

Business Notices.

THE SMITHSONIAN HOUSE, Broadway, corner of Houston-st., New York. Single Rooms, 50 cents, 50 cents, and 41 per day. Parlor, with Billiard-table, 50 cents per day.

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1856.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. What is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

One Dollar a Line. To ADVERTISERS. The circulation of THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE is now so enormous, and the number of advertisements so pressing for insertion in it, that the space we devote to them, that we have raised the price of Advertising therein to ONE DOLLAR PER LINE.

Or a little more than half a cent per line for each thousand copies printed and dispatched to our readers. Even at this rate, it is the cheapest medium extant for Advertisements requiring the widest and fullest publicity. It is about the same rate charged by The Illustrated London News, which has not so large a circulation as THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE by many thousands.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS. SENATE, April 3.—The bill for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of the Officers, Seamen and Marines of the sloop-of-war Albany, was passed.

MEALIO'S SPRING STYLE OF HATS. Are now ready. Call and examine for yourselves. Corner of Broadway and Canal-st.

"EXAGGERATION."—The Rev. Dr. VINTON will deliver his closing Lecture at the Hall of the Mercantile Library, on Monday Evening, the 7th inst., commencing at 8 o'clock. Subject, "THE GREAT QUESTION OF SLAVERY."

OPENING DAY FOR SPRING MILLINERY. THURSDAY, APRIL 3. NEWMAN'S, No. 330 Broadway, Between 13th and 14th-sts.

A SPLENDID STOCK. CROSSLAND'S SON'S VELVET AND TAPESTRY BRUSSELS CARPETS. NEW ORLEANS. HIRAM ANDERSON, No. 59 Bowry.

PETERSON & HUMPHREY, CARPET DEALERS. Have removed to their new Store, No. 54 Canal-st., Opposite St. Nicholas Hotel.

ELKANT CARPETING. SMITH & LOCKBURN, No. 46 Broadway, are now prepared to exhibit their NEW SPRING STYLES OF CARPETS, BRUSSELS, TAPESTRY, AND BRUSSELS CARPETS.

STEARNS & MARVIN'S WILDER PATENT SALAMANDER SAFES—Of every desirable size or pattern, and of improved build, upon the most approved plan, and of superior quality, made by STEARNS & MARVIN, New York.

IMPORTANT. The most important question for every business man to ask himself is, "Am I supplied with one of the best of the WILDER PATENT SALAMANDER FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES?"

PIANOS AND MELODEONS.—THE HORACE WATERBURY Improved Pianos and Melodeons are to be found at No. 53 Broadway. Pianos to rent, and rent allowed on them.

Remember the GREAT BARGAINS IN FANNOCKETS THIS WEEK at No. 333 Broadway. H. C. WILSON & CO. are now offering a large stock of Fan-fabrics, and of all the latest styles of Fan-fabrics, at a large discount.

SPRING DRY GOODS. L. O. WILSON & CO., No. 12 Water-st., near Wall, New-York, are now offering a large stock of Fan-fabrics, and of all the latest styles of Fan-fabrics, at a large discount.

One-Price CARPET WAREHOUSE. YOUNG & JAYNS, No. 12 Water-st., near Wall, New-York, are now offering a large stock of Fan-fabrics, and of all the latest styles of Fan-fabrics, at a large discount.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Ulcers or sores drain the system of its vital purity. Their disease is kept up by violent matter in the vessels of the glands and skin. This may be removed by the following course.

ALFRED MUNROE & CO., No. 441 Broadway, call the attention of all who wish to purchase of SPRING OVERCOATS, BUSINESS SUITS, FROCK COATS, and other fashionable articles of Dressing, to their large and well-selected stock of Goods, and to their low and liberal prices.

THE METROPOLITAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. No. 10 Broadway. CORP. OF FIRE-INS. Cash Capital, \$300,000. JAMES LOWERY, President. EDWARD A. STANBURY, Secretary.

