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LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

See the Weekly Star of today—note its variety of interesting contents—buy it, read it, send it to your friend in the country!

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION—Rev. Geo. W. Bethune, D. D., of New York, lectured at the Institution last night. Subject: "The Ora-

Dr. Bethune is a great favorite with Smithsonian audiences, and the appearance of his portly figure, and good-humored, spotted face, was greeted last night with a hearty round of welcome.

The lecturer spoke of eloquence as having, in all history, been trampled down by despotic governments, and as approaching pro-

trast was drawn between the severe practice of the Greeks and Romans in Rhetoric and Dialectics, and the little attention paid to them at present.

When, in the absence of books, the voice was the sole channel of communication between mind and mind, and the orator had the monopoly of mental influence, as in the days of Rome and Greece, we cannot wonder at the power he exercised.

But the power of oratory had not been diminished, nay it had been magnified by the press. The orator must teach religion, plead at the bar, discuss measures of policy, or thrill the hearts of the community.

His faculty lies not in commanding what shall be done, but in leading others to do. He knows that the instant he puts himself between the audience and his theme he fails.

Superficial critics are apt to underrate the power of an orator, because they cannot appreciate his effect upon his audience.

The orator cannot work by fixed rules, and must vary the style to suit the audience and the occasion, and what may strike the reader of the printed speech as irrelevant, may have been necessary to lead his hearers up to the point to be impressed—a skimmish for advantage.

The orator takes a firmer hold upon his audience than the essayist. Let the speech and the advice be printed side by side, and which will be the more eagerly read?

This might not, however, be so true in Washington, where so very many speeches are delivered, as elsewhere. Those who thus wish to influence the popular mind use the speech-

form in writing. The President in his messages necessarily leads his hearers up to the point to be impressed—a skimmish for advantage.

The lecturer addressed the young men present upon the advantages of being prepared for public speaking upon any emergency.

Should they be able to attain the topmost round as orators they can at least acquire the ability to express their thoughts with earnestness and effect.

There is not one of us who is so conscious of thoughts profitable to others, but who is unable to communicate. There are so many occasions for a man to speak his sentiments before the world that he neglects to acquire the ability to do so to almost a crime.

Eloquence should be studied by the patriotic that the people may be enlightened and the sophistry of demagogues publicly exposed.

It is the duty of well-informed men not to abandon the management of primary assemblies where they are held, and to be organized, to the management of office-seekers, bullies and blackguards.

ASSAULTING AN OFFICER.—Last night, Officer Yeaman, while attending to his duty in the northern part of the Fourth Ward, was attacked by a young man, and a desperate fight ensued, in which the officer and his opponent were both badly beaten.

Letters from London show no abatement in the demand for money, and rates were hardening. The receipt of gold was absorbed for the Continent and China about as fast as they arrived.

MARYLAND COAL TRADE.—For the week ending Saturday last the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company's railroad brought down 579 tons of coal, making a total from the Frostburg region of 10,952 tons.

WASHINGTON CIRCUS.—The entertainments at this establishment to-night are for the benefit of Mr. Jim Myers, the Clown, and positively his last appearance in our city.

ON THE 27th instant, by the Right Rev. Mr. Byrne, M. W. D. ELWOOD to Miss MARTHA A. LONGSTER, both of this city.

ON THE 27th instant, at Cedar Hill, Fauquier county, by the Rev. Mr. W. S. LEACHMAN, M. W. D. A. RIXEY, of the former place.

SLIPPERY.—Last night the sidewalks were in a terrible condition, and pedestrians were

hurt by their ways. Several persons were seriously hurt by the ice. A colored man fell upon the ice near Third street and the Avenue and was hurt considerably. He was taken to a drug store near by, and relief administered to him.

THE LATE HON. JOHN BARNEY.—The remains of the late Hon. John Barney were taken on from Washington on Tuesday evening last, and deposited in the Greenmount cemetery, Baltimore, on the succeeding day.

