STAR & BANNER.

GETTYSBURG, JANUARY 11, 1841.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY IN WASHINGTON

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1842.

The year, in the way of delightful weather, if in nothing else, has commenced most propitiously here. The city, from one end of Pennsylvania Avenue to the other, at the White House, and at the hospitable mansions of the Mayor, the Ex-President, at Mrs. Madison's and at many more private dwellings, presented a scene of life and animation unusually at any other quarter of the town or country. The air was mild almost as May, and the sky as beautiful as it could be, with not a cloud to shut out the brightness of the sun. Every body seemed in motion, and the crowd out of doors seemed more like a New York's day in New York than ever before, except that there, there are no ladies seen in the streets.

*At the Executive Mansion*, there were more persons than have assembled upon a like occasion for many years past. The doors were thrown open at 12, and for the three hours following there was a continual rush to and from the door of the mansion. The doors were inadequate to afford ingress or egress to one-fourth of the crowd, and the windows were opened as a last resort. The fair sex was out in their pleasant to the ladies, some of whom had their dresses not a little damaged in the crowd of persons. For two hours there was a much quieter rush than before, those outside for a moment or two having the mastery, and those within seeking to make their escape being now and then the strongest party. It was a sad day for the owners of bonnets, cloaks and beautiful dresses, but an excellent one for the little army of milliners and dress makers, who flock here with the session of Congress.

The worst scene presented was the many persons who came in the very contrast almost of a decent demeanor; some few, neither shaved nor shorn, came in the veriest wantonness of a disposition to see how ill-at-home and ill-at ease a slovenly man would be in such an assembly, composed for the most part of elegant and well-dressed persons. But upon such an occasion as this, there is no law against lavishness of any sort. A clown may go to the White Hall in the full Indian costume, provided he keep himself to himself, and create no disturbance. One man almost kneedeep in mud, who seemed to have come from the Canal to the drawing-room, presented himself to the President, and promenaded the East Room for a long time—and though this man was the worst specimen of humanity which I saw, there were from him upward all gradations of dress, character and appearance.

The Levee had, however, only the peculiarity of an extraordinary attendance. The strangers in town outnumbered the usual force, and the members here for the most part have their families. There was no one present of any note for learning, for the variety of his own public service, and for his association with all the prominent events of the country from the time of the Revolution to the present hour.

The gentlemanly Mayor of the city, Mr. Seaton, also kept open house, after the good fashion of the city of Gotham, and the ancient Knickerbockers. Many of the citizens paid their respects to their Chief City Magistrate, who is known to all here to be a most excellent officer, and many, also, of the strangers who congregate here in the winter season, and who always find a warm welcome at the hospitable mansion of the Mayor.

Besides all these places where the public were free to come and go, many of the citizens kept open house and contributed to the entertainment of their friends. There was no lack of incident, therefore, through the day.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of Monday has the following notice of the newly discovered forgery case in Philadelphia.

*The Cheyney Hickman Case.*—The recent affidavit of Mr. John M. Riddle has given a new light upon the character of Mr. Cheyney Hickman, who sometime since figured as a Director of the United States Bank. Mr. Riddle has made affidavit, that he never endorsed certain notes signed C. Hickman & Co., and Cheyney Hickman, for more than $100,000; and that consequently such notes, so far as relates to his endorsements, are forgeries. This Hickman was originally appointed a Director of the United States Bank by General Jackson, and was then re-elected from year to year on the general ticket of the stockholders. He was apparently a dull, illiterate man, with little or no ambition, good-natured and limited in his views and pursuits. No one would, even if he have dreamed of him as a forger. He kept a leather store in Chesnut street above Third, not a great while ago, but subsequently he removed into Front street, took a large store, and became a shipping merchant. He flourished there for a year or two, visited the Exchange regularly every day, and talked freely and coolly of the owners of bonnets, cloaks and beautiful dresses, but an excellent one for the little army of milliners and dress makers, who flock here with the session of Congress.

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## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:*

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In performance of the duty enjoined on me by the Constitution, I proceed to give you such information of the State of the Commonwealth, and to recommend to your consideration such measures, as I think expedient at the present time. The discharge of this duty is, in many respects, beset with difficult, but this does not absolve me from the obligation created by my official station. In a spirit of perfect frankness, I shall submit to you the best dictates of my judgment, and shall be happy if, in your wisdom and experience, you can so modify and improve in a greater degree, the welfare of our common constituents, the people of this Commonwealth.

