Indiana State Sentinel.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF LIBERTY.

INDIANAPOLIS, JANUARY 9, 1848.

FOR GOVERNOR,

JOSEPH A. WRIGHT,

OF PARKE COUNTY.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,

JAMES H. LANE,

OF DEARBORN COUNTY.

The Clubbing System.

The clubbing system introduced by the undersigned has not met our expectations. We have given it a fair trial; but the extra out-lay has not been met by corresponding efforts on the part of our friends, with a few exceptions. It does not, and cannot, under existing circumstances, afford us a fair remuneration. While we voluntarily made the then present sacrifice, we did hope that the inducement was sufficient to increase our lists to at least several thousands over our former subscriptions. Giving more reading matter for the price than can be obtained in any part of the Western country, we had hoped our friends would take advantage of the liberality, and exert themselves accordingly. This has not been done to a degree commensurate with the plan proposed. Hence, after what has been a fair trial on our part, we shall abandon the system of clubbing; and shall, hereafter, adopt the following terms, which will be invariable and permanent:

FOR OUR WEEKLY PAPERS. Two Dollars a year, *and the money must always accompany the order or no attention will be given it.*

JOHN D. DEFREES, *Editor Journal.*

48-tDec1 CHAPMANS & SPANN, *Editors State Sentinel*

☞The Democratic Convention on yesterday nominated JOSEPH A. WRIGHT, of Parke county, for Governor, and Col. JAMES H. LANE, of Dearborn county, for Lieutenant Governor, with great unanimity and good feeling. The convention was very large and enthusiastic. All that we have time to say now is, that the nominees are of the best men in the State, and of their election there is no doubt, if the Democracy of the State *work* and are *united*, as we think they will from the good feeling which prevailed in the convention.

JO. WRIGHT was a member of the 28th Congress, and earned for himself the title of the *working man*. He did great service for the State in obtaining the grant of land for the continuance of the Wabash and Erie Canal, and was among the most industrious members of the State Legislature, in the House and Senate of the State, and in the National Congress.

COL. LANE has rendered important services for the State in the field, and there held up the reputation of the State with honor to himself and credit to Indiana.

We shall have more to say in the next paper.

THE ÆOLIANS.—It is announced that this splendid Band of Musicians will give a concert at the Court House this evening. They are by far the best performers who have visited this city for a long time. Our citizens know how to appreciate a good thing; of course the old Court House will be overflowing tonight.

☞Mr. Turner, of Indiana, in particular, delivered himself of a phillipic against Mr. Greeley, the bitterness of which was only equalled by the scurrility of its language, and the pot-house grimaces that accompanied it. Such tirades do not become our National Halls.—*Cor. Ohio Standard.*

Indiana has no such member, nor do we think any of our delegation would venture upon such a task, in such a manner. It seems to be the habit of vagabond letter writers, about Washington, when any thing disreputable is done, to locate the residence of the perpetrator of it in Indiana, as it was during the Mexican war. Some of the *great men* of Indiana have enough sins of their own to answer for without having to shoulder those of other people.

☞Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, the new President elect of France, is a nephew of the great Emperor Napoleon. He was born in 1808, and consequently is at this time 40 years of age. In 1815, when the Imperial family were driven from France, Hortense fled with her two sons to Switzerland, where Prince Louis received a military education. He remained quiet there till 1830, when, with his elder brother, he went to Italy, and became connected with the political agitations of that country. Being directed to quit the Kingdom, he retired again to Switzerland, where he published several works on military and political subjects.

In October, 1836, he made a revolutionary attempt at Strasbourg, by securing the officers of that strongly fortified town to his interests,—trusting that the influence of the Emperor's name would influence the army to acknowledge him its head, and follow him on to Paris. The plan failed, and the Prince was sent to the United States, where, it was understood, he should remain for ten years. Long before the time expired, however, he returned to Europe.

Again he planned an attempt to revolutionize France, by the magic of his name, and landed at Bologne in an English steamer, accompanied by Gen. Montholon and a few other remnants of the Imperial forces. Unsuccessful, he was imprisoned in the old fortress of Ham, a gloomy pile, built under Louis XI. Here he remained till May, 1846, when he made his escape and reached England. The manner of his escape is familiar no doubt to our readers. He remained at London until the dethronement of Louis Philippe—when he returned to France, and he is now the Chief of the country from which he was so long a wanderer and an exile. Such is fortune.

OHIO.—John C. Breslin has been elected Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives. On the third ballot, the vote stood for Breslin 37; for Johnson, free soil whig, 33. The Ohio Statesman says:

Mr. Breslin is yet a young man, and this is his first session as a member, and so strong a mark of respect shows the high estimation in which he is held.

We have known him from boyhood. He is a Printer and graduated in the Statesman office. Since his apprenticeship, he has been the editor of the Seneca Advertiser, one of the ablest among the radical democratic papers in the State.

