

The West Jersey Pioneer.

A Family Newspaper, Devoted to Morality, Education, Science, Arts, Amusements, Mechanics, Agriculture, Emigration, Domestic and Foreign News, &c.—Independent of Party or Sect.

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TERMS.

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Office—Bridgeton, Corner of Commerce and Pearl Streets.

Choice Poetry.



GOD KNOWS IT ALL.

In the dim recess of thy spirit's chamber,
Is there some hidden grief that thou dost not tell?
Let not thy heart forsake thee; but remember,
His pitying eye, who sees and knows it well,
God knows it all!

And art thou tossed on billows of temptation,
And would'st it do good, but evil oft prevails?
O think and heed the waves of tribulation,
When earthly hopes, and earthly refuge fails—
God knows it all!

And dost thou sin, thy deed of shame concealing
In some dark spot no human eye can see,
Then walk in pride, without one sigh revealing
The deep remorse that should disquiet thee?
God knows it all!

Art thou oppressed and poor, and heavily burdened,
The heavens above thee in thick clouds arrayed,
And well nigh crushed; no earthly thought imparted,
No friendly voice to say, "Be not afraid!"
God knows it all!

Art thou a mourner, as thy tears drop flowing
For one too early lost to earth and thee?
The depths of grief no human spirit knowing,
Which none in secret, like the meaning sea,
God knows it all!

Dost thou look back upon a life of sinning?
Forward, and tremble for thy future lot?
There's One who sees the end from the beginning,
Thy year of penitence is unforgotten—
God knows it all!

Then go to God. Pour out thy heart before him;
There is no grief your Father cannot feel!
And let your grateful song of praise adore Him—
To save, forgive, and every wound to heal—
God knows it all—God knows it all!

MISCELLANEOUS.

DRY CELLARS.

Nothing is more important for a dwelling house than a dry cellar. When cellars are damp, the air in the upper part of the house cannot be pure, and the aroma of everything in the cellar must pervade the superincumbent atmosphere. Provisions will not keep well in damp cellars, and indeed the whole economy of housewifery is materially interfered with in such cases.

Various means may be applied as remedies for damp cellars in spring or wet soils. First, wall new cellars, the stone or brick walls should be laid in a mixture of hydraulic cement and sand, instead of common mortar, at least as high up as the surface of the ground—above this common lime and sand mortar will do equally well—the outside, and not the inside of the wall, should also receive a coating of the mortar made of hydraulic cement and sand. The floor of the cellar should be small or broken stones, where flag-stones cannot be obtained, and grouted with a mixture of one part by measure of hydraulic cement, to two of sand, and as fluid as to fill up all the spaces between the stones, covering them with a half inch or more. The centre or middle of the floor may be a few inches lower than the sides, and here may be sunken, surrounded by the cement, a small gutter to receive the drainage when washing the floor. This arch-like shape to the cellar floor will give it great strength, and enable it to withstand pressure of water from below. When flag-stones can be procured, they should be laid in cement made as above stated, and of two inches or more in depth. The Rosendale or Newark Hydraulic cement, can be procured in fine powder at \$1 per barrel, and at such price is cost but little if any more than ordinary lime. In our neighborhood, cisterns are made of cement. We first dig a hole in the ground of the desired size, and then with a brush coat the side with a thin cement of hydraulic cement and water. The fluid portion is absorbed by the soil, and this thin coating prepares the surface to receive a coating of one part of hydraulic cement to two parts sand, with which the side and bottom of the cistern may be coated, with the assistance of a common plastering trowel. This cement wall reaches to within eighteen inches of brick is laid on the ground, when one course of brick is laid on top of the wall and projecting beyond and outside of it, also laid in the cement. On these brick timbers and flooring are laid across and then covered with earth. Such cisterns will last as long, and are as tight as any other and may be made at light cost.

We have several such cisterns on our place for holding rain water, liquid manures, etc., and they are all tight.—Working Farmer.

A boy twelve years of age, says the Sun, the child of respectable parents, was carried through the streets of Wilmington Delaware, on Saturday, in a beastly state of intoxication. He has since died from the effects of the rum.

The Archbishop of Cincinnati and the Society of Friends.—On Saturday, Dec. 31, Archbishop Purcell sent a letter to the Society of Friends, which we publish below, in connection with the answer of the Friends: To the Society of Friends—Men, Brethren!—When there is a question of differences of faith and opinion should be forgotten. I sincerely sympathize with those of your Society, as well as of the Police, who were hurt on Sunday night. Please accept the enclosed note of ten dollars toward the fund for which I learn from the morning papers, you have solicited from your fellow citizens.

