as practicable by the Adjutant General, and submitted, as soon as it is received, to the General Assembly.

In connection with this subject, it is my duty to state, that the industry and ability of Adjutant General Bowman, and his Assistant, Colonel Petriken, I have been essentially indebted, for the prompt, methodical and satisfactory arrangements, by means of which the duty that devolved upon me, in the organization of these troops, has been performed; and as existing laws make no provision, I respectfully submit, that suitable compensation for the services which have been rendered, should be promptly made to these officers.

The debt, and finances of the Commonwealth present one of the most interesting subjects that can engage the attention of the Legislature. The following is an exhibit of the State debt, on the 1st of December last, as appears from the Report of the Auditor General:

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt, Amount. Total funded debt, \$38,958,970 52. Relief notes in circulation, 1,081,664 00. Interest certificates, outstanding, 708,510 00. Interest certificates, unclaimed, 4,423 11. Interest on certificates, to August 1, 1845, when funded, 44,423 21. Domestic creditors, 96,275 47.

Total public debt, on the 1st December, 1846, \$40,750,577 00. Being \$196,516 22, less than it was on the 1st December, 1845. The payment of the interest on the funded debt had been suspended for two years, and a half, preceding the 1st of February, 1845, for which certificates were issued, which constitute a part of the existing debt. In consequence of the non-payment of the interest, the balance in the Treasury had accumulated on the 1st of December, 1844, to the sum of \$663,851 58; and on the 1st day of February, 1845, the payment of the interest on the funded debt was resumed, and has been continued up to the present period, and the credit and honor of the State maintained. This is a source of high gratification to our citizens, and has tended greatly to restore our good old Commonwealth to the elevated and proud position she formerly occupied, and which, I trust, she is destined to occupy for all time to come.

When, however, we mingle our congratulations upon her comparatively prosperous state of affairs, it is proper that the true condition of our resources should be accurately and critically examined, and always kept in view, not only to guard by simple provisions against the possibility of another failure, but to meet the demand upon the public Treasury, but to make provision for the commencement of a system, by reducing the public debt.

It has been my constant endeavor, especially in the annual messages of January last, and the annual message of the 21st of April, following, to improve upon the representations of the people, the necessity and importance of this subject. In presenting it to the Legislature, at the last session, it became my duty to show that the taxes assessed on real and personal estate, together with all the other revenue that accrued during the fiscal year, ending on the 30th of November, 1845, were less than the expenditures of the year, by the sum of \$114,159 32, which deficit was supplied out of the balance in the Treasury on the 1st of December, 1844, and by a diminution of the outstanding taxes. Thus,

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. On the 1st December, 1844, the balance in the Treasury was \$663,851 58. And on the 1st of December, 1845, it was 384,856 00. Showing a reduction of the balance in the Treasury of 278,995 59. On the 1st December, 1844, the estimated amount of available outstanding taxes was \$1,009,778 03. And on the 1st December, 1845, they were estimated at 874,544 50. Showing a diminution of the outstanding taxes of 135,233 53.

And making an aggregated diminution of the balance in the Treasury, and outstanding taxes, during the year ending 30th November, 1845, of \$414,159 32. This statement demonstrates that the taxes, and other revenues assessed, and accruing within the year, were less by the above sum, than the demands upon the Treasury, during the same period.

The financial operations of the year, ending on the 30th November, 1846, also exhibits a like deficiency, but less in amount. Thus, The balance in the Treasury on the 1st December, 1845, was \$384,856 00. And the estimated amount of available taxes outstanding at the same period, was 874,544 50. Making an aggregate amount of balance in the Treasury, and outstanding taxes on the 1st December, 1845, of 1,259,400 50.

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st December, 1846, was \$384,578 70. And the estimated amt of available outstanding taxes, at the same period was 542,688 04. Making an aggregate of the balance in the Treasury, and outstanding taxes, on the 1st December, 1846, of 927,266 74. Showing a diminution of the balance in the Treasury, and outstanding taxes, during the fiscal year ending on the 30th November, 1846, of \$332,822 25.

