Business Notices.

CONCENTRATED LEAVEN.

The value of Messrs. Edward Chamberlin & Co.'s (Boston) CONCENTRATED LEAVEN, for the making of Bread, Cakes, Rolls, Pies, and pastry, is fully confirmed. Its introduction has been attended with the fullest success, simply on account of its quality and intrinsic merits.

For sale by all the principal Grocers and Druggists.

GEO. H. BATES, Wholesale Agent, No. 189 Pearl-st., New-York.

REYNOLD'S SPECIFIC,

FOR GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

This justly celebrated medicine, shipped from England by the proprietor, direct to CARLE & STRONG, No 153 Water-st., corner of Maiden-lane, New-York, urgently recommends all that are afflicted with Gout and Rheumatism to give it a trial. A single dose relieves the most agonizing pains, and repeated a few times restores the use of the limbs and leaves the patient in perfect ease and greatly improved health.

A 1 SEWING-MACHINES, Wheeler & Wilson's, Grover & Baker's (new), to RENT and for SALE.

NEW-YORK SEWING-MACHINE EMPORIUM, No. 495 Broadway, corner Broome st.

The LADD & WEBSTER SEWING-MACHINE may now be had for Fifty Dollars.

LADD, WEBSTER & Co., No. 500 Broadway.

$40. PARKER SEWING MACHINES. $40.

FIRST-CLASS, DOUBLE-THREAD, RAPID AND NOISELESS. Under patents of Howe, Grover & Baker, and Wheeler & Wilson. For exportation, terms very low.

PARKER SEWING MACHINE Co., No. 469 Broadway.

HUSBAND'S CALCINED MAGNESIA

Is free from unpleasant taste, and three times the strength of the common Calcined Magnesia.

A World's Fair Medal, and four First Premium Silver Medals, have been awarded it, as being the best in the market. For sale by the druggists and country storekeepers generally, and by the manufacturer, THOMAS J. HUSBAND, Philadelphia.

BROWN'S NEW and ELEGANT FRENCH RESTAURANT and LUNCH ROOMS, No. 13 Broad-st., opposite the Bonded Warehouses, are now open.

Wheeler & Wilson's Sewing-Machines, at reduced prices, with Glass-Cloth Presser, Improved Loop-Check, new style Hemmer, Binder, Corder, &c. Office, 505 Broadway, N. Y.

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EXTRAORDINARY CURES

Are daily being made of Croup, Diphtheria, and Coughs, by Dr. TOBIAS'S celebrated VENETIAN LINIMENT. Warranted not to fail. Only 25 cents. Sold by the Druggists everywhere. Depot, No. 56 Cortlandt-st.

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GAS BILLS REDUCED and the LIGHT IMPROVED by the STERLING GAS REGULATOR, manufactured and warranted by Wheeler & Wilson Sewing-Machine Co., Office No. 505 Broadway (Basement.)

POSTAGE STAMPS (3 cents and 10 cents) for sale at THE TRIBUNE Office.

New-York Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1861.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty for his good faith.

All business letters for this office should be addressed to "THE TRIBUNE," New-York.

We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

MOTTOES FOR THE DAY.

I will suffer death before I will consent or advise my friends to consent to any concession or compromise which looks like buying the privilege of taking possession of the Government to which we have a Constitutional right; because, whatever I might think of the merit of the various propositions before Congress, I should regard any concession in the face of menace as the destruction of the Government itself, and a consent on all hands that our system shall be brought down to a level with the existing disorganized state of affairs in Mexico. But this thing will hereafter be, as it is now, in the hands of the people; and if they desire to call a Convention to remove any grievances complained of or to give new guaranties for the permanence of vested rights, it is not mine to oppose. [ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Inauguration first; adjustment afterward. [SALMON P. CHASE.

I owe it to myself, I owe it to truth, I owe it to the subject, to state that no earthly power could induce me to vote for a specific measure for the introduction of Slavery where it had not before existed, either south or north of that line. Coming as I do from a Slave State, it is my solemn, deliberate, and well-matured determination that no power—no earthly power—shall compel me to vote for the positive introduction of Slavery either south or north of that line. Sir, while you reproach, and justly, too, our British ancestors for the introduction of this institution upon the continent of America, I am, for one, unwilling that the posterity of the present inhabitants of California and New-Mexico shall reproach us for doing just what we reproach Great Britain for doing to us. If the citizens of those Territories choose to establish Slavery, I am for admitting them with such provisions in their Constitutions; but then, it will be their own work, and not ours, and their posterity will have to reproach them, and not us, for forming Constitutions allowing the institution of Slavery to exist among them. [HENRY CLAY.

