tion and looseness of structure is such that they breed down, and become almost entirely helpless, with not more than two-thirds this weight. The variety appeared to be losing favor with many farmers. The Berkshire, and what appears to be a cross of the Leicester breed, under the name of the "Dutchess county hog," was seen on several farms. Either of the latter is far preferable to the former.

SHEEP.—Comparatively few sheep are kept in the section we passed through, the farmers in general deeming them less profitable than cows.—Those which are kept, are of the breeds adapted to mutton. The Leicester, Cotswolds, and South-Downs, are occasionally met. Mr. Aaron Clement, of Philadelphia, exhibited some good specimen of these. The Broad-tailed African sheep were introduced into Pennsylvania from Tunis, by Col. Pickering, while Secretary of State, upwards of sixty years ago. Traces of their blood are distinctly visible in the sheep of this section. They were a hardy race, and the first crosses with the common stock were thought to be particularly valuable as early lambs for market. But the objection to the stock were, that they were not prolific, and that the fat tended to accumulate chiefly on the outside of the rump, and more than anywhere else, on the tail, which, in the full bloods, sometimes became eight or ten inches wide, and weighing ten pounds or upwards.

It is reasonable to believe that in the vicinity of a large city, like that of Philadelphia, there are farms on which mutton might be fattened to good advantage, and with the facilities of communication by railroad, which are now becoming extensive in Pennsylvania, an increased attention will be profitably devoted to this branch of business.

Common School Report.

The Superintendant of Common Schools has sent in his annual Report to the Legislature, from which we extract the following items:

From the district reports, received in the office of the Superintendant, the following summary has been prepared, affording a condensed view of the operation of the system for the school year ending on the first Monday, 2d day of June, 1851, viz:

Whole number of districts,	1,599
Number paid during the year,	1,340
Whole number of schools,	2,303
Number yet required,	684
Average number of months taught,	5 mo. 2 days.
Number of male teachers,	7,541
Number of female teachers,	3,388
Average salaries male teachers per month,	$18 19
" female "	10 91
Number of male scholars,	247 404
" female "	206 238
Average number of scholars in each school,	47
Cost of teaching each scholar per month,	$0 43½
Amount of tax levied,	$914,376 96
Amount received from State appropriation, exclusive of the city and county of Philadelphia,	161,697 50
Cost of instruction,	711,643 46
Fuel and contingencies,	75,161 80
Cost of school houses—purchasing, building, renting and repairing,	276,841 05

Compared with a similar statement for the last year, the foregoing exhibits an increase of twelve in the number of districts; in the number paid during the year, an increase of sixty-seven; in the number of schools an increase of 793; in the number of male teachers, an increase of 559; and in the number of female teachers a decrease of 547—(aggregate increase of teachers, 22); in the number of male scholars an increase of 14,012, and of female scholars an increase of 15,286—(aggregate increase of scholars 29,298); in the amount of tax levied an increase of $145,054 89; and in the course of instruction, as reported, an increase of $102,266. The foregoing summary also exhibits a slight, but nevertheless gratifying increase in the average of the time during which the schools have been kept open, and also in the average of the amount of salaries, both of male and female teachers.

FORGET-ME-NOT.—'Grandmother,' said little Gretchen, 'why do you call this beautiful flower, blue as the sky, growing by this brook, a "Forget-me-not?"

"My child," said the grandmother, "I accompanied once your father, who was going on a long journey, to this brook.—He told me, when I saw this little flower, I must think of him; and so we have always called it the "Forget-me-not."

Said happy little Gretchen, "I have neither parents nor sisters from whom I am parted. I don't know who I can think of when I see the "Forget-me-not."

"I will tell you," said her grandmother, "some One of whom this flower may remind you—Him who made it. Every flower in the meadow says, "Remember God;" every flower in the garden and the field says to us, of its Creator, "Forget-me-not."—*From the German.*

Congressional.

In Congress they have as yet done but little, nor have the worthy Senators and Representatives exhibited any intention of doing much. In the Senate, on a motion to appropriate public lands to Iowa to aid in the construction of a railroad, Mr. Underwood offered an amendment to this, and the other older states an aggregate of 14,390,660 acres of land, to be distributed among them according to the federal population, and to be by them given to purposes of education or internal improvement.