It thus appears, that the taxes assessed, and the other revenues accruing within the fiscal year just ended, were insufficient to meet the demands upon the Treasury, by the above sum. It will be perceived that the balance in the Treasury on the 1st of December, 1846, was greater than was estimated in the last annual message, and that the amount of the outstanding taxes has been reduced below the estimate then made.

As it was apparent that these recurring deficiencies, would soon exhaust the balance in the

Treasury, and all the arrearages of available outstanding taxes, I was impelled to urge upon the General Assembly, at their last session, with so much earnestness, the expediency of providing some additional revenue, to meet the demands of the State upon a permanent basis. Near the close of the session, an act was passed, entitled "An act to provide for the reduction of the public debt," which embraces some additional objects of taxation, and contains provisions for enforcing, more effectually, the intention of the act of 1844. It was, however, passed at a period of the session when there was no time for deliberation, and contains some provisions, which, in my estimation, ought to be modified. It seems to me, that an attempt to tax book accounts, and moneys due on contracts, will only prove vexatious to the citizens and officers, without adding substantially to the revenue. As the act of 1846 has not yet had time to produce any practical results, no certain estimate can be made of the amount of additional revenue it will produce; but, it is believed, that this law, together with the increase of the value of property, since the triennial assessment, will, if the present triennial assessment is fairly made, enhance the revenue derivable from real and personal estate to an amount equal to the deficiency that occurred in the accruing revenue of the last year. The loss of tolls, and the additional expenditures upon the public works, occasioned by the extraordinary flood of last spring, is a subject which may be properly noted here. By reference to the report of the Canal Commissioner, it appears that they have estimated the loss of tolls occasioned by the delay in opening the navigation, at the sum of \$150,000, and that the cost of extraordinary repairs, required in consequence of injuries by the flood, was \$111,516; making the aggregate loss to the State, by this unusual casualty, \$261,516. If this disaster had not occurred, the accruing revenue, exclusive of the balance in the Treasury on the first of December, 1845, and the taxes then outstanding, would have been nearly equal to the demands upon the Treasury, during the last fiscal year.

From the Canal Commissioner's Reports it appears, that the receipts from Canal and Railroad tolls, and charges for motive power, were— For the year 1843, \$1,017,941 12. For the year 1844, 1,167,603 42. For the year 1845, 1,090,979 43. For the year 1846, 1,295,494 76. Showing a gradual and steady increase, during the above period. Even last year, notwithstanding the delay in opening the navigation, they exceeded those of 1845, by the sum of \$94,515 33. There is good reason, therefore, to believe, that if the public works still continue to be conducted with the same degree of skill, industry, and integrity, with which they have been managed for some years past, the receipts from them will continue to increase, until the business upon them reaches their full capacity.

Some apprehensions have been expressed, that the construction of the great Central Railroad, between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, may be the means of diminishing the income from the improvements of the State. In this I do not concur; on the contrary, I entertain the opinion, that the increased commerce, which it will invite between our great Eastern and Western emporiums, and the regions which connect with them, will not only add to the revenues of the Columbia railway, but will greatly increase the productivity of all our public works. Such, I believe, has been the experience of New York; and such, I doubt not, will in a very few years, be that of our own Commonwealth.

I transmit, herewith, a statement showing the actual receipts and expenditures, for the last fiscal year; and also, an estimate of the same, for the present year, made with much care, upon full consultation with the other officers of the government. From this estimate, it appears that the receipts of the year will exceed the expenditures, by the sum of \$191,441 11.

The balance in the Treasury, on the 1st instant, was only \$138,886 68. It is, therefore, altogether probable, that it may become necessary to make some arrangement to anticipate a small portion of the revenue of the year, to meet the interest which will fall due on the 1st of February next. I recommend that some legal provision be promptly made for this purpose. This will not effect the financial calculations and estimated results of the year. I feel entire confidence that, taking into view the operations of the whole year, the results will sustain substantially the estimates that have been presented.

