

POLITICAL.

Message from the Governor.

The Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN:—The Bill entitled "An Act relating to Canal Commissioners" has been presented to me for the Executive approval.

The Bill provides for the election and appointment of three canal commissioners to wit: the election of one commissioner by the Senate and one by the House of Representatives, and the appointment of a third by the Governor.

Should commissioners thus appointed, be guilty of official misconduct, how are they to be punished? The House impeaches, and the Senate tries—but here the House is impeaching an officer whom it has itself just appointed.

The history of all representative governments shows that although their legislatures, especially when numerous, are admirably adapted to the enactment of general laws, and the promotion of the rights and liberties of the people, they are, from the very nature of divided responsibility, the most easily tampered with, by political intrigues and demagogues, in their appointment of officers of any other branch of the government; and in the selection of their officers, have been often made the dupes of intrigue, of venality, and of corruption.

I beg you to understand me as speaking in the abstract, and not in regard to any past or future legislation in Pennsylvania. I cannot, however, consent to forego, altogether, the salutary lessons of experience.

But I am satisfied that neither agreeably to the spirit of our constitution, nor on the ground of expediency, ought the appointment to be vested in the Legislature. The Legislature have the power of enacting the laws making the appropriations to purposes of internal improvements; and the spirit of the constitution, as well as the legislation of the commonwealth, has provided that the disbursement of the moneys and settlement of the accounts of the commonwealth should be in the hands of officers differently appointed, evidently to prevent combinations or collusion, or the operation of the same influences in the appointment of each.

which he shall have been elected," it manifestly shows that the people intended to confine the principal duties of their Representatives to direct legislation. If this Bill becomes a law, and the principle extended, they might fill all offices out of their respective bodies, which would destroy their purity, and destroy the independence principle in the constitution, which restrains the Governor from making appointments from either house, during the time for which they shall have been elected.

In point of expediency I think the bill ought not to become a law, and which I think is manifest from our previous legislation on this subject.

Under the acts of 27th March, 1823, 11th April, 1825, 10th April, 1826, and 16th April, 1827, the canal commissioners were appointed by the Executive. At first the Board consisted of three members; it was then increased to five; and by the act of 10th April, 1826, it was increased to nine; at which number it continued until 1830. By the Act of 16th of April, 1829, nine persons named in the law, were appointed canal commissioners, and authority was given to the Governor to fill any vacancies which might occur in the Board, from death, resignation, or otherwise.

On the 6th day of April, 1830, in less than a year after its passage, the Act of 10th of April, 1829, was repealed, and the Governor was authorized to appoint three persons as a board of canal commissioners; public opinion having decidedly pronounced against the appointment by the Legislature.

Every set of men have the right, I suppose, to change their opinions, when and as often as they please; but I confess I find some difficulty in keeping pace with some of the changes of modern times; for what was then right cannot now be considered wrong.

There is another, and to my mind an insuperable objection to vesting the power in the Legislature, as provided in this bill; and that is, the fact that from the manner in which the state is divided for Senators and Representatives by the Act of 16th of June, 1828, the political complexion of the people of the state; and it is impossible not to see that the effect of the Bill in question, will be to give a political complexion to the board of canal commissioners, different from that of a majority of the people.

The issue is now before the people of this commonwealth for decision; and with that decision, whatever it may be, I shall be perfectly satisfied. Should a majority determine that I have done wrong in refusing to sanction this change in the mode of appointing canal commissioners, that this contemplated alteration is wise, prudent and safe—and that better selections would have been made by the two Houses of the Legislature than by the people, or the Executive, they can easily proclaim this opinion, and execute their purpose by some other Executive agent; but if they can see in the proposed system any political scrambling for office, discord and dissension, they will also pronounce that judgment, for the guidance of our future course, and will thus settle on a certain basis, the organization of the Board of Canal Commissioners, in reference to which we now unfortunately entertain such conflicting opinions.

GOVERNOR PORTER AT HOME.

A Van Buren convention composed of delegates from the different townships of Dauphin county, was held at Harrisburg, a few days since, and two delegates were appointed to represent the county in the Van Buren State Convention to be held in March next, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Governor.

The following preamble and resolutions, together with other resolutions of a similar character, were unanimously adopted: "Whereas, we firmly believe that there is no possible hope of electing his Excellency, David R. Porter, should he be re-nominated; and if we may judge of the future by the past, it must be apparent to every observer that if his re-nomination could be effected by the greatest possible, seeming unanimity, his election would still be extremely doubtful.

Resolved, That the political history of Pennsylvania furnishes evidence abundant that the people are democratic, and in favor of rotation in office, and one term for Governor, that we as democrats cannot view any other rule as purely democratic.

Resolved, That the delegates elected to represent the county of Dauphin, in the Democratic Convention to assemble in this borough on the 4th day of March next, to nominate a candidate for Governor, be and they are hereby instructed to vote for, and use all honorable means to place in nomination a new man.

From the National Intelligencer.

THE PHILADELPHIA BANKS.

