GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

To the Senate & House of Representatives.

GENTLEMEN:—The general health of the people, the rich rewards of husbandry, the quickening spirit that pervades trade and industry, the enlarged prosperity of our country, and its advance in moral and intellectual attainments—these, under a just sense of our dependence, swell our grateful acknowledgements, at this time, to HIM from whose beneficence they all proceed. Nothing has occurred, since the adjournment of the Legislature, to interrupt the harmony or check the energies of our Commonwealth. On the contrary, intelligent enterprise has been every where crowned with success.

The exertions of our people to meet the engagements of the State have thus far been successful. The payment, by a number of counties of the whole amount of their taxes for 1845, several months before the time at which they have heretofore been collected, added more than $300,000 to the effective revenues of the year; and the last Legislature having excluded certain classes of debts from the claims to be immediately provided for by the Treasury, we have been enabled to pay the interest which fell due on the funded debt within the past fiscal year. On the first day of the present Session, the balance remaining in the Treasury was about $625,000, which, with the accruing revenues, will be applicable to the demands of the first of next month. We have the reasonable and gratifying assurance, that the interest will then also be punctually paid. The public debt of Pennsylvania, on the 1st of December, 1845, as appears from the report of the Auditor General, was as follows:

Funded Debt,	$36,730,367 43
Relief notes in circulation,	1,258,572 00
Interest Certificates outstanding, with interest thereon,	2,888,893 36
Due to Domestic Creditors,	99,750 45
	$40,977,583 24

The interest upon which, according to the Auditor General's computation, is $2,023,996 09

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of December, 1844, was	$663,851 88
The receipts into the same, during the year ending on the 30th of November last, as appears in detail by the reports of the Auditor General and State Treasurer were	3,010,062 34
Making an aggregate sum of	$3,673,914 22
The payments from the Treasury, during the same period, were, according to the reports of the same officers,	3,289,928 13
Which being deducted from the above, shows the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Dec. 1845,	384,886 09

Being less by $278,965 79, than it was on the 1st Dec. 1844.

The net amount of available outstanding taxes on real and personal estate, after making allowances for collections and exonerations, on the 1st Dec. 1844, was estimated by the late State Treasurer at $887,301 71. It appears, however, from a subsequent estimate, founded upon more full returns, and a more accurate knowledge of the extent of exonerations, that the amount actually outstanding on that day, was

	1,009,778 03
The net and available amount outstanding on the 1st December, 1845, is estimated at	$724,544 50
The amount of outstanding taxes on the 1st Dec. 1845, is therefore, less than it was on the 1st Dec. 1844, by the sum of	135,933 53
Adding to this sum the difference between the receipts into the Treasury on the 1st Dec. 1844, and the 1st Dec. 1845,	278,965 79
We have the aggregate reduction of the balance in the Treasury and of outstanding taxes on the 1st of Dec. 1845, as compared with the same items on 1st of Dec. 1844, of	414,499 32

From this statement it is apparent, that the receipts into the Treasury, during the year, derived from taxation on real and personal estate, and other sources of revenue properly belonging to the people, are less than the demands upon the Treasury for the same period, by the amount above stated. And it is also apparent, that if the Legislature should make the payment of the domestic creditors, and the interest on the certificates issued for interest, and if the cancellation, of a portion of the relief notes, required under existing laws to be cancelled, had not been deferred, the whole balance in the Treasury would have been exhausted on the 1st of December last.

For the purpose of comparison, I have appended to this communication, a summary statement (marked A.) of the receipts and expenditures of the past year, with an estimate, prepared with much care and deliberation, for the current year, ending on the 30th of November, 1846.

According to this, the receipts of the year from all source, including $1,300,000 from taxes on real and personal estate, will be

	$3,017,700 00
Which added to the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Dec. 1845,	384,886 09
Makes an aggregate of	$3,002,586 09
Deducting from which the estimated payments during the same period,	$3,013,096 00
We arrive at an estimated balance in the Treasury on the 1st Dec. 1846, of	$88,590 00
Which is less by $296,296 00, than it was on the 1st December, 1845.	
The amount of outstanding taxes on real and personal estate, considered available, on the 1st Dec. 1845, was	$724,544 50
To this is to be added the assessment for 1845, which, according to the best estimates, will yield a net revenue, after deducting allowances for expenses of collection and exonerations, of	$1,180,000 00
Making an aggregate of	$2,004,544 50
If from this aggregate we deduct the estimated collections from these sources, during the year 1846,	$1,300,000 00
The difference	$704,544 50

will be the estimated amount of taxes, which, on the 1st Dec. 1846, will remain outstanding—being $120,000 00 less than was outstanding on the 1st Dec. 1845.

