

The Potter Journal

Devoted to the Principles of True Democracy, and the Dissemination of Morality, Literature and News.

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THE POTTER JOURNAL,

PUBLISHED BY
M. W. McALARNEY, Proprietor.

Devoted to the cause of Republicanism, the interests of Agriculture, Education, and the best good of Potter County, owning no guide except that of Principle, it will endeavor to aid in the work of more fully Freedoming our Country.

Advertisements inserted at the following rates, except where special bargains are made. A square is 10 lines of Brevier or 8 of Nonpareil types. 1 square, 1 insertion, \$1.00. 2 or 3 insertions, 20 cts. Each subsequent insertion less than 10 lines, 10 cts. 1 year, 10 dollars. 6 months, 5 dollars. 3 months, 2 dollars. 1 month, 1 dollar. Special and Editorial Notices per line, 20 cts. All transient advertisements must be paid in advance, and no notice will be taken of advertisements from a distance, unless they are accompanied by the money or satisfactory references.

Job Work, of all kinds, executed with neatness and dispatch.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons
E. L. ALLEN, D. W. B. No. 212, F. A. M. Station
Meetings on the 21 and 4th Wednesday of each month. Hall, in the 3d story of the Olmsted Block.
D. C. LARABEE, Sec. W. M. SUGAR, W. M.

O. T. ELLISON, M. D.
PRACTICING PHYSICIAN, Coudersport, Pa.,
respectfully informs the citizens of the village and vicinity that he will promptly respond to all calls for professional services, at his residence, on First street, first door west of his residence. 17-40

JOHN S. MANN,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Coudersport, Pa., will attend the several Courts in Potter and Cameron counties. All business entrusted to his care will receive prompt attention. Office on Main street, in residence.

OLMSTED AND LARABEE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Coudersport, Penna.,
will attend to all business entrusted to them with promptness and fidelity. Will also attend the several courts in the adjoining counties. Office in the second story of the Olmsted Block.

ISAAC BENSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa.,
will attend to all business entrusted to him with care and promptness. Attends Courts of adjoining counties. Office on Second street, near the Allegheny bridge.

E. W. KNOX,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Coudersport, Pa., will attend the courts in Potter and the adjoining counties.

F. D. RITTER, M. D.
PHYSICIAN and Surgeon would respectfully inform the citizens of Coudersport and vicinity that he has opened an Office in the Coudersport Hotel, and will be ready at all times to make professional calls. He is a regular graduate of the Buffalo Medical College of 1860. Jan 1-97.

ELLISON & THOMPSON,
DEALERS in Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils,
Vanishes, Lamps and Fancy articles. Books of all kinds - School and Miscellaneous, Stationery, Cakes, &c. In Mannings old Jewelry Store. Jan 4-97.

MILLER & McALARNEY,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Harrisburg, Penna.,
Agents for the Collection of Claims against the United States and the Government, and for the recovery of the same. Address Box 95, Harrisburg. Business transacted promptly. 17-29

M. W. McALARNEY,
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENT,
Land Bought and Sold, Taxes paid and Titles investigated. Insures property against fire in the best companies in the country. Terms as usual. Office in the Traders Insurance Company of Harrisburg. Business transacted promptly. 17-29

P. A. STEBBINS & Co.,
MERCHANTS - Dealers in Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Flour, Feed, Pork, and everything usually kept in a good country store. Produce bought and sold. 17-29

C. H. SIMMONS,
MERCHANT - WELLSVILLE, N. Y., Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Flour, Feed, Pork, and everything usually kept in a good country store. Produce bought and sold. 17-29

CHARLES S. JONES,
MERCHANT - Dealers in Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Fancy Articles, Stationery, Dry Goods, Groceries, &c., Main street, Coudersport, Pa.

D. E. OLMESTED,
MERCHANT - Dealer in Dry Goods, Ready-made Clothing, Groceries, Flour, Feed, Pork, Provisions, &c., Main street, Coudersport, Pa.

COLLINS SMITH,
MERCHANT - Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Queensware, Cutlery, and all Goods usually found in a country store. 17-29

H. J. OLMESTED,
HARDWARE Merchant, and Dealer in Stoves, Tin and Sheet Iron Ware, Main street, Coudersport, Penna. Tin and Sheet Iron Ware made to order, in good style, on short notice.

