



Wm. Brewster, Editor and Proprietor.

Wednesday Morning, January 13, 1858.

The Circulation of the Huntingdon Journal, is greater than the Globe and American combined.

Owing to the great length of the Governor's Message we are under the necessity of leaving a small portion out till next week, and a great deal of other important matter which we are obliged to defer until next week.

Non-Paying Subscribers. Wagons cannot run without wheels—boats without steam—bull frogs jump without legs, or newspapers be carried overlastingly without money, no more than a dog can wag his tail when he has none. Our subscribers are all good, but what good does a man's goodness do, when it don't do you any good. We have no doubt every one thinks that all have paid except him, and as we are a clever fellow and his is a little matter, it will make no difference.

The Pennsylvania State Legislature met on the 5th inst., and organized by the election of A. B. Longaker as Speaker of the House, and William H. Welsh, Speaker of the Senate. Both gentlemen were sworn in, delivered inaugural addresses, and proceeded to qualify the members. The Governor's message was sent in on the 6th inst.

Last week Wm. Lewis, proprietor of the Huntingdon Globe, was laboring under a desperate spell of the disease called in common parlance, "The man with the poker;" however, from late accounts, he is likely to recover.

Frank Leslie's New Family Magazine for the month of January 1858 is before us, with which is incorporated the Gazette of Fashion. This is styled the "Monarch of the Monthlies." It deserves an extensive circulation.

GOLD DISCOVERED IN KANSAS.—George Butler, United States Indian Agent in the Creek Nation, writing from Tahlequah to the South West (Missouri) Democrat, says that a portion of Kansas, between the 35th and 36th parallels, near Pikes, on the South Plate, is auriferous. Mr. Beck, from the mining regions of North Georgia, has visited that part of the Territory and says that for three hundred miles around gold may be obtained.

J. SIMPSON AFRICA, Esq., of this place has been appointed transcribing clerk for the Senate, he is a good selection.

We are in receipt of the first number of a paper published in Philadelphia, by Chichester & Co., called the "Printers' News Letter", devoted principally to the interest of the Printing profession.

"The Wall Street Broker," and North American Money Guide for January 1858, Edited by John S. Dye of the City of New York, has again made its appearance on our table very greatly improved, and now ranks among the best Bank Note Detector in the United States; we highly recommend it to the public. Send us a complimentary Glass.

The Shirleyburg Herald, after a short repose has been again resuscitated by its former editor and proprietor, John Lutz Esq.

The February number of the Lady's Home Magazine, is on our table with a host of choice literature, send for it ladies you will not regret it. Published in Philadelphia by T. S. Arthur & Co., at \$2 per annum.

Godey's February Number of his Magazine is on our table with another brilliant one, containing, as usual, a splendid Steel Engraving. Another Shippin Pattern, that would cost in the stores fifty cents. Another of his splendid Fashion Plates and innumerable smaller engravings. The Literary matter in this number cannot be surpassed. The price is only \$3, or we will give it and the Huntingdon Journal to you for one year for \$3.50.

The following gentlemen have our thanks for valuable public documents: Gov. James Pollock, A. K. McClure, Esq., House. D. D. Houtz, House. W. P. Schell Esq., Senate. J. Simpson Africa, Trans. Clerk, Senate.

Hon. Wm. Bigler. The Pittsburg Gazette of Friday says, in reference to Senator Bigler that "he is a low, gross, sensual, asthmatic, wheezy Falstaff, whom everybody despises both in and out of his party."

MARKETS.—There is very little demand for Flour to day, but the market has undergone no change.

The market for Clover Seed is steady, at \$4.50 per bushel.

Other divisions of the public improvements economical. The net revenue, at the Treasury was \$174,601 87, a decrease of \$9,092 58, as compared with the receipts of the preceding year. In addition to the ordinary expenditures, the sum of \$46,268 was paid for the enlargement of his division.

