

neglect, upon the complaint of any freeholder, under oath, to the township Treasurer.

Sec. 6. All penalties incurred under this act, shall be collected by the Supervisor, in behalf of the township, for the Poor Fund, by suit before any Justice of the Peace in said county, but in case of enforcing penalties against the Supervisor, the township Treasurer shall appear in behalf of the township.

Sec. 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Post presented the following resolutions, which were discussed and adopted:

Resolved, That the Register of Deeds be authorized to procure a suitable book, and record the village plats now on file in the Register's office, which are properly and lawfully executed, and which have not been vacated.

Resolved, That the County Clerk be authorized and directed to procure a suitable desk for the use of the Register's office at the expense of the County.

Resolved, That the Clerk be authorized and directed to procure from the Auditor General if possible, but if not, at the expense of the county, the necessary tax receipts and redemption certificates for the use of the Treasurer's office, with check ends, embodying the description of lands, date of payment and amount, substantially bound in duplicate sets. One of which sets shall remain in the Treasurer's office, for issue, and the other in the Clerk's office, for return to the Auditor General's office.

On motion of Mr. Barns, it was ordered that the proceedings of the present meeting of the Board, be published in the Grand River Times, at the price formerly agreed upon, viz: fifty cents per square.

On motion of Mr. Post, it was ordered that the same also be published in the Hollander, in the Dutch language, provided the proprietors will publish the same at the same rates allowed the Grand River Times.

The bond of George Parks, County Treasurer, was presented and approved.

Mr. Eastman presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the township of Polkton is hereby authorized, by the vote of the electors of said township, to raise by tax upon the said township any sum of money not exceeding one thousand dollars, in any one year, to build or repair roads and bridges in said township.

Mr. Wellman moved to amend by including all the towns in the County.

The amendment was accepted, and the resolution adopted by the following vote:

Ayes—Messrs. Reed, Hathaway, Lowing, Post, Skeels, Walton, Barns, Eastman, Wellman and Young—10.

Nays—Mr. Fletcher—1.

The committee appointed to settle with the Treasurer presented their report, which was adopted, and the committee discharged.

On motion of Mr. Barns, the Board adjourned, sine die.

T. EASTMAN, Chairman.

H. G. Post, Clerk.

Statement of accounts audited and allowed, at the January session of the Board of Supervisors:

G. Reed,	\$ 6.90
D. Bennett,	10.44
Wm. Hathaway Jr.,	4.20
Chas. Spear,	6.84
H. D. Post,	8.64
Jas. Skeels,	9.66
E. A. Patridge,	4.92
J. W. Barns,	1.63
Albert Dickey,	5.40
Timothy Fletcher,	10.20
A. Norton,	3.48
R. Baxter,	8.70
P. Lawton,	5.88
J. D. Stebbins,	8.70
E. G. Young,	10.20
G. W. Walton,	4.83
A. D. Pelton,	24.08
G. W. Walton,	3.43
G. Reed,	50.00
Cyrus Miller, (wolf bounty),	12.00
Barns & Angel,	50.50
A. C. Van Tassel, (wolf bounty),	12.00
P. Maxfield,	7.95
H. Clayton,	2.30
O. D. Reector,	3.81
H. D. Post,	12.88
H. G. Post,	75.50
Trustees 1st Pres. Church, G. Haven,	5.00
Meshekan, (wolf bounty),	12.00
H. D. Post,	3.50
E. J. Avery,	15.38
H. Pennoyer,	400.00
"	54.13
"	170.01
G. Reed, member of Board,	8.40
Wm. Hathaway Jr.,	7.20
H. C. Lowing,	11.10
H. D. Post,	8.64
Jas. Skeels,	12.66
G. W. Walton,	7.92
E. W. Barns,	6.06
T. Eastman,	8.40
T. Fletcher,	11.70
A. Norton,	5.10
I. Wellman,	9.00
E. G. Young,	11.70
Total,	\$1,130.65

THE LEGISLAURE.—In the Senate, O. W. Moore, of Washtenaw, was elected Secretary; Geo. B. Sherwood, of Van Buren, Engrossing and Enrolling Clerk; R. M. Collins, of Kent, Sergeant-at-Arms.

