

The Oxford Democrat.

TERMS, TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR.

"THE WORLD IS GOVERNED TOO MUCH."

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS IN ADVANCE.

NEW SERIES, VOL. 8, NO. 14.

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OLD SERIES, VOLUME 24, NO. 24.



BLACK HAWK COLT, "TROTTER CHILDERS."

Agricultural.

"SPEED THE FLOW."

DARIUS FORBES, Editor.

All the arts and sciences pertaining to life, are closely linked together, and are intimately connected with Agriculture.—AGRICOLA.

Special Notice.

Agricultural exchanges and communications for this department, should be directed to "Oxford Democrat," South Paris, Me.

An Evil.

We suppose there is not an intelligent cultivator of the soil, but that knows and feels that one of the most serious evils agriculture now has to contend against, is the want of an ample supply of capital. This is one of the great hindrances to a more thorough method of cultivation and enhanced profits. Men may own their farms, stock, and tools, and may be free from debt; but they cannot conduct their agricultural operations with that economy, or on any such scale as will render them in the highest degree remunerative, if they have no capital beyond this. Every farmer needs a cash capital to make everything go in the most successful way, and to secure the largest profits. This very intelligent farmer knows.

It is equally well known that it is very difficult to command capital for agricultural purposes. Why is it so? It certainly is not because money loaned to men engaged in this pursuit is less secure than when loaned to those engaged in other branches of business, for it is confessedly the safest investment that can be made. Still every other business can more readily command capital than agriculture to carry out their operations. Why is this so? Why can traders, mechanics, artisans, and even the most reckless speculators, more readily command capital for their most daring operations, than the farmer for his sober and comparatively safe, and surely remunerative operations? We answer, it is for two reasons mainly, although there are several collateral and incidental reasons.

1. The returns on investments in most other kinds of business are sooner brought about than agriculture. In trade, if successful, capital can be turned twice in a year, while in agriculture it cannot be turned more than once in a year, and in many operations not often more than once in four or five years. On an average agricultural capital can hardly be turned oftener than once in three years. Of course, loans for agricultural purposes must be effected on comparatively long times, whereas, other branches of business may loan on call, get discounts at banks and other moneyed institutions on short times. This a farmer does not want to do, because he knows his only resort is to borrowing again to meet the payment, as he cannot turn his capital in time to meet it.

2. But the worst obstacle in the way of securing agricultural capital, is the conduct of farmers themselves who have money. It is a well-known fact that there are very many farmers who have money on hand, which they do not choose to invest in their own business, and they are the most unwilling of all men to loan their money to their brother farmers, although they wish to loan it on a long time. They will run after traders, mechanics and speculators and urge them to take their money, although they know nothing of the condition of their affairs, and are so often defiled with failures and the payment of from five to fifty per cent. on their notes, while they have no money to loan their next neighbor who owns his farm, stock and tools, free from incumbrances, and is a thriving man, merely because he will not pay twelve or eighteen per cent. for its use, and sometimes when there is not even this. For such men will often refuse money to a brother farmer when they know it is perfectly safe, and let a reckless trader or gambler speculate have it, at the same rate of interest, about whose affairs they know nothing. Small sympathy have such men from us when a failure makes a share of fifty or seventy-five per cent. on their notes. It is only a righteous retribution on their unwise conduct, and we wish the repeated lessons given the community of the precarious nature of trade, in the most disastrous failures which overtake and overwhelm our most long-trying and most confident traders, may not be without their effect. Such occurrences should teach those who have small sums of money they do not wish to invest in business themselves, to seek to invest it in places where there is less

hazard, and leave traders and those who can turn their capital every three or six months, to obtain their funds from the various moneyed institutions established expressly for their benefit, and of which their circumstances allow them to avail themselves.

Should our men and women who have a hundred or two of dollars they do not wish to invest in business themselves, seek to place it in the hands of enterprising farmers at legal interest, they would find their principal and interest more sure of a return, and at the same time, have the satisfaction of feeling that they are contributing to the advancement of the great interest of the country—better serving themselves and at the same time serving their neighbors and their country.

Bulls.

We are exceedingly gratified to see the evidence around us of an awakened interest in the improvement of neat stock. This was greatly needed, for the stock in this section has come to be of a very inferior quality, from improper breeding. And the same result will again ensue, unless more care is taken in this particular than heretofore, in spite of the improved breeding stock that has been introduced among us.