The subject of deepest interest, and great perplexity, that calls for our attention is, the financial condition of the State. Although I have, on several former occasions, entered into a full and minute exposition of this matter, I cannot refrain from again presenting it to your consideration, in a manner so direct and plain, as to preclude, I trust, the possibility of misconception on the part of those who feel an honest desire to understand it. I am persuaded that however embarrassed may be the pecuniary affairs of the Commonwealth, nothing is needed to induce the people provide means to extricate them, but a clear and candid exposition of the nature and extent of the liabilities, to which they are subject. The time for concealment, evasion, and deception on this point, is at an end. The public confidence is abused, the faith of the State is pledged, and every consideration of duty and of honor require of us, to know our true condition, and to provide adequate means to meet our obligations, and to redeem our plighted faith.

There is due by this State, to the United States, on account of such loans, as have been made, the sum of $2,867,514 78. The funded debt of the State, amounts to $36,331,005 68. This debt is reimbursable as follows—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $270,081 87 | in the year | 1841 |
| 62,500 00 | " " | 1844 |
| 3,516,568 81 | " " | 1846 |
| 50,000 00 | " " | 1847 |
| 1,000,000 00 | " " | 1850 |
| 2,000,000 00 | " " | 1853 |
| 3,000,000 00 | " " | 1854 |
| 2,983,161 00 | " " | 1856 |
| 7,070,661 00 | " " | 1857 |
| 1,850,000 00 | " " | 1859 |
| 2,648,689 00 | " " | 1860 |
| 120,000 00 | " " | 1861 |
| 3,295,000 00 | " " | 1862 |
| 200,000 00 | " " | 1863 |
| 1,515,000 00 | " " | 1864 |
| 1,797,010 00 | " " | 1865 |
| 2,524,000 00 | " " | 1866 |
| 1,957,352 00 | " " | 1870 |
| 340,981 00 | at expiration of certain bank charters. | |
| $36,331,005 68 | | |

This debt has been contracted for the following purposes, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| For Canals and Railways, | $30,055,013 68 |
| To pay interest on public debt, | 3,304,303 00 |
| For loan to the Treasury, | 1,271,259 00 |
| For Turnpikes, State Roads, Bridges, &c. | 250,000 00 |
| For the Union Canal, | 200,000 00 |
| For the Eastern Penitentiary, | 100,000 00 |
| For the Franklin Railroad, | 100,000 00 |
| For the Penn. and Ohio Canal, | 50,000 00 |
| Total | $36,331,005 68 |

| | |
|---|---|
| The value of our public improvements, estimated at cost, is | $30,292,165 33 |
| The State owns bank stock, which cost, at par | 2,108,700 00 |
| The State owns Turnpike and Bridge stock, | 2,813,048 89 |
| The State owns Canal and Navigation stock, | 831,778 66 |
| The State owns Railroad stock, | 350,546 90 |
| Money due on unpatented lands, estimated at | 1,000,000 00 |
| Total, | $36,496,239 78 |

The immediate difficulty of our situation, arises mainly from the payment of the interest annually accruing on this debt. This interest is about $1,800,000, and this sum, it is necessary on the State to provide as it becomes due. The inconsiderable portion of the funded debt, now redeemable, can, no doubtless, be postponed on more auspicious times, but the interest admits of no such postponement. This is a great sum, to be paid by those who cannot afford to procrastinate its reception, and whose means of subsistence depend, on the faithful adherence of the State, to its solemn engagements with its loan holders. The income especially appropriated to the payment of the interest, is derived from the following sources, to wit:—tolls on canals and railways, revenue from direct collateral inheritances, dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks, escheats and the tax levied on real and personal property, &c.

The amount received from each of these several sources, during the last fiscal year, ending 30th November last, is as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| From tolls on Canals and Railways, | $762,360 44 |
| " Auction Sales, | 77,022 15 |
| " Collateral inheritances, | 21,501 43 |
| " Dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks, | 30,355 72 |
| " Escheats, | 336 64 |
| " Tax on real and personal property, &c. | 33,022 77 |
| Total, | $924,559 15 |

The sum in the treasury, applicable to this object, on the first day of this month, independent of what may be received during the month, was $1,020,037 38, being $124,045 62 more than is necessary to pay the interest due on the first of February, next.

