

the 16th of April, 1838, to continue another year unpaid at four per cent. The former of these will fall due on the 18th of October, and the latter on the 6th of June, 1839.

By these loans, the only control over which allowed to the Executive was that of keeping down the rate of interest, the State Treasury, in spite of calculations and estimates to the contrary, has continued and still does continue to discharge all claims against the Commonwealth.

The whole amount of the receipts into the Treasury, during the year ending with the 31st of October last, including the balance from 1837, was four million nine hundred eighty-nine thousand two hundred and twenty-three dollars and three cents, and the whole amount of payments for all purposes, was four millions eight hundred and eighty-nine thousand eight hundred sixty-three dollars and seventy-three cents—showing a balance that day of ninety-nine thousand three hundred fifty-nine dollars and thirty cents.

Among the disbursements are included one hundred fifty-seven thousand six hundred twenty-two dollars and eighty-nine cents paid as expense, in part, of the Convention to propose amendments to the Constitution. During the preceding year seventy-one thousand seven hundred thirty-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents had been paid on the same account; and it is supposed that a balance of fifty thousand dollars is still or will become due, so that the whole expense of the Convention, and its incidents, will be two hundred seventy-nine thousand three hundred sixty-two dollars and fifty-six cents.

The probable amount of income from all sources during the present year, will be three millions four hundred fifty-three thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars, viz:

Canal and Railroad tolls,	1,600,000
Bank of United States for Common Schools,	100,000
Land and Land office fees,	62,000
Auction duties and commissions,	90,000
Dividends on Bank stock,	160,000
Tax on Bank dividends,	115,000
Dividends on Turnpike, Bridges and Navigation stock,	45,000
Retailers licenses,	80,000
Tavern licenses,	50,000
Collateral Inheritance tax,	23,000
Tax on writs,	25,000
Tax on certain officers,	6,000
Tax on Loan companies,	4,000
Hawkers and Tin and Clock Peddlers licenses,	6,000
Fourth Instalment Surplus Revenue,	953,838
Balance of Loan per 3d section act 14th April, 1838,	125,000
Miscellaneous,	5,000
Total	\$3,453,838

The probable demands on the Treasury, exclusive of appropriations to be made during the present session, and of loans which will be due during the year, will be three million three hundred twenty-three thousand nine hundred twenty-seven dollars and ninety-one cents, viz:

Balance of appropriations for Internal Improvement purposes, by act of 14th April, 1838,	532,057 01
Do. do. to Turnpike State roads and bridges,	95,670 90
For motive power,	240,000 00
Interest on State debt, salaries of Collectors; Lock Keepers, &c.	1,180,000 00
Expenses of Government,	200,000 00
Balance of expense of Reform Convention,	50,000 00
Militia expenses,	25,000 00
Pensions and Gratuities,	50,000 00
Education,	550,000 00
House of Refuge,	5,000 00
Penitentiaries,	21,200 00
Geological survey,	16,000 00
Interest on Treasury loans,	99,000 00
Cost of repairing Juniata Canal,	380,000 00
Interest of Temporary loans,	40,000 00
Miscellaneous,	50,000 00
Total	\$3,323,927 91

This will leave a balance at large during the year, of only one hundred and twenty-nine thousand nine hundred dollars and nine cents, which would have been two million one hundred thousand dollars at least, if your predecessors had not been so liberal of the public funds, and if the yield of the public works had not been reduced by the breach on the Juniata. But it is to late to remedy past profusion or misfortune. The future is now to be provided for.

It will be your first duty, in reference to the public works, to provide necessary Repair fund for the present year. The immediate appropriation of a sum sufficient for that purpose is strongly recommended, as a means of ensuring their continued use, and consequently, the largest return from them, during the next season.

It will be for the Legislature next to decide whether the works now in progress shall receive appropriations for the present year; and if so, from what source the means shall be derived. And also to provide funds to pay the loans that will fall due.

