NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE.

BY GREELEY & McELRATH. OFFICE TRIBUNE BUILDINGS, FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

VOL. VI. NO. 111. NEW-YORK, MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17, 1846. WHOLE NO. 1666.

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

THE NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE IS PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SUNDAY EXCEPTED,

At the Tribune Buildings, corner of Spruce and Nassau streets, opposite the City Hall,

And delivered to City Subscribers for 12½ CENTS per week, or, when they prefer, they can pay in advance at the Desk for six months or a year at the same rate. Single copies TWO CENTS. Mail subscribers Five Dollars per annum, in advance, and the paper in no case continued beyond the time for which it is paid. Subscriptions taken for six months. Three Dollars in advance required in all exchanges with Country Newspapers.—Daily papers received at this office whose terms are higher than those of THE TRIBUNE, are not allowed any difference.

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NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

The New-Tariff, Crops, &c. in our Iron Region.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WADHAM'S MILLS, Essex Co. N. Y. Aug. 11, '46.

FRIEND GREELEY: Having a little leisure, I improve the opportunity to give you a few signs of the times in Old Essex. Our Crops are exceedingly abundant: there is more Wheat produced this year in Essex Co. than there has been before in ten years altogether, (save last year;) all other Grain in great abundance; double last year's amount of Hay cut. Such an abundant harvest never was witnessed by the oldest inhabitants in this country before. The Potato crop is somewhat threatened by the rot that prevailed last season.

But while we are busily engaged gathering the fruits of our labor, anticipating a ready market for the produce of the country, the news comes that the bill repealing the Tariff of '42 has passed the House of Representatives; and passed by men acting in direct opposition to the will of their constituents. It is true the Legislature of this State did not instruct our Delegation to stand for the Tariff of '42; but could the people have spoken directly to them, their language would have been, "Meddle not with the Tariff of '42; we are satisfied to let well enough alone." Old Essex had no hand in sending the *Honorable Sixteen* that aided to bring this curse upon our country; but she will speak at the coming Election to those Districts that *did* send them and that party that sustains them, in language not to be misunderstood. While there are many of the Loco-Focos that are more indignant than any of the Whigs, there are also many more of the hot-headed, inconsistent, whose motto is, "My Party, right or wrong;" but such men are a disgrace to any party. They will sacrifice the interests of the country for party.

There are many of Mr. Polk's former political friends in this town, and, in fact, all over the county, that are severe in their denunciations against him and the party that sustains him in his attempt to destroy the interest of our country. They will not, they say, exactly own up Whigs, but they do say they will never again support the party that goes against Protection to American Labor.

One very influential Loco (while a neighbor was interpgating his Boys with regard to their political views) answered for the Boys: "They are Locos to day, but if McKay's bill passes the Senate they will be so no more if they regard the advice of their Father." There are a great many just such Locos as he is in Essex Co. Many of the Iron Makers have already reduced the price of making Iron $2 per ton; Charcoal $1 per hundred; consequently Labor and every thing else connected with the business must come down in proportion or else manufacturers cannot sustain themselves. Now who are injured by the reduction? Is it the wealthy manufacturer alone? Not by any means; they do not form a hundredth part of the suffering community. Unless I am very much mistaken, Friend Greeley, there will be such a political revolution in Northern New-York as never was known before. The "sober second thought" is affecting the People up in these diggings.

Yours, &c. D. W. B.

☞ Rev. MATTHEW D. GORDON, of Hoosick, Rensselaer Co. formerly Tutor in Middlebury College, has been appointed Chaplain to the State Prison at Sing-Sing in place of Rev. John Luckey, removed; Mr. Paine of Massachusetts, who was invited some time since to accept the office, having declined to do so. Mr. Gordon, we understand, has accepted, and will enter at once upon the duties of the station. He is a recent graduate of the Union Theological Seminary in this city, and, like Mr. Paine, a Presbyterian or Orthodox Congregationalist. We understand that the Professors of the Seminary and other clergymen of his acquaintance have expressed the opinion that he is admirably qualified for the office in point of sound judgment, intellectual capacity, and professional attainments.

☞ THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INSTRUCTION will hold its Seventeenth Anniversary at Plymouth, Mass. next week, on Friday, and continue in session several days. Eminent teachers and friends of Education from various parts of the country will deliver Lectures on important topics, and there will be much miscellaneous discussion among the members. Rev. S. J. May of Syracuse, and D. P. Page of the Normal School at Albany are among the lecturers.

CAN'T COME.—The Ecclesiastical Council called in Brookline, Mass. for the dismission of Rev. Mr. Storrs from his pastoral charge, that he might accept that of the Pilgrim Church in Brooklyn, have unanimously decided against it.