In the House, D. L. Quackenboss, of Lenawee was elected Speaker; D. P. Bushnell, of Detroit, Clerk; Digby V. Bell Jr., of Detroit, Engrossing and Enrolling Clerk; Bela Cogshall, of Oakland, Sergeant-at-Arms.

John N. Ingersoll, of Detroit, was appointed Reporter for the Senate.

After the selection of officers, the Governor's Message was received and read. [Free Press.

The commissioners of the sinking fund in New York city, have sold the old Fort Gansevoort property for \$160,000. Reuben Lovejoy is the ostensible purchaser, but the real purchaser is said to be Simeon Draper. The property is said to be worth \$250,000.

The latest news from China by way of California, announces the discomfiture of the rebels by the capture of their chief, Tienteh, and his sentence to be hung on the 15th of June.

It is said, on very good authority, that Santa Anna is again about to return to Mexico.

THE GRAND RIVER TIMES.

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 19, 1853.

The Supervisors' report and Governor's Message, prevents the usual variety of miscellaneous and news reading this week. The manner in which we present the Message to our readers, will, we think, make it generally acceptable. Its length forbids its appearance entire, in the Times.

Next week a balance sheet, showing the account with the County Treasurer, from Jan. 1, 1851, to Jan. 1, 1853, will be published in our columns.

Our fellow craftsman, Capt. R. M. COLLINS, we notice with pleasure, has been elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate. Just what you deserved, "Bon."

C. W. HATHAWAY & Co. have invented a new kind of Grain Cradle, for which we understand measures have been taken to secure a patent. Its inventors claim for it a superiority over the wooden tool, in lightness, durability and general appearance. We may speak of it again in future.

The Kalamazoo Gazette and Hillsdale Gazette have both put on new dresses—New Year suits—in which they look very pretty.

The Democracy of Kalamazoo have donated to friend HASCAL of the Gazette, the new type, which so much improves his paper. This is a worthy tribute of the appreciation of the Democrats of Kalamazoo County, to its ably conducted organ.

Farmer's Companion and Horticultural Gazette, is the name of a new candidate for public favor, published at Detroit, at fifty cents a year. Its editors are practical farmers and will bring to the columns of the Gazette the experience and interest of men from our own midst. Address Charles Betts, Detroit, Mich.

The Clinton Express recently came to us with the name of MILO BLAIR, as its editor and proprietor. Mr. BLAIR is the original founder of the Express; and makes a modest and pretty bow to his patrons and brethren of the press, upon his second appearance among them. Take our MILO.

The Home Journal, published by WILLIS & MORRIS, N. Y. City, made its appearance in new type, on the first day of 1853. The Home Journal is a most excellent family newspaper, and deserves as it has, an extensive patronage.

The Literary Miscellany, is behind none of its competitors in improvements for 1853. Now is the time to subscribe for a western monthly of unqualified merit. Address QUINBY, WOOD & RUSSELL, Detroit, Mich.—Price, \$1.00.

The Michigan Organ, is now merged in the Michigan Temperance Advocate—edited by FREEMAN YATES, an able man, both as Lecturer and Editor. This paper should have a wide circulation. Can't Ottawa County send up 50 or 60 names for the support of a Maine Law Organ, in our own State? Price, \$1.00

Hons. LEWIS CASS and ALPHEUS FELCH, will please receive our thanks for valuable public documents.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—As Railroads appear to be the order of the day, and in most localities this topic being the all engrossing theme of discussion, at least in all important points within the State, would it not be wise for yourselves and your brother types in Allegan and other places south, that might be mentioned, to make known to the "rest of mankind" the advantages of a railroad on a route hitherto not publicly named? Thus setting forth the claims to preference and the claims of citizens in this region of country, by prospecting somewhat upon our route.

