

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

We see by our exchanges, that all the bordering Counties, have selected delegates to attend the State Convention, at Columbus, on the 8th of January. Not so with our county. Although we have reminded the Central committee more than once, that there would actually be a Convention; yet not one word have we received from them. Indeed, we are in doubts whether there is such a body in existence in this county; if there is, the quicker they resign, the better; in order that competent men may be put in men who will attend to the duties assigned them. The Presidential and Governor's election is coming on, and we fear our county will again be left in the dark, unless there are active steps taken by the party; to waken up this Rip Van Winkle Committee to a proper sense of duty.

ATTEMPT AT PROSCRIPTION.

A resolution was passed in the Legislature of this State authorizing five thousand copies of the Message to be printed in German. On being received in the Senate, it was opposed by the 'Whigs' in all their might. A Mr. Thomas said it might as well be printed in Hebrew, as German. The bill however, was passed, by the democratic majority. Messrs Birch, Green, Glover, Harlan, Henderson, Nash, Thomas, Tracy and Vance, all Federalists voted against it. Citizens! Germans of Ohio! Here are eleven men who have arrayed themselves, to deprive you of all the means of information. Men who would soon reduce you to that state of ignorance that you would have nothing to read but the score, and the tally stick. This is Whiggery, and deserves to be remembered, in order that its leaders may be always pointed at with the finger of scorn by every high minded citizen.

The Steamer Liverpool, arrived at New York on Thursday night last from London, which place she left on the 16th ult. The Liverpool brings accounts of a bloody riot in Wales, of the horrible condition of the French army in Africa—a new crisis in Spain, of the non-arrival of the Great Daniel Webster, and of the good health of Queen Victoria, &c. &c.

THE 'WHIG' CANDIDATE.—By a letter from Harrisburg, dated 12 o'clock Friday last, we learn that a formal vote had been taken by States, Clay 12 States, Harrison 7. So it appears that the 'Great Unfortunate' is in the Man.

Several communications have been crowded out this week, by the Governor's Message. The anxiety to see the President's Message, has become so great in N. Y., that the Gothamites, not being content to wait for Congress to organize, have gone to reading last year's Message. Some 300 copies were disposed of from one office.

The Abolitionists of Genesee Co. N. Y. have nominated a J. G. Birney, as a suitable candidate for the Presidency. This is the same individual, we believe, who a few years ago, in an address said: "The American constitution, was the most villainous production ever committed to paper, or submitted to the mind of man."

Washington, Friday Morning, December 6, 1839. Things appear to be fast verging towards a crisis, whether for evil or good I dare not hazard a conjecture. The House adjourned yesterday afternoon, in almost a state of anarchy. After the greater part of the morning had been consumed in an open and idle debate, John Quincy Adams succeeded in obtaining the floor.

He alluded to the resolutions offered by himself for the rejection of contested seats, at the close of the last session, and called upon the House to observe how fully his predictions had been verified. He desired the agency of the Clerk in the formation of the new House, and called upon a majority of the legal members to go into a separate organization, and thus constitute themselves a legitimate house of representatives.

At the close of his remarks, the Clerk rose by consent of the House, and briefly and clearly explained his reasons for pursuing the course he had seen fit to adopt. After he had finished his explanation, he questioned as to whether he would attend to the question on Mr. Adams' resolution, which authorized him to proceed with the call of the roll.

A member rose at this crisis, and attempted to compel him to apologise or retract what he had said in the course of his remarks, relative to a compulsion on the part of the House to pass over the names of the contested members from New Jersey. The Clerk then attempted to explain his meaning, but his voice was drowned by the noise of great dumbbells speaking at once.

