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THE CIRCULATION OF THE TIMES IS LARGER THAN EVER BEFORE IN ITS HISTORY, AND IS STEADILY INCREASING.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1891.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Forecast for Virgina and North Carolina: Fair; slightly colder.

The Grand Lodge of Odd-Fellows, of Virginia, meet here on the 14th.——The Randolph Literary Society elected officers.——The convention of the Republican League of Virginia will meet here on the 9th.——Carnaval de la Mer opens next Tuesday.——The primary election will be held April 23d.——Mr. J. T. Stratton was chosen city solicitor for the Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument Association.——The sub-contractors of the city meet Tuesday night.——Phil. Kearney Post, G. A. R., will celebrate the anniversary of the foundation of the order to-morrow evening.——The Board of Public Works met.

VIRGINIA.

A large gathering of mechanics and architects met in Roanoke yesterday to form a State organization.——The excessive rainfall during the past week has greatly impeded the work of farmers.——Lynchburg has issued bonds for street improvements.——A protest of the citizens of Lynchburg has been made against work on the Rivermont iron bridge on Sunday.——Mr. Littleton Fourqurean, of Bedford county, is dead.——Several Democratic county conventions were held yesterday for the selection of candidates.——The sales of loose tobacco at the various markets in the State last week was very large.——A memorial meeting will be held in Danville to-night in honor of the late Dr. Edwards——Several negroes have been arrested at Mosby's Junction charged with rioting.——A local option fight will be made in Farmville in the near future.——The Farmers' Alliance of Lunenburg met in quarterly session yesterday.

NEW YORK.

Edwin Booth gave his last performance at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn yesterday afternoon.——The will of Dr. Spear has been filed for probate, and the estate is worth $100,000.——The New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor is making rapid progress.——Italy's contribution to emigration to our country has greatly exceeded any other nation.——The iron report shows moderate progress in that industry.——It is stated that sufficient bonds of the Richmond, Irvine and Beattyville railroad have been disposed of to relieve the company of its embarrassment.——Mrs. Susan Torpey died in Brooklyn yesterday from the effects of injuries received at the hands of her son.——Catherine Roach, the James street miser, died yesterday morning from starvation.——The indications are that the enormous death rate is on the decline.——News from the stranded steamer with the Nicaragua party is to the effect that the party landed safely at Greytown.——The incoming vessels yesterday brought news of furious gales along the coast.——The white policemen of Brooklyn have ceased their boycott of the negro officer.

FOREIGN.

The friends of the Womens' Suffrage bill in the House of Commons of England is entertaining considerable anxiety over its passage.——King Humbert has been awarded a gold medal for civil valor.——Italy has become considerably pacified over the New Orleans lynching affair.

GENERAL.

Captain Octavus Coke, of Raleigh, has been appointed to the position of Secretary of the Commonwealth of North Carolina, vice Colonel Saunders, deceased.——Governor Fowle is making arrangements to distribute among those entitled to it the direct tax fund, the North Carolina share of which he has received.——Copper ore has been discovered in Granville county, N. C.——

THE circulation of THE TIMES is larger than ever before in its history, and is constantly growing. This increase has been steady for months past, and some of the city routes have been doubled, while the demand by newsdealers has largely increased. These facts can be verified at the paper mills from which our paper is purchased, at the postoffice from the increase in our postage, and by carriers and newsdealders generally.

MEXICO appears to be suffering from a heavier tariff burden than even the United States. Of the imports into that country during the course of 1889, which ran up to $40,024,894 at least $36,518,661 worth were dutiable. Upon this, a duty of 90 per cent. was levied, which secured for the Government a revenue of $22,477,962. The total imports of woolens amounted to only $1,613,186, and yet upon this, $1,986,020 was levied under the tariff law, a sum exceeding the actual value of the goods imported.

IMMIGRANT SOLDIERS.

The recent New Orleans tragedy and the subsequent action of the Italian Government, as well as of the American citizens of Italian descent and parentage in this country, have given rise to a number of speculations and ideas which, it is hoped, may prove useful in moulding the future of the United States. The country was at first astonished to find that a set of branded and oath-bound cut-throats and murderers, who had made themselves a pest to the community in which they lived, could not be disposed of by a popular uprising without exciting the indignation of a foreign nation. It was never dreamed of that rioting, disorder and crime could not be suppressed within the American Republic without the risk being run of foreign governments making it an international offense of sufficient importance to result in the breaking off of diplomatic relations. But the American people have been no less surprised at this than they have been at the conduct of numbers of their fellow-citizens who have taken out naturalization papers, and who for years have been living and carrying on their avocations under the protection of our laws and in the enjoyment of the rights and liberties guaranteed by our Constitution.

