

The new provisions of the present School Law, involving changes radical in their character, must necessarily produce, for a time, much embarrassment and inconvenience, and in some instances it may be, actual oppression. But most of these being of a temporary nature, and incident to almost every innovation upon long established usage, they should not impel the General Assembly to hasty and inconsiderate legislation, lest the present law may be, in a short time, involved in the same perplexity and confusion which, under the former laws, produced so much embarrassment.

The annual assessment and levy of two mills upon the grand duplicate of the State for school purposes, is regarded by many of the tax-payers as oppressive and unnecessary. The levy, however, is only half a mill greater than that authorized by the former law.

Prior to the passage of the present law, the State levied half a mill, and county commissioners were required to levy a mill, for school purposes; making a total school tax of one mill and a half. Under the new law, both levies have been united into one, and styled a State levy.

Another tax which has borne very heavily upon the tax-payers the past year, is the one authorized to be assessed by Township Boards of Education for the purchase of school house sites, and the erection of school houses. The amount that has been raised for these objects is very nearly as large as that levied by the State. It is a tax that will not be required to be repeated, however, in the next fifteen or twenty years.

In the establishment of all school systems three objects should be constantly kept in view—brevity, simplicity, and the utmost degree of economy that is consistent with the proper education of the youth of the State. To attain these excellencies, however, much time and experience, and a careful observation of the working of the system, are necessarily required.

The grand duplicate has been greatly increased by the re-valuation of the real estate. A levy of two mills, for the ensuing year, would produce one-fourth more revenue than was raised during the past year, under the same levy. No system can operate beneficially that bears too heavily on the people. I therefore recommend that the law be so modified in this particular as not to require any increase, at least, of the amount now assessed by the State.

The work on the new State House has been carried on, during the past year, with commendable industry and dispatch. The inconvenience and expense of procuring suitable halls for the accommodation of the General Assembly, together with the present insecurity of the public records of the State, render the early completion of this building a matter of much interest.

Arrangements were made to have it covered in last fall, so that the work, inside, could be progressing during the winter, but the contractors were disappointed in procuring the necessary materials. They have since been procured, however, and the roof will be put on early in the spring.

It is expected that the rooms intended for the Supreme Court, the Library, and the various State offices, will be finished and ready to be occupied early in the ensuing fall, and that the whole building will be completed in time for the next session of the General Assembly.

It will be a large and beautiful edifice—comporting well with the magnitude and increasing wealth of the State.

But little attention has been paid for some time past to the Militia System of this State, and in some places, it has been suffered to go entirely down. No returns, it is believed, have been made for several years, and the State has thereby failed to receive her just proportion of the public arms.—Many of the divisions, brigades, and regiments are without officers, and there is some doubt as to the manner in which they should be chosen.

The Constitution requires that all white male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, shall be enrolled in the Militia of the State, and that provision shall be made by law for the protection and safe keeping of the public arms.

It has been found necessary in all governments to keep up some kind of a military force. In ours, the reliance is chiefly upon a citizen soldiery.

There may be occasions when the civil authorities are unable to perform their appropriate duties, and when the Governor is expressly required "to call forth the Militia, to execute the laws of the State, to suppress insurrection, and repel invasion."

The public arms, as will be seen from the Quarter Master General's Report, are in a most unsafe condition.

These circumstances, it appears to me, render it imperative on the General Assembly to provide for a more efficient organization of the Militia of the State.

The reduction of the price of our Canal lands has increased the number of acres upon the grand duplicate, and contributed largely to the settlement of one of the most promising regions of the State.

The area of the whole State contains 25,576,960 acres, of which there will be brought on the grand duplicate for the ensuing year, 24,811,455 acres, leaving a balance of 765,505 acres, the greater part of which still belongs to the General Government.

The United States continue to demand the former prices of from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, while the State sells her lands, in the same vicinity, at greatly reduced rates.—This necessarily retards the settlement of these lands, and proves a very serious inconvenience to the people in that section of the State.

The General Government should at once surrender the remainder of its lands to the State, so that they may go into the hands of actual settlers, at graduated prices, and be brought, with all other lands of the State, on the grand duplicate.