☞ J. C. BRANSTED, Esq. Editor of the Shelbyville, Tenn. Free Press, fell dead while standing reading in his office, on the 5th inst.

☞ Hon. WILLIAM SAWYER, ("Sausage Sawyer,") has been nominated for reelection to Congress in the VIth District of Ohio. The District is strongly Loco.

☞ The Government has purchased another transport, a three-masted schooner, of Messrs. Loper & Baird, of Philadelphia, which will load immediately and proceed to the seat of war.

From the Army.

By the Steamer Alabama, at New-Orleans, from Brazos Santiago, we gather a few more items of intelligence. The schooner Creole, with Government stores, was totally lost on the 29th ult—crew saved. The American Flag of the 31st ult. contains accounts of the murder of a number of American soldiers, who have been stabbed.

A row occurred at Matamoros between some of the disbanded volunteers and the military guard in the City, which required the use of the bayonet to quell. Two or three lives were lost.

THE MEXICAN PRISONERS.—"La Patria" of yesterday, in order to show that Gen. La Vega has not accepted Gen. Santa Ana's offer, as some Northern papers have indicated, says that besides the first offer of Santa Ana, the General has received another, dated 19th July, accompanied by an unlimited order on the house of Lapeyre, Harispe & Co. of this city; but that Gen. La Vega has written to the ex-President, stating that he cannot take advantage of his kind offers, as he and his friends receive quite as much from Mexico as suffices for the current expenses of him and his friends.

The Spanish paper farther adds that Gen. La Vega is undoubtedly as thankful to Santa Ana as he is to Gen. Taylor. To both he feels indebted for their kind attentions, and without the intention of offending either, he is obliged to refuse their good and friendly actions. [N. O. Delta, Aug. 7.

LATER FROM TEXAS.—The steamship Galveston, Capt. Wright, arrived yesterday from Indian Point and Galveston. She conveyed Gen. Wool and three companies of Illinois Volunteers to Matagorda. The Galveston brings us papers to her day of sailing, the 4th inst. from Galveston; they are, however, totally devoid of interest.

The weather at Galveston continued rainy, and the *Civilian* fears it will have bad accounts from some of the cotton crops on the lowlands of Texas.

Three steamboats, the *Rough and Ready*, the *Greenwood*, and the *Little Yazoo*, reached Galveston on the 2d, on their way to the Rio Grande.

The force concentrating at Bexar is represented as amounting to 4,705 men. It constitutes an independent command, which will be under Maj. Gen. Butler and Brig. Gen. Wool. It is destined to strike into the Province of Chihuahua, between Santa Fé and Gen. Taylor's position.

The Galvestonians seem alarmed at the report of the existence of yellow fever in this city, and recommend a rigid enforcement of the quarantine laws. [N. O. Bee, Aug. 7th.

EFFECT OF THE BRITISH TARIFF ON IRON.—We learn that a quantity of No. 1, cold blast charcoal Pig Iron was sold in this place on Saturday last at $20 per ton, and 3 per cent off for cash. The purchaser had the privilege of taking the whole or any part of a large lot. The Iron to be delivered here. [Harrisburgh (Pa.) Tel.

EPPES THE MURDERER OF MUIR.—The Charleston Courier has a letter from Franklin, Ala. giving an account of the arrest in that vicinity of two robbers, one of whom, supposed to be Wm. D. Eppes, the murderer of Muir in Virginia, was killed to prevent his escape. The tale seems too improbable for belief, but may be true notwithstanding.

WYATT THE MURDERER.—The application for a new trial in the case of Wyatt, the murderer, has been denied, and as the Governor has refused to grant a suspension of sentence, he will undoubtedly be hung on Monday next.

☞ On Thursday evening, at Philadelphia, a colored man was completely cut in two by the train of cars passing over his body on the inclined plane going West from the City.

NEW-YORK CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

ELEVENTH WEEK—LXIId DAY.

Mr. Harris on Law Reform—Forgetful Judges—An Elective Judiciary—Jefferson's Opinion—Mr. Nicoll on the Majority Report—His Case of Arbitration—Union of Law and Equity—Mr. Strong on the Administration of Justice—Justices' Courts—County Courts—Appeal Cases—Township Courts—Marine Court, N. Y.—Forfeited Bail.

ALBANY, Friday, August 14th, 1846.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The first speeches this morning were those of Messrs. Stow, Stephens and Perkins, which I will hereafter notice.

Mr. Chancellor WALWORTH to-day recommended the appointment of an Accountant-General in Chancery.

Mr. IRA HARRIS has at last stated his views, and in the main I like them well, and so, I think, will the public.