The course of the large majority of Italo-Americans since the New Orleans tragedy in denouncing the people of Louisiana, New Orleans, and the United States generally, threatening them with the vengeance of a foreign country, is sufficient to cause the gravest apprehension. Suppose that a war with Italy had have resulted, would these citizens have fought for or against the land of their adoption and the flag which so long has protected them? Unless they fought differently from the way they have talked, they would most assuredly have been found either openly on the side of our enemies or against us as secret spies.

We do not intend to cast any reflection upon the great bulk of American citizens of foreign birth, for they have always proven themselves, heretofore, true and devoted, under all circumstances, to their adopted land, but the recent conduct of the Italo-Americans certainly gives us ground to pause and consider. The Republic cannot afford to foster and warm into life in her bosom vipers who will be ready to turn upon and sting her to death in the day of her extremity, and this is one very important point which Congress must carefully think of when it has before it the healthy revision of our immigration laws.

REVIVAL OF ACTIVITY.

Probably the most interesting question to a very large number of people in all the towns of Virginia just now is: What is the prospect of a renewal of activity in the different branches of real estate? So far the long spell of falling weather has given to the season the character of winter rather than that of spring. The country has been buried in mud, the roads have been impassable, and every form of business has been in a state of suspension. The towns have in a measure suffered from the same disadvantages. A profound quiet has reigned, which, owing to the prolonged bad season, has remained unbroken, although the spring is rapidly advancing.

The outlook for clearer and more genial weather has now improved, and already indications of future activity are to be observed. Two weeks of mild and clear weather would have a very marked effect in promoting an alert and hopeful spirit in those who are interested in the growth of our different towns.

Whether the approaching season of open weather will be attended by as great activity as prevailed in the corresponding period in 1890, remains to be seen. There has been no falling off in the confidence which is entertained as to the future of real estate. Nothing whatever has occurred that is calculated to diminish this confidence. On the contrary, there are more reasons to-day to sustain the belief that Virginia is destined to attain to an unexampled industrial greatness than there were six or twelve months ago. A thousand signs, some most conspicuous, others hardly palpable, point to an enormous development of her unusual variety of interests.

The period of comparative depression through which we have been passing has been due to causes that are independent of over-speculation. Indeed, there has been no over-speculation in good properties. Here, for instance, in Richmond, real estate is estimated below its true value if the general outlook for the city is considered. The same thing is true of real estate, certainly in all of the leading centres of the State, if not in the towns that are just springing up. The disturbed condition of the money market, produced by extraneous influences originally and the obstructive character of the season, have been the leading causes of the quiet which has prevailed for a number of months.

The revival of activity, based as it will be upon the existing and prospective values of property, and curbed by the more conservative feeling that has very naturally been created by the more cautious attitude assumed in financial circles, promises to be of a sound and trustworthy nature. With the growing interest of Northern capitalists in our resources, and with the very just confidence entertained by our people in the future of our different communities, it would be indeed phenomenal if the opening season was not followed by an activity hardly less great in its proportions than that which made the course of last year so memorable in our economic history.

Every condition would seem to justify it. Not one is to be observed that is radically obstructive in its character. Any timidity that may exist in financial circles will only foster a spirit of prudence and caution, which is not at all inconsistent with a strong and active market, however much opposed to extravagant speculation, which, under all circumstances, should, for the welfare of the community, be condemned and checked, if possible.

SIDNEY LANIER.

A recent review of the poems of Sidney Lanier in the London Spectator, one of the highest critical authorities in the Old World, ventured the opinion that this distinguished Southern poet would, in time, come to be regarded as the greatest of the American writers of verse who had appeared up to the present date. So far, the most careful and discriminating foreign judgment has been disposed to award this pre-eminence to Edgar Allan Poe, on account of the singularity of his themes, as well as on account of the unique charm of his manner and medium of expression, as exhibited, for instance, in the poems of the Haunted Palace and the Raven.