It appears to my mind a railroad from this place to Allegan, from that point to Paw Paw or Kalamazoo, or some station between the two, from there south to Constantine, would accommodate and subserve the interests of a much larger portion of population and command a much larger share of business than any other route south from Grand River. In fact it would be the point in choice for most of northern and western Michigan. There is adjacent to the lake shore something over twenty sawmills, north of and not including the mills upon this river, near the mouth, that would be immediately benefitted by a road upon this route.—All the owners of these mills, necessarily are at present closely connected with Chicago in all their business relations. There, from necessity they obtain all their supplies, however much the articles may be above the general market price. They do it for the reason they have no means of getting into the farming country on this side of the lake, to obtain such articles as are consumed in abundance, by each and every one of the large number of mills and the lumbering establishments connected therewith, which amount is no small item in the trade with the people of Chicago. With a suitable inlet, or such a communication as a railroad would give from this point to the interior of the State, the surplus products of those portions of the State through which it passed, would find a ready market. Large quantities of pork, beef, grains, butter, &c., would always be sought after here, for the lumber country, and distributed among the lumbering establishments thro' the whole north, by the coasters on our shore.

Thus saving to our State a very large sum annually, that is now given to the State of Illinois for the same articles; such as all our farmers in the interior would gladly exchange for lumber, shingles, &c., to consider the extent, which could always here be supplied in quantities to "suit purchasers." One thing more.—A road upon this route would take in its wake the extensive colony of Hollanders, going directly through a settlement where are already located something like 4000 inhabitants. Large accessions to their number is expected to this now thriving community, which is soon to become one of the most independent settlements of tillers of the soil in our State. In no portion of the State of Michigan has the forest been felled by the strong arm of the emigrant, to the extent of their wide cleared fields, within the same length of time. They will very soon be able to send off more of the products of the soil than Grand River has ever yet done. A railroad would be to them a "God send" indeed, for they otherwise must remain shut out from any such advantages.

Next comes the County of Allegan, a portion at least, is land of first quality, but away from any good communication to a place of market. This would open a direct opportunity for them, both north and east, leading as it would to the great central thoroughfare at Kalamazoo, or Paw Paw, I would say.

Thus you see that almost the whole lumber country would be accommodated. Indeed it is the only route that would render them efficient service in the transaction of their business, and the transportation of their supplies.

One thing more. Should the Oakland and Ottawa road be pushed forward to completion, and there is reason to think it will be, this point will be the terminus, "provided always and on this express condition," that it does not in its path run against that insurmountable barrier that is not susceptible of tunneling even, which so effectually and abruptly cut short the longitude of Grand Rapids canal, much to the annoyance and chagrin of our Ionia friends; blasting their prospects and rendering their farming operations for years, if not until the present time, a vexatious loss, beyond the amount for home consumption. This being the point of termination, it would make a continuous and direct route to Chicago. Our Grand Rapids friends would not be greatly discommoded by this route. When traveling east, they of course would go by Oakland and Ottawa road, if west (and the travel at the present time is far more west than east, from western Michigan), there cannot be over an hours difference in time to Paw Paw, than their route south from Grand Rapids.

I have hurriedly thrown out these hints, hoping you and all interested will look into the subject and examine not my ground merely, but all points of bearing connected therewith. * * *

Scrabbings by the Way. No. 2.

From our Correspondent.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1852.

MESSRS.—What a city this New York. Brick and buildings, starch and steam, fun and fashion, gas and gleam, darkened daylight, murky air, bankers, beggars, ladies fair, full of these great cities are. To live in a city a man must forego his intercourse with nature, and derive all his worldly enjoyment from art alone.—Nothing is as it came from the Maker's hand. One may travel for miles upon miles, and he is still environed and shut in by walls of brick and mortar. "The earth that is under you," if you are sure there is any, is stone, and as to "the heaven that is over your head," you can see so little of it, it is a matter of doubt whether it is "brass" or some other material. Nature is either wholly shut out, or so tortured, and trimmed, and disfigured, as to be itself unnatural.

