TERMS FOR 1877.

The Vermont Register.—We shall resume the Register Premium this year for the benefit of our subscribers. To any subscriber, new or old, who pays $2.00 for a full year in advance, not having free numbers or any other gratuity, we will present a copy of the Vermont Register for 1877, in person or by mail, as soon as the Registers are issued from the press. The New Hampshire Register will be given to those who prefer it.

Clubbing Rates.

Four copies, one year,	$1.75 each.
Ten copies, one year,	1.50 each.

A free copy to the agent for a club of twenty.

Old subscribers as well as new may join in clubs.

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Make checks and money orders payable to Royal Cummings.

Additions to clubs may be made at club rates.

Club agents will be supplied with copies of our list in their localities upon application.

Posters will be sent, upon application, to any who will post them up in conspicuous places.

THE SCIENTIFIC FARMER.

Special Terms.—The SCIENTIFIC FARMER is a monthly published in Boston, and is the best exponent of science devoted to profitable agriculture, that we have. Its price is $1.00 a year. We have here the bert proposition of the season, viz: New subscribers to that excellent paper, and to ours, can have *both* for $2.00 by sending the money to this office. This is an offer that can not stand open a great while, so send in those who wish to take advantage of it should do so at once. This will apply to new subscribers in clubs, but such names should not count toward an extra paper. Present subscribers to the VERMONT FARMER can get both papers for $2.25.

Vermont Farmer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1877.

OFFICE:

ODD FELLOWS' BLOCK,

St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

LEWIS B. HIBBARD, - Editor.

We are informed that the annual meeting of the Vermont Merino sheep breeders' association, for the election of officers and the transaction of other important business, will be held at the Addison House, Middlebury, on Wednesday, January 10th, 1877, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The Tribune gives the pompous sophomores of Brown University who have rushed into print against President Robinson, a gentle hint that they have made fools of themselves; tells them they go to college to study and obey the rules, and not to write poor pamphlets to which they have not the courage to sign their names. Well, perhaps college students will learn sometime, though not till after they graduate, that when it comes to a question of veracity between them and the president or faculty everybody, save a few shallow-brained favorites or personal friends, will give credit to the words of the latter even though the students have to be accused of a little falsehood. If there is one thing which makes a student appear small and foolish in the eyes of men of good sense it is to rush into print to "vindicate" his conduct against the censure of the faculty; that demonstrates that his cause is a bad one.

For sale, cheap, at this editorial sanctum—on thirty days' time without security—fifteen bushels of rhyme, falsely called poetry! Our room for storage is limited as the loft of this building is occupied by the "oddest" set of fellows you ever saw, else we would rent that and postpone the sale six weeks. Nearly every third letter contains a "poem" so-called, and as our space for poetry is limited, and we feel bound to publish the best we can get, we can't use a fourth part of those which reach us if they were equal to those of Whittier, or Longfellow, or Tennyson. There are good sentiments in most of them, but spread too thin, and through too many stanzas; besides they do not show care, thoughtful study, patient careful trimming, re-writing, etc. Tennyson don't sit down and dash off a few lines and then send it to the printer and request its publication at once. Nay, he thinks and thinks, and thinks again, ere he puts pen to paper, and then revises with most scrupulous care. We shall use all we can in conscience, for the sake of those who write it, but we must not sacrifice the paper, nor disappoint our readers.

Will they improve it? The Post, the keenest, most wide-awake, thoroughly able and outspoken paper of Boston, urges the democrats to unite with the reform republicans on Pres. Seelye for senator in place of Boutwell. Good if they will only do it. It will prove their willingness to have "reform" as well as Tilden. This is what the Post says: "The democrats stand ready to name at an early day a senatorial candidate who would greatly raise the political reputation of the state before the country and bring back to it some of that influence of which it has been shorn by entrusting its work to undersized servants." That is right, and now as the republicans of Massachusetts by clinging to Boutwell practically declare that they will *not* have "reform" with Hayes, we hope the democrats will take Seelye. It is not talk about reform, nor platform planks of reform that the country demands, it is the genuine article, the reform itself, and the party that stops lying and goes at once to the practice of reform is the party for the people, mind you that, and we assure the democrats that another such an opportunity as this which they have in the old Bay state will not be theirs again for many a day. Are they equal to the occasion? We wait and hope, not for that or any other party but for the sake of having Massachusetts worthily represented and a place of great public service filled by a man. Shall we hope in vain?