John P. Purcell, Archbishop Cincinnati.

Cincinnati, Dec. 31, 1853.

To John B. Purcell, Archbishop Cincinnati:—Sir: We have received your note dated the 31st day of December, enclosing a ten dollar bill, which you, as a fellow citizen, have done the honor to send us. Sir, the blood of a brother barbarously murdered, stands between you and us. Our honor and our conscience forbid us to accept a gift from a hand which, while it pretends to shake that of his brother under the garb of humanity subservient to private views. And, persuaded as we are, by a long train of historical facts, and by the late occurrences, that a Jesuit under the guidance of the despotic King of Rome can never mean good, nor deal with sincerity toward men known to cherish Republican opinions and sentiments of justice and brotherly affection for mankind as we do. We beg to return the \$10 bill to you, which you will find here enclosed. We have the honor to remain, The President of the Friends' Society Cincinnati, Dec. 31, 1853.

According to the Baltimore American, the product of the Oyster Trade of the city is equal to or greater than the product of all the wheat and corn raised in the State of Maryland. The whole shores of Chesapeake Bay, and its tributaries are adapted to the growth of the oyster, and as one year is required for their full growth, an immense profit accrues to those engaged in the business,—a profit which is estimated at some three hundred and six hundred per cent. There are 250 vessels engaged in the business, which average about 9000 bushels to the cargo, and require nine or ten days for the trip. These vessels, making in the aggregate 6,000 trips during the six months in the year in which they are engaged, give a total of 4,800,000 bushels per year sold in the Baltimore market. The oysters bring an average price of 50 cents per bushel, which gives a gross total of \$2,400,000 per year paid for oysters by the dealers in the city. Some of the houses send by the Baltimore and Ohio, and Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad, to say nothing of the other mode of transportation, from eight to twelve tons of "canned" oysters per day. The shells are carried, for instance, to all parts of Virginia and North Carolina. In the "shocking" of oysters, the shells will increase about one-fourth, which would give a total of about 6,000,000 bushels of shells, which sell for two cents per bushel, making a return of \$120,000 per year for the shells alone.

Blood and Chickens.—A Chittagon named Jacob Kaiser, of German Japanese descent, was arrested, in the northern part of the city, early on Saturday morning, having in his possession a dirk knife completely covered with blood. It appears that he had been on a foraging expedition, for a bag which he had with him, and containing six pairs of half-dressed chickens, explained the mystery of the bloody knife. The officer who arrested him, considering it rather a foul (fowl) business, took him before Mayor Gilpin, who committed him for larceny and carrying deadly weapons.

Fish Culture.—It appears from a report published in France, at the Fisheries establishment at Hanninghen, on the Rhine, there have been deposited about two hundred thousand eggs of the Rhine salmon and of the large trout of the Swiss lakes, all of which are now duly hatched; and that the new process has been found equally successful with about one hundred thousand eggs of the same description, which were deposited some time since at the college of France. Considerable money has been appropriated lately for distributing fish in that throughout the departments of France, so that in a few years this branch of pisciculture will probably be carried to such perfection that famine will take its place among modern necessities.

A Soldier's Allowance for Travelling.—It has been conceded by the Government's accounting officers, that a private soldier, who received and accepted a commission as a company officer, claimed travel and allowances under the act of January 29, 1813, on the ground that he was honorably discharged as a private, and had a right to travel pay, in that capacity from the place of discharge to his residence. It was held that his promotion was not a discharge from the service within the meaning of the law above mentioned, and his claim was rejected by the Second Comptroller.

Shooting Match.—A Shooting Match came off at Penngrove on Saturday last, for a hog valued at thirty dollars. There were ten chances at \$5 each. A large number of persons assembled to witness the sport, and the outsiders amused themselves by firing at the birds after they had passed beyond the ring. Richard Strickland, who shot for Isaac Sutcher, was declared the winner, he having killed nine pigeons out of ten, thrown from a spring trap. A gun burst in the hands of Joseph Poulson, cutting his arm severely and John Kelley who was standing near received a wound in his cheek. A portion of the gun was found two hundred yards distant from the place of accident.—Salem Standard.