In the House a resolution was passed calling for information in regard to the different claims against the government that have been paid since 4th March, 1849. The House refused to call for those paid since 4th March 1845. A resolution was passed calling for the Kossuth and Long correspondence.

Upon the subject of the census printing, a stormy debate occupied a long time. In the progress of it the question of Democratic nomination was discussed. Thus the time is being used.

The State Legislature has done nothing of any interest since the election of John M. Bickel State Treasurer. We see that Mr. Reckhow has presented a petition for an appropriation to build an Academy in our county, but where it is to be built or who are the parties in interest we know not.

☞ Difficulty is a severe instructor, set over us by the supreme ordinance of a parental guardian and legislator, who knows us better than we know ourselves, and who loves us better too. He that wrestles with us, strengthens our nerves, and sharpens our skill. Our antagonist is our helper. This amicable conflict with difficulty obliges us to an intimate acquaintance with our object, and compels us to consider it in all its relations. It will not suffer us to be superficial.

The Susquehanna Register.

JOHN C. MILLER, EDITOR.

MONTROSE, PENN'A.

Thursday Morning, Jan. 29, 1852.

FOR PRESIDENT,

GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT,

OF NEW JERSEY.

[Subject to the ratification of the People.]

☞ We are under obligations to Hon. G. A. Grow and Hon. H. M. FULLER, for documents from Washington, and to Hon. BENJ. MATTHIAS and M. MEYLERT, Esq., for documents from Harrisburg.

Susquehanna County Agricultural Society.

On Wednesday evening of last week, this Society held its annual meeting at the Court-house. The Society was favored with an eloquent address from Hon. Samuel Bowen, who happened to be in town. Hon. Wm. Jessup, President of the Society, gave a highly interesting account of the first annual Fair of the State Society at Harrisburg. We are sorry that he was not able to report that some of our farmers had received premiums at the State Fair. Although the reason is perfectly obvious, because their products were not represented by any specimens. The butter of Susquehanna can take the premium over any county in the State.—There is no doubt of this. At any rate, the dairymen of this county will not deny it. If they do not; if they honestly believe their butter as good as can be made, better than is made by the members of any other County Society, then we insist upon it that it is their bounden duty to present some specimens at the next State Fair. Down below us, in the centre of the State, in the vicinage of large cities and old boroughs, they have had, for a long time, an idea that this county was somewhere near the Bay of Labrador!—that true it belonged to the State, but was one of its provinces, like some of the British provinces, bound in duty to pay taxes to the old mother, but just as strongly bound to be of peaceful and good behavior, and submit to the politicians and legislators of the State proper. Morally we have been considered to be fit subjects of Foreign Missionary Societies, physically a race of Brobdignags, created expressly for pounding rocks and running rafts, Politically Locofoco, unmitigatedly Locofoco, Locofoco without a qualification. Our soil was generally supposed to be sandstone and our Agricultural products, Beech Woods. Some of our neighboring counties had the same halo of glory aroound them. But we are gradually emerging from the dark corner that had been assigned us on the map. The whole legislation of our own State has for years been for the benefit of other sections of the State. The Northern portion of the State is under but little obligation to the legislature for public improvements, for the building of railroads, the digging of canels to open to us a market. But avenues are being opened, are already opened, which bring to our farmers a market. Thus products find an easy access to the different and best markets. It is then of interest, general interest to the farmers that the excellence of the different products of their labor, those in the production of which they can and do excell, should be made known. We know of no better mode than that offered by the annual exhibitions of the State Society.

We have thus at a greater length than we intended, adverted to this matter. We commend the subject to those interested, as a subject of great importance to them.

Our old friend, Col. Lusk, it will be seen by the Report, takes the *first premium for corn.* We saw the corn while it was growing, and for that reason are not surprised that *a lawyer* takes the premium over the farmers who generally have such things in their own way.

Locofoco Convention.

Chas. H. Ward, Wm. M. Post, and J. C. Miller on the Bench.