C. VERMILYEA,
COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa.,
will attend to all business entrusted to him with care and promptness. Attends Courts of adjoining counties. Office on Second street, near the Allegheny bridge.

Potter Journal Job-Office
HAVING lately added a fine new assortment of JOB TYPE to our already large assortment, we are now prepared to do all kinds of work, cheaply and with taste and neatness. Orders solicited.

LYMAN HOUSE,
Lewisville, Potter county, Pennsylvania.
BURTON LEWIS, Proprietor. Having taken this excellent Hotel, the proprietor wishes to make the accommodations for the traveling public and all kinds of giving satisfaction to all who may call on him. - Feb. 12, 66

MARBLE WORK
Monuments and Tomb-Stones
of all kinds, will be furnished on reasonable terms and short notice by
C. Breunle,
Residence - Eulalia, 1 1/2 miles south of Coudersport, Pa., on the Simonshamling Road, or leave your orders at the Post-Office. 16-17

DAN BAKER,
PENSION, BOUNTY AND WAR CLAIM AGENCY
Pensions procured for Soldiers of the present War who are disabled by reason of wounds received or disease contracted while in the service of the United States, and pensions, bounty, and arrears of pay obtained for widows or heirs of those who have died or been killed while in service. All letters of inquiry promptly answered, and on receipt by mail of a statement of the case of claimant, I will forward the necessary papers for their signature. Fees in Pension cases as fixed by law. Refers to Hon. Isaac Benson, O. T. Ellison, John S. Mann, and F. W. Knox, Esq., DAN BAKER,
June 6-67. Claim Agent, Coudersport, Pa.

Itch! Itch! Itch!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
WHEATON'S OINTMENT,
Will Cure the Itch in 48 Hours!
Also cures SALT RHEUM, ULCERS, CHILBLAINS, and all ERUPTIONS OF THE SKIN. Price 50 cents. For sale by all druggists. By sending 50 cents to WHEELER & POTTER, Sole Agents, 139 Washington street, Boston, it will be forwarded by mail, free of postage, to any part of the United States. June 1, 1866, expiration way 1yr.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF
Governor JOHN W. GEARY.

When the congratulatory cheers of the people had subsided, Gov. Geary proceeded to deliver his inaugural address, as follows:

FELLOW CITIZENS—Honored by the selection of the sovereign people of my native State as their choice for Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, it is with mingled feelings of humility and gratitude that I have appeared in the presence of my fellow-countrymen, and before the Searcher of all Hearts, to take the solemn obligation prescribed as a qualification for that exalted station, "to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, and to perform my official duties with fidelity."

Profoundly sensible of everything that is implied by this manifestation of the people's confidence, and more deeply impressed with the vast importance and responsibilities of the office than elevated by its attendant honors, let it be our first grateful duty to return fervent thanksgivings to Almighty God for his constant protection and unnumbered blessings to us a people, and for the aid and assistance which he has granted in the discharge of civil trusts, who has been my shield and buckler amidst scenes of peril and death.

In addressing you on this occasion, in accordance with a custom originating with the Republican fathers, I propose briefly to express my opinions on such questions as concern our common constituency, and relate to our common responsibilities.

The course of the Old World, our nation has followed its internal commotions. From the last of these we have scarcely yet emerged, and during which "war's desolation" passed over our land, leaving its influences principally upon those unfortunate States whose people rebelled against the government, and notwithstanding the agonizing sacrifices of a great civil war, the States that maintained the government and determined that the Union should be preserved, have constantly advanced in honor, wealth, population and general prosperity.

This is the first time that a change has occurred in the Executive Department of this State since the commencement of the war of the rebellion; a brief reference, therefore, to that conflict, and to its results, may not be inappropriate.

We have the consolation of knowing that the contest between the North and South was not on our part, one for ambition, for military renown, for territorial acquisition, nor was it for a violation of any of the rights of the South, but it was for the preservation of our own rights and privileges as men, and for the maintenance of justice, liberty and the Union. The object of the South was avowedly the dissolution of the Union and the establishment of a confederacy based upon "the corner stone of human slavery."