Mr. Rhett of South Carolina, then rose, and offered a resolution to this effect. That Mr. Williams, being the senior member of that body, should temporarily take the Chair, and the House should proceed to organize itself. Mr. Williams objecting to this mode of proceeding, it was

converted to private use, a legal question would arise whether it would revert back to the original grantors, and the State, by this means, be deprived of the land altogether. But if no difficulty of this kind existed, I believe it would be bad policy for the State to dispose of this lot of ground. Its location on the canal renders it an eligible site for an Arsenal, Barracks and a Military Store House; and with some improvement it could be made a desirable parade ground. An Arsenal is now indispensable for the preservation of the public arms. Barracks and a military storehouse, would be required at the seat of Government in time of war, and a general parade ground would at all times be desirable. The quantity of land in this lot is not greater than would be wanted for various military purposes. The old Penitentiary house situated on it has been fitted up during the last summer under the direction of the Quartermaster General, for an Arsenal. The public arms are now deposited in it, and if some sheds were erected for the preservation of field pieces, it would answer all the purposes of the State until a better one could be built. I respectfully submit, whether it would not be good policy to retain this lot of ground for military purposes. With this view I would recommend the passage of a law repealing the above act, and vacating the streets and alleys laid out through said lot—establishing permanently an Arsenal thereon, authorizing the erection of sheds for the preservation of field pieces, and directing that the whole lot be suitably enclosed and placed under the care of the Quartermaster General.

In April last, the requisite orders were issued for drawing the quota of arms due this State, from the United States, under the act of Congress, for arming and equipping the militia, for the years 1837, and 1839, and the Ordnance Department was duly notified of the kind of arms and military stores desired by this State.—The quota due the State for the three years last named, is five thousand five hundred and twenty six and 9-13 muskets. They have been computed for the following military stores, eight hundred and thirty three rifles and accoutrements, and two thousand two hundred and eighty muskets and accoutrements. I have been notified by a letter from the Ordnance Department, that these military stores have been directed to the order of the Quartermaster General. They were expected some time since, but have not yet been received. When received, they will be distributed among the several divisions of the militia of the State according to law. The balance of arms commuted for 1835-6, were received during last summer, being seven hundred and twelve pistols, and one hundred and thirty carbines.

A well organized militia is our main arm of defence against foreign aggression, and domestic tumult. It is upon the citizen soldier that we must principally rely to defend our country from enemies abroad, and to aid the civil authorities in the preservation of order at home, and the due execution of the laws. Ours is a government of the people—it is animated from government of the people—the defence, therefore, of our free institutions is very properly and safely entrusted to their hands. A standing army is opposed to the genius of our republican form of government—hostile to liberty, and repugnant to the feelings and opinions of our citizens. Our only reliance for defence, therefore, is on a well organized militia. That they can be so organized as to constitute an efficient arm of national defence cannot be doubted. But it must be borne in mind, that bravery and an ardent devotion to country, which may always be expected to characterize our militia, will avail but little on the field of battle in the present refined state of modern warfare, without skill and the proper military organization. As we cannot all expect to escape the calamities of war, defence requires that we should adopt such measures as will insure the efficiency of the only force upon which we can rely in the hour of danger. It is deeply to be regretted that a better organization does not exist with our militia, but little better could be expected under the existing law. There is however, in the greater portion of the State, a military spirit, which under a judicious law for organizing and disciplining the militia, could not fail to bring about a decided change for the better. The present law does not meet with the approbation of the officers, and those most experienced in military affairs, and whose means of judging of its defect are derived from practical observation. The difficulty of framing a law on this subject to answer the purposes intended, and to secure the great object desired, an efficient and well organized militia, is evinced by the repeated acts passed within the last ten years on the same subject, none of which have been permitted to exist longer than to test their total inefficiency. This, however, should not deter us from an attempt to form such a system for organizing the militia as will meet the expectations of the public. The limits of this communication will not permit me to point out the defects which I conceive to exist in the present law. It is, however, greatly defective, in my judgment, and should be carefully revised. The duties and powers not commensurate of companies in assessing fines, should be plainly and distinctly pointed out. The mode of collecting fines should be rendered plain and more simple, especially in cases of appeal to the court of common pleas.—Justices of a peace should be required to act on all delinquent lists tendered to them, subject to suitable and well defined penalties if they neglect or refuse. The manner of disbursing the regimental funds should be pointed out. Officers required to perform special duties should be compensated for their time and expenses out of the regimental funds. It should be optional with the commanders of regiments to detail an officer to take command of a delinquent company, or to attach it to another company. Commandants of divisions and staff, should be required to uniform and attend officers' muster; and volunteer companies should be encouraged as much as possible. Amendments on these points, and many others that could be suggested, might be made, which would greatly improve the present militia system. Your attention is respectfully invited to the subject, with the hope that you will give it your careful consideration.

