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THE DEMOCRAT

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of Indiana.

[Concluded.]

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

The reports of the Boards of Trustees of the Asylum for the Blind, Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and Hospital for the Insane, are herewith submitted. The management of these Institutions for the past two years has been eminently successful and satisfactory. The Superintendents have displayed ability and fidelity, as well as the subordinate officers and teachers, and I commend the reports to your consideration and your fostering care and attention.

PRISONS NORTH AND SOUTH.

At the regular session of the Legislature in 1861, the sum of \$10,000 was appropriated for the purchase of materials and construction of the Northern Prison, located at Michigan City, for the year 1861, and a like sum for the year 1862. At the extra session in 1861, the sum of \$30,000 was appropriated for materials and construction of the Northern Prison, and for the support of convicts, and the payment of the expenses incurred for the month of January, 1861.

At the same session a law was passed for the transfer of 200 convicts from the Southern prison, at Jeffersonville, to the Northern prison, but no provision was made for their return in case their labors should not be required. At the same session an act was passed providing that all persons sent to the penitentiary from counties north of the National Road should be confined in the Northern prison. The work in the construction of the prison was vigorously pressed in the summer and fall of 1861, and it was found necessary by the Board of Directors, in order to keep the convict labor employed, to anticipate and draw upon the appropriation made for the construction of the prison in 1862; so that when the work for the year 1861 was closed up, there remained unexpended of the fund appropriated for the construction of the prison in 1862 but about \$3,000. It was apparent, then, that the labor of the convicts could not be employed in the construction of the prison during the year 1862, for the want of means with which to purchase the necessary materials. The labor of the convicts could not be leased or hired out to contractors for the want of shops in the prison in which they could be employed. To work the convicts out of the prison and about the town would be so expensive in the employment of guards, as to make their labor unprofitable, besides, there was no authority for doing so, except as connected with the construction of the prison.

As the matter stood, it was inevitable that the convict labor should be almost wholly unemployed throughout the year 1862, and must so continue until the prison shops were constructed, when the labor might be hired to contractors, as in other prisons. If the shops were constructed in 1862, this labor could be made remunerative through the year 1863, but if not constructed until 1863, this could not happen until 1864. It was evident that the State would sustain a great loss by the delay in the construction of the shops, and accordingly the Board of Directors convened in this city in February last, and myself and other State officers invited to be present for consultation; and after full consideration of the subject, it was believed by all to be clearly to the interest of the State that the work of construction of the shops should

be commenced at the earliest moment, provided the contract could be let at fair prices, and the contractor, being fully advised of the condition of affairs, should be willing to await the action of the Legislature for his pay. The Board of Directors then proceeded to advertise for proposals for the work, and a public letting was had. I directed Mr. John B. Stumph, of this city, reputed to be an honest and capable builder, to be present at the letting, and see that the contract was properly made, and in accordance with the plans and specifications before that time adopted by the State for the construction of the shops. The contract, I have every reason to believe, was fairly made, as I am informed, fifteen per cent. below the original contract for the same work, and at least twenty per cent. below what the same work could now be had for in cash. The shops have been completed, and Mr. Stumph was again directed to examine and measure the work; his report of the letting, quality and measurement of the work is herewith submitted. In view of the early completion of the shops, the Board of Directors were able to lease the labor of the convicts upon terms highly favorable to the State. This business is a proper subject for Legislative investigation, which I hope will be promptly made, and that means will be speedily provided to pay the contractor the amount which shall be found to be honestly due.

The report of the Board of Directors, together with that of the Warden and Superintendent, are herewith submitted. The general administration of the affairs of the prison has been satisfactory, and the Board of Directors have manifested much zeal and ability in the discharge of the important duties entrusted to them. The report of the Board of Directors and Warden of the Southern Prison at Jeffersonville, is herewith submitted. The affairs of this prison, I believe, have been well managed, and I know of no just grounds for complaint. I recommend, however, that the management, condition and wants of both prisons receive the early and thorough consideration of the Legislature.

UNITED STATES ARSENAL AND ARMORY.

At the last session of Congress an act was passed appropriating \$100,000 for the Arsenal and Armory, to be located in this city.

The grounds have been purchased and the construction of the buildings will be commenced, as soon as the Legislature shall have relinquished the jurisdiction over such grounds, so far as required by the laws of the United States.