TO COUNTRY DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS IN PATENT MEDICINES. DR. TORLON'S VENEREAL LIMENT is now so popular that the copies are wanted to be renewed. It is a most valuable medicine, and is sold by all the Druggists in the city.

CHILDREN'S GAMES AND PUZZLES.—The largest assortment of English, French, German, Italian and American GAMES AND PUZZLES in the world. Compare the prices with those of any other dealer in the city. W. W. WATKINS, Importer of Games, Novelties and Toys, No. 343 Broadway.

WINDOW SHADES. IMPROVEMENTS AND ENTERPRISE. KELLY & FERGUSON, No. 23 Broadway and Reade-st., have a great variety of Window Shades, and are now prepared to apply the whole trade with an improved assortment of Shades, and of all the latest styles of Shades, at a large discount.

PETERSON & HUMPHREY, No. 54 Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel, are now offering a large stock of Fan-fabrics, and of all the latest styles of Fan-fabrics, at a large discount.

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.—All Persons who wish for information in regard to SINGER'S MACHINES, can obtain it by applying at our Office for copies of the "Singer & Co.'s Circular," a recent devoted entirely to the Sewing Machine in general. Copies supplied gratis.

WIGS—HAIR-DYE—WIGS.—BATCHLOR'S WIGS and TOILETS have improvements peculiar to their own, and are now offered at a large discount. The largest and best stock in the world. 12 private rooms for applying his famous Dye. Sold at BATCHLOR'S, No. 23 Broadway.

ELEVENTH WARD REPUBLICANS.—The Republicans of the Eleventh Ward met at their rooms, No. 113 Avenue C, last night. The chair was filled by Mr. Freeman Hissoc, and Mr. Charles S. Perley officiated as Secretary, pro tem.

Mr. Willis, from the Committee of Conference on a central organization, reported progress, and suggested that to the Sixteenth Ward Club would elect delegates to a Central Committee that evening, it would be advisable for this Club to do likewise.

Mr. Seaman thought it would be well to call a ward meeting to receive the sanction of the people upon their action first.

Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick said that last year the election of delegates was put off from time to time until a bogus delegation was palmed off upon the General Committee.

Mr. Joseph Goddard made an able and eloquent speech upon the encroachments of the slave power. He had watched the progress of that fell power from the beginning, and he had long since come to the conclusion that it must be resisted even to the death. He counselled prompt and speedy action.

Dr. Southworth said that other ward organizations would meet on Friday evening for the purpose of electing delegates, and in his view this Club should do the same.

Accordingly the Club adjourned to meet this evening at the same place for that purpose.

MILTON SEARS is our Agent for the sale of THE TRIBUNE in PATENT, N. J. He will send THE TRIBUNE in any part of the city.

cursed with Slavery. In other words, the Slave country, as a whole, is in a pauperized condition. It does not produce enough for its own consumption, and the difference has to be supplied by more virtuous, industrious and careful producers. This is as proper a definition of Pauperism as words can convey, and it is with precisely that very thing which the North has to deal.

The North is often invited to mind her own business, and leave the South to manage hers. But, unluckily, this is a little thing which the laws of political economy—laws as fixed and inevitable as those of light and of gravitation—will not permit her to do. The South cannot exist without the North. Every article that is consumed there, from the cradle and the pap- spoon to the coffin and the grave-stone, we have to furnish. The beds in which they lie, the chairs on which they sit, the clothes they wear, the hoes and the gins for their slaves, the very slave-whips which form the main-spring of their social machine, we supply them with.

As they want the things we have to sell, the laws of trade compel them to flow in certain proportions into these channels. Only, here we have to encounter another inscrutable law, the operation of which, in our blind haste to get gain, we are apt to overlook: to wit, that a country cursed with so thriftless a system of labor as Slavery, cannot produce, in an average of years, enough to pay for what it wants. Hence the periodical bankruptcies which square off accounts to the ruin of so many merchants and manufacturers.