WILSON SHANNON.  
December 3, 1839.  
The President's message had not been received, when our paper went to press.

of States, and it will be proper to direct by law how they shall be preserved, and so make some legislative provision by which the weights now in use in the State shall be made to conform to them.

The number of convicts now confined in the Ohio Penitentiary is four hundred and ninety-three. From December the 1st, 1838, to December the 1st, 1839, the total cash receipts will be (say in round numbers) \$54,000—payments for general support, &c. \$35,000, leaving a net balance of \$19,000. The report of the directors of this institution will give you a more detailed and satisfactory account of its operations for this year. Under the Superintendence of the present able and indefatigable Warden, we have every reason to believe that the affairs of this institution will be managed with skill, and a just regard to the objects of its foundation. Many of that highly respectable and valuable portion of our fellow citizens who are engaged in mechanical occupations complain of the direction given to the labor of the convicts in the Penitentiary. The sources from which these complaints emanate entitle them to the respect and careful consideration of the legislature, and every relief which is just and proper should be granted.

There are about seventy pupils in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at this time. Uninterrupted health has been enjoyed by them during the present season, and their improvement has been equal to that of any former year. The great object of this institution being to diffuse moral and intellectual light in the minds of an unfortunate class of our population, and to fill up a place in our great system of education, it affords me a high degree of pleasure to be able to state that at no time since its establishment, has the institution been more promising for accomplishing this object, and at no time has it been more deserving that high estimation in which it has always been held by the public than at the present period.

The Lunatic Asylum is in a flourishing and prosperous condition. The experience of a year has proved that the buildings are well adapted to the purposes for which they were intended. There has been a great press of applications for admittance, not only from our own, but from adjoining States since the house was opened, and the different halls have been filled as rapidly as they could be prepared—in all, one hundred and fifty-seven have been received and admitted to the benefits of the proper medical and moral treatment. Twenty-seven of these have been referred to the use of their reason, and their friends.

It affords me peculiar pleasure to be able to assure you of the present prosperity and increasing importance of the institution for the instruction of the blind. The present head of this institution commenced, in July 1837, with three pupils. The number has increased to nineteen. The new building, although not entirely finished, is now occupied by the scholars, and will afford them great advantages hereafter in their successful prosecution of their studies, which they have not hitherto enjoyed. The progress made by the pupils in the various branches of learning taught in the institution, is highly creditable to themselves, and honorable to their teachers. The facility, with which intellectual and mechanical knowledge can be imparted to this unfortunate class of citizens proves that they are not only capable of receiving a good education, but of becoming valuable and useful members of society.

These moral institutions have become more than met the expectations of the public, and they will stand as lasting monuments of the generous philanthropy of their projectors, an honor to the State and a blessing to the country.

In obedience to a resolution of the General Assembly of March 18th, 1839, authorizing me to appoint some one person whose duty it should be to collate all the laws of a general nature passed since the 1st day of December 1830, and such others as he might deem expedient—to arrange them so as to place in juxtaposition all laws bearing on the same subject, and to accompany them with explanatory notes referring to prior or subsequent legislation, and to the decisions of the courts—I appointed the Hon. Joseph R. Swain, of the City of Columbus, to make the compilation contemplated in this resolution. His report will be completed in a few days, and as soon as received shall be laid before your honorable body. The eminent legal abilities and known industry of the gentleman appointed, qualify him in a high degree for the performance of the duties required in the above resolution, and I have no doubt but his report will be highly satisfactory.

all lands which the State of Ohio has selected under the various canal grants were in progress of preparation at the General Land Office when the special agent left the city. They will, I presume, be shortly, if they are not already completed. When received, they should be carefully recorded in some of the public offices, and provisions should be made by law making authenticated copies, evidence as to title.