"God made the country, but man made the town." The fresh atmosphere is clouded with smoke and dust, choked with the stench of the abodes of filth, perfumed and tainted with the breath of biped and perambulating volcanses, belching forth fire and tobacco smoke. The horse that trundles the lumbering omnibus over the pavement is trimmed, and docketed, and nicked, till he is no longer related to the "mare with a flowing mane," but is a sort of equine dandy, a mere short-eared jackass. He has traveled upon cobble stones till he has lost all his freedom of action, and his joints are like rusty hinges, only moved by main strength, and only supplied by continued motion. The very trees, the only things that look at all like nature, seem to have struggled up through the pavements by dint of exhausting effort. They look as if they had the consumption, and one almost expects in passing to hear them cough. They are not trees, they are more like dwarfish, emaciated crosses, between a tree and—nothing. I abhor a great city, as nature abhors a vacuum.—With many good things, it is also a hot bed, where iniquity attains an enormous growth.

"There every rogue may find a fit adviser, And Beelzebub might go and be the wiser."

Give me the country, the fresh green country with its pure air, and pure morals, its simple manners and healthy countenances, its natural nature, and plenty of elbow room. But great cities,

"Thither flow As to a common and most noxious sewer, The dregs and feculence of every land. In cities foul example on most minds Begets its likeness. Rank abundance breeds In gross and pampered cities, sloth and lust, And wantonness and gluttonous excess. In cities vice is hidden with most ease, Or seen with least reproach; and virtue, taught By frequent lapse, can hope no triumph there Beyond the achievement of successful flight."

So, I'll out of it. My lot may be east in a

city yet, but it will take strong cords to bind me there.

I called around yesterday, and paid my fare to San Francisco, on board the staunch clipper ship Black Hawk, Capt. Chandler. She is a new vessel, has made but one voyage, and now goes out on her first trip to the land of gold. She is owned by George T. Upton, of Boston, and is a most splendid specimen of naval architecture. She lies at Pier, No. 14, East River, and is now taking in her cargo. She is nearly loaded and will sail in a few days. It is probable my next letter may be dated at sea.

Yours truly, H. H. E.

The Governor's Message has been received, but owing to its great length and the press of other matter we are not able to give it at length this week; and as most of our readers will have access to it from other quarters before our next issue we have decided not to publish the entire message, but give a synopsis of its contents, together with such extracts as are of more general interest. The message occupies seven and a half columns in the State Journal, and contains a concise, accurate, and well arranged body of information in regard to the present condition of the State, and recommends to the consideration of the Legislature a series of measures that reflect great credit on the Executive.

After briefly alluding to the signal prosperity of the State during the past year and its rapid growth in nearly all the elements of greatness, the Governor says:

"The new Constitution is now the supreme law of the State. Although it undoubtedly contains exceptional features, yet it is our solemn duty to endeavor in good faith, to give full and complete effect to all its various provisions.

A strict and rigid economy should be observed; every act appropriating money or imposing burdens upon the people, should be closely scrutinized; an extravagant and wasteful expenditure should be discontinued; and yet with this a certain degree of liberality is not incompatible.—Extreme parsimony, sordidness, and every thing of a character, that detracts from the reputation and dignity of the State, it is wise to avoid.

"The general laws of the State require but slight amendment. The fewer changes made, unless imperatively demanded, the better. It is less injurious, and far less vexatious, to accommodate ourselves to small imperfections in the laws, when discovered, than to be constantly involved in that legal uncertainty which has heretofore tantalized the people. Not much complaint is made against our statutes; litigation is diminishing; the laws are more thoroughly understood, and there is not so much doubt as to their true meaning and effect as formerly. We have had too much unwise and imprudent legislation. It is time to check its evils."

For the purpose of expediting business, the early and prompt action of the Legislature upon the general Appropriation bills, while more complex and intricate matters are being matured, is recommended, instead of their postponement, as heretofore to the close of the session.