Perhaps there is no better test of the business character and probable solvency of a section of country than its postage bills. It is not necessary to recall the precise figures, but the last time we saw them footed up there was but one Slave State that paid its postage! And that was Louisiana, through the Northern merchants in New-Orleans. The Empire of South Carolina, as we remember it, fell short of paying what it costs us to carry her mails by \$70,000! These immense deficits we have to make good, and so as to all the necessities and superfluities the South needs. We know men of large business who have adopted the inexorable rule never to give credit South of Mason's & Dixon's line—to their great benefit. It is too much to expect that wisdom like this should generally obtain where business is carried on as it is with us. But until it is, we must make up our minds to bear the cost of supporting our paupers at the South.

Now, we commend the consideration of these facts especially to capitalists, commercial men, and manufacturers. The system of Slavery is one that saddles them, as the creators and holders of wealth, with the support of this giant Pauperism. If the merchants of New-York, Boston and Philadelphia, the cotton spinners of Lowell, the cordwainers of Lynn, and the iron-masters of Pittsburg, like to bestow their wares on these needy ones, looking not for their own gain, it is their affair and not ours. But we think they cannot but see that this Pauper System is a matter they have something to do with. If they choose to send their children's bread—royal messes from their tables instead of the crumbs that fall from them—to these sturdy beggars, they can do what they will with their own; but is there any sense in making them Viceroy over the country because of their mendacity? The right of those who, from misfortune, accident or even weakness of character, are unable to support themselves, to be sustained by their more fortunate fellow-citizens is perfect, and should be claimed and granted without arrogance on the one part or humiliation on the other; but there is no reason that we can see why the dependants should make laws for their benefactors. Suppose the inmates of the Alms-House at Bellevue were to demand a voice potential in the choice of Mayor and Aldermen, the passage of ordinances and the raising and expenditure of taxes, would our merchant princes incline to grant it? And yet there is, in the eye of pure reason, as much sense in this claim as in that of the Slaveholders, which they are so swift to acknowledge. And should they bellow out, their caprices thwarted, threats to dissolve their glorious Union with the Ten Governors, would all Wall street be on its knees crying for mercy? And yet there is just as much danger of their doing it as the slaveholders. Now the great question of our day is, shall our Penitentiary go on from strength to strength forever, or shall the real owners of the country take the administration of their own affairs into their own hands? There is yet a possibility of doing this. If our Pauper dictators be suffered to blight the virgin soil of Kansas with the poverty, ignorance, cruelty and vice which are of the essence of Slavery, it will be our fault. If, through the political strength they would thus acquire, they should fasten their yoke yet more firmly on our necks, and their little finger waxing heavier than their loins are now, they should chastise us with scorpions where they now chastise us with whips, will it be any more than we deserve?

THE PENITENTIARY. Sydney Smith used to describe the Government of England as a Plutocracy, or rule of rich men. We live, as National Americans, (and who would live if not National?) under a dominion the very opposite to this. To describe it we have ventured to follow the example of the wise and witty Sydney, and to invent the hard word at the head of this article—the meaning of which, being interpreted for the benefit of *The Country Gentleman*, is the rule of the paupers. Having said thus much, being well aware of the delicacy of the case, we must beg leave (though, by the blessing of a merciful Providence, we are not left to be a Member of Congress) "to define our position." In the first place, we do not hold to the disfranchising of men because of poverty. The old Federal doctrine, that the government of a country should be in the hands of those who have a stake of property in it, rested on the fallacy that the protection of property is the chief office of Civil Government; whereas, there are many other rights as sacred which Civil Government was instituted to guard as well, which stand to the poor man in the stead of property, and which he is to have the power, as he has the right to defend. And be it far from us, in the second place, to affirm that the American People have any natural or elective affinity for a vulgar pauper. On the contrary, they have much the same instinctive aversion for him that a dog or a child has. Was not the great Know-Nothing party founded and edified on this very cornerstone?