The American Agriculturist—which came too late for notice in the proper place—opens splendidly this year; it offers itself as a remedy for hard times, as its instructions will enable people to save money, and it is all true. For a village resident who wants a little of everything, the cream of agricultural and horticultural life, the Agriculturist is the thing. It is especially rich in illustrations, this number having a full-page cut of centennial poultry, plans for a house, which we can improve, some of Ayrshire cattle, a fine poultry house, a set of farm buildings which are not built for economy of money or room, some on fertilization of flowers, a set of handy quilting frames, wood-box, children's puzzles, besides quite a number of lesser things. Col. Geo. E. Warring of the Ogden Farm at Newport, R. I., has a series of papers, so that altogether it is a very excellent periodical for $1.60. The barnyard scene on the cover, Brother Judd ought to know, is in bad taste agriculturally. It is the farm cattle, cows, yeatlings and steers going out to drink; driving them is a boisterous man with a club in his hand, and an angry dog making for the cows with all his might. But then unlicensed dogs will be bulldozed in Vermont after a few weeks so this unsightly, savage cur will disappear. With the FARMER the Agriculturist is a grand thing for farmers.

We learned from a dispatch by the International line that Commodore Vanderbilt died Thursday, the 4th inst., at eleven o'clock a. m. For several months he has been lingering on the brink of the grave, rallying at times, but steadily declining. For many years he has been one of the magnates of New York, and one of the shrewdest and most capable men in the country. He represents with Thomas Scott, Jay Gould, Daniel Drew and some others the era of centralization of capital and consequent power in the hands of a single corporation represented to the world by one man. It has been one of the threatening features of our modern civilization, because men with power actual or possible find such strong temptations to use it, and use it for self aggrandizement in some way. These men have shown themselves able to control, by fraud, when necessary, state legislatures; witness Tweed's rule in New York and Col. Scott's in Pennsylvania. They have been able thereby to create, modify or prevent legislation, so that a whole state, with its millions of inhabitants and wealth and interests were at the mercy of these "bosses" or "kings." Vanderbilt was one of this class though by no means one of its worst representatives. The power of this class of men and the interests they represent constitutes one of the abiding perils of our national life. We have only to remember the Credit Mobilier revelations to see how deep and abominable are the iniquities, and how foul the corruption which centralized monied interests can beget. And when one of these men die, the power perpetuates itself; it changes hands but dies not—its eye does not dim, neither does its natural force abate.

The existence of these vast powers we must recognize and also learn that they are the legitimate and inevitable consequences of the material developments of our age, and these in turn are necessary festures of modern civilization. Hence the problem for us to solve is not how to get rid of the corporations and consequent centralization, but to ascertain their proper place and then keep them there. According to Herbert Spencer every step of progress is marked by complexity of material and social interests, and civilization's abiding problem is to preserve the harmony and equilibrium of all these constantly multiplying and apparently antagonistic forces and interests.

If our Christian civilization cannot do all this it must be pronounced a failure, and we must go back to barbaism. We expect it will succeed, however, though taxing well its resources of wisdom, skill and strength, and we would have people understand that these great corporations and kings of capital are just as legitimate results of this age, as the electric telegraph or railroads and a score of other things.

The Register for 1877 has just been received, and is as bright and fresh as a June morning. Let us open it. There is first a new map of Vermont and New Hampshire, and a little strip of Canada so that you can see where the Fenian raid took place. The map is a little too crowded with brooks and small rivers, they conceal most too much the names of the towns, otherwise it is a good map; the new railroads are traced, though we do not see the five miles of track just laid on the P. & O. road west of Johnson indicated! All the changes of the moon, eclipses, signs of the zodiac, etc., for old men to plant beans, and old women to make soap by are found in their places as well as the daily memoranda for each month in which good mothers can record Sarah's having an evening call from farmer Smith's son, or little Henry's trial with the measles, or the time when she cleaned house, or picked the geese, or her husband's brother James and his wife made a visit. Then follows the business directory of the towns in their usual excellent order and accuracy, ending with an invitation to subscribe for the Vermont Historical Magazine, which every Vermonter ought to do of course. Then follows the tabulated census of the state for the last eighty years, with the constitution and civil government of the state, as well as the members of the legislature, their place of residence and popular vote, grand list of each town, etc., as well as a clear exhibit of the state's financial condition. The name, location, offices of all the societies, banks, lodges, granges, etc., in the state are given as well as their leading officers. We do not like the crowded, mixed up way the members of congress are put in; then the editor bulldozed and put in Hayes and Wheeler as though they were surely elected. Taking it altogether it is about as good and useful a book as you often get for twenty-five cents. We wish they would change the shape and publish it the same size as Tribune or Herald Almanac, so we could have them bound and make a convenient volume.

A Few Figures.

From an article in the New York Sun, that luminary of such keen, cutting brilliancy, we glean the following interesting statistics. In the year 1876 there were on the earth 1,432,917,000 persons, and perhaps one or two over, as some people up in Potton were out gathering spruce gum and not accurately counted. This estimate is an increase of twenty-seven millions over 1875, quite a portion being a gain from more correct statistics.

