NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

MADELINE....For The Tribune.

TO E.... G....—BY C. D. STUART.

How calm she sleeps, young Madeline—
The heaving of her snowy breast
Seems musical as rippling waves
By Summer moon-beams softly prest.

She sleeps; and by those trembling lids,
Which hide two orbs of living light,
Some dream is floating in her soul,
Filling her heart with fair delight.

Gentle and pure, young Madeline—
No lily on its fragile stem
Is half so spotless; nor so bright,
The diamond in a diadem.

Love is the impulse of her heart,
And Faith, which doubly thrives in youth;
And these are guarded 'round about,
Ever, by honor and by truth.

She sings th, when the sun comes up,
Whether the sun may shade or shine;
For grief comes not to heart like hers,
Gentle and peerless Madeline.

She singeth when the sun goes down;
For light her heart will ever run,
Since steadily through all her life,
Daily, some bounteous deed is done,

O, sleep thou gentle rose-cheeked one,
Angels are watching round thy shrine,
And ever will they guard thee well,
Loving and truthful Madeline!

New-York Historical Society.

The regular monthly meeting of the Historical Society was held on Tuesday evening, at its Rooms in the University—Hon. LUTHER BRADISH in the Chair.

A History Forthcoming—Mr. MOORE read a letter from Mr. Asa Fitch of Salem, N. Y. stating that he has been for two years preparing a historical memoir of his County, to be presented to the Society. As a specimen he transmitted an extract from the work, being a brief notice of Col Webster, a Scotchman, who took an active part in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. MOORE also read the report of the Committee of the Legislature on the recent Petition of the Society—which was highly favorable to the purposes desired.

Donations.—A large number of Donations during the month of February, were announced by the Librarian. Among them we noticed the following: "The Journals of the Senate and Assembly, with the accompanying Documents," for the last year; a copy of all their published volumes, from the American Tract Society; a perfect copy of "Houston's Debates in the U. S. Senate for the First Session of the Thirteth Congress," from Gen. Prosper M. Wetmore....Mr Gibbs presented a complete set of the Maps prepared for the British Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge—while not the least curious addition to the archives of the Society was a Manuscript Poem written by a Revolutionary Soldier at the age of 80....A copy of Lt. Maury's "Wind and Current Chart of the South Atlantic," was also presented by Gen. WETMORE; who took occasion to speak in terms highly and deservedly laudatory of the efforts of Lieut. Maury to forward his plan of observing and profiting by the different Currents and Winds of the Ocean.

New Members Appointed—Hon Reuben H. Walworth of Saratoga Springs was elected an Honorary Member of the Society. Among the Corresponding Members likewise elected, were Prof. Ira F. Loomis and Stephen Olin, D.D.—A large number of Resident Members were also added to the lists of the Society.

Mr. BRADISH here announced that the non arrival of Mr. Knevels from Fishkill—owing to the condition of River navigation—would prevent the receipt of the paper upon "Our Dutch Progenitors," which was to have been read at this meeting. It will probably be presented in April.

The French before the Pilgrims—Mr. BARTLETT read a paper on CHAMPLAIN'S Expedition to the Iroquois Country, on or about the present location of Onondaga County in this State. The facts therein set forth gave account of the early visits of Champlain to the Onondaga Valley, in 1615—or five years before the Landing of the Pilgrims.

Architecture.—Mr. LONG, a distinguished Architect, at present sojourning here, brought before the Society the main features of a paper which he will read probably at the April meeting, upon the "Development and Historical Value of the Ancient Monuments of America."—Mr. Long considered briefly the regular progression observable in the styles of architecture, from the earliest known development of the art, in the erection of the Pyramids; and made some farther interesting remarks, to which we may again recur in connection with his valuable communication, when presented in full.

—Little else was accomplished, and at a late hour the meeting was adjourned.

Chemistry in its Relation to Agriculture.

DR. ANTISELL'S TWELFTH AND LAST LECTURE.

Delivered before the American Agricultural Association, March 2.

The Twelth and last Lecture of this Course, delivered on Friday evening, was devoted to a consideration of the Action of the Imponderable Elements on the Growth of Crops, and the best means of promoting Improvements in Agriculture.

The Lecturer remarked that having, in the preceding Lectures, brought under notice how far material substances influence the growth of vegetation, he now proposed to consider some of those agencies which are not capable of being brought minutely under examination; and which have been termed, from their inability to be weighed, the Imponderable Elements.—The most important of these he designated, first, as Light. Light, as received from the sun, he observed, is not that simple body which its ordinary whiteness would lead us to suppose; but is formed of various compounds which readily undergo decomposition.