The North Branch Extension of the Pennsylvania canal, although so far completed in the fall of 1856, that boats freighted with coal and other products, were successfully passed through its entire length from Pittston to the Junction canal, yet in consequence of a large portion of the "Horse Race Dam" having been carried away by the freshet of last spring, business on the canal was suspended the greater part of last year. It was repaired during the summer and in the fall business was resumed along its entire length. Soon after, the same dam was again extensively injured by a sudden and heavy freshet, and the greater part of the canal rendered useless for business. An appropriation will be required to reconstruct the dam.

This canal, although useful and valuable, appears to be doomed to failure and disaster.—These are the fruits of former mismanagement and fraud in its construction. Every effort has been made to repair the errors of its early management, and to complete and render useful this division of our public works. Under proper management it can be successfully accomplished.

In pursuance of the act of the 16th of May, 1857, providing for the sale of the main line of the public works, after giving the notice required by law, I caused the said main line to be exposed to public sale, at the Merchants' Exchange, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 25th day of June last, and sold the same to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for the sum of seven millions five hundred thousand dollars the highest price bid for the same, and the minimum price fixed in the act.

After a full compliance by the purchasers with the conditions of the act authorizing the sale, and the delivery of their bonds in number and for the amounts equal to and falling due at the time provided for the payment of the respective instalments, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on the 31st day of July, A. D. 1857, as directed by the act, transferred, under the great seal of the State, to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, their successors or assigns, the whole main line of the public works, between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, together with all the right, title and interest, claim and demand, of the Commonwealth, to all property, real, personal and mixed, belonging to or used in connection with the same by the Commonwealth; and the purchasers having given notice of their readiness to take possession of the said works, possession of the same was accordingly delivered to the company, on the first day of August last, of which notice was given to all superintendents and agents of the Commonwealth, by proclamation bearing date the 31st day of July, 1857, as required by the law authorizing the sale.

The bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in the sum of seven and one-half millions of dollars, were received by the State Treasurer and are held by him for the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund; the entire proceeds of the sale being required by the twelfth section of the act to be paid to the sinking fund and applied to the payment of the State debt. I cannot but congratulate the people of the Commonwealth on the consummation of this sale. Public sentiment, as expressed through the ballot box, and in other forms equally significant, demanded it—public policy and the interests of the Commonwealth required it. It is done. The many approved complain—those most who have given an unenviable reputation by a reckless disregard of the public interests, as exhibited in the extravagant, useless and fraudulent expenditures of the public money for selfish or partisan purposes.

The sale of the main line has directed public attention to the importance and necessity of disposing of the remaining divisions of the public improvements. The reasons and policy that required and justified the sale of the one, apply with equal force to the sale of the other. The propriety of separating the State from the care and control of the public works, is not only evident to all who have given the subject a candid and impartial consideration, but the necessity is clearly established, by the history of their construction and management. They have failed to be a source of revenue to the Commonwealth, and if retained by the State, will require an expenditure in their repair and management, largely exceeding any revenue, that under the most favorable circumstances, can be derived from them. In any phase of the question, this separation is desirable; but in connection with the payment of the public debt, and the reduction of State taxation, it becomes an object of more than ordinary interest. A sale, at the earliest practicable period, of the whole of our public works, for a fair consideration, upon terms just and liberal to the purchasers, and at the same time amply protective of the rights and interests of the people, should be authorized by the Legislature. Such sale, with the application of the proceeds to the payment of the public debt, would secure its still more rapid extinguishment. The subject is recommended to your unbiased consideration.