Fine Skating.—A large number of gentlemen indulged in this manly and soul-stirring exercise on the Schuylkill yesterday. Four young gentlemen broke through the ice but thanks to the reeds carried by the Skating Club, they were not suffered to remain under hydropathic treatment for any length of time.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the General Assembly:

You have assembled in obedience to the mandates of the constitution, to deliberate upon the affairs of state. It affords me great pleasure to congratulate you on the event, attended as it is by circumstances so auspicious to the people of New Jersey.

Let us embrace the occasion to express our obligations to the Supreme Ruler of the universe for the many favors conferred upon us in a national, state, and individual capacity. Our state constitution is less careful of prescribing legislative duties to be performed, than of imposing certain restraints upon legislative action. The examples of history and constant experience teach us, that there is a tendency in political associations, as well as in persons, to an undue exercise of power inconsistent with individual rights. This sentiment no doubt strongly influenced the minds of those who participated in the formation of the constitution, and induced them to make ample provision for the security of those rights.

In performing the functions with which you are invested, an unwavering adherence to constitutional principles, a constant regard for the rights and privileges secured to, and retained by the people, and a strict observance of the prohibitions upon legislation, should under all circumstances be maintained. It gratifies me to inform you that the state is in a highly prosperous condition. The past year has been characterized by general health. Every department of industry has been active and thriving, causing a marked increase in productions and permanent wealth. The revenues of the state have likewise been ample to meet all just demands upon the treasury.

It is a matter of congratulation that for several years past our legislatures have manifested a most commendable interest upon the subject of education. While great diversity of views has prevailed, the main object has been kept steadily in view, and, I trust, has been speedily accomplished, of providing for the full and free education of every child within our territorial limits. Every enterprise has its attendant difficulties, which can only be overcome by unflinching perseverance. Many have been encountered, and more will present themselves, in carrying into practical operation our present system of common schools, or any other which may be adopted. We should not be deterred, however, from pursuing the path of duty, and must eventually reap the reward of our well intended efforts in the extension of education.

The plan of free schools is pervading all parts of the state, and an increasing interest in their promotion is engaging the minds of our citizens. This argues well for their permanent and universal adoption.

The state superintendent of public schools reports an increase in the amount of money raised during the year, and a larger attendance of pupils. The appropriations made the past year for school purposes, from all sources, amount to three hundred and twenty-five thousand two hundred and nineteen dollars thirty-nine cents, exceeding those of the previous year fifty-two thousand four hundred and eighty-one dollars and sixty-nine cents. Of the amount named, two hundred and one thousand two hundred and ninety-three dollars and nine cents have been derived from taxation.

Increased state appropriations for schools and for the encouragement of teachers' institutes, that our teachers may enjoy the means of improvement, and be fitted to discharge their responsible duties in a manner which shall render our public schools more efficient and successful in furnishing a thorough education, I would particularly recommend to your favorable consideration. An appropriation of one or two hundred dollars to each county, in the ratio of population, in aid of such institutes, is deemed a sufficient sum. Having on several occasions presented my views very fully to the legislature relative to the propriety and necessity of making liberal provision for educational purposes, I would respectfully refer you to my previous communications upon that subject.

Knowledge is necessary for the masses of the people. Unless they are supplied with it speedily and abundantly, society must retrograde, and our fate as republics will be written on the same page with those which have preceded us. In effecting the universal diffusion of intelligence, no effort should be spared, no expense withheld. Every citizen, whatever his circumstances in life, is deeply interested, and none more so than property holders, who are entirely dependent for its security upon a wise administration of the laws. Political power, law, and government in this country are all derived from the people. If ignorant and debased, they are as a corrupt fountain which devastates wherever it is poured forth. If intelligent and cultivated, they are qualified to discharge correctly their duties as voters, law makers, public officers and citizens.

It is therefore the highest wisdom to promote, by every means within the ability of the state and the people, a complete system of free primary schools, in which every branch of useful knowledge shall be taught. To advance that object I would suggest the propriety of removing all restrictions upon the amount of money which may be raised for schools, so as to enable the respective townships or districts to raise such sum as will be, when added to the state appropriation, sufficient to maintain free schools during the entire year.

The act of fifth March last, concerning taxes, is a great improvement of legislation upon that important subject. Some better mode of obtaining a fair and equal assessment of real and personal estate should be devised. The valuation of property should not be confined exclusively to assessors. The present practice is liable to abuse, and errors of estimate are of frequent occurrence.