Mr. HARRIS, this evening, said that he had been in the practice of the Law for about 18 years, was aware of its defects, and desirous that it should be improved, especially in the four following essential features:

I. He desired AN ELECTIVE JUDICIARY—an election of the whole Judiciary of the State, by the Electors, for stated periods—not too short, nor yet so long as to place them beyond the review of the Electors.

II. A UNION OF THE JURISDICTION OF LAW AND EQUITY—no good being obtained by keeping them separate.

III. UNIFORMITY IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, so as to secure the same decisions on the same questions throughout the State. The plan presented by a majority of the Standing Committee on the Judiciary, in that respect meets Mr. Harris's views.

IV. A SIMPLIFICATION OF THE PRACTICE OF THE COURTS OF LAW AND EQUITY, and a MATERIAL REDUCTION OF THE EXPENSE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. HARRIS agreed with Mr. Stow, in his really eloquent and able speech of this morning, that any plan which did not include a more simple practice in the Courts, and a material reduction in the cost of law proceedings, would be insufficient for the ends of justice. All experiments, without simplicity and cheapness, would undoubtedly prove a failure.

The unwieldy machinery of our present forms of practice would crush any judiciary the Convention might appoint. We must simplify our proceedings: we must disencumber them of those complicated forms which had caused the people of the State to denounce our present judicial system.

It is here that the present State Judiciary have been shipwrecked. They were admonished to make such reforms in the practice of the Courts as would have saved the system and made it acceptable to the people.

Mr. HARRIS referred to the Revised Statutes, where they require the Chancellor to make such reforms as its practice required. Odious, said he, as is this Court, I believe that had the Chancellor, [Walworth] complied, in its spirit, with that request, this Convention, if here at all, would probably have continued that Court in the new Constitution. They went on, however, with their paper suits, and instead of pursuing this reform in the proper spirit, made more numerous and complicated rules.—When the Chancellor told an eminent professional gentleman in this city that he was about to have published his periodical revision of the Chancery rules of Practice, the lawyer asked him *drily*, whether the work was to come out in one or two volumes. The Supreme Court had also neglected the signs of the times, and rendered its rules more and more difficult and complicated, thus adding to the embarrassments of the public.

Mr. HARRIS went on to remark that he wished the Chief Justice to be chosen by the whole of the Electors of the State, and to hold office for a shorter term than the other Judges—he wished the Chief Justice to preside over the Judiciary Department, and to prescribe such rules of practice as would simplify the proceedings of the Courts. He desired to see an officer selected by the People, who would be responsible for a reform in the proceedings of the Courts.

[Greatly as I admire the matter and manner of Mr. Harris's discourse, I must own that I dissent from that part where he would leave to any Judge the rules of procedure in the new Courts. It is the laziness of some, the prejudices and the want of sympathy with the People of all, which have marked the Judges of the present regime, that has prevented them from simplifying the present system—Mr. H. shows that. Why then trust them in future? The rules of the Courts should be the laws of the land, and a code of procedure compiled by the best Commissioners, and which has passed in review, as the Revised Statutes did, the ordeal of the Legislature, is the one thing needful.]

Mr. HARRIS ably advocated the election of Judges by the People—reminded the Convention how earnestly Mr. Van Buren had urged the Convention of 1821 to keep power from the People, and not to make the Justices of the Peace the football of politicians, by trusting the People to elect them. Who now, he asked, would take from the people the election of their Justices? Were they ever better appointed? He applied the same argument to the rest of the judiciary, and was satisfied the people of New-York State would be fully adequate to the duty of choosing every Judge in the State.

I write in great haste, and there is much to day that I cannot even stop to notice. Mr. Harris's remarks were interrupted for a time by a scene which I will hereafter notice.

Mr. MARVIN's plan of a Judiciary, as also Mr. St. John's, are at last printed. I will describe them to-morrow.

Chancellor Walworth has sent in a communication about the three millions, which I will also try to notice to-morrow.

Elective Judges—Jefferson.

I am blamed by some here for saying anything about electing the Judges—but it is a great point, and I like Mr. Bascom's idea of electing them by districts, the districts to elect the men they know best and like best. The bar will have a great influence in the election of such judges, but its members, on both sides in politics, must support men of standing and character as candidates or they will fail with the voters, who have the deepest interest in having justice administered in its native purity. Was not Jefferson a Whig of '76? Did he not at 33 draw out the great Declaration of American Freedom? Mr. Van Buren's opinion against an elective, Republican Judiciary has been quoted both by Whig and Democrat on the floor of the Convention. I quote a better, more faithful, and far worthier authority, that of Thomas Jefferson. Our highest judges, the Court of Errors, our most useful ones, the Justices of the Peace, are elected by the people directly, and the remainder of the bench are elected by a Governor and Senate of the people's choice. The Senator and the Justice of the Peace are elected for 4 years, the Governor for 2. The Senate and Governor select judges, some for 3 years and some till they arrive a three-score.