STOLEN GOODS.—Within a few days robberies have been perpetrated in various parts of the District, and the officers have been on the alert to discover where the goods have been deposited, and to arrest the thieves.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT.—Officer Reynolds arrested a man on Thursday for an attempt to shoot Howard Brooks. The prisoner was taken before Justice Hollingshead, who, after hearing all the evidence dismissed the case.

MILITARY VISIT TO WASHINGTON.—The Cumberland Continentals, one of the finest military companies in the State, we understand, are talking of going to Washington to witness the inauguration of the new President on the fourth of March.

FOR HEARING.—Warrants have been served on Daniel and Isaiah Stewart, who are charged with assaulting and beating Chas. Frankenberg and his wife, and Gerhard, a barber.

THE CELEBRATED TROTTER HORSE "JANUARY," brought to this city some time since from New York, was, we learn, severely injured on Thursday by running away while in sleighing gear.

THE NEW YORK LEDGER AND HARPER'S WEEKLY has arrived. If you want either send to Washington, or you can also get from Shillington and of the Magazine for February; or if you wish the back numbers for January, he can furnish you.

WATCH RETURNS.—John Spaulding, James Dege, Joseph Parrish, T. J. Parker, Tim McNashon, assault and riot; bail for Court. A few lodgers were accommodated.

THE ARABIA AT BOSTON. The steamship Arabia has arrived at Boston. She was in collision with the brig Scotland at the mouth of the ice channel, causing some detention, but no serious damage.

THE FOREIGN PAPERS by the Arabia contain but little additional news. Queen Victoria's accouchment was expected in March.

REDFATH, the ex-secretary of the Northern English Railroad Company, who swindled his employers out of a million of dollars, was convicted by the jury, after an absence of only five minutes. His alleged accomplice, Kent, was acquitted. Redfath was sentenced to transportation for life.

THE RETURNS show that one hundred and fifty vessels were driven ashore, of which eighty were totally wrecked and many others damaged, during the late frightful gale on the coast of the United Kingdom, including "large loss of life."

COMMERCIAL. The letters by the Arabia, dated on the afternoon of Saturday, 17th inst., report that the market from the United States for Baltimore, although a further advance in price, had no effect upon the market, which had suddenly declined fully 1/4 (4 cent) during the week.

THE RECEIPTS OF COTTON were large, reaching for the week 75,000 bales, and swelling the stock on hand to 318,000. Spinners were almost entirely out of the market, and speculators exhibited but little disposition to operate.

THE DECLINE IN FLOUR during the week is given at 61 per cent, wheat at 21 per cent, and in corn at 61 per quarter of 450 lbs.

TRADE IN THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS sympathized with the cotton market at Liverpool, and closed dull at a slight decline on some articles.

ASHES were in fair request at 40s. for pots, and 47s. for pearls.

THE LONDON SUGAR MARKET, at private sale, was generally unchanged, although some lots had been sold at auction at rather easier figures.

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For Sale and Rent.

FOR SALE—A THREE-STORY AND ATTACHED BRICK HOUSE, on I street, between 6th and 7th. The lot is 133 feet, and the house is 24 feet deep. Price \$3,000. Terms: One quarter cash; balance in 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 years. Apply at 521 I street, next door but one.

FOR RENT—NEAR THE NEW GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, a convenient Dwelling House, containing six Rooms and Kitchen. The House is situated on Petoe street, between 1st and North Capitol streets. To a good tenant the low rent of \$10 will be charged. Apply to the undersigned, opposite the premises, or at my stall at the Centre Market.

FOR SALE—A THREE-STORY AND ATTACHED BRICK HOUSE, on I street, between 6th and 7th streets. Price \$2,500. Occupied by R. G. Hyatt. Also, several Building Lots—one on 9th street, near New York avenue; and several on 11th street.

FOR RENT—IN GEORGETOWN, ON 2D street, between Frederick and 1st, a Brick House, with 5 rooms, basement, kitchen, and cellar. Inquire on the premises.

