

APPENDIX

TO THE

SENATE JOURNAL

FOR

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.



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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
January 13, 1857. }

Senators and Members of the General Assembly:

GENTLEMEN:—In conformity with the requirements of the organic law, I herewith communicate at the opening of your session, the condition of the State, offering you my congratulations upon its prosperity.

By the report of the Treasurer, the total disbursement of the State has been for the past year, \$180,035.21, and the total receipts, \$181,347.39—leaving the sum of \$1,012.18 in the treasury on the 31st day of December.

The fund for the support of free schools has increased \$4,362.58, and now amounts to \$479,806.10.

For a clear and distinct understanding of the present condition of the treasury, a full exhibit of the receipts and disbursements for the past few years, viz:—1854, 1855 and 1856—comprising the period of my official term, is herewith appended. This statement shows the whole amount of receipts and the sources of revenue, and exhibits the whole amount of disbursements, with the chief items of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure for that time. In my last annual communication, it was stated that there were appropriations made by the previous legislatures unsatisfied, and that the condition of the treasury demanded prudent and economical appropriations.—By reference to the last report of the Treasurer, it appears that the amount outstanding on the 1st of January, 1856, was

\$25,058.88. This sum had to be paid from the receipts of the past year. The special appropriations and ordinary expenses of the last session were large, and the amount of unsatisfied appropriations is greater than it was last year, as it now amounts to \$62,950.97, beside the appropriations made for the purchase of Webster's Dictionary and Lippincott's Gazetteer for the public schools of the State, which amount is not ascertained. The special loan of \$30,000, made in 1855, with the loans of 1846 and 1852, make the indebtedness of the State \$95,000, and within \$5,000 of the limit fixed by the Constitution as the sum which the debt of the State shall not exceed. Against this indebtedness the State holds available assets amounting to \$247,674.12.

The unsatisfied appropriations will be paid from the revenues of this year, but your action will be necessary to supply the deficiency; otherwise the treasury may be without the means to meet the current expenses of the State before the expiration of the present year, and it is for you to determine how to provide for it. There seems to be but two ways—either to realize a sufficient sum from the available assets, or diminish the expenses of the State sufficient to liquidate the amount of outstanding appropriations from anticipated revenues, without resorting to a State Tax. The principal items of extraordinary expenditure have been the appropriations for the Lunatic Asylum, Geological Survey, State Normal School and State Prison, whilst the ordinary expenditures have been augmented by the legislative expenses, the increased number and salaries of the Justices of the Supreme Court, costs of criminal convictions, and transportation of prisoners.

GEOLOGY.

Soon after the adjournment of the last session, it became evident that the treasury would be unable to provide any por-

tion of the appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars made at that session for the continuation of the geological survey, consequently instructions were given to suspend the work on the first day of May. It was a subject of great regret that the expressed wish of the Legislature could not be carried out by those appreciating the great importance of the work, who hoped to see it completed at an early day. Subsequently, Dr. Kitchell, Superintendent of the Survey, Professor George H. Cook, Assistant Geologist, and Egbert L. Viele, Esq., Topographical Engineer, volunteered to continue their labors and await for their compensation until the treasury was able to meet the appropriation, preferring this course to a suspension of the work. And as it appeared that a temporary suspension would break up the organization, and prove a great loss to the State, it was thought best to accept the generous offer of these gentlemen; and with the assistance of one of the banks, which agreed to advance money for the incidental expenses of the survey, it has been continued, and great progress has been made in this important work. For the details of what has been accomplished, I refer to the satisfactory, valuable, and interesting reports of the officers, which accompany this communication. The advantages to the State have already been very great from the survey, and I sincerely hope that such financial arrangements can be made as to allow it to be prosecuted with vigor to its completion, under the present organization, in accordance with the plan that has been adopted. From the reports of the officers, it will be observed that the superintendent has been chiefly occupied in the development of the iron deposits of the northern division of the State, and the results exhibit in a striking manner the magnitude and importance of this source of our wealth. The Assistant Geologist has been actively employed in the southern division of the State, and presents the final report on the geology of the County of Cape May, which is published and ready for distribution in the manner designated by the act of the last session. His investigations have been extended into all the remaining counties of the

southern division, and his thorough report upon the agriculture of that section, and its resources for fertilizers is shown in a comprehensive manner, as also our present agricultural condition, and the means for furthering its improvement.