The law incorporating the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, imposed a tax of three mills per ton, per mile, on all tonnage passing over that road, as an equivalent for any decrease in the revenues of the Commonwealth, that might arise from the anticipated competition of the road with the business of the main line of the public improvements. This tax is not imposed upon the company, but upon the tonnage, and is paid by the owners of the freight transported over the road; the Company acting as agents in its collection and payment to the State. It is virtually a tax upon the trade and commerce of the Commonwealth, and upon the commerce of other States, whose productions seek an eas-

tern market over this road; and thus by increasing the rate of charges and the cost of transportation the produce of the west is forced upon the competing railroads of other States and to other markets than our own. The necessity that reduced this tax, as regards the Commonwealth and her improvements, has ceased. Its continuance can only be justified as a revenue measure. It should be the policy of the States to invite the transmission of the products of other States through the territory to her own markets, and, therefore, the propriety of relieving the trade and business of the Commonwealth.

In consequence of the suspension of specie payments by the banks of this and other States of the Union, and the financial embarrassment and general prostration of business, I deemed it my duty, as authorized by the Constitution an extra session of the Legislature, to meet at Harrisburg on the sixth day of October last. Although the relief provided by this extraordinary session of the General Assembly, was not as ample as the exigency of the case required, yet it was productive of some beneficial results, and served to allay the excitement and alarm that pervaded the entire community. By the act providing for the resumption of specie payments by the banks, all banking institutions accepting the provisions of that law, were required to pay into the Treasury one-fourth of one per cent. on their capital stock. The amount realized by the payment of this bonus has not only defrayed all the expenses of that session, but will leave a balance in the Treasury of not less than thirty-five thousand dollars—a result certainly not injurious to the finances of the Commonwealth.

My views expressed in former communications on the subject of banks and banking capital, in their relations to the currency and the general interest of trade, remain unchanged. However diverse our opinions may be on this subject, it must be admitted by all, that the banking and credit systems are so intimately interwoven with the business and commerce of the country, that their sudden separation, or rash innovation, would produce consequences of fearful magnitude. That the present system of banking is perfect, is not pretended; that it could be essentially modified and improved, will not be denied. The present derangement of the currency may and will suggest the necessity of reform, not only in the system itself, but in the management of our banking institutions.

Unlimited credits by corporations or individuals have and will ever be an unmitigated evil. They contribute to bank expansions, rash speculations, extravagant living and excessive overtrading; always sure to be followed by ruinous revulsions. What the remedy should be, I do not deem it in my province, under existing circumstances, to suggest; but to be permanent and effectual it must accord with the natural and necessary laws of trade. The currency of a country forms no exception to these laws, and should be left to their operation and control, so far as may be consistent with the public good. It is, therefore, that a system of free banking, based on undoubted public securities, and coin in such proportion to circulation as deposits as may be deemed sufficient to secure their conversion into specie, on demand, with proper limitations and restrictions, is deemed preferable to the present system. Its introduction would correct many existing abuses not only in the system itself, but in the present mode of banking. These questions, however, with the remedies necessary to prevent a recurrence of the evils under which we now suffer, together with the nature and extent of the relief, if any, that may yet be required by the banks of the Commonwealth, to enable them to resume the payment of their liabilities in specie, are all referred to the wisdom of the Legislature. They are practical and important business questions, and such as should receive their intelligent consideration.

The present condition of our Commonwealth and country deserves at least a passing remark. A severe financial revulsion has occurred, inducing a suspension of specie payments by the Banks, not only of this Commonwealth, but of all the States of the Union, deranging the currency and affecting seriously all the great interests of commerce and the industrial pursuits of the citizen. Labor is without employment, and thousand of strong active men are now asking for work or bread. The causes assigned for these evils are almost as various as the interests or prejudices of those who undertake their explication. To whatever cause or causes they may be referred, it is neither just, nor proper to charge all our financial and commercial distress to the Banks and their management. However much they may have contributed, other causes have operated still more directly and powerfully to produce these results; and among them first in importance and influence is the present system of low duties, in connection with the warehousing system, adopted as the policy of the General Government in 1846. The abandonment of the protective policy, as embodied in the Tariff act of 1842, was resisted by Pennsylvania with a unanimity, almost unparalleled in her history. Her representatives in both branches of the National Congress strenuously opposed the repeal of that act. The evils under which we are now suffering were predicted, as a consequence of such repeal. But other counsels prevailed, the act was repealed, and the industry of the country exposed to a ruinous competition with the cheap labor of foreign nations. The disastrous effects of the repeal, were postponed by the operation of causes well understood by every intelligent citizen. Famine abroad produces an unprecedented demand for our breadstuffs, and the breadstuffs of California, although it may have added to the excitement of our progress, and contributed its full share in producing existing financial and commercial embarrassment, in millions, supplied the means of paying the overwhelming balances against us on our foreign importations. Under the present system of low duties, the excess of imports over exports has been beyond the most extravagant want of the country. They have been enormous and ruinous—destructive of domestic industry and involving the home manufacturer and home labor in one common ruin. We have imported more than we could pay for, and much more than we need. Pennsylvania's abundance in iron ore. Iron and its manufac-