Hempstead called the meeting into shape. On motion of some unknown individual, F. B. Streeter, Esq. was elected Chairman. Hon. Geo. Fuller elected Secretary, and Francis Quinn assistant Secretary. Elisha Griffis and Harvey Tyler, were elected Vice Presidents. D. O. Turrell was nominated for another V. President, but as no one seconded it, the chairman concluded that two could do the business, and accordingly decided the motion out of order! The usual ceremony of calling the townships was attended to; some townships being unrepresented, it was suggested that the vacancies be filled by the Convention; Col. Lusk suggested that the Convention had no control over the townships. On motion of some one to fill vacancies in Clifford, Col. Lusk took the floor and opposed the motion. He said they had been called upon to re-organize the party, which was getting specially in a bad way. "A great deal of industry has been practiced in this house," said Col. Lusk—Hon. Geo. Fuller was in favor of it slightly. Col. Lusk offered as an amendment, that the Convention proceed to the transaction of its business. The chairman ruled it out of order as not being on the same subject. Col. Lusk then offered it as a substitute for the original motion—but it was lost, ayes 23, nays 24. In filling the vacancies a difficulty occurred with Dundaff, no one being in town of the right stripe. Mr. Belknap moved that a committee be appointed to go to Binghamton to select delegates. The chairman very emphatically remarked that he could not entertain the monstrous proposition. At this stage of the proceeding, Col. Lusk moved the chairman be requested to state the object of the meeting. The chairman thereupon performed this duty. After this statement, Col. Lusk took the floor, and proceeded to pronounce James Buchanan "an amiable old bachelor," but not the man for the Democratic emergency in Presidential matters. He was stating his views eloquently, when Mr. Fuller called him to order on the ground that there was no motion before the meeting. Col. Lusk moved then that it be the sense of the Convention that Lewis Cass be the nominee of the party for President. Hon. D. D. Warner moved to amend by striking out the name of Cass, and inserting that of Buchanan. Col. Lusk having the floor proceeded to argue the question, upon the ground of intervention in Hungarian affairs. He seemed to appreciate military men generally, and Scott and Cass in particular. He closed by moving to amend by striking out Buchanan and inserting Marcy. On the vote Marcy received two votes. The balance thought otherwise. He then moved as a substitute for the original motion, that Thomas H. Benton be substituted. Benton received a few votes. The balance "tho't otherwise." Upon another motion of Col. Lusk, the chairman decided that an amendment to an amendment is out of order! On the motion of Col. Lusk the names of the delegates were called and expressed their preferences for a candidate for President. Buchanan received 40 votes, Benton 5, Cass 2, Marcy 2, and Butler 1. On the vote for Representative delegate, R. J. Niven, Esq. received 35 votes, Wm. C. Ward 2, Thos. Johnson 2, and Wm. Hartley 11.

On the settling the question of Senatorial delegate, a question arose, upon which C. L. Ward, Esq. of Towanda, made a few remarks, stating what had been done in Bradford county in regard to Senatorial delegate. Hon. G. Fuller moved that the delegate be conceded to Bradford, and that John Means be nominated as that delegate. Col. Lusk moved to amend by striking out the name of Means, and substituting that of C. L. Ward. The motion was carried. Mr. Ward positively declined being a candidate. A call fer a second vote being made the motion was lost. Mr. Ward asked permission of the chairman to thank the Convention for the compliment paid him by the vote—"it was larger than he could have expected considering the source of his nomination."

The balance of the important transactions of this *regular* Convention consisted in the passage of resolutions endorsing the administration of Bigler since his inauguration, and the soundness of the Democracy!

Court Proceedings, Continued.

The case of Commonwealth *vs.* Windsor Aylesworth, an indictment for larceny of a Clergyman's horse blanket, we reported last week a verdict of Not Guilty by mistake, the Jury found him *Guilty.*

Sentence deferred to next term.

On the trial of an indictment against the same defendant for Larceny of a Watch, the Jury did not agree and were discharged. The case will be tried again at the next Session.

The case of the indictment of Davis C. Marshall, Page D. Marshall and Jerome Bentley for Larceny, defendants plead Guilty. Court sentenced them as follows: Davis C. Marshall, fine of ten dollars and costs, and imprisonment in the County Jail for four months. Page D. Marshall, fine of five dollars and costs, and an imprisonment in the County Jail for four months.

The Court appointed Seabury Crane Crier of the different Courts, upon petition of the members of the Bar.