In a letter, THOMAS JEFFERSON to Samuel Kerchival, July 12, 1816, he thus states his views after a public life of nearly 50 years:

"It has been thought that the people are not competent electors of judges *learned in the law*. But I do not know that this is true, and, if doubtful, we should follow principle. In this, as in many other elections, they would be guided by reputation, which would not err oftener, perhaps, than the present mode of appointment. In one State of the Union, at least, it has been long tried, and with the most satisfactory success. The judges of Connecticut have been chosen by the people every six months, for nearly two centuries, and I believe there has hardly ever been an instance of change; so powerful is the curb of incessant responsibility. If prejudice, however, derived from a monarchical institution, is still to prevail against the vital elective principle of our own, and if the existing example among ourselves of periodical election of judges by the people be still mistrusted, let us at least not adopt the evil and reject the good, of the English precedent; let us retain a responsibility on the concurrence of the Executive and Legislative branches, and nomination by the Executive alone. The nation to office is an Executive function. To give it to the Legislature, as we do, is a violation of the principle of the separation of powers. It swerves the Members from correctness by temptations to intrigue for office themselves, and to a corrupt barter of votes; and destroys responsibility by dividing it among a multitude. By leaving nomination in its proper place, among Executive functions, the principle of the distribution of power is preserved, and responsibility weighs with its heaviest force on a single head."

In the tenth of this opinion, will the legal friends of the non-elective system advocate a Legislative selection of the Judiciary, subject, as it is, to all the evils of cabal and intrigue, without the check of publicity? Though a part of the Executive force of the State, the execution of the Laws and the Civil Power being committed to them, in a great degree, yet they are not responsible to any Governor elected for a couple of years, and why should a Governor nominate them? Elect the Judges, SIR, and you may occasionally find on the Bench a man of sound common sense, but little versed in the legal jargon of the Profession. What then? He might have an Assessor. One thing I am sure we would not have—those Judges of loose life and conversation who have found their way to the Bench under the system of appointment by the Albany Regency or any other. As to their tenure of office, I would neither elect Judge nor Governor for a long period. Why should a Judge be elected to office till three-score and ten, and a Governor only for two years? Even Mr. Stow, to-day, although his mind is of an ultra-Conservative character, admitted this morning that the Judicial power, in the Court of last resort, would be safer in the hands of men elected by the People, than in those of Judges appointed as heretofore. He instanced the extraordinary construction which the Judges and Chancellor had given to the Habeas Corpus remedy, and admitted that the *elected* members of the Court of Errors had there proved an effective check to public liberty and individual freedom. I would rather elect the Judges in Districts by the Supervisors, as Mr. O'Conor proposes, than bring their election, as heretofore, into the Legislature.

Mr. O'CONOR proposes, as do the majority of the Committee on the Judiciary, to transfer the powers of the Court of Chancery to the Supreme Court. On the other proposition, to establish a clear code or scientifically arranged set of rules of proceeding in the Court, (of practice, by the lawyers or suitors in it, of evidence, &c. as a means of redressing wrongs and protecting rights,) the Committee appear to agree with Mr. O'Conor—they are for one set of rules of practice.

On Wednesday, Mr. NICOLL of New-York advocated, with great liberality and fairness, the views of the majority of the Committee in many respects. The purposes of Courts of Justice was to enforce a right or redress a wrong, and he preferred the OLD Common Law as it stood before the Norman Conquest—a simple system, well suited to a plain, agricultural people, which brought justice speedily home to every man's door, without those pernicious details of form which now embarrass us at every turn. In those days a man entered the Court, stated his cause, produced his proofs and witnesses, was met by his opponent, and the decision was speedily obtained, not upon forms of practice, but on the merits of the case. At the Norman Conquest, the forms of the civil law were introduced and mixed up with this simple system—fiction was piled upon fiction, technicality upon technicality—the whole had become a mystery of mysteries; even the best lawyers, when sitting down to prepare a cause, were met at every side by pitfalls. To stand still under such a system would be itself an innovation. Mr. N. went into a historical account of legal fictions—trover, assumpsit, &c. As to legal pleadings, when a man sits down to draw his plea, he is required to use the most perilous precision, or that generality which amounts to saying nothing. If he had to choose between the two, he would say that the proceeding in a Court of Chancery, of plainly stating a case in simple, easy understood terms, was more to his mind than the more technical and difficult forms of what is now called the common law.