Once thought that no combination of circumstances could cause me even to hesitate in advocating the speediest means that could be devised, for the completion of our noble system of improvements.—But the experience of the past two years has, I confess, shaken my confidence in the attainment of that desirable end,

within any reasonable period. I have beheld the Treasury amply supplied with means, and yet the Session terminate without any provision for the prosecution of the works, because the terms dictated by Companies and sectional jealousies could not be complied with. The next year, the Executive has been compelled, for the sake of obtaining a Repair fund, without which, even the portion already in operation would have been thrown idle, to sanction a bill, pouring almost the last dollar of the public into the coffers of the private companies, and into new channels. Thus has it come to pass, that, notwithstanding a succession of circumstances the most fortunate, and of receipts the most ample and unexpected, the Commonwealth is left without means to continue her own works, and redeem her own faith. Her contractors—her citizens—and the public generally, are, I fear, about to possess good cause of complaint that she has entered upon undertakings that she cannot accomplish; or, as the only alternative, the means to complete and render productive the projects of private speculation, which have already proved so burthensome to the Treasury, and so insatiable in their demands, must continue to be granted without regard to consequences.

If I could believe that the lesson, thus far, would be sufficient to produce reformation, I could even compel myself to recommend an increase of the State debt, to meet the urgent wants which are now around us. But I cannot. The same spirit is yet at work. The same tax will still have to be paid by the State for permission to apply even her borrowed funds to her own works. All I can do, therefore, is to commit the matter to the Legislature, with a statement of the sums that are required, and the source from which they may be obtained, if resort to it be thought advisable.

The Erie Extension will need five hundred thousand dollars; a similar sum will be required on the North Branch Canal; three hundred thousand dollars will be the least that will effectually commence laying the rails on the graded portion of the Gettysburg Rail Road and continue the grading of the remainder; two hundred thousand dollars will be necessary on the West Branch Canal; one hundred thousand dollars on the Wisconsin Canal and Allegheny feeder, each; three hundred thousand dollars for ordinary repairs, and one hundred thousand dollars for damages, Locomotives &c. together with one million to pay temporary loans, making in the whole three million one hundred thousand dollars.

The only means left for obtaining this large sum, is that of borrowing; and the only source, without paying an unreasonable interest, is the Bank of the United States, which, under its charter, may be compelled to lend the money at four per cent.

If money be at all appropriated for the continuation of the works under contract, less than the sum just designated for each will be of little avail, and double the amount, named should be given if it could be afforded; and if it is obtained it must be borrowed. I wish however, to be distinctly understood as not recommending that course. But in communicating to the Legislature, the condition of the various interests dependent on their action, it is my duty to omit none.

Connected with the finances of the State, another subject of importance should receive your attention, six hundred and ninety thousand dollars of the State permanent Loan will fall due in 1839, and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in 1840. I have no hesitation in recommending that a sufficient amount of money to pay off their five per cent loans when they become due, be borrowed from the Bank of the U. States at four per cent, and applied to that purpose in the mode described in the annual message of 1836. It would also appear advisable to offer to redeem such of the other five per cent loans as shall become due within the next few years in the same manner. By adopting this expedient the annual draft on the Treasury will be lightened without any increase of the principle debt.

It is presumed that Capitalists who hold stock in the five per cent Loans about expiring, will not be unwilling to dispose of it now for more permanent investment.—The monetary confusion and distress, through which the country has been made to pass by the experiments of the General Government, seem about subsiding, and confidence between man and man and in public faith and institutions is returning. This then will not be an unpropitious moment for Pennsylvania to offer her creditors their money; that they may apply it permanently in aid of some of the numerous projects of improvement that are in contemplation or only awaiting the means of completion.

During the year just closed a most healthful change has been accomplished in our currency and a correspondent improvement is now developing itself in all the varied relations and interests that depend on the credit and confidence which forms the true basis of the circulating medium. The commencement of the year saw the State covered with paper issues in open violation of the plain words and meaning of the law, but which the necessity of the case seemed to justify.—They were taken almost without reluctance in all the dealings of the Community, and no move was made towards inflicting the enacted penalty on those who emitted them. At the same time the Banks had locked up the hard money of

the State to await as they said the moment when it might be again paid out without danger of total withdrawal from us, and without risk of injury to the Institutions of their debtors. These reasons for the course pursued seemed sound, and the people acquiesced. The end has justified the confidence reposed.