Mr. Lincoln made yesterday a speech at Columbus, Ohio, in which he expressed cheerful and hopeful views of the position of the country. He evidently does not despair of the Republic.

The warm weather has caused the ice to break up in the Hudson and Mohawk, and a great flood is doing immense damage at Albany and other places up the river.

The country will be glad to learn that much activity prevails at the Navy-Yards, and that several additional vessels will soon be ready for service, and will be employed in recovering the forts, custom-houses, arsenals, and other property of the United States.

The few officers of the army who have deserted the service of the United States and entered that of the rebels, are endeavoring to persuade the privates in the Northern stations to follow their disgraceful example, tempting them by offers of extra pay and emoluments. They meet so far with no encouragement or sympathy. The soldiers are true to their flag.

Mr. J. B. Floyd has been at last driven by the public contempt and indignation to promise to explain and justify his share in the great robbery of the Government. We hope that he can clear himself in this matter, though we see little reason to expect that he will succeed in the attempt. But even if he proves himself to be not a thief, the still graver fact is incontestible that he is a traitor.

The police yesterday seized three boxes from a carman who was about to place them on board the Savannah steamer Huntsville, at Pier No. 12 North River. On examination they were found to contain 5,000 Minié-rifle cartridges and 2,000 boxes of Sharp's rifles' caps. The boxes were conveyed to the Arsenal in Thirty-fifth street. Mr. Kennedy, Superintendent of Police, is very properly determined to put a stop to this treasonable business of supplying the rebels with munitions of war.

Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin have been declared President and Vice-President of the United States, in presence of the assembled Houses of Congress. Treason is at length foiled, and rebellion likely to be soon suppressed and extinguished. No violence at Washington or elsewhere will now avail to prevent the inauguration, for that can be performed anywhere. Wm. R. King, the Vice-President elected with Franklin Pierce, was inaugurated in 1857 in Cuba whither he had gone for his health. There is little danger, however, but that the inauguration of Messrs. Lincoln and Hamlin will be consummated on the Fourth of March at the Capitol, in spite of all opposition from any quarter. The conspirators are cowed, thanks to Winfield Scott.

The resolution offered by Mr. McKeon of this State for the purchase of the slaves in the Border States was incorrectly sent by telegraph. The following is an accurate copy:

Whereas, The Gulf States have assumed to secede from the Union, and it is deemed important to prevent the Border Slave States from following their example; and whereas it is believed that those who are inflexibly opposed to any measure of compromise or concession that involves a sacrifice of principle or the extension of Slavery would nevertheless cheerfully concur in any lawful measure for the emancipation of the slaves; therefore

Resolved, That the Select Committee of Five be instructed to inquire whether, by the consent of the people, or of the State Governments, or by compensating the slaveholders, it be practicable for the General Government to procure the emancipation of the slaves in some or all of the Border States, and if so to report a bill for that purpose.

The following memorial has been prepared for signatures by some of the sound Republicans of New-York:

"*To the Hon. the Senators and Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:*

"*Whereas*, It is not only incompatible with honor and patriotism, but cowardly and base, for Republicans to surrender, under the pressure of secession and secession threats; and *whereas* they have done no wrong, but have in the last election succeeded by constitutional means, by addressing the enlightened reason and conscience of the people, in view of long years of misrule and rapacity of a corrupt party and Administration; and *whereas*, it is incumbent upon all good citizens to maintain the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws, WE, the undersigned, CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, do respectfully, but earnestly and firmly, recommend to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and all others in authority, TO STAND BY THE CONSTITUTION AS IT IS, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY, and TO MAKE NO COMPROMISE WHATEVER."

This expresses the feeling of true Republicans everywhere. Persons wishing to attach their names to it, will find an opportunity of doing so at the Publication Office of THE TRIBUNE.

COMMERCIAL RELIEF CERTAIN.