Suppose the Convention had to start anew, and establish a system of law for mankind, would they make two systems, two forms of practice, two courts administering justice according to positive laws? The Court of Chancery is just as much bound by precedents, and positive rules, as the Supreme Court. The former is not a means of relief from the rigid letter of the law as administered in the latter—they are already so mixed up that the Judges themselves are unable to agree what should be brought into the one court and what in the other. This is an age of progress, and why should law be an exception? Why should law refuse to submit to that spirit of investigation and reform which has gone forth among us? Why is it that law, which should be the great means of binding society together, has become the greatest public grievance?

Mr. NICOLL sought to show that half the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery had been incorporated into the Law Courts, and used many arguments to show that they ought to be united. A case had been stated to him a few years since. A couple of men had a difference which they left to Arbitration. The Arbitrators fairly agreed, but made a mistake of $300 in rendering the award, against the defendant, which they afterward perceived, and both admitted it. The plaintiff asked to have judgment rendered—the defendant requested the Supreme Court to correct the admitted mistake. The Supreme Court Judges decided that as the award had been made before a subscribing witness they had no power to correct the error—they could only enter up the award. Turned out of this Court, the defendant sought relief from the unlawful payment of the $300 in the Court of Chancery, and showed that the Supreme Court had refused to interfere. What followed? Chancellor Walworth, after full inquiry, decided that the Supreme Court was WRONG—that they had power to give relief—had jurisdiction, and ought to have decided that the poor defendant should not, through a mistake, be made to pay $300, not intended to be required from him by either arbitrator. The case was thus dismissed in the one Court, with *costs* against the injured applicant, and relief refused in the other. The defendant next applied to the Court of Errors, by a writ of Error, but the Supreme Court would not send up the affidavits, the writ was quashed, and the poor man had to pay the $300 he did not owe, and other $600 in the shape of law costs, and all this because the line between the Supreme Court and Court of Chancery could not be distinguished! Was it not time to unite these Courts, and have one form of practice in both, when the effect of their separation was thus to deny justice to the citizens, and absorb their substance? He believed that to blend these jurisdictions together would be one of the greatest blessings that the Convention could aid in conferring upon society. The subject of codification he would not then discuss. What was wanted for the country was to give some certainty to those ever changing rules of the common law, which depend on precedents almost innumerable, and vary with our judges; so that when a practitioner takes a case in hand he may know that he is not to be embarrassed by mere forms of law, which has indeed become a mystery of mysteries.

Mr. STRONG of Monroe is not what is technically termed a lawyer—he does not speak in courts by SPECIAL LICENSE, granted to 3,000 and refused to nearly three millions of the citizens of N. Y. but he is a farmer of great experience, and has notions of his own akin to common sense, which it they are not according to law it is clear to most people that law ought to be according to them.

He spoke very well on the question of Judiciary Reform—said that Monroe had a good County Court, and paid its District Attorney $1500 salary, and its County Court Judge $1000, their salaries being fixed by the Board of Supervisors. As to the licensing question, he opposed the provision which directed the Judges to license a privileged order of men, as the exclusive practitioners in the law courts. No such clause ought to be allowed in the Constitution of any free people. What would he thought of the farmer or mechanic who should come here, and ask that before men can follow their occupation they should require an examination, an apprenticeship, and a license from an agricultural Board? In other States it had been found easy to administer law without the aid of licenses.

[He brought in a resolution to prevent all such licenses in future, and Onondaga County has denounced the law licensing system, and instructed her representatives to use their influence in destroying it. I have not heard any of them mention the matter. One of them, Mr. Munro, is perhaps sick. Like Mr. Allen he has been absent almost the whole session.]

Mr. STRONG thought that the Surrogates should be paid by salaries, that those salaries should be under the control of the Board of Supervisors [a good idea] and that they should be elected for four years and that all fees of office received by them should be paid into the County Treasury.

[Why not apply this plan to County Clerks also—Why should people's private business be done for nothing? Why should $5,000, $6,000, $10,000, $20,000, and sometimes $30,000 a year be paid to political partisans, some of whom carry on their private business at the same time, and only visit their deputies to look after the fees?]

How asked Mr. Strong, can the legislature fix the salaries of Surrogates, when the labor differs in different years, and in different counties?

As to the election of the judges, there had been, said Mr. Strong, two alternatives presented to the consideration of the Convention, and opinion was divided in Convention, but not out of it. The first alternative never had been required by the people—they had had appointments made for them by Governors and Senates long enough. If any one question was decidedly settled by the people, of all parties, it was, that the elective principle, the great and governing principle of our institutions, which the Convention had already applied to the Governor, Legislature and State officers, should also apply to the Judiciary. The people desired to elect their judges, the men who would sit in judgment on questions of property and personal rights, and enforce the laws for the protection of both, and it was a libel on them to say they were not as safe, as competent, and as proper a body to do so as could be found in the State. In his opinion, a large majority of this Convention would be found to be highly favorable to the election of the judges, every man of them, by the people who sent here the Delegates, and who called the Convention. That was the mandate of the constituents of Members. In Monroe County, there were no two opinions on the subject.