tures are justly regarded as important elements of her material wealth; and from her abundance, if properly fostered and protected by a wise national policy, could supply the markets of the world; and, yet, since the passage of the act of 1846, we have imported of iron and her manufactures, more than two hundred millions of dollars in value; paid for in gold or our bonds and stocks, now held by foreign capitalists—the interest on which adds to the burdens imposed upon us by our foreign indebtedness. The same is true of many other important branches of home industry. Many millions in value of cotton and woolen goods have, during the same period, been imported, that should have been made in our own workshops, and not have been woven on American and not on British, French or German looms.

As an example of the practical working of the system, official documents exhibit the facts that during the past four years the imports of foreign merchandise, exceeded our exports one hundred and eighty-four millions two thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight dollars; and as a consequence, the drain of the precious metals was correspondingly great. The amount of specie sent out of the country during that period, was two hundred and thirteen millions three hundred and sixty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-four dollars—specie imported twenty-six millions nine hundred and twenty-seven thousand four hundred and twenty-seven dollars; leaving a balance against us on specie account of one hundred and eighty-six millions four hundred and thirty-six thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven dollars. This depleting process, aggravated by excessive importations, unsettled the currency and induced an inflated paper circulation, resulting in bank suspensions and financial embarrassment. But the evil does not end here. An inflated paper currency, by cheapening the price of money, increases in this country the cost of production, and thus, whilst the American manufacturer is exposed, under a system of low duties to a ruinous competition with the cheap labor of Europe, he is paid for his goods in a currency less valuable than that paid to his foreign competitor. As a necessary result the home fabric is driven from the market, and the home manufacturer ruined. The operation of these causes, stimulated by low duties, is sufficient to destroy the industrial energies of any people.

With these facts before us, it is no matter of surprise that our mills, factories and furnaces have been closed, and thousands of honest laborers thrown out of employment; that commerce has scarcely an existence, that bankruptcy and ruin are around us, and our general prosperity paralyzed. To avoid these disasters, to which we have been periodically exposed, reform not only in our system of banking, but in our revenue laws, becomes indispensable.

If the principle of the act of 1842 had been preserved—even if its rate of duties had been reduced—our specie, by millions, would not have gone into foreign coffers to build up and sustain the foreign manufacturer; home industry would be prosperous, and the cry "we want work," issuing from a thousand lips in our large cities and manufacturing districts, would not now be heard; nor would a foreign debt of nearly five hundred millions of dollars exist, to startle and alarm us. That system that practically prefers foreign to home labor; that keeps our workshops in Europe, instead of building and supporting them here; that takes our gold to pay the wages of the British laborer, whilst our own are without employment and without bread; that fills the country with foreign merchandise, to the exclusion of the home fabric; that lays the British rail upon the road through our iron districts, and by our rolling mills, whilst they are silent and deserted, and that invites to speculation and extravagance, is at war with every true American interest, and should be at once abandoned.