Having been strongly impressed with the justice as well as the legality of the claim brought forward by my predecessor, for an additional quantity of land under the Wabash and Erie canal grant, and also the claim for a further quantity of land under the Miami canal grant, and being desirous to bring these claims to a final close, I communicated to the President through the Commissioner of the General Land Office, at an early period, the full extent of our claims under each grant, with such reasons and arguments in their support as seemed to me proper. I have understood that this communication has been referred to the Attorney General of the United States for his legal opinion on the questions therein presented. I have not been advised, however, of his decision, but hope to be able to communicate to your honorable body, before this close of this session, the final decision of the authorities of the General Government, as to the validity of our claims under such of the above named canal grants. The largest additional quantity of land claimed by Ohio under the Wabash and Erie canal grant, is about fifty-one thousand two hundred and seventy-seven acres. The unsettled nature of this claim has prevented the officers of the General Government from bringing it to market the United States alternate canal sections along the line of the Wabash and Erie canal. Knowing that there was a deep anxiety felt by the whole community in the north-western part of the State, that the General Government would bring into market her canal sections so as to afford an opportunity for the settlement and improvement of the country, and wishing to remove as far as I could all obstructions to the gratification of the wishes and just expectations of this portion of our fellow-citizens, I entered into an arrangement in September last with the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by which it was agreed that the maximum quantity of land claimed by Ohio under the Wabash and Erie canal grant should be selected by the State of Ohio, and that the title to the same should abide the final decision of the proper authorities. In pursuance to this arrangement, I appointed three Commissioners to select, on behalf of the State, according to the terms previously agreed on, fifty-one thousand two hundred and seventy-seven and 51-100 acres. The Commissioners have made the selections in behalf of the State, lists of which have been transmitted to the General Land Office for approval. There is now no obstacle to prevent the remaining canal lands owned by the General Government from being immediately brought to market. The same gentleman who made the above selections of canal land, was authorized to select, and did select, under the act of Congress of the 20th of May, 1836, seven thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine acres of school land, which is in lieu of sixteen in Indian Reserve, which had been sold for the benefit of the Indians.

While on the subject of our canal lands, I would beg leave to call your attention to the subject of adapting some settled and permanent policy by which they could be brought to market, and sold in small quantities to actual settlers. It is doing great injustice to the enterprising settlers in that rich and fertile part of our State to retain so large a quantity of land from market, and thereby prevent the settlement and general improvement of the country. By bringing this land into market in such a way as to afford to actual settlers an opportunity of purchasing it in small quantities, a valuable class of industrious citizens would be induced to emigrate to the State and identify themselves with its interest and welfare. Such a class furnishes the most sure and certain source for revenue and the most valuable defense against danger in time of war. Care should be taken however, that our lands are not brought into market at the same time with those of the United States.

I have received a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by which it appears, that through mistake a portion of the lands selected by Ohio under the various canal grants, that the sales have been carried into effect. Whether any of these same lands have been sold by the State, I am unable to say, if so, the title granted by the State must hold the land. In the purpose of avoiding hereafter all conflict between innocent purchasers, I would recommend the passage of a law authorizing the surrender to the General Government of such tracts of our canal land as have been sold by mistake and carried into grant, and not heretofore sold by Ohio, upon the express condition that Ohio be allowed to select an equal quantity of other land in lieu thereof, from lands of the United States within the State. The amount of land thus situated is inconsiderable, but it is proper that this matter should be adjusted while good lands can yet be selected by the State in lieu of those sold. By the passage of the law while the rights of innocent purchasers could be secured, as lands of equal value to those sold could now be selected.

M. T. Williams, Esq., commissioner on the part of this State to settle the boundary line between Ohio and Indiana, under a resolution of the General Assembly, passed March 10th, 1837, made his report on the 3rd day of February last, which is signed by himself and A. Masterson, Esq., commissioner on the part of Indiana. By which report it appears they have run and accurately surveyed the line contemplated in the resolution, and marked it as originally surveyed by Israel Ludlow, Deputy Surveyor of the United States, and caused suitable monuments to be erected on the same. A copy of the original field notes accompanied their report, together with a map of the line run and established. This report with the accompanying documents is filed in the office of the Secretary of State in pursuance to the above resolution. A set of standard weights have been received from the Secretary of the Treasury of the Uni-

ted States, and it will be proper to direct by law how they shall be preserved, and so make some legislative provision by which the weights now in use in the State shall be made to conform to them.