So, too, of Justices of the Peace, he liked the decision of the Committee; and, believing that many towns did not require four justices, he wished the people to have power in their several towns at their town meetings, to say how many justices should be elected. The jurisdiction of a Justice's court extended now to $100, but was confined only to the extent of $50; he wished to give Justices of the Peace original jurisdiction to the amount of $250, and exclusive jurisdiction to the extent of $100; and he wanted to see appeals and certiorari from Justices' courts abolished. Why should not a note of $250 be collected in a Justice's court, where the costs were $5, *instead of carrying it into a County Court where the costs, in many cases, will be swelled large enough to swallow up the judgment?* If it was said they had not good juries, he asked why then did not the Legislature give them better? There is not a town in the State in which a good jury could not be obtained, to secure which a list could remain in the town-clerk's office. When a farmer has a case to be tried, he wishes men of his own class to be on the jury.

The people are weary of the present system of appeals, under which they have long groaned, and been cheated out and lawed out of the fruits of many years of toil and industry. They had applied in vain to the Legislature for relief from this systematic oppression, and now look to the Convention with the same views.—Petty cases were carried up from the Justices' Court, and from the County Court to the Circuit, Supreme and Chancery Courts, and many find when they get out of law that they have been beggared. Make the Justices' Courts what they ought to be—provide that the Legislature SHALL make the needful improvements, and do away a system of appeals which your fellow-citizens do not ask for, which they have asked to be rid of, and which is demoralizing and injurious to them. If an appeal shall be brought against a justice's verdict for $250, let it be finally settled within the town, and not carried to costly tribunals, with ruinous costs and delays. Who ever knew a judge refuse to grant an appeal? He had been told of ONE instance. The person desiring to appeal hands the judge his affidavit; *the judge, with one hand, grasps the paper, the other grips the dollar.* If that was not a shaving machine, he would like to know what was. [Laughter.] The justice, on receiving 75 cents, writes out a statement of the testimony, (a history of the trial,) which is sent to the County Court, there argued by lawyers, and a decision given, at new costs, and sometimes the sum in dispute is not more than 6 cents—he knew a case where it was but one cent. The next step is an appeal to a higher court.

In this way ill feelings are perpetuated in neighborhoods, where three Justices could meet and settle the dispute by the exercise of common sense, or *let* the County Judge try appeals at a given place in each town, at stated periods, and thus deliver the people from strife, trouble, prolonged dissensions, and bad feeling, accompanied by ruinous expenses, which they cannot defray.

[Mr. FLANDERS's idea, and a very good one.]

With such amendments as these, he would support the report of the majority, and the amendments would relieve the higher Courts from much of the litigation which obstructs their usefulness. Men of fortune, speculators, merchants and brokers, would keep in the large Courts, but the laboring classes do not need them. Yet Courts, but the laboring classes do not need them. Yet without them the country could not exist. *Without their labor on their farms and in their workshops* fine gentlemen might starve with their pockets full of bank notes. To provide for the demands of our fellow-citizens in these respects, would soon save to them more than the cost of this Convention and cause its memory to be esteemed to future generations.

How many Judges there are in the Marine Court of New-York I know not, but Thomas Jefferson Smith (one of them,) I perceive, returns his fees and perquisites of office in 1845, at *about* $1,016, over and above the Court expenses by him paid out. There is a large sum received by this Court for naturalizing people, independent of the thousands of cases tried.

Forfeited Recognizances, Bail, &c.

Mr. LeRoy Morgan, District Attorney for Onondaga County, writes that the Recognizances forfeited and handed over to him, in 1845, for prosecution, amounted to $6,500. Suits were brought that year on $3,450, and $300 recovered with $27 costs. Generally the Common Pleas relieved the sureties. About 200 Recognizances are taken a year in the County.

In nine-fourth of the cases, the prosecutor is good bail taken. This is a great evil.

In Broome County $500 of a bail bond was sued and recovered with $67 costs.

Mr. T. M. HOWELL, for Ontario County, says that he has avoided making costs by forfeiting recognizances, because, in almost every case, if suits were commenced, the people would have to foot the bill. Take this to mean, that hundreds of bail-bonds taken yearly were straw-bail, or good for nothing, except as a pretext for lawyers for allowing knaves to escape punishment.

Mr. LOTTRIDGE, for Rensselaer county, gives the bail-bonds and recognizances forfeited in 1845, at $37,000.—Two suits—nothing recovered—prosecutions stayed. Mr. L. does not know whether anything was collected.