The political and monetary prospect before us may be discouraging to some, but it is very far from being one of hopeless gloom. There is no warrant for an utter stagnation. Merchants and manufacturers may suspend, but such events have happened before. In all panics there are different degrees of suffering—some classes feeling them to prostration, others being tightened up and escaping with only partial loss, while others find even profit in them. A general ruin is seldom or never experienced, nor are there any features in the present crisis which indicate such a catastrophe. This country cannot be wholly ruined. Moreover, the causes of the present inertia are definitely ascertained, and are susceptible of removal. The time is coming when they may be expected to disappear. When they do, all business will revive as suddenly as it was depressed, and will bound upward with an elastic energy peculiar to us alone. Business now pauses from no lack of money, for the country has never been so full of specie. It must have contained $20,000,000 more on the first of February than it did six months previous. Imports are diminishing and exports increasing, thus insuring a further accession. The banks have more than they need. Every dollar that comes from California remains with us. If gold be the basis of the great business structure, the foundation has never been so broad and sound.

A single fact will show how quickly we recover from even the most crushing bankruptcy. That which impoverished thousands in 1857 was the most disastrous ever experienced; yet since then the country has built and put in operation nearly seven thousand miles of railroad. That crisis covered the whole railroad interest with stagnation. Old lines ceased even to pay expenses, while unfinished ones came to a dead halt. Yet the revival was rapid enough to bring back the former to a paying point they had never before attained, while the latter went successfully on to completion, at a cost of over $200,000,000. In that crisis the country was bare of specie; now it is full. Insolvency was then the rule, and solvency the exception. Each morning's paper chronicled a list of corporate and commercial failures, sent by telegraph from every section of the interior. Banks not only suspended, but exploded outright. The panic was discouraging enough, but the attendant ruin was infinitely worse. Industry stood still; labor was idle in the market-place with no one to hire it; the vast coal and iron trades were most disastrously crippled; exchanges were ruinously disorganized; ships and the shipping interest were utterly prostrated; rents fell beyond all precedent; the auctions were glutted with the superfluous finery of a thousand families; everybody economized to the utmost, and more people were fed by charity than in any year either before or since.

These facts must be fresh in everybody's recollection. Look now, at the contrast between past and present. No banks are becoming insolvent, while those of this city and of all New-England have not only not suspended, but are at this moment a tower of strength to themselves and the community. They are plethoric with coin, with the certainty of become more so for a long time to come. Europe stands ready to buy all the food we have to spare, and a bountiful Providence has filled our granaries to bursting. Three years ago there was not a dollar's worth to ship. The surplus now has lifted up the West to comparative independence, and made it the sure outlet for millions of merchandise which otherwise would be unsaleable. The telegraph no longer comes laden with the daily horrors of wide-spread insolvency, while suspensions at home or in the larger cities are so rare as to be matters of surprise. Specific, not general reasons, exist for all of any magnitude which have so far occurred—the swindling acceptances of a Cabinet officer, or the political dislocation at the South. Consumption may have lessened, but in no proportion to the diminution three years ago, while coal is at this moment being mined more largely than ever, many founderies and factories are at work, railroads are making extraordinary earnings, the vast shipping interest has entirely recovered from ruinous idleness into profitable activity, money is abundant at the minimum rate, the auctions are not crowded with goods superfluous or indispensable, nor are the public or the newspapers stricken with the old panic necessity for a grinding economy.

It is thus refreshing, and it ought to be encouraging, to know that our present depression bears no likeness to the former gloom. The future ought to be brighter than it appears to the vision of some. The nation is in reality a slumbering giant, instinct with energies which need nothing but the awakening touch of a wise Government to start them into life and action. Notwithstanding the disorganization growing out of the Southern rebellion—the real cause of the many evils we are now enduring—the whole North would spring upward to a sudden revival by the prompt enactment of the tariff. It is waiting but the signal to make the spring. No one can overestimate the value of this measure at the present crisis. It would be once more smiting the rock of national resources, to be assuredly followed by the gushing forth of abundant streams of national revenue. The moment for such a measure is miraculously opportune. Our banks are all solvent, our crops are unexampled, our railroads and shipping are everywhere prospering, the community at large is solvent, and the country is overflowing with gold. Restore the single missing element of confidence, and the upward movement immediately begins. On all former occasions the tariff had to bring the gold to us. Now it is already here. Never has the country witnessed such a conjuncture—never had Congress so signal an opportunity to save it, by a single act, from one of its chief difficulties. Give us a thorough tariff quickly, and the whole North swings back with its old elasticity into its old equilibrium. It will disarm Secession of its terrors, and give power to the Government to convince the world how leprous an impotency it is. On the Republican party in Congress this whole responsibility rests. They possess the power, and the country looks to them to exercise it. Let them enact the pending bill, and the thick cloud which overhangs us will be seen to have a silver lining.