The value and importance of the immense marl deposits for home use and exportation is clearly presented, and must command the attention of our people as one of their great sources of agricultural wealth as well as for revenue from abroad.

The Topographical Engineer has prosecuted the triangulations of the State, and the plane table survey in both the divisions. The map of Cape May is engraved and printed, and accompanies the final report of that County. This map affords a specimen of what the entire work is designed to be, and upon examination will be found to compare favorably with the coast survey maps of the United States, and works of a similar character in Europe. The conformation of the surface, the nature of the vegetation, the amount of cultivated and wooded land, the character of existing and facilities for future improvements, are all delineated with extreme accuracy. In short, nothing is omitted which can aid in any way the development of our resources. The value of such a map to the citizens of the State, I need not enlarge upon. The system under which the survey has been prosecuted, has attracted the attention of other States in the confederacy, and steps are now in progress to have a similar system adopted in New York, Ohio, and Connecticut, under the conviction that such a plan can alone enable the people to comprehend and to take advantage of their mineral, agricultural, and manufacturing resources.

It is very important that the legislature should take early action on this subject, in order that the persons now employed may know what course to pursue. I cannot too strongly urge the continuance of this great public work, which, to my mind, is of the first importance to the State.

SCHOOLS.

It is most gratifying for me to be able to state that the Report of the Superintendent of Public Schools will furnish satisfactory evidence of an increased interest on the subject of popular education, and the progress of our educational movement, manifested by the increased number of children attending school, and the increased amount of money voted by the people for their support. The great object of making our public schools better than private ones, will soon be attained.—“The children of a republic should be educated in the people’s school; they should be made equal to the responsibilities which have been thrown upon them by the founders of our government.” It is the first and highest interest of the State to educate and elevate the poor and laboring classes. Every school establishment by law should be bound to teach the duties of a citizen to the State, to unfold the principles of free institutions, and to train the youth to an enlightened patriotism.—The friends of popular education have cause for congratulation in the triumphant success of the Normal School. This institution is the basis of our school system, and will prove “a fountain of living water sending forth streams to refresh present and future ages.” Teachers must be qualified and trained to teach. The office of instructor ought to be regarded and recompensed as one of the most honorable in society. We cannot vest it with too much dignity and importance. In this connection I have great pleasure to inform you that one of our citizens, Mr. Paul Farnum, of Beverly, has, in behalf of the cause of education, placed at the disposal of the Trustees of the State Normal School, a fine building, amply furnished, and supplied with every requisite for a first class Preparatory Normal School, the building and furniture having cost him not less than \$25,000. The school is now successfully established, and Mr. Farnum is paying all the expenses attending it, and

has obligated himself to do so for one year. The expenses will not be less than \$5,000. The designs of Mr. Farnum for the future are of the most liberal character. He intends to bequeath it to the State, with an endowment in trust, conditioned that the State shall keep up a Preparatory Normal School for the education of teachers, as established. This munificent act is worthy of all commendation and deserving an appropriate acknowledgment from the legislature. Further evidence of the increased interest manifested by the people generally in the advancement of education and the improvement of teachers, is, that Teachers' Institutes have been held in every County the past year.

The report of the commissioners appointed to codify the school laws, made at the last session in conformity to a previous law, and accompanied with the form of an act to establish public schools, was unacted upon. This service was performed with great labor, devotion and ability, and I trust will receive the attention it so justly merits.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The managers and officers of the State Lunatic Asylum report the entire cost for sustaining the institution the past year to have been \$46,178.78, of which amount the State has paid \$10,816.34, and the Counties have paid \$22,234.39; and the balance, \$12,622.24, has been received from private patients. The inventory of personal property of the institution amounts to \$22,417.26. The number of patients is larger than at any previous period. This is the result of increased accommodation afforded by the additional wings. The building is a noble structure, and, it is said, has not its superior. The conduct and management of the institution is satisfactory to the managers, and, in the language of their report, has realized in its practical operation "the cherished anticipations of its benevo-