March 20th 1837, the State of Ohio was indebted to the President, for the amount of \$2,000,000. The amount of this debt would be proper for the State to discharge. When any Territory is admitted to the Union, it is bound to discharge the debt of the United States, and to contribute its share to the discharge of the same. It is the duty of the Executive, that a certain amount of stock has been subscribed by individuals, and that a certain proportion of the amount subscribed, has been paid in and expended on the improvement, it is the duty of the Governor to subscribe, in the case of Territories, and to contribute, for an amount equal to that subscribed by individuals. And in the case of Canal and Steamboat navigation companies, for an amount equal to one half of that subscribed by individuals. These the extra credit of the State is placed at the will of these companies. They can involve the State in a debt to an unlimited amount. It has been three years we have seen the State debt increased, under the provisions of the law, nearly one and one half millions.—These companies are increasing with great rapidity, no doubt with the view of obtaining the benefit of its provisions. The bills in the Governor to subscribe on behalf of the State to the stock of these companies will most probably increase, rather than diminish for some time to come. The funds drawn from the State Treasury under this act, have not in all cases been applied to the most judicious purpose, and the policy of the law under this act, is to be considered very questionable. The improvement of this line is especially recommended for your consideration.

The following statement shows the condition of the State, as near as I have been able to ascertain from:

Table with financial data: Permanent loan, \$5,000,000; State loan to Rail roads, \$2,500,000; Subscriptions to Turnpike road, Canal and Steamboat navigation companies, \$2,250,000; Domestic debt, \$1,317,500; Surplus revenue loaned from counties, \$103,938 1/2; Total, \$12,570,438 1/2; From which deduct amount paid Turnpike Companies, \$66,050 50; Total, \$12,504,387 70.

I have not been able to ascertain the amount paid by the State to the Pennsylvania, Cincinnati and White water, and Miami canals. The amount, if any, has been deducted from the above.

The amount of the surplus revenue of the United States, received by this State, is \$2,076,557 1/2. This is not included in the above statement. Although we are liable to be called on for the payment of this money, yet it is a source of comfort, and is a source of relief, in all cases of labor, and is said to be low. On the 1st of January 1839, there was put into circulation, five miles north of Piquette, a distance of thirty-two and one half miles, including fourteen and one half miles of leader, and the two end embankments of the Mercer county reservoir, embracing in all, about eighty separate sections. The prices for this work, taking into consideration the high prices of provisions, labor, and said to be low. On the 1st of January 1839, there was put into circulation, five miles north of Piquette, a distance of thirty-two and one half miles, including fourteen and one half miles of leader, and the two end embankments of the Mercer county reservoir, embracing in all, about eighty separate sections. The prices for this work, taking into consideration the high prices of provisions, labor, and said to be low. On the 1st of January 1839, there was put into circulation, five miles north of Piquette, a distance of thirty-two and one half miles, including fourteen and one half miles of leader, and the two end embankments of the Mercer county reservoir, embracing in all, about eighty separate sections. The prices for this work, taking into consideration the high prices of provisions, labor, and said to be low.

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INTERESTING AND APPLICABLE TO THE AFFLICTED

DISEASES OF THE STOMACH, OR NERVES. Such as DYSPEPSIA, either Chronic or Acute, under the treatment of the author, their limited progress of 50¢ it up, their limited amount without allow of repairs at all times, when the condition of the road demands them. There is much complaint of the high rate of tolls that the light travel on this road is compelled to pay. It is very doubtful whether the high tolls paid by this description of travel, is advantageous to the road, even in a pecuniary point of view. A great portion of the light travel, which does little or no injury to the road, has been driven from it in consequence of the high tolls, while the heavy travel which destroys the road, continues on it. I would suggest the policy of so gradually reducing the rate of tolls as to reduce them on light travel. The tolls received three years are \$62,496 10—The tolls for last year were \$52,570 75—Showing an increase this, over last year, of \$9,925 35.

There has been twenty-nine additional miles of the national road completed during this year, (that is, from the 14th to the 43d mile stone west of Columbus), and surrendered by the General Government to this State, and accepted, and placed under the care of Public Works.

The improvement of the Muskingum river, was put under contract on the 20th day of October, 1836, to be completed in three years—the time having now expired. The work originally contemplated eleven dams, fourteen locks, and four short canals; but was so altered by the late board, as to embrace eleven dams, eleven locks, and five covering one hundred and twenty-five miles. Two of these dams, six locks, and two of the canals are completed. The foundations of all the other dams and locks are laid, and considerable progress made towards their completion. One dam and lock is in a backward state. The whole of this improvement will be completed next year, provided the funds necessary, can be had.