In relation to the assessment and collection of the state taxes, under the act of the 11th June 1840, the greatest delinquency is found with the county commissioners.—No return or statement has been received from several of the counties, although by the 6th section of the said act, to be transmitted to the Auditor General on or before the first Monday of September, in each year. It is, therefore, out of my power to inform you of the amount assessed under said act. From the information, however, received, I feel warranted in saying that it will amount to about half a million, or within a fraction of it. That amount will be considerably increased by the valuation and assessment provided by the act to establish a uniform mode for the valuation of property and assessment of taxes," passed 15th May last; the returns of which are required to be made to the Auditor General within the present month, and will be laid before you as soon as received. The duty of the county commissioners to make return of the assessments, &c. to the Auditor General, imposed by law, seems not to be designated and enforced with sufficient precision and certainty. To secure its faithful performance, I recommend a revision of the law.

During the existing state of things, the continuance of taxes assessed, for the payment of this interest, or at least of tax adequate for the purpose, appears to be indispensable. If the distribution of the objects of taxation, or the mode of levying and collecting the tax be unfair, or burdensome, and unequally the evil should be promptly corrected.

I have heretofore declared my determination to do all that belongs to the department to meet the wishes of all portions of the state, and to maintain unsullied the credit and fidelity of our Commonwealth. My sentiments in relation to the matters have undergone no change, and I am pleased to find that on this subject, there is no diversity of opinion among the great mass of the citizens of the state. All agree in a desire to see the public authorities of the Commonwealth, have entered into engagements conformably to the constitution and laws, whether those engagements have been contracted in good faith, in reference and a proper regard to the interests of the public, or not, the honor of the state, the performance of our republican institutions, and a second regard to the security of public engagements, require that the resources of the Commonwealth, and the energies of her citizens, be put in requisition, to meet her public obligations promptly, and unhesitatingly. It is, therefore, respectfully and earnestly urged upon the Legislature, to take the necessary steps, at the earliest possible day, to ensure this desirable result.

As the most efficient means that have occurred to my mind, I would suggest the adoption of a system of ways and means, to ascertain from the financial departments, both the ordinary revenue, and the amount necessary to be raised, annually, for the payment of the interest on the state debt, and the ordinary expenses of government. Let provisions also be made to cover all possible contingencies and losses on collection. And to this end, though ever so small, for a sinking fund, to be applied annually to the extinguishment of the principal of the public debt, and apportion it among the several counties of the Commonwealth, designating the amount to be paid to each, by an uniform apportionment according to the triennial, or last assessments, with such corrections and equalization as shall be found necessary, and on the same objects now taxable, or any others that the Legislature may think preferable. Let adequate and certain penalties be imposed on the collectors and commissioners for omitting to have the duplicates issued in time, and on each assessor for the non-performance of his duties, and if the county shall be in default, we shall be thought right, if its full quota be paid into the Treasury, on or before the day required by law. It is believed that a commutation of the Legislature would be as competent and as good as could be raised, to apportion the quotas of the several counties, as above mentioned, and, if approved, will be by the best assessments and census. The establishment of this system by law, would place the fund to meet the interest on the public debt, on a permanent foundation, and silence forever all doubts and fears, which speculators might seek to raise on this subject.

But it is not only to the loan holders of the Commonwealth, that she ought to be just in meeting her engagements. A regard to economy, as well as justice, to the men who labor upon the repairs of our canals and rail roads, requires that they should be promptly paid. The laborer is worthy of his hire and is as meritorious a creditor as the Commonwealth has, and it is absolutely disreputable that he should be compelled, on the borrowing of money for his pay, and be unable, at times, for months together, to procure as much for his labor as will buy him a loaf of bread. The expedient suggested, of paying little bundant means from taxation are provided to meet the interest of the state debt, that the tolls on our public works shall be first applied to the payment of the repairs, as they know, at a glance, to what the net revenue, if any, arising from them respectively amounts.

It is not to be disguised that we are deeply in debt; and that the times call for an unqualifing fearlessness in our public functionaries, to meet the emergency, and to provide the means for our extrication.—The people are already burdened with taxation, and those burdens cannot be diminished, if we expect to pay our debts. The conduct and motives of those who make provision to pay them, may be misrepresented, and be a time misunderstood.—Prejudice, from the sordid feelings of interest, may be invoked, and demagogues and unprincipled politicians will, endless, attempt to use it, to answer their own purposes. But the responsibility is one which every true public functionary must meet fairly and frankly, and in so doing he will be eventually sustained by the people at large, who never deliberately err, and who always will reward, with their confidence, and their support, those devotion to their true interests, even though it may, at first, have met with temporary disapprobation.

