

M'Kean County Democrat.

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Governor's Message.

Governor Peck, in his annual message, at Harrisburg, yesterday, his annual message, of which we present a copy this morning. It is shorter than such documents usually are, but is long enough for all practical purposes. It commences with the financial exhibit published by us some time ago. The actual debt funded and unfunded is \$39,268,111 16, against which the State holds bonds to the amount of \$11,181,000, received from the sale of the public works, thus leaving a surplus of debt of \$28,087,111 16, which, the Governor thinks, may be reduced during the coming year, one million dollars. To this end the Governor counsels the Legislature to guard strictly the existing sources of revenue, not to cut off any, to avoid unnecessary and extravagant appropriations, and to practise economy generally.

The Governor then proceeds to narrate the details of the sale of the canals to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad company for \$5,500,000 in bonds of that corporation, secured by mortgages. He tells also of the re-sale of the canals by that corporation for \$3,875,000. Following this he says, on information of a reliable character, that the prospects of an early completion of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad are very encouraging, and that, in the opinion of the President, within two years the road will be entirely finished, and the cars running from Philadelphia to Erie. The Governor considers the sale of the public works most fortunate, thinks the State happily rid of them, and would regard it as a calamity should she again become the owner. The constitutionality of the act authorizing the sale having been endorsed by the Supreme Court, there is no further use of the board of Canal Commissioners, and the Governor therefore recommends its abolition, and the transfer of its records to the Auditor General's office.

The almost entire disposal of the lands belonging to the State has already dispensed with one of the departments created for their care, and will ultimately render the other unnecessary also, and as the sale of the public works has still further simplified the executive branch of the government, by dispensing with one of its most formidable and difficult departments, the Governor thinks that the business of legislation ought to be proportionably reduced, but he makes no direct suggestion on the subject. The Governor calls attention to the system

VISIT THE SCHOOLS.

The Chicago Democrat contains a sermonette under this head, which we commend to our readers. It says, "Visit the schools, and particularly at this season of the year, when the children are packed away snugly and cozily in the school rooms, and as parents are more at leisure now, and have spare hours which could not be better employed than in looking after the mental culture of the little ones. Why not visit the schools? Drop in jolly some of you. It will produce a great deal of good, the child will strive for more diligently to master its lesson if the father or mother is to listen to the recital, than it would were any one else to be the listener. Show your respect to the child, to the golden cause in which it is engaged, and to the teacher in whom you have reposed the confidence and responsibility of training the immortal parts of your impressible little ones, by your presence at your counsel and your solicitude. Visit the school room. The child adopts the opinions and habits of the parent. If the parent thinks it not worth the while to visit the school, and the studies of the child are objects of neglect and inattention, the child will soon regard the school room as a kind of a prison, where mental penance is done, and himself an unwilling prisoner. Visit the schools. See to it that your children are reaping the full benefit of our admirable system of free education.

RUNAWAY SLAVES.—About two weeks since three slaves who had escaped from their masters in Maryland, passed through this place on their way to the Western Reserve in Ohio, where they are now probably safely harbored. These runaways had traveled through the interior of Pennsylvania, and had suffered considerably with fatigue and want of the necessaries of life. —Warren Ledger.

These same colored gentlemen passed through this place, and stopped for a short time, to the evident delight of those who desired to show the sincerity of their devotion to the cause of humanity. They reported having been released from the custody of the Marshal by a mob at Nunda, N. Y., and other stories equally as fabulous. It has since been ascertained that they resided in the vicinity of Olean, N. Y., and wishing to travel cheaply and live well, they adopted this method, rightly conjecturing that the "greenbacks" were not all dead.

WHO SHOULD REJOICE?

The New York Journal of Commerce publishes a table prepared with extreme care, by which it is shown that the Democrats have polled this year in the Free States, 945,979 votes. In the same States in 1856 the Democratic vote was 947,312—exhibiting a loss of 11,000 in two years. The opposition vote in the same States this year is \$1,158,722. In 1856 it was 1,430,798—an opposition loss of 180,876. Such a result in the North is more than the most sanguine Democrat expected, and renders ridiculous the halcyon which

A NEW PROJECT.