Unaided, save by his own native talent—struggling against difficulties which few could surmount, Mr. Breslin has been the architect of his own fortunes. Self educated, and without friends, he struggled on, and the boy, that but a few years ago, trudged from Dayton on foot, to our office, to learn the printers' art, is now the presiding officer of the popular branch of the Ohio Legislature, and he will perform the duties well, and will acquire new fame in the responsible station to which he has been called by his fellow-members.

STANLEY MATTHEWS, (free soil, editor of the Cincinnati Globe,) was elected Clerk, on the 5th ballot, by 2 majority. The contest cases will now come up on their merits.

In all this Ohio difficulty, the Democrats have been completely victorious, because they were right and the whigs were wrong.

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.—There are no longer any class distinctions in California. The editor of the Californian illustrates this fact by the following query:

"What would the *craft* in New York or Boston say were they to see that usually humble individual, the *devil*, stumping the editor to *jeff*, to see which should split firewood!"

☞Will certain of our eastern contemporaries explain how it is that each one of their journals has "the largest circulation in America." We should like to know.

WHAT NEXT?—A project is afoot in the city of New York, to convey the water from Saratoga Springs into New York by means of continuous glass pipes laid in brick and mortar!

Gen. Wm. C. Keene, formerly well known in this state, recently died at Germantown, Pa.

Mileage of Members of Congress.

The editor of the New York Tribune, since he has taken his seat in Congress, has begun to cut out a lot of work for that body. He begins with the mileage law, which needs revision, and publishes a list of the members' names, with the amount of mileage each receives. The excess charged over the actual number of miles by post routes amounts to the sum of $62,125. The excess of three individuals alone is put down at over a thousand dollars each. Mr. Greeley does not say that they charge more than the law allows; the law expressly says that each shall receive eight dollars for every twenty miles travelled in coming to and returning from Congress, "by the usually travelled route;" and of course, if the route usually travelled from California to Washington is around Cape Horn—or the members from that embryo State shall choose to think it is—they will each be entitled to charge some $13,000 dollars mileage per session accordingly. When Congress fixed the compensation, twenty miles travel was equivalent to a day's work; the average rate of travel through the country not exceeding forty miles per day, and the cost being about ten cents per mile, all things included. At present, the average rate of travel is at least one hundred miles per day, and the average cost hardly more than five cents per mile. Twenty dollars per hundred miles travel now is fully equal to twenty dollars for fifty miles travel then. We think the editor shows sufficient reason why the law should be amended.—*Pa. Ledger.*

☞We ever have been, and hope always to be, ready to do justice to a political opponent, and if his measures be right, have no hesitation in openly advocating them. We think Mr. Greeley right in the matter of the mileage of members of Congress, and we second his move for reform, with an *unction*. We commend his industry in searching out and making public the facts of the case, in defiance of the menaces of the august body of which he is a member, and of the obstacles purposely thrown in his way by certain of the officials about Washington.

The country is indebted to Mr. Greeley for exposing an abuse which has been growing for years, but which has now, we hope, received an effective check. It would be well for the country if there were more such men in Congress as this same Horace Greeley, always excepting his whiggery. We hope the people will take the hint and elect more editors to Congress (we have no reference to ourselves of course) and fewer from the learned (?) professions, who generally seek seats in Congress for the purpose of enjoying *ease* at the people's expense. This should not be. Men should be selected to do the public business who are noted for ability, industry and integrity, and who will be contented with a reasonable reward therefor.

This timely exposition has given rise to some rich scenes in the House, and promises many more. The subject has been referred to the committee on mileage, who will of course report that Greeley is the greatest rascal alive, and that they have drawn pay according to law. But *the law* which allows members to draw dishonest mileage is just what is complained of, and the amendment of which is demanded. A member from Alabama, for instance, "rose to a question of privilege," for the purpose of letting off his wrath in a speech. He said Greeley's expose might fall into the hands of unprincipled demagogues at home and do much injury to members of Congress! Indeed! Members of Congress, according to this gentleman, should be allowed to draw twice as much mileage as the distance warrants, and keep it all nicely hushed up so that the *people* will never find it out! We are glad they have been *exposed!*

There is another extravagance indulged in by members of Congress which is not a whit more honest than the one just referred to, and which calls quite as loud for reformation,—we mean the voting of each member a library every session. Will not some patriotic member make a move in this matter also?

The Hon. members of Congress will find in Mr. Greeley a customer they cannot manage, especially when he is backed, as he deserves to be, by the whole editorial corps of the country.

THE CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION.—We have been favored with a perusal of a plan of the proposed expedition, now fitting out at this place for San Francisco, California, of which Capt. Howorth is to have command, and regard it as presenting an admirable opportunity for those possessing but moderate means to reach that famous region, most pleasantly, and securing also a return of a portion of the passage money, should they desire to remain in California. Passengers are required to pay $250, with the privilege of taking out one ton of freigt free of charge—and on leaving the vessel in California, receive back $150, to give them a start for the gold region, instead of returning in the vessel after a sojourn of four months in the country.