Lanier was undoubtedly a man of extraordinary genius, but his poems are not such as to appeal to what may be called the popular taste, which has stamped the poems of Poe with approval, not in spite of but because of their peculiarities. Lanier has all the refined subtlety of scholarship with much of its obscurity, and this will always stand in the way of the general acceptance of his supreme greatness. That he will occupy a higher place in the history of American poetry than the purely conventional school of New England, to which Longfellow and Lowell belong, is very probable because he possessed what that school does not, a distinct originality of his own, which is the very essence of poetic immortality. That he will be estimated in the end as a greater poet than Poe is open to serious doubt.

It is a fact that may well be gratifying to every Southerner that the two writers of verse who are now regarded abroad by the most cultivated critics as the two greatest American poets were both from the South, and it may be added, both were true to the people of their section. This cannot be said of all of our Southern novelists, as the instance of Cable will show.

AN EDUCATION.

Fortunately, it is a rare thing for a man in our country to reach years of discretion without being able to read or write. That much seems to come naturally, like the opening of the eyes of little dogs and kittens. It is thoroughly provided for in our system. With his eyes open and the ability to read and write, the question of an education rests mostly upon the man himself. And the very worst idea that he can accept is that any man or institution can do the educating for him; that anything outside of himself can make a man of him; or can make a doctor, a lawyer or an engineer of him. It is a good thing for one to have the instruction and training of one older, more learned, and more experienced than himself. But it is a bad thing to acquire a dependent habit, a habit of leaning on anybody or anything.

The very beginning of an education is the appetite for knowledge and skill and power, character and honor. Whatever awakes that, whatever stirs the manhood within us begins the education. The simple desire for fame, for reputation, for place is a false fire. It is not the beginning of an education, but an unnatural stimulant. Without devotion to knowledge, to truth, to science, to art, for their own sake, little progress is made. Avarice or ambition may animate the same soul; but the love of the thing itself is the principle of life, the germ of growth, and the other motives degrade while they stimulate.

The desire of an education with the generality of us is a desire for light and large and free manhood. The elementary branches contemplate these. Geography makes us know the expanse of the world we live in, of other lands and people and scenes than those about us. History shows us that we are but in a little margin of time, extends our experience over all the past. And the two together make us cosmopolitan—makes us citizens of all times and places—bestow on us the freedom of the world.

To see things as they are; estimate them by right standards; measure and value them by true weights and measures; to know the causes of things; the laws that control things—which means the ways of Providence—to appreciate the dignity of manhood and the high privilege of human life; to be able to play the part of man on the stage of the world; all these go to make up an education.

But to reach this grand result by the mere management of schools and colleges is a vain hope. The highest education is that which developes these elements of manhood: self-reliance, sound judgment, clear and distinct observation, discrimination, intellectual pluck, force of character, and the courage of conviction; all these come from within. They may be inspired and encouraged, but they cannot be taught or put on. They are essentials and not shows. In brief, the soul of education is the love of light, and of the very best and the highest. And light and wisdom are both free to all that have the heart for them. The love and fear of the Highest is the beginning and end of wisdom—and ensures an education.

ACCORDING to the Baltimore American some Western Maryland friends of General Bradley T. Johnson want him to enter the lists for the Governorship, and have asked him to allow the use of his name. General Johnson will not consent to this, and says he is not a candidate for Governor or any other office, and would not accept any. His work in helping to have the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal restored as a waterway has made him very popular in the canal counties, and, should his friends succeed in getting his name before the convention unsolicited by him, it is not probable that he would then refuse to allow its use. His friends believe he can carry Garrett, Alleghany and Washington counties, and that these would be supplemented by the ten oyster counties on the Western and Eastern Shore and the dreding interest in Baltimore. General Johnson would make his canvass on the canal and oyster questions.

WITH the recall of Baron Fava, the Italian Minister, so fresh in mind, it was quite reasonable for the people of the United States to anticipate some demonstration on the part of Austria on account of the action of American citizens in Pennsylvania in firing on and attempting to suppress a riot by a howling mob of Hungarian coke miners. Austria does not seem to be so solicitous about the protection of her canaille as does Italy, however, and she evidently does not seem to think that American society has no right to protect itself without offending her dignity or offering an insult to her flag.

Porter is Too Pleasant.

[Atlanta Constitution.]

Our Minister to Italy, Mr. Porter, is altogether too amiable.

The policy of soft answers to turn away wrath may be overworked.