The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, which is now annually appropriated to the cancellation of the relief issues, and which is included in the estimates, is discharging that amount of the public debt yearly, and is, in fact, an existing sinking fund.

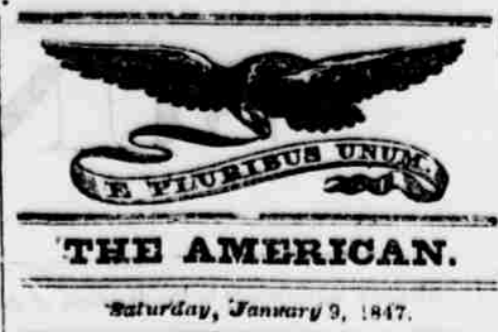
It, therefore, the conclusion at which I have arrived, shall prove correct, that the taxes assessed under existing laws, on real and personal property, with the ordinary revenues, and an amount from the public improvements, equal to that received during the past year, will prove sufficient to pay the interest on the public debt, and will discharge upon the Treasury, the annual increased tolls upon the public works, may be added to the present sinking fund of two hundred thousand dollars a year. From the experience of the three last preceding years this income may be fairly estimated, for some years to come, at one hundred thousand dollars per annum; and it is added annually to the existing fund for the cancellation of the relief issues, which will all be taken out of circulation in about three years; at which time the State will have a sinking fund, of half a million of dollars, to commence the liquidation of her funded debt. The application of this fund, annually, with its accruing interest, to the purchase of five per cent. State stocks, at par, will, at the end of ten years, discharge \$6,288,929 of the public debt, and, at the end of twenty years, \$10,832,821, which will reduce the debt, including the cancellation of relief issues, at the end of twenty three years from this time, to the sum of \$28,175,632. The net income from the public works will then, it may be fairly presumed, be more than ample to pay the interest on the State debt, and the people may be entirely relieved from all taxation, for the payment of interest. In fact, there is reason to believe, that the increased wealth of the State, and the accumulation of business on the public works, will, at a much earlier period admit of important reductions in the taxes, without retarding the construction of the foregoing plan for reducing the debt. Notwithstanding some may be disposed to view these suggestions as visionary, I have the most entire confidence in their practicability, provided the public works shall continue to be managed with integrity and skill, the tax laws fairly executed, and the government, in all its departments honestly and faithfully administered.

In connection with this subject, I respectfully recommend to the General Assembly, the propriety and policy of proposing to the people an amendment to the constitution of the State, under the form of the tenth article of that instrument, by which the income from the public improvements after deducting the necessary expenses for repairs and superintendence—the revenue arising from the State tax, on real and personal property, for a certain period, and such other items of income as it may be deemed expedient to include, shall be set apart and be applied to the payment of the interest on the public debt, and the gradual liquidation of the principal. Such an amendment, judiciously arranged, would, I apprehend, meet with the decided approbation of the people of the Commonwealth. It would concentrate public sentiment upon a fixed object—remove all doubt of the fulness of the public credit, and lay the foundation for the final extinguishment of the public debt. It would give an additional security and assurance to the people, and to the public creditors, that, in no event could the public revenue be diverted from its legitimate object, and would furnish conclusive reasons for the prompt and cheerful payment of the interest on the existing tax laws. Taxes, however correctly they may be arranged by law, fall to a certain extent, unequally upon the people, in consequence of their various circumstances and liabilities; but it is this unavoidable result, be added careless and irregular assessments, by which large amounts of property escape taxation, great injustice is done to those who make an honest and full return of their taxable property. In regard to the tariff, the Governor is of opinion that the power to impose discriminating duties which afford reasonable encouragement to manufactures, is constitutional, and adds:—"I am, therefore, in favor of such just discriminating duties as may be sufficient to sustain all our great National interests against injurious competition from abroad; such as will give to the home manufacturer, and producer, reasonable profits on his capital, and enable him to pay his workmen fair wages, without necessarily taxing the consumer." He next refers to the modification of the British Corn Laws, as a salutary and beneficial measure to this country. He then refers, with great satisfaction, to the management of the public works, and suggests the propriety of memorializing Congress to improve the Ohio river, from its mouth to Pittsburg. He then refers with satisfaction to the reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer. The Adjutant General's Report had not yet been received. In regard to the Geological Survey, the Governor says, that the State Geologist was to compile a memoir of the survey, which has never been done. The State has expended \$76,657 87 on the survey. The Governor also refers to the fact, that fifty-three private acts of last session remain in the Secretary's office, not enrolled or printed, on account of the small tax imposed upon them. The message next refers to the increasing number of divorces. During the first ten years after the act of 1815, there were 16 divorces; the next ten years, 42; and the last ten, 90. He next recommends the passage of a law, to procure accurate information in relation to statistics of crime. The Governor, in conclusion, speaks in complimentary terms of the industry, intelligence, enterprise and virtue of the people of Pennsylvania, and also of the Common School system.