CONGRESSIONAL DONATION.

On the 2d day of July, 1862, the Congress of the United States passed an act donating to each of the States not in rebellion against the Government an amount of public lands equal to 30,000 acres for each Senator and Representative in Congress, to which the States are respectively entitled by the apportionment under the census of 1860. This entitles Indiana to 390,000 acres. Whenever there are public lands in the State subject to sale at private entry at \$1.25 per acre, the quantity to which the State is entitled shall be selected from such lands, but if there are no such lands in the State, or not enough, the Secretary of the Interior is to issue to the State land scrip for the requisite number of acres.

This scrip cannot be located by the State to which it is issued, but must be sold; but the purchasers may locate it upon any of the unappropriated lands of the United States subject to sale at private entry at \$1.25 or less per acre.

There being no public lands in this State for sale at private entry, held by the Government at \$1.25 per acre, Indiana is entitled to receive her donation in scrip. This donation is made upon the following conditions:

First—That all moneys derived from the sale of lands or scrip shall be invested in stocks of the United States, or of the States, or some other state stocks yielding not less than five per centum per annum, on the par value.

Second—That the money so invested shall constitute a perpetual fund, the capital of which shall never be diminished, except as hereinafter stated.

Third—The interest on the stocks to be endowed and support of at least one College in which the leading object shall be, without excluding scientific and other classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts.

Fourth—If any portion of the fund thus invested shall by any contingency be lost, it shall be fully restored by the State.

Fifth—That no portion of the said fund shall be applied to the purchase, repair, or erection of any building, but that a sum not exceeding ten per cent. of the original amount may be expended for the purchase of sites or experimental farms.

Sixth—No State shall be entitled to the donation, unless the Legislature shall ex-

press its acceptance thereof, within two years from the date of the approval of the Act by the President.

I recommend that the Legislature promptly express its acceptance of the grant, pledging the faith of the State for the performance of the conditions upon which it is made.

The necessity for scientific instruction in agriculture is generally acknowledged, and Congress intended by this magnificent donation to provide means for the permanent establishment of at least one efficient Agricultural College in each State.

The question presents itself as to the disposition which shall be made of this grant. Shall it be given to the State University, or apportioned among all the Colleges in the State, upon such terms and conditions as the Legislature may prescribe? Or shall it be appropriated to a college expressly designed to carry out the will of Congress? It may be difficult now to determine the question, from the fact that we cannot know how much may be realized from the sale of scrip.

If an amount should be realized large enough to employ respectable and successful Professorships in each of the Colleges now in the State, attaching to them experimental farms, it would perhaps be the best disposition of it that could be made. But if it should not be large enough for such a division, which I apprehend will be the case, then I recommend that it be applied to the establishment of an institution for Agricultural and Military instruction, to which the children of soldiers who shall die in the service during this war, shall be admitted free of charge.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.

On the 10th day of October, 1862, the Hon. James G. G. Jones, Attorney General, resigned, and accepted a commission in the military service. I immediately appointed Hon. John P. Usher to fill the vacancy, who served until the 16th day of March, 1862, when he resigned, having been called to the Department of the Interior as Assistant Secretary. The vacancy thus created I filled by the appointment of Hon. John F. Kibbey, who served until his successor was elected and qualified. These officers discharged their duties with ability.

The mineral resources of Indiana are imperfectly understood. Nearly one-fourth of the whole area of the State is a coal field, a large part of which is of the finest quality. Excellent iron ore is found in vast quantities in many counties, and although but little worked as yet will be the source of great wealth and prosperity in the future. Throughout the State, excepting a few small localities, the soil is rich and fertile, capable of producing all the grains and grasses in the greatest abundance. The State abounds in fine timber and living streams of water, and in every respect presents the facilities for an easy and profitable agriculture, while an abundance of coal and water power furnishes the means for manufacturing on the largest scale and cheapest terms. From surveys, geological examinations, and every source of knowledge open, preference to the topography and soil of Indiana, I think it safe to say that no State in the Union having an equal number of square miles has less land not susceptible of cultivation. The State is traversed in every direction by lines of Railroad well managed and in successful operation. In 1860 there was in the State 2,125 miles of Railroad in operation, the construction of which is estimated to have cost \$70,295,140; and it may not be improper to remark that all these roads were built without the aid of grants of land by the Federal Government.