Capt. Howorth and his associates are well acquainted with the business they have undertaken. Let those therefore who desire to avail themselves of the offer they make, lose no time in securing a passage. Capt. Howorth is an experienced commander and every way worthy of public confidence.—*Lou. Dem.*

We have been permitted to make an extract from a letter, written by C. H. Kellogg of New Orleans, to his brother, S. I. Kellogg, of this city, as follows:

"Consternation pervades the whole city, and thousands are leaving daily. Business is at a stand, and we are now paying one dollar per dray load where we paid fifty cents last week. I do not blame them, for the disease bears harder on that class and on scavengers than any other. Our only hope is in a change of weather. The thermometer has ranged for the last month from 70 deg. to 80 deg., and our streets are in a more filthy condition than they have been for years."

No reliance should be placed upon the thousand and one rumors which will be started daily. There seems to be a morbid appetite in all communities for the horrible and wonderful; and plenty to minister to it. So far as we are concerned we shall confine ourselves to what we have traced to a reliable source. In our telegraphic columns will be found daily accounts, which we do not vouch for, and which we should advise our readers to take with some grains of allowance.—*Cin. Enq., Dec. 31.*

AN AMUSING IMPOSTURE.—The citizens of Washington have had their credulity tested in a most amusing manner. A young woman, 17 years of age, has been for some time subject to fits, during which she has extracted pins from the clothes of visiters and swallowed them. A shrewd observer, Mr. Page, attended the exhibition and detected the imposition. The girl held the pins between the fore and middle fingers—in fact the common child's play of pushing pins into the legs and taking them out of the ears, with the exception of the convulsions and shrieks. Many persons who pretended to intelligence were deceived by her. But give to the mind but a tinge of superstition or belief in what exceeds natural causes or results, and on such occasions, it is almost invariably bereft of shrewdness and tact, sometimes eminently displayed on other occasions.

☞In reference to Greeley's Land bill the Cincinnati Enquirer remarks: The public lands should be made to pay the expense of exhausting the Indian title and of surveying, registration, &c. They ought not to be a source of *revenue* to the Government, nor ought they to be made a means of taxing industry or consumption to pay for their acquisition and bringing into market. So regarding the matter, we see no propriety in rewarding *unwillingness* to pay for a quarter section, with the right, to choose a quarter or half that quantity, and hold it for nothing. Inability to pay is quite another thing,—we would require proof of that, and proof also of industrious habits and good character,—these shown, the pre-emptioner should be entitled to hold the quantity specified.

PORK AT THE RIVER.—The Madison Banner of the 4th instant, says:

"The prices of hogs have fallen off very considerably within the last few days from previous rates. From $2 50 to $3 00 are now the prevailing prices, and the market is dull. This depression is attributable mainly to the utter impossibility of making shipments to the south on account of the cholera which prevails there. The New Orleans boats have stopped running for the present, as it is deemed useless to freight for that city at a time when hands are not to be found to load or unload. Should this state of things continue for any considerable length of time, immense loss must inevitably fall upon the business men of our city.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Indiana State Sentinel.

"Marion Court of Common Pleas."

I see in your late number you notice our "Court of Common Pleas," and I am pleased to see that you approve of the general object of the law creating the court; indeed I cannot see how any reflecting individual in our county could do otherwise, as the court must prove highly beneficial. The object of the creation of the court, as you in substance notice, was to enable suitors to have their civil causes tried in one court or the other, without the ruinous expense and delay now attending trials in the circuit court. The court of common pleas having no criminal jurisdiction, the trial of civil causes can never be postponed by criminal cases which claim precedence, and civil actions are postponed from day to day, and even from term to term, before a trial can be had, while the parties are literally ruined by the witness fees, and costs of the suit, and this difficulty must increase as our city increases in population. The system we have now adopted has been tried fully at other places, and has been found to work admirably, nor can our court prove an exception, as Judge Hammond is admitted on all hands to be a good lawyer. He will have the best libraries to consult, and having no circuit duties to perform, and being freed from the examination of criminal questions, his decisions must approximate so near to the law, as to make appeals and writs of error less frequent. The object of this article was not to notice these evident facts, but to say a word upon an objection you make to the court in which you think the law needs amendment. You say "the county of Marion is to be chargeable with the expense of office rent, books, stationery, fuel, lights, &c." This you object to and think these expenses should be paid by the suitors who have their business done. Now here we differ. You further say, "the county, it is true, is bound to furnish a tribunal for the hearing and trial of the complaints of her citizens." Here we agree. You say further, "she has such tribunals established at the public expense." If you mean that she has such to try the causes *without delay*, or *unnecessary expense*, then we differ, as I deny that the circuit court is such a tribunal, owing to the press upon it of criminal and civil business. But the *point* that I wish to call your attention to is in the position you seem to assume, that *this court* will cost the county of Marion more than it would to do the *same business* in the *circuit court*. Let us see how that matter stands. We agree that the *business must be done*; if so, it will *certainly take no longer*, nor will it require *more books, stationery, fuel or lights* to do the business in the court of *common pleas*, than it will in the *circuit court*; hence, there can be no *additional expense for these items*. The same court room will be used, and the vacant office in the corner of that building can be used for a clerk's office; hence there will be no *office rent*. So much for the negative of the proposition. I now assume the affirmative and say, that the *expense to the county of doing the same amount of business*, for her people, will be *much less* if done in the *court of common pleas*, than if done in the *circuit court*. The expenses of *two associate Judges* will be entirely *saved to the county*. Suppose the court to sit four weeks at each term, and two weeks at the extra chancery term, together sixty days in the year, this would make 120 days of associate Judge services at $3 per day, or $360 for the year, payable out of the *county treasury*, saved by the *common pleas system*, as not a cent is paid for judicial services. I feel well assured that you will, upon reflection, see that the law is judicious, economical, and calculated to do our business in the least exceptionable manner, and with the least possible expense. ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