The population of the different countries is estimated: About four-sevenths of the earth's population is Asiatic, or 825,548,590; Europe comes next with over a fifth, or 309,178,300; Africa with about a seventh, or 499,921,000; America with less than a sixteenth, or 85,519,800; and finally Australia and Polynesia with the very small fraction of 4,748,600 people. Europe is the most densely populated, having 82 persons to the square mile; Asia comes next with 48 to the square mile, Africa next with 17½, and America and Australia bring up the rear with 5½ and 1½ respectively.

Including Brooklyn with New York, as we may rightfully do for purposes of comparison, and the greatest cities of the world stand in this order: London, 3,489,428; Paris, 1,851,792; New York, 1,535,622; Vienna, 1,091,999; Berlin, 1,044,000; Canton and three other Chinese cities, one million each.

If New York can devise any means to govern herself without the overwhelming corruption of the last few years; if she can also mete out justice to her criminal classes and keep them in proper subjection; if she can keep within proper limits that cancer of our modern civilization, pauperism, and provide for its legitimate demands; if she maintains an impartial position toward the clamorings of the multiplied sects within her borders and enforces a fair common school education on all her children, then will she solve one of the most difficult problems of this century—the government of cities.

The Farmers' Opportunity.

We have a few plain words to-day. If an opportunity enjoyed is a duty enjoined, this article might have been styled the Farmers' Duty. But an opportunity must exist before the duty can become obligatory, and here we shall speak of the opportunity afforded farmers and the consequent obligations.

In the first place, the farmer stands at a disadvantage in many respects when contrasted with professional or with business men. It is not that the farmers know less, that their judgment is less reliable, their solid good sense less capable, or their real brain power any smaller than that of the business men and lawyers of the town, for in these respects they are the equals of the professional men. The difficulty is not one of native ability; it is not mental strength measured with mental strength; it is not good common sense put into the balance over against common sense; it is rather undisciplined talent pitted against well or thoroughly trained mind. Goldsmith Maid had all the agility and fleetness when she was a simple truck horse that she had when she was queen of the turf; the difference was that of training. Any town meeting where there are lawyers and a few shrewd, cunning business men suffices to show at what great disadvantage the farmers operate, save in the mere matter of numerical majority, and that in its essence is brute force. Has the farmer no ideas on a subject? Usually he has, though he reads less, is not as well "posted" as the village merchant, manufacturer or lawyer. Lack of ideas is not his difficulty, it is lack of utterance; he does not know how to make his thoughts, convictions, purposes and experience bear upon others, so as to modify their thoughts, purposes and conduct.

Every thoughtful man engaged in farming sees this. He feels it more or less keenly, but how to remedy it is the problem with him. Not unfrequently the farmers out on the hills fall into the quite natural but wholly unphilosophical habit of thinking that between them and the business and professional men of the village there is a natural antagonism, and that whatever goes toward "building up" the village is a damage to the farmers. Years ago some opposed railroads on the ground that they would render all property in horses, present or prospective, valueless. The last man of that class left Vermont long ago, but like the old burdock roots at his back door, he left his logic behind him and others have entered into its use. This false notion was natural because a few cunning, shrewd and "tonguey" business men and lawyers in the village have again and again outwitted the farmers. And this thing will continue just so long as the farmers permit it, and they will permit it until they see it is for their interest to change it, and we wish to say that no permanent change is secured by getting up their spunk and "rotin' down the village folks in town meetin.'" The farmers must learn to use their ability: must learn to speak in public and conduct a public meeting in good parliamentary order. A very small per cent. of the farmers in this state know how to organize and conduct a public meeting, to pass resolutions or inaugurate and carry through matters in a legal, parliamentary manner. But just those things have to be done in every town every little while, and the men take the lead, shape the measures who can do it, and is it wise and reasonable for the farmers to find fault? This is an old state of things, and must it always be so? No, and we think the dawn of a new and better day can be already discerned, and in it we find the farmers' opportunity.

There is no patent method of success—it is the old way of learning to speak by speaking, to think by thinking. There are in this state, according to the register for 1877, 222 granges, besides those whose charters have been surrendered or revoked; that is nearly one to every town. Of course the leading farmers of these towns are the members of the granges, and if at every meeting instead of spending so much time in routine and waiting, they would take hold of real practical questions, and insist that all the discussions, motions and proceedings shall be strictly parliamentary, the change wrought would be surprising. We have looked forgreat things from the granges in this regard, but have not seen all we hoped for; undoubtedly we hoped for too much, but we are extremely anxious that the influence of the farmers should be more positive and controlling. It is of no avail to say that the farmers are so many in number, are intelligent, and wealthy and should have more influence. The simple fact is they must learn to exert their influence, or it will never be exerted. An intelligent farmer told us that two lawyers in the house of representatives at Montpelier practically controlled the county to which they belonged, not by fraud, but as we have already suggested. Numerically the farmers were in the majority, practically they were in the minority.