In the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Joseph Glover, surety of the Peace. After a hearing by the Court, the defendant was discharged, and the prosecutor, Jackson Chandler, sentenced to pay the costs.

Commonwealth *vs.* Windsor Aylesworth, an indictment for Larceny of a tape measure. The Jury found the defendant *Not Guilty.*

On Wednesday the 21st of January, the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Benjamin Aylesworth and others, an indictment for a conspiracy to cheat and defraud, by altering and forging Bank notes, &c., was commenced. The case continued during the whole remainder of the week. On Saturday afternoon, the evidence was closed. It being too late to complete the trial by the arguments of the Counsel, the Court adjourned to Monday at 10 A. M., and gave the Jurors permission to visit their homes.

After the evidence had been advanced by the Commonwealth sufficiently to warrant it, the District Attorney offered to [illegible] and William Dalton, Esqs. Attorneys, and Messrs. Piatt, Brooks & Piatt, for the defence of the Court's verdict of Not Guilty was imposed as to those three defendants in this indictment.

On Monday, E. S. Sweet, Esq., of Owego opened the argument on the part of the Commonwealth, he was followed by Bentley and Bennett, for the Defendants. Court adjourned to permit the Democracy to nominate Buchanan for President.

Tuesday was occupied with the arguments of Bowen for Defts., and Richards for the Commonwealth, and the Charge of the Court. The case was submitted to the Jury at three o'clock. The next case taken up was the suit of a schoolmistress against three individuals at Great Bend, for wages. This case continued until about seven, when the Court adjourned to Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, the Jury upon the conspiracy case, came in with a verdict of *Guilty* as to Benjamin Aylesworth, John H. Brown and James McDonald, Sen., find *Not Guilty* as to James McDonald, jr.

A motion in arrest of sentence, and for a new trial was made, which is to be argued on Friday.

The case of the school-mistress was then taken up.

Susquehanna County Agricultural Society.

The Society met on Wednesday evening, January 21st.

Isaiah Main, John Austin and Robert Kent were appointed to examine the statements made of the different grain crops, and to award premiums.

The following gentlemen were elected Officers for the ensuing year.

President—William Jessup.

Vice Presidents—Franklin Lusk, Daniel Searle.

Corresponding Secretary—William J. Turrell.

Recording Secretary—Samuel F. Carmalt.

Treasurer—George Fuller.

Managers—George Walker, John Austin, Thomas Johnson, Azur Lathrop, Robert Kent, Rodney Jewett, John Harrington.

Thomas Nicholson was appointed to prepare an Address for the October meeting.

Hon. Wm. Jessup gave a short account of the State Fair at Harrisburg, after which the Hon. Mr. Bowens, of Otsego County, N. Y., was introduced to the Society and made an instructive and practical address, upon the subject of Agriculture and Agricultural education.

The Committee on grain crops awarded premiums as follows, viz:

For the best crop of Indian corn, to Franklin Lusk, for 95½ bushels shelled corn and 1000 pumpkins to the acre.

For the best crop of Spring Wheat, to Rodney Jewett, for 19 bushels 2½ quarts per acre.

For the best crop of Oats, to Rodney Jewett, for 90 bushels 12½ qts. per acre.

The Society then adjourned to meet at the Court House, on Wednesday evening, first week of April Court.

S. F. CARMALT, *Rec. Sec'ry.*

At a meeting of the Managers held same evening, George Walker, and John Harrington were appointed Executive Committee for the present year.

News of the Week.

Later From Europe.

The Royal Mail steamer America, Capt. Lang, from Liverpool, Saturday, Jan. 10th, arrived at Boston on Monday last.

The America reports a continued succession of very severe gales for the last ten days.

The news of the destruction by fire of the West India Royal Mail steamer Amazon, (a brief announcement of which we received by the Steamer Arctic,) is fully confirmed. The Amazon, under the command of Capt. Simons, sailed from Southampton with mails and passengers on the 2d instant, and when two days out, and about 110 miles southwest of Scilly Islands, was discovered to be on fire. The flames burst out at an early hour on the morning of the 4th inst., and in twenty minutes after, so rapidly did the flames spread, the ship was completely gutted. She subsequently burned to the water's edge, when her boilers exploded and the hull immediately sunk. By this terrible disaster 41 passengers and 69 of the officers and crew of the steamer are known to have perished.