The financial condition of the State is encouraging. The balance in the Treasury, Nov. 30, 1852 was \$116,407.23. The funded and fundable debt of the State at that date was \$2,307,850.19 having been diminished \$260,418.94 since Nov. 30, 1851. The expenses of the State government for 1852 were \$58,207.23 being \$32,691.12 less than for the preceding year. The amount to be raised by direct taxation for the ensuing year will be only one third of a mill on the dollar of the real valuation. This estimate is based on the assumption of a funding system being established pursuant to the imperative demands of the Constitution. The last legislature neglected to make any provision for a sinking fund as required by the new constitution. It becomes the duty of the present Legislature to carry this provision into effect, "and sound policy and political integrity urge and require it."

"Some defects still exist in the acts regulating the assessment of taxable property. The constitution and the law require that it should be assessed at its cash value, but it is not. In the year 1839, the aggregate valuation of the taxable property of the State was \$45,302,702.29, when the great pressure in monetary affairs, and the depression and financial distress of the country so largely depreciated the cash value of every kind of property. In the year 1851, the aggregate value was only \$36,976,270.08, when property had advanced rapidly in price, and increased in quantity and quality nearly four fold, and our population had doubled. The Board of Equalization, at their session in 1851, in order to correct this evil, recommended the propriety of providing by law for assessing property at its selling value; and I am inclined to think the suggestion a good one. The object is to have property assessed at its true cash value, and some suitable method should be devised for this purpose.—The non-resisting and unobtrusive manner in which our citizens estimate on taxable property at one hundred millions, when the assessment rolls show it to be only about thirty millions. We know, by the most conclusive data, that the former estimate approximates to the truth. The census returns of 1850 make it about one hundred millions, and with such wide spread prosperity as has prevailed since, there must have been a large accession. The cause of the disparity is traceable to the fact, that formerly each county paid a State tax proportionate to the aggregate of the assessable property of the county; hence the lower the assessment the smaller the tax. The establishment of a State Board of Equalization prevents the inequality of taxation in the different counties heretofore complained of, and there exists no longer the slightest pretext for disregarding the existing enactments.

"The practice, however, still prevails; and something should be done to correct it. Those ignorant of the facts look only to the aggregate of the assessments, which exhibits a state of things that does not actually exist. This not only operates unequally and injuriously on our own citizens, but discriminates and deters the emigrant in many cases from taking up his abode amongst us. There are few things about which those seeking a new home are more inquisitive than the rate of taxation.—Ours appears to be quadruple what it really is—because the tax is ostensibly levied on thirty millions of property, when it is actually assessed on about one hundred and twenty millions. If a fair valuation was made, the burthen would not be heavy, in truth, a just comparison with the other States, shows that our taxes are light.

"Much difficulty is experienced in collecting the specific taxes. Corporations and others frequently make imperfect returns, and in some cases pay what they see fit, leaving the State to resort to the slow process of the law to obtain what is legally due. Why should not the same summary proceeding be allowed against them as in case of private individuals? The specific taxes should be carefully husbanded. If properly attended to, they will soon defray all the expenses of the State government funds.

The Stocks deposited by some of the banks and for which they receive bills or notes coun-

tersigned by the Treasurer, largely exceed the amount of their capital stock as reported and they have only paid a tax on that capital stock. The State Treasurer should either be restricted in countersigning bills or notes to the amount of reported capital, or the banks should be taxed to the full amount of stocks deposited. Brokers pay comparatively no tax for the privileges they enjoy. A revision of the present laws with regard to the license of brokers is therefore recommended. A law should be passed subjecting foreign corporations to taxation. The present laws relative to defalcations and other mal-practices of county treasurers do not seem to be sufficiently plain, simple and efficient.

"The State prison has not yet become a self-sustaining machine, nor can be, until all the necessary buildings are constructed. I believe all its affairs are well conducted, and everything done with an eye to the most rigid economy, and the best interests of the State.

"Capital punishment has been abolished in this State, and solitary confinement substituted in its place. Although the propriety of the change is doubted, yet I desire to see the principle and the law fully carried out and fairly tested. The present structures will not admit of it. There are no cells for purposes of solitary confinement. Most of those under such sentence are employed in the same manner as other convicts. This is done by direction of the Inspectors, and from the purest and most philanthropic motives. To immerse them in the narrow cells provided for all the convicts, without out-door exercise, would tend to destroy both mind and body. The impairing of the mental faculties is a strong objection urged by many to solitary confinement in any form. But, on the other hand, the murderer should not be placed in the ordinary labors of the prison, side by side with those guilty of petty offences. The Inspectors, fully aware of this, and of its most pernicious consequences, have recommended the construction of proper and commodious cells, with a view to execute the law according to its obvious design, and I concur in their recommendation.