RAMPANT FOR RHINO.

Virginia reminds us forcibly of an old lady who, though in perfect health, fancies that her liver is out of order, and so takes a blue-pill at night and a black-draught in the morning, and by dint of untiring deglutition manages to get through Wood & Bache handsomely in a twelvemonth. She is like those hot adorers of the potencies, who keep two perpetual tumblers upon the shelf, and who abandon pulsatilla for henbane, which in turn is discarded for arnica. Virginia is poor, and pants to be rich—not an uncommon quandary to be observed in States or men—and Virginia is sure that if she could but hit upon the right way of getting it, she would have cash in profusion, which nobody can deny. So Virginia, guided by Gov. Wise, keeps herself in a condition of chronic peradventure. "Oysters!" she fondly muses. "Why," she asks, "have I neglected the fundum of my public "waters? Why have I permitted the insolent "New-Yorkers to rake from me my riches? "Verily, I will tax my natives, fresh, and fat, "and fair." Sooner said than done! For "stump-tailed steers" having taken possession of Gov. Wise's train, he by a natural concatenation is led to meditate upon steam-propellers, and he determines to have two fine boats carrying tobacco to Havre, and bringing back brandy, and silks, and calicoes—about which craft there have been numberless speeches made, letters written, endless cyphering, charming leading articles, persuasive embassies—about which craft, in fact, everything has been done except raising money enough to lay the keel.

But all the glory of Gov. Wise's succedaneums must pale before the project of Mr. Duff Greene. This is simply to move Wall street, body, breeches, and bullion-boxes to Richmond. The correspondent of a morning paper gives us an account of this ingenious scheme, and informs us that "it will be based upon the same principle "as that of Baring Brothers & Co." Now we must say that this is an excellent beginning. There can be no possible harm in the attempt of Gen. Duff Greene to be as like Baring Brothers as possible, and we suppose, when the Virginia Fiscal Agency bursts into full bloom, that Gen. Duff Greene will be exactly like Baring Brothers in every respect except the unimportant one of paying his notes at maturity. Duff proposes various things, and among others, "to divert "from the North to the South the investments "which European capitalists are accustomed to "make in this country." Richmond is to be, as we are informed, "a great financial focus"—Duff Greene & Co. being, if we may so say, the focus of the focus, a kind of intensified ingot, the goose that will lay so many golden eggs, that all the stumpy tails of all the lean Virginian steers will instantly sprout into miraculous luxuriance, so that the meanest cow in the Old Dominion will have at least five trailing yards of caudal appendage. Great times are expected when Gen. Duff's "American Agency" shall have been fairly started. Money will be as common as dirt; every man will have at least fifty thousand dollars in loose change in his vest pocket; negroes of the larger sizes will be worth not less than five thousand dollars a piece, and no black wench, kept for strictly business purposes, will think of presenting her owner with anything less than twins about four times annually. Duff Green will do it all, for Duff Green knows how to do it, when he tries. In Richmond, "the financial focus," we plainly perceive that there will be an embarrassment of riches under the Duff dynasty. That town will be what poor Whittington fancied that London was. Its streets will be paved with gold. Large sums will be seen wandering about the highways, affectionately asking to be borrowed. Capitalists with tears in their eyes will ask other capitalists to be kind enough to relieve them of an oppressive load of dollars. There will be a new Midas in every house of account. Finally, money will become such an unmitigated nuisance that paupers—should there happen to be any in the auriferous State—will be looked upon with envious eyes, and unprincipled men will lay deep plans to ruin themselves at the expense of their fellow-creatures.

Meanwhile, where will New-York be? Honestly but grievously we must answer "Nowhere!" All its wealth "diverted" by Duff Green, it will have storehouses without goods, piers without ships, streets without passers, banks without bullion, hotels without a guest, exchanges without a frequenter. In Broadway the mud will disappear and the grass will grow. At Barnum's a gold dollar will be on exhibition, but nobody will go to see it, because nobody will have the funds wherewithal to obtain admission. At last, the houses will begin to tumble, and as the roof of the Astor House caves in, Lord Macaulay's New-Zealander will arrive to meditate upon the wreck and ruin, and to sigh over the desolation: "Duff "Green did it."