The day previous to the departure of the America, intelligence reached Liverpool of the total loss of the New York ship Columbus, Capt. McCerren, on the 7th inst. off the Irish coast, near Waterford. Two lady and two steerage passengers, together with 8 of the crew perished; but Capt. McCerren, his officers, and the remainder of the passengers and crew succeeded in reaching the shore.

France continued quiet. The President gave a grand banquet at the Tuileres on the 5th, to four hundred of the delegates of the departments.

The stock of the Paris and Lyons railway was much sought after since the disposition of it to a public company by the Minister of Public Works.

By a decree of the minister of the Interior, the republican mottoes had been erased from the public edifices, and the ancient historical ones restored.

Intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope announce that a severe skirmish had taken place on the 6th of November, between large bodies of rebel Hottentots and Caffres, and a detachment of British troops, in which the latter had been obliged to retire, with the loss of one Colonel, three officers, and seven men. Reinforcements had sailed from England before the receipt of the news.

Another reverse had been sustained by the English troops at the Lagos, on the Coast of Africa, in an attempt to chastise the native King for slave dealing. The force, consisting of 260 officers and men, were repulsed with considerable loss.

A dissolution of the English Cabinet appeared inevitable. A Cabinet Council was held on the 8th, after which Lord John Russell proceeded to Windsor, to confer with the Queen. It was admitted on all hands, that the Whig Government could not hold together much longer, and many believed that it would fall before the period for opening Parliament had arrived.

Lieut Pyms, by the advice of the Russian geographers, had abandoned his project of crossing Siberia in search of Sir John Franklin.—*N. Y. Express.*

Burning of the Steamship Amazon.

Messrs. E. K. Collins and Co., agents of the American mail steamers, have furnished the New York press with the following brief telegraphic account of the burning of the Amazon:

"The R. M. steam packet Amazon, from Southampton to the West Indies, took fire at about one A. M., on Sunday, 60 miles west of Sicily, and was *entirely consumed, with the mails, officers, crew, and passengers, except twenty-one persons,* viz., Mr. Vincent, midshipman, 17 of the crew, and two passengers, who succeeded in getting off in one of the boats, and were picked up after being by her 12 hours. The total number of persons on board is said to have been 155. The fire is supposed to have originated from spontaneous combustion."

We learn from Southampton the following particulars of the Amazon, and her departure thence on the 2d inst.:

"The Royal mail steamship Amazon, Capt. Symonds, took her departure this afternoon, with the usual mails for the British and foreign West Indies, (excepting Havanna and Honduras,) the Gulf of Mexico, Spanish Main, &c., in charge of Lieut. Brady, R. N., Admiralty agent. She takes out fifty passengers, a large and valuable cargo, specie value £20,300 sterling, and 500 bottles of quicksilver, valued at £5,150 sterling, for mining operations in Mexico.

"The sailing of the Amazon on her first voyage to the West Indies as the pioneer of the new series of steamships intended for this important mail service, excited considerable interest. Several of the directors of the company came down to witness the event. Precisely at 3 o'clock (the mails having been put on board) the Amazon got under weigh, and slowly but majestically moved down the river, amid hearty cheers from the party who had proceeded from the shore in a small steam tender to witness her departure.

The draught of water of the Amazon is 21 feet 7 inches, both forward and aft. She starts, therefore, although deeply laden, yet in good trim, and with an even keel. She has on board 1133 tons of coal, besides a full cargo, and a full complement of water, stores, and provisions of every kind. The wind was not sufficiently fair to admit of her immense spread of canvass being set; she nevertheless rapidly gathered way, and was soon steaming at the rate of ten and a half knots, and it is hoped she will make a run out to St. Thomas of under fourteen days. For many reasons the first voyage is hardly a fair criterion of the performance of any steamer; and in the case of the Amazon, besides the stiffness of the machinery, it is thought she is rather overladen, and that experience will prove that a considerably smaller quantity of fuel will be sufficient, and that subsequent voyages, in finer seasons of the year, will be made in from twelve to thirteen days. The distance from Southampton to St. Thomas's is 3622 miles.