But then, the pauper must approach the enlightened American in the proper liveliness of his tribe. Only let him disguise his mendacity under some well-seeming garb, and state it in loud-sounding phrase, and he takes him at his own account of himself, and begs him to help himself to his substance and to do him the favor to take the direction of his affairs. We well remember the puzzlement of our childish brains at those lines in Mother Goose, (the true Goose that discloses the Golden Eggs, in which the germ of the mind is wrapped,) which describes the advent of these "ommoners of Nature," of these members of the superior of the "Two Races of Men," as Charles Lamb set them down:

The Virginia papers are horrified at the idea that a "Black Republican meeting," as they call it, has actually been held within the sacred limits of the Old Dominion, and that the gentlemen who participated in it have not yet been murdered, or at least tarred and feathered and driven from the State—a consummation which these papers are straining their rhetoric to the utmost to stir up the slaveholders to undertake to bring about. This horrible invasion of the solemn silence enjoined by slave-breeding despotism, this outrageous and intolerable attempt to exercise in Virginia the long since extinguished privilege of free speech, has taken place in Loudoun County, which borders on the Potomac, north and west of the District of Columbia.

This County of Loudoun, once highly fertile but long since worn out by slave cultivation, is said to have furnished more emigrants to the South and West than any other county in Virginia. The lands in this and the adjoining counties thus abandoned and deserted by their ancient cultivators have of late years begun to attract the attention of farmers from the Northern States, who have moved into the neighborhood in considerable numbers, have bought up, for a song, large tracts of abandoned land, and by the magic of free labor have begun to put quite a new aspect upon things. Hence, in a great measure, the encouragement to undertake the recent railroad projects now on foot and partially completed, of which Alexandria is the terminus, and the hope entertained of again making that city a flourishing seat of commerce; and hence, too, the secret, we suppose, of this astonishing and for many years unprecedented phenomenon of a public meeting in Virginia, at which courage has been found to utter a few words hostile to Slavery, to slave catching, and to Slavery extermination.

The meeting in question is stated to have been held about the middle of last month, nominally for the purpose of ratifying the nominations of Fillmore and Douglas, but, like several other

meetings called in other places, with a similar object in view, a very different result seems to have been arrived at. The Loudoun people, desiring to have the whole matter fairly before them, had, it seems, appointed four speakers to discuss the matter, pro and con—two on each side. In the negative appeared Mr. Rae, who, we are proud to say, was originally of New-York, though now a resident of the County of Loudoun. According to the report of *The Loudoun Mirror*—to which we are indebted for our knowledge of the meeting, and which trembles with horror while it relates such enormities—this audacious Mr. Rae openly, in the meeting, "declared himself in favor of the Black Republican party, denounced the Fugitive Slave Law, and Fillmore for signing it; declared it to be unconstitutional, and that it should be repealed. He would not touch Slavery where it existed—he would leave it to die upon the land that bred it—but he would have the balance of the territory of the United States consecrated to Freedom, in accordance with the principles of our Revolutionary forefathers. What was ours but a land of liberty? And was the Fugitive Slave Law or Missouri ruffianism in accordance with this liberty? He wished it repealed, and there was a mighty party arising in the North whose aim it was to blot out this law, and restrain Slavery within its present limits." But what aggravated the horror and indignation of *The Loudoun Mirror*, already sufficiently roused by the idea that Mr. Rae or anybody else should have dared to speak such words under the sky of Virginia, was the fact, which that journal reluctantly and indignantly records, that these anti-kidnaping and anti-slavery-reading, and, in consequence, anti-slave-breeding sentiments were actually received by the assembly with shouts of applause!

