

mercial operations of the Institution, during the last year, were unusually successful, from causes over which it can have no control.

The Board of Directors have several times called my attention to the very great inconvenience arising from the want of a suitable provision for the insane inmates of the Penitentiary. I was requested by the Board, a short time since, to authorize the removal to the Hospital for the Insane, a maniac convict whose dangerous disposition rendered it unsafe for him to associate with the other prisoners, and who was pining from the necessary hardships of solitary confinement. Not being empowered by law to do so, and the Legislature having repeatedly declined to adopt the suggestions of the Board of Directors, in this regard, I felt constrained to abstain from interfering. This is an inconvenience, nevertheless, which calls for a speedy remedy; as it occasions serious embarrassment to the officers of the Institution, and causes much suffering to the unfortunate convict. I respectfully recommend that provision be made for the removal of such lunatic convicts to the Hospital for the Insane, upon the certificate of the attending Physician, the recommendation of the Board, and the approval of the Executive.

I have received and herewith transmit to you, the last Annual Report of the Board of Directors of that Institution.

Copies of Resolutions Nos. 5, 8, 10 and 11, of the last session, as therein required, were sent to the Senators and Representatives of this State, in Congress. Resolution Nos. 4 and 9 were not required to be sent by the Executive; but, were nevertheless recently transmitted. Allow me here to call your attention to the fact, that copies of such resolutions are not always furnished to the Executive, at the time of their passage, although they may require prompt attention; but are left to be discovered by him, from the printed copy of the Laws and Resolutions. In pursuance of Resolution No. 12, I appointed James M. Buchanan and E. L. Scott, Esquires, Commissioners, "to collect all the facts and circumstances connected with the killing of the fugitive slave, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, by Archibald G. Ridgely of Baltimore City; and to confer with the Governor of Pennsylvania relative to the same." These gentlemen promptly entered upon the discharge of the duties of their delicate mission; which, after much labor, they have finally accomplished with signal discretion and ability. I herewith transmit a copy of their report and of the voluminous proceedings taken under their direction. It is becoming that I should take this occasion to acknowledge the courtesy and spirit of conciliation manifested by the Executive, and other distinguished citizens of Pennsylvania, during the progress of the investigation. It is a subject for mutual congratulation that