When D'Arco, the under secretary of foreign affairs at Rome, lost his temper, and proceeded to bullyrag Minister Porter, that gentleman showed unnecessary meekness of spirit. D'Arco said: "We have nothing to do with your Constitution. If it is found wanting, you must mend it. You know that it is no Constitution worthy of a civilized country if it does not insure punishment for crime and protection for the weak!"

Now this is strong language. It is an insult to our Government and to our Minister.

If our Minister had been a man with a proper sense of what was due to his position as a representative of the United States—such a man, for instance, as General Henry R. Jackson—he would have secured a retraction and an apology, or failing in that, he would have demanded his passports and returned home.

But this is not all. Minister Porter has assured the Marquis di Rudini that our Government will pay an indemnity to the families of the New Orleans victims, but that he cannot guarantee the punishment of the lynchers.

In this our Minister is going too far. His promise of an indemnity, if made at all, should be at the end of diplomatic negotiations. Minister Porter, however, after being reduced to a state of nervous imbecility by the bulldozing insults of D'Arco and di Rudini, prematurely and unadvisedly pledges pecuniary damages for the families of the Mafia prisoners killed at New Orleans.

Just what the final outcome will be no one knows, but with a Minister at the Italian court who is willing to swallow any insult, it is not likely that Italy will have that respect for the Government back of him that should be shown us.

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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VA.

A Week of Great Pleasure and Much Gaiety.

BRILLIANT EASTER FESTIVITIES.

The Temple of Janus—Lent Followed by a Gay Reaction—The Confederate Monument—Base-Ball Notes.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, April 4.—[Special.]—This week has been one of great pleasure and gaiety. In the early part of the week came the Easter germans—Monday evening the Eli Banana's and Tuesday the University Club. There were more visitors than usual to attend these, and their beauty added no little to the pleasure of the occasion. But the event of the week was the Temple of Fame.

There has been for some time a feeling of much regret in the hearts of all true Confederates here and in Charlottesville that the Confederate burying ground, just beyond the University grounds, presents a very unpleasing apperance and has in it no monument to mark the place where the 1,100 Confederate soldiers sleep "the sleep that knows no waking," save that contributed by nature, and the wall enclosing the space raised by loving hearts and hands. So the ladies put their heads together and brought forth the Temple of Fame, as a means of raising money to erect a suitable monument, and much credit is due to the ladies and gentleman who labored so faithfully in getting up the entertainment, which lasted three nights.

EVENING OF THE IMMORTALS.

The first entertainment, evening of April 1st, was the "Evening of the Immortals." The court of "High Jove," in Roman dress, march in and go through certain evolutions, the music for which was furnished by the University orchestra. The drilling was very beautiful. There was the formation of many beautiful figures, the classic white Roman dress adding greatly to the beauty, showing very nicely the gymnasium and field work of the men in their fine proportions. The gods and goddesses then grouped on the stage, Jupiter and Juno in the great seat of honour and the others arranged around them—it was a pretty sight. Then Mercury with his "winged sandals" advances and announces that "Most High Jove and his Consort Juno sit on the throne to hear the claims of mortals to a seat in the Court of Heaven," and then the mortals marched in and presented their claims. They were a motley crowd, representing many of the famous persons of history, fiction and allegory, in appropriate costumes. These presented their claims and were accepted or rejected by the gods, and after some singing and drilling by the gods, the Confederate States represented by beautiful ladies appropriately dressed in classic costumes and bearing the coat of arms of the State on a shield and a spear.

EVENING OF THE MORTALS.

The second evening was the "Evening of the Mortals." Again the Court of Heaven assembled, and Mercury made his announcement, and again the mortals made their appearance and went through very elaborate figures. There were nearly a hundred persons in these, and the beauty and complicity of the figures frequently brought forth applause. Again the mortals made application to enter Heaven, beginning with Shakespeare, and having in their ranks many familiar to us—Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, "Uncle Sam" and the Man with the Hat, George Washington, Uncle Remus (one of the best), and many others, ending with Brother Jones and his Sister Sue, and their "Tale of Woe," in somewhat fanciful costumes. Then everything became very quiet, only the tap of the drum was heard; and then marched out in slow, stately tread, first one Confederate State and then another from opposite sides in the order of their secession, only Virginia last, and arranged in a crescent before the gods, each State as it appeared being vociferously cheered by its representatives in college.