☞On reviewing our paragraph of Saturday last, we find that the words used in one particular fail to express our meaning. But we did *not* "assume that this court would cost the county of Marion more than it would to do the same business in the circuit court." Our article does not warrant that conclusion, but since the question is raised we will say we think future facts and figures *will* warrant it. In fact we said not a word about *how much* it would cost, in comparison with the old system. The difference, however, will doubtless not be of sufficient importance to "make a note of it." And if it should, of course the people will not refuse to be taxed for the benefit of the lawyers. At least they never have yet. There are one or two other things in the above communication which we do not admit, but which we do not think it worth while to controvert here. We intended to say that the *Judge* is the proper person to pay the necessary expenses of his own court, as Justices of the peace have to do. The Judge of the court of common pleas is no more than a Justice of the Peace with certain powers in addition to those conferred upon Justices, and should have no more claim upon the county treasury than they have. The fees allowed him are extremely liberal, and the office will no doubt be a very lucrative one in a few years, consequently the Judge can very well afford to pay his own expenses.

We have no personal interest in this matter more than others, nor do we wish to throw any thing in the way of the successful establishment of this court of common pleas; we were not opposed to it at any time; such a court is needed to some extent now, and the necessity for it will constantly increase. What we have said has been only from motives of regard for the public interest.

Items.

Emulation is a noble passion, as it strives to excel by raising itself, and not by depressing another.

The climax of human indifference has arrived when a woman don't care how she looks.

"OLD VIRGINIA NEVER TIRES."—Out of thirteen approved candidates for places in the Navy five are from Virginia alone.

Why is Victoria twice the sailor her Uncle William ever was? Because he was only a royal *tar*, and she is a royal *tar-tar*.

The printed indictments against Mr. Duffy, of the Irish Nation, measure about one hundred feet in length.

A SAFE INVESTMENT.—Dr. Franklin, in speaking of education, says. "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him."

The New York papers are anxious to have the United States erect a mint on the spot lately occupied by the Park theatre.

GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE.—Certainly, but it is better to have no dealings with the devil, and then there will be nothing due to him.

$15,000 has been appropriated by the Legislature of South Carolina, for a State Lunatic Asylum. They need one occasionally, for political purposes.

In a cigar shop in Parliament street, London, the following notice is posted: "Credit given to gentlemen, but cash expected from members of Parliament."

During the reign of Henry VIII, which lasted thirty-eight years, no fewer than 72,000 persons were executed, being at the rate of 1894 per annum.

APPLES AND PEARS ought to be much alike. The Boston Post says the first apple in Eden turned out the first *pair*. Good!

The Cincinnati Atlas, says there are 85 houses of public worship in that city, and Williams' Cincinnati Business Directory, says the city contains 189 doctors and 181 lawyers.

A Cincinnati paper records the fact of a man a few nights since, eating at one meal twelve dozen of oysters. If his brains were equal to his gullet he would have just sense enough to know he was a fool.

ON DIT.—Edger A. Poe, Esq. the celebrated poet and critic, is about to lead to the Hymenial altar, Mrs. Sarah H. Whitman, of Providence, a well known and popular authoress.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The Hon. Levi Chamberlain of Keene, has been nominated by the Whig State Convention of New Hampshire, as the Whig candidate for governor of that State.

ETYMOLOGY OF CALIFORNIA.—We are informed by Professor Noodlekranz, that California comes from two old Indian words—*Kali*, gold, and *forna-who*, don't you wish you may get it.

THE FEVER ABATING.—We learn from the N. Y. Sun that the number of ships up at that port for California is much larger than the number of persons wishing to go out. Many of the ships have not more than ten passengers each engaged, and some will probably be withdrawn from the voyage until larger numbers of passengers offer.

The Boston *Post* contains a long account of the marriage, at Louisville, Ky., of T. Bigelow Lawrence, of Boston, and Sallie Ward, of Louisville. The bride was the belle of all the West, and there were great times at her wedding. Some 5 or 600 persons, including hosts of distinguished men, were present. The costume of the bride cost $5000.