The Dr. detailed the classification of the primitive Colors; and the diminution of their number, upon minute and accurate investigation, into the three rays of red, blue and yellow—the remainder of the seven originally included being now looked upon as varieties of these three. The Dr. illustrated his remarks by a diagram showing the separation of light when its rays fall upon a prism; proving that each ray takes a particular line of direction; and proceeded to a detail of the effect of the different rays on foreign substances. The red and violet rays, he remarked, possess the greatest power of chemical action. The heat is found to be greatest at the violet end of the spectrum—sufficient to reduce metallic oxides to the condition of pure metal. It is believed, and with truth, that this chemical action has a similar effect on vegetation; in the metal, it is getting rid of oxygen—in the plant, oxygen is also set free, while carbon is fixed within the body. When light plays upon any object, two or three changes may take place; either the light is simply absorbed, or it may be absorbed first and reflected afterward. To the latter action is owing the color of objects in Nature; the green tint of leaves, etc.

Thus we find that the ray of light is not only not a simple body, but that it is a very complicated one. Its power to effect these chemical changes is very much owing to the blue ray; the property of the Sun in bleaching, &c. is mainly to be attributed to this.—The Dr. then passed to a consideration of the intimate connection between the heat and light of the Sun; and the main sources of Electricity, with its effects upon plants. He considered that the main supply of atmospheric Electricity must be derived from the evaporation on the surface of the ground—instancing the large amount of vapor sent off by so small a body as two inches of water, or sufficient to deflect the electrometer to a very great extent. He detailed a number of experiments, particularly those of Mr. Forster in Great Britain, where the electric current of the atmosphere was brought to the surface of the ground by the agency of conducting wires. This current, generally, running due east and west, was intercepted by placing the wires aforesaid from north to south. The experiments, however, were only partially successful. The Dr. thought it very doubtful whither so large an amount of electricity would be of any real benefit to the crop, and considered that the stimulation hence resulting would be altogether too much for the plants.

He detailed various modes of simple analyses of soils; and adverted to one or two other incidental points. In conclusion, he urged the necessity that Agriculture be conducted on a better plan and with better means. The only way, he considered, by which this can be accomplished, is by State Institutions. As Agriculture is the foundation of the National wealth, every facility (he urged) should be afforded it for improvement. It is not a single Science; many others are indispensably connected with it, and it is extremely desirable that this connection be carried out more thoroughly.

The Dr. concluded with a few practical observations, and closed his Course amid the general applause of his audience.

On motion of Mr. Seeley, THOS. ADDIS EMMET, Esq. Vice-President of the Association, was called to the Chair, and a series of appropriate Resolutions was adopted—expressive of the pleasure afforded the members by these Lectures of Dr. ANTISELL, with a vote of thanks superadded thereto—On motion, Dr. ANTISELL was then unanimously appointed Chemist to the Association, with the provision that his services may be at any time called again into requisition to deliver Lectures upon any particular subjects.

The meeting then adjourned.

LAW REFORM MEETING.—The *Tioga Freeman* of last week, contains the proceedings of a large meeting of the citizens of Owego, in favor of Law Reform. Strong and spirited resolutions were adopted; among them the following in favor of continuing the Practice Commission in office a sufficient time to perfect their labors:

Resolved, That we are in favor of the extension of the Commission on Practice and Pleadings, to such time as will enable the Commissioners to complete the new Code of Procedure, according to the spirit of the Constitution, and general plan foreshadowed in their first report, adopted by the Legislature of 1848.

FIRES IN MONTREAL.—On March 1, the Old City Bank on St. Paul st. Montreal, the property of Louis Auldjo, Esq. and occupied by Greene & Son as a fur store, was destroyed by fire....The loss of Mr. Nicholson, whose mill was burned on the previous day, is stated to be upward of $2,500.

FIRE IN WALTHAM.—In Waltham, Mass. on Sunday morning, at 4 o'clock, an unoccupied wooden dwelling house, near the Massasoit House, owned by Mr. E. Brown of Boston, was burned to the ground. Loss $3,000 to $4,000. The same night an unoccupied shanty was also destroyed.