After the States had all marched out, from one side came two of the Monticello Guards, and behind and between them a student dressed in an old Confederate uniform and carrying an old Confederate flag, with many a rent and bullet mark to show where it had been. These marched out and took their places, completing the crescent—Virginia standing to one side in the hollow.

THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.

Then with even slower tread came in a figure—the Confederacy—in pure white, dark hair down her back and over her shoulders made even blacker by a piece of crepe, and bearing in her hands a wreath of immortelles; advancing with downcast demeanor in front of the crescent she sat down on the seat and buried her face in her hands. Great was the shout that went up, and many a one shouted the louder to keep back the tears that would come whether he would or no.

CHILDREN'S EVENING.

The next evening was "children's evening," and was probably as good as any that preceded. There were more than fifty children on the floor, and they showed wonderful training. They were dressed in pretty colored costumes after one pattern, giving very good effect, and their drilling was wonderfully accurate. One feature was a negro drill, headed by Uncle Remus and directed by two old aunties. Also, the singing by the Jarman children was very pretty; and probably the best scene was one from Cinderella, where her sisters leave her to do the house work, and she becomes very much exhausted and falls asleep, and a lot of little fairies, in beautiful fairy costumes, come out and do the work for her—churn the milk, make the bread, wash and iron the clothes, &c., and then they have a fairy dance around Cinderella.

After each entterainment refreshments were served.

The affair was a great success from a pecuniary standpoint also, over a thousand dollars being cleared. The terrible weather of the past week put something of a quietness to base-ball, the much-talked-of games with Yale having been postponed on that account. However, the team took advantage of the two good days with which we were favored to practice. The next games scheduled are those with Dartmouth on Wednesday and Thursday next.

THE UNITED STATES AND ITALY.

Lessons to be Learned From the Recent Trouble—The South for the Republic.

Editor The Times:

I am far from contending that the Secretary of State was not right in admitting the principle of indemnity in his correspondence with the Italian Minister, though I believe it is contrary to the bolder position assumed by Mr. Evarts as Secretary of State some years since, when a number of Chinese were set upon and murdered by a mob in Wyoming. He then gave the indemnity, but declared it to be as an act ex-gracia, and not demandable by China as right. I could wish that the admission made had been distinctly based on the duty the United States owed to herself rather than to the country which produced the murderous Mafia.

I suppose, however, there are few Americans, whatever their views may be respecting propriety of the action of our Government, who do not feel a sense of humiliation as to the position we occupy. Italy, whatever her rights may be, has, if the telegraphic reports are to be believed, acted with an arrogance which it is hard to stomach, and we are left with an uncomfortable doubt whether she would have acted so had she been dealing with Great Britain. Leaving out of consideration the fact that the incident arose out of the slaying of a band of cutthroats who added to conspiracy and assassination jury-fixing and the subversion of justice, it is not pleasant to have been scolded and berated like a wicked school-boy and to know that the whole world has been deciding unanimously that if we dared to object Italy would whip us in "forty minutes." It is not palatable to know that to the explanations of the United States Minister respecting our institutions, the Italian d'Arco replied with some heat (so says the report; "We have nothing to do with your Constitution. If it is found wanting you must mend it." It is not palatable to read that "the United States Minister Porter has succeeded in pacifying di Rudini."

The Constitution of the United States is entirely acceptable to the American people and we are not accustomed to mend it to please outsiders. This tone has grown out of the administration of our Government and out of our inconceivable folly in squandering billions of money on pensions, jobs and personal subsidies, and forcing our representatives abroad to appear as paupers without dignity or power and permitting our navy to become the laughing stock of the world.

Our Minister to England walks at all public functions seventeenth in the list of foreign representatives, being preceded by, I believe, even the Minister from Corea.

I think we have not acted with due dignity.

That Italy might be able to destroy a part of our shipping and, notwithstanding our navy with our indifferent war-ships, might be able to ravage a city or two on our coast is possible, but that she would dare to attempt it, I do not believe. If she should there could be but one ultimate event; there would come a day of reckoning. Whatever the temporary effect might be, the final result would assuredly be the complete punishment of the assailant.

We shall probably now be subjected to the slights if not the insults of every nation with the spirit to front us until such time as our patience shall be exhausted, when we shall rise and overwhelm our insulter.