FROM THE SULTAN.—The Post says: "Our countryman, S. F. B. Morse, has received, from Constantinople an ornament of gold, set in about 200 diamonds. It is the decoration of the "Order of Glory," called the "Nishan Istikar," and is of the second class, the Sultan wearing the first. Mr. Morse has received this magnificent present from the Sultan, as a testimony of his approbation of his system of telegraphing.

☞By request, we copy the following article. It appeared originally in the "Banner of Liberty," of November last. The "Banner" is published monthly, at South Middletown, Orange county, New York. The article contains some important facts in regard to the educational system of New York:

Indiana Public School System.

A law was passed at the last session of the legislature of Indiana submitting the proposal to establish a general system of Free Schools throughout the State, to a vote of the people, in August last. A very heavy vote was polled against it, although a majority of those cast were in its favor,—the entire vote given being 77,732 for, and 61,900 against. In some counties there were large majorities against it. This momentous step of a comparatively new State, cannot but be viewed with intense anxiety by all philanthropists and friends of civil and religious liberty throughout the United States. At the ensuing session of the legislature of that State, the matter will be again taken up; but what course will be taken in view of the divided state of the public mind on the subject, remains yet to be seen. Some will doubtless urge the immediate adoption of the system; but the more experienced, judicious, cool-headed and liberal statesmen of that body, will we think, choose to defer the matter for further consideration, and a more unanimous action of the people. No great evil can arise from laying the matter over to another session, and, even had the popular vote been more united, a measure of such magnitude and lasting influence for good or evil, upon the State, should be acted upon with the utmost deliberation.

It was adopted as a sound and invaluable maxim by an eminent statesman, that "for the safety of a Republic, and to insure the perpetuity of its institutions, the people should delegate no powers which are not absolutely essential to the administration of civil government." It has also been said that "The best of governments is that which governs least." The people should retain all powers that can possibly be exercised by themselves with propriety, and should be very jealous and watchful of every authority given to their agents or representatives.

The object of the formation of civil government is, or should be, the enactment and enforcement of such laws as may be necessary to secure justice in the dealings of men with each other; to suppress criminal outrages, by adequate penalties, and to protect individuals and minorities from the aggressions of prejudiced mobs and selfish majorities. Beyond these objects States can seldom go with safety or salutary results to the masses of their citizens; and should they stop short of effecting these, it would be better to resolve society into its primitive state of individual independence: for the burdens of government would not be accompanied by its corresponding benefits. American Republicanism, the purest which has ever been brought into practical operation, is based upon the principle that "*All men are born free and equal, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights*"—that governments are instituted among men solely for the good of the governed. A perfect equality of rights of all citizens composing a State, seems to have been recognized by the framers of our institutions: so that in all matters of speculation, belief, religion, charity, philanthropy, policy and expediency, each citizen is left to as full and free a volition and choice as the legislator by whom he is governed in matters properly pertaining to the province of civil government. The legislatures of some of our States have sometimes lost sight of this essential principle of free government, and have passed acts appropriating the public money to objects which they have supposed benevolent or charitable, borrowing their precedent from European States based upon principles of government altogether different from our own. For instance, the very matter of State provision for public schools, is prompted by a mistaken policy, perfectly at antipodes with all ideas of equality among men—which, however specious, plausible, and promising in appearance, strikes at the very root of that perfect liberty aimed at by the patriotic projectors of our Republican form of government. European despotisms have long cherished their national systems of education, ostensibly for the purpose of enlightening their masses, and increasing the intelligence of their subjects,—a result which would evidently overthrow the ruling dynasty of each one of them,—but in reality their object has been to impress upon the susceptible minds of youth a reverence for their arbitrary rulers and the state religion which is made subservient in the perpetuation of their power. Thus it is that Prussia, one of the most abject and arbitrary despotisms of the earth, has the oldest and most energetic school system, which so far from sowing the seeds of civil and religious liberty, serves to cramp the powers of the mind, to produce a blind adhesion to the State religion, a bigoted persecution of all dissenters, and a slavish state of servitude and vassalage to the royal tyrant and imperious nobility. Even in the present grand era of revolutionary outbreak throughout Europe, little or nothing has been effected by the frequent insurrections and sanguinary struggles of the Prussian peasantry; nor indeed can there be, so long as the government holds unlimited control over the minds and opinions of each succeeding generation, which it does through its national school system. Yet the Prussian system of education has been highly lauded by some American writers, and several of the free States of America have actually been induced to take it as a model! Yes, Massachusetts, N. York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, have actually adopted the school system which has been in operation for centuries in the serfdom of Prussia, within whose benighted bounds a single ray of Republicanism has never yet penetrated! Strange mania for foreign fashions! Have American citizens so soon forgotten that it was the proudest boast of our revolutionary statesmen, that our political structure was entirely unlike any to be found in the old world!