THE CASE OF RETURN TO REASON, AFTER FORTY YEARS' INSANITY.—We stated, the other day, in general terms, the case of a man in the Newton Poor House, who, after an insanity of about forty years, (thirty of which he was chained,) had recovered his reason. We are now able to give the public the particulars of this remarkable case, which we received from Isaac Hazar, Esq. Chairman of the Selectmen of that town. The name of this unfortunate man is Elisha Robbins, formerly a shoemaker. He was born about the year 1767, and is therefore nearly sixty four years of age. He was twenty-four years old when first seized with insanity. At that time he had just lost his wife, by whom he had two children then living. It is not certainly known at this distant day what actually caused his insanity—perhaps the loss of his wife. Soon after his seizure he was so violent that it became necessary to chain him down without clothes save a shirt and only straw to sleep upon. This course was rendered absolutely necessary, by his habits which were no better than the beasts of the field. At one time the paupers were farmed out by the town to the lowest bidders. Among others was Robbins, who chained in a barn by his keeper, where he was found one day with his feet frozen so as to render their amputation necessary. He was forthwith removed, and since that time has had every comfort, compatible with his situation—his room being always kept warm. He was once visited by the celebrated Miss Dix, who made a special report upon the cruelty of chaining him almost naked in the straw. Perhaps with a more thorough understanding of some peculiar features of his case she might have judged differently as to the humanity of his keepers. About a year ago, Robbins first began to exhibit signs of returning reason. It was observed that he paid more attention to personal cleanliness. He was encouraged, and shortly appeared—after the lapse of nearly half a century—in the clothing of a man. Soon after he was allowed to wander about the building, and at times he would turn to and help in light work, such as husking corn, &c. Finally, he began to talk of persons and places familiar in his youthful days, before his reason was clouded; but beyond that period all to him is blank. He described with perfect accuracy places of which he was conversant in his earlier days; spoke of the companions of that period; of one in particular, whom he denominated "a gal," though if now living she has attained to over three score years. He has been tried in various ways as to the verge of his memory, but it always stops at the commencement of his insanity. One day the marriage of an acquaintance, which took place in his early days of reason, was mentioned, and the name of the bride intentionally misstated. He instantly corrected the error and gave the right name. When asked what year he was born he replies "about 1766," but still insists that he is but twenty-four years of age. At the last accounts he continued to improve, and it was hoped that reason was again firmly seated upon her throne. Great credit is due to the overseer (Mr. Parks) and the town authorities for their judicious and persevering efforts to assist nature in bringing about this remarkable result.

[Boston Traveller.

AN INDIAN CHIEF FROZEN TO DEATH.—The celebrated Indian Chief Mackasuba, of the Ottawa tribe, was recently frozen to death at Fisher's Millsin Allegan Co. Liquor was the cause. The band to which he belonged is located near Black Lake at the Old Wing, and through the instrumentality of the Missionaries have become nearly civilized in all their habits. Mackasuba was a very popular chief.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—We learn from the *Democratic Press* of York, Pa. that on Tuesday of last week, Mr. William Elcock of that County, was accidentally killed. His horses became frightened, on account of a part of the wagon box he was driving giving way, and in endeavoring to check them he slipped and fell, the wheel passing over his head.

SICKNESS IN MISSISSIPPI.—The *Memphis* (Tenn.) *Enquirer* of the 17th ult. notices the ravages of an epidemic which has prevailed for several weeks in De Soto County, Mississippi. Upward of fifty persons had died within five miles square. The disease is very violent and fatal, and appears to be a compound of erysipelas, scarlet fever and black tongue.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The *Rockville* (Md.) *Journal* says the Wheat crop is highly promising, at least it looks well, and we hear of no complaint of its being injured in any manner.

☞ The following persons were admitted to practice as Attorneys and Counselors at Law, at the present term of the Supreme Court, after examination by Messrs. Mason, Reynolds & Porter: Alexander B. Davis, Henry M. Washburn, John Patterson, Henry Beakley, William D. Robertson, Harvey J. King, Spencer Daniels, Robert W. Duncan, Charles B. Wilkinson, John O. Dickey, Calvin Noyes, Charles C. Nott.

☞ The venerable Dr. Miller, Senior Professor in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, has announced his intention to resign that important post at the next meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly. Advanced age is probably the cause which has prompted him to this step. [Jour. of Com.

☞ A female slave of Dr. J. James, in Wentworth, N. C. having lately committed some trifling misdemeanor, her master threatened to sell her. Prompted by revenge, she took her master's only daughter and a little 4 year boy into the woods and murdered them—She escaped, but was taken and imprisoned.