Many boys of a tender age have been sent to prison. It is no fit nursery for them. A milder and less infamous punishment should be provided. A house of correction, conducted as some of them are in other States, would be more suitable, and its moral influences far more salutary. If an effort were made to reform them, many, with proper care and culture, might be restored to a virtuous life, and made honest, industrious, and worthy citizens.

In conformity with the requirements of the constitution, there accompanies this message, a statement of the number and names of the convicts paroled during the past year, and the reasons therefor. There were thirty-eight applications of which eight were granted. I have adopted the rule to consult in every case the Judge before whom the convict was tried, and the Attorney who prosecuted him. This generally leads to a full and fair investigation of the facts, and prevents the deception sometimes practiced, and the injustice done by expert statements. In exercising the power, I have been as liberal as in my opinion, the interests and welfare of the public would permit."

The number of convicts Nov. 30, 1852, was 209, being an increase of 33 over the number on the 30th Nov. 1851. The receipts from prison resources during the past fiscal year have been \$15,119.35, the total expenditures including the expense of building 50 new cells and appurtenances, and rebuilding the shops destroyed by fire in the month of September last, were \$24,239.84.

The sales of public lands for the year 1852 amounted to \$90,055.80. The amount of primary school lands sold up to the end of the last fiscal year was 161,928.69 acres leaving unsold about 890,000 acres. The University lands are unproductive. A reduction of the price of these lands may be urged. It may be judicious to have the Commissioner of the State Land office inquire into and ascertain the condition of the swamp lands and report to the next Legislature some plan relative to the grant, and the accomplishment of its object.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction tion deems the laws now in force nearly, or quite sufficient to carry into effect the provisions of the constitution relative to primary schools.

"The Normal school has been placed under the charge of an able and competent superintendent. The building for the school having been finished, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies and a Teacher's Institute established on the 5th day of October last. Two hundred and fifty teachers enrolled their names as members of the Institute, which was held for three subsequent weeks. More than one hundred lectures, familiar or written, were delivered before the Institute on subjects connected with the teacher's vocation. The plan pursued was unanimously approved by the teachers. It has been decided by the Board of Education, that the school shall be opened in April next, for those who may wish to prepare themselves to take charge of the primary and union schools, and a thorough English and scientific course for all pupils.

"The funds of the school are not sufficient to accomplish the ends designed. All are deeply interested in its progress and rapid advancement. It is the surest, the cheapest and the best way in which the general intelligence of the people can be increased. If the intention of the Legislature which projected it, be faithfully carried into effect, it will be a fine school for the education of teachers, and offer to some extent, that instruction to our husbandmen, which should be provided for them by the State.

"The University labors under financial difficulties from which it should be relieved. It has received a new impetus, and the prospect is bright and encouraging. This is not the time for the State to hesitate or falter, when the institution has been re-invested, and every assurance of success is given."

The erection of a fire proof building for the offices of the Treasurer and Auditor General is suggested. The necessary examination and survey of the route for a ship canal around the falls of St. Mary has been made under the superintendence of Capt. CANFIELD of the Topographical Engineers, who volunteered his services for that purpose. By his proposed route the canal will be nearly a mile long, one hundred feet wide and twelve feet depth of water, with two locks each 300 feet long. The route is to be fixed upon, and some provision made for the disposal of the land, and the construction of the work by the Legislature.

"The question of remodeling the law regulating the sale of ardent spirits has been of late much agitated in this State. The existing law has not answered the expectations of its advocates, and is not generally enforced. Every good citizen is in favor of promoting the cause of temperance by all fair and legitimate means. Whatever plan may be devised by you should be well matured. Public opinion should be consulted, and the law adapted to the condition of the State.