Death of Alexander Barrow, U. S. Senator from Louisiana. Two of the most eminent physicians, Drs. BRIDGES and MACARTHUR, gave the closest attention to the case, and every recourse which the best professional skill and experience could suggest was adopted for his relief. In one of the consultations, Drs. CURRY and McLELLAN, of Philadelphia, who were at Barrow's side took part. Mr. BARROW continued to grow worse, and in the course of Monday it was evident that he could not survive. His bodily pain was intense and without abatement, and at five o'clock yesterday morning he breathed his last, being perfectly aware of his approaching end. A post mortem examination of the body was subsequently had, which disclosed at once to the medical gentlemen above named the peculiar cause of his death. In the diaphragm was found a general malformation—an opening or hole, through which a portion of the intestines had risen, and occupied a position behind the heart and lungs. The opinion of all present was unanimous and decided that no medical aid could in any way have reached the case, and that if even the actual condition of the patient could have been known, no art, medical or surgical, would have availed to avert death.

Throughout his brief and painful illness, Mr. BARROW received every attention which friendship and kind consideration could suggest; and on the evening preceding his death, the train from Washington brought hither several of his immediate friends of the Senate and House of Representatives, who watched at his bed side during the night. The only relative present at this melancholy event was a son of tender years who was pursuing his studies at St. Mary's College. To his wife, family and friends in Louisiana this affliction will come as a stunning blow—reaching them as it will do without previous warning. Wm. J. LEIPER.—The Wilkesbarre papers are handing this gentleman pretty severely, on account of his demand of \$650 from the Wyoming volunteers, for provision, &c., on their way to Pittsburg. They say he did not expend \$20 for them, as commissary. Tar and feathers are talked of. The citizens of Philadelphia talk about presenting a sword to Lieut. Parker, for his gallant conduct in burning the Mexican brig Creole under the guns of the castle of St. Juan De Ulloa.

FERTILITY OF THE COAL REGION.—A letter from the Summit Mines, Schuylkill county, informs us of the fact that a woman at Nesquehoning, presented her husband with a Christmas gift of four daughters at one birth. This information comes from the best source, and the fact fully establishes the claim of Schuylkill county to being one of the most fertile in the State.



V. B. FALWELL, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, corner of 3d and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all notices and this office, for subscription or advertising. Also at his Office No. 100 Nassau Street, New York. And S. E. Corner of Baltimore and Calvert Sts., Baltimore.

PRINTING INK.—A fresh supply of superior printing ink just received, and for sale at Philadelphia prices.

We refer our readers to the proceedings of the Sunbury and Erie Rail road meeting, in another column.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.—We lay before our readers the Governor's Message, with the exception of some of the concluding paragraphs, the substance of which we have given in a condensed form, until next week. Besides being a well written document, it has the merit of brevity. It alludes to all the important topics of state and national interest, and congratulates the country upon the flattering condition of our finances and future prospects.