The means to pay off the loan under the act of 4th May, 1841,—to pay the foreign creditors of the state, and the interest on the public debt, must be provided before the Legislature adjourns. Stand policy, any common honesty, demands that much at your hands, and I am persuaded no member of the Legislature will shrink from a duty enjoined by such considerations as these.

It will be found on reference to the amount of taxes paid by the people, that comparatively a small portion is levied to discharge the interest on the public debt. Although in the aggregate the taxes are heavy, the burden of the greater amount is absorbed in the ordinary purposes of township, city and county affairs. I take great pleasure in stating the fact, that the increase of the taxes for the maintenance of the faith and honor of the state, has been regarded in a spirit of patriotic duty by the public at large, and has been borne without repining, unless, indeed, we except a very few persons, residing in portions of the state which have reaped almost the entire benefit of the expenditure of the vast sums of money, for the payment of interest on which these taxes are imposed. I felt satisfied when I recommended, early in my official career, the resort to taxation, instead of additional loans, to pay the interest annually accruing, that the enlightened yeomanry of Pennsylvania would, under the circumstances, sanction the recommendation. I am now convinced I did not mistake their true character; nor can the extraordinary conduct of some persons, professing better principles, who first urged the adoption of the measure, and afterwards denounced those who acquiesced in it, shake for a moment my steadfast conviction, that if I have, in this instance, believed the people would do their duty, let it exist what it might, the first instance is yet to be found in our history when they have flinched from it, if it has been properly understood.

The unprecedented increase of our population and resources, cannot fail, in a few years to render our improvements so productive as to preclude the necessity for taxation. The ultimate value of the stupendous system of public works can hardly now be estimated. They have already added vastly to the wealth of the state, and to the property of the citizens of the Commonwealth, and given an earnest of their capacity for future usefulness. The travel and transportation upon them is not increase in full proportion with the multiplication of our population, and the development of our exhaustless resources. When it is considered that the population of this State in the year 1800, was but 602,545, that in 1820, it was 1,049,313; and in 1840, it was 1,724,033, showing an increase within the last twenty years, exceeding the whole population in the year 1800; and when it is remembered that this immense increased and increasing population has imparted, and is still imparting, vitality and energy and industry to the improvements of the agricultural, mining, manufacturing and commercial interests of the Commonwealth; and that during the period just past trade and business were greatly depressed; when the Delaware division was not in use until about the first of August; and when the important anthracite coal trade, the Wyoming, Susquehanna and Bear valleys, and other intermediate points to tide; and the bituminous coal trade from the Allegheny mountain, and the Cambria and Juniata regions to tide; have been barely commenced, the receipts of toll amounted to the sum of $762,360 44, it will be difficult to form a just estimate of the extent of their future usefulness and extended receipts.

These internal improvements, for the construction of which the principal revenue of the State debt has been incurred, consists of 768¾ miles of canal and railways completed, and 1053¼ miles of canal in progress of construction and nearly completed.

The finished works are the following, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| The Delaware canal, from Easton to tide at Bristol, | 60 miles |
| The main line of canal and railway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg | 393½ |
| Canal from Beaver on the Ohio river to Franklin on the Allegheny river by Connaut lake | 73 |
| Canal, Susquehanna and North Branch from Duncan's Island to Lackawanna | 49¼ |
| Canal, West Branch from Northumberland to Farrandsville | 111 |
| Several side cuts and navigable feeders | 72 |
| Total canals and railways completed | 768¾ |
| Canals in progress and nearly completed: | miles |
| North Branch extension, from Lackawanna to New York line | 59 |
| Erie extension, from Greenville to Erie harbor | 63½ |
| Beaver canal, from Duncan's Island to Wisconisco creek | 121 |
| Total canals in progress | 163½ |

The report of the Canal Commissioners, with accompanying documents, which will shortly be laid before you, will show in detail, the state and condition of our public improvements. They may with propriety, be referred to the Canal Commissioners with full and ample authority to adopt such measures as in their judgment will be best calculated to enlist individual enterprise and energy in our behalf, and to counteract the effects of the selfish and monopolizing system that has controlled, and now controls, the transportation on our public works.