A FRAME HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE—On M street, between 20th and 21st streets, on Square No. 99. The house is a three-story structure in two equal instalments, third and twelve months, with a deed given and a deed of trust taken. For further particulars inquire of THOMAS HAYS, near the premises.

HOUSE FOR RENT—THAT FINE DWELLING on the corner of New York avenue and 13th street, on the east side of the street, on reasonable terms. It is convenient to the public offices. Apply on the premises, or to EVAN HUGHES, corner 13th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

FOR RENT—THE STORE-ROOM RECENTLY built by E. M. Drew, Merchant Tailor, No. 516 7th street, between 4th and 5th streets, for the National Intelligence. For terms, apply next door to GEO. W. COCHRAN, Cigar and Tobacco Dealer.

TWO LARGE ROOMS SUITABLE FOR GENTLEMEN TO BE RENTED.—They also can be boarded in the house if desired. Apply to M. POTENTINI, No. 379 Pennsylvania avenue, south side.

FARMS FOR SALE—INTENDING TO cultivate a larger farm, the subscriber will sell the farm in Alexandria county, Virginia, on which he has resided for the past seven years. It contains 51 acres, and is situated near Balls Bluff, and is bounded by the Potomac River, and 6 miles from both Washington and Aqueduct. There are upon it a comfortable and well-arranged dwelling house, containing six rooms, with front and back covered porches, the former 30 feet wide, and a comfortable kitchen, for servants or farm hands; a large and convenient barn, with stabling for six horses, and many cows; and an ample cistern (attached to the barn); a root cellar under the barn, to hold 2,000 bushels of roots for market or stock feeding; ice house, spring house; smoke house; corn house; a stone market root house, and a store house. Also, a good dairy near the homestead door, from the spring falling spring, with water obtained from all the requirements of the dairy. There is also on the place an orchard of more than a thousand and thirty trees of different plants, consisting of the choicest varieties of peaches, apples, plums, and small fruits, and a large quantity of quinces. At present fourteen acres are seeded down to wheat and rye; six in timothy, (yielding an average of at least two tons per acre), four in a mixture of timothy and clover, twelve ready to be put in corn and clover, and twelve ready in wood, of which there is an ample supply for all the purposes of the place. This farm has been cultivated with care and is very productive, so that the farmer can readily render it remunerative, and to make it complete in all its appointments. For a dairy man and market garden farmer, or a nursery man, or for the country residence of a person doing business in either neighboring city, it offers a most desirable prospect. It is superior to any other now for sale.

Also, THE BLADEN FARM, (60 acres) situated in a quarter of a mile of the Columbia and Lehigh rivers, for the former leading to Washington, and the latter to Alexandria. This place is in the immediate vicinity of Bailey's Roads (in Alexandria county, Va.) and is bounded by the Potomac River, and 6 miles from both Washington and Aqueduct. It is upon it a comfortable and well-arranged dwelling house, containing six rooms, with front and back covered porches, the former 30 feet wide, and a comfortable kitchen, for servants or farm hands; a large and convenient barn, with stabling for six horses, and many cows; and an ample cistern (attached to the barn); a root cellar under the barn, to hold 2,000 bushels of roots for market or stock feeding; ice house, spring house; smoke house; corn house; a stone market root house, and a store house. Also, a good dairy near the homestead door, from the spring falling spring, with water obtained from all the requirements of the dairy. There is also on the place an orchard of more than a thousand and thirty trees of different plants, consisting of the choicest varieties of peaches, apples, plums, and small fruits, and a large quantity of quinces. At present fourteen acres are seeded down to wheat and rye; six in timothy, (yielding an average of at least two tons per acre), four in a mixture of timothy and clover, twelve ready to be put in corn and clover, and twelve ready in wood, of which there is an ample supply for all the purposes of the place. This farm has been cultivated with care and is very productive, so that the farmer can readily render it remunerative, and to make it complete in all its appointments. For a dairy man and market garden farmer, or a nursery man, or for the country residence of a person doing business in either neighboring city, it offers a most desirable prospect. It is superior to any other now for sale.

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