We are pleased with the starting of that petition at the state grange in Windsor for Prof. Collier's services. We shall not dictate to the University what course to pursue, but the farmers mean business this time; they see that the University has the use of a large fund for the sake of promoting the agricultural interests of the state, and they are moving in a body to see that those interests are secured. Had such grants been made for the special benefit of the legal, medical and clerical professions, they would have taken organized measures to see that the interest of such grants were secured to them, because their familiarity with public life would have prompted to the right kind of efforts to secure the desired results. This lack of familiarity with and experience in public life has been the farmers' weakness; they have been kept separate from one another; socially disintegrated and practically powerless while, as they thought, a great trust was being diverted from its appropriate uses. If the grange shall do nothing for the farmers of Vermont beyond teaching them how to use themselves; how to combine to secure their just and equal rights, its existence will be fully justified. We want the farmers to see that their rights infringe upon the rights of no other class of persons, and then we want them to be intelligent enough to see what their rights are and know how to secure them, that is all. It is equal and exact justice for all; the farmers with the rest, but not excluding the rest.

Fire Insurance.

There is another record of fire occasioned by a defective flue. Of course the proprietor could have repaired that defect with a very little expense, but it was insured and so he let it go and the farmers, mechanics and merchants of this state are to be taxed some two or three thousand dollars to pay for the loss. This is all wrong—a defective flue should vitiate a policy, and so should keeping ashes in barrels or pails and pans all about the premises. The fact is, more than half of the fires are from carelessness, and no insurance should ever be paid for such losses. The agent goes around and renews the policies once in five or seven years; takes a hasty glance at things, omits visiting the chambers where so many pipes enter the chimneys, because perhaps the "women folks" object, as the rooms are "all up in arms," and so he satisfies his conscience—too many times there is not much to satisfy—and goes away; in a few weeks a house is burned; cause, defective flue or bad chimney. We helped extinguish a fire a few years ago in a farm house which was occasioned by fastening up the pipe with a narrow strip of zinc; the house subsequently burned and the insurance paid of course, while ten cents worth of wire and fifteen minutes time would have saved it. The companies must insist on thorough inspection with particulars at the time the application is taken, and then thorough and frequent inspection while the policy is in force, with minute reports of each risk made to the home office. This would involve some expense, but not a quarter of the amount which would be saved by such a course. We are not talking about the great stock companies from other states, but of our Vermont companies, especially the mutuals.

Every policy holder has an interest in this matter: at least one-fourth if not one-half of the money paid for insurance might be saved if these things were properly attended to. We emphasize this just now as the state companies find their losses greater than usual, a portion of this increase at least owing to these neglects. If some company would take the pains to examine the stoves, pipes, chimneys, places for keeping ashes and matches, of the people whose property they insure, we know they would be not a little surprised. We think they would find in nearly nine-tenths of the cases that ashes are taken up into old tin pails or pans, and sometimes a wooden bucket, and set into the back room or "cellar way" till it comes handy to empty them perhaps into a barrel; that as often as otherwise matches are kept in a drawer of wood filled with pieces of paper, strings, etc., or in an old paste-board collar-box upon the "top shelf" in the pantry; that the pipe, especially for the kitchen stove, is old, cracked more or less at the seams, the joints loose and ill-fitting, some of it not all quite worn and rusted out, and it generally goes up through the "chamber floor" to enter the chimney; the pipe is usually held in place with pieces of old rusty and hence rotten wire twisted around a nail driven into the ceiling.

All these are simply from carelessness, and if fires from such cases involved no expense or loss beyond what the owners suffered we should think less of it, but we have all a tax to pay for the penalty of his culpable neglect, and this tax is levied on the policy holders several times a year. We speak plainly as we have seen again and again just such things, and know they prevail all over the state. Reader, won't you look at the report of your company and note the number of fires during the year, the sums paid for each, and as far as indicated the cause of the fire, and then bear in mind that a large per cent. of the carelessness of which we have spoken is not reported; the companies are a little easy, and some policy holders won't tell any more truth than is necessary, especially if they get burned out through their own carelessness. If we were to build a house or a store we should make it fire proof and then let insurance companies go to the winds.

ALL SORTS.

We have found him! The author of "Beautiful Snow" is J. Frost, Esq., otherwise known as Jack Frost. What son of a gun will dare dispute that?

If our memory serves us right there is a great deal of truth in the following. When a boy has been off all day, contrary to the expressed wish of his mother, and on approaching the homestead at night with an anxious and cautious tread, finds company a tea, the expression of confidence and rectitude which suddenly lights up his face cannot be produced on canvass.

"I suppose," said a quack, while feeling a patient's pulse, "that you consider me a humbug." "How odd it is," responded the patient, "that you can so accurately tell a man's thoughts by feeling his pulse."

The Meissioner ("Soldiers Playing Cards") that was sold in New York the first night of the Taylor Johnston sale for $11,000, measured only eight by ten inches. It sold, therefore, at the rate of $137.56 for each square inch.

The number of fires in New York during the year 1876 was 1,344, as compared with 1,373 in 1875, a slight decrease in number, but the loses during the past year amounted to $2,717,996, as compared with $2,340,900 in 1875.