A period of low duties has always been marked by excessive importations; large exports of specie; overtrading; bank expansions and suspensions, and financial and commercial revulsions. Under the protective policy, these peculiar and startling characteristics of free trade have all been wanting. The history of the country establishes these facts. A well regulated tariff, adjusted to protect the productive industry of the country, is not only the true policy of the government, but is a better regulator of the currency, and a more certain security against bank expansions, than any system of pains and penalties yet devised for the control of banking institutions, or the operations of capital. To this we should return. Pennsylvania is yet true to her ancient and long cherished convictions of its propriety and necessity. She may have been misled. Political and partisan pressure may have forced her from her true position. This was her misfortune, not her fault. She sees and feels the wrong, and with an emphasis, intensified by her injuries, will demand redress; protection for herself, and the great industrial interests of her people.

The agricultural interests of the country should ever be fostered and sustained by the State. They are first in necessity and usefulness, and constitute the basis of State and National prosperity. Upon their progress and development depend the success of our mechanical, manufacturing and commercial interests.

Agriculture, in its varied and multiplied relations, is the unfailing source of national wealth, and to its promotion all should contribute. Individual enterprise and liberality, State and county associations, have done much to advance this important branch of productive industry; have collected and circulated much valuable information; and encouraged by their honorable exertions, the progress of scientific and practical agriculture. Science and art have nobly proffered their aid—the State should not withhold her encouragement and support.

I have heretofore recommended the establishment of an agricultural bureau, in connection with some one of the State departments, to give efficiency to the collection and diffusion of useful knowledge on this subject. Impressed with the necessity and usefulness of such a bureau, I again earnestly recommend it to your favorable consideration.

"The Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania," an institution incorporated by the Legislature of 1855, is entitled to the especial attention of the friends of agriculture. In the teachings of this institution, the scientific and the practical are united; and whilst the art of farming, and all that pertains to the management, business and work of a farm, will be the subject of instruction, the natural sciences, in their relation and application to practical agriculture, will also be taught. The student of the institution will be enabled to test, in his daily occupation, the truth and value of the knowledge communicated.

Much of the land connected with the school has been successfully cultivated during the past year. Orchards of every variety of fruit, and hedges, have been planted, and many valuable improvements made. A double storied barn, large and convenient, as also the farmer's house and part of the out-buildings, have been erected and occupied.

From the report of the trustees, we learn that "a contract has been made for the erection of an edifice calculated for the residence of professors, lecture halls, and dormitories for students, to be built of stone, four stories high, two hundred and thirty three feet in front, with wings, and to cost fifty five thousand dollars. This building is already in progress, and it is hoped that a part of it may be put under roof and be so far completed as to enable the board to make arrangements to receive a few students before the close of the current year." The Legislature, at their last session, appropriated fifty thousand dollars to this institution, one half of which has been paid; the remaining twenty five thousand dollars to be paid on condition that an equal sum be realized from other sources, within three years from the passage of the act making the appropriation.

The objects and character of this institution—its relation to agricultural knowledge, and as the pioneer in the great work of agricultural education, commend it to the generous patronage of the Legislature, and to the confidence and liberality of the people of the Commonwealth.

The report to be submitted by the Superintendent of Common Schools will present a clear and satisfactory statement of the general operation of the system during the past year.

The separation of the School from the State Department, by the act of the last session, was a just tribute to the importance and value of our common school system. The great educational interests of the State, the care and guardianship of the intellectual, social and moral improvement of the youth of the Commonwealth, should occupy a prominent and independent position among the departments of the government. If the care of the treasury of the Commonwealth, the development of her material wealth, and the advancement of her politico economical interests, have received from the government the marked and distinctive recognition of their importance, how much more should the mind of her youth—with its wondrous activities—its constantly unfolding energies, and its infinite superiority to the material and physical, claim a still higher consideration, and receive from the representatives of the people, a more honored recognition.