The Susquehanna has been very high during the past week. The ice has all disappeared.

The Reading Gazette has been considerably enlarged, and greatly improved in appearance by a new dress. It is an excellent family paper, and we presume is, as it deserves to be, well patronized.

THE WATER CURE JOURNAL.—This excellent Journal commences the new year in an improved and greatly enlarged form. It is a most valuable publication, containing a vast deal of useful advice and instruction relating to health. Published every month, at \$1 per annum.

There seems to be a most serious opposition to the appointment of Col. Benton as a Lieutenant General. We quote the following appropriate remarks from the correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger: WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1847.—6 o'clock P. M.

SENATE.—A message was received from the President, asking for an increase of the regular army and the appointment of a Lieutenant General, and referred to the Military Committee. A similar reference was made of a message from the President in relation to the mails to and from the army. On motion of Mr. Johnson, the Vice President was desired to communicate the message of the late Senator Barrow, to the Governor of Louisiana.

HOUSE.—Mr. Preston King asked leave to introduce a bill substantially the same as that introduced last session, appropriating thirty thousand dollars for the opening of negotiations, and two millions to enable the President to conclude a treaty of peace with Mexico. The House refused to suspend the rules by a vote of 88 to 82.

The message from the President was then read. It recommends the adoption of the Secretary of War's suggestions for the increased efficiency and better organization of the army, the increase of officers of the regular army, and particularly of higher grades; and that the appointment of a general officer to take command of all the forces called into the field during the war was desirable, in order that efficient measures should be taken to terminate the war before the warm season commences.

On motion of Mr. Harrison, the message was referred to the military committee. The special order of the day was taken up in committee of the whole, being the bill authorizing the raising of ten regiments, to be added to the regular army. Various amendments were offered by Messrs. Tibbatts and Harrison. Mr. Geoughly addressed the committee in opposition to the war. Robert Dale Owen and Mr. Hamlin followed in support of the bill, after which the committee rose and the House adjourned.

Col. Benton is to be a Lieutenant General. He is, no doubt, an able and experienced Statesman, a ready debater, and a man of vast statistical information; but he has twenty six years' public service in the Senate of the United States fit him, in the sixty-sixth year of his age, (or thereabouts) for the command of all the United States land forces? And is it not the most dangerous precedent that can be established in a free republic, to promote the successful leader of a party, or a faction of a party, to the command of the army? When a successful General, who has rendered important services to the country is made President, he becomes a civilian, though nominally clothed with the command of the army and navy; but to promote a civilian, to the actual command of the army is quite another thing. Col. Benton, it is true, has been in the regular army under General Jackson, but he was employed in the recruiting service, and his political fame far outstrips his military. Colonels have, sometimes, been promoted over the heads of Generals; but never except for extraordinary feats of arms, and not for services rendered in the Legislature. Mark, this is not a question whether the civil or military man is most fit to govern or command—but which of the two is most fit to command soldiers? Col. Benton is a most valuable man in the Senate of the United States; but Generals Scott, Taylor, Worth and Butler have done most valuable services in the field. Sumo Cuius; or, to use a more Christian quotation, "Honor to whom honor is due." Romane ziv, verbe 9.

Sunbury and Erie Rail Road Meeting.

At a meeting favorable to the construction of this road, on Wednesday evening last, E. G. MARKLE was elected President, Wm McCARTY and PATER PUNZ, Vice Presidents, J. H. PURDY Secretary.

C. W. HEGINS having stated the objects of the meeting in a few appropriate remarks, the following committee was appointed to draft resolutions, &c., viz:

C. W. HEGINS, H. B. MASSER, J. H. PURDY, W. McCARTY and S. D. JORDAN. When on motion of H. B. Masser, the following Resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the cities of Boston and New York are using all their energies to secure the great trade of the lakes and the west, and whereas the natural advantages of Pennsylvania afford a shorter, cheaper and better route for a railroad through our territory than any other known, by which the great trade of the lakes can be secured to Philadelphia—

TENNESSEAN, Resolved, That Pennsylvania has a deep interest in the construction of a rail road from Philadelphia to Erie, and the route by way of Sunbury and the West Branch of the Susquehanna is almost in a direct line from one point to the other, and that its easy grades and natural advantages in location would give it a decided preference over all other routes.