"The departure of this magnificent steamship may be said to constitute an important event in the history of British transatlantic steam navigation. The Amazon commences the new direct line of steamships intended to run fortnightly between Southampton and Cheres, touching at St. Thomas, while several lines of branch packets for the accommodation of the West India Islands, the Gulf of Mexico, &c., will run from the Island of St. Thomas to the various ports and islands embraced in the new scheme of the West India Mail Packet Company, and sanctioned by the Lords of the Admiralty."

The next Presidency.

The papers of both political parties are busily engaged in discussing the claims and qualifications of the numerous Presidential aspirants, and speculating as to the probable results of the respective conventions. Cass and Buchanan are the prominent candidates on the Democratic side, and the contest between the friends of those rival aspirants to the Presidential honors, is conducted with unexampled spirit and vigor, and characterised by great bitterness. The Buchananites, conscious of their superior strength, give no quarter, and cry "war to the knife" against all opponents; while the Cassites equally determined and furious, proclaim not only 'war to the knife,' but if need be, 'the knife to the hilt' against the followers of the "Old Federalist." From present indications we incline to the belief that the "House of Lancaster" is in the ascendant—that Buchanan will not only carry the Pennsylvania delegation, but will be the nominee of the Baltimore Convention. So mote it be.

Among the Whigs several distinguished gentlemen have been mentioned in connection with the Presidential nomination, viz: GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT, President FILLMORE and DANIEL WEBSTER. These great men all have their warm personal and political friends; but whatever may be the result of the National Convention, its action will receive a hearty and unanimous endorsement.—Should the representatives of the National Whig party, in general Convention assembled, select for our standard bearer the scar-covered, laurel-crowned Hero of Lundy's Lane, Chippewa and Mexico, WINFIELD SCOTT, there lives not a Whig in this broad land who would not glory in following such a leader into the thickest of the fight. If, on the other hand, Mr. FILLMORE, or Mr. WEBSTER, should be nominated, they would be supported with equal cordiality and unanimity. Principles are everything—men are nothing. Whigs are actuated solely by motives of Patriotism; they are governed by great leading Principles; and whoever is put forward as the Presidential representative of these great Principles, the Whig masses will honor and support. We all have our personal partialities and preferences; but whatever differences of opinion with regard to men, exist in our ranks now, when the day of trial comes the enemy will find the patriotic Whigs of the Union united and firm.

In the Southern and South-western States, the Whigs are moving with much unanimity in favor of Mr. FILLMORE. In Massachusetts and some other New England States, Mr. WEBSTER has friends who are active in his behalf. In Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, the great majority of the Whigs are warmly and strongly for Gen. SCOTT. Here in Pennsylvania the Whig party respect and honor Mr. FILLMORE, for the manly and patriotic discharge of his Presidential duties, and cordially endorse and sustain the policy of his wise Administration. At the same time however the fact cannot be disguised that the sympathies of the masses are with Gen. SCOTT, whose nomination they prefer above that of any other man living.—They are devotedly attached to the "Conquering Hero," whose whole life has been employed in defending his country, and bearing her starry flag in triumph through every contest. Regarding him as the most available candidate, and believing that his claims have been too long deferred, the people now ask for "JUSTICE TO GEN. SCOTT." We are prepared to bow to the decision of the Whig National Convention, and to support its nominee with cordiality and to the best of our humble ability.—*State Journal.*

Inauguration of Governor Bigler.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20.—The inauguration of Hon. William Bigler, Governor of Pennsylvania, took place at 12 o'clock today, at the State Capitol. The town was full of strangers, although owing to the obstruction of the railroads by the snow, the crowd was not near so great as was anticipated. The weather too was intensely cold.

A handsome and quite large civic and military procession escorted the Governor elect to the Capital, several military companies from the neighboring towns being in the escort.

The two Houses of the Legislature met in convention in the Hall of Representatives at 12 o'clock.

The Governor elect, accompanied by Governor Johnston and the Committee of the two Houses, was introduced shortly after twelve o'clock, and was received with hearty tokens of applause. He was conducted to a seat upon the Speaker's platform, and the returns of his election having been read, he was declared invested with the office of Governor of the Commonwealth.