As an independent department, greater efficiency will be given to the system—a more direct and immediate supervision will be secured—the details of its operation more carefully observed—its deficiencies discovered—its errors corrected—the accomplishment of its noble purposes and objects rendered more certain, and the system itself saved from the dangerous and debasing influence of political excitement, and partisan prejudice.

The county superintendent, tested by experience, has realized the just expectations of the friends of the measure, and may now be regarded as a permanent and indispensable part of the system. When committed to competent men, it has accomplished a noble work in promoting the success and usefulness of our common schools; and wherever the duties of the office have been faithfully performed, the character of the schools has been elevated, their number and the number of scholars increased, and the confidence and encouragement of the public secured. In the hands of incompetent men, these results have not been obtained; but, on the contrary, opposition has been provoked, and the cause of common school education retarded. This office should not be committed to any but men thoroughly qualified by education and experience for the performance of its arduous and responsible duties; and if the school directors of any county, in disregard of their obligations, from opposition either to the system or the office, select an incompetent person for the place, the odium of the fact, and of failure to secure the benefits resulting from a proper and intelligent administration of the office, should rest upon them, and not upon the law authorizing the appointment. The defects of the system, when clearly established, should be promptly corrected; but change is not always reform; and innovation, induced by selfishness or prejudice, may enlarge its permanency and destroy its efficiency.

The act of the 20th day of May, 1857, providing for the due training of teachers for the common schools of the State, by encouraging the establishment of Normal schools within the districts designated in the law, has received the cordial approbation of all interested in the success of our common schools. The passage of that act inaugurated a new era in the history of common school education in Pennsylvania. It is a movement in the right direction; full of encouragement and hope for the greater perfection and usefulness of the system. Large and enthusiastic meetings of the friends of education have been held, in many of the districts, to promote the establishment of Normal schools, as contemplated by the act; and liberal sums of money have been subscribed to secure this desirable object. A noble work has been commenced, and sustained by individual enterprise and liberality—encouraged by the State, and vindicated by its own intrinsic merit, it must go on until State Normal schools, in number and efficiency, equal to the supply of well trained teachers, shall become the just pride and boast of Pennsylvania.

The organic structure of our system is as perfect perhaps as human legislation can make it; but it needs the competent and thoroughly trained teacher to it greater vitality and efficiency, and secure the full accomplishment of the purposes of its creation. The teacher, the properly educated, the well trained, the scientific teacher, is the great want of the system. We need the teaching mind, not the automation movements of mere physical organization or antiquated routine, to direct and control the intellectual energies of the youth of the Commonwealth. We require mind, educated mind in our schools, that knowledge may be communicated, not only effectively and practically, but that in training the young, they may be taught to think—how to investigate, and think—and know for themselves; and thus be fitted and prepared for the high and responsible duties of the man and the citizen.

The deficiency can only be supplied by State Normal Schools for the education of teachers. To them we must look. The future is full of hope. Much has already been done to provide for their establishment and support. In connection with honorable individual effort, more legislative encouragement may be required. It should be given cheerfully and promptly. No subject of greater interest can claim your attention; no one appeals with more reason and truth to duty and patriotism.

Teachers' Institutes, as auxiliary to Normal Schools, should be aided by the State. Through their agency, sustained by the noble and self-defying efforts of the teachers themselves, much good has been accomplished in educating and training teachers, and in dignifying a profession too long undervalued by those most deeply interested in their useful labors.

In the great work of popular education there should be no retrograde movement in Pennsylvania; no yielding to the impotent clamor of ignorance, selfishness or prejudice, in their attempts to stay its progress. These, one and all may denounce and condemn but virtue, patriotism, truth, bid you onward. Let the system be maintained in its unity and usefulness let it be improved and perfected in its details; but let no act of yours impair its strength, or mar the beauty and harmony of its proportions.