The work of this law of necessity—the law above all law in the hands of an honest and intelligent community were watched with intense interest. It was a glorious spectacle to behold a whole people, as one man, waiting calmly and patiently for the safe moment of disenfranchising themselves—not vindictively, one upon the other, but the whole for the good of the whole—from the grinding and gratuitous infliction. It was a noble proof of the fitness of Republicans for self Government, and was even enhanced by the fact that the people were laboring to abate the nuisance, not only unaided by, but in opposition to the efforts of those whom they had placed at the head of the Nation to guard their interests.

The duty of the Executive of this State was plain. It was to encourage the people in their patient course of suffering till the moment for effectual self relief should arrive, and to sustain the monied institutions, so long as they seemed to act for no other object than the common good. In this attitude the rising of Congress announced that the people might once more take measures for their own relief without danger of mischief or counteractions from their public servants. A call was at once made on all to restore the safe empire of the Law. It was nobly responded to, and has proved perfectly effectual.

Never was there a more praise-worthy instance of moderation exhibited by any community than the citizens of this state at the time of the suspension of specie payments and during its continuance, nor of patriotic devotion to Law and public good then that displayed by their monied institutions in the Resumption. The consequence is that our currency is now restored to its former soundness and all distrust has disappeared.

Though I feel bound to bear this just tribute to acts that have been so fully sustained by their results, yet I cannot conceal the opinion that some part of the difficulty arose from defects in the organization of the banks themselves. I shall not now occupy your time in recapitulating the remedies which these defects seem to indicate. That duty I attempted fully to perform in the last annual Message, to which you are respectively referred, with the remark that the changes then recommended are still deemed proper and requisite.

In other respects the public concerns of the State have exhibited their usual order and prosperity, with the exception of a disgraceful riot in the city of Philadelphia on the 17th of May. This particular of that outrage are too generally known to need repetition or comment here. So flagrant however, was it, as in my opinion to call for the interference of the Executive to aid in the apprehension of the perpetrators—a Proclamation of reward was accordingly issued. I hope this may be the last attempt, on the free soil of Pennsylvania, to molest a peaceful and ordinary assembly of citizens. Those who counsel such violent proceedings, should bear in mind that if their opponents are in error their cause will only acquire additional notoriety and permanence from any opposition which takes the appearance of oppression; whereas, if its claim on public opinion be left wholly to its own merit, it will soon sink into oblivion unless there be something in it really worthy of favor.

Some of the sister States that border on the Canadas were in the early part of the year, the theatre of occurrences that at one time threatened to lead to unpleasant consequences. These scenes have been recently rewarded, but the character and true object of the persons engaged in them, are now well understood, & scarcely any danger exists of collision between the British and United States Governments. The chief feature that bears an appearance of importance in these proceedings, arisen from the nature of the organization made use of. It has been communicated to me from a source entitled to unlimited credit, that numerous Masonic Lodges embracing many thousand of sworn members, have been recently established in the frontier States, with the express object of attacking and revolutionizing the adjoining British Provinces. Those who know the perfect adaption of sworn Secret Societies to such an object, and the reckless character of many of the persons probably engaged in the enterprise, can credit the statement. It is to be hoped that no citizens of Pennsylvania will be found concerned in an undertaking so injurious to the rights of a friendly nation, and in such direct contravention of every principle of international law. The fact however, presents one more and a most convincing reason for the enactment of severe and effectual laws against the administration of extra judicial oaths.

I have frequently brought this subject to the attention of the Legislature. It is again presented with the ardent hope that the necessary Legislation may take place, and that the stumbling block may be at length removed.

In reviewing our own domestic history for the past year, many useful suggestions present themselves.