To remedy the evil, I would recommend that the inhabitants of the several townships be authorized to appoint annually, at their town meetings, a committee of revision, to consist of three respectable citizens, who, in conjunction with the assessors, shall meet previous to the first day of September, yearly,

for the purpose of equalizing and correcting the valuation of real and personal property, and monies and credits liable to taxation in their respective townships. It would also be advisable to provide for a county board of revision for a like purpose.

There are in this state, two sets of banking institutions, which are organized on entirely different principles, viz: such as are chartered by special legislative grants for limited periods and those which are organized in conformity to the provisions of the "Act to authorize the business of banking" and to the various supplements of said act. There are twenty-four in number of those first named, whose charters will expire at periods varying from one to twenty-one years. The charters of six will terminate within three years, and it is highly probable that these six banks will make application at your present session, for an extension of their charters. It will therefore devolve upon you to determine the important question relative to the permanent, universal and impartial application of the principles of the general banking law to all existing special banks, or its entire abandonment, and a revision of our state policy in regard to these institutions.

Free banking, as it is usually termed, is not an untried experiment, even in this state. Five or six banks at least, which have organized under the general law, are conducting a safe, useful and legitimate business. In some of the larger states, this system of banking has been extensively adopted, and has commended itself to public favor. Wherever tested, the results have been generally satisfactory, and have settled the question of its superiority as to public safety. While the average losses from insolvent special banks have been eighty per cent, those from free or security banks, have been about fifteen per cent. Where the latter description of banks have done *bona fide* business, and not been banks of circulation merely, no material losses have occurred.

The system of free banking, which we have adopted, is believed to be in the main correct, and if fairly and honestly carried out, combines all the elements of security to the public, which human wisdom can devise. That it has been abused, and its salutary provisions evaded, is indisputable. I have not failed officially to indicate these abuses, and to suggest what I conceived to be a proper corrective. Some of these suggestions have been made the ground of legislative enactment, and have had the effect of relieving us of a depreciated currency, but not totally of banks which afford no aid to the business community. This evil could be easily remedied by requiring the location of all banks to be determined by the state bank commissioners or by the legislature. This would at once remove the state of all merely nominal banks, and obviate the necessity of a tedious process to discontinue an unnecessary and fictitious bank. The organization of the special banks under the general law would have a great tendency to suppress illegitimate banking.

I can never abandon the position that all issuers of bank notes should give full security for their ultimate redemption. This is provided for by our general banking acts, and so far, as a public benefit, though simple evidence of debt, bank notes usually pass as money, and are virtually a measure of value. The privilege of issuing such notes is an attribute of sovereignty conferred upon banking institutions, and should not be granted, except upon safe grounds.

It would I conceive, be invidious and unfair to permit one set of banks to issue their evidences of debt to pass as currency without restraint, by which they may, to a great extent, by their own will, control the industrial operations of the whole community, with no reliable security to the public for over-issues, improvident management and unavoidable losses, and to require another set of banks to issue their evidences of debt, in regard to which no distinction can be drawn. Though the deposit of money is voluntary, the use of bank paper is quite unavoidable. Every member of society is consequently liable to become the creditor of a bank, and is entitled to an assurance of its safety.

I feel constrained, therefore, to renew the recommendation made in my annual message at the last session of the legislature, that legal provision be made to enable the special banks "to organize in accordance with the provisions of the general banking acts." The average circulation of our banks on the first of July last, was as four of paper to one of coin on hand, with an amount due depositors nearly equal to the circulation. Some of the banks are of course in a less favorable condition, and would be seriously affected by a monetary crisis. It shows the obvious necessity of legal restraint upon bank issues.

As an expression of views I still entertain, permit me to present the following observations from my message of the 11th of January, 1852: "Such measures as effect an increase in the circulation of real money, will diminish the liability to monetary fluctuations and bank panics. The abolition of small bank notes under the value of five dollars, is earnestly recommended, as promotive of that object." Experience has proved that it will be impossible to preserve the genuineness of our circulation while we allow paper money to assume so thoroughly the place of the precious metals. If the measure be made prospective and gradual, no evil will ensue, as specie will immediately flow in and supply the place of the prohibited bills. I would further recommend after the expiration of two years, the prohibition of notes of a less denomination than ten dollars. The abundance of gold from the Pacific coast would render it not only en-

tirely safe, but evidently feasible. If adopted by our sister states, it would greatly improve our circulating medium, and promote the prosperity of the country."