One of the principal evidences of an awakened interest in the improvement of stock in this vicinity, is the number of bulls brought here within a year, of improved blood. One year ago last January, we purchased our grade Hereford bull. Since then, and mostly since last November, there has been brought into the central part of this county, at least four bulls, of improved blood.

The first full blood bull brought into this vicinity since we have resided here, was introduced by Mr. Joseph Tufts, of this town, two years ago. He was a Devon, of Patterson & Hurlbert's importation, and was a fine animal. He was sold, last fall, to Mr. H. N. Hunt, of Rockfield, for \$450.

The next, we think, was our grade Hereford, of which we choose not to speak, as he can do that for himself. The next was a full blood Devon, brought into Bethel, by Mr. H. G. Chapman, and kept by Mr. A. L. Burbank. This bull may have been purchased a few months before ours, but we are not certain about it. He is a good animal.

Last summer Mr. Chapman bought and took to West Bethel, a full blood Hereford bull, the only one now in the county, and, we presume, ever was in the county. Both the bulls owned by Mr. Chapman were from the celebrated Daniel Webster stock, on his farm at Marshfield.

During the past winter Mr. Benjamin Richards, of Oxford, purchased a Grade Hereford bull, from the same stock as ours, which is from the only importation ever made into this State direct from Europe. This bull is from Mr. J. H. Underwood's bull, of Fayette, and is a very superior animal.

Horses.

We present, this week, a portrait of the celebrated "Black Hawk" colt, "Trotter Childers," owned by Lambert Maynard Esq. of Reading, Mass. This is one of the finest horses in the country, as may well be supposed, when it is stated that the charge for manes is \$40 for the season.

We have the promise of the portrait of another celebrated horse, the "Sultan." We have seen him, and he is a most magnificent animal. The charge for his service is \$50. He stands in Brooklyn, Mass., near the Railroad Station.

The breeding of horses is now a great interest to farmers, and it is important to them to breed from the first class stock, for it costs no more to raise a first class colt than to raise an ordinary one. Then it behooves farmers to see to it, that they select for their mares the very best of stock horses, no matter about the cost, if so be that all is right on both sides.

Perhaps enough is thought of the male side, but we are sure enough is not thought of the mares from which to breed. Many seem to think anything will do to breed from of the horse kind, if they are only of the feminine gender. But such is not the dictate of wisdom, and those who breed the most celebrated horses understand this. The Arab, whose horses stand unrivaled for beauty, activity, speed and endurance—all those qualities which go to make up the value of a horse—are exceedingly careful in the selection of their mares, and they nurse them with a care peculiar to themselves. It would be as easy to induce an Arab to part with his wife as with his mare. She is the pet of the household, and hence it is that improvers of stock have been so unsuccessful in their efforts to obtain samples of these beautiful animals, to improve our own stock.

Let farmers among us learn a lesson from the Arabs in raising horses. If they wish to make raising horses profitable, let them first select mares of the best quality, and then seek for the best blood on the other side, and they will be very sure of securing stock, if they take proper care of it, that will more than pay them for all their trouble and expense. Let them remember and take the best of care both of the mother and her offspring, if they would secure the best return for their outlay and their labor. A careless, negligent, heedless kind of treatment will not answer, if the best results are desired. Labor and care must not be grudgingly bestowed.

Suffolk Pig.

We have just received from Boston, a Suffolk boar, about six months old, to keep for service for a few weeks. He is from Stickney's latest and best importation. Those having young sows will do well to bear this in mind, as we can have him but a few weeks, the owner declining to sell him.

FRANCIS GLAZIER, JR. We have just received from this gentleman whose nursery is in Hallowell, a small lot of Apple-trees, and a package of ornamental trees and shrubs, for which he will please accept our thanks. We shall care well for them, and prize them very highly, not only for their own sakes, but from regard for their donor.

For the Oxford Democrat.

MR. EDITOR.—From reading in the last numbers of your paper, the experiments of others, in weighing milk, I am led to give the results of mine.

I have a cow, 12 years old, that I call a good cow; but do not consider that she will equal, and by no means excel many others of the town or county. She has been fed wholly on meadow or interval hay, with a little provender, which for the last month has been increased to three pints or two quarts of meal per day. She was milked until March 1st, and calved April 21.