It may possibly be supposed that the Canal Commissioners possess adequate power already for this purpose, but this is a mistake the case. From the nature of that department of the government, it is always made the target at which the discontented and interested point their shafts. Not a session of the Legislature passes without harassing the commissioners with investigations—the whole State is ransacked for accusers—every act is questioned and misrepresented—and, after all, the result is fruitless. The first instances yet to be found in which any thing tangible has been produced, or any salutary reform of the system effected. Were the Legislature to devote one session to the examination and thorough examination and correction of the abuses and defects of the system, without annoying and pursuing individuals for sinister ends, not openly avowed, much good would be produced; but, under any other mode of treating this subject, the issue must be as idle and frivolous as heretofore. I do not wish to preclude the most searching investigations. I merely desire to direct your attention in a channel that will be beneficial to the public.

One of the greatest evils of these frequent and frivolous investigations is, that they bring legislative investigations themselves into discredit. The prosecution of the innocent, always affords a shield to the guilty.

It is now, throughout the country a matter of idle sport to talk of these investigations. The mode by which they are brought about is well understood. A few dissatisfied contractors, and others, impose on the credulity and stimulate the ambition of some member of the legislature to office a petition, complaining of public grievances. A committee to investigate is appointed.—Subpœnas are issued, and straightway swarms of hungry confederates throng to the seat of government, to prosecute their claims before the legislature,—to lounge at the public expense, and join in a whole-sale pillage of the treasury. At the close of the session the committee reports,—the witnesses return to their homes, and laugh at the track, as they pocket the spoils.—By reference to this subject it will be found that a large portion of the legislative expenses is incurred in this way. The extraordinary increase of these expenses, over those of all other departments, has been of late years, a matter of just complaint.

It becomes my duty in the next place, to invite your earnest attention to the present condition of the banks, and currency of this state. It is a most lamentable, if not, in relation to this subject, the greatest irregularity and disorder prevail. It is true, we have little, if any of that wretched illegal trash, in circulation, which during the early part of the last six years, infected all sections of the commonwealth, in the forms of notes, checks, certificates, &c. &c., of corporations and individuals, for small sums, issued without the authority, and in spite of the prohibitions of law; but we have, what is little better, a large amount of notes in circulation, emanating from banks which are not on equal value, because founded on the faith of the state, by whatever bank issued, and yet, notwithstanding this fact, delinquent and repudiated institutions for whose benefit relief they were authorized to be issued.

The act of last session, entitled "an act to provide revenue to meet the demands on the treasury and for other purposes," under the provisions of which, these small notes have been thrown into circulation, contains no provision for the suspension of two thirds of the Legislature, according to the forms of the Constitution, notwithstanding the objections of the Executive. I have extended myself to the extent, to see its provisions properly carried into effect. This was my duty, as the Executive, and I have faithfully performed it, agreeably to the best dictates of my judgment. I did hope that some of the evils which have resulted from it, might have been obviated, if it was enforced by me, and acted upon in a spirit of enlarged wisdom, by the banks themselves. This hope has been vain. The worst anticipations have been realized, and it is my duty to inform you, that it appears to me, to be best calculated to correct the grievances under which the public labor.

By this act a loan of three millions one hundred thousand dollars was authorized, to pay specific appropriations made by the said act, and the several banks of the Commonwealth, which then possessed a charter of their dividends, were authorized to subscribe for the same, in certain proportions to the capital stock of each.

The whole amount of banking capital in the Commonwealth is, $23,539,374

Banking capital not subject to a tax on dividends, $5,150,000

Banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, $18,409,374

Of the banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, banks to the amount of $10,636,145, did not accept of the provisions of the act of 4th May to provide revenue, and hence the capital of the banks which did accept of the provisions of the said act, amounted only to the sum of $7,773,229

The whole amount of the loan taken by the accepting banks and paid into the treasury is $1,756,650 68 leaving the sum of $1,343,249 32 which has not been received.