To have shrunk from a manly resistance under such circumstances, and to have been constantly degrading and demoralizing, would have destroyed the value of the priceless legacy bequeathed to us by our fathers, and which we are obliged to transmit unimpaired to future generations. The patriotic and Union-loving people felt that the alternative was that of life or death to the Union; and under the auspicious guidance of Abraham Lincoln, that virtuous and heroic Chief Magistrate, with the blessing of Him who directs the destinies of nations, after open action and arbitrary violence on the part of the South, the appeal to arms was made. We had a just cause, and our citizens approving with a degree of unanimity heretofore unknown, in this or any other country, left their various employments, their homes and all that was dear to them, and hastened with enthusiasm to the scenes where duty and danger called, and as the surest pledge of their unwavering love and fidelity to the Union they unhesitatingly and bravely sacrificed their lives for the North. Nor was any other tribute withheld in providing the means necessary for the support of our fleets and armies. Nearly two millions of soldiers entered the field from time to time on different terms of enlistment. The citizens generally exhibited the highest degree of patriotism in the prompt payment of taxes, in their liberal contributions in the shape of loans to the government, and the world was astonished by the open action and arbitrary violence on the part of the South, the appeal to arms was made.

It is natural and eminently proper that we, as a people, should feel a deep and lasting interest in the present and future welfare of the soldiers who have borne so distinguished a part in the great contest which has resulted in the maintenance of the life, honor and prosperity of the nation. The high claims of the private soldiers upon the country are universally acknowledged, and the generous sentiment prevails that the amplest care should be taken by the government to compensate them and their families, and to provide for their old age and their services and sacrifices.

I desire that it may be distinctly understood that I do not speak of myself, in connection with this subject; but I am happy to avail myself of this opportunity to speak kind words of Pennsylvania's private soldiers, and the noble officers who commanded them.

The generosity of the people of Pennsylvania to the Union soldiers has been imitated, but not equalled, by other States. There is something peculiar in the loyalty of Pennsylvania. She seemed to feel, from the first, as if upon her devolved the setting of a superior example. The fact that she carried upon her standard the brightest jewel of the Republic, that in her bosom was conceived and from her commercial capital was issued the Declaration of Independence, gave to her contributions, in men and money, and her unparalleled charitable organizations, all the dignity and force of a model for others to copy. The rebel foe seemed to feel that if he could strike a fatal blow at Pennsylvania, he would recover all his losses, and establish a resistless prestige in the old world. But thanks to Divine Providence, and to the

enduring bravery of our citizen soldiers, the invasion of our beloved State sealed her more closely to the cause of freedom.

The result of the battle of Gettysburg broke the power of the rebellion, and although the final issue was delayed, it was inevitable from the date of that great event. That battle rescued all the other free States; and when the arch of victory was completed by Sherman's successful advance from the sea, so that the two conquerors could shake hands over the two fields that closed the war, the soldiers of Pennsylvania were equal sharers in the glorious consummation.

No people in the world's history have ever been saved from so incalculable a calamity, and no people have ever had such cause for gratitude towards their defenders.

And here I cannot refrain from an expression of regret that the General Government has not taken any steps to inflict the proper penalties of the Constitution and laws upon the leaders of those who rudely and ferociously invaded the ever sacred soil of our State.

It is certainly a morbid clemency, and a censurable forbearance, which fail to punish the greatest crimes known to the laws of civilized nations; and may not the hope be reasonably indulged, that the Federal authorities will cease to extend unmerited mercy to those who inaugurated the rebellion and controlled the movements of its armies? If this be done treason will be rendered odious; and it will be distinctly proclaimed, on the pages of our future history, that no attempt can be made with impunity to destroy our Republican form of government.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS.
And while we would remember "the soldier who has borne the battle," we must not forget "his widow and his orphan children." Among our most solemn obligations is the maintenance of the indigent widows, and the support and education of the orphan children, of those noble men who fell in defense of the Union. To affirm that we owe a debt of gratitude to those who have been rendered homeless and fatherless, by their parents' patriotic devotion to the country, is a truth to which all mankind will yield a ready assent; and though we cannot call the dead to life, it is a privilege as well as a duty, to take the orphan by the hand, and to lift a protector and a father.

Legislative appropriations have honored the living soldiers, and embowered the dead. The people at the ballot-box, have sought out the meritorious veterans, and the meritorious spectacle is now presented of the youthful survivors of those who fell for their country, cherished and educated at the public expense. Even if I were differently constituted, my official duties would constrain me vigilantly to guard this sacred trust. But having served in the same cause, and been honored by the highest marks of public favor, I pledge myself to bear in mind the injunctions and wishes of the people, and if possible to increase the efficiency and multiply the benefits of the schools and institutions, already so creditably established, for the benefit of the orphans of our martyred heroes.