Nor did Mr. Rae stand alone in the utterance of these treasonable sentiments. After a reply from one of the slave-breeding advocates, Mr. Jesse Brown responded—and as the contrary is not stated, we are led to conclude that he must have been a native-born Virginian. "He indulged," we are told, "in the same strain with his colleague, Mr. Rae, and wound up with the eloquent language of 'some Senator, that the gentle green slopes of Nebraska should not be made rotten with the institution of Slavery'—which atrocious sentiment, though it made the hair of the Loudoun Mirror stand on end with very horror, was yet actually received by this assembly of late-learned and untaught Virginians with 'immense applause.' The great cause of slave-breeding and slave-driving did not, however, go without defenders. Men were found who dared to stand up in its behalf even in the midst of this congregation of incendiaries. The excellent Mr. John Simpson, faithful Abdiel, his hair all on end like that of *The Loudoun Mirror*, was utterly astonished that such sentiments should be uttered upon Southern soil, that Black Republicans should dare attack our institutions upon our own territory. He thought the gentleman from New-York had never read the Constitution, or if he had, he knew nothing about it. Did it not declare that fugitive slaves should be delivered up? And yet he had the hardihood to pronounce the fugitive slave law unconstitutional."

But the audacious Rae was not so to be silenced. He objected to the epithet "Black Republican" as one not fit for the mouth of a gentleman—as though anything characteristic of a gentleman could be rationally expected of an infatuated slave-driver—and proceeding to reinforce his former positions, he was—till it not in Garth—"frequently interrupted 'by immense applause.'" This called out another slave-driving champion, Mr. Trayhorn, whose efforts on behalf of Virginia institutions were not less distinguished than those of Mr. Simpson. Mr. Trayhorn thought that Mr. Rae "had better go back to the North and mingle with Fred. Douglass and Lucy Blackwood Stone, or Lucy Stone Blackwood, who were general spirits. The South was no place for the expression of such opinions. He denied the right to express such sentiments."

And yet, and to say, this witty and energetic protest against the liberty of speech was interrupted by exclamations—"He has the right!" "He has liberty of speech" which the counter cries of "No! No!" "He has no right!" were quite unable to drown. After some sparring with Mr. Rae, in which the latter had the impudence to fling into Mr. Trayhorn's face the suggestion that in New-York he, Trayhorn, might speak as he pleased, this champion of slave-driving "continued his remarks in proof of Southern suzerainty and Northern aggression, and," as if to clench the nail on the spot, concluded by saying, "that sooner than see Black Republicanism prevail, as dearly as he loved this Union, he would see it dissolved."

Having subsequently been called to account for this avowal by one of the slaveholding champions, who now seemed almost ready to go over to the other side, Mr. Trayhorn again repeated it, when horrible to say, "as he took his seat he was hissed"—ah, hissed, for it is to be remembered that this meeting was held in Goose Creek Church—"by a Black Republican of the name of Hugh Holmes," just as though every slave-driver was not at perfect liberty to "let the Union slide" at pleasure, especially at the end of a speech which demanded to be wound up with a little of melo-dramatic rhetoric. Finally, during the speech of one Jesse Hogue, who seems to have been as desperate a fellow as Hugh Holmes himself, and whose "hammering gestures" appear to have so startled our Loudoun reporter as to have driven all recollection of the speaker out of his head, "the excitement became so great that the meeting broke up amid the greatest clamor and confusion."

In conclusion, *The Loudoun Mirror* calls upon the slave-drivers of all parties to forget for the moment all differences, and to unite in silencing all such treason for the future; and *The Virginia Sentinel*, with the heading of "Treason stalks abroad," repeats and reinforces this instigation. By fair means or by foul, by law or without law, these Loudoun men must be silenced!

In the name of all that is dear to our peace, and the safety of our firesides, what are we coming to, when citizens of Virginia in large numbers proclaim the opinion of the most respectable citizens of New-York in the light of day, and in a violent and overbearing spirit? When a Virginia gentleman cannot express himself in favor of protecting those interests of our State, which are inseparably fastened upon us, for we, without being hissed by a public assembly on his native soil, what have we already come to? Mr. Trayhorn was right when he advised the false New-Yorker to go back to his former home; and he might have extended his invitation to those faithless sons of the Old Dominion who sustained him, to go with him to the congenial associations which he indicated.

We call upon the good people of Loudoun to redeem their reputation, and protect the South from the injurious consequences of this domestic treason.