It would also most effectually produce a metallic circulation among consumers, and save the masses of the people from all losses in the use of worthless bank paper, while it would retain any advantage supposed to accrue from a paper circulation between dealer and dealer. Our state banks would no doubt cheerfully acquiesce in such a law. The unobtainable augmentation of the precious metals, is a highly probable result, if a strict period of time the issue and circulation of bank paper for ordinary transactions, will be altogether dispensed with, and should now be, so far as is consistent with safety and propriety. In a few years, all bills under twenty dollars can be abolished.

I am satisfied, however, that fifty dollars, as the minimum denomination of bank paper, should be our ultimate aim. If we communicate all small notes, whether of our own or other states, specie must necessarily flow in to supply their place. The smallness of the territory presents no serious objection. The constant flow of the large cities on our borders, would supply us with an abundance of the precious metals which no adverse policy of neighboring states could possibly prevent. The state which soonest adopts the use of coin by the expulsion of paper in the smaller business transactions, will outstrip all others in the permanent prosperity of every branch of useful industry. Bank explosions and individual bankruptcies would then be as rare as they are now frequent. No state occupies a more favorable position for the adoption of this policy than ours, as none has within itself a larger share of the elements of independent existence.

I would advise great caution in regard to any further extension of the basis of banking. Under the present arrangement, bank notes may be secured either by mortgages on real estate, United States stock, or the stocks of some six states of undoubted credit. To which has been added by an act of last session, the Jersey City water scrip and the bonds of the city of Newark, to a limited amount. I consider it highly injudicious to allow the deposit of mere corporation stock as a security for banking. Safe discriminations could no doubt be made, but a pretext would be afforded, for introducing the unsafe stocks of worthless institutions for purposes of speculation, with the certain effect of prostrating the whole system of banking upon security deposits.

It may be objected that the basis now authorized by law, must soon become exhausted. This objection has no application to banking in New Jersey, where the basis is so extensive, and the amount of capital required is comparatively so small. With a united circulation of about four millions of dollars, the banks can expand their capital of worth less institutions for purposes of speculation, with the certain effect of prostrating the whole system of banking upon security deposits.

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The basis allowed by statute is ample for all *bona fide* banking. There being an undoubted abundance of good stocks of superior value, it would be suicidal to admit those of an inferior value, while it would engender a spirit of reckless speculation, and foster to the extent of the indulgence a crisis in the monetary operations of the country.

I am satisfied upon mature reflection that the special banks in this state can and should secure their issues and conduct their business operations under the general law, and trust there will be no further hesitation on their part to comply cordially, and in good faith, with its provisions. A departure from true principle in the regulation of moneyed institutions, would continue the same liability which has heretofore existed to bankruptcies and public losses, and must produce a reaction which will utterly annihilate the whole paper money system.

In all cases, stockholders, as well as officers should be absolutely liable for all the obligations of their bank, without any regard to the character of their organization. This is a reasonable and just principle, and would contribute still more to secure bank creditors and prevent fraudulent failures. It has been tried in Scotland for thirty years past with highly beneficial results. With a banking capital exceeding fifty millions of dollars, scarcely any losses have occurred; although several commercial crises have visited the country within that time, and thoroughly tested their soundness. They do a profitable business for themselves, and a safe and beneficial one for the community. Let the principle be engrained upon our banking system, and there is no doubt of like favorable results.

The persistent evasion of the law by some of the free banks calls for prompt and efficient action on the part of the legislature. They are of no advantage to the business community, and add nothing to our reputation as a state. I would recommend that an inquiry be instituted in regard to these banks, to the end that such as do not conduct a regular and *bona fide* banking business may be dissolved. This may be done by the legislature under the provisions of the seventeenth section of the general banking act.

Should the system of free banking become the settled policy of the state, it will be necessary to detach the management of bank affairs from the state treasury, where it is now placed, and to provide a distinct organization or "Banking Department," with a superintendent and such clerical force as may be required to conduct the business with correctness and dispatch.

For a detailed statement of banking operations during the past year, you are referred to the report of the state bank commissioners which will shortly be laid before you.

In consequence of the numerous alterations

made in the laws since the publication of the Revised Statutes, comprising, with the present year, eight pamphlet editions, their examination is attended with much perplexity. I therefore recommend that legislative encouragement be given to the preparation and publication of a digest of the public laws of this state to the present year inclusive.