When to the reductions, thus to take place, in the outstanding taxes within the current year,	$120,000 00
We add the difference between the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Dec. 1845, and the estimated balance in the Treasury on the 1st of Dec. 1846,	$296,296 00
We arrive at an aggregate reduction of these two items, within the fiscal year, ending 30th Nov. 1846, of	$416,296 00

From this view of the subject, it is apparent, that the assessment of the year 1846, on real and personal estates, and the revenues of the year proper, derivable from all other sources, taken together, will be insufficient to meet the demands upon the Treasury, during the same period, by the sum of $416,296 00; and that in supplying the deficiency, the balance in the Treasury, on the first of December, 1846, will have been reduced to $88,590 00, and the arrears of outstanding taxes to the sum of $704,544 50. It is plain, therefore, that our present financial system is inadequate to supply the means of meeting all the demands on the Treasury, except when aided from the balance which had accumulated before the payment of interest was resumed, and by collections from the arrearages of taxes of former years—both of which will soon be exhausted.

I am constrained to add, that all these calculations and estimates presuppose that the demands on the Treasury will not be permitted to transcend their ordinary limits, and that no appropriations will be made by the Legislature to new objects. These are not anticipated, because in the present state of the finances, every new appropriation may well be regarded, not as a grant of money unincumbered in the Treasury, but rather as an abstraction of funds, specially appropriated already, and rightfully belonging to the public creditors.

The deficit in our means, under existing laws, presents for the deliberations of the General Assembly, a topic of paramount importance. It may be remembered that, in the month of January last, I expressed the opinion, in an Executive message, that our finances had not then reached a condition, to enable, permanently, and at once, to resume payment of the full interest on our public debt. I regret that subsequent examinations and reflection, have not permitted me to believe that I was then in error. But the Legislative action on the question has changed the entire aspect of our affairs, and rendered it useless to revert to former views of policy. The payment of interest on the funded debt of the Commonwealth was, in fact, resumed on the first of February, 1845. By that act, the State asserted her present ability to meet her engagements; and it must be our care that the pledge, thus renewed, be not again violated. The credit, fidelity and honor of Pennsylvania, all demand, that henceforward, the interest on her public debt shall be punctually and fully paid.

Heretofore, we might have pleaded the unexpected failure of the Depository Bank of the State, a few days before the interest was payable, and when the moneys appropriated to its discharge were accumulated in her vaults,—the sudden destruction in value of nearly the entire currency in general use—the prostration of individual credit, and the deep and universal pecuniary embarrassment of the people. But now, all are prospering,—the currency is restored to a good degree of soundness—our revenue system, though still imperfect, has greatly increased in effectiveness and certainty—confidence is renewed, and the people, happy in their institutions, and confident in themselves, look to the appropriate action of the Legislature to make provision to satisfy the public wants.

The present period is, in truth, the crisis of our affairs. Prompt and effective measures now, to make a moderate addition to our revenues, will restore to Pennsylvania her ancient credit, and that proud position from which she has temporarily been made to stoop, by a course of policy that never met the approbation of her people. But the action must be made at once. Unless the estimates that have been presented shall prove essentially erroneous, the balance in the Treasury on the 1st of Dec. 1846, will not exceed $100,000. It is therefore obvious, that if the receipts at the Treasury during the months of December, 1846, and January, 1847, do not greatly exceed the receipts of the corresponding months of any preceding year, when the amount of outstanding taxes was greater than it will be then, a deficit must occur in the means of the Treasury, to pay the interest, which will become due on the first of February, 1847. The necessity of the adoption of immediate and efficient measures, to guard against a result which would be so fatal to the renewed faith and honor of the State, cannot be too strongly enforced upon the attention of the Legislature.

Intimately connected with the subject of our finances, is that of the banking system of the State. The evils that have resulted from the manner in which it has been administered, and some of those more essentially connected with its organization and efficiency, have been felt by all. Yet it may well be doubted, whether the whole of the mischiefs which it has instigated, have been traced back to their fruitful and pernicious source. Not only has it stimulated individuals to ruin, but States have been led by its seductive and corrupting influences, into a course of wild speculation and extravagance, which nearly ruined the State, and left the character of Pennsylvania in doubtful repute. Public debts have been contracted, even the interest of which could scarcely be met, by the most onerous taxation; while, in other operations of the State government, which ought always to be held sacred, has been violated in time of profound peace.

The history of Pennsylvania, since the beginning of the year 1836, is a painful illustration of this truth. In December, 1835, when Governor Wolf retired from office, two months before the incorporation of the Bank of the United States, the State debt of Pennsylvania was $24,589,743 32. It is now, exclusive of the amount received as a deposite from the general government, $40,986,393 22, making an increase of the State debt, in ten years, of $16,396,649 90, notwithstanding the receipt, in the mean time, of $2,867,514 78 of surplus revenue from the U. States, and of $3,446,780 21 as premiums for Bank Charters.

In contemplating this startling fact, we naturally look round for the meritorious objects of State policy, for which this vast aggregate of twenty-two and three quarter millions of dollars, has been expended.