In monarchies, where it is assumed as an axiom that the people are incompetent for self-government, it is entirely reasonable that their rulers should also hold them to be incompetent to superintend the education of their own children, and consequently make State provision therefor, carefully tempering their instruction with those dogmas most directly tending to inspire them with an overwhelming awe and reverence for their kings, lords, masters, priests and prevailing government. But that in a country established upon the assumption of the competency of a man for self-government, where the populace choose their rulers by general suffrage, without reference to rank, blood or birth; it is certainly surprising that the temporary agents of the people in their legislative capacity should assume to make provisions, superintend, and prescribe the manner in which parents shall educate their children! If a people are capable of self-government, certainly they are capable of providing for and superintending the education of their own children without the agency or coercion of government. Certainly parents must feel more deeply interested in educating their own children than can any legislature, however patriotic its members may be.

The utmost extent to which a Republican government should go in providing for the education of its citizens, is, perhaps, to divide its territory into proper school districts, leaving the inhabitants of each district free to erect school-houses, employ teachers and regulate their own school affairs. But some contend that education would be neglected, if the government were not to interfere and establish schools by law; and in evidence of this they refer to those States in which the legislature has taken the matter in hand, urging that education has greatly advanced under the fostering care of government. Now it is well known that in the early settlement of a State there cannot be as great advancement in education as afterwards, owing to the sparseness of settlement and other causes. While therefore it is granted that advances have been made in general education in those States in which the legislatures have interfered, but a little reflection will fully satisfy the careful enquirer that its advancement would have been much more rapid had it been left untrammelled by legislation.

Let a State be divided into proper school districts, and the people of each district are as capable of controlling its affairs as are the citizens of each township and county to regulate county and town affairs, without the interference of government or aid of State funds. If left to their own free action, the inhabitants of each district will as fully recognize the importance of education as could the legislature, and feeling the responsibility, and being more immediately interested in the instruction of their own offspring than their legislators can possibly be, they will be far more spirited in securing the very best grade of schools attainable. It is an inherent right of parents to direct and provide for the education of their children, and as well might government take them from their parents, and assume a general guardianship over them as to place itself between the parent and his children in providing for their instruction.

If it be admitted, that the parent is far more interested in the intellectual cultivation of his children, than others can be; and that the people of each neighborhood can much more efficiently superintend their own school affairs, from being intimately acquainted with the various circumstances by which they are surrounded, what then is the motive for State interference? Can it furnish pecuniary aid to the schools? Not a single copper. All moneys dispensed by government must be drawn from the people by taxation in one form or another. By the process of taxing, or taking the money from the people, sending it to and depositing with the Treasurer; returning it, and giving it back to the people,—a very considerable portion of the amount raised is lost in fees to the Collector, Treasurer, &c., and expenses of conveyance to and fro; and oftentimes very large amounts are lost by accidents, defalcations, bad investments, &c. So that the loaf originally taken from the people is sliced away among the intervening officials, until but little more than the crusts are left to be returned. Aside from this wastefulness, the privilege of applying their money in accordance to their own judgment, is taken from the people and they are treated as mere underlings dependent upon the superior wisdom of those who fatten upon their funds—and will those official overseers of the people feel a deeper interest in seeing that the funds are well applied, than would those from whom they are drawn? We think not. Officers are often quite careless of public funds, and take but little interest in seeing that they are appropriated to the best possible advantage; but every man will look carefully to a judicious application of his own money.

Thus much, then for the economy of state systems of education and their tendency to benefit the object for which they are claimed to be adopted. Had we room at present for the purpose, it would be an easy matter to demonstrate the view we have taken of their false economy and inexpediency, by the most insuperable evidences which might be gleaned from the history of those of our own states which have engaged, to any great extent in the enterprise of furnishing the "sovereign people" with school systems.

We have now room, however, for but an instance or two, although we intend soon to publish a general history of the operation of the state systems of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania, as it is after these that those of most of the younger states are modeled, as it is also the case with the proposed project for Indiana.

The legislature of New York had in 1844, appropriated $1,231,868,89 of the people's money to college corporations and academies, under the pretext of a more general diffusion of the higher branches of science, and thus furnishing a better grade of teachers for the common schools; but so far from accomplishing this object, it is admitted by the Rev. Doct. Potter, chairman of a committee appointed by the legislature to enquire into their utility for this purpose, that "The principal evil connected with our present system of training teachers is that they contribute to supply teachers for *select* rather than *common* schools." Mr. J. C Spencer, chairman of the Literature committee of the Senate, also admits in his report, "Our academies have failed to supply the want of teachers."