The Geological Survey authorized by the session of 1835-6, is steadily advancing.—Fully one half of the State has been traversed and examined, a considerable part of it with all the minuteness requisite

to a final report. I have not been informed that further aid will be necessary to complete this valuable and interesting undertaking. When brought to a close, much highly important information may with certainty be expected from the general report. The publications of the discoveries and results of the investigation thus far, has been very properly excluded from the annual communications to the Legislature. It will require the whole term of the survey to enable the Geologist to give them that certainty and precision, which will form their most valuable feature, and which can alone grow out of repeated and continued examinations analyses comparisons and inquiries. The wisdom of this course will be fully admitted when the whole results shall be laid before the State.

The bearing of the survey on the the articles of coal and iron and upon the large and varied interests connected with them, imparts its chief interest. For several years, heretofore, little importance was attached to the exact deductions of Geology, Mineology and Chemistry as connected with these staple commodities. This was the case more especially with regard to the former. Large tracts of coal land were known to exist, but little desire was manifested to ascertain with exactness their boundaries, or the relative qualities of the mineral. Those were the days of speculation in coal land, and the projects of the speculator not infrequently shunned the unerring decisions of science. But they are passed as the days of actual operations in the mine have succeeded. It is now for the interest of all to dispel illusion, and to subject every project and every hope to the full light of science and truth before capital is invested or labor expended.

In this point of view the Geological Survey is of vast and increasing importance to the whole State, and should be regarded and promoted accordingly.

The successful experiments that have been made at Karthau & Farrandsville to melt Iron with Bituminous Coal, and at Manayunk, Maunch Chunk and Easton with anthracite, add new interest to this subject. So perfectly satisfactory have they proved, that large Furnaces in which Anthracite Coal alone is to be used as fuel, are now in progress of construction at several points in the State. This success full union of stone coal and iron ore in the arts is an event of decidedly great moment to the prosperity of our State, than any that has occurred since the application of steam in aid of human labor.

The trade in Coal and Iron will undoubtedly form the main business of the vast, but yet half accomplished system of works in which the State is embarked, and the chief hope of paying off the debt of their cost. The transporting of produce from the interior and merchandise from the seaboard will, no doubt, be great, and Pennsylvania will always possess her due portion of it. But it is not necessary for her to desire its monopoly. Her people as citizens of the nation, are satisfied to see sister States embarked in the noble rivalry, and, while they are convinced of the many advantages of their own route, can rejoice to know that there is room for the full success of all. But when her coal and her iron descend from her Mountain regions into New York, and the vast Lake country, from the North Branch Canal,—are discharged at Erie and Cleveland, as well as at Pittsburgh and Beaver from the same canal boat, which loads at the mine or iron works are poured through the wided locks of the Union canal, and the completed Tide Water canal as well as the Delaware and Schuylkill canals, upon the wharves of her own commercial metropolis—the magnitude of the trade beyond that of the mere carrying of produce and merchandise will then only be fully appreciated. If to these channels of wealth be added, continuous rail roads to the Eastern and Western Emporiums traveled by at least one thousand busy passengers daily, and an uninterrupted water communication between the Delaware and Lake Erie for the heavy trade, the cause which enables Pennsylvania to look without fear or jealousy on the works of other States, is apparent.

In such view of the subject, the necessity for opening, widening and deepening every channel, and the policy of retaining the great leading avenues and outlets in the immediate ownership and control of the Commonwealth, become evident. Hence the early enlargement of the Union canal, to the size and capacity of those of the State, is a project of much interest to the public. Hence also the ultimate possession of the canal from Columbia to the Maryland line should never be lost sight of, as a measure indispensable to the perfection of the grand system. The State now possesses the right to acquire this work at a time and price fixed in the law authorizing its construction, and the legislature should be cautious not to grant any privileges that may postpone the one or add to the amount of the other.

That all these desirable events can be accomplished is as certain as that the time of their arrival, will be postponed by persisting in the same course of squandering the public resources, which has surrounded our condition at the present with so much difficulty.