Well, if Duff is thus bent upon maliciously doing us, what can we do but submit? For before such a financial genius as his, Croesus himself would fall, and suffer his name to go into the gazette without a struggle. Pray do not be so foolish as to talk about centers of trade. Duff has repealed all that; and hereafter the center aforesaid will be the identical spot upon which Mr. Green—singularly inappropriate name!—may happen to stand. He will speak, and ninety-nine first-class steamboats will instantly commence running to and fro. He will wink, and mountains of minted gold will arise. He will but whistle, and necromantic exchanges will spring up. Rothschild will be ruined, and Baring will burst. All will go on goldenly; until Virginia, becoming frightfully rich and alarmed at the unusual length to which the no longer stumpy tails of her steers are sprouting, will grow amorous of bankruptcy. We should esteem it culpable not to warn the world in general, and this city in particular, of the fate that awaits us, when we have, to borrow the recent bovine language of Milesian John Mitchell, "torn one another to pieces, and "drawned one another *afterward*."

REVOLUTION—SEPARATION.

There have been a good many revolutions in this world, but very few that have been permanent. It is very true that revolutions don't go backward. But it is equally true that one revolution is generally followed by another. France and Italy have amply exemplified this truth; but it is attested with greater significance still in the tropical and semi-tropical regions of this continent. South America, Central America and Mexico, have no other than revolutionary history. One revolution is hardly ended before another is begun. Our Southern brethren share the passionate heats engendered by tropical influences, and which flow forth in these never-ending revolutionary efforts. Texas is hardly cold from her old revolution against Mexico, and her new one into the American Union. South Carolina has been trying to set revolution on foot for thirty years. Georgia has fillibustered in a smaller degree, but with the same sort of temper for hardly a shorter period.

How long will it be, then, after the present slaveholders' revolution is ended, before a counter revolution is begun to undo what the first has accomplished? If revolutions beget revolutions anywhere, surely they will do it at the South, especially among such a conceited, egotistic, theatrical people as those of South Carolina. Especially will this be so when revolution shall have been made easy under the Secession dogma, which is to be the corner-stone of the new Confederacy. We need never expect South Carolina and Georgia, to say nothing of other Southern States, to be long satisfied anywhere. They are always aggrieved and in hot water about something. If it is not about negroes, it is about Indians; and if it is not Indians, it is the tariff. They have a chronic love of the Gipsy style of political life. They can't camp long in one place. They will begin their peregrinations soon after taking up their first abode. They will be merely a league of itinerating States. It will be Union to-day and Secession to-morrow. South Carolina will be the chief of this peripatetic school. With knapsack and firelock always swung, she will follow the dictates of her irascibility, and fly from pillar to post, disgusting all her associates by turns, the Ishmael of the seceding tribes, until at last she will reap the full harvest of her deserts by being left alone to the tender mercies of her black population, and falling before their resistless growth. The black South Carolina of the future we may expect to be some day capable of self-government. But this is too much to anticipate of the white South Carolina of our times.

But whatever counter revolutions and convulsions, either near or remote, may be the result of the Secession movement, it is certain that not one of the seceding States, after its departure shall have been formally permitted by the central power, (if indeed, that should ever happen) will ever be allowed to return to the Union, until it shall have got rid of Slavery, and it may be, of its black population. We may soon re-absorb the Border States on the basis of both these conditions. But it is the doom of certain of the lower tier of States, to carry the burden of the African race throughout centuries to come. In the event of separation, all that is vigorous and healthy, and that can be made to minister to the national growth and life, will be ultimately culled from the disintegrated masses of the seceding States, leaving the residue to the operation of the laws of moral putrefaction over those districts of country where the curse of Slavery shall find its last resting-place. What is finally to become of this residuum, under the influence of those regenerating forces which are born of decay and decomposition, is a problem which no one will now undertake to solve.

But that separation will lead to increased prosperity among the loyal States, and bring to an end the great evil and anomaly of Slavery among us with a greater rapidity than would otherwise be possible, there can be little doubt. Slavery certainly cannot stand as well without the protection of a great Government like that of the United States as with it. We may expect, also, that its dying struggles will be less violent and disastrous to the national interests than if it went on gathering strength from the protection of Free States.