The discontinuance of the House of Refuge has devolved upon the legislature the duty of making some other provision for the reformation of juvenile convicts, and the punishment and employment of those who may be found guilty of minor offenses against the laws. It is believed that this object can be best effected by the establishment of work houses in connection with county jails. I recommend a suitable appropriation to such of the counties as may adopt the arrangement.

I am satisfied that railroad charters should not be granted without reserving to the state the payment of passenger and transit duties. The general policy heretofore adopted, of requiring railroad companies to pay a tax on their capital stock whenever their earnings enable them to divide a certain percentage, is perfectly nugatory. These maximum dividends, for obvious reasons, are never reached, and the state consequently fails in obtaining her just rights. Nothing has been, or probably will be received for grants of this character, which should honestly yield a large annual revenue. These charters contain a common proviso, "that no other tax or impost shall be levied or assessed upon the said company." They thus escape all taxation, even for municipal purposes. As the period will soon arrive when the state will be generally traversed by railroads, if the same practice is continued no fiscal benefit will be derived from the grants. I would advise the passage of a law requiring all railroad companies (unless in cases already provided) to pay revenue to the state, either in the shape of transit duties or of tax upon their capital stock, after they have been in operation a limited time. It is suggested that all railroad companies which have been in operation for five years pay one fourth of one per cent, and at the expiration of ten years, one half of one per cent, upon their capital stock. This would produce a permanent revenue, and be but a small return to the state for the extraordinary franchises enjoyed by these corporations.

The great frequency of railroad accidents in this and other states, so disastrous to property, and destructive to human life, creates an urgent necessity for some law of a preventive character. A better system of management and discipline is needed in the running of trains, the attention to signals, switches, celerity of travel, &c., than has heretofore prevailed. I would recommend an examination into the causes of these accidents, with a view to the adoption of such legal provisions as may be required. There can be no doubt of the supervisory power of the state over railroads, for the purpose of effecting such reforms in their management as may be essential to the safety of the public.

In my annual message of January last, I called the attention of the legislature to the great propriety of requiring the governor to reside at Trenton, and of making an increase of his compensation contingent thereupon, and I again submit it to your consideration. I recommend a revision of the law in relation to salaries. In consequence of the increased expenses of living for some time past, the compensation of many of our public officers is insufficient for the due support of themselves and families, and should be increased.

Having heretofore, in messages to the legislature, presented my views upon the subject of special charters of incorporation, deprecating their increase, and urging the passage of general laws; in relation to the extension of the elective franchise so as to embrace all the state officers; to a reformation in our system of jurisprudence; the expediency and utility of providing for a topographical and geological survey of the state; the necessity of specific appropriations to authorize payments from the treasury; the propriety of placing the attorney generalship and the state superintendency of public schools upon a different footing, more specifically defining their duties and increasing their compensation, I deem it unnecessary on the present occasion to make any extended remarks thereupon.

The following statement exhibits the condition and operations of the treasury during the past year.

The receipts during the year ending December 31, 1853, have been as follows, viz:

Source	Amount
Transit duties from Delaware and Baltimore Canal Co.	\$32,257.80
Ditto from Camden and Amboy R. R. Co.	88,116.19
Ditto from N. Jersey R. R. Co.	2,655.00
Tax on capital stock of ditto	10,494.60
Ditto on Paterson and Hudson River R. R. Co.	2,655.00
Paid on bonds of Joint Companies	21,000.00
Dividends on stock of Joint Companies	2,470.83
Interest on bonds of Joint Companies	5,000.00
Mortgages on real estate	1,088.28
House of Refuge Commissioners	687.64
Arsenal for sale of unserviceable mules	23.40
Tax on insurance premiums	7,698.98
Cash on hand last year	159,576.73
Total receipts	\$89,570.00

Disbursements.

Source	Amount
Paid during last year for the ordinary expenses of government	\$89,570.00
For extraordinary expenses, viz:	
Public Schools	\$40,000.00
House of Refuge	10,500.00
Lunatic Asylum	5,145.00
State Prison repairs	1,158.57
Improvements to Capitol	4,326.31
Total	61,180.88
Leaving a balance in the Treasury, January 1, 1854, of	\$159,576.73

Estimated receipts and disbursements of the Treasury for the year 1854:

Source	Amount
Cash on hand January 1, 1854	\$8,816.25
Dividends on stock of Joint Companies	21,000.00
Transit duties from ditto	82,000.00
Tax on capital stock of N. J. Railroad	12,500.00
Transit duties from ditto	16,000.00
Tax on Paterson and Hudson R. R. R.	2,655.00
Paid on bonds and mortgages	1,200.00
Interest on bonds and mortgages	8,000.00
State Prison	500.00
Miscellaneous sources	500.00
Estimated revenue for 1854	\$160,821.25

DISBURSEMENTS.