FREEDOM AND SLAVERY.
The infatuation of treason, the downfall of slavery, the vindication of freedom and the complete triumph of the government of the people, are all so many proofs of the "Divinity that has shaped our ends," and given so many promises for a future conquest with success if we only true to our mission. Six years ago the spectacle of four millions of slaves, increasing steadily both their own numbers and the pride and the material and political power of their masters, presented a problem so appalling, that statesmen contemplated it with undisguised alarm, and the moralist with shame. To-day these four millions, no longer slaves, but freemen, having intermediately proved their humanity towards their oppressors, their fidelity to society, and their loyalty to the government, are peacefully incorporated into the body politic, and are rapidly preparing to assume their rights as citizens of the United States. Notwithstanding this unparalleled change was only effected after an awful expenditure of blood and treasure, its consummation may well be cited as the sublimest proof of the fitness of the American people to administer the government according to the pledges of the Declaration of Independence.

We have but to estimate where human slavery would have carried our country, in the course of another generation, to realize the force of this commanding truth. And as we dwell upon the dangers we have escaped, we may the better understand what Jefferson meant when, in the comparative infancy of human slavery, he exclaimed, "I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just!"

A single glance at what must have been our fate had slavery been permitted to increase will be sufficient. In 1860 the slave population amounted, in exact numbers, to three millions nine hundred and fifty-three thousand seven hundred and sixty. Taking the seven, 23.29 per cent, from 1850 to 1860, as the basis of calculation for every ten years; in 1870, we would have numbered at least upwards of nine millions. What Christian statesman, as he thinks God for the triumph of the Union arm, does not shudder at the prospect presented by these startling figures?

But while there is cause for constant solicitude in the natural irritations produced by such a conflict, as is but a gloomy prophet who does not anticipate that the agencies which accomplished these tremendous results, will successfully cope with and put down all who attempt to govern the nation in the interests of defeated ambition and vanquished treason.

The people of the conquering North and West have comparatively little to do but to complete the good work. They command the position. The courage of the soldier and the sagacity of the statesman, working harmoniously, have now secured and confirmed the victory, and nothing more is required but a faithful adherence to the doctrines which have achieved such marvelous results.

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.
The overthrow of the rebellion has changed the whole system of Southern society, and proportionately affected other interests and sections. Demanding the enlightenment of millions, long benighted, it forces upon the North and West the consideration of a more perfect and pervading educational policy.

Much as we have boasted, and have reason to boast, of our common schools, we cannot deny, when we compare them with those of New England, and contrast them with the preparations for the education of the Southern people of all classes, that we have much to overcome, if we would equal the one, or stimulate the other. The recent convention of County School Superintendents of Pennsylvania exhibits some startling facts, which deserve the attention of the people and their representatives. Yet it is not by legislation alone that any people can be brought to understand their relations to each other as citizens. Their best instructors are themselves. However liberal the appropria-

tions may be, if these are not extended by that commendable spirit which impels the parent to impress upon the child the necessity of a sound moral and intellectual training, your representatives are generous, in vain. Everything depends upon the people; hence the great complaint, preferred by the convention of teachers, of shortness of terms in some districts, of the small attendance of enrolled scholars, of the employment of unqualified instructors, and of the want of proper school houses, results unquestionably not so much from the indifference of the State, as from the negligence of those who are invited to share and enjoy the blessings of a cheap and admirable system of popular education. If my fellow citizens will only recollect the difference between the opportunities of the present generation and those of their fathers, and how much is to be gained by a cultivation of modern facilities, they will require little exhortation to the discharge of duties which relate almost exclusively to themselves and to those nearest and dearest to them.

The importance of common schools, in a republican government, can never be fully estimated. To educate the people is the highest public duty. To permit them to remain in ignorance is excusable. Everything, therefore, should be encouraged that tends to build up, strengthen and elevate our State on the sure foundation of the education of the people. Every interest and industrial pursuit will be aided and promoted by its operations; every man who is educated is improved in usefulness, in proportion as he is skilled in labor, or intelligent in the professions, and is in every respect more valuable to society. Education seems to be essential to loyalty, for no State in the full enjoyment of free schools, ever rebelled against the government.