Robert Bonner asks, after hearing Huxley on evolution: "If a man cannot accurately describe the foot of the horse as we find it today, what faith can we place in his description of the foot of the horse that existed thousands of years ago?"

Spriggins says he once prevented a severe case of hydrophobia by simply getting on a high fence and waiting there till the dog had gone away.

I am now an old man. I have seen nearly a century. Do you want to know how to grow old slowly and happily? Let me tell you. Always eat slowly, masticate well, go to your food, to your rest, to your occupation smiling; keep a good nature and a soft temper everywhere. Never give way to anger. A violent tempest of passion tears down the constitution more than a typhus fever.—*Rev. Daniel Waldo Emerson.*

And now they are propounding the startling conundrum, does the centennial year expire before the fourth day of July next? We hope so; but give us a fair count.

WAIFS AND HINTS.

This is enterprise for you. The Record and Farmer of Brattleboro has James Redpath, the great lyceum lecture man in South Carolina, as correspondent. It seems to us that we saw a half a column or so of puffs of Gov. Chamberlain from southern papers, in several of our state exchanges about the same time. How came that about? In some papers we expected such things; others surprised us; that's bowing pretty low to Chandler.

A Boston clergyman had twenty-six pair of slippers on Christmas morning and he did not hang up his stocking! We guess the unfortunate man was the Rev. ——, the eloquent preacher at —— church. Why he? Because he is poor? No. Because his wife has too many cares? No, but that touches the core of the matter—because he has no wife—and these slippers were twenty-six leap year hints. Well, he had them before, and the reason why he does not marry is because by so doing he would give such disappointment to the unfortunate twenty-five "hinters." Considerate man!

Too bad! A New York letter, in speaking of Miss Susan B. Anthony's attempt to revive the "Revolution" on which she sunk $10,000 or more, says: "The Revolution was the only baby she ever really set her heart upon, and when she thinks of it no wonder she sighs, 'I never had a dear gazelle.'" Bet that correspondent is a woman and one who, to use her own words, "never had a dear gazelle" either!

Did you provide wine for your callers, Monday?

The Burlington Free Press has adopted dull "tinted paper" of late, and we don't think it any improvement.

The tone of the secular press is such as to gratify the most ardent Second Adventist. They are wonderfully pious, these papers; they surely expect the end of all earthly things soon, and like men generally, they are putting on a little touch of goodness at the last. It won't do, gentlemen, a little outside "goodyism" about turning over a new leaf, and giving up your profanity and falsehoods and slanders, and stealing the election for Hayes or Tilden is not the thing. Why some of them don't hold out through the first week. Good resolutions are not thorough reconstruction—regeneration is.

We wish to say it for the benefit of the ladies—the very hight of style is "bottle green" throughout. During a recent trip on the cars we saw a lady, unmarried, of—, well under twenty years, we believe that is the limit, whose hat, coat, muff, dress, and overshoes we believe were of this color, and all were trimmed with steel gray mixed imitation of fur. Looking athwart her seat and out of the car window we saw how beautifully the green and the drifting snow blended, and we tried to be grateful enough for the fashion.

How suddenly and surely political corruption spreads itself through all the ramifications of our national life. Bull-dozing, that peculiar Louisiana institution, has permeated the whole nation and cropped out here in St. Johnsbury Wednesday at the village meeting. Only think the "returning board" with a cool effrontery worthy of those southern fellows counted in *two* votes for Samuel J. Tilden for village trustee, and then in trying to conceal their sins counted *one* for Hayes on the next ballot! It has occurred to us as a "second sober thought" that an injunction from the police court ought to be issued and go "back of the returns." Where are our liberties? Men of seventy-six to the rescue! Is this an enlightened, free country, or are we to be Mexicanized? "Let us have a fair count."

A man of good judgment he was, a substantial farmer and granger, who called yesterday to congratulate us. He said he was not a subscriber for the FARMER, he had it on that old-fashioned rule of "swapping;" his neighbor took the FARMER and he had the reading of it; but in order to make his neighbor good for what he got from the FARMER, he had to supply him with the New York Times, Vermont Union, Scientific American and one other obscure paper, and he thought that kind of business about "played out"—the FARMER is the paper. You are right, sir.

The New York Mail says that neither Paul nor Shakspeare had any descendants. Well then, a great many men are sadly deceived as to their ancestry, for they suppose the line of descent from themselves to the great preacher or dramatist can be traced by the naked eye.

What delicate sensibilities that western editor has. He offers his paper to widows for *half price*. That's not a novel way of suggesting more than he dares to say, and the beauty of it is his subscription list is increasing very rapidly,—hard times you know!

The Brooklyn Argus has some sense if it is a democrat. It tells sister Eliza Pinkston of Louisiana that if she "wants to be an angel" she must stop lying. Even so, Eliza, and it has seemed to us that some white folks we know of would make their angelic "calling and election" more sure if they would stop lying too.