We have experienced this before. Great Britain slighted and harried us until she had pushed us beyond endurance, when we rose upon her. We were a weak nation then in resources of war, and she the most powerful on earth; and for a time the enemy ravaged our coast and had the advantage, even burning the capital of the country; but we survived it and whipped her in the end, springing by the fact at once to the position of a first-class power. So it would be now.

I believe that two good results will come from the present affair: First, that we shall be forced to awaken from our lethargy and place ourselves in a position of security befitting our real rank; and secondly, that some steps will be taken to effectually check the tide of immigration of Mafia assassins and their like, the scum of the earth which threatens to overwhelm our people and our Government.

Meanwhile, it is well for us to assure the Government at Washington that whatever views the South may hold as to parties or internal administration, when it comes to a question of national honor she is for the nation. The spirit of the race that fought and endured from Shiloh to Appomattox survives, and though there is nothing which the South loves more than peace, there are some things which she fears more than war.

THOMAS NELSON PAGE.

JEWISH DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANITY.

An Extraordinary Paper Which Has Caused Considerable Comment.

[The Christian Union.]

A very extraordinary paper is that which we publish in another column by three representives of a Jewish Freethinkers' Association, defending Christianity against the attack of a co-religionist. Rabbi Sparger published an article in the Brooklyn Eagle maintaining that Christ was a myth, or, if not a myth, an impostor. His article excited considerable comment, and appears to have led to a discussion of the claims of Christianity in the Free Religious Association to which the writers of this document belong. As a committee of that Association they publish this paper, apparently representing the conclusion to which the Association was conducted by its discussions; the conclusion that, whatever place may be assigned to Jesus Christ in theology, historically the religion which derives its name and its inspiration from him is the only religion which is aggressively, courageously and hopefully working for the amelioration and uplifting of the human race, the only religion which on philanthropic and humanitarian grounds deserves the serious consideration of mankind.

We recommend many of our readers who are skeptical respecting the claims of Christianity to read with care this paper, and any of our readers who have friends troubled by doubts respecting the claims of Christianity to mark this paper and send the Christian Union containing it to such friends. Even apart from its source it would be remarkable as a clear, compact, and concise statement of the evidences of Christianity.

JEWISH DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANITY.

[From the Brooklyn Eagle of December 23, in reply to a letter from a Jewish rabbi arguing that Christ was a myth or else an impostor. We comment editorially elsewere.—Eds. C. U.]