Pennsylvania should be the vanguard of education. She should remember that as she has been the mother of States, she should also be the teacher of States. "The great problem of civilization is how to bring the higher intelligence of the community, and its better moral feelings, to bear upon the masses of the people so that the lowest grades of intelligence and morals shall always be approaching the higher, and the higher still rising. A church purified of superstition solves part of this problem, and a good school system does the rest.

THE STATE MILITARY.
Nothing after the education of the people contributes more to the security of a state than a thorough military system. The fathers of the Republic, acting upon the instinct of preparing for war in time of peace, embodied this knowledge among the primary obligations of the citizen. Yet the rebellion found us almost wholly unprepared. Our confidence in our institutions was so firm that the idea of an attack upon them from any quarter, much less from those who had been the "spoiled children" of the government" was never believed possible, however threatened. The first clash of arms found us equally unprepared and unorganized, and we very soon experienced that the contrivers of the great slave conspiracy had not only strengthened themselves by the stolen stripes and forfeitures of the government, but had been for years designedly instructing their youth in the science of arms; and when the bloody tempest opened upon us they were ready to spring at the heart of the Republic, while the citizens, in whose hands the government was left, were compelled to protect themselves and their country as best they could.

When we reflect upon the terrible sacrifices we endured to maintain our liberties, and anticipated that glorious period of our country when the whole continent will be dedicated to human freedom, and when the despotisms of the earth will construe our example into a standing threat against their tyranny, we can not disregard the consideration of this important subject.

As before remarked, Pennsylvania contributed over three hundred thousand troops to the national cause. Perhaps the loss of nearly thirty thousand by wounds and disease incurred in the field, what an immense army has been left to circulate among and to educate the mass of our population! Properly comprehending this thought, we have at once the secret of our past success, our present safety and our future power. It would be easy to create an emulation in the science of arms among the youth of the State, by proper organization, and to disseminate, in all our schools, that loyalty to the whole country, without which there can be no permanent safety for our liberty.

In their late report, the visitors to west Point Military Academy laid a significant stress upon the necessity of such preceptors, in the future, as would teach the student of that institution their first and unavoidable obligations to the principles upon which the government itself reposes. The neglect of this kind of instruction was felt in almost every movement during recent conflict; and it is not going too far to say that many who regarded their oaths, and who drew their swords against the government that had educated and nourished them, found a mercenary consolation in the fact that they were permitted to cherish an allegiance to the State in which they were born, which conflicted with and destroyed that love of country which should be made supreme and above all other political obligations.

If in our past and recent experience, there has been exhibited the valuable and splendid achievement of our volunteers in the national defense, there has also been shown the necessity for military skill, and that knowledge of, and familiarity with, the rules of discipline so essentially necessary in their prompt and efficient employment. In order, therefore, to make our military system effective, we should have particular regard for the lesson, that all have a well disciplined force, prepared to act with promptness and vigor in any emergency; nor should we forget that it is impossible to tell how soon our warlike energies may again be required in the field.

HOME RESOURCES AND HOME LABOR.
In nothing have our trials during the war, and the resulting triumphs to our arms, been so full of compensation as in the establishment of the proud fact that we are not only able to defend ourselves against assault, but we are equally impregnable to depredations upon our own resources. At the time the rebellion was precipitated upon us, the whole business and trade of the nation was paralyzed. Corn in the West was used for fuel, and the producer was compelled to lose not only the interest upon his capital, but the very capital he had invested. Labor was in excess, and men were everywhere searching

for employment. Mills and furnaces were abandoned. Domestic intercourse was so trifling that the stocks of a number of the most important railroads in the country fell, and long remained at, an average price of less than fifty per cent, but the moment danger to the Union became eminent, and the necessity of self-reliance was plainly presented as the only means of securing protection, and the gradual dispersion of our mercantile marine by the apprehension of the armed vessels of the rebels, the American people began to practice upon the maxims of self-defense and self-dependence. From having been, if not absolutely impoverished and almost without remunerative enterprise, depressed by unemployed labor and idle capital, all their great material agencies were brought into motion with a promptitude and kept in operation with a rapidity and regularity, which relieved them from want, their country from danger, and excited the amazement of civilized nations.