The oath of office was then administered to Governor Bigler, by the Hon. G. H. Walker, Speaker of the Senate, after which Governor Bigler proceeded to deliver his inaugural address as follows:

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

FELLOW CITIZENS—The providence of God has prospered our great Commonwealth. The will of the people has called an humble citizen to the performance of the duties of her chief executive office. In accordance with the requisition thus made on me, and in obedience to the provisions of the Constitution, I appear before you to-day, for the purpose of subscribing to the oath of office and assuming the duties. I embrace this opportunity to express the profound gratitude I feel towards the people for this distinguished mark of their confidence.

In contemplating the high and delicate nature of the duties appertaining to the station—their complex and difficult character—the magnitude of the interests involved in their faithful performance—I am most solemnly impressed with the responsibility they necessarily impose. The junior of all my predecessors in this high station, I enter upon the discharge of its duties with the utmost distrust of my own qualifications for the task. I have, however, resolved to devote my best energies, hopes and prayers to a faithful discharge of the obligation I have just taken, and look to the people for that generous indulgence which has ever characterised their action towards public servants who have honestly endeavored to perform their whole duty. The efforts of man at best are but feeble. All the aid that his wisdom can bring to the accomplishment of any great purpose must fail, unless accompanied and controlled by the guardian care of Him who gives direction to all human affairs. On His power and good pleasure all results must depend. On him we should rely in a spirit of humility and Christian confidence.

Our republican institutions are based upon the axiom that the people are the only, rightful source of power. Under these institutions thus founded, the will of the people, reflected through the ballot box, gives direction to public affairs. Through this medium the humblest, not less than the most distinguished, can stamp the impress of his will upon the public policy of the country. This feature of our republican system is its great distinguishing characteristic, and guided by the general intelligence and patriotism of the people, the cause of our success as a nation—the Right of Suffrage; should therefore be held inviolate and its independent exercise enjoyed by every citizen. To prepare the minds of the people by general education—by the inculcation of moral precepts and religious truth, should be accounted the noblest purpose of the government. All that we are, all that we can hope to be, as a nation, is dependent on the source of power. The right of the citizen over property, his personal liberty and security, the freedom of speech and liberty of the press, the free toleration of religious sentiment, are alike subservient to this great source of human law. How important is it, then, that this great head should remain pure and independent. When the fountain is pure, the stream emanating therefrom, will be also pure. Then by promoting the moral and intellectual culture of the people, the source of vitality of our government, our laws will be made wise, our institutions be preserved pure, our country remain free, prosperous and happy.

The experience of the world seems to demonstrate that general intelligence and republicanism must go together. The successful government of the people is the government of intellect directed by virtue. A thorough education of the youth of our country will, therefore, tend far more to the security of our institutions and the maintenance of our national honor, than all other means. Besides common school education, high literary attainment, the knowledge of the arts and sciences, a comprehension of individual rights and the principles of the Christian religion constitute the very bulwark of our republican government. The schemes and machinations of the demagogue will fall harmless before a people thus thoroughly educated.

The dangerous tendency of monopoly and the corrupting influence of money are met and counteracted by the power and virtue of this knowledge. Liberal expenditures by our government for the purpose of education, may well be regarded as rigid economy, and the payments of the people for the support of this cause a pure devotion to republicanism. It should be the first care of the parent and the government, and its fruits accounted the richest legacy we can leave to posterity.

In the discharge of the various duties of the office I have assumed, it will be my anxious desire to do equal and exact justice to all men of whatever persuasion, religious or political, and especially to advance the interests of great Commonwealth, to increase the resources of her treasury, husband her means, diminish her debt, and elevate the standard of her credit—to favor such measures as may be calculated to develope her vast resources, and stimulate alike her agricultural, mining, manufacturing, mechanical and commercial interests, and co-operate most cheerfully with the legislative branch of the government in the adoption of such policy as may tend to lessen the present burthen of the people.

Our vast debt should be reduced as rapidly as practicable. Its injurious effects upon the growth of our population and the migration of capital to the state, is much more potent than the casual observer would suppose. This may not be most readily accomplished by the two parsimonious means already secured to the treasury. It may be wise to apply a portion of these to complete public improvements now far advanced in construction, but yet unproductive. The abandonment of such improvements would involve a large amount of capital already expended, and sacrifice entirely the chances of future returns to the treasury from those sources. Indeed the speedy completion of the North Branch Canal is, in my opinion, consistent with the truest principles of economy.