These roads do not furnish sufficient facilities for the transportation of the immense productions of the State. Some conception may be obtained of the magnitude of these productions by giving the statistics of a few of the leading articles as shown by the last census. In 1860 there were produced in the State:

69,641,591 bushels of corn.	4,466,264 lbs. of Wool.
15,219,120 bush. of Wheat.	3,873,130 bu. of Potatoes.
5,028,735 bushels of oats.	635,822 tons of Hay.
7,249,132 pounds of tobacco.	

Although the population of Indiana has doubled in the last twenty years, and the general growth of the State in material wealth has been in like ratio, yet we can not doubt that the increase would have been far greater but for the operation of certain causes. In 1836 the State embarked in an extravagant and reckless system of internal improvements. To prosecute it large sums of money were required, and borrowed at heavy rates of interest, and the bonds of the State were in many cases squandered and passed into circulation without any adequate consideration having been received. Many canals, railroads, and turnpikes were surveyed and the construction commenced. But a bad system in the beginning, its prosecution was badly managed, and the result was that in 1846 the State found itself in debt to the amount of \$11,090,000, and not a single work completed, the interest on the debt unpaid, and the credit of the State utterly prostrated. In the mean time many of our

citizens, seeing that the money of the State had been squandered while but little had been accomplished, believing that public improvements had been indefinitely postponed, that a cloud was resting upon her reputation, and anticipating high taxes for many years to come, left the State and sought new homes elsewhere. The financial character of the State abroad had suffered greatly. Some supposed the State had repudiated her debts; others that she was hopelessly bankrupt; and others that to recover from her embarrassments her people must be heavily taxed for generations to come. By these notions, and the general bad impressions prevailing, the current of emigration was turned aside in great part, or swept over us to States in the West.

In 1846 a payment was made with interest on the debt proposed by themselves, by which nearly one-half of the debt was liquidated by the transfer of the Wabash and Erie Canal, and the State resumed payment of the interest on the other half; but it was not until many years of faithful discharge of her pecuniary obligations that the credit of the State was entirely restored.

At the battle of Buena Vista an event occurred which exercised an important and pernicious influence on the growth and prosperity of the State. The Second Indiana Regiment, by the cowardice or incompetency of a single officer, was led into a false movement which resulted in a confused and disorderly retreat. The regiment was composed of as good and brave men as any other, but through the malice of the arch traitor, Jeff. Davis, who reported them to General Taylor as cowards, or the indifference and stupidity of those who should have vindicated them, they were publicly disgraced and with them the State to which they belonged. For years the Second Indiana Regiment was a by-word, and the valor of the State sneered at by the ignorant and thoughtless.

This affair, combined with the bad financial character of the State, led the uninformed abroad to regard her with aversion or contempt, and the emigrant was discouraged from coming within her borders to seek a home. When a man is about to seek a new home, very small causes will determine him to go to one State or another. The general good impression he has

his choice. If one State is charged with bankruptcy, or a heavy debt, or suspected of heavy taxes, or the valor of the people spoken of lightly, he will go around it, or rapidly cross it without stopping, to seek his new home in one beyond. It is worth while to pause a moment and reflect upon what trifling and irrelevant causes the progress and prosperity of a State will sometimes depend.

The disaster at Buena Vista, which should have disgraced but a single man, retarded the progress of a great State; and I am of opinion that but for the causes I have been considering, the population of Indiana in 1860 would have been quite 2,000,000, instead of 1,339,000. Our disaster at Buena Vista has happened to others during this war, but the frequency of the occurrence seems to have diminished its importance. We are taught by this passage in our history, that the honor of a State should be jealously preserved. Whatever it may cost to preserve its faith, it will cost more if it be suffered to tarnish. The folly of the system of 1836 was only exceeded by that which subsequently permitted the interest on the Public Debt to remain unpaid for six years.

But now, through the progress of wealth and population, and the faithful performance of all obligations for many years, the credit of the State is firmly established and based upon a high and secure basis, while the people are now justly challenge the admiration of the world.

THE WAR—PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

A number of States are in rebellion against the Government, endeavoring to dissolve the Union, and establish a new Confederacy; they have large armies in the field, and are making war upon a grand scale. It is said by some that we can compromise, and make peace. But what is meant by compromise? Would consenting to a dissolution of the Union, dismemberment of our territory and establishment of an Independent Confederacy be regarded as a compromise? If so, we can compromise. Have the rebels ever intimated, or held out proposals for peace on any other terms? If they have, I have no knowledge of it. On the contrary, they have, in every form, and on every occasion, declared their unalterable purpose to accept only of disunion and independence.