In 1832, the people of New York were told by the regents' report that so effectual had been the application of the State funds to academies that "there is no doubt that a thousand instructors might readily be prepared, every year for the Common Schools." Additional heavy appropriations were called for, upon this ground which were promptly made to the academies; but after the lapse of six years, Gov. Marcy says in his message of 1838, "Our common school system still labors under embarrassments arising from an inadequate supply of well qualified instructors," and that "no success that can attend the teacher's department already established will make them competent to supply in any considerable degree, the demand." Upon the receipt of this startling intelligence, the persevering legislature, instead of abandoning the plan of attempting to provide state teachers, by an act of April 17, 1843 appropriated the additional sum of $28,000 to eight more academies for the purpose. After all this expenditure, it was discovered in 1844, that the system was defective, whereupon the legislature abandoned it, and withheld further appropriations for the purpose of preparing teachers in the academies.

By an act of the legislature of New York passed in the session of 1843, county superintendents of schools were created, whose business it was to visit all the district schools within their respective precincts, suggest improvements to the teachers, and report annually to the state superintendent; their salaries amounting in the aggregate to about $30,000 per year. In addition to this, over $11,000 was appropriated to the publication of their reports. This, however, was altogether to Prussianlike to be long tolerated by a free people, who demanded almost by acclamation the repeal of the odious and expensive law, which the legislature was constrained to grant, after it had been in operation but three years, burdening the people with a worse than useless expenditure of over one hundred thousand dollars.

Several thousand dollars are also annually appropriated to the publication of the "District School Journal," a copy of which is sent to every school district in the State, but which is so utterly useless and filled with such glaring priestcraft that not one copy in a hundred is ever taken from the post office, maugre the edict of the State Superintendent to the district officers, commanding them to pay the postage, take them out, have them bound and carefully preserved.

A law was passed in 1844, by the legislature of the same State, creating a government normal school in Albany, upon the Prussian plan, for the purpose of furnishing teachers of common schools, the sum of $56,000, appropriated for its endowment, and the active direction of the institution given to Rev. Alonzo Potter D. D., and Rev. Wm. H. Campbell D. D., nominally associated with three other non-officiating members of the board. The exercises of this institution are mainly of a religious character, such as reading the Protestant Bible with comments, prayer, singing sectarian songs, &c., leaving very little time for improvement in the legitimate branches of scholastic study. It is looked upon by the intelligent portion of the citizens as a very close approximation if not an actual accomplishment of church and state union, and after immense expenditures of the people's money in its support, the legislature will soon be compelled to "bow to the majesty of the people," by abolishing it. A select committee appointed by the legislature of 1846, reported, (page 36):

"That the act of May 7th, 1844, creating the State Normal school, ought to be forthwith repealed, the officers, principal, professors and teachers in that institution discharged, and the pupils permitted to return to the homes of their parents."

"That the office of county superintendent of common schools ought to be immediately abolished."

"That the law appropriating $2,800 for the publication of the District School Journal ought to be immediately repealed."

Notwithstanding the numerous and expensive experiments by the legislature of New York for the past twenty years, professedly for the purpose of bringing a good education within the reach of all, the whole enginery of state has throughout been controlled by interested individuals and religious sects, as will always be found to be the case; for these, having a specific object in view, the advancement of their own interests and views, will lobby the legislature and engross its attention, while the general good of the people will be lost sight of or misapprehended. Accordly we find the Stete Superintendent, Samuel Young, in his annual report for the year 1844, forced to admit that little or no good results to the poor, or the public at large had attended the immense expenditures of the state, that the policy of past legislation had been to make the poor poorer and the rich richer. He says, (page 32.)

"The sum of $275,000 annually distributed from the School Fund, gives to each of the 657 782 children of the State, less than forty-two cents; whilst it will be perceived, by referring to the last annual report of the Regents of the University, that the students in the academies of this State, who are generally the sons of the rich, receive annually from the avails of the Literature Fund, the sum of $3,55 each, and this is wholly independent of the $4,800 heretofore applied to teachers' departments."

On page 33, he says:

"In 1838, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars from the avails of the U. S. Deposit Fund, was granted to three colleges, annually, for five years, 'and until otherwise directed by law.' This sum, divided among the students of these institutions, gives to each, annually, the sum of about forty-seven dollars. A strong contrast is here presented to the forty-two *cents* bestowed annually from the funds of the State upon the children of the poor. To add to the wealth of the rich and the poverty of the poor, seems to have formed a prominent feature in the policy of the past legislation. Has not the time come to abandon this policy?

"The great mass of the rising generation have no agents specially charged in their behalf to beleaguer the halls of legislation, in order that they may bestow their assiduities upon members, in the solicitation of special favors. They have not the means of employing or paying such agents; and if they were allowed to speak on this subject, actuated as they would be by the generous and confiding impulses of the youthful heart, they would ask no more from their rulers than equal cares and equal justice."