Based as our institutions are on the will or the people—dependent for preservation on their virtue and intelligence—knowledge with us should occupy the high position to which it is pre-eminently entitled. Knowledge, founded upon the pure principles of eternal truth, is the crowning glory of the citizen—the safeguard and defence of the State. Education, full and free to all, is the boon we ask for the children of the Commonwealth—it is the duty, paramount to all others, the State owes to her citizens. The aid of the Commonwealth should be liberally bestowed. The subject, in all its relations, is warmly commenced to the generous care and patronage of the Legislature.

Legislation, whilst properly encouraging the development of the material wealth of the State, should recognize the still higher obligation to improve the social, intellectual, and moral condition of the people. The amelioration of human suffering, the reformation of the erring, and the correction of youthful viciousness, are objects that deserve the attention of the philanthropist and statesman. To secure these results the educational, charitable and reformatory institutions of the Commonwealth should be fostered and encouraged by liberal legislation.

The reports of the State Lunatic Hospital, at Harrisburg, and the Western Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, at Pittsburg, will be laid before you, and will exhibit in detail their operations for the past year.

These institutions, in their objects and results, merit and should receive our warmest approbation. The condition of no class of suffering humanity appeals with more thrilling power to our sympathies than that of the insane. Ignorant of the frightful malady that presses them, shrouded in the fearful gloom of mental darkness, and shut out from the social joys of home and friends, the aid of the benevolent and the benefactions of the Commonwealth should be liberally and cheerfully given to them.

The House of refuge in Philadelphia, and the Western House of Refuge near Pittsburg, again ask to share the bounty of the Commonwealth. These schools for the erring neglected, and out-cast children and youth of the State—these homes where kindness rules; and love subdues the vicious and incorrigible, should not be denied their request. The 'Blind' and the 'Deaf and Dumb' Asylums at Philadelphia, and the Pennsylvania Training School for idiotic and feeble minded children, present their annual claim for your sympathy and aid. The darkened eye, the silent tongue, and the weakened intellect, in sorrow and sadness, appeal to the representatives of the people for this boon. It cannot be refused.

My views in relation to local special and omnibus legislation have been so frequently expressed, in communications to the Legislature that their repetition now is unnecessary.—Such legislation often so subversive of private rights—so detrimental to the public interest and generally so mischievous in its consequences—should not be encouraged or permitted.

The report of the Adjutant General will be laid before you. To its valuable and important suggestions I invite your careful consideration.

I must again call the attention of the Legislature to the subject of revising the militia laws of the State. They are so crude and imperfect, in many of their provisions, and obscure in some of their enactments that it is difficult to discover the object intended, or comprehend the duty enjoined. The powers and duties of the respective officers connected with the military organization of the Commonwealth, should be more clearly defined. Greater encouragement should be given to the formation of volunteer companies; the entire system should be remodelled and placed in a position to become alike honorable and useful to the State.

The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia, by an ordinance passed the 7th day of April, 1856, and officially com-

municated to the Legislature at their last general session, proposed to convey to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a lot of ground, in that city, for the purpose erecting an Arsenal thereon. By the act of the 6th of May, 1857, the Governor was authorized to accept from the Mayor of Philadelphia, under the seal of the Corporation, the conveyance in fee simple of the lot of ground proposed to be donated to the Commonwealth, for the purpose indicated. The conveyance was duly executed by the Mayor on the 26th day of June, 1857, and accepted on the 31st day of July following as directed by the act. The fourth section of the same act authorized the Governor to apply the proceeds of the sale of the Arsenal in Philadelphia (\$30,000 00) to the erection of an Arsenal on the lot of ground thus granted to the Commonwealth. In pursuance of the authority conferred, a contract was made with a skillful and experienced Architect, for the erection and completion of the proposed Arsenal; to be large and commodious, and adapted to the purposes intended. The building was immediately commenced under the direct supervision of the Adjutant General, and is now completed and ready for the reception of the arms of Military stores and equipments of the Commonwealth. It is of brick, three stories high, one hundred and eighty-two feet front on Filbert street, and fifty feet in depth. The foundation walls of stone, are solid and massive. The cost of construction did not exceed the appropriation. It is a substantial and elegant structure and will be a safe depository for the public arms—an ornament to the city, and a credit to the Commonwealth.