Our worst apprehensions of consequences from the forced resumption of specie payments by the Banks of Philadelphia, before they were in a state to justify the measure, have been realized.

In our two last articles we endeavored to show the necessity of the interposition of State pride and State sovereignty to save the interests and credit of the state of Pennsylvania. We have endeavored to show that the late, meditated attempt of a sister state to derange and destroy our credit, was but the last act, in a long series of attempts to degrade and imperish us.

An effort most laudable, for its honesty, it must be acknowledged, has been made by the Philadelphia Banks to regain and maintain their footing on the ground. They, the Banks, with a good faith and steadfastness of purpose which entitles its misfortune to respect.

The effort, however, has seems to us, six millions of dollars had the Bank of the United States, single-handed, counted out in satisfaction of the demands accumulated against it from all quarters; and still the demands poured it upon it.

The New York Journal of Commerce, a keen adversary of the Bank, almost admits the imputation suggested by the Philadelphia Gazette, in announcing the suspension, when it says, "Bills of the United States Bank are bought at 10 per cent discount. There are but a few of them here; the resumption having been actively used in sending every thing home, by which New York and the Eastern cities have realized a very large sum in specie and available funds."

our mind is, whether this great activity in extracting from the Bank all its specie was entirely conformable to the expectations which the Bank of the United States was led to entertain, and upon which it was induced to resume specie payments when it did? Be that as it may, however, if any individual engaged in business had, under similar circumstances, made such an effort and sacrifice as the Philadelphia Banks have done to resume payment after being obliged once to suspend; he would, instead of being followed with the yells of vindictive adversaries, as the Bank of the United States now is, have attracted, as he would have deserved, the general sympathy.

For ourselves, apart from considerations connected with the business and the currency of the country, which, however, are not to be wholly disregarded in the present emergency, we cannot but feel for the misfortunes of the innocent stockholders in these Banking institutions, whose property is thus melting away under the influence of a series of disastrous circumstances, every one of which is referable to its origin to mal-administration in the General Government.

We shall look upon a good deal of interest in Harrisburg, where the Legislature of Pennsylvania is now in session, to see what course the State Government will pursue in reference to the Philadelphia Banks. Those Banks are, we understand, upon short notice, liable to a forfeiture of their banking privileges in consequence of their suspension of specie payments.

From the Pennsylvania Intelligencer.

Pennsylvania must be Sustained!

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It is presumed, that by Thursday evening of this week, our Committees will have discharged their duty of collecting these papers. If any, containing signatures, shall not be called for prior to that time, we hope it will be handed forthwith to our Secretary, Saml. Elliott.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE MEMORIALS.

Mr. Reed, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the memorial of the State Temperance Convention, made a report, which was read as follows, viz:

That they have bestowed on the memorial committed, the consideration to which its importance, and the high respectability of the body from which it emanated, entitled it. The memorialists pray, that Committees of both Houses of the Legislature, may be authorized with power to send for persons and papers, to institute a thorough inquiry into the many and various crimes, produced by the use of intoxicating drinks.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Our state has now a high and imperative duty to discharge; a duty which she owes herself, her credit, her character, her future well being. She must meet the interest on her loans. She can expect no further aid from the Banks; her last demand upon them has been only a source of mutual disaster.

The interest on our State Loans being thus provided for, and the credit of the public works and any surplus revenue that may accrue from the tax, be converted to purposes of keeping these works in repair and extending them in those sections only where previous outlays would be rendered useless by a suspension, or where the continuation is imperiously required by the obvious, undoubted interests of the state.

advantages are in any degree remote or precarious. Let all pride and vain ambition, all pompous declamation about greatness and glory, yield to the emergencies of the occasion and the stern calculations of the rigid economist.

These measures, vigorously prosecuted, will inevitably place the state where she ought to be. The proceeds of her public works will gradually become a sinking fund to her debt and relieve the tax which her present condition requires.

CROWING.—The New York Standard raises at the head of its editorial column a cock crowing—"Hurrah for Jackson." Under this it places the announcement of the suspension of the United States Bank. Before this cock-of-the-Standard crows again we should advise the editor to enquire whether New York has refunded the five millions which she borrowed of this institution to relieve her distresses consequent upon the great fire of '35.

TEMPERANCE DEPARTMENT. PLEDGE OF THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY TEMPERANCE SOCIETY. WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO AGREE, THAT WE WILL NOT USE INTOXICATING LIQUORS NOR TRAFFIC IN THEM AS A BEVERAGE; THAT WE WILL NOT PROVIDE THEM AS AN ARTICLE OF ENTERTAINMENT, OR FOR PERSONS IN OUR EMPLOYMENT; AND THAT, IN ALL SUITABLE WAYS, WE WILL DISCOUNTENANCE THEIR USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

OUR CIRCULAR PLEDGES. It is presumed, that by Thursday evening of this week, our Committees will have discharged their duty of collecting these papers. If any, containing signatures, shall not be called for prior to that time, we hope it will be handed forthwith to our Secretary, Saml. Elliott.