Mr. INGALLS, for Washington county, says he has not the account of forfeited bail-bonds. One of $500 and another of $50 were paid.

GEORGE HASTINGS, for Livingston county, had commenced four suits—$100 were paid—$2,500 forfeited in 1845, but all respited.

No return from the County of New-York, nor from the County Clerks of New-York or Kings. I suppose that the incumbents of these princely sinecures, for they literally are such, are up for reelection. If the other returns were correct, New-York and Kings yielded $40,000 profits, out of which something can be afforded for the manufacture of mock Democracy for November. K.

Eastern Pennsylvania—Anti-Slavery Society.

Correspondence of The Tribune

WILMINGTON, Del. Aug. 13, 1846.

Dear Sir: As you are in the commendable practice of keeping your readers informed of every thing of interest that transpires in relation to that most important, but till lately least appreciated movement of the age, the Anti-Slavery agitation, you will allow me place to mention some developments in this regard, which it has been my lot to witness during the past week.

The Annual meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society was held last week at Old Kennett, in Chester Co. Pa., about six miles from the borders of this State and not much more from the confines of Maryland; and such a concourse of people, assembled for such a purpose, was perhaps never before witnessed in that part of the country. The meeting lasted three days, with apparently increasing interest to the last. It was to have been held in Old Kennett Meeting-House, but the building could not have accommodated a moiety of the multitude that assembled; so after the first session it adjourned to the open air. The density of the crowd and the inconvenience of the arrangements made it difficult for one not having a personal interest in the proceedings to listen to all that was going on; but those who gave attention to the discussions represent them as being of a very instructive and unexceptionable character, and conducted on the part of the speakers, with dignity and unusual courtesy. Among those who took part in the debates were the two Burleighs—C. C. and C. M.—Lucretia Mott, Miller McKim, Thos. Whitson, Lindley Coates, Dr. Stebbins, Adin Ballou of Mass., and others from Penna. and this State.

Our readers may form a pretty correct idea of the quality and character of the Pennsylvania Society, from the following extract of its Annual Report, a printed copy of which is before me:

"The events of the past year have deepened our conviction, that the Society acted wisely at its last Annual Meeting, in disclaiming allegiance to the Pro-Slavery Federal Constitution, and thus taking the ground of 'no union with slaveholders.' We are more and more satisfied with our present attitude in relation to this subject, as each succeeding development of the controlling spirit of the Union gives fresh proof that Freedom has nothing to hope from its continuance on its present basis, and that it behoves Northern men more politic for Abolitionists to bind themselves, by oath or its equivalent, to support a frame of Government which supports the very system they are laboring to destroy.

"And feeling thus, we are, by necessary consequence, increasingly well satisfied with the position of our Society in regard to all plans of Anti-Slavery action, which require that Abolitionists should act as a political party, or take part in the management of political machinery. Not is it only because such plans involve support to a Pro-Slavery government, that we still disapprove them; for, aside from this, we think them fitted to hinder rather than to help the conversion of the people to a living Anti-Slavery faith, whereby alone can Slavery ever be abolished. To effect this conversion, the diligent promulgation of Anti-Slavery truth, is the proper work of our Association. With unabated confidence in the efficiency of moral power, we persevere in prosecuting this great work, with the same means as in former years, the lecturer's voice, and the issues, occasional and periodical, of the Anti-Slavery press."

The resolutions alluded to against the Mexican War, and which were adopted unanimously, with a single exception, read as follows:

Resolved, That we view the War which this nation is waging against Mexico, as a War of aggression for the increase of the Slave power, and the extension of the Slave system; and that to give it countenance and encouragement is to fight against the cause of humanity and freedom.

Resolved, That it is the duty of the friends of our country, right and humanity, to justify our waging this War because the country is involved in it, it will no less justify any and every possible mode of upholding slavery, while the country retains that system, and it is condemns our opposition to the Mexican War, it no less condemns all our efforts for the abolition of Slavery.

The Annual Report represents the Society as in a flourishing condition and the cause as rapidly onward—Among the measures adopted for the ensuing year was that of vigorously and extensively circulating Anti-Slavery petitions to Congress and the State Legislature, different forms of which were recommended by the Society. One is the State Legislature prays for a repeal of all laws which in any wise countenance or support the slave system, and another to Congress set forth the evils arising from the pro-slavery provisions of the Federal Constitution, to the Free States, to the whole country and to the slave, and respectfully asks for a peaceable dissolution of the Union, as the truest and best way of effecting a remedy. This last is a bold measure, and one of questionable expediency, but it is remarkable how it grows in favor with the people of that part of the country in which the meeting was held.

But I am trespassing too much on your space and patience, and must stop. Believe me,

Your friend and constant reader, A. P.

