

immense amount of specie through the state of Missouri.

The distance from the upper parts of this State to Chihuahua, is nearly the same as from that City to the ports of the Gulf, or those of the Pacific. The road is greatly in our favor, being an excellent waggon road, whereas theirs is almost impassable, except for pack mules. The enterprise of our citizens is far superior to those who have become enervated by a residence on the sickly shore of the coasts of Mexico. This trade, once a source of great profit to the state, is at present almost entirely lost. An effort should be made to recover and to extend it. Let the General Government permit our traders to buy their goods, as the re-shipper does, paying no duty to the United States for goods not consumed within her limits, and they can employ five hundred waggons profitably; benefitting thereby various classes of the community, and giving employment to near one thousand men. I would therefore, earnestly recommend another appeal being made to the justice of Congress, in favor of the establishment of a port entry, and a custom house at some point on the Missouri river near our western boundary, and for the allowance of the drawback on all foreign goods exported by land in the original package from that point to any part of the Mexican republic.

Herewith I have the honor to communicate to the General Assembly, documents from several of our sister States, on various subjects which will, doubtless, receive that consideration due to their respective merits and the sources from which they emanate.

At the request of Major General Gaines, of the United States Army, I submit to the consideration of the legislature, the accompanying diagram of his system of rail roads intended for national defence, together with a communication from him, explanatory of the same.

The difficulties which have taken place between the people called Mormons and the citizens of the adjoining counties, have recently assumed a most serious aspect. It

was found necessary to call forth a portion of the militia to quiet these disturbances and to restore peace and order to the community. The troops engaged in this service (with the exception of a company or two retained as a guard over the prisoners) have been discharged.

I have concluded to forbear making any further remarks on this subject at the present time as the matter is now undergoing a judicial investigation. I have directed the General officer who was placed in command of the troops raised for this service, to collect and embody all the facts in relation to the commencement, progress and termination of this unfortunate affair and report to me as early as possible, so that the subject may be placed before the legislature. I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity after receiving his report, to lay the whole subject before you together with all the documents in relation to it in possession of the executive.

Since the adjournment of the last General Assembly, the militia of our State has been re-organized and the number of divisions and brigades considerably increased. It has been found to be much more convenient for the transmission of orders and affords the people a better opportunity of becoming acquainted with the qualifications of those whom they are authorized to select for the higher grades of command.

It will become necessary for the legislature to make some provision for the payment of the volunteers and militia that have on different occasions been called into the service of the State; in order to do so you will have to resort to other means besides that of the ordinary revenue of the State.

The defense of the western frontier is a subject of great importance to the people of this State. I have the gratification to inform you that the General Government, have increased the Army of the U. States with a view to this object and are taking all the necessary measures to ensure its complete defence from the Sabine to the St. Peters.

The annexation of the Platt country to our State has