On the 30th August, 1841, I accepted an offer of the Towanda Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars of the said loan, and on the receipt of certificates from the Erie Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Of these offers the state treasurer agreed to accept from the Erie Bank, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and from the Towanda Bank, the sum of thirty seven thousand five hundred dollars. The Bank did not accede to the proposition to accept a part of the sum offered, hence no part of the one hundred thousand dollars was received in the treasury. Thus it appears, a very large portion of the banking capital, subject to the operation of this bill, has taken no part of the loan at all, and can, of course, have no claim to indulgence under this law. Those banks which have complied, stand in a different position—their loans must be repaid before they can be forced to resume. It is an inquiry of much moment, whether the banks that have not complied with the requisitions of the law ought not to be deprived of the advantages arising from the use of the notes issued by those that did.

After the most patient reflection on this subject, I am persuaded that the only effectual remedy for the evils of our currency, not so far as relates to the issue of these notes, and to provide adequate means to discharge the loan on which they have accrued. To pay the loan, a sum per cent should be authorized to be thrown into market, to sell for whatever it will produce.—Should there be a small loss upon it, I am sure it will be deemed a very incomplete rabbit matter, compared with the inconvenience the people suffer from the present state of things. To remedy this, a specific, to some extent, is inevitable.

Connected with the repeal of this law, should be the enforcement of specie payments by the banks. An early day should be fixed for this event, at least as early as the first of June. The time, however, is not so material, whether it be a few sooner, or later, so that a certain definite and reasonable time be fixed. Your action on this point, cannot be too prompt for the public interest. The community has been long enough held in suspense—let the final issue be at once presented, and it is to be hoped, the people and the banks will be prepared for it when it arrives.

Those banks which are in a sound condition, will conform to the requisitions of the Legislature, without much embarrassment, and those which are not, will soon be brought to the touchstone of their merits. The first will sustain themselves, the latter must take their fate. As soon as the product of the country has found its way to market in the spring, the people will be as able as at any other period, to endure whatever hardship results from this measure. I do not myself believe, that any inconvenience which can arise from it will be greater, nor any thing like so protracted, as those which are felt by all classes now.

It seems to me it would be far better, to bring matters to a crisis at once, than to suffer under the slow, but death like torpor of this state. It is a most lamentable few may, possibly, fall victims, a little sooner, who could not escape in the end, but the community at large will ultimately experience effectual relief. Let rashness, violence and injustice be strenuously avoided, but no vain hopes, or empty theories should prevent a cool, calm contemplation of our duty, and firm and unshaken discharge of it, without turning to the right hand or to the left. A suspension of specie payments is at variance with every principle of correct banking.

The forbearance hitherto extended to the banks has not been without its uses.—It has enabled the banks to test their ability, and to extricate themselves from their difficulties, and has added much to the stock of our experience. It has clearly demonstrated, that if the banks could not regain public confidence, under the indulgence they have received, it is evident, on which they are founded is essentially unsound, and requires thorough amendment or extirpation. We have witnessed, notwithstanding the influence the sanction of two thirds of the Legislature, according to the forms of the Constitution, notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, I have extended myself to the extent, to see its provisions properly carried into effect. This was my duty, as the Executive, and I have faithfully performed it, agreeably to the best dictates of my judgment. I did hope that some of the evils which have resulted from it, might have been obviated, if it was enforced by me, and acted upon in a spirit of enlarged wisdom, by the banks themselves. This hope has been vain. The worst anticipations have been realized, and it is my duty to inform you, that it appears to me, to be best calculated to correct the grievances under which the public labor.

By this act a loan of three millions one hundred thousand dollars was authorized, to pay specific appropriations made by the said act, and the several banks of the Commonwealth, which then possessed a charter of their dividends, were authorized to subscribe for the same, in certain proportions to the capital stock of each.

The whole amount of banking capital in the Commonwealth is, $23,539,374

Banking capital not subject to a tax on dividends, $5,150,000

Banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, $18,409,374

Of the banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, banks to the amount of $10,636,145, did not accept of the provisions of the act of 4th May to provide revenue, and hence the capital of the banks which did accept of the provisions of the said act, amounted only to the sum of $7,773,229

The whole amount of the loan taken by the accepting banks and paid into the treasury is $1,756,650 68 leaving the sum of $1,343,249 32 which has not been received.