The demo's of this burgh were in high glee Wednesday when Tilden stood one ahead of Hayes on the vote of village trustees. They thought they saw in that, as some one has said, "the gigantic shadows which futurity casts upon the present." They glided down the Avenue boastfully though we thought,

"But optics sharp it needs, I ween,
To see what is not to be seen."

"Moody invites every Sunday-school in the country to take a penny collection January 14 for the benefit of the children of P. P. Bliss and the erection of a monument to the parents." Yes, but don't put much money into marble or granite, better put it into the physical, moral and intellectual culture of those orphaned children. Mr. Bliss' monument is inspired, lightened hearts all over the land; it may not be visible, but it is set up in many souls where it will endure till the day when the contents of all hearts shall be revealed.

One of the first ministers of Boston has a hotel named after him, the Hotel Gordon, near Jordan, Marsh & Co's store. Such is fame.

If any fellow can get up better moonshine than we have had for the last few evenings we should like to see the result. It was not included in our village report on street lights.

PUBLIC OPINION.

It is our purpose in this column to give each week extracts from the various papers of the day, showing the drift of public opinion on all topics of current interest, irrespective of creed or party, as we wish our readers to know what the people think and say of passing events.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring in the valiant man, and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand,
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

We might turn over one leaf on Monday. We might say that henceforth the public thief should not be a hero; we might pass even sweeney or Tweed in the street without taking off our hat. But will we?—*N. Y. Mail.*

There are enough Republican Senators to break down the scheme which Chandler and Morton had devised, and to substitute for it the true constitutional method. The democrats will be only too glad to act with such Senators for the common purpose of preserving republican government.—*Boston Post.*

If the devil ever gives himself up to laughter, it must be when the democratic party is talking about itself as the body of reformation, public purity, fair play, and diffusion of the light and sweetness of healing constitutional doctrine.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

A slight, but extremely unfortunate, misunderstanding among the democratic members as to the time when they should act, was all that prevented the election of Charles Francis Adams to the chair which Dawes is now endeavoring to occupy.—*Worcester Press.*

The party which first says to the other in that committee, "let us agree to agree if we can, and, if we cannot, to address our issues on legal and constitutional questions to the supreme court for advice,"—that party puts on the other the responsibility of anarchy.—*Springfield Republican*

As it looks now, neither Hayes or Tilden can be declared elected without great popular dissatisfaction. If Tilden succeed, the republicans will feel that he won his victory by force and fraud in the Southern States. If Hayes succeed, the democrats will believe that he was "counted in" by unprincipled returning boards.—*Adams Transcript.*

It is time for choirs to do their part in unbarring the church doors and making people love to come to church. Let them but shake off this lethargy and show they can do for the people and the uplifting of humanity, and we shall never again hear of churches discussing the advisability of dispe ising with the choir.—*Eugene Thayer.*

We have never doubted that as the result of the discussions and investigations which characterize this generation, God will be better interpreted, more truly understood, and therefore more truly loved. For in the nature of things whatever is organic, whatever is fundamental, in religion, never changes.—*Golden Rule.*

There is not the remotest doubt that a thousand persons can be had in New Orleans alone, who will make affidavit that no fair election has been held in Louisiana since the one that carried the state into rebellion, and that no honest count has been had since Louisiana was "counted out" of the Union.—*N. Y. Times.*

If the republican party should now succeed, against every hindrance, in declaring Mr. Hayes elected President, it would gain nothing but an enormous accumulation of present embarrassments, with the certainty of being utterly wiped out of existence as soon as the people could get a chance to vote on the question.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Is there not an election of the President, recurring every four years? Can we not afford to tie ourselves down for safety to the letter of the law and the Constitution, even if the letter kills the hopes and wishes, it may be the religious faith we may have or think we have, in our country for the time being?—*Boston Traveller.*

The conduct of the striking engineers on the Grand Trunk railroad furnishes another illustrat on of the tendency of trades unions. In consequence of their pernicious doctrines six hundred men ordinarily respectable and intelligent have suddenly developed into the worst kind of ruffians, simply because a railroad corporation claimed the right to manage its own affairs.—*Portland Press.*

It is our belief that Hampton is the legal Governor of South Carolina, and that it fortunate for the state that he is so. He has shown himself to be a man of great sagacity and moderation, and he promises protection to all citizens in all their rights. He has the support of the tax-payers and the people of character and intelligence, and will beyond doubt give them a government far stronger, more economical and more honest than they have seen for many a year.—*Boston Globe.*

In our country, now and then, a man, as in England, sunders the ties of party and becomes at once a traitor, so called, because he prefers to do what he thinks his duty to his country, rather than to keep his place in his party. But he never commands respect for his conscience. It is taken for granted that some selfish, personal consideration governed him, and conscience had nothing to do with it.—*N. Y. Observer.*