One of my predecessors, in his annual communication to the Legislature, immediately after the close of the late war with Mexico, recommended the erection of a monument to the memory of those citizen soldiers, from Pennsylvania, who died in the service of their country in that war. It is due to them, that some public acknowledgment of their patriotic services should be made by the State. Concurring in the sentiments expressed in the communication to which reference has been made, I would also invite your attention to the propriety of erecting, in the public grounds of the Capitol, a suitable monument to their memory—and thus honor those who, by their undaunted bravery and invincible valor, honored our noble Commonwealth.

The publication of the Geological Report of the State, under the superintendence of Prof. Rogers, is rapidly approaching completion. The engravings and illustrations are nearly completed, and the first volume now in press, which he expects will be ready for delivery, soon after the meeting of the Legislature, and the second and last volume before its adjournment or immediately thereafter. The style and general execution of the work will be equal, if not superior, to that of any similar publication by our sister States. It will fully sustain the reputation of the distinguished Geologist, by whom the surveys were made and who has devoted so much care and attention to its application. The large geological map of the State, which will accompany the volumes, will not be finished before the close of the year. Great care has been taken to make it perfect in all its details. The whole work will be a valuable addition to geographical as well as a geological science, and will be alike useful to the citizens of the Commonwealth and honorable to its author. (Conclusion next week.)

We have further advices from Kansas. In Leavenworth city 238 votes were polled for slavery and 9 against. Many Missourians voted, several of whom were arrested, but subsequently released by order of Judge Lecompte. Much excitement prevailed. General Calhoun, was burned in effigy. It was rumored that Governor Denver had issued an order for the arrest of General Lane.

The Indian Bureau at Washington has received official information denying that the disaffection of the Indians in Utah, caused by the Mormons, had spread to the tribes in California and on the border. The California Indians are peaceable.

It is said, on apparently good authority, that the free State men in Kansas will vote at the election for State officers, on the 4th of January, under the Lecompton constitution, in order to secure the benefit of the State organization in the possible contingency of Congress admitting the State with that constitution.

At the last accounts from California the Mormons in that state were all selling out their lands, houses, goods, &c., and leaving for Salt Lake, pursuant to order from Brigham Young.

THE SLAYER THAT WAS SEIZED AND LET GO.—Advices from the west coast of Africa to the 10th of October mention with much minuteness the seizure by the United States frigate Cumberland, on the 3d of October, of the schooner Cortes, of New York, as a suspected slaver. The Cortes was lying at anchor off the river Camana with her cargo broken up, and in sight of a slave barracoon. After a thorough overhauling of her papers she was released, being declared a legitimate trader. The schooner Cortes belongs to Mumford Brothers, in Pearl street, in this city, who are known as extensive importers of crockery. The vessel was purchased by them for the India rubber trade, and has been for several years engaged in a legitimate trade with the coast of Africa. It is denied that she has been connected with the slave trade, or that she is now so engaged. The trade is, at present, almost wholly confined, to the Congo river.

French agents are purchasing slaves there in large numbers at \$30 per head. They are, also, purchasing slaves at Whodah at \$60 per head, and are engaged in a fierce competition with the agents of Spanish houses, who are paying \$80 per head for negroes to ship to Cuba. The slaves obtained from Whodah are said to be worth twice as much as the Congo negroes.

From the Episcopal Recorder. The subscribers gratefully acknowledge the execution of the Deed in fee simple for the Lot upon which St. John's Church, Huntingdon, is erected, the gift of Gen. A. P. Wilson of Huntingdon. It will be pleasing to the friends of the above Church to know that through the generosity of General Wilson the Church is now out of all embarrassments. R. W. OLIVER.