On the 30th August, 1841, I accepted an offer of the Towanda Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars of the said loan, and on the receipt of certificates from the Erie Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Of these offers the state treasurer agreed to accept from the Erie Bank, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and from the Towanda Bank, the sum of thirty seven thousand five hundred dollars. The Bank did not accede to the proposition to accept a part of the sum offered, hence no part of the one hundred thousand dollars was received in the treasury. Thus it appears, a very large portion of the banking capital, subject to the operation of this bill, has taken no part of the loan at all, and can, of course, have no claim to indulgence under this law. Those banks which have complied, stand in a different position—their loans must be repaid before they can be forced to resume. It is an inquiry of much moment, whether the banks that have not complied with the requisitions of the law ought not to be deprived of the advantages arising from the use of the notes issued by those that did.

After the most patient reflection on this subject, I am persuaded that the only effectual remedy for the evils of our currency, not so far as relates to the issue of these notes, and to provide adequate means to discharge the loan on which they have accrued. To pay the loan, a sum per cent should be authorized to be thrown into market, to sell for whatever it will produce.—Should there be a small loss upon it, I am sure it will be deemed a very incomplete rabbit matter, compared with the inconvenience the people suffer from the present state of things. To remedy this, a specific, to some extent, is inevitable.

One of the greatest evils of these frequent and frivolous investigations is, that they bring legislative investigations themselves into discredit. The prosecution of the innocent, always affords a shield to the guilty.

It is now, throughout the country a matter of idle sport to talk of these investi-

GETTYSBURG STAR

AND

REPUBLICAN BANNER.

GETTYSBURG, JANUARY 11, 1841.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1841,

## GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT,

*Subject to the decision of a National Convention*

☞ We are indebted to Messrs. STAYMAN and FAHNESTOCK, of the State Legislature, for copies of the Governor's Message.

Our acknowledgements are also due to the Hon. JAMES COOPER for his numerous favors.

### Governor's Message.

Owing to the great length of the Governor's Message, and the lateness of the hour at which it was received, we are unable to give it in full this week. Our readers, however, will find as much of it in to-day's paper as they will be able, we think, to digest at one meal. We will give the remainder in our next.

### The Legislature.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania assembled at Harrisburg on Tuesday last. In the House, James R. Snowden, (Locofoco) was elected Speaker over Isaac Leighter, (Democrat.) The vote stood, Snowden 63, Lightner 39. Hemlock Chase, of Bretton, of the State Capital Reporter, elected printers of the English Journals, Hutter & Bigler of the German Journals, and Lescure & M'Kinley, of the Keystone, Printers of the Bills.

In the Senate on Wednesday, John Strohm of Lancaster was elected Speaker of that body, on the fourteenth ballot. Geo. W. Hamersly was elected Clerk, John K. Zeilin, of Delaware, was appointed assistant, and Jas. D. Charles and Holmes Macley, Transcribing Clerks.

### More Vetoes!

Governor Porter has already sent to the Legislature, since the commencement of the present session, SIX Veto messages returning Bills of last session, viz:—The Bill authorizing suit to be brought against Daniel Sturgeon the Bill authorizing the election of Notaries Public, by the people; the Election District Bill; the Bill to abolish the Mayor's Court of the city of Lancaster; and two other Bills, the titles of which we have not learned. It is said there will be at least a dozen more. The Governor generally acts out to the letter of the constitution, which makes it a case of duty to give the Executive sanction to the Bill," for certain reasons; but the greatest difficulty in every instance, is, that it was passed by a Whig Legislature, which he never fails to express, either directly or indirectly, in such a manner, that it is not easily misunderstood.

☞ We cut the following from the Baltimore Express, for the benefit of any who may be disposed to engage in business these trying times. It is to be feared that but few will answer this call, lest the *trade* should suffer at home. The occupation, though oftentimes *cold* and *thankless*, is practised so extensively in all our towns, (and in none to a greater extent than our own,) that the services of young gentlemen cannot be spared without *some* serious detriment to his *respectability*. Recruits are to be enlisted to keep up the service and regulate public manners There is, therefore, but little prospect of a number of applicants to fill vacancies in the city, unless they establish a Board of Control, which can increase the profits, and insure to those who may proffer their services *good repute* with all church going and *orderly people*. We confess this is needed in country towns.

WANTED—Six or eight respectable looking young men to stand at the ladies' door of the meeting house, in order to look at the 'fair creatures' when they come out of church, and at night to push their faces under the ladies' bonnets to ascertain who they are—also

A number of persons to go out of church when the services are about half over; male or female persons will answer—also

Two or three young men or boys to stand at the side windows to smoke cigars while the congregation is engaged, so that they can be regaled with the smoke; it is so refreshing to the congregation. Enquire in Politeness street.