Pennsylvania is perhaps unrivalled by any of her sister States in natural elements of greatness and wealth. She is no less the garden spot of our common country than she is the Keystone of the federal arch. Abounding in inexhaustable varied mineral resources, an abundance of well located water power admirably adapted to manufacturing and mechanical operations, together with a vast extent of the best agricultural soil, she can doubtless employ, subsist and prosper a greater number of human beings than any other State in the Union. Her mountains, her rugged hills and lovely vallies are rich with natural advantages to man. Her people are intelligent, industrious and enterprising, and if not restrained by unwise legislation, will soon occupy and improve these advantages to the fullest extent, and thereby render our beloved State prosperous and wealthy in an eminent degree.

A thorough knowledge of the science of Agriculture by our people will have a beneficial effect, if not quite essential to their prosperity. I am therefore much gratified with the effort now being made to accomplish this object, and our own experience and the history of other countries fully demonstrate the importance of such scientific education. The study of this science, combined with the practical labor of tilling the soil, is no less calculated to elevate and dignify the farmer, than to reward him for his toil. This great, first, most dignified pursuit of man, so peculiarly adapted to our State and the inclinations of our people, should commend the fostering care of our government.

Pennsylvania is blessed with a rich abundance and variety of minerals adapted to the practical uses and necessities of man. Her mineral interests constitute a great and growing source of wealth, contributing largely to enhance the receipts of our treasury. The appreciation thus given to the value of property, the population thereby sustained, the improvements made for their developement and advancement, as well as the direct trade they furnish to the public works belonging to the State, generally promote this end.

The rich and extensive deposites of coal and iron ore within the boundary of our state make her particularly blessed. Her anthracite coal beds, furnishing a choice and cheap fuel for domestic purposes, for generating steam for the stationary and locomotive engine, as well as for the propulsion of our steamships, give to her a trade almost exclusively her own. For the supply of this article she is without any considerable rival. Although this trade is comparatively in its infancy, it has already grown to one of great magnitude.

The value of the product of the mine is made up mainly by the healthy, invigorating labor of the hardy miner, whilst those engaged in this trade constitute an industrious and valuable constituency, with whose interests the prosperity and greatness of our State is identified.

It will afford me the utmost pleasure to favor all proper measures calculated to advance our great agricultural, mineral and other interests.

Intimately connected with the great interests of the country is the subject of a currency. The proper disposition of this question is not only highly important, but one of the most difficult and dangerous duties of the government. The errors of our system are of the most seductive and dangerous character; consisting mainly in the creation of too much paper for the amount of specie basis provided for its redemption. The utmost care should be taken to guard against this tendency, and to secure the people in the use of this medium. This security may be measurably afforded by imposing on the corporators individual liability to the fullest extent.

The injurious effects of an excessive issue of paper money, have been so frequently demonstrated in this country by sad experience, that it is quite unnecessary to discuss the question on this occasion. The laborer, the farmer, the mechanic, the manufacturer and merchant, are all deeply interested in having a sound currency. No pretext can justify the creation of a superabundant amount of paper money, and it is with painful alarm that I have witnessed a growing disposition over the entire country to increase the use of this medium, on a small specie basis, regardless of the inevitable effects of the large accessions of coin which California is furnishing to this country and to the world. Every people must have a circulating medium, as a matter of convenience. Ours should have whatever amount the transaction of wholesome business affairs may demand; but unfortunately we are too unwilling to stop at the proper period in the creation of this medium. That as coin becomes abundant it should supplant and render unnecessary the use of paper; is to my mind the plainest teaching of common sense; such practical effect is demanded by the true interests of the people. A superabundant amount of money of any kind, cannot fail to enhance nominal values above a proper standard, and thereby engender a spirit of dangerous speculation, and in the end prostrate the great commercial and manufacturing interests of the country. The manufacturer is more vitally interested in this than any other question of governmental policy. With out a sound currency, the incidental aid resulting to this great interest from the revenue laws of the general government, can never have force or stability.

I would not be understood by any thing I have said, as holding the opinion