

To the people of Pennsylvania. The one hundredth anniversary of the birth-day of our nation is to be celebrated at Philadelphia in 1876 ... [1873?].

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth-Day of our Nation is to be celebrated at Philadelphia, in 1876, by an INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of the Arts, Manufactures, and Products of the Soil and Mine.

All the nations of the world will here be brought together in friendly competition. The progress of the applied arts will be shown in contributions from all Europe; from China, her curious workmanship; matchless wood-work from Japan; and from far India treasures rare and wonderful; Turkey and Persia will bring their gorgeous fabrics; Russia, iron and leather, such as no other nation has yet learned to produce; Berlin and Munich, artistic productions in iron and bronze; Bohemia, her glass; and Switzerland her delicate watchwork.

It will thus be the grandest and most comprehensive Exhibition the world has ever seen, and to afford adequate room for the vast display, there will be required at least fifty acres of floor-room in the Exhibition buildings. These buildings must therefore cost several millions of dollars, and to raise the necessary capital a National company has been chartered.

It is of inestimable importance that the Legislature at once pass an appropriation of One Million Dollars in aid of the Centennial Celebration.

1. It will enable the Governor, under the terms of the Act of Congress, to notify the President that provision has been made for the erection of the Exhibition Buildings. It will thereupon become the duty of the President to proclaim to the World that the Centennial International Exhibition will be held in Pennsylvania The Nation will thus be committed to the success of the Exhibition.
2. The money appropriated by the State, together with the half million of dollars already voted by the city of Philadelphia, will make the stock not merely a safe but a paying investment, and must promote subscriptions to the entire stock from all parts of the United States.
3. This Exhibition will bring to the State millions of people who will come from every part of the globe and spend among us many millions of dollars. For at least six months, steamships, railways, hotels, every town and spot of interest in the State, will be thronged by tourists.
4. The great resources of our State will thus be brought, as never before, to the attention of the capitalists of the World,—inducing large investments, developing our coal and iron interests, and

encouraging the establishment of great industrial enterprises. Our agricultural interests must thus receive a stimulus beyond all calculation—the value of the land itself being increased, and a home market furnished for all farm products.

5. Such will be the increase of taxable property throughout the State, attributable solely to the Exhibition, that, even at a lower rate of taxation than at present, the increase of the State revenues will more than refund the whole amount appropriated.

6. The population of Pennsylvania being more than three and a half millions, the annual payment of seven cents by each person would more than repay the entire appropriation and interest in five years.

7. The general elevation and education of our people which must result from this display of the finest products of science, arts, and manufactures, cannot be estimated in dollars.

8. The people of the State of Pennsylvania, by their representatives in the Legislature, solicited the National Government to make Philadelphia the site of the Exhibition,—thereby virtually pledging the honor of our State for its success. And unless this appropriation be made, and be made at once, there is great danger that the Exhibition will go to another state,—to the loss and lasting disgrace of our Commonwealth.

9. It is especially appropriate that the great event which is to bring together all sections of our country, and to harmonize all differences, should take place upon the soil of the Keystone State and where the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed.

By direction of the CITIZENS' CENTENNIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE.

William W. Justice, Chairman of Sub-Committee.

Benjamin H. Haines, Secretary.