We find none of any magnitude. The main line of Canal and Railway, between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, had been completed, and was in successful operation.—The Delaware division, the Susquehanna and North Branch Divisions, to the mouth of the Lackawanna, the West Branch division to Queens' Run, the Beaver division to New Castle, the Franklin line, and the French Creek Feeder, were all substantially finished when Gov. Wolf left the Executive Chair; and the sum of $344,619 09, was all that remained to be paid for completing them.

The State had reached a point in her improvement system, at which she could have suspended operations without loss.—The scheme of direct taxation, to pay the interest, on the State loans, which had been introduced under Gov. Wolf's administration, was admonishing the people of the inconvenience of a public debt. Every thing indicated that the further progress of our State improvements was to be deferred, till time had tested the productiveness of the finished works, and the increasing development of our resources had invited and justified their further extension.

It was, at this time, that the act of 18th February, 1836, was passed, entitled, "an act to repeal the State tax on real and personal property, and to continue and extend the improvements of the State by Rail Roads and Canals, and to charter a State Bank, to be called the U. S. Bank." The first section of this act rescinded the system of taxes, which had been devised for the protection of the public credit—while by other sections, more than two millions of dollars to be received from the Bank were appropriated at once to the prosecution of Company works, and the commencement of new ones, under the direct charge of the State. To enable the Commonwealth to consummate this wild extension of improvements, six millions of dollars were promised as a permanent loan to the State, at an interest of four per cent. and other loans at the same rate were to be made, when required, to the amount of one million of dollars annually. Under the impulse of this Act, and of the influences which effected its passage, a new series of improvements were begun at once, all of which, after the expenditures of many millions, now forming part of the public debt, and the cause of increased taxation, have been abandoned by the State, and have passed, most of them, into the hands of companies, which have paid no consideration for them.

In certain seasons, that the State has not limited its gratuities to the works thus commenced. The Beaver division, and the Wyoming line, on the North Branch, embracing forty-three miles of Canal in actual use, and the French Creek Feeder, costing together $1,222,027 81, and all of them *finished* in 1835, have been given away to companies, and have left the State with a less extended system of improvement now, than it had when the Bank of the U. States was chartered.

The progress of these works was marked by the declining credit of the State, until, after the most desperate resorts, the sale of a further suspension to the banks in 1840, and a loan in 1841, by the State to herself, by the device of issuing relief notes—the proclaimed bankruptcy of the Commonwealth could be arrested.

But the evil did not stop here. When the works were abandoned, the State was largely indebted to the contractors, whose claims, in most instances, were in litigation. To satisfy them, a law was passed, requiring the sale of the Bank stock, and other stocks which were owned by the State, for ever, to the amount, which had cost the Treasury nearly $4,200,000, were, at a most unpropitious moment, sacrificed for a return less than $1,405,000.

However painful these recollections of vacillating policy may be, there were attendant circumstances of graver and more momentous concern to the patriot. A new element of power found its way into our elections. The elective franchise was violated and abused—the declarations of the public will were disregarded and defied, and the very existence of our free institutions was menaced with revolution and destruction. I allude to the memorable crisis of 1838, when a direct attempt was made, by the leaders of the minority, to usurp the government, and to substitute their dictation for the voice of the majority of the people.

These scenes had their origin, beyond doubt, in a spirit of reckless confidence in the power and corrupting influence of money to control the State.

Apart from these political considerations, the influence of a vitiated paper system upon the general and ordinary interests of life, is baneful and pernicious. Hitherto, there has virtually been nothing in the organization of Banks to limit the amount and define the character of their action, but the discretion of the directors. A few individuals, constituting the efficient section of the Boards of management, assume, in fact, the depositories of this discretion; and as a general rule, subject no doubt to many honorable exceptions, it is exercised with primary, if not exclusive, reference to the supposed interests of the Bank.

While the business of the country prospers, and the spirit of speculation enterprize is attended by success, they extend their accommodations liberally, and fill the channels of circulation with a redundant and depraved currency. An unnatural rise of prices is the consequence. Importations increase in defiance of any discriminating tariff—extravagance invades all the departments of society—individuals credit invites to a thriftless extension of indebtedness, till, at last, the laws of trade, unchanging as those of nature, produce reaction, and the whole artificial machinery is crushed. The people of the country are indebted to the cities; the cities are indebted abroad, where the promises of the banks are not accepted as money; and the banks are called upon to redeem their specie in coin. This they can only do by drawing in their means, refusing new accommodations, and pressing their debtors for payment. The circulation of the country is suddenly contracted, property is sacrificed, in many instances without relieving the debtor; and his energies are paralized by hopeless insolvency.

Such, within the recent memory of all us, has been the action of a vitiated banking system on the faith of the State, the stability of her institutions, and the free energies of her people. It has taught us a grievous lesson of suffering; but it will not have been altogether unproductive of good, if it has impressed on us the solemn and imperative duty of guarding against a recurrence of similar evils.