This would be no more than just. The whole quantity of land at first held by the General Government in this State, as appears from the actual surveys, was 16,770,984 acres. The proceeds already realized by the National treasury, amount to nearly \$21,000,000, which is an average of more than \$1.25 per acre for the entire quantity.

I deem the present an appropriate and favorable time to press this matter upon the consideration of the General Government, since the early settlement of the public domain is the avowed policy of the present administration.

Our Federal Relations—both at home and abroad—have been conducted, during the past year, with signal ability and success.

The principles and policy announced in the inaugural address and message of the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, reflect the sentiments and opinions of the people, and afford ample proof that the honor and high interests of our country, will be fully and scrupulously maintained.

WILLIAM MEDILL.

Columbus, January 2, 1854.

Theory vs. Practice.

When President Pierce was in the U. S. Senate in 1841, he asserted what he deemed to be the true doctrine, in relation to removals from office in the following language:

"When a public officer neglects the duties of his office for political purposes, substitutes it for political ends, or in any way abuses the trust confided to him, to promote the objects of a party, he should be removed; and so far as I know, my party yield to that principle their cordial assent. *But when you transcend this, you assail the public officer in the free and unembarrassed exercise of his inalienable rights secured to him by the constitution as a man and a citizen.*"

Comment—the expulsion of a public officer from office for refusing to do exactly what Gen. Pierce so violently condemned.

HEAVY FREIGHT BUSINESS.—The amount of freight offering at the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton depot, is unprecedentedly large. Cars can scarcely be obtained to take the freight from this point alone.—Large quantities of hogs and produce are coming over the M. R. & L. E., as well as the G. & M., destined for Cincinnati, which makes a great addition to the business of the road.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Daily Times.]
Notes on the Census.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 7, 1853.

After considering the numbers and growth of a people, the next most interesting inquiry is, how do they live? In what classes are they divided? Is agriculture or the arts most predominant? The census furnishes us with the facts, from which we may draw inferences, but does not furnish us with the philosophical conclusions to which these facts lead. This is the work of scientific and philosophic minds, for whose use the census is really intended.

The first classification in the pursuits and habits of a people is into civic and rural, or town and country. From their division in this respect may be inferred their progress in the arts. I have given below some of the proportions of the civic and rural population of the United States—country towns of over 2,000 inhabitants each, as belonging to the civic class:

	Civic.	Rural.	Proportion.
New England,	696,905	2,031,144	27 pr et. civic.
New York,	1,070,759	2,026,635	25 "
Pennsylvania,	577,905	1,723,881	25 "
Ohio,	270,500	1,720,908	14 "
Virginia,	94,217	1,306,204	7 "
United States,	3,754,470	19,436,596	17 "

It will be seen that the three states—New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio—contain about half the civic population of the United States, while they contain less than one-third the whole people. Some inferences may be drawn from the distribution of the civic population, in regard to the future growth of the several states:

1. The entire growth of New York in the last ten years has been in the civic class.—The census shows that some of the best agricultural counties have absolutely diminished. It depends almost entirely on the growth of towns in New York, how far or fast the state shall grow.

2. Pennsylvania has 320,000 more inhabitants than Ohio; but this excess is entirely civic, the rural population being equal. It depends, therefore, almost wholly on the growth of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh whether Pennsylvania can keep her position.

3. Virginia, the oldest state, has only seven per cent. of civic population, while Ohio, a young state, has fourteen per cent., and Pennsylvania has twenty-five. This proves that a slave state cannot have a very large civic population; and from that, also, arises the fact that they cannot deal largely in manufactures and the arts. A slave population necessarily results in a floating and agricultural people. New Orleans is a city foreign to Louisiana, half its people being only temporary residents. St. Louis may grow fast for some time, but will never equal the growth of Missouri—that is, hereafter.

Density of habitation is important, as showing the capacity of a country to support inhabitants, and the rapidity of growth compared with the soil. Let us take some examples from nearly equal surfaces:

	Sq. Miles.	Density.
New England,	61,116	45 to 1 square mile.
New York,	46,000	67.3 "
Pennsylvania,	46,000	50.2 "
Virginia,	61,352	23.1 "
Ohio,	39,964	49.5 "

We observe here a fact that would not be suspected, that the density of habitation in Ohio is greater than that of New England. Comparing it with Massachusetts, the Miami country proper (which is about equal to the surface of Massachusetts) has 90 to a square mile, while Massachusetts has 127; but that includes Boston and the numerous large towns all around it. The addition of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, makes the whole density of New England inferior to that of Ohio.