lent founders." But, it must be observed, that the cost to the State is large for sustaining it; the entire expenditure of the institution the past year has been \$5,482.91 more than the previous year, whilst the receipts from private patients has been increased \$2,305.75; and from County patients, \$2,528.32.—The average number of patients for the past year being two hundred and forty-eight, makes the cost of sustaining them \$172.09 per year, for every patient, without including the salaries of the officers, which is paid from the State Treasury.—This is a large sum, and beyond the cost of similar institutions. And it is a question, whether, by strict economy, the expenditure of the institution cannot be reduced, and the humane and philanthropic objects of its creation realized. I am clearly of the opinion that the weekly allowance of the State of seventy-five cents for County patients should be discontinued: and if the price paid by the Counties is not enough, it should be increased, with the managers have the power to do. The institution ought to be self-sustaining.

DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND.

The deaf, dumb and blind of the State are well provided for in the institutions of New York and Philadelphia.

STATE PRISON.

No revenue has been derived from the State Prison; indeed, it is becoming a heavy charge upon the State. My observation is that the present system of prison discipline is inhuman, and has practically failed to answer the purposes of its establishment—the better to reform convicts—beside being more expensive than the old system of work-shops. My clear judgment is, that the system should be changed. Solitary confinement has a prejudicial influence, mentally and physically.

It is a curious fact that when our prison discipline was changed, and its severity so much increased, from the system of work-shops to solitary confinement, our criminal law remained the same; consequently the convict has since suffered increased punishment, and it has been the ground of many applications to the pardoning power for clemency and remission of sentence. The criminal law and prison discipline are so intimately connected, that it would seem that when one is changed, a corresponding change should be made in the other.

The report of the keeper of the State Prison presents a detailed and comprehensive condition of its affairs. His close attention to the numerous and responsible duties imposed upon him, has sustained the institution in the best discipline and condition, in all its business and departments, possible under the present system. Reports from the inspectors, physician and moral instructor, will be submitted.

COURT OF PARDON.

In this connection, I may observe that I consider the pardoning power of this State wisely constituted. There is one suggestion I will make, however, which may be worthy of your attention, for its better protection; that the judge, or prosecutor of the pleas, shall be directed by law to send a brief of the trial of each conviction to the Secretary of State, so that comparison may be made of the facts of the case as stated, with the subsequent petitions for a pardon—so that the court of pardons may have a clear understanding of the case. It is not frequent for the judges and jurors, before whom a conviction has been had and sentence passed, to petition for remission of sentence; and citizens, I fear, too generally sign petitions of this character.

PILOT COMMISSIONERS.

The Pilot Commissioners continue to give a favorable account of our pilots, who maintain a wholesome and successful rivalry with the pilots of New York. They make the sad announcement that two of our oldest and best pilots were drowned whilst in the discharge of their perilous duty, and another has deceased during the past year.

QUARANTINE.

I was informed in the month of September last that vessels with infectious disease on board, were anchored in Raritan Bay, near the Southwest Spit, and within the waters of this State, having been sent there by the Health Officers of the Quarantine Establishment of New York, to the alarm of our citizens on the bay shore. To ascertain precisely the facts of this reported infringement of our boundary and jurisdiction, I appointed John M. Cornelison, of Hudson, David K. Schenck, of Middlesex, and James Paterson, of Monmouth, commissioners to investigate and report upon the circumstances of the case. After visiting the locality and making all proper inquiry, they made a report that they found the facts as stated; whereupon a letter was addressed to the Governor of the State of New York, expressing a hope that so disagreeable an infringement of the rights of this State would not again occur. The report of these gentlemen, and a copy of my letter is herewith submitted.