Protection to the manufactures of the country, when rightly viewed, is merely the defense of labor against competition from abroad. The wages of labor in the United States is higher than those in any other country, consequently our laborers are the more elevated. Labor is the foundation of both individual and national wealth; and those nations that have best protected it from foreign competition, have been the most prosperous. It is clearly, therefore, the interest of the nation to foster and protect domestic industry, by relieving from internal taxation every sort of labor, and imposing such heavy duties upon all importations of foreign manufactured articles, as to prevent the possibility of competition from abroad. Not only should individual enterprise and industry be thus encouraged, but all public works, a liberal and promptly restricted general railroad system, and internal improvements of every kind, receive the fostering care and most liberal aid of the government. We are rich in everything necessary to meet our wants and render us independent of every other country, and we have only to avail ourselves of our own resources and capabilities, to progress continually onward to a degree of greatness never yet attained by any nation.

Our agricultural, mineral and manufacturing resources are unequalled, and it should be our constant study to devise and prosecute means tending to their highest development. Why, then, should not the wisdom of government make available the teachings of experience, and at once legislate for the manifest good of the people? Why permit our manufactures to beg that they may live?

The government of Great Britain has, by her protective system, created duty upon duty, for more than one hundred and fifty years, and hence upon her protection is founded her manufacturing supremacy. Yet her emissaries come to this country, and for sinister purposes, extol "free trade," speak scoldingly of "protection," and endeavor to persuade our people to believe and adopt the absurd theory that "tariffs hinder the development of industry and the growth of wealth."

The great Republican party, in the Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln, in Chicago, in 1860, as if preparing for the very war which most of our statesmen were at that period anxious to postpone, adopted a resolution, "which," to use the language of an eminent Pennsylvanian, "declared that the produce of the farm should no longer be compelled to remain inert and losing interest while waiting demand in distant markets; that the capital which daily took the form of labor power should no longer be allowed to go to waste; that the fuel which underlies our soil should no longer there remain to be a mere support for foreign rails; that the power which lay then petrified in the form of coal should everywhere be brought to aid the human arm; that our vast deposits of iron ore should be made to take the form of engines and other machinery, to be used as substitutes for mere muscular force; and that all our wonderful resources, material and moral, must and should be at once developed. Such was the intent and meaning of the brief resolution then and there adopted, to be at the earliest practicable moment ratified by Congress, as proved to be the case when the Morrill tariff, on the memorable 2d of March, 1861, was made the law of the land. To that law, aided as it was by the admirable action of the Treasury in supplying machinery of circulation, we stand now indebted for the fact that we have, in the short space of five years, produced more food, built more houses and mills, opened more mines, constructed more roads than ever before, and so greatly added to the wealth of the country that the property of the loyal States would this day exhibit for twice the quantity of gold than could five years since have been obtained for all the real and personal property, southern chattels excepted, of the whole of the States and territories of which the Union stands composed."

If the principle of protection proved to be such a talisman in the time of war, shall we reject it in time of peace? If an answer were needed to this question, reference could be had to the repeated concessions to this principle by the recent free-traders of the South. Scarcely one of the ambitious men who led their unfortunate people into rebellion, but now freely admits that if the South had manufactured their own fabrics, on their own plantations, and cultivated skilled labor in their great cities, they would have been able to prolong their conflict with the government; and now to enjoy substantial, instead of artificial prosperity, they must invoke the very agencies they had so long and fatally disregarded. Words need not be multiplied upon this important theme, either to make my own position stronger, or to impress upon the people the value of adhering to a system which has proved itself worthy of our continued support, and of the initiation of its former opponents.

FINANCES.
The exhibit of the finances of the Commonwealth, as presented in the late annual message of my predecessor, and the report of the State Treasurer, is certainly very gratifying; and the flattering prospect of the speedy extinguishment of the debt which has been hanging for so many years, like a dark cloud over the prospects of our State, combined with the hope that a reasonable reduction will be made in our habitual annual expenditures, will cheer the people onward in the pathway of duty.

Among the most delicate and important obligations required of those in official positions is a strict and faithful management of the

public revenues and expenditures of the Commonwealth. Taxation should be applied where its burdens may be least felt, and where it is most just that it should be borne. Every resource should be carefully husbanded, and the strictest economy practiced, so that the credit of the State shall be maintained on a firm and enduring basis, and the debt surely and steadily diminished, until its final extinguishment. Unnecessary delay in this would, in my opinion, be incompatible with our true interests.