Source	Amount
Ordinary expenses	\$90,000.00
Extraordinary outlay, viz:	
Free Schools	\$40,000.00
Lunatic Asylum	6,700.00
Colonization Society	1,000.00
Digest of Public Laws	5,000.00
Total	\$56,000.00

Estimated disbursements for 1854, \$146,000.00. Which, deducted from the estimated receipts, will leave a probable balance in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1855, of fourteen thousand two hundred and twenty-one dollars and twenty-five cents.

No estimate is made for the proposed extensions to the State Prison and Asylum, nor for the encouragement of county work-houses. If appropriations are made for these purposes, it will absorb all of the surplus funds and create a necessity for a public loan.

The State has available assets, which may be converted into cash, consisting of:

Source	Amount
Joint Companies bonds	\$4,000.00
Unpaid dividends	7,992.00
Bonds and mortgages	6,000.00
Add balance in the treasury	8,816.25
Total	\$66,808.25

The State debt consists of a loan made in 1847 of \$35,000.00, and a loan of 1852 of 30,000.00.

Total debt of State, \$65,000.00.

To discharge which, we have available means amounting, as above, to sixty-six thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars and twenty-five cents.

The amount of the Free School Fund is \$393,924.65.

January 1, 1853, it was \$76,731.06.

Increase during last year, \$17,202.62.

By authority and direction of the act of 25th March, 1853, the Trustees for the support of Free Schools have sold for the sum of three thousand six hundred and fifteen dollars, being the best price that could be obtained, all the lands belonging to the State, at or near the city of Paterson, and have invested the same for the benefit of the School Fund.

The payments into the Treasury from the various public works of the State, from which revenues are derived, have been, in the aggregate, one million five hundred and seventy-nine thousand five hundred and fifty-eight dollars; viz: from the Joint Companies since the year 1839, the sum of one million three hundred and thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and sixty-five dollars and forty-two cents; from the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company, since the year 1839, the sum of two hundred and seventeen thousand eight hundred and eighty-two dollars and seventy-four cents; and from the Paterson and Hudson River Railroad Company, since the year 1842, the sum of twenty-one thousand nine hundred and ten dollars.

I submit herewith the reports of the officers of the State Prison and Lunatic Asylum, in relation to those institutions. The administration of the prison has been conducted through the past year with ability and success. Five thousand dollars of surplus earnings have been paid into the state treasury, making the total sum of fifteen thousand dollars during the three years that institution has been under its present management, and exhibiting a state of unexampled prosperity in its operations. The discipline is well maintained, and habits of industry are judiciously encouraged. Much sickness has prevailed, and five deaths have occurred during the year. The labors of the Moral Instructor have been most salutary, and contributed essentially to the good order and quiet of the prison.

The number in confinement at the commencement of the year was one hundred and ninety-seven. Since that time one hundred and forty-one have been received, making the whole number during the year three hundred and thirty-eight. One hundred and seventeen have been discharged by expiration of sentence or pardon, leaving in confinement at the end of the year, two hundred and seventy-one, showing an increase of twenty over last year.

The asylum has been conducted during the past year without expense to the state, with the exception of the annual appropriation for poor lunatics, and the usual payments for officers' salaries. The philanthropic objects of the institution in the treatment of the insane have been eminently successful, and compare most favorably with kindred institutions.

The number of patients at the beginning of last year, was one hundred and eighty-two. There were received during the year one hundred and nineteen. Of the number under treatment, seventy-five have been discharged, cured or improved, seventeen have died, and there are remaining in the institution two hundred and five, being an excess of twenty-three over last year. Within a period of six years, six hundred and thirty-four cases have been treated, and three hundred and thirty-nine cured or improved.

To aid the counties in supporting their patients, (amounting at present to one hundred and forty-three), an appropriation of five thousand and six hundred dollars will be needed, and the managers ask the further sum of two thousand dollars for additional water tanks and repairs. Both objects will no doubt receive your favorable attention.