☞ The stable and barn of Mrs. Gassaway, who resides near Darnestown, in Montgomery County, Md. was consumed, with one horse and 100 bushel of oats, by fire, on the 23d ult. Two of her slaves are in jail, charged with the commission of this act.

☞ James Jordon of Cranberry Township, Pa. aged 79, was put in prison on the 21st ult on the charge of having poisoned his wife the day before.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....MARCH 8.

$4,000 U S 6s '62	109½	50 Morris Canal	10
2,000 do. coupon	109½	100 do	10½
5,000 do, '67	111¼	50 do	10½
5,000 do, '68	109 113	5 Erie, new full	61½
1,000 do 5s, '51	99	25 do	63 61½
1,000 Ill 1st Imp. '47	40	200 do	60 62½
2,000 Ill Edile Bds	25½	250 Canton Co	40½
1,000 Ill Interest Bds	*21	100 do	sw 40½
1,000 do	21½	150 do	40½
1,000 Erie 7s	96½	50 do	b30 40½
1,500 do new	89½	125 do	b60 40½
1,500 do do	90	100 do	40½
5,000 Reading mort b.	62	250 Harlem RR	61
20 Bk of Amer	96½	50 do	bnw 61
10 National Bank	100½	150 do	b10 61
20 Bk State of N Y	86	450 do	60½
300 N A Trust	94	43 Harlem preferred	96½
200 Farm Trust	36½	20 do	96½
100 do	b10 36½	20 do	97
350 do	36½	25 Aub and Roch	89
100 do	bw 36½	50 Long Island	s60 25½
100 do	s30 36	50 do	26
100 do	b30 36½	50 do	26½
300 do	35½	500 Reading	b30 33½
150 do	b20 36	100 do	33
50 Norw and Wor	38	300 do	b60 33½
25 N Y & N Haven	92½		

SECOND BOARD.

$20,000 Treas Notes	110¾	50 Canton	40
500 Ohio 7s	102½	50 do	40½
3,000 Erie Bonds	96½	50 do	b3. 40½
1,000 NY & Nliav	97½	150 Harlem RR	60½
500 Long Island	26	50 do	60½
100 do	b60. 26½	100 do	60½
50 Farm Trust	b30. 36½		

Law Courts.

SUPREME COURT—*General Term.*—No 1 on the Calendar, being the case of Mancor and others vs. Douglas, is still under advisement. The Law Reporter has requested that briefs on the Calendar must be printed on white writing paper, the size of the page, enclosed in marginal lines, to be 7 by 4½ inches, and the margin to be not less than 1½ inches.

No decisions have been or will be given till toward the close of the term. But no causes a day will be called.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—Before Judge Ulshoefer—*Royal Houghton vs. Robert Jones, impleaded &c. with James Jones and Richard R. Lawrence.*—To recover $1,800, the amount of a note made by Jas. Jones and endorsed by the defendants, already referred to. The defence was misapplication, &c.; Messrs. J. J. & Co placed the note, it was said, together with a check, in the hands of their broker, to get cashed, they having previously given him notes to the amount of $7,800 to get cashed, and received the money, which subsequently was presented by him as to interest, but something stated as to ½ or ¾ per cent a day—The note, it was said, was passed by the broker to Mr. Bartill, who was said to have held one of the four previous ones, on which payment had been refused, on the ground that it was forged, and demand of payment made. It was denied, for plaintiff, that there was any misapprehension. Mr. Burrell, in his testimony, stated that Mr. Houghton owed the note, having bought it of Mr. Burrell, authorized to sell, and paid the value, charging him 2½ per cent per annum, and interest added to the amount. On the receipt of it was insisted that Mr. Burrell was in reality the owner of the note. The Court, in its charge, stated that a plea that a note was endorsed merely as accommodation was not sufficient—the only valid defence is fraud, misapplication or usury. But misapplication is not sufficient if it passed to a third party, without notice, who paid fair full value. Fraud or usury will vitiate a note. As to interest in a note, although under the new Code, no person can be excluded from being a witness on account of interest, yet it must be borne in mind that the stand who, in reality, is considered as testifying for his own benefit, or one who has assigned his claim for the purpose of being a witness, the testimony must be considered of no effect—The Jury gave a verdict for the defendants.