The abuses of the banking system are found in many forms; but they are essentially the same in their origin and results, excessive issues of paper, and its consequent depreciation. To give the power of manufacturing money, yet effectually to limit its exercise, by legislation, is practically impossible. It is obvious, that no enactment can absolutely prevent the unlawful issue of paper by a bank, which has the lawful right to issue any. Returns of bank officers, however exactly prescribed, or humanly made, give no security for the periods that elapse between them; and inspections of the affairs of the Banks by commissioners, which have been resorted to in other States, are apt to induce a dangerous reliance on the vigilance of such officers.

It may be, that the principle of individual liability for corporate engagements, which has recently been inserted in some of our charters, may, when properly extended and made more directly operative, secure not only the creditor from loss, but the currency from dangerous fluctuations. The experiment should be fairly made in the case of every Bank that may ask a renewal of its charter. That its progress may be the better tested, I respectfully recommend that the banks be required to make monthly returns of their condition, to the Auditor General; and that these be so arranged, as to present a more complete and exact view of their transactions, than is furnished under the existing law. This will facilitate the future inquiries of the Legislature; and the periodical publication of the returns, will secure to such of the banks, as are legitimately administered, the reward of their faithfulness, in the increased confidence of the public. I need scarcely add, that the claims of the banks to general confidence should be thoroughly investigated, and fully ascertained, before their charters are extended.

These recommendations have special reference to applications from existing banks. If any judgment the capital now invested in these institutions is amply adequate to the business wants of the community. The times do not indicate the present necessity of any additional stimulus to the spirit of enterprise, or that any aid, from any quarter, is wanted, to the full development of our resources. I have lately visited the Eastern and neighboring States, and an increase of about twenty-five per cent over the operations of the present year, is anticipated, it is believed, the trade in this article will increase in even a greater ratio the present year. Of the Bituminous Coal, a very large amount was put down and sold during the last, it is estimated, that not less than thirteen millions bushels, were consumed at Pittsburg and in its vicinity, and about six millions of bushels were transported from that point down the Ohio River.

I adhere, with great satisfaction, to the opinion, expressed in my last message, that the success and management of our State improvements, which has been secured by the vigilance and economy of the Canal Commissioners.

The importance of these works as a contribution to the national defence, and their value to the citizens of other States, as well as our own, are cannot be too highly appreciated. They are now yielding a considerable portion of the revenue to meet the claims upon the Treasury. The security of our public creditors, and the honor of the State, are most intimately connected with their success and productiveness. They, therefore, demand the especial care and guidance of the Legislature. by which the income they are now yielding, may be secured and advanced with the increasing business of the country.

In this connection, there are two objects of national importance, in which Pennsylvania has a deeper interest, than in the appropriation for removing the obstructions to the navigation of the Ohio River, at the falls of Louisville, which is a port of commercial entry. The claims upon Congress, to expedite the completion of this work, long and earnestly urged by the whole national interest, derive great force from the communication it would facilitate between the Western and South Western States, on the one hand, and those of the Atlantic on the other, by means of our public improvements.

The legislative enactments of the last few years have introduced numerous improvements, in the system of levying and collecting the revenues of the State, and have guarded their expenditure with more care than ever before. I have every reason to believe, that these laws are strictly and honestly administered by the accountant and Treasury Departments, and that the influence of their authority and example, has had a salutary effect upon all the public agents. Much, however, remains to be done to perfect our system of taxation.—Inequality and injustice, shall several of the taxes now levied are rendered unproductive, as well as oppressive, by imperfections in their assessments. I persuade, that should half a share of the public burthens, escape altogether, by the interposition of a trust, between the ostensible and the beneficial owners. The property of trust, should not be exempted from taxation by special laws, while that of others of the same classes, and equally meritorious, remains taxed. Securities for loan of money, are by the words of the law, made taxable, which are, in fact the mere evidence of passing transactions, and that, in tax degree, be regarded as even temporary investments of the property of those in whose hands they are found. The simple exhibit, by the citizen, of his personal estate, should be sufficient for taxation, is substituted, generally for a less equivocal mode of ascertaining its amount and character. It should not be forgotten, that in this, as in other instances, he is legally relieved from, is distributed among the rest, and forms an addition to their burthens. Justice to the tax-payers requires that this should not be suffered.—The whole subject however, is one peculiarly within your province, and I commend it to your prompt and serious consideration.

The report of the Adjutant General, exhibits the condition of the militia and volunteers, and of the arsenals and military property of the Commonwealth. It contains, also, judicious suggestions, in regard to the use of the public property, and the improvement of the militia system.

As the nations of the world have not indeed to providing, by paramount law, for the peaceful adjustment of disputes between separate sovereignties, a military organization is essential to repel aggression and maintain the rights of the republic. In a nation of freemen, capable of self government, a well organized militia is adequate for these purposes, in all ordinary contingencies. Every man feels the conscious dignity of being a part of the national sovereignty, and the proud duty of defending his own rights, and the rights of all.