To the Editor of the Brooklyn Eagle: Some few weeks since there appeared in the Eagle a letter from our much-esteemed friend and co-religionist, Rabbi Sparger. It was brought to the notice of our association by one of our members, and it received a great deal of consideration, as did also the answers to it which appeared in the Eagle subsequently. All the letters, except Rabbi Sparger's, were, apparently, from Christians. Now, if the Eagle will give us a little of its valuable space we will give the views of a considerable number of liberal-minded Jews (not orthodox), not Jews who look backward, but men who look at things as they appear at the present time. The first question we considered was, could a fraud or delusion have stood the trials and tests which Christianity has stood and have held its ground, in every instance, and gone forward with giant strides, till it is now the most liberal and progressive religion that the world has ever seen, a religion adapted to every country and every people on this globe? Other religions are and have always been sectional, each having its own special district or country (Judaism alone excepted), and although we Jews do not believe the Christians are right, we must, nevertheless, wonder at the rapid progress and the gigantic proportions to which the Christian religion has grown. What would this world have been if the Christian religion had not come into it? Judaism would certainly not have developed into such a grand and sweeping system. We Jews were but a handful of the world's population, and we were always a secluded people, keeping to ourselves and looking at all other nations as interior, not trying to raise others above paganism, but shunning them and despising them. Christianity, on the other hand, is seeking out every nation and people, converting them and making them better, and we Jews to-day enjoy the greatest benefits in countries where the people live the nearest up to the teaching of their leader, Jesus Christ. Be he a myth or a reality, his teachings, without doubt, improve all who follow them. Then the Christian religion to-day shows no sign of weakness, but is stronger than ever, and is gaining in strength, while all the other religions are on the decline, receding before the rapid advance of Christianity. Judaism alone remains immovable—we might say a fossilized monument of God's truth—a religion with a glorious past record, but with little hope for the future. We Jews plod along the well-beaten tracks of our forefathers and make no advance. What did all the elaborate ceremonial law given to our forefathers mean? Was it simply a meaningless ceremony to be performed year after year? We think not. It must have certainly pointed to something to come. Then all through the prophets' time what do the prophets mean? We modern Jews are apt to explain the prophets' meaning to suit ourselves and place great reliance on what our rabbis say. But our forefathers did not think so. They either disbelieved the prophets or looked for the fulfillment of the prophets' predictions at some future time, but we Jews of the present day do not look for the fulfillment of anything. Since the time of Christ there has not arisen among us one prophet to oppose Christ as an impostor, which is now over eighteen hundred years. This we cannot but believe to be circumstantial evidence that the law was fulfilled in Christ. Then one of our best authorities, the Targum, applies part of Isaiah fifty-second and all of the fifty-third chapter to the Messiah. So do our Pesekta and our ancient books, the Tanchuma and Siphre, all of which was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Then, again, Josephus speaks of Christ. Although some contend that the passage where he refers directly to Jesus, called the Christ, is spurious, yet we cannot prove that it is not genuine. Tacitus, a little over a century after Christ's birth, and who lived about the time of Josephus, quotes it as true. In another place Josephus speaks of James, the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ. This passage has not been pronounced spurious, so it is safe to accept it as positive evidence that Christ did live on this earth, and was a well-known person in his time. In the year A. D. 64, the Emperor Nero accused the Christians of firing Rome. This was less than forty years after the ascension, or rather the so-called ascension, of Christ, and quite a number of Christians were killed at the time. Very likely some of these Christians were Jews who had been converted to Christianity in Judea and had gone to Rome to escape persecution, which was raging against the Christians in Judea. Perhaps some of them had seen Christ and spoken with him. Perhaps some of them had seen some of the miracles reputed to have been done by him, and if there had been no Christ it is not likely that there would be people ready to die for their belief in a myth at so early a date. The burning of Rome is an undisputed fact, and there must have been quite a number of Christians or they would not have been noticed by the Roman pagans. It is a common thing for us to say that such a person as Jesus Christ did never exist, that he was a myth, only a fable made up by some Greek writer, but what proof can we bring to prove that he did not live on this earth?—while there is very good evidence to prove that he did live, and that he came just at the time when the Jewish nation were looking for the promised Messiah. Concerning the death and reputed resurrection of Christ we say nothing. If Christ was God, then his death amounts to nothing, and his resurrection amounted to nothing, as God could leave his earthly body and again assume it at pleasure. With the light of nearly two thousand years shining on us simple assertion will not do; we must have proof. Now, we, as honest, free-thinking men, admit that we are in doubt, and if any one can prove that the Messiah is yet to come, we should very much like to hear from him.

MEYER RODEFELDT,
ISRAEL POSNER,
MARX LEVY,
Committee American Hebrew Freethinkers' Association.

Brooklyn, December 21, 1890.

New York Clubs.

[New York Commercial Advertiser.]

The love of big things, characteristic of us as a people, is beginning to make itself felt in the clubs. That conservative old institution, the Union Club, stimulated no doubt by the example of the Manhattan, has made up its mind largely to increase its numbers. In order to accommodate their increase a new club house will be necessary, and it is believed that the Union will not be long in planting its vine and fig tree in the neighborhood of the Central Park and not far from the site selected by the Metropolitan. These changes make us realize two things the more clearly—the increase of the city's population as well as the steady movement of the centre of that population further and further up town. The waiting lists in several of the more prominent clubs are so long that the examples of the Manhattan and Union will have to be followed by more than one among their number, else, after the manner of bees, swarms of our clubable young men will be driven to setting up hives of their own.

Every Mother

should see that her little ones are protected and that a bottle of Dr. David's Cough Syrup is at hand to give in case of Croup, Coughs or Colds.

If you feel weak and all worn out take BROWN'S IRON BITTERS

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

WANTS.

In order to assist persons in need of employment, this column is offered two days in the week—Tuesdays and Fridays—at reduced rates.

WANTED—

A LADY

to act as CASHIER and assist in Office Work.

Best of references required.

ap5-1t A. SARS & CO.