Resolved, That a branch from the Erie route with Pittsburg, would connect Philadelphia with that city, by a cheaper and more expeditious route than the present miscalled central route; and that if the principle of equating of grades is correct, by which it is ascertained that an engine on a gradient or elevation of 21 feet to the mile would have half the power that the same engine would have on a level, then the Erie route is not only better, cheaper and more expeditious, but in fact also a shorter route.

Resolved, That in the location of the Erie route, some of the best portions of the state will be brought into market—rich in mineral and agricultural resources, which would enhance the value of real estate and taxable property many millions of dollars.

Resolved, That we deem it impolitic, unwise, and unjust, to construct a road parallel with our public works, when a better route can be had without coming into competition with our state improvements.

Resolved, That the following delegates be appointed to attend the Sunbury and Erie Railroad convention, to be held at Philadelphia on the 19th inst.

- A Jordan, Charles W. Hegins; Jos R Priestley, Henry B. Masser; Daniel Bradford, William L. Dewart; John Taggart, John B. Backer; John H. Vincent, Samuel D. Jordan; Charles Gale, Edward Y. Bright; Hon James Pollock, T. A. Billington; Seth I. Conly, Jacob B. Masser; Joseph Rhoades, William J. Martin; John Murray, William Forsythe; Samuel Hunter, Geo A. Frick; W J Greenough, E G Markley; William Fagaly, Amos E. Kapp; John H Purdy, John C. Boyd; Wm M Gray, Gibson Markle; Jesse C Harton, Samuel R Wood; Charles J. Brauer, Ruben Fagaly; C. Bower, John Budd; Geo C Walker, Edward Gahin; Wm C Lawson, T S Mackey; J F Wallinger.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in all the papers of the county.

Both houses of the Legislature were organized on Tuesday, by the election of Charles Gibbons, Esq., whig, of Philadelphia, Speaker of the Senate, and James Cooper, Esq., whig, of Adams county, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Geo W. Hammarly, Esq., of Lancaster, and Mr. Sullivan, of Butler, whigs, were elected Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the Senate. In the House, David Fleming, Esq., of Harrisburg, and Mr. Russell, of Bedford, whigs, were elected Clerk and Assistant Clerk to that body.

The Commissioners of Columbia county contributed \$700 of the county funds to defray the expenses of the company of volunteers from Danville to Pittsburg. The citizens of Danville and neighborhood swelled the amount to about \$2,000. The volunteers were addressed the Sunday previous to starting, in an eloquent and patriotic manner, by the Rev. Mr. Lightner and the Rev. Mr. Yeaman. Our Danville neighbors have acquitted themselves handsomely in this matter.

Letter from Mexico.

A Revolution has broken out at Campeachy and Tabasco, which have declared themselves separated from the Mexican Government.

Private letters from Tampico state that the men were suffering greatly from intermittent fevers. The impression prevailed that Herrera would be elected President of Mexico on the opening of Congress, and that overtures for peace would be immediately made. A further correspondence between General Taylor and Santa Anna is published. Gen. Taylor's letter concludes with a hope that the Mexican Congress will accept the offer of the United States, and enter on negotiations for the termination of hostilities and the establishment of a permanent peace. Santa Anna replies from San Luis in a courteous manner, and in conclusion says that he hopes the National Congress will act as shall be most conducive to the interests of the Republic, but that he believes neither Congress nor any Mexican will ever be able to listen to any overture, unless the national territory shall first be evacuated by the forces of the United States and the hostile attitude of the vessels of war in front of their ports be withdrawn. Until this takes place the nation is determined to defend, at every hazard, its territory, inch by inch.