Thus, in every point of view, the issue of separation, which is being urged upon the country by the revolutionists, may be regarded with comparative complacency by the North. While it must awaken feelings of regret and mortification in all patriotic hearts, the consolation will yet remain that, so far as man can discover, no great interest of humanity will suffer by it.

JEFFERSON DAVIS ON WAR.

Mr. Jefferson Davis, in a speech made since his election to the Presidency of the "Confederate "States of America," has declared that if civil war shall result from the present commotions, the battle will be fought on Northern soil, because the superior prowess and military habits of the slaveholders will enable them to invade and overrun the Free States. This is of course a mere piece of bravado, put forth for political effect at the North, and for the encouragement of his own followers. Mr. Davis is a graduate of West Point, and no man can have passed through the discipline and the course of instruction of that institution without acquiring a sufficient amount of historical knowledge and of military science to be aware that no nation or state with an accessible seaboard can venture on offensive operations against an enemy who commands the sea. We do not suppose that any warlike movements except such as are necessary to recover the property of the United States will be required from the Government. But if a serious war, now or at any future period, should unfortunately be waged between the North and the South, it would only be necessary for the Government of the North to concentrate at New-York a small fleet of sea-going steamers and an army of 20,000 or 30,000 men to hold the entire South in perpetual check. Not a man would be sent Northward from any of the Atlantic or Gulf Slave States while they were menaced at home by such a force, ready in a few days' sail to descend upon their coast without warning, and without the possibility of being met at all points by an adequate resisting force.

The maritime supremacy of the United States will be of incalculable value if we are forced into a war with the rebels. They never can have a navy, for even if they could procure ships they could not man them, for seamen cannot, like soldiers, be extemporized. They must grow naturally from the habits and tendencies of the people. Those who command the sea in this age of steam have the immense advantage that they can transport troops with ease and expedition to any point on a hostile coast, and can keep an entire seaboard in terror by the uncertainty which envelopes the movements and the destination of a fleet upon the high seas.

All the military forces that the rebel States can possibly bring into the field will be fully occupied in looking after their own coasts. They will have none to spare for the invasion of the North. The United States Government, on the other hand, can, with a very moderate naval and military force at its disposal, carry on as great a war as we are likely to see, even in the worst extremity.

STATEN ISLAND POLITICS.

Scoundrelism is still in the ascendency in the political affairs of Staten Island. It will be remembered that the last Legislature, unsolicited by the people of the Island—indeed without their knowledge, till they were surprised by the announcement of the fact in the public journals—cut up the county so as to carve out a new town, without the slightest necessity, and for no other known reason than to enable a party of corrupt politicians to continue in power. The indignation at this measure was very great, and in the election which the measure made necessary Mr. F. G. Shaw was undoubtedly chosen Supervisor by a large majority of votes, though increased undoubtedly by the high esteem in which he is held among his fellow-citizens of all classes. The will of the people, however, was not allowed to prevail. On some frivolous pretext the Inspectors of Election refused to complete the canvass of the votes, the ballot-boxes were taken to a tavern, the watch and ward over them at the proper moment pretermitted, when, in accordance no doubt with a preconcerted arrangement, they were stolen and destroyed. Nor has this outrage, almost unequaled in the records of electioneering villainy, ever yet been punished, although the men concerned in it are perfectly well known.