A joint resolution was adopted by the Legislature on the 16th of last April, making it the duty of the Secretary of the Commonwealth to obtain, through the agency of the assessors of county tax, general statistical information relative to the

agriculture, manufactures, commercial mining operations of the State. The resolution being adopted after the period when the assessments were actually commenced for county purposes, the queries directed by it, were consequently not issued until recently. This afforded more time to make them full and comprehensive, and to prepare the proper instructions. They were issued in the early part of last month, through the medium of the different Boards of County Commissioners, with directions to have the information collected during the present month, so that it might embrace one full year.

It has been recently ascertained that the Commissioners of several counties decline distributing the queries to the Assessors, and enjoining on them a compliance with the requirements of the resolution, on the ground that they are not expressly required to do so by its terms. But the resolution could not be well carried into operation without their agency. The names and address of the different Assessors were not in possession of the Secretary, neither did it seem proper for him to employ them, in performance of a duty for which the resolution expressly declares that they are to be paid out of the respective County Treasuries, without the knowledge or concurrence of the Commissioners. It therefore becomes proper for the Legislature to take some further action on the subject, without delay, if a report is desired at the present session. The queries or tables have been carefully prepared and distributed at considerable expense. The postage alone amounting to upwards of a thousand dollars, though the packages were sent to all the nearer counties by private conveyance. Circulars have also been issued to the sheriffs of the different counties calculated to elicit information relative to County prisons, under the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 19th of December 1837. It is expected that the replies will all be received during the present month, so that a report can be prepared and submitted early in January.

A Circular was also sent to the Directors of the poor of each county, that has a house for the support and employment of the poor, calling their attention to that portion of the 34th section of the act of 13th June, 1836, entitled "an act relative to the support and employment of the Poor," which makes it their duty to forward annually to the Executive, for the use of the Legislature, statement of the accounts of their respective Institutions. This duty has been very generally neglected heretofore, and the Legislature thereby deprived of much useful information.

Occurrences was taken at the same time to elicit from the Directors and Sheriffs full information of the number and condition of lunatic or insane persons in each Poor House or Prison. It is stated, by many humane persons conversant with the subject, that much wretchedness and suffering of this description exist, especially in Poor Houses, which might be alleviated, if not wholly avoided, if the melancholy extent of the evil were generally known. When the desired information is received, it will be laid before you, that the proper corrective may be applied. This most probably will be found to consist in the establishment of a Public Asylum for deranged or insane persons.—Such an Institution is wanting as a companion to our Deaf and Dumb, and Blind Asylums. I feel that it is unnecessary further to urge this subject upon your favorable consideration.

The encouragement given by the Legislature of last session to the growth of the mulberry tree, and the production of silk, has thus far proved efficient, and promises to include the silk business among our chief subjects of industry and sources of wealth. Many hundred thousands of mulberry plants have been sent out and a large quantity of cocoons produced. The reeling of silk has also been regularly practiced at many places and silk looms established at Philadelphia, and Economy in Beaver County. The business seems to have gained such a footing among us, as to promise permanence and profit. It seems to be a branch of industry admirably adapted to the habits and strength of the inmates of our county Poor Houses. It is worthy of enquiry whether a slight encouragement, say a small donation annually to the Steward of each Institution who shall produce a given number of pounds of cocoons, might not have the effect of substituting a light and pleasant employment for the more laborious occupations in which the papers are now engaged, and accelerate the permanent establishment of the business in the State.

In accordance with the provisions of the act of last session on the subject, Messrs. A. D. Bache and F. Fraley, of Philadelphia, and W. P. Ulrich of Washington county, were appointed Commissioners to examine and report to the Legislature, at its present session, on the subject of a revision of the map of the State, so as to correct the errors in its topographical delineations, and to represent the Geological and Mineralogical features of our territory. It is understood that the Board will shortly report. The result of their examinations will be laid before you, and will of course receive due attention.