CONGRESS.—We have nothing of interest from this body. The National Intelligencer says—"We wish we were able to inform our readers that the business of Congress is going on either smoothly or rapidly. But, on the contrary, no progress at all, to speak of, has been made, in this week, and the proceedings in the House of Representatives at least, have been any thing but harmonious."

## FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Gettysburg Star and Banner.

HARRISBURG, January 6, 1842.

*Dear Sir.*—In the House, the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia, in that county, were presented by the Speaker, on the subject of repudiation of the State Debt. The reference led to a protracted discussion, in which Messrs. Stevens, Wright, Cobb, M'Calmont and others participated. The doctrine of repudiation was effectually repudiated. The petition was unanimously referred to a select committee with instructions to report adverse to the prayer of the petitioners.

Such a decided condemnation of the abominable doctrines upon the threshhold by the representatives of the people, will do much to sustain into vindicate the plighted faith of Pennsylvania. The committee are Messrs. Wright, Debord, Crabb, Stevens and M'Cahen.

The Message has been received. It suggests the propriety of authorizing six per cent. State Stock to pay the loan authorized by the last session and for the payment of debts: a resumption of specie payments, &c.

We had also a Veto, accompanying the return of the bill of last session authorizing suit to be brought against Daniel Sturgeon. This anything but complimentary to Mr. Williams and his report on that subject in the Senate last winter.

We have just had an election of Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Wm. J. B. Andrews. Mr. Gross, for many years assistant Clerk, is his assistant. Mr. Ramsey was supported by the Whigs.

Allred M. Clark, of Philadelphia county, a Hero of the Buckshot war, has just been elected Sergeant at Arms over Major Sanders, the most efficient officer, the House of Representatives has had for many years. But in the language of the locofocos, who express such a horror at the removal of their friends from office, "the Guillotine is at work."

Last, but not least, col. Hugh Lindsay of Erie, whom no doubt you recollect upon account of his course preparatory to the late election, has been elected Doorkeeper.

Hemlock and Bretton of the State Capitol Gazette, are to have the printing of the English Journal. Hutter and Bigler of the German, and M'Kinley and Lescure of the Keystone, the bills.

Yours &c.

HARRISBURG, Jan 7, 1842.

DEAR SIR—This day the Governor sent us six veto messages, abusing the last legislature like a pick pocket. He becomes more debased, more the partizan every day.

In Senate, Farrelly has turned out like all squash politicians.—He voted for the Locofoco printers for English and German Journals—Hemlock, Elliott & M'Curdy, of the Intelligencer, bargained with Bess & Patterson (Locofocos) to divide the profits with them, rather than divide with Montgomery (Democrat) as the caucus of our friends had determined—Farrelly, who is said to be related to one of them, followed their counsels and voted as above stated. The members from Huntingdon were also Locofoco caucus, and vote with them. When will our friends learn to shun *hermaphrodite* politicians!!

Yours, &c.

COMMUNICATED.

*TEMPERANCE.*—The following persons are appointed Delegates to represent the "*Total Abstinence Temperance Society of Gettysburg and its vicinity*," in the County Convention, to be held in Hunterstown, on Saturday next, (the 15th inst.) at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Rev. Dr. Schmucker, Rev. S. Gutelius, H. Van Oredel, J. F. Macfarlane, Rev. B. Keller, D. M. Sowyser, Gotlieb Boesler, J. Majors, A. R. Stevenson, R. G. McCreary, S. R. Russell, H. Scott, G. Arnold, G. Buehler, Rev. J. C. Watson, D. Baldwin, Col. Wm. N. Irvine, Moses McClean, John Brinkerhoff, John Graeff.

LOWELL.—The land on which the city of Lowell, Mass. now stands, was twenty years ago, assessed at $1000. There is now assessed in the manufacturing buildings alone $10,500,000. There are 23 cotton mills; running 166,000 spindles, and 5183 looms, consuming annually 1,985,000 pounds of cotton, and manufacturing 58,273,400 yards of cloth, and employing 6430 females, and 2077 male operatives.

A FORGERY.—The Carlisle (Pa.) Statesman mentions a rumor that one of the citizens of that place, has been detected in an attempt to commit forgery for $7000. He is also charged with another serious crime.

INAUGURATION.—The inaugu