W. Bliss vs. William Crane and John Swan.—To recover damages for assault and battery upon plaintiff, who is a carman opposite the store of Messrs. Coffin & Mitchell, corner of South and Roosevelt sts in May last. The defendants are Forbes and son-in-law first kept a boarding house in Cherry st, and in the fall one of the New York posts. The testimony showed that the father, on the morning in question, came up to the plaintiff and reproached him for injuring his (the father's) daughter, of his wife at the time being black, the previous evening, when Mr B asked, in reply, what he had done to her, he knocked him down, when both father and son struck Mr B. some blows—he cried out, and ran into the store, where it was found he had received one or more severe hits on the face, particularly between the eyes, and he was bleeding profusely from the nose. Mr Swan appeared in defence, but without witnesses, and after a few questions of the counsel, Mr. Cochran, in summing up for plaintiff said that the defendant had counsel, yet appeared alone, and it is always a suspicious sign of the badness of a cause when counsel decline to be present and take care of it. The Judge, in his charge, said it was to excuse that a provocation had occurred, but provocation, if it existed, would not justify a violent assault upon himself, on the spot if he thought so in a lawful manner, but he has no right to renew the altercation next day—It is a matter, however, with the reef, which the Jury can take into view in considering the damages.—Verdict for plaintiff $50.

For plff. Messrs. James H. Brush and John Cochran; for defdt. Mr. W. Orton.

Before Judge Daly.—*John Rosson vs. Joseph N. Barnes.*—To recover $150, the amount of a check on the Mechanics' Banking Association, payment of which was stopped. The great point in the case, we believe, is whether Mr. Cole, who kept the Robin at Bergen way, did not act as agent of Mr. Barnes, the landlord. To be continued.—For plff. Mr. White; for defdt. Mr. Hunt.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.—No cases were tried in this Court yesterday. Recorder Talmadge, who has been detained in Washington, is expected to be in the Court to day, when the trial of causes will be proceeded with.

POLICE COURT.—Reuben H. Towner, residing at 240 Clinton st, was yesterday arrested on a charge of perjury, in having, as it is alleged, falsely sworn in a suit tried in the Court of Common Pleas in which Thos Fraser was plaintiff. The accused was held for further examination.....James E Coley was yesterday arrested and held for examination on a charge of having struck with great violence Mr. James T. Barnes of 217 Williams st, thereby causing him to fall upon the stones of the sidewalk, injuring him very severely. It appears that the accused had some dispute with Mr Barnes in relation to certain premises, and that the former took this method of settling the difficulty.....Officers Forshay, Duryea and Savage last evening arrested two persons, who gave their names as William Steel and Ann Sparks, on suspicion of having robbed a Mr. E. Whitaker of $50. By the panel process, at a house in the rear of 165 Chatham st. The accused were conducted for examination.....Two Irishmen, named Lawrence McCarty and Thomas Dunn were arrested last evening by officer Conniff, on a charge of passing a counterfeit $5 bill, purporting to be on the Susquehanna Bank, to John Hughes, grocer, No. 30 Cherry st.

BROOKLYN.

POLICE COURT.—A man named Edward Dunn, arrested on Sat day night last by officer Squires, on a charge of having committed an assault and battery with a knife on James Faith, one of the city watchmen, while the officer was engaged in arresting several persons concerned in a fight, in which Dunn was one of the party, who struck the watchman with a knife, making a severe gash across the hand, and inflicting a serious wound in the high, was examined before Justice Garrison, yesterday afternoon, and duly committed.

MARINE JOURNAL.

PORT OF NEW-YORK.....MARCH 6.

ARRIVED—Ship Adams, Elliott, Charleston 17 ds, cotton and rice, to Thomas Wardell. Has experienced very heavy weather during the passage; has lost gaffes from N to NNE and heavy seas. Spoke, 30 inst, lat 36.40, lon 73.30, bound to Baltimore, with a number of ship goods bags and bales, also a boat bottom.

Ship Potomac, Smith, Nassau Feb 16, bound, Eld, to Nesbitt & Walton. Left ship Gossamer, Wells, for Helsingor for Minnesota Feb 10; ship Atlantic, Coffin, for Antwerp; ship Sophia de Grasse, Jan 31, Fox, for Cape Florida; sprke Bayonnaise, Dow, Matanzas for Boston, March 4, off Cape Florida; sprke Bayonnaise, Dow, Matanzas for Boston, March 4, off Cape Florida; sprke Sarah Ann, Hall, Mobile for Boston, March 1, off Barnegat; sch Tuscarora, Crowell, Mobile for Boston, March 4, off Cape Cod; sch Rio Grande, Crowell, Mobile for Boston, March 4, off Barnegat; sch Ann Eliza, Crowell, Mobile for Boston, March 4, off Cape Cod; sch Ann Eliza