AGENT OF THE STATE PRISON INDICTED.—The Grand Jury of Cayuga County, upon the testimony of the prison officers, last week found a bill of indictment against RUSSELL CHAPPEL, Agent of the State Prison, for providing unwholesome food for the convicts. The officers testified that he knowingly ordered to be cooked for their use, a quantity of injured and spoiled codfish, which had been condemned by the physician. The jury stood 17 to 5 in favor of the bill.

REMORSE EXPLOSION.—It was currently reported about town last evening, that the steamer "Bunker Hill," which left here yesterday afternoon, had burst one of her boilers above Lafayette, and that a number of passengers were killed by the explosion. Upon diligent inquiry we were unable to trace the report to any reliable source. [N. O. Pic. 7th.

General Notices.

☞ **Saratoga Springs.**—Dr. G. Benj. Smith's Pills are for sale by E. E. Hoaling, at the Springs. The patronage of these valuable Pills will please observe G. Benj. Smith written on the bottom of the Box. Improved Intl. Veg. (Sugar-coated) Pills. 25 cents per Box. Office 179 Greenwich-st. (large brick block,) N. Y. jy17 1mos

☞ **For Boston via Norwich and Worcester.**—The steamer *Cleopatra*, Capt. Williams, will leave South side of Pier No. 1 North River every *Monday, Wednesday* and *Friday*, at 5 P. M. connecting with the cars at Allyn's Point. [mys tf] CALEB PRATT, Jr. Conductor.

☞ **Practical Phrenologists and Publishers**—FOWLERS & WELLS, 131 Nassau-st. Office hours from 8 o'clock A. M. to 10 P. M. [ly28 3m*

MECHANICS' SOCIETY SCHOOL.

THIS popular institution, situated 474 Broadway, and extending through to Crosby-st. will reopen on Monday, the 31st inst. under the most favorable auspices. The buildings are now undergoing very thorough repairs and additions which will render them more complete, perhaps, for the comfort and convenience of the pupil, than any other establishment of the kind in this vicinity. The Young Gentlemen's Department will be conducted by Professor R. L. Cook as Principal, a gentleman of great literary acquirements and more than twenty years' tuition, while Miss Vice will preside, and five other competent and experienced teachers. The Young Ladies' Department is still in charge of Miss Mary Y. Bean, whose high moral character and eminent success in teaching is a sufficient guaranty to persons wishing to place their daughters in an institution where their mental and moral faculties may be the most rapidly improved. Miss Bean is assisted by Miss E. Crary as Vice Principal, and five other efficient teachers. In addition to the usual English branches, Latin, French, Drawing and Vocal Music are taught in this School.

There are a few vacant seats in each Department which may be filled by early application to the Principals, or either of the School Committee. H. T. INGALLS, Secretary School Committee.

New-York, Aug. 6, 1846. au12 3taw2w1st

TYPE AT REDUCED PRICES.

GEORGE BRUCE & CO. Typefounders, at No. 13 Chambers-st. New-York.

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Also, Printing Presses of all sizes and descriptions, Ink, Brushes, Cases, Galleys, Wood Types, Chases, Brass Rule, Composing Sticks, and generally every kind of Printing material. Ruggles's new Printing Engine, price $425, which will give 1000 impressions of cap folio in an hour; Card Press, price $140, on which a page can be printed in a minute; a Sheet Card-Cutter, price $30; a Paper Cutter, for printers or book-binders, price $63.

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☞ The type on which this paper is printed is from the above foundry. jy27 1m

From Havana.

To the Editor of the Washington Union.

HAVANA, August 5th, 1846.

By the English war steamer Vesuvius, from Vera Cruz, and bound to Bermuda for the health of her crew, touching here for coal, we are informed that the Raritan had sailed for Pensacola with near 300 sick, from the American squadron, the diseases scurvy and yellow fever, the last of which prevails to a great extent in the city and harbor of Vera Cruz. The Vesuvius had lost both engineers from yellow fever, and had many of her crew sick.

We have been amused here by letter writing and editorial speculation on the movements of a Mr. Murphy (properly Murfin) to and in Mexico. This Mr. Murfin is a Spaniard, and has forgotten the Irish spelling of his ancestral name. He is a wealthy money broker of Mexico, and the agent of the English bondholders, and heretofore has had no political or diplomatic agency. He was a *protegé* of Santa Ana, by whose aid and countenance he amassed a fortune, in the City of Mexico, of $400,000 in two years: he is known here, and his acquaintances are quite surprised at his new position, if your papers are correct.

By the steamer Charleston, arrived here yesterday from Charleston, came Mr. H. Tamaris, who chartered the steamer for $3,000 to bring him to this port, that he might be (it is supposed) in time to take the British steamer for Vera Cruz.