The regular day for the annual town elections in Richmond County was Tuesday, the 11th inst. In the Town of Castleton there were three tickets in the field. On the first was the name of Mr. Mersereau, late County Clerk; on the second that of a Mr. Smith Ely; and on the third Mr. J. Templeton Johnson's. According to the law the polls at this election are movable, and may be held as the town shall direct at the meeting at different places at different hours of the day. Accordingly, at the meeting in the early part of the day at Quarantine, it was voted that at a certain hour the meeting be adjourned to the usual polling booth at New-Brighton, and at a certain later hour to Factoryville—thus giving to all voters in different parts of the town on that side of the island an opportunity of depositing their ballots in the neighborhood of their own homes. But this did not suit the ballot-box-smashing party, whose strength lies in and near Quarantine village. These ingenious gentlemen, whose fertility of knavery is equaled only by their boldness, thinking, probably, that the destruction of ballots was not a game to be played again so immediately, hit upon the equally excellent device of providing against there being ballots enough on the wrong side to make it worth their while to destroy them. At the proper time, when the meeting was thin, and the right sort only of reliable Democrats were present, it was moved—we understand, by that distinguished citizen, Mr. George W. Daley—that the motion for adjournment be reconsidered! and this new rule of Parliamentary law was immediately adopted, and the vote to adjourn to New-Brighton and Factoryville—a vote, of course, beyond the reach of the meeting until it had actually adjourned to those places—was reconsidered, and it was then voted that the meeting should continue where it was the rest of the day. Had such a step been taken even in a regular way, it would have been unjust enough, and without precedent, as it would render it impossible for a large body of voters who do business in town, without previous notice, to vote at all. But a measure carried in a way so utterly illegal and absurd, must necessarily vitiate the whole election. Whether Mr. Ely, who is said to have been chosen by this defeat of a fair vote of the town, will accept, we have not learned; and whether the Staten Islanders will submit to this outrage as they did to the other, we do not know, for they have a way of doing things there not to be judged by ordinary rules.

"THE WRONGS OF THE SOUTH."

Surely, a fallacy more groundless has never had a popular run. To examine is to explode it.

Does the Constitution wrong the South? The only unequal advantages conferred by that instrument are two. It bestows on the South the privilege of capturing escaped slaves within the limits of the States which have prohibited Slavery; thus, to that extent, curtailing the local sovereignty of the Free States and suspending the operation of the world's common law. Again, it endows the Slaveholding States with an extra representation in Congress, and a superior franchise in the election of all Federal officers, by adding three-fifths of the slaves to the number of the free people of those States as the basis of their representation, thus endowing them permanently with vastly more political power than it confers on communities of similar size in the Free States. These may be wrongs, but are they wrongs of the South?

Has Congress wronged the South? It has bought Louisiana and Florida, fought the Seminoles and Mexicans, receded from the Jefferson policy of Slavery-restriction, enacted Fugitive Slave bills and enforced them, connived at the slave-trade, packed the Supreme Bench, and winked at Disunion—all for Slavery. These may be wrongs, but are they wrongs of the South?

Has the Judiciary wronged the South? Consider the comparative efficiency in execution of the Federal laws in the interest of Slavery, as compared with those in the interest of Freedom. The other day, at Cleveland, in the extreme North, the poor girl Eliza was arrested and proved to be a fugitive slave. The Free-State Court and Personal Liberty bill availed only to demand evidence. The evidence being produced, Ohio withdrew her protecting hand, and abandoned the innocent woman to her fate. The bond under the Constitution was paid, even to the pound of flesh. But at Norfolk, the captain of the slaver Storm King was acquitted, our national laws against the slave-trade being a dead letter. We have known numerous instances of the rendition of fugitive slaves, but we cannot recall a single instance of punishment under the laws against the slave-trade. These may be wrongs, but are they wrongs of the South?

Has Popular Sentiment wronged the South? There is not a spot on Northern soil where our fellow-citizens of the South may not freely come, freely hold, and freely speak their opinions on any topic, and find personal freedom and freedom of speech conceded to and maintained for them by Northern sentiment as well as by Northern law. Their every personal right, and every right of property known to the world's common law, is revered and guarded as our own. But innocent Northern men, and Southern too, who merely dissent by silence from the prevalent Pro-Slavery sentiment in the South, are not safe there. They have in many instances been murdered, and in many more they have been ignominiously expelled. Are not these facts? Perhaps they indicate wrongs arising from popular sentiment, but are they wrongs of the South?

Among the picked men of the South now convened at Washington is there not one clear-sighted enough to discriminate between equal rights under the Constitution and the common law, which every Southern man enjoys perfectly in every Northern State and in all national territory, as distinguished from those extra Constitutional guaranties and that national propagation of Slavery which, under the term "concession," is demanded by the South? And is there not one gallant heart ready to stand by truth and his country, and to expose to his compeers and constituents the emptiness and injustice of the cry, "Wrongs of the South?"