We received a pamphlet some time since, says the Erie Observer, from Col. Snow, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, in which he advocates a plan for a new paper currency based on the deposits in that institution. Accompanying it was a bill to that effect which we learn he intends to lay before Congress. It authorizes the Mint to issue certificates on the deposits of gold bullion, and of similar certificates by the Mint, and all the Sub-Treasurers on deposits of gold coin. These certificates are to be redeemed only at the offices which issued them, the theory of the process being that gold deposited will always be kept on hand to meet the certificates when presented for payment. The Colonel claims that it will greatly increase the security of specie owners over that afforded by the banks; that it will check the practice of hoarding; that the certificate will become currency at much as the gold itself; that a huge pile of coin thus stored away will serve as a balance wheel to prevent commercial disturbances in times of panic and crisis; that the use of certificates will prevent the loss by wear, clipping, or sweating; that the retaining of a Government bullion fund at the Mint would no longer be necessary; that being based on deposits no over issue of certificates could be made, and that, like bank notes, they should be made payable to bearer on demand and circulate as they do.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

The following are the most important cases before the Court last week:
The Commonwealth vs. Abijah Howard.—Larceny. Pleading guilty, and sentenced to the House of Refuge.
Commonwealth vs. B. H. Freeman and J. G. Eaton. Malicious mischief. Not guilty, and costs on defendants.
Thomas Struthers vs. Merritt Clark. Suit to recover on contract. Judgment for plaintiff for \$19,648 09.
Commonwealth vs. Geo. M'Corr and Hiram Moore, for obtaining goods under false pretences. Moore acquitted and M'Corr found guilty.
Commonwealth vs. D. A. Easterbrooks, Jr. Larceny. Nolo Prosequi entered.
Commonwealth vs. D. A. Easterbrooks Sr. Assault and battery. Not guilty and costs on the county.
Commonwealth vs. S. O. Tenny. Assault and battery. Fined \$5 and costs of prosecution.
Commonwealth vs. C. B. Crandall. Assault and battery. Found guilty.
Hamilton & Houser vs. John Beers. Judgment for plaintiffs for \$300 60.
Peter Evans vs. R. Metcalf Estate. Verdict for defendant.
Christopher Hofner, M. Kaliber, Jacob Hofner and John Burns, were admitted as citizens of the U. S.

Organization of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Harrisburg, Jan. 4, 1859.
The Senate met at 3 o'clock P. M., all the Senators were present.
The terms of the election for new Senators were read, and the members elect sworn in.
On motion the Senate proceeded to the election of officers.
John Creswell, Jr., (Dem.) was elected Speaker in the first ballot, receiving 17 votes, and his opponent, G. W. Scofield, (Rep.) 16.
Wm. J. Miller, (Dem.) was elected Chief Clerk, and J. M. Hutchinson, (Dem.) Assistant, over J. Barclay Harding, and A. L. Henning, the opposition candidates; in each case the vote was 17 to 16.
The customary resolutions were adopted appointing the committees to wait on the Governor and House, with the information that the Senate was organized and ready to proceed to business.
A resolution was passed fixing the hour of meeting at 10 o'clock, when the Senate adjourned.
The House met at 12 o'clock M., and was called to order by Capt. Jacob Ziegler, the late clerk.
All the members were present. On motion the House proceeded to the election of Speaker.
The ballot resulted as follows:
Wm. C. A. Lawrence, of Dauphin, 67.
P. C. Gritman, of Luzerne, 32.
Mr. Lawrence was declared elected.
Harrisburg, Jan. 5.
The Senate proceeded to the election of additional officers, when all the Democratic nominees were elected—each receiving 17 votes, and the opposition candidates 16. The following are the officers elected:
Transcribing Clerks—J. Simpson Africa, A. Jackson Barr, Wm. S. Pink.
Sergeant-at-Arms—Theophilus Snyder.
Assistant—Wm. B. Brady.
Door-keeper—Charles Roff.
Assistants—John Farrell, J. R. Dunbar.
Messenger—Harman Yrkes.
Assistant—George W. Long.
The Secretary of the Commonwealth was introduced and presented the annual message of the Governor, which was read, and 6,000 copies ordered to be printed in English, and 1,000 in German.
House.—The House assembled at 11 o'clock, when the Governor's message was received, and 10,000 copies ordered to be printed.
Mr. Thorn presented the petition of William Matthews, contesting the seat of David R. McClain, who is returned as elected from the Third District of Philadelphia.
The House proceeded to the election of Clerk when Samuel J. Rea, R., was elected, receiving 67 votes, and his opponent, Jacob Zeigler, 33.
Judson Holcomb, of Bradford, was selected as assistant clerk.