Various opinions are entertained as to the best organization of the militia, and I cannot hope that a discussion of them here will lead to any profitable result. Our volunteers, whose time and talents have been largely given to the acquisition of military knowledge present a formidable force, which may compare, advantageously, with that of any other State. Their conduct and discipline, have secured the public confidence, and they merit such well devised legislation as to secure their continued efficiency and increasing numbers.

The incalculable benefits of our system of Common School instruction are extending throughout the whole Commonwealth, strengthening, improving, and elevating mind, and preparing the generation which is to succeed us, for usefulness and just apprehensions of duty. In country districts, where the population is scattered, and a large portion of children find active employment for near half the year, the system cannot reach all that it does, that are accomplished in cities and towns. But the signal and extensive advantages resulting from it, throughout the State, as shown in the comprehensive report of the Superintendant of Common Schools, give assurance, that Pennsylvania has laid the broad and deep foundation for the perpetuity of her institutions, by securing to all, intellectual and moral education for children.

I have lately visited the Common Schools, of the City of Philadelphia. There is no man to admire, in the variety, comprehensiveness, and beautiful arrangement of her benevolent and charitable institutions; and to warm his gratitude toward the men who have devised and matured them. But there is a moral grandeur presented to the patriot, in her public schools, that surpasses them all. By the former, which cannot be comprehended to extend to the poor, the proud favour and fostering care of the Legislature, comfort and instruction are provided for a few, who are excepted from the mass by misfortune and poverty. But the latter are a blessing to all; they provide for the improving and elevating the whole body of the people, and for qualifying every child in the land for the duties and responsibilities of moral and moral instruction, for filling up its measure of usefulness, and accomplishing, intelligently, the ends of its being. That community is happy, in which the system of general education is so widely diffused, and so well administered, as I have seen it in the city and county of Philadelphia.

After one, perhaps, more, before closing this communication, to tender to you assurances of my hearty co-operation in your efforts to promote the welfare of our Commonwealth and advance the welfare of our common country. To secure these great objects, with the more certainty, it is desirable that the indispensible business of the Legislature should be acted on at at early period, and that no important subject of legislation should be deferred to the closing days of the session.

I have written this in the confidence, obtained, of affixing the Executive approval to bills during the recess, seems to me to be opposed to the policy of the constitution, which has set no limit to the number of bills that precede the final adjournment, requires a decision, with affording time for consideration—hence, a rule securing reasonable time for Executive deliberation on bills presented to him, near the close of the session is most desirable.

Since the last session of the General Assembly, it has pleased Almighty God, to withdraw from the view of the American Nation, its most eminent and best loved citizen. After a life devoted to his country, the defence of her soil, her institutions and her honor. ANDREW JACKSON has passed to his rest—leaving to the friends of liberty, throughout the world, the precious inheritance of his example and the enduring and eternal memory of his services. His last moments were serene and admirable. Death found him waiting his approach, with a spirit prepared for its mission, and with his spirit brightening as it drew nearer to the Savior in whom he trusted. That he lived, has been the long extended theme of patriotic gratitude—that he is dead, must crown the devout thanksgivings of the christian.

FRANCIS R. SHUNK.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, Jan'ry 7, 1846.

*The tables alluded to are the same as those which appeared in the Star a few weeks since.

A SISTER KILLED. The Taunton Whig says:—"We learn that a young girl about 12 years of age, named Susan Bump, of Bridgwater, was accidentally killed on Sunday last by her brother. He took up the gun, supposing it was unloaded, aimed at a Mocking Bird in a tree. She lived but a few moments, only uttering the exclamation—O! you have shot me."

Deaths in N. York last week, 187, of which 12 was from Small-pox.

THE STAR & BANNER.

WINFIELD SCOTT

GETTYSBURG:

Friday Evening, Jan. 9, 1846.

☞ We are indebted to Messrs. Brough, Edie, Nicholson, Smyser and Cooper, for their prompt attention in forwarding early copies of the Governor's Message and other documents. They will will please accept our thanks.

☞ The space devoted to the Governor's Message has compelled us to omit several adverjtise ments and articles prepared for to day's paper.

☞ The Lutheran Observer states that the Rev. Mr. ALLEMAN, late of Gettysburg Seminary, has taken charge of the Lutheran Congregations in Columbia county, Pa.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

☞ We are indebted to a friend for prompt intelligence of the organization of both branches of of the State Legislature on Tuesday last. It will be seen by our correspondent's letter that Mr. PATTERSON, of Armstrong, was elected Speaker of the House, and Mr. SHENWOON, Speaker of the Senate—both of them active Democratic candidates of the Locofoco party.—In the House, Mr. Patterson (Lo.) received 65 votes, Nicholson, (Whig) 33. In the Senate Herwood (Loco) obtained 16, and Gibbons (Whig) 12 votes.