A week's milk from the 7th to the 14th inst., amounted to 169 lbs., or 24 1-7 lbs. per day.

Her calf is a fine animal of your Hereford stock. Respectfully, Z. THAYER.

So. Paris, Apr. 18, 1857.

NOTE BY EDITOR. We are glad to see attention turned in this direction. Who speaks next? Try now on the butter that can be made per week, before grazing time.

REBECCA GRAPE. This is a new grape, pronounced very promising by connoisseurs. John W. Adams, Portland, has a few well rooted vines which he will sell at \$3.00 per vine.

Spring and its Labors.

Spring has come, and bids fair to be unusually forward. The month of April has been warm for this latitude, and its abundant rains would seem to indicate that we should look for dry weather the present month, if not a drouth. Under these circumstances, it behooves every farmer to watch well the indications and be governed as to the manner of putting in his crops. Should wet weather continue this month, see well to it that crops are put in with the expectation of a mid-summer drouth. If otherwise, the pinch may come in June.

Last year the indications were that we should have a wet season, and we had a very wet piece of land to plant to corn. We furrowed out with a double mould-board plow and planted on the ridges. The result was a fair crop of corn in spite of the wet. This year we shall cover the same ground, and do not expect to be troubled with water.

The wet will retard farming operations; but snow being gone and the frost out of the ground, every one can do up many kinds of work which could not ordinarily be done so early. Pests can be set and the fences all mended up before the ground will be dry enough to plow on ordinary upland. Let this all be done up at once, and everything ready, so that when the ground will do to stir, your whole force and energies may be employed without interruption in getting in seed. But plant and sow only so much as you can manure well. All beyond this will be a bill of expense. If you are short of manure, buy some concentrated fertilizer to supply the deficiency.

Do not be content to cultivate the usual round of crops, but plant and sow to grow feed for animals. In this way you can multiply the number of animals and increase the quantity and quality of your manures. This is the source to which farmers must look to increase the fertility of their farms. The judicious use of the muck bed will help increase the quantity and enhance the value of the manure from this source; but the animals are needed to make the muck available in the highest degree.

Grow corn fodder to feed your cows when short feed comes in the fall. Sow millet, and grow winter forage and provender for your stock. Plant carrots, and withhold not your hands from turnips, though they are not so nutritious. They will do your stock good if cut fine and given them with clopped feed. If you have no suitable manure, use superphosphate of lime. This, we find to be the most efficient and cheapest fertilizer we have ever used for turnips.

In regard to planting and sowing, we believe it is a good rule to plant as soon as the ground is dry and warm enough to grow well, and seed will germinate. In this climate it is not easy to get ground properly prepared too early for seed. The tendencies are to be rather late before we are ready.

Let every man girl up his lands and plant and sow all his circumstances will allow. If any one is short of manure, don't let him be afraid to buy it if he can get it at fair rates. Money invested in manure, if judiciously expended, is not thrown away. Bay plaster, ashes, stable manure, and if adapted to your soils, some concentrated fertilizers; but be careful of whom you buy and what. There is any amount of deception and fraud in the sale of such articles. Buy only when you know the parties and that they obtain direct from the manufacturers, so as to know who to hold responsible for any fraud or failure.

FOREST HILL NURSERY. The proprietor of this nursery will please accept our thanks for his very acceptable present of a Diana and a Strawberry grape vine. We shall cultivate them with care, and hope to bless the donor in eating from their branches the luscious fruit, and inviting our friends, among whom we hope we may number him, to help us in the pleasant work.

CHINESE YAM.—*Dioscorea Batatas*. We have received from the Patent Office a box of these tubers. We shall try them on soil where they will succeed, if anywhere in N. England, and report the result in good time.

The Bark Louse on Apple Trees.