We call upon Northern immigrants into our State to denounce the treason of the Black Republican to the world that when they sought the soil of Old Virginia they came with intent to be loyal citizens, and not to act as allies to a Northern sectional organization, that seeks, as such, to win a victory over the State of their adoption. Rebuke indignantly the speciousness of those who would have us have thrown aside the Bible and the Constitution, and taken

up and Sharp's titles as the weapons of fraternal dissension.

The people of Virginia have a right to expect prompt and decisive action.

No wonder that the Virginian, who is trying to stimulate a Lynch-law attack upon the Loudoun free speakers, should have such an antipathy to Sharp's rifles. Unarmed men, if not women and children, are the favorite objects upon which slave-driving valor and indignation are most accustomed to expend themselves. Whether the "Northern immigrants into our State" will be prepared at the orders of *The Virginia Sentinel* to tie up the victims and wield the whips, remains to be seen. As for *The Loudoun Mirror*, it is, however, no less forcible, as the following specimen will show:

"Is the lion with impunity to be heard of in this den? Shall Northern Fanaticism, after having murdered our citizens in the pursuit of their property, South of the sword of Brennus over the citadel of the South? Is aggression and violence from within? Has the monster of Abolitionism grown to such huge proportions as to flap its dark wing over the territory of the South, without causing a feeble cry of resistance to arise from a grossly outraged and injured people? Shall the hiss of that serpent, Black Republicanism, shall the hiss of that serpent, Black Republicanism, who dares to stand up within the limits of his own Manor to confront the enemies of his security and property? Let the people of Loudoun answer by such public response as they in their judgment, exercised in calm deliberation may determine upon."

And let the Northern reader tremble over the terrible state of things which must ensue if *The Loudoun Mirror* can't have its way.

"The rights of the South for the sake of liberty (in Slavery) is the motto we have taken, and which we will stand by, or fall; for unless Southern rights are secured by Federal legislation, this Union will be dissolved, its pieces baptized in blood, possibly to some other political faith, and liberty endangered if not wholly destroyed. We shall go on in our feeble efforts in defense of Southern rights, and through evil and good report, by testimony of fidelity to the institutions of our fatherland; and should fanaticism prevail, and the North pour upon us her excited hordes, may the rocks and the mountains fall on us if we do not clutch the staff of the Southern flag."

The curtain falls, *The Loudoun Mirror* appearing in a grand tableau, "clutching the staff of the 'Southern flag'—in the background, in one corner Rae, Jesse Brown, Holmes and Hogue undergoing the process of lynching, while in the other Virginia is baptized in the blood of abolitionists into 'some other political faith.' Liberty 'being endangered if not wholly destroyed'—at all events nowhere to be seen."

PRUSSIA AND THE REEF. Though the topmost sham of the age, the birth of the *son of France*—the incarnated extacy of political success as drunken as it is vulgar, and as vulgar as it is cruel—has overshadowed all other news and excitements; another event has not less contributed to shower joy over the expectants of peace. This is the invitation sent by the Plenipotentiaries in Paris to the Prussian Government to participate in their labors. This step was taken upon the recommendation of Louis Napoleon whose Minister in Berlin delivered the invitation, and who visibly wishes to be on the best terms with all the legitimate Crowned Heads of Europe. England, as ever, was obliged to yield; doing so, however, with a wry face. The roaring vituperations of the English press, the haughty opposition of the Cabinet and of the leading statesmen in both Houses, was of no avail. They have from the commencement of the fray claimed that Prussia must and would be excluded from the final settlement of the Eastern question. The reverse of this has occurred, and it could not be otherwise. The readers of THE TRIBUNE at least are fully prepared for such an evolution in European politics. Having since the commencement of the war given an account of the policy pursued by various Cabinets interested or participating therein, and standing, as we have, nearly or altogether alone in opposition to the views of English and Continental journals as well as to their willing echoes on this side of the Atlantic, we have naturally foretold this very result. Having repeatedly explained and justified the policy of Prussia in sticking, as she has, to strict neutrality, we always maintained that Austria would not participate in the war against Russia so long as Prussia remained neutral; that Austria would never succeed in bringing over to her side the other German States in defiance of Prussian opposition; and that whatever the abuse showered on the Prussian Government by the Allies, whatever menaces used to exclude this neutral power from the Peace Conference, this exclusion must finally be abandoned. Events now emphatically confirm the truthfulness of this appreciation of European affairs. Thus one event after another demonstrates the correctness of a view of the case which we never recall only because it has been so widely and bitterly, though ignorantly assailed.