Immediately after the organization had been completed, Resolutions were introduced into the Senate by Mr. SANDERSON of Lebanon, approving of the present Tariff laws, and instructing our U. S. Senators at Washington to resist every attempt at change or repeal.

The House of Representatives has elected Wm. Jack, Clerk; John H. Herd, Sergeant-at arms, and Andrew Krause, Doorkeeper.

Yours truly.

Congress.

[illegible] the Governor's Message prevented any special space to Congressional proceedings. No business of general interest has as yet been transacted in either branch—it being "out of order" to do any thing of importance prior to the holidays.

The House of Representatives has been the centre of attraction during the past week, in consequence of an animated debate upon the Oregon Question, and upon the Bill introduced into the House in a speech which has produced unusual sensation in and out of Congress. He announced himself unqualifedly in favor of giving immediate notice to England of the termination of the treaty of joint occupancy, and then proceeded up with such military and naval preparations as may enable us to take possession of the whole territory in dispute! Of course this somewhat unexpected, and to say the least questionable, piece of Mr. Sheubrooke produced a decided occasion for the war orators to give vent to their overcharged patriotic, anti-British feelings, and for a whole week the Hall of the House has echoed with indignant expositions of "England's Aggression," "British oppression," "British arrogance," and all the other fruitful themes of demagogue declamation. The Whig members generally, with the more consistent friends of Mr. Calhoun, view the demonstration of Mr. Adams with regret, as calculated to counteract, in a great measure, the pacific tendencies of Mr. Calhoun's movement in the Senate. A few Whigs, however, including Messrs. Darragh, Giddings, Baker, and Hilliard, have addressed the House either in entire or partial support of Mr. Adams' course. There is a growing conviction in the public mind, strengthened by the different Whig letter writers from Washington, of the existence of a deeply laid scheme in regard to this Oregon question, and that through it a game is being played by the Polk party, which the Loco foco party will a vote to the Presidency.

One of the best speeches during the discussion was by Mr. WINTHROP, of Massachusetts, in reply to Mr. Adams. We have seldom read a speech more admired more for its noble and manly avowal of high-souled and sterling sentiment, and should take pleasure in laying it before the readers of the "Star," did not its length preclude it.

On Tuesday Mr. Ingersoll, from the committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a joint resolution requiring the President to give the necessary year's notice to Great Britain, which is now under discussion. It is generally anticipated it will speedily pass by a large majority.

A minority report from the committee, disapproving of Mr. Ingersoll's proposition, was presented to the House.

During the discussion Felix G. M'Connell, of Alabama, asked leave to introduce Resolutions having in view the annexation of *Ireland* to the Union! The House declined entertaining the motion.

The Committee on Elections have reported in favor of the claims of Mr. *Brockenbaugh*, of Florida, to his seat in Congress now held by Mr. Cabell. A minority report, however, in favor of the right of the latter, was presented at the same time.

☞ GEORGE PEPPER, Esq., of Philadelphia, died a few days since from "asthma and water on the chest." He was reputed the wealthiest citizen of Philadelphia, being worth from two to three millions of dollars.

☞ A letter to the Philadelphia Ledger, dated at Cannonsburg, Pa. Jan. 2, says, that during the storm on the preceding evening, one of the buildings of Jefferson College was blown down, and now lies a mass of ruins, and the apparatus and all the other valuable property which it contained was destroyed. I have heard no estimate made of the loss, which must be very great, as the building was a valuable one. It was erected about 16 years ago, at a great expense."

FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Star & Republican Banner.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 6, 1846.

DEAR SIR:—The HOUSE of Representatives was organized to-day at 12 o'clock, M., by the election of FINDLEY PATTERSON of Armstrong, as Speaker. Mr. Patterson was the nominee of the Democratic caucus, and received 65 votes. THOMAS NICHOLSON, of Beaver, was voted for by the Whigs and received 33 votes. This vote was complimentary, and well deserved by Mr. N. by his honorable conduct and manly intelligence displayed in former years. Mr. Nicholson is one of the soundest men in the House and an effective debater.

The SENATE organized this afternoon at 3 o'clock, by the election of DANIEL SHERWOOD as Speaker. He was the Democratic candidate and received 16 votes. The Whigs voted for CHARLES GIBBONS, of Philadelphia, who rendered such valuable services to the Whig party, in the memorable campaign of 1844, and who distinguished himself in the Senate last winter by his ability and liberal and statesman-like conduct. He received 12 votes.

Some others business was transacted, but nothing of importance except the introduction of a preamble and series of resolutions in relation to the Tariff by Mr. SANDERSON, of Lebanon. I understand, they instruct our Senators in the Congress of the U. States to resist any change of the tariff of 1842, which has been so instrumental in restoring the credit and prosperity of the country. Mr. Sanderson is an able man, and will support his resolutions with ability and spirit.

