

mechanical finish and accuracy may be appreciated in the construction of the standard copies of the weights and capacity measures, have not been commenced, and cannot be undertaken without further legislation. By the resolution above referred to, the Governor was undoubtably empowered to appoint and pay an agent to prepare the different standards which he is thereby directed to distribute - the appointment of Mr. Alexander was consequently legal, and the expense which has been incurred by him in the prosecution of this work of the State, together with a full and liberal compensation for his services, now constitute one of the obligations of the State, which she has the ability to discharge, and one, which I should have ordered to be paid, if I had possessed the power to do so in the constitution of the State, as amended by the Act of December Session, 1843, ch. 339, and confirmed by the Act of 1844, ch. 46, "prohibits any money being drawn from the treasury of the State, but in consequence of appropriations made by law." Under my construction of this clause of the constitution, I possessed no power to direct the payment to this Agent of the State, either of the expense incurred or of the compensation manifestly due to him for his services as agent, and I most respectfully submit the entire subject to your consideration, with the request that you will pay for the work so far as it has been executed, and give such specific instructions in reference to the construction of the other standards contemplated by the resolution of eighteen hundred and forty two, as to you may appear right. I have received from this Agent of the State, an able and highly interesting report on Standards of Weight and Measure, which I submit for your consideration, and also submit his account for expenses incurred in the execution of that portion of the work already completed.

I have also received a communication upon the subject from A. D. Baehre, Esq., the United States Superintendent of Weights and Measures, informing me "that a large Balance, intended for the adjustment of Standard Weights and Capacity Measures, to be furnished this State under the Act of Congress, is now ready for delivery," and suggesting the propriety of having a suitable building ^{erected for its reception} which would be appropriate for that purpose. This communication and drawing I also submit as a part of this very interesting subject.

The duty is imposed on me by the Acts of 1827, Chap. 140, and 1839, Chap. 28, to report to you what amount has been expended within the past year, under the provisions of those laws, for the education of the indigent blind, and deaf and dumb. During the period indicated, the sum of \$1,244.99 has been paid for the education of the blind, and \$1,392.00 for the education of the deaf and dumb.

I have received, and will communicate to you, a very lucid and detailed report of the committee of the legislature, appointed under resolution No 60 of December Session, 1844, "to examine and bear the bonds, certificates or other evidences of indebtedness of the State, as directed by resolution No 8 of December Session, 1840." This report of the committee contains valuable information upon the important subject of their labors, and will, I am sure, secure from you the considerations it merits.