The main point, after all, is that intimidation is not a good ground for throwing out votes. It is the duty of the state government to provide means for a full, free and peaceable election, and, if any persons interferes with such a result, he should be punished. But the idea that the votes of innocent men can be thrown out by thousands, when it appears that a full vote was throwo, because of the offenses of a few, is a violation of the fundamental principles of representative government.—*Boston Herald.*

Who killed these people? The Lake Shore Railroad Company. This company had assumed the duties and responsibilities of common carriers of passengers, and where their road passed over bridges they were legally bound to see to it that the bridges were not only strongly built originally, but that they were kept and preserved in sound and safe condition. This duty they neglected, and hence it is that to a vast number of families the holidays have been suddenly converted into days of mourning.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Death is the great leveler. Whatever may be a man's distinctions or titles, whatever his dignity and rank, death does away with all differences and discloses only the common humanity. The very approach of death, and the necessity of making preparations for it, reduce men at once to the same level and show that all are beset by the same weaknesses and subject to the same fate. Before the solemnity attending the last hours of life the innermost heart of a man reveals itself, and we are often surprised to find that natures which we had supposed to be most stern and cold had in them mild and genial qualities whose existence we had not suspected.—*Boston Journal.*

The St. Albans Messenger expresses the sentiments of the better class of the people of this state in the following paragraph: "It has been suggested that a large public meeing be held soon at Academy Hall to give expression to to the approval of our citizens, of the law enacted at the recent session of the legislature, for treating drinking saloons as public nuisances. No doubt this is the prevailing sentiment here, as it is elsewhere in Vermont, and the expression of that sentiment, by a meeting that shall show the real strength and purpose of the friends of temperance in St. Albans, would certainly be proper and useful.

SMALL POX.—"I am willing to risk my reputation as a public man," wrote Edward Hine to the Liverpool Mercury, "if the worst case of small pox cannot be cured in three days simply by the use of cream of tarter. One ounce of cream of tarter dissolved in a pint of water, drank at intervals when cold, is a certain, never failing remedy. It has cured thousands, never leaves a mark, never causes blindness, and avoids tedious lingering."

Wilberforce, in his dying hour, said to a friend, "Read the Bible, let no religious book take its place. Through all my perplexities and distresses, I have never read any other book, and I never knew the want of any other. It has been my hourly study; and all my knowledge of the doctrines, and all my acquaintance with the experience and realities of religion, have been derived from the Bible only, books about religion may be useful enough, but they will not do instead of the simple truth of the Bible.

John Bright, formerly the advocate of peace at any price, has become an advocate of war at any price. At Birmingham he recently expressed himself in the following belligerent style: "Why, 700 years ago the people of this country, with one of their heroic Kings, joined the Crusaders, and went to Palestine for the purpose of liberating holy places from the possession of infidels and Mohammedans. What do we now do? We give the blood and treasure of England to the support of the Turkish Government. We give Bethlehem and Calvary and the Mount of Olives, through the blood and treasure of England, and the power over all these vast countries, which are almost a wilderness under the Turkish sceptre, we do all this simply to prevent Russia passing any war-ships from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean."

Markets.

Vergennes Market.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30.

Butter—Winter 20 @ 25c; Fall 25 @ 30c.
Eggs 25c.
Poultry 10 @ 14c.
Pork 5½ @ 6 50.
Hay $10 @ 12.

Richmond Market.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Butter from 18 @ 25c for late ends and Winter make, 30 @ 32c for October make.
Cheese—Farm dairy, plain 10 @ 12½c, sage 11 @ 13c; Factory 13 @ 14c.
Potatoes 70 @ 80c for 60 lb.; 80c for Early Rose.
Poultry 12 @ 14c for dressed.
Eggs 30c.

St. Johnsbury Market.

THURSDAY, Jan. 4.

Prices Paid by Dealers.

Butter, new, tubs or balls, 26 @ 28c ℔ lb.
Eggs, 25c ℔ doz.
Beans, common white, $1 75; hand picked, $2 50.
Oats, 50c ℔ bush.
Maple Sugar, stirred, extra, 10c ℔ lb; tub, 8c.
Potatoes, 60 @ 70c ℔ bush.
Beef, dressed weight, 7 @ 8c. ℔ lb.

Prices Asked by Dealers.

Dried apples, 12 @ 14c, as to quality.
Molasses 75c ℔ gallon.
Syrup, silver drip, $1 00.
Sugar, refined C, 13½c; granulated, 14c.
Maple Sugar 8 @ 10c.
Kerosene, 40c ℔ gallon.
Corn, new, 80c ℔ bush.
India Wheat, 65c ℔ bush.
Meal, 75c ℔ bush, new.
Feed, $1 40 ℔ 100 lbs.
Bran, $1 25 ℔ 100 lbs.
Flour, $6 50 @ 8 50.
Rye Meal, unsifted, 50 ℔ lb.
Shorts, $25 ℔ ton.