Some two weeks ago, Wm. L. Yancy, one of the most able and influential men in the rebel States was invited to address the Legislature of Alabama. In the course of his speech, he reviewed in the most scornful and contemptuous language, the proposals for compromise and peace, which had come from the North, and spit upon the men who offered them, declaring that they would prove as false to the South as

they had recanted to the North. He expressed, however, a hope that the South would receive great benefit from dissensions in the North, and upon that subject used the following language:

"We have something to hope, however, from this division of the councils of our enemies—from their fierce party strife and jealousies. Upon this hope let us build our own unity—upon their jealousies let us build our own harmony—upon these clashings of party interests let us bind together our own patriotic energies—upon their selfishness and folly let us base a prayer to God that he would enable us to exhibit, in behalf of our beloved country, a self-sacrificing wisdom, both in opinion and action, in all matters appertaining to our defense."

Why then should the people of the North be deluded with the idea that compromise is possible, and thus induced to abandon their efforts to suppress the rebellion? Why should they be divided among themselves, and weakened by the proclamation of a hope so utterly fallacious?—Some there are who profess to believe that all we have to do to bring about peace and a restoration of the Union, is to lay down our arms and withdraw from the conflict. Peace, temporary and hollow, might be had upon such terms, but not a restoration of the Union. It would be a dishonorable and shameful surrender, forever tarnishing the character of the Nation, and History would write down as infamous the instruments by which it was accomplished.

Others say that we should re-construct the Union, in doing which the New England States should be left out. But what have the New England States done that they should be left out? It is said we are paying heavy duties on imports to sustain their manufactures, and are in that way oppressed. If so, let us repeal them. The New England States are but six, while the States of the North-West alone are nine with the prospect of an indefinite increase. That, however, is not the real objection. It is that their political principles are offensive, and the men who would turn them out, desire to construct a Republic in which they can hold the power. Such a project would be criminal to the last degree, if it were not insane. The fortunes of parties are variable. The party in power to-day is down to-morrow, and the victors are, in turn, overthrown, and so it goes in constructing a Republic, unless the States as are favorable, and turning out such as are not, presents the last stage of partisan insanity. It would be forming a Republic for the party, and not the party for the Republic. A government founded upon such ignoble purposes could not stand, and would not deserve to.

In every point of view, the scheme just considered, is full of dishonor and ruin.—Our Union once dissolved, and our present relations broken up, all that is traditional and sacred would be lost, and any future alliance that States might form with each other would be regarded as mere arrangements of convenience, possessing no tie beyond the interests of the hour, and liable to dissolve at the first outbreak of faction.

The President has issued his proclamation offering freedom to slaves held in certain of the rebellious States. It remains to be seen what effect this proclamation will have in suppressing the rebellion; but whether it be effectual or not, for the purpose for which it was intended, the authority upon which it was issued is beyond question.

If the rebels do not desire the Government of the United States to interfere with their slaves, let them cease to employ them in the prosecution of the war. They should not use them to build fortifications, manure fields, or to perform any other labor of the camp and of the march, and above all to raise provisions upon which to subsist their armies. If they employ the institution of slavery as an instrument of war, like other instruments of war, it is subject to destruction. Deprive them of slave labor, and three fourths of the men composing their armies would be compelled to return home to raise food upon which to subsist themselves and families. If they are permitted to retain slave labor, they are enabled to maintain their armies in great force, and to destroy that force we are compelled to shed much of our best blood. Let us not be more tender of their property, than we are of our blood.

But it is said the emancipation of the slaves will lead to insurrection, and the sacrifice of innocent women and children. Such an event would be greatly deplored. But it is not, in my judgment, a necessary result, or one likely to occur. The history of insurrections shows that they spring not from emancipation, but from despair. But if it were, I should say to the rebels, that if they were unwilling to incur the dangers of insurrection, and do not wish the Government to meddle with their slaves, they must cease to employ them in the prosecution of the war. With what propriety can they employ the institution of slavery as a means of our destruction, and at the same time ask us to let it alone? As well might they place their women and children