The Democratic Creed and the Territorial Slavery Question.

The Albany Atlas & Argus in the course of an article, commenting upon Senator Hammond's speech, remarks as follows:
Under the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, slave holders have the same right to carry their slave property to the Territories, and hold it there during the Territorial probation, as have owners of other property in respect to the inheritance and proprietorship of their chattels. The Democratic creed of non-intervention by Congress and all other property.

News and Miscellaneous.

A despatch from Charleston, S. C., brings the intelligence of the death of Gen. Gadsden, formerly Minister to Mexico.
A serious movement is on foot in Kansas to annex all that part of the Territory south of the Platte river to Kansas. The part of the Territory covers an area of one hundred miles north and south by eight hundred miles or more east and west.
The London Times states that there is to be another exhibition of the Industry of all Nations in 1861, on the same place but with a larger basis, than that which drew so many thousands of people in 1855.
Movements for the re-organization of the old Whig party, are taking place in various parts of the Union, through public meetings, addresses, etc. At Richmond, on the 21st inst., a spirited meeting was held, a state convention recommended, and 130 delegates represented to appoint Richmond.
The Members of the House of Representatives did a noble act of justice before they adjourned over to the 4th of January, by passing the Pension Bill for the poor old soldiers of 1812, and the widows of such as have gone to their last account. The Senate will doubtless soon give their hearty approval to this measure.
Benjamin Lett, the man who was convicted about twenty years since of blowing up Brock Munger at Queensdown Heights, but escaped as he was being taken to prison, died in Milwaukee on Thursday last, from the effects of poison, as is supposed, administered by a man who is under arrest.
We find the following directions to keep ice from from show windows, using the round Take an ordinary paint brush or sponge, and rub a little alcohol over the glass, once or twice a day. It will keep the glass as free from ice as it is in the middle of summer, and it will also give it as good a polish as can be got in any other way.
The New York Herald sums up a review of the gold fields of the United States, with the following estimate of our future gold crop: "Confirming gives us a million a week. All the other fields, we can safely say with what facts we already have, will give us at least half as much. Our gold crop is therefore likely to be for years to come at the rate of a million and a half per week, or seventy-seven millions of dollars per annum—equal to one-half of the value of the cotton crop of the country."
Old Hoss.—The old horse, Morsah, well known as the Steeple, or Cross horse, is thirty years old. He is owned by Geo. G. Northfield, Vermont. He subsists chiefly on meal, oats, shavings, &c., and appears in a thriving condition, step is still quick and nervous, and he trots as square as ever. He will be quite a curiosity, as he is the oldest horse known to be living.

the Oregan and Wall Street, have been taken by the Army. A large number of soldiers from Texas and other parts of the Territory are reported as having been engaged in the digging, an article of the Company, if this is done for any length of

General Belknap, who had left Fort Belknap, and was on his way to the Camanche Mountains, to meet in battle the warriors under Buffalo Hump. The Government should have immediate notice of any settlement of the Indians. It can be ascertained to them that the Government requires us to interfere with their rights, and that we are

published in the Standard, Grayson says that on the 25th inst. a storm of sleet, rain, and snow fell in that locality, the snow covering the ground to the depth of three inches. The same paper says: "The party who went in pursuit of the Indians, who murdered Mr. Jackson's family, has returned, having overthrown and killed two of them, severely wounded another, and captured one, twenty-six, and five horses. The clothing of the murdered family was found in their possession, and one of the girls had on Mr. Jackson's coat and hat. The party of Indians were discovered, were eight in number, but were overtaken, were only four, and many families are leaving their all and

some which, who has just returned from the mountains, states that the snow fell one foot in depth at that place on Friday last, and that the cattle had been in on a robbing expedition, and had stolen some horses from the

the recent movement in New York, to the introduction of many imitations of the banking system of that State. The following Democrat truly says: "The banks in this country, can show no legitimate end of their creation, they must be a radical change in their organization. There must be a limit placed upon their circulation, and not be allowed to extend their accommodations to an unlimited extent. As long as they will have so long as they are allowed to issue their promissory notes, or to give out paper for four times the amount of the confidence of the community. If this rule is a good one, it should be applied to the transactions of all banks doing business in this country. We think that the banks should be limited