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TEMPERANCE MAN.—A son of the Emerald Isle, who arrived in New York the other day, was asked by an acquaintance to take a glass of grog, but declined, giving as a reason for his refusal, that he had joined the temperance society in Cork before leaving Ireland. His friend replied that that was no consequence, as a pledge given in Ireland was not binding here. To this piece of left-handed morality, Pat indignantly retorted—"Do you suppose when I brought my body to America, I'd be afterwards laying my soul in Ireland?"

PUBLIC SALE. WILL be sold at public sale on Friday the 26th day of February inst., at 3 o'clock P.M. of said date, to wit:—All the following described real estate, to wit:—All the interest of James McCullough, in a Tract of Land, situate on the Mount Pleasant Spring, in Cumberland county, lying part in Westmoreland and part in Dickinson townships, and bounded by the heirs of Dr. Wm. Sharp, and by the heirs of Wm. Ferguson, and others, containing about Two Hundred and Forty Acres, and lying thereon erected a Two Story Stone House and Log Barn.

into means of deciding on mere measures of government. Nor would it be possible to separate such questions as the one proposed to be submitted from party or political considerations. The same instinct of party would seize on one side or the other of the "retail" question, and temperance would be made to minister to at least one of the many species of intemperance, which periodically agitate the public mind.

The prayer of the memorialists to the amendment of the tavern license law, by which public notice of all applications for licenses shall be given, and the names of those who recommend a tavern stand, published, meets with the approbation of the Committee. They have accordingly reported a Bill to that effect, (No. 73.) They do not doubt it will produce favorable results. Such a publication can do no harm, and it seems to the Committee, required for the security of neighborhoods. Any rigorously penal enactment on the subject of the sale of spirituous liquor, would unquestionably do more harm than good.

TEMPERANCE SCRAPS. If a man begins to save ten cents a day, when he is 21 years old, and continues to do so until he is 70, he will then be worth \$10,956.37.

CHANCELLOR WALWORTH says—"The time will come when reflecting men will no more think of yielding intoxicating liquors, or of creating or renting grogshops as a means of gain, than they would now think of poisoning the well from which their neighbor obtains water for his family, or of arming a maniac to destroy his own life or the lives of others."

JUDGE DAGGETT says—"Those who make or sell ardent spirits for common use, are as wicked as those who make and sell poison for the same purpose. The blood of murdered bodies and souls will be required at their hands."

The Third National Temperance Convention is appointed to meet at Saratoga Springs, State of New York, on the last Tuesday of July.—The Delegates from Cumberland County appointed by the State Convention are, Professor Caldwell.

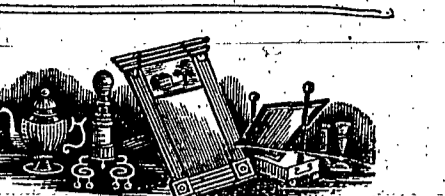
At a Temperance meeting in Boston, Mass., in the course of some remarks, a young man said,—"I had eleven companions, all healthy young men, all doing well in our business. We used to meet to drink, and to gamble; we continued our course for some time, and now what is the history of us twelve. Six have died drunkards—two are in the House of Correction—one is a drunkard still—I, alone, have escaped to tell you." "Who, who was it?" exclaimed this young man, "who have for these many years sold us this rum? Of whom, in the sight of God, I demand those who have gone down to the drunkard's grave, or are lying the drunkard's life." With sobbing and with tears, I'm mourning over such remembered dead, he exclaimed "Where, where are my companions?"

Mr. Greig, a temperance lecturer, said the objections of thousands against totalism were like those of a good lady to Dr. Fell:

I do not like you, Dr. Fell, The reason why I cannot tell, I do not like you, Dr. Fell, She fell a victim to her antipathy to the learned doctor, and millions of human beings, by their own destruction through their adherence to totalism.

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NOTICE. The Subscribers have formed a Co-partnership under the name of Jacob Sener & Son, and will, as usual, carry on the

HARDWARE BUSINESS, at the old stand in South Hanover street, next door to the public house of Mr. John Curman, where every article in their line may be had on the best terms. They take this method of informing those indebted on the books of Jacob Sener, that an early settlement of their accounts is necessary.

Triennial Assessment. NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioners of Cumberland county will hold the appeals for the year 1841, in the different Boroughs and townships of said county, at the times and places as published below, for the purpose of assessing all persons who may apply for redress, and to grant such relief as to them shall appear just and reasonable, to wit:—

NEWVILLE and NEWTON, on Friday the 19th at the same place. HOWELL, on Saturday the 20th at the public house of James Spangler in Newburg.

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Wholesale & Retail Copper, Sheet Iron and Tin Ware. Manufacture. THE SUBSCRIBER, thankful for past favors, manufactures at his old stand in North Hanover street, opposite Curman's hotel, every article in the line of his business, such as Wash Kettles, Dye Kettles, Hatters' Kettles, House Spouting, and every variety of Tin-ware, Drums, Stove Pipes, Dripping Pans, &c. He also offers for sale Cooking, Parlour, Chamber and Office Stoves.