I have seen a number of Whigs here from various parts of the state, and all are for keeping up the Whig organization, and confident that in the end Whig principles will triumph. To effect such organization, they think a Convention should be assembled on the 4th of March next and nominate a Canal Commissioner, and do such other things as may be necessary for the accomplishment of the first mentioned object. SAM'L D. KARNS, who, under most adverse circumstances acted without an organization to support him, received 88,000 votes at the last election, is generally spoken of as the candidate. A better or more popular man could not be selected.

The State Committee ought, without delay, to call a convention for the purpose I have indicated. I am sure that it is the general wish of the Whig party that this should be done.

Yours truly.

Governor's Message.

☞ On Wednesday, the Governor transmitted his annual message to the Legislature. It will be found in the preceding columns. The late hour at which it was received by us, precludes any comment upon its views. As however, the Governor, has a sensible man, has said what he wished and then stopped, his message is of a reasonable length and will of course, be read by the great majority of our subscribers—a great point we will be able to judge for himself. It will be seen that in his views upon national politics, Gov. SHUNK is not disposed to quarrel with President Polk's free trade and sub-treasury views. He thinks that the government should be administered and reduced, and approves of the Sub-treasury project.

The Right of Way.

☞ Mr. DANIEL, of Pittsburg, has introduced a Bill into the Senate granting the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company the right of way to the Ohio river through Pennsylvania. The Philadelphians seem to be measure, and propose a great central rail-road to connect Pittsburg and Philadelphia.

The February Interest.

☞ Mr. SNOWDEN, the State Treasurer, announces the gratifying fact, that there is already enough money in the Treasury to pay in full the interest due in February.

Whig State Convention.

☞ The propriety of calling a Whig State Convention on the 4th of March next, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Canal Commissioner and securing more efficient organization of the Whig party is being agitated in several quarters. We had marked for insertion a sensible article upon the subject in the last Huntingdon Journal, but the paper has disappeared from our table. It was to the effect that the Legislature should be called at an early period, and that no important subject of legislation should be deferred to the closing days of the session.

☞ Since the last session of the General Assembly, it has pleased Almighty God, to withdraw from the view of the American Nation, its most eminent and best loved citizen. After a life devoted to his country, the defence of her soil, her institutions and her honor. ANDREW JACKSON has passed to his rest—leaving to the friends of liberty, throughout the world, the precious inheritance of his example and the enduring and eternal memory of his services. His last moments were serene and admirable. Death found him waiting his approach, with a spirit prepared for its mission, and with his spirit brightening as it drew nearer to the Savior in whom he trusted. That he lived, has been the long extended theme of patriotic gratitude—that he is dead, must crown the devout thanksgivings of the christian.

FRANCIS R. SHUNK.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, Jan'ry 7, 1846.

*The tables alluded to are the same as those which appeared in the Star a few weeks since.

A SISTER KILLED. The Taunton Whig says:—"We learn that a young girl about 12 years of age, named Susan Bump, of Bridgwater, was accidentally killed on Sunday last by her brother. He took up the gun, supposing it was unloaded, aimed at a Mocking Bird in a tree. She lived but a few moments, only uttering the exclamation—O! you have shot me."

Deaths in N. York last week, 187, of which 12 was from Small-pox.

Another!

☞ On Christmas, the Whigs of Nahua and Nashville, N. H., through a committee, presented Mr. BEARD, the editor of the Nashua Telegraph, with one of Pratt's Patent Card Presses, worth $100 and a check for $64 on Boston. Any room for another paper up in those quarters?

☞ The "Liberty party" of Ohio have nominated SAMUEL LEWIS, of Cincinnati, as their candidate for Governor.

Smith's Weekly Volume,

No 1, vol III, has been received, furnishing the commencement of the "memoirs of the Pretenders and their adherents," by John Heneage Jesse, a standard work of reputation. We do not know that Mr. Smith could have made a more judicious selection, with which to commence a new volume. The Journal of Belles Lettres accompanies the Volume, presenting to the readers an volume of current Literature of the day running through four large pages—the whole work being beautifully printed on beautiful paper.

☞ The Pittsburg "*Daily Gazette*" comes to us this week much enlarged and improved in appearance. The Gazette now corresponds in size with the leading papers in the Eastern cities, and tells well for the enterprise of its publishers and the liberal patronage of the citizens of the Iron City.

Randolph's Slaves.

☞ The Colonization Journal states that Judge Leigh, the executor of John Randolph, has purchased a large tract of land in Mercer county, Ohio, on which to locate the slaves, some 300, manumitted by that remarkable man. A large quantity of land in Mercer county, comprising three or four townships, is now owned nearly altogether by colored persons.

☞ DELAZON SMITH, the long missing South American Agent, has returned to Washington.—He has been appointed by Texas to some unknown agency in South America, and kept his "whereabouts" to well concealed that President Polk could not recall him. The discontinuance of his salary, however, brought him home at once.