The act of 1834, relative to Weights and Measures, which was continued in force by an act of last Session, has not yet been carried into operation. But a prospect is now presented of speedily accomplishing part of its requirements. I

have recently been informed by the proper Department of the General Government, that the standards of weight provided under the acts of Congress for the different States are ready for delivery. They will shortly be placed in the Secretary's office at this place, and copies will be made for each of the counties. In fulfilling the latter duty, the aid of the Franklin Institute has been promised, and will be relied on.

Until the standards for the different counties were procured and furnished, it was not thought expedient to appoint a regulator in each county, as directed by the act of 1834.—Under the new Constitution it will now be the duty of the Legislature to prescribe the mode of appointing those officers.

The attention of the Executive was, a short time ago, called by Col. Pleasanton of the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery, to the fact that the State possesses a number of pieces of old brass ordinance of various patterns and calibres, scattered over the State, with a suggestion that it would be proper to have them recast, and thus rendered really useful and valuable. It was also stated that the work could be done well and reasonably at a foundry established near Springfield, Mass. The proposition was approved, and the Adjutant General, with the aid of Col. Pleasanton, (which was liberally offered,) instructed to have them collected at the different Arsenals. The communications of Col. Pleasanton accompany this message and will explain this subject fully. I concur in the propriety of the measure, with the hope, however, that the changes may not be made to embrace pieces of cannon with which are associated any of the glorious events of the Revolution.

Commodore Elliot of the United States Navy, not unkind of his native State, while bearing the Flag of the Nation over distant Seas, has made me the agent of presenting to the Legislature, in his name, a beautiful and appropriate gift. It consists of a likeness, in oil, of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of our Continent, and another of Americus Vesputius, from whom it receives its name. To these is added the figure of the American Eagle, carved by an American citizen, in marble, from Alexandria Toas.

The Commodore's letter accompanies this message. The presents are now in the Executive Chamber, subject to the disposition of the Legislature, and will, I feel certain, be suitably received and preserved.

On the 47th of September, being the anniversary of the glorious sortie from Fort Erie, it was my agreeable duty to present to Brigadier General Hugh Brady of the United States Army, the Sword unanimously voted to him by the Legislature of his native State. The veteran soldier now bears the token of his country's approbation. It was my desire that it should not be unworthy of the Commonwealth. It is indeed a beautiful specimen of the artists taste and skill, and appropriately commemorates the deeds intended to be rewarded. It is the work of Fletcher and Bennett, of Philadelphia, and cost one thousand and ninety dollars.

Permit me to call your attention to a matter connected with the official arrangements of both Houses of the Legislature, but in which the public at large have an interest. It frequently happened, during the Summer recess, that citizens of the Commonwealth require for use in Courts of Justice or in the progress of claims for Pensions from the National Government, either original papers or exemplified copies of papers in the possession of the Legislature. The Clerks have no power to give the originals nor are they possessed of an official seal with which to authenticate copies. The only mode of producing the desired documents in court is to subpoena the clerk and cause him to carry with him the paper desired. But even this troublesome expedient fails between the second Tuesday in October annually and the day on which the Legislature assembles, for during that period the Clerks' functions cease. It would promote the public convenience if the clerks were authorized to keep a seal and give certified copies of documents file to be used in evidence. The trouble of making and forwarding the copies might be paid for by a reasonable fee in each case; and the official character of the clerks of each session might be extended by express enactment till the commencement of the next.

The contingent fund of the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth is generally insufficient during the year in which the Governor's Election occurs. Out of this fund are Paid the Postage Messenger's Salary, the price of fuel printing Stationary &c. both for the executive chamber and Department of State. The Postage on election returns for Governor and on the large number of letters which are addressed to the executive during the first six months of his term, generally exhaust the fund before the first of April on which day the year commences. The fund of the present year will be quite insufficient. This is caused by the large number of circular letters sent out (including the Statistical tables before alluded to) in accordance with the directions of the Legislature and in performance of the duties of the office. It will be necessary to make some provisions to meet the demands now existing, and those which will become due before the first of April. The amount allowed annually is two thousand seven hundred dollars. This sum is more than enough for the second and third