It was, in fact, easy to perceive that so strong a power as Prussia could not be pushed aside in any European settlement. It was evident to whoever had eyes to see that her ostensible isolation from the Eastern broil did not endanger her position or influence as a first-rate power. Such an act of isolation is nothing new in the history of the last forty years. For example, England kept aloof in 1829 from the French intervention in Spain, and from the Austrian in Italy. Austria, Prussia and Germany did not partake in the formation of the Kingdom of Greece and in the protectorate exercised over it by England, France and Russia. The Eastern Powers—Austria, Russia and Prussia, did not join England and France in securing the Crown of Spain to Isabella II. France was cut out in 1840-41 by the other four Powers from participating in the war, and in the subsequent arrangements between the Sultan and Mehmet Ali, but not one of these powers lost any weight and influence in consequence.

Prussia, by her recent course, has avoided many national calamities; and finally by the weight of her own steady and growing prosperity, she has forced the other cabinets to be considerate, and thus has internally and externally been the gainer.

THE FREE ACADEMY. The Board of Education has published its Seventh Annual Report on the operation and condition of the Free Academy. This document is short, but well detailed, and generally exhibits an improvement in the Institution. If the pecuniary resources of the Academy are not so brilliant as many would desire, they seem at least to be well husbanded. But it is a question whether the salaries of the Professors and tutors might not very properly be increased. The social function of teacher, the most important, forming the cornerstone of every well-regulated, and above all, of every democratic community, does not yet enjoy its due—either in the consideration which should surround the body of teachers and give them an eminent social standing, or in their pecuniary rewards. If teachers and Professors conscientiously fulfill their duties, their time is wholly absorbed by labors devoted to the good of society at large. Thus they have neither opportunity nor means to increase their incomes in any other manner; as a rule they cannot undertake business enter-

prises and speculations, and thus enrich themselves and families. All this the community, which profits by their labors, ought to consider and provide for.

In the enumeration of the Academy's resources we find that the library, though comparatively small, is rationally composed. It consists principally of text-books and works of reference. The pupils of the higher classes can easily complete their reading through the public libraries. The departments of instruction are various, and form a complete system. Laying down broad foundations for general and special culture, they are well-adapted to prepare youth for the scientific and practical occupations of a serious and laborious life. The text-books, though unexceptionably chosen on the whole, might, however, be modified in some details. The moral and philosophical branch might bear some charge, bringing its text-books more into harmony with the higher comprehension of our duties as men or as members of a great social and political body. The study of history might also be more seriously considered. History, it is hardly necessary to repeat, is not simply an enumeration of the succession of events; but, well understood, softens the heart, brightens the soul, and largely tempers the character of the man. For such an end Weber's Universal History does not answer at all. Grote, the only true and sound expositor of the entire mental and political Grecian world, ought to be used in teaching Hellenic history; and Arnold deserves the same honor for the Roman. In the Natural Sciences, the sterling authors of this country and of Europe form the text-books; and we are glad to learn that Mrs. Somerville is well appreciated, her work on Physical Geography being better than any other commonly used in the New-England schools. The lectures, too, delivered to various classes are well adapted to their purpose.

The Report says that no provisions are made for physical education. Why should this filiofilian, this inhuman deficiency exist? *Mens sana in corpore sano*, is an adage as trite as it is true. Especially should this branch of education not be neglected in a city crowded like New-York, where so little regard is paid to general hygiene, and where careful observation demonstrates the fact of a decreasing healthfulness. Gymnastic exercises, stimulating the activity and the normal harmonious development of the muscles, would form a compensation for many other deficiencies whose superintendence is beyond the reach of the Academy.