I have been officially informed by the Governor of the State of New York, that the general government has conveyed Sandy Hook in fee to that State, and that application will be made to you at this session, to cede jurisdiction over that peninsula, or so much thereof as will accommodate the quar-

antine establishment of that State—it being desirable to remove it from its present location on Staten Island. While yielding to none in my desire to promote the health and prosperity of the commercial metropolis of the Union, I cannot regard this novel suggestion in any other light than as an additional attempt to grasp from us a portion of our territory, too much of which has already been yielded. The application, if granted, would add to the territory of New York to the extent that it would diminish the territory of New Jersey; and it would be an unprecedented example of a State yielding jurisdiction of any portion of her soil to another, except by a positive settlement of boundary. If this application were accompanied by a proposition to cede Staten Island to New Jersey, which by its geographical position should be embraced within the limits of this State, it would be deserving of more consideration. As a means of accommodating this question, and as a portion of the State of New York would be as valuable to us as Sandy Hook can be to it, it might be advisable, with such a design in view, that a joint commission be appointed to settle the limits, jurisdiction and boundary of the States. If such a course were to result in the cession to New Jersey of that portion of the territory of New York which now divides with us the jurisdiction of the harbor, it would at once settle the numerous questions which now impede commercial intercourse between the several cities which make up the metropolis, by concentrating them under one government. It would have the further advantage of equalizing the territory of the States whose interests in the Union are co-equal. Many odious discriminations against non-residents would be abolished, a more general interest felt in *transit duties*, and a more friendly intercourse cultivated among the people thus composing the future commercial centre of the world; business facilities would be increased under uniform and equal laws, and the residents of Brooklyn and Jersey City could meet and do business on a perfect equality in New York City. The innumerable advantages to be derived by the people of the

territory so annexed, cannot be sufficiently set forth in this limited message. They would be relieved from many grievances and much taxation, and would have the benefit of many wholesome reforms, and among them this very system of quarantine, which is now thought, by its arbitrary regulations, to unnecessarily subject the merchant to loss, and embarrass commerce; and in view of the difference existing in New York between the municipal and State governments, this proposition, it is presumed, would not be unfavorably received.

HARBOR COMMISSIONERS.

I append herewith a communication from the commissioners appointed by the State of New York, to regulate the exterior lines of the cities of New York and Brooklyn. It will be seen that they have requested the officers of the general government who have acted in concert with them, to suggest such lines for the shore of New Jersey as they might deem necessary for the preservation of the harbor.

These suggestions, which the commissioners purpose to communicate through me to the legislature, I have not yet received. Should they be received in season, I will transmit them, leaving you to take such action as in your wisdom you may deem proper.

MILITIA.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found of unusual interest. General Cadwalader visited Europe during the past year, with orders to obtain information applicable to the improvement and efficiency of our militia system. The report is a valuable contribution to military science, full of authentic information as to the most approved arms now in use by the great powers in Europe, and a review of their present military organization and condition.

The information contained in the report could only have been obtained by great labor and research, and it is a just

matter of pride that the State has an officer so patriotic and accomplished, ready thus gratuitously to render such important services. Such devotion to the interests of the State cannot fail to be appreciated by its citizen soldiery.

I would strongly urge the adoption of the recommendations contained in the report.

Under our system of government every citizen is supposed to be a good soldier, and every good soldier is always a good citizen. It is an accomplishment to understand the manual of arms, and it is our duty, depending as we do for our protection upon the militia of the State, to know that our system is efficient.

The report of the Quarter Master General is very complete, exhibiting great attention to the interests of the State, by the care of the property in his charge, and the particular account rendered of the arms and property at the State arsenal, and in possession of military companies—embracing all the receipts and issues of arms during the year.

The law of the last session, requiring the commandants of companies to make annual returns of the actual condition and number of men enrolled, equipped and doing duty, in their respective corps, has not been complied with in all cases, and many of the returns are incomplete. The importance of the information sought for by the return, will, when more fully understood, cause hereafter a more strict compliance with the provisions of the law. By reference to the schedule of the return, you will have a condensed view of all the military companies in the State, and greatly promote the preservation of the arms and increase the care and accountability of the military property of the State. A large number of State arms, issued to companies which have been disbanded, and the arms never returned to the arsenal, are now scattered throughout the State. Authority is required to pay the necessary expenses for recovering these arms, and that the Attorney General be authorized to institute legal proceedings for the recovery and return of any arms belonging to the State, when requested by the Quarter Master General.