Mr. Jas. Austin, of Nova Scotia, in the County Gent. of 11th inst., inquires "what will kill or cure the bark louse on the apple." The history, habits, &c., of this insect, have been pretty well investigated by entomologists. Minute and insignificant as they appear, from their vast numbers they do immense injury to our apple orchards and nurseries. These young lice insert their beaks into the bark and draw from the cellular substance the sap that nourishes them. While they continue their exhausting suction of sap, they increase in size, and during this time are in what is called the larva state. It is the loss of sap, abstracted by these countless minute insects, that so greatly injures the trees. To attempt to entirely rid our trees of these *sap* vermin would be a hopeless task. But there seems to be one particular season, of about ten or fifteen days, in which very much may be done in exterminating them upon the bodies and larger limbs of the trees. The small muscled-shaped scales that are to be found so plentifully upon the bodies, limbs, and twigs of the apple tree, (those of the past season's formation) cover a large but uncertain number of oval-shaped white eggs, ranging from one dozen up to one hundred eggs. The eggs hatch from about the 20th of May up to the 10th of June, varying, perhaps, somewhat according to the season, whether early or late.

As the young become hatched, they crawl out from beneath the scale and scatter themselves over the smooth bark and body of the twigs, &c. They appear to the naked eye like minute white dots uniformly diffused over the bark. Each of these dots eventually becomes a scale, enclosing the eggs for another year's crop. The time to exterminate them is while in their tender and infant state, from the period of hatching to the early formation of the shell. Dr. Fitch "considers tobacco, boiled in strong lye till it is reduced to a pulp, and then mixed with soft soap to the consistency of paint, and put on the trees with a brush, is a good and efficient application for destroying the insect. It must be put on all parts of the tree to which the louse has attached itself." Dr. Harris says, "the best application for the destruction of the lice, is a wash made of two parts soft soap and eight of water, with which is to be mixed lime enough to bring it to the consistency of thick whitewash. This is to be put upon the trunks and limbs of the trees with a brush, and as high as practicable, so as to cover the whole surface and fill all the cracks in the bark. The proper time for washing over the trees is the early part of June, when the insects are young and tender. These insects may also be killed by using in the same way a solution of two pounds of potash in seven quarts of water, or a pickle consisting of a quart of common salt in two gallons of water."

I will just say to Mr. Austin—carefully examine your trees from the middle of May till the 10th of June, and you will find these little white dots spoken of, and if you have a microscope you will also see they are covered with a bluish-white down; during the period above named, they are easily crushed, or washed off by scrubbing the trees with a stiff brush and soap suds—or you may mix sand with the wash, which will clear them off quicker. I have practiced as above, years ago, and with good results.

The whitewash method recommended by the late Dr. Harris, if applied early in May, would prevent their hatching. The potash water, or the brine, used about the first of June, would destroy the newly hatched lice. Dr. Fitch says, "the bark louse is, on the whole, the most pernicious and destructive to the apple tree, at the present time, of any insect in the country." If so, it is worth while to devote some time each year in doing all we can to lessen their numbers; and it would seem the best time to "nip them in the bud" is when the insects are young and tender.

L. B.

[Country Gentleman.]

CLEARING AND DRAINING MARSH LANDS. The reclaiming of marshes is a matter of much importance to those countries whose farms are disfigured by such waste places. They are not, like wood-lands, constantly increasing in value, but are wholly useless, and often the source of malaria, injurious to all within its influence. And when cleared and drained, they become the most easily cultivated and productive portion of the farm, often paying, in a single year, the whole expense of bringing them into condition for cropping.

Ditching may, in most instances, be best performed in autumn, but the work of clearing then commenced can be continued in winter, as long as the depth of the snow will permit. The bushes will cut easier then—the timber of shrubs growing in such places generally proving brittle when frozen. In a black alder swamp considerable fuel may be saved—the fine brush may be left in heaps to dry until early summer. As soon as drained and cleared most farmers sow with oats and stock with timothy and red-top, with no other cultivation than a thorough harrowing. A fine soil will soon form, either for pasture or mowing—or the land may be cultivated in corn, potatoes, and different spring grains.

STIRRING THE SOIL. A writer in the New York Observer, discussing the philosophy of tillage, says that when the soil is stirred by any implement of tillage, every particle of the mass moved is put in a new relative position, and has fresh contact with air and water. Both organic and inorganic constituents of the soil undergo a change; slight, it may be, in the case of each individual particle, vast in the aggregate, amounting to a great quantity of plant food, and determining the difference between a medium and a maximum crop. But the stirring up of the soil makes the earth more easily penetrated by the roots of plants, as well as furnishes a larger amount of available food. This is a matter of very great importance. Where a plant finds a loose and mellow soil, well furnished with its appropriate substance, it pushes out its roots rapidly in all directions, and presents to the soil a much larger number of spongioles, or little mouths, to receive its aliment. The laws of the growth of a plant are much like those of the animal economy. The appetite grows by what it feeds upon. Tillage greatly enlarges the pasture ground of the plant, and every rootlet brings into its organism a supply of nourishment. [Rural New Yorker.]