WANTED, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN to examine the REMINGTON STANDARD TYPEWRITER before purchasing a writing machine. For fifteen years it has proved to be the best for speed, durability and manifolding. Machine rented from $3 to $750 per month. Parents who wish to have their children taught typewriting, should see that they learn on the REMINGTON, as it is the standard and universally used all over the world. Call on or address JOHN L. CAMPBELL, exclusive dealer for Virginia and North Carolina, No. 913 east Main street, Richmond, Va. ap5-1t

WANTED—TO SELL A NO. 2 CALIGRAPH and cover, nearly new, for $60. Address "BUSINESS," care carrier No. 1. ap5-1t

WANTED — TO SELL A PORTABLE BAKER'S OVEN for hotel, boarding and house use, as well as for bakery. This very clean and perfect OVEN is now offered. Can be seen at William Meyers, west Broad street, or address Mrs. M. W. PRICE, 723 south Laurel street, Richmond, Va. ap5-3t

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WANTED—A MAN TO SOLICIT REAL ESTATE and Insurance. One well acquainted with the city, and who has had some experience with Real Estate and Insurance business. A permanent position and good salary to the right man. Address "WILLIAM," Box No. 8. ap5-3t

AGENTS—RAND, McNALLY & CO.'S INDEXED Atlas of the World. New population figures; latest changes. Over 200 pages, 14½x11½. Popular price $3.75. Liberal terms, exclusive territory; sample map sent if requested. RAND, McNALLY & CO., 323 Broadway, New York city. ap5-1t

IF YOU WANT WATER LILY FLOWERS AS LARGE AS THE MOON looks to be then PLANT Nymphea Dentata, Devoniensis and other choice sorts. In flower all summer. Planted by M. R. CATLIN, 723 Laurel street. Office, Ninth and Main, at Garbers'. ap5-su,w&f1m

WANTED—POSITION AS ASSISTANT BOOK-KEEPER or SHIPPING CLERK by a young man of twenty-three. Sober and industrious. Best references. Salary no object. Address W. N. Y., 717 east Broad street, care Priddy Bros. ap5-1t

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WANTED—COOKS AND HOUSE-GIRLS TO go North. Good homes and good wages. R. W. ELSOM'S Employment Agency, No. 19 east Broad street. ap4-3t

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CAN A MAN, A GOOD, SQUARE MAN, GET your FURNITURE to RENOVATE? Address JAMES WOODALL, 909 east Broad street. Prompt attention to orders. mh29

WANTED—BY AN ENERGETIC YOUNG man, a position as TRAVELING SALESMAN with some reliable house. Has had six years' experience in the retail trade handling general merchandise. References furnished. Address PUSH, care TIMES office. mh29-1w*

WANTED—A WHITE GIRL TO COOK AND do GENERAL HOUSEWORK for a small family. Reference required. Apply at 517 east Leigh. mh29-3t

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL BALSAM WILL cure your cold, cough, bronchitis, etc., etc. Sold by all druggists at 25c. and 50c. per bottle. mh22-tf

CARRIAGES.—MINOR & JACOB, CORNER FOURTH and MARSHALL STREETS, have on hand an assortment of Phaetons, Surreys, Jump Seats, Dayton and Grocer Wagons; also some Second-Hand Buggies, Phaetons, and one Light 4-Seat Rockaway. This work we will sell as cheap as it can be bought in Richmond or elsewhere. mh15-3t

WANTED—TO SELL A BAY MARE OF Lexington stock, fifteen and a half hands high, five years old; a fine trotter and runner. Apply at W. DELLIE SUTHERLAND'S stables, Eighth, near Main. mh13-tf

WANTED—TO SELL HOLIDAY GOODS OF A SUBSTANTIAL SORT. If you have needy friends this is the time to remember them, and we can assist in a selection, and if you have some not quite so needy we are equally well supplied with presents sure to be appreciated. Always on hand a choice line of Staple and Fancy Groceries, Tobacco and Cigars, and Woodenware. J. T. GATEWOOD, dealer in Groceries, Tobacco and Cigars, 116 east Broad street, Richmond, Va. de19

No Vacations. SMITHDEAL PRACTICAL Business COLLEGE, Richmond, Va. 15 COURSES. Business Normal Writing, Typewriting, Shorthand, Telegraphy, Ladies and Gentlemen's Day and Night Sessions, Business Book-keeping, Tuition Fees, $5 quarter.

WANTED—EVERY MAN IN VIRGINIA AND North Carolina to know that we manufacture the best OLD VIRGINIA SUN-CURED TOBACCO, and our brands are No. 1, H. D. C. Fig, and Caroline Sun-Cured. Ask your dealer for them and see that our tin tag is on each piece. J. J. HICKOK & CO., Manufacturers, Richmond, Va. fe3