Watertown Cattle Markets.

Cattle—Thirty car loads of live stock over the Fitchburg Railroad, including six car loads of Western that arrived during the week, and sixteen loads via Lowell Railroad. All the trains were within three miles of the loading quite early in the morning, but in consequence of the heavy fall of snow which drifted in the deep cuts, effectually blocked, not only live stock trains, but detained passenger trains a number of hours. We were successful in obtaining the exact amount of arrivals, seeing individually the drovers, who were anxious to have their stock yarded. Butchers were anxious, and a little sharp for a trade. She strike on the Grand Trunk road has detained quite a quantity of Cattle that would otherwish have put to an appearance. The temporary rise on Cattle this week is something like ½c ℔ lb. The dressed Beef in the city, of which there is quite a quantity, puts a check to high rates on live Cattle. R P Pollard sold 2 Oxen at 4c live weight; 2 Oxen at 4½c live; 2 Oxen by the dollar, $180 the dog; 2 at $140; these Cattle would weight from 2500 to 3800 the pair. R S French had 14 good Oxen that he was offered 6c live; all but one pair weighed 3500.

Sheep—About seventeen car loads of Sheep, and we found butchers ready to pay ½c ℔ lb advance to close them out. Sales from 3½ @ 6½c, as to quality, where the flocks were all. Lambs; some of these as high as 7 @ 7½c.

—Poultry—Not any noticed in market, and Poultrymen rather not see any arrivals this week, even at 10 @ 12c ℔ lb.

Boston Produce Market.

Flour.—The demand for Flour has been good and the market is steady and firm. All choice and favorite brands of family were held at very full prices, and low grades continue to be sold up comparatively close. The sales have been at $4 50 @ 4 75 for Western superfine; $5 @ 5 75 for common extras; $5 74 @ 6 50 for Wisconsin extras; and $6 50 @ 7 50 for Minnesota, including choice and favorite brands. Winter wheats have been selling at $6 50 @ 7 50 for Ohio, Indiana and Michigan; $6 50 @ 8 50 for Illinois; and $6 75 @ 9 for St. Louis, including choice and favorite brands family. Southern Flour is firm, and has been selling at $7 @ 9 25 ℔ bbl for medium and favorite brands family. Patent Wisconsin and Minnesota brands range from $8 @ 10 ℔ bbl, favorite brands selling at $9 @ 10 ℔ bbl.

Corn Meal has been in fair demand with sales at $2 95 @ 3 10 ℔ bbl for fresh ground and kiln dried.

In Rye Flour the sales have been confined to small lots at $4 50 @ 5 50 ℔ bbl.

Oat Meal has been in demand, with sales at $6 75 @ 7 for common Western, and $7 50 @ 9 40 ℔ bbl for favorite and fancy brands.

In Buckwheat Flour the sales have been at $3 87½ @ 4 ℔ 100 lbs, and now firm at the latter rate.

Grain.—The demand for Corn is good and prices are well sustained and firm. The sales have been to some extent at 65½ @ 66c for new mixed and yellow, now held for an advance, and for old prices are nominally 2 @ 3c ℔ bush. higher.

Oats are quite firm and prices have again advanced. The sales have been at 37 @ 38c for No. 1 white; 35 @ 34c No. 1 mixed and No. 2 white; 48 @ 50c for No. 2 mixed and No. 3 white; and 40 @ 45c ℔ bush for rejected.

In Rye the sales have been confined to small lots at 90 @ 95c ℔ bush.

Shorts are firm and have been selling at $30.

Fine Feed $21 @ 22; and Middlings at $24 @ 25 ℔ ton.

In Barley nothing of any consequence has been done, and in prices no change.

Provisions.—There is a very firm feeling for Pork, and prices are sustained. The sales have been at $14 50 @ 15 25 for prime; $18 @ 18 50 for mess; and $21 @ 22 ℔ bbl for clear and extra clear, as to quality.

Beef remains the same and the demand is steady; sales at $11 50 @ 12 50 for mess and extra mess, and $14 @ 15 ℔ bbl for family.

Lard is quite firm and continues in fair demand at 11½ @ 12c ℔ lb for City and Western.

Smoked Hams are selling at 11½ @ 12c as to quality.

Dressed Hogs are firmer and prices have advanced; the sales have been at 7½ @ 8c for light and heavy Western, and with small supply prices are likely to go higher. City dressed have been selling at 8½ @ 8½c.

In Cut meats no change, with moderate sales at full prices.

Butter.—Choice grades of butter continue in fair demand but all other kinds are dull. The sales of choice New York and Vermont dairies have been at 30 @ 33c; selected lots, creameries and fancy dairies 32 @ 37c; and common to good at 18 @ 26c, as to quality. Western have been selling at 26 @ 28c for choice, and 15 @ 23c for common and good. We quote:—

New York and Vermont—