SHOVELS. The particular items of our manufacturing industry rather astonish us as we review their figures. Take, for example, the article of shovels, one of the least important of our hardware items. There are annually manufactured in the United States 2,160,000 shovels, or about 600 dozen per day. They are made entirely in this country—about one-third the number in Massachusetts, the remainder in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and other cities. The shovel is set down as a civilized, and our progress in its manufacture indicates what we are doing for the material improvement of the country.

"Matrimony," said a modern Benedit, "produces remarkable revolutions. Here am I, for instance, changed from a sighing lover to a loving sire, in the short space of twelve months."

MISCELLANY.

THE HAZARD OF THE DIE.

The sight of a blue jacket and shining tarpsaulin hat, has turned the head of many a youth, and caused him to quit reading the romance of the sea and try its stern reality, which soon convinces him of the difference between a "painted ship upon a painted ocean," and the fore-castle of a Liverpool packet or a Pacific "blubber hunter."

I was brought up in a country village, where a ship was never seen, and a sailor was as much a curiosity as a Hottentot; but unfortunately, a specimen of this class of men visited our place, and I fancied to be one of the select few who enjoyed the privilege of listening to his stories of hair-breadth escapes and wonderful disasters, which, instead of damping my ardor, only increased the desire to try the realities of the wondrous deep. A schoolmate, named Tom —, was like myself, carried away with the idea of making a hero of himself, and proposed that we set off at once for New York, and take the first opportunity that offered, by which our hearts desire could be gratified. One or two others had proposed to join us, but when the day of departure arrived, all seemed to have changed their minds, with the exception of Tom and myself, and off we started, much against the wishes of our parents, though by continual urging we had succeeded in obtaining an unwilling consent that the experiment should be tried, in hopes it might cure us of our fancy for the smell of pitch and the roaring of the winds and waves.

Arriving in New York, we found our youthful and delicate appearance would prevent the possibility of our shipping in the merchant service, and nothing was left for us but to enlist for a whaling cruise. So entering a dingy looking shipping office in South street, ornamented with colored posters, South Sea shells, and war clubs, we were soon face to face with the agent, who commenced a long harangue on the brilliant chances offered in the whaling business for "young men of energy and determination," like ourselves. He expressed an opinion that we did not weigh the required number of pounds but all doubts soon vanished when we stood on the "Fairbank's platform," and made the balance speak for itself. After this we took our seats at a desk, on which was spread out the "Articles of Agreement," between the master and the owner of the ship N —, of —, and the crew thereof.

We felt little like reading through a document equal in size to the Constitution of the United States, and therefore set our names beneath a dozen others, two-thirds of which were ornamented with a St. Andrew's cross, and the words "his cross," giving us poor promise of the intellectual qualities of our future fellow shipmates.

The day following, we were forwarded by schooner to —, a harbor on the Sound, which gave us a slight taste of what we might expect to enjoy our first few days out, for we had never sailed on anything but the Erie Canal and the schooner had most decidedly a very unpleasant motion. — In due time, however, we reached the destined port, and after being well supplied with necessities for the voyage, were soon taken on board the ship, where we were ordered to do the best we could towards getting the vessel in sailing trim, receiving and stowing away provisions, and such other work as could be found for us to do. A week was spent in this work, when the crew being complete and everything ready, the order was given to weigh anchor and proceed on the voyage, our destination being the Indian Ocean.

For two months we went along pretty much as all other whalers do, making it useless to give a description of our progress; but when near the Southern tropic a sudden and violent storm arose, accompanied with thunder and lightning, far exceeding in brilliancy and power anything I had ever previously witnessed. It raged with unrelenting fury for half the day, and the whole of the following night. Daylight revealed our situation to be even worse than we anticipated; all the upper masts had been carried away, the bulwarks stood, and every board had been crushed or washed away entirely from the davits. The ship was making water fast, and it was evident from the strains she had received, that there was but little hope of leaks being entirely stopped until we reached some place where the necessary repairs could be made.