There is a bill before the Senate of the United States, reported by Mr. Bigler, in relation to the liabilities of the Collectors of Customs, which should not be passed without due consideration of its probable effects. It proposes to relieve Collectors from all personal liability for exactions of illegal duties. The bill proposes a complete revolution in our revenue system. The Collectors, from the earliest period of the Government to the present time, have always been held amenable, like all other public officers, for illegal conduct; but it is now proposed to relieve them from this responsibility, and to turn the merchant who gets a judgment for a wrong done to him over to the Treasury Department of the United States. Why should the importer who has been wronged by a Collector's illegal act, as decided by the Courts of the Union, be compelled to wait upon the movements of irresponsible clerks in the Treasury Department? Any one conversant with the proceedings of the Government knows that merchants are compelled to await for years the action of that Department. No class of business is so much oppressed as the importers of this city. We wish Congress to inquire of the United States District-Attorney of this city what proportion of cases tried in the Courts here result in favor of the United States on questions of duties illegally exacted. Scarcely one in ten. The Collector is reckless enough now, and we have no idea of giving him greater immunity.

—We venture to assert that the merchants of this city have submitted to greater exactions under the present officers of the Customs than under any of their predecessors. It is said that the income of these officials will amount from $25,000 to $30,000 per annum. Let us have some light on this subject. Will Congress call for information?

The American Institute holds its election for officers this afternoon. The regular Institute Nominating Committee have renominated the officers of last year. We are not aware of any opposition ticket, but if there be one it will probably amount to nothing more than an expression of preference on the part of a very few members.

Virginia Convention.

RICHMOND, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1861.

The Virginia State Convention met at the Capitol today. John Janny of London was elected President. He made a Union speech, but said that Virginia would insist on her rights as a condition of remaining in the Confederacy.

State Agricultural Society.

ALBANY, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1861.

The State Agricultural Society met in the Assembly Chamber to-day, at 12½ o'clock. The meeting was called to order by the President, the Hon. B. F. Huntington.

The Treasurer's report was read, and shows net receipts at the State Fair at Elmira of $9,043; total cash receipts of the year, $18,563; expenditures, $16,771. The report of the Secretary of the Society was read by B. P. Johnson.

A Committee of 24 was appointed to nominate officers and select a place for holding the next fair.

Recess till 4 p. m. When the Society reassembled the Committee reported the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, George Geddes of Onondaga; Vice-Presidents, John Jay of New-York, Benjamin T. Camp of Westchester, Herman Wendell of Albany, John A. Corey of Saratoga, S. D. Hungerford of Jefferson, Ezra Cornell of Tompkins, Samuel W. Johnson of Cattaraugus; Corresponding Secretary, B. P. Johnson of Albany; Recording Secretary, Erastus Corning, jr., of Albany; Treasurer, Luther Tucker of Albany; Executive Committee, Messrs. T. C. Peters of Genesee, N. Lapham of Clinton, John Winslow of Jefferson, E. Sherrill of Genesee, Samuel Thorn of Dutchess.

The Committee also reported in favor of leaving the selection of a place for holding the next State Fair with the Executive Committee, stating that Watertown was the only place which made an application to be selected.

A motion to hold the State Exhibition in July or August, for a trial of all agricultural implements, was referred to the Executive Committee.

A resolution in favor of the passage of the Assembly bill, authorizing the collection of agricultural statistics, was adopted.

A resolution approving of the proposed Exhibition of Industry of all Nations, in London, in 1862, and pledging the Society to aid in the enterprise, was adopted.

A resolution was adopted, on motion of Mr. T. C. Peters, affirming the impropriety of offering separate premiums for imported cattle, and in favor of their taking their chances of prizes with domestic cattle.

On the question arising as to the propriety of requiring an entrance fee of $2 for $10 premiums or over that amount, and $1 for other premiums, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee.

Recess till 7½ p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was consumed in reading of papers by Dr. Asa Fitch on the entomological peculiarities of the past season, and by Mr. J. Stander Gould on grasses and their culture.

Fire in Baldwinsville, N. Y.

BALDWINSVILLE, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1861.

A fire at 10 o'clock last night destroyed the flouring mill owned by Johnson, Cook & Co., and contents. Loss, $100,000 on the mill, and $40,000 on grain. Insured for about $18,000, mostly in the following Companies: Hartford, Connecticut; Fulton, New-York, and Hampden, Springfield, Mass. The fire is supposed to have originated by the friction of the machinery. The distillery adjoining was saved.