The division of the course of studies forms the crown of the whole. Upon it depends likewise the conferring of academic degrees—that powerful stimulant to young imaginations. We find that the Academy has not freed itself in this particular from an old, musty piece of routine, as a higher degree is given for a full course of ancient, than for one of modern languages. This is a direct encouragement to neglect modern languages, and, joined with others, largely influences the choice of studies. Accordingly, the number of students of the classics is nearly twice as great as those of the modern languages. With all due deference to opinions in favor of ancient languages, we persist in asserting that for all scientific and practical pursuits, a knowledge of the modern tongues is paramount to that of the ancient. In the present state of mental expansion and culture, ancient languages form the ornamental, modern the fundamental requirement. It is a traditional scholastic idea, which should be obsolete, that Latin and Greek form the best discipline for the mind. Formerly the modern languages were not admitted into the sanctum of science; but now the inexhaustible labors, utterances and creations of the mind are everywhere conducted and recorded through our vernacular tongues. However great a classical scholar may be, he will still prove a poor writer or scientific man, an indifferent historian, jurist, theologian, physician, astronomer, chemist, or engineer, if he do not know French and German. For these reasons the specialities of study at the Academy ought to be more appropriately distributed.

The German language, indeed, is much neglected. In one class there is but a single pupil. We are sorry for it. Useful as the French is for practical life, German is equally so for the scientific and studious man. It is a fallacy common among superficial readers, that the German mind is exclusively abstract, metaphysical and ideal. Nothing can be more erroneous than such a notion. In the history and progress of the exact sciences, we point to Copernicus and Kepler, forerunners of Newton and smoothers of his path. Then Leibnitz, Euler; and even Sir John Herschell was German by birth and education. The manifestations of the German mind are transcendent in almost every direction—in abstract speculation as well as in positive science. At the beginning of our century Oken founded the science of comparative anatomy. More than thirty years ago Francis Bader, though a profound metaphysician, published the best treatise on railroad communications. It is only a year since Gauss died at Göttingen, the first of mathematicians. Among the positive sciences now led by Germans we can name chemistry by Leibig; physiology by Müller; anatomy by Haenle, the discoverer of microscopic anatomy, Philology, Medicine, Ethnology, Geography, cannot be mastered without a knowledge of the German language. Especially has the German mind been devoted, with all its patience and earnestness, to positive science during the past twenty years; and these tendencies supersede more and more the former proclivities to metaphysical speculation. The German technical and normal schools are the best in Europe as regards practical information, and for the thorough learning of their various teachers.

We trust that our teachers and youth may not overlook the bearing of these observations.

The Evening Post misapprehends our point as to the Pope's standing god-father to the infant son of Louis Napoleon. It was not that he could not, consistently with his office and character, be a god-father at all, but that he could not, without violating as well the decorum of his place as the laws of the Church, consent to play god-father *vis-a-vis* to a god-mother who, by consenting to have her children educated in the Protestant faith, has placed herself in the position of an excommunicated heretic.

A SPECIAL ELECTION, for Councilmen, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Robert S. Dixon, will be held in the Twenty-fourth Council District, Ninth Ward, on Tuesday next, 8th inst. The polls will be held for the Sixth District at No. 48 Greenwich street, and for the Seventh District at No. 71 Greenwald street, and will remain open from sunrise to sunset.

IMPORTANT SUIT DECIDED.—*The Fayetteville* (N. C.) *Observer* reports the conclusion of an interesting trial in that county.

It was an action for libel and conspiracy, in which the plaintiff, Esch Cobb, a Baptist preacher, claimed \$75,000 damages from the most respectable citizens of Fayetteville, David and Lottis Coates, for an alleged combination to drive Cobb from the county by alleging as a reason that he had introduced a house-burning, causing every settler, and alarming the entire population, after some deliberation, the jury returned a verdict against ten of the defendants for \$100,000—\$20 each. There was no evidence to support the defendants on the count for conspiracy.