Virginia, on the other hand, has only half the density of New England, and one third that of New York. This arises from its purely agricultural character. Looking at the capacity of the states, as tested only by experience—if we take 127 (the density of Massachusetts) as a ratio, then New York would have 5,700,000 inhabitants, and Ohio 5,000,000. It is quite certain they will both attain that number without, much check in the present rate of increase. New York city would then contain a million of people, and Cincinnati half a million. These places are now growing so rapidly there seems no rea-

son to doubt that result. If the ratio of Massachusetts were applied to the five north western states, (under the ordinance of 1787.) they would contain 28,000,000—and there is no reason to doubt they will attain that in the next thirty or forty years. But let us compare the United States with some of the states of Europe:

	Square Miles.	Density.
Denmark,	52,268	40
England, (proper)	50,210	300
Scotland,	30,000	80
Bavaria,	31,317	150

We thus see there are great varieties in the density of population in Europe. Denmark, one of our ancestral lands, has less density of habitation than Ohio. Scotland has not as much as Massachusetts. But England proper has much greater density than any of these countries. At the density which prevails in England, New York would contain nearly fourteen millions of people! and New York city be a second London!

There is a striking resemblance between Scotland and New England, in mind, morals, habits, and industrial development, which any one who chooses may run out in a parallel. Man is naturally gregarious, which accounts for the apparently strange tastes of such multitudes of people in rushing to cities, and spending their lives within narrow walls. Even here, in this new town on the Ohio, we see people daily coming from every interior county to seek business and society in the city. They leave, with no repugnance, the green fields, and beautiful woods, and running streams, to bury themselves in the dust of shops, the smoke of foundries, and the greasy smell of pigs. While this gregarious nature (and especially of the American man) remains, our cities will continue to grow with equal rapidity. The magnitude and growth of our cities is one of the most remarkable things attending American development, and probably their future will be more remarkable. I note, here, the population of some of them, at an interval of thirty years, including the population of the suburbs, in round numbers:

	1820.	1853.	Growth.
New York,	123,706	700,000	500 per cent.
Philadelphia,	108,116	500,000	400 "
Baltimore,	62,738	180,000	200 "
Cincinnati,	9,644	170,000	1600 "
St. Louis,	4,598	82,000	1800 "
Cleveland,	606	25,000	4000 "
New Orleans,	27,176	120,000	350 "

These are enough to show how very extraordinary is the growth of our civic population. There are places in the north west, on the Mississippi, the Missouri, and the Lakes, which are now unheard of, but in the next generation will be great places. The first warehouse lot was sold in Chicago in 1834, and now it claims about 50,000 inhabitants. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was laid out by two citizens of Ohio, in 1836, and now claims 30,000 people. VIATOR DEL OCCIDENT.

CINCINNATI AND DAYTON SHORT LINE RAILROAD.—We are much gratified to learn that the work of construction on this road is progressing most rapidly, and that the prospects are favorable to its completion by the time specified. The entire line, from the tunnel, is under contract to Mr. Beckel, of Dayton, who, with all that indomitable energy characteristic of the man, is driving the work with a rapidity astonishing.—While other roads are suffering for want of means, the contractor upon this one is possessed of the advantages of capital that will insure its speedy completion. Nearly two hundred hands are at work at the present time upon the line of the road, and at the opening of spring an immense force of laborers will be put on, that will enable the contractors, in connection with the present flourishing condition of the road and its flattering prospects, to complete it thoroughly and have it in running order within eighteen months from the time the contract was made.—[Cin. Enq.]

TURN ABOUT.—The proprietor of the Burnet House gave on Saturday night, to the domestics of that establishment, some one hundred and fifty in number, the usual Christmas Eve supper and ball. The servants, that night, were waited on by Mr. Coleman and assistants.

A man behind the times should be fed on ketch-up.