That these expectations are capable of speedy and certain consummation, has already been demonstrated. The public improvements, the cause of our heavy debt, which seemed to be an incubus upon the prosperity of the State, so long as they were managed by her agents, have been sold; the tax on real estate has been abolished, and considerable reductions have already been made on the State debt.

This important branch of the administration shall receive my constant and zealous attention. The general and essential principles of law and liberty, declared in the Constitution of Pennsylvania, shall be watchfully guarded: it will be my highest ambition to administer the government in the true spirit of that instrument. Care shall be taken "that the law be faithfully executed," and the decisions of the courts respected and enforced, if within their authorized jurisdiction. Influenced only by considerations for the public welfare, it is my imperative duty to see that justice be impartially administered. That merciful provision, the pardoning power, conferred upon the Executive doubtlessly for correcting only the errors of criminal jurisprudence, and securing justice, shall not be perverted to the indiscriminate protection of those who may be justly sentenced to bear penalties for infractions of the laws made for the security and protection of society. Those "crucelly" or "excessively" punished, or erroneously convicted, are alone liable to its beneficent protection, and only such should expect its exercise in their behalf.

Whenever the people deem it expedient or necessary, from actual experience, to alter the laws or to amend the Constitution, it is their undoubted right to do so, according to the mode prescribed within itself. I feel no regret, what I have said elsewhere, that so long as the people feel that the power to alter or change the character of the government abides in them, so long will they be impressed with a sense of security and of dignity which must ever spring from the consciousness that they hold within their own hands a remedy for every political evil, a corrective for every governmental abuse and usurpation."

THE NATIONAL SITUATION.
We are confessedly in a transition state. It is marvelous how prejudice has perished in the furnace of war, and how, from the ashes of old hatreds and old parties, the truth rises purified and triumphant. The contest between the Executive and a Congress twice elected by substantially the same suffrages, a contest so anomalous in our experience as not to have been anticipated by the framers of the National Constitution, has only served to develop the remarkable energies of our people; and to strengthen them for future conflicts. The contest is virtually decided.

The victorious forces, physical and moral, of the patriotic millions, are simply pausing before they perfect the work of reconstruction. Twenty-six States have not only been saved from the conflagration of war, but have been crystallized in the saving. The unretorted, still disaffected and still defiant, seem to be Provisionally delaying their return to the Union, so that when they re-enter upon their obligations and its blessings they will be the better able to fulfill the due and enjoy the other. Their condition is a fearful warning to men and nations, and especially to ourselves.

Until slavery fell we did not fully understand the value of Republican institutions. Accustomed to tolerate, and in many cases to defend slavery, we did not feel that its close proximity, so far from assuring us, was gradually destroying our liberties; and it was only when rebellion tore away the mask, that we saw the hideous face of the monster that was eating out the vitals of the Republic.

If we are now astonished and shocked at the exhibition of cruelty and ingratitude among those who, having inaugurated and prosecuted a causeless war against a generous government, and having been permitted to escape the punishment they deserve, are once more arrogantly clamoring to assume control of the destinies of this great nation, how much greater cause would we have for surprise had slavery been permitted to increase and multiply?

Boast as we may of our material and moral victories, yet it is not true that there is no such thing as a Republican government in the ten States that began and carried on the war? There is not, to-day, a despotic State in Europe where the rights of the individual man are so defiantly trampled under foot, as in the sections which were supposed to have been brought to full submission to the Government of the United States. The disease has suggested its Providential cure.

The abhorrent doctrine, that defeated treason shall not only be magnanimously pardoned, but introduced to yet stronger privileges, because of its guilty failure, seems to have been insisted upon, as if to strengthen the better and the contrasting doctrine, that a nation, having conquered its freedom, is its best guardian, and that those who were defeated in honorable battle should be constrained to submit to all the terms of the conqueror.

The violators of the most solemn obligations, the perpetrators of the most atrocious crimes in the annals of time, the murderers of our heroic soldiers on fields of battle, and in loathsome dungeons and barbarous prisons, they must not, shall not, re-appear in the council chambers of the nation, to aid in its legislation, or control its destinies, unless it shall be on conditions which will preserve our institutions for their lawful purposes and influence, and secure republican forms of government, in their purity and vigor, in every section of the country.

That they are indisposed to accept such conditions, is manifest from their recent and even arrogant rejection of the proposed amendments of the national Constitution—amendments which are believed by many true and patriotic citizens and statesmen, to be too mild and generous.

They have, however, been fully considered.