COLONIZATION.

The annual appropriation to the State Colonization Society, to promote the emigration of free blacks to Africa, and their permanent settlement there, has been attended with the most satisfactory results.

The New Jersey Colony is now established in the interior, where better lands and better health is enjoyed than can be found on the coast.

Colonization is an important national object, and I recommend the legislature to urge, by resolution, the Senators and Representatives from this State in Congress, to advocate appropriations for this object, as a measure eminently wise and philanthropic, deserving the fostering care of the government. The colonies already established by the liberality of States and individuals are successful in a high degree; all doubts as to their permanency have ceased. Vigorous and liberal action is now required on the part of the government to give impulse to African Colonization, as the best means of breaking up the slave trade of that coast, of civilizing and enlightening that continent, by providing a country and a home for the free emancipated blacks of this country, where the antagonism of race will not be felt, and further, with the noble object of settling the agitating question of slavery, so disturbing and serious to our political quiet and threatening of disunion. The measure is one of policy, humanity and interest, and should be urged with the utmost zeal, embracing as it does in its folds so much good. All the States should be united in this common object by abundant appropriations from the common Treasury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The late dreadful shipwrecks on our coast has proved the great value of life saving establishments, and shown deficien-

cies which I trust Congress will stpply at once. More comforts are required at the station houses for the shipwrecked persons. The loss of two of our brave and noble citizens in the attempt to save the people from one of the stranded vessels, has caused a deep sensation of regret, and citizens of New York have magnanimously contributed means for the benefit of the family of one of them. We cannot commend sufficiently the impulses of those who have thus contributed. The act will be appreciated by the people of the State, and do much to sustain this valuable establishment.

The importance and the great chance of entire success of the experiment of restocking our rivers with salmon, which can be tried at very small expense, may justly recommend itself to your favorable action.

Numerous applications will be made to you for bank charters. My views in regard to your banking system have been very fully presented to you in previous communications. I respectfully refer to them, as they remain unchanged.

I herewith transmit resolutions passed by the legislatures of the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Ohio, received by me as a medium of transmission to you. They relate to the questions of slavery and Kansas, and the immigration of paupers, and were intended no doubt to influence the result of the late election. As the disturbances in Kansas have ceased with the determination of the election, there is no occasion for the State to be put to the expense of printing them, and their reading will only excite mirth.

I have also had the honor of receiving a certified copy of a resolution passed by the legislature of Massachusetts, from the Governor, requesting the representatives in Congress of that State, "to use their utmost exertions to obtain an appropriation for the construction of a breakwater harbor on Crow Shoal, in the Delaware Bay near Cape May." This is a desirable and important work, and will no doubt be zealously promoted by our Congressional Representatives.

I renew my recommendations heretofore made for the addition to the State House, for the accommodation of the library; of modification and change in our road and poor laws, and commend the Agricultural, Historical and Colonization Societies to the regard and fostering care of the State.

My official term will soon expire, and I avail myself of this, my last communication, to return to the people my grateful acknowledgments for the confidence reposed in me. I go back to them with a consciousness of having faithfully and earnestly labored for their benefit, and having been guided solely in all cases for their good.

I have the satisfaction of knowing that during my administration, the condition of the material interests of the State have been improved, education promoted, industrial pursuits and internal improvements multiplied, and our population and wealth increased.

I leave the affairs of the State prosperous and progressive, the people enjoying all the advantages of a voluntary, popular, republican government, with all the liberty and freedom, civil and religious rights, guarantied by the State and Federal Constitutions.

The people of New Jersey, by their suffrages at the late Presidential election, have again shown their devotion and loyalty to Constitutional liberty, and their regard for the domestic rights of the States; conservative but firm in the opinion that we are a government of the people in State and in Territory. No State holds a prouder position. Our central, geographical and commercial locality have made us the very heart of the republic, and that heart pulsates only with an ardent patriotic love for the National Union.

RODMAN M. PRICE.