But aside from all considerations of economy, we regard all state systems of education as most dangerous and destructive of the religious rights of citizens. Experience proves that all such systems have resulted in the introduction of sectarian tenets, in one form or another, that have been obnoxious and utterly repugnant to the religious views and sentiments of many parents interested in the schools. Sometimes this is accomplished by the introduction into the schools of standard text-books, highly impregnated with sectarianism, but being sanctioned by the state officers, becoming inseparable from the schools. Sometimes by reading the Bible, (either Protestant or Catholic verson) with explanations or comments by the teachers, opening the school with prayer, &c. &c. This has led to the withdrawal of a very large portion of the children of many neighborhoods from the public schools, their parents being unwilling to subject them to religious discipline and exercise of which they disapprove. Private schools are established in consequence, which conflict with the district school: so that while dissenters are deprived of the benefit of moneys distributed by the state, which they themselves have been taxed to raise, the utility and prosperity of the district schools are greatly diminished. This flagrant injustice to religionists of the less popular orders, and others, it should be the anxious endeavor of all well-meaning legislators to avoid, and it can only be avoided by keeping school and state as separate as the founders of our republic endeavored to keep church and state. For wherever schools are provided, maintained and controlled by the state, it will be utterly impossible to prevent the more popular religious denominations from infusing their doctrines into them, and thus poisoning them for the use of others, whose rights in the matter should be held sacred, even though they should form ever so considerable a minority. Minorities, however small, have certain inalienable rights which should be respected and held inviolate by majorities, however large. The dearest immunities of men, are their religious rights, and there is no other species of liberty which they would not more willingly give up than these. This is clearly evinced by the results of trampling upon them, not only in the despotisms of the old world, but also in our own country. The awful outrages which a few years since crimsoned the streets of Philadelphia, and wrapped churches and hundreds of dwellings in the flames, originated in the thrusting of the Protestant Bible into the public schools, many of which, in the Kensington and other districts, were patronized altogether by Catholics, and attended exclusively by Catholic children. The Protestant districts generally conformed to the dictation of the clergy, although in many cases they were as much outraged in conscience by the explanations and comments made by the teachers to their children, as were the Catholics by the teaching to their children the Bible which their religion held not genuine. Now who will say that the Catholics should be compelled to abandon their religion, delusive and erroneous as it may be, or be compelled to have their children taught a version of the Bible, which is generally received as true by intelligent christians, but which nevertheless they religiously disbelieve!

The erroneous doctrine that the state should superintend and prescribe the religious belief of any of its citizens, or that any man or body of men should do so for others, has led to all the horrors of the bloody history of martyrs. Yet some of the fanatical clergy and their bigoted adherents, in Philadelphia took the ground that the Protestant Bible should be read in all the public schools of the city. When the Catholic districts refused to receive it, they called meetings in Kensington, at which the most bitter denunciation of the Catholics and their religion, was the chief subject of harangue, until they succeeded in provoking some of the inhabitants to a disturbance, ending with blows and the breaking up of a meeting, when exaggerated and high colored representations of the matter were made through the press, handbills, &c, and another meeting called at Independence Square which was addressed by several clergymen, who had been foremost in urging the Bible into the schools. Among the resolutions passed was the following:

"*Resolved*, That we will maintain the reading of the Holy Bible in our public schools, at any expense or hazzard whatever."

In the state of mind that may be imagined after fiery harangues in the spirit of this resolution under the circumstances, on motion of Rev. Mr. Perry, the meeting adjourned *en masse* to the Catholic section of the city; whereupon those awful scences of carnage and conflagration, which are but too dismally familiar to all, soon after ensued. Similar results, though to a far less alarming extent, have attended the forcing of the Bible into the public schools of New York, Boston and other cities. In Cincinnati, it is true, a more Christian spirit has prevailed among the people, who seemed to fully recognize the outrage done the Catholics by taxing them to support state schools, in which they cannot participate without outrage to their religion. Public fairs have been held and liberally attended in that city by Protestants for the benefit of the Catholic schools—but whether for the benefit of other private schools necessary for the education of dissenting Protestants who are also taxed to support public schools in which they cannot participate, we have not learned. The safest, best and only true way to avoid the injustice, oppression and other consequent evils of State schools is to abstain from the establishment of any state system. Such, we are happy to see is also the view of many intelligent citizens of Indiana. The following extract is from a letter we have just received from Elder Hiram T. Craig, a highly intelligent and influential Baptist minister of that State:—

"You are aware, perhaps, that the free school project has carried in this State. This, I believe, is entirely owing to a want of investigation. Badly as we are priest-ridden, I find that those counties in which the matter was investigated, gave large majorities against it. Some of the best political calculators in this (Morgan) county, say that if the election had come on three weeks sooner, a majority would have been in favor of it, whereas we have a majority of between 8 and 900 against it.

"The meeting of the Legislature is hastening on apace, and something must be done soon, or never. The priest party will claim full authority for immediate action, and endeavor to hurry the matter through. The crisis must be met. We confidently believe that if the question were again referred to the people, the result would be otherwise, and we shall yet avail ourselves of the last peaceable resort of freemen, the right of petition. In this vicinity we contemplate a memorial, couched in decorous terms, representing the evils growing, or likely to grow out of a general system of education, (Such as that of New York—for that is their model,) and praying the matter to be again referred to the people, or otherwise exempt Morg