Dickinson College.

☞ The "Dickinson College (Carlisle) Register for the Academical year 1845-6," is upon our table. The number of students connected with the various departments of the Institution is stated to be 147, classed as follows:—Seniors, 18; Juniors, 23; Sophomores, 28; Freshmen, 32: Grammar School, 46.

☞ The ravages of the *Small Pox* is said to be decreasing in Baltimore. But not deaths by this disease occurred during the last week.

The number of deaths in Philadelphia, during the same period was 22, and in New York 12.

The Oregon.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot says:—There is good reason for believing the statement of the cool and sagacious correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser, who wrote from this city that Mr. Calhoun had played the part of a successful pacificator between Mr. Pakenham and Mr. Buchanan, (and that too by the solicitation or assent of Mr. Polk,) on the Oregon question. The correspondent informed me to-day that what he wrote was strictly true—that he obtained the information from the fountain head, and from one could, therefore, be no possible mistake about it. Besides, Mr. Rhett declared to-day in the House, with great emphasis and unction, that he did not believe any negotiations to be broken off and at an end!

A Washington correspondent of the Boston Atlas, speaks of a probable compromise between the friends of Benton and Calhoun, and adds:—Benton is against war, and, I believe, will do all in his power, to secure the administration more, and for that reason would make the sacrifice of feeling, for the gratification of revenge. He has discover Polk to be playing him false, and will reward him with a retribution as merciless as it will be vindictive.

Mexico.

Letters have been received at New Orleans from Havanna, confirmatory of the intelligence of a new outbreak in Mexico. Information had reached Havanna from Vera Cruz to the effect that Gen. Paredes had proclaimed against the existing government, and was marching against the city of Mexico at the head of 8,000 or 10,000 troops. Passengers from Havanna confirm the report that such news was received in Havanna by the last steamer from Vera Cruz. The next news from Mexico will possess unusual interest. Should Herrera be overthrown, the pacific aspect of affairs between the U. States and Mexico will no doubt undergo a material change. Our Government we are told are making preparations accordingly.

THE MORMONS.—The Sangamo (Ill.) Journal confirms the statement in the N. York Tribune's correspondent respecting the Mormons. The coin counterfeited by them consisted principally of Mexican dollars and American half dollars and dimes, slightly executed. The quantity manufactured is said to be immense, $1500 having been paid out at a mill owned by a Mormon in one week for wheat. Three quilities of the spurious money were circulated—those which were sold for 75, 50 and 25 cents for the dollars. That for which the highest price was asked, is said to be so perfect as to deceive the most practised scrutiny of the eye—the outer coat being of pure silver, and the alloy so completely covered as to prevent detection in any other way than by cutting. Revelations have been made which lead to the belief that a number of persons have been murdered by them in a most horrible manner.

THE PURCHASE OF NAUVOO.—The Warsaw signal says: Two Catholic priests from Cincinnati, passed through this place on their way to Nauvoo. Their object was to ascertain the particular nature and amount of property which the Mormons wish to dispose of to the Church, and on what terms it can be bought.

BRUTAL.—A schoolmaster in Millington, Ms., because a boy was unable to master his lesson, detained him after the school and beat him most cruelly with the yellow pine slats which he wrenched from the windows. The boy fainted three times under the bestings, and upon his way home had to crawl a portion of the way upon his hands and knees. A warrant was issued for the arrest of the brute, but he escaped.

JUDGE WOODWARD, it is now stated has some of the journals, has not resigned his seat in the judicial district of Centre and Clearfield, though the Harrisburg Union announced it last week in an official manner.

A young fop, about starting down to Rotterdam, proposed to purchase a life-preserver.

"Oh, you'll not want it," suggested the clerk—"bags of wind won't sink."

BALTIMORE MARKET.

(CORRECTED WEEKLY.)

FLOUR.—The Flour market is still without any activity. Some holders of Market street flour are asking $5 25, and others $5 31—no sales. Sales of City mills, at $5 25 for fine; $5 75, and of Corn Meal $3 75 per barrel.

GRAIN.—There is a light supply of Wheat in market. Small sales of good to prime Maryland red Wheat at $1 05 to $1 10, and of good white at $1 12 a $1 15. White Corn sold at 68 a 69, and yellow at 69 a 70 cents. *Oats* 43 a 44 cents and *Rye* 72 a 75. *Cloverseed* $6 25 a $6 50.

PIG IRON.—500 bars sold at the scales on Tuesday, of which 416 were sold at prices ranging from $1 00 to $5 75, per 100 lbs according to quality. The demand not very active.

HOGS.—A fair supply of live Hogs in market with a tolerable demand. Sales at $4 50 to $4 62½.

PROVISIONS.—The demand for *Beef* and *Pork* not active and sales made only