Cape Town was the nearest port, and the strongest exertions were made to reach it, by spreading on all canvases we could upon our shattered spars, but from our water-logged condition, our headway was slow, and each successive day's reckoning showed but little advance from the position we had occupied the day previous. To make our condition worse, it was discovered that the ship's stores were badly damaged by the salt water, and we were at once put upon short allowances until, as we vainly hoped, we might be discovered by some well-stocked Indianan, from which we might receive an addition to our rapidly decreasing supply.

But it was not to be so. We sailed, or rather floated, like an idle log, for many a weary week, still appearing to be no nearer land, and without seeing a sail, of any kind; and by this time our provisions had been entirely consumed, and the crew were upon the point of starvation, having been without food for several days. Day by day things grew worse; all discipline was at an end, and every one appeared to think only of himself. To make matters still worse, the men had unfortunately discovered a quantity of spirits, and by continued indulgence themselves, with one or two exceptions, in a state of beastly intoxication. The captain did the best to stop such proceedings, and restore order and discipline, and calling his

mates he bade them arm themselves and prepare to make the men obey. But they were too much intoxicated to understand him, and answered that nothing but a bountiful supply of provisions would restore peace and quietness to the crew, and at the same time hinted at the idea then spoken of by the hands, of sacrificing one of the men to satisfy the appetites of the others.

"I'll not listen to it," said the captain; "we are in the track of the East India vessel, and it surely cannot be long before one will pass us. Let us hold out a little longer, if possible, before resorting to such dreadful extremity, and if by to-morrow noon we do not receive assistance, I will not only give my consent, but willingly put my name among the others to be drawn for, and trust to Providence for the result."

"The hell you will!" exclaimed the first mate, "you are very accommodating, but our own willingness has only made unnecessary our determination. We will, however, give you the time you require; then, if no sail appears in sight, the lots will be drawn as we have agreed." And saying this they went forward and announced the result of their interview, after which the crew resumed their debaucheries, and with two or three exceptions they were all bent upon passing their time in revelry.

The most thoughtful of the sober ones was my friend Tom. Nothing could divert his mind of the presentiment which haunted him, that his days were numbered, and that his name was the unlucky one destined to be drawn from among all the others. When they stood the hazard of the die on the following day, I tried to encourage and red him of such gloomy ideas, but all my efforts were in vain. He was convinced he had but a short time to live, and he endeavored to make the best use of the few moments yet left, and with his Bible in hand he took a seat upon the windlass and commenced reading. The whole night was spent in this way, with the exception of the time spent upon his knees in silent but earnest prayer.

I saw him in the morning, completely exhausted from the effects of watching and anxiety of mind. He took no notice of me, but gazed about the horizon with a vacant stare, occasionally brightening up and stretching forth his hands as if he saw a ship in the distance, and then shouting "Sail ho!" would drop upon his knees, where he would remain for hours in a state of stupor but little removed from death itself. His actions attracted the attention of his shipmates, most of whom cursed him for a "white-livered coward," who was afraid to take his chance with the rest, but none of them used the least endeavor to cheer him up. They were too much interested in themselves.

The dreaded hour came at last, and in a few moments it would be decided which one of the crew was to suffer death in order that his starving shipmates might prolong their miserable lives.

A quantity of buttons, corresponding with the number of the ship's company, were put into a sack and hung up in the ship's rigging just high enough to be within the reach of all. The bag contained thirty-one white buttons and one black one, and it was well understood that whoever was unfortunate enough to draw out the black one would be the victim. A list had been made out, and the order of drawing was decided by lot, and placed opposite the name, and when this task was done, the more serious affair of drawing the buttons commenced. The first on the list was a tall son of York, and though he braced himself up and approached the bag with a firm and steady step, as if he was regardless of the consequences, the tear which he had stealthily wiped from his eye when he saw that he had drawn a white button, betokened the gratitude of his heart at having escaped a doom which he had but a moment before thought possibly might befall him.

Five more haggard and famished specimens of humanity followed, and betrayed their excessive fear of the consequences by their colorless cheeks and tottering steps. One after another they turned away and resumed their usual appearance and bearing, upon the discovery that their's was not the "prize."

"Number seven," was next called out, and a chill struck to my heart at the thought that my name stood opposite to this number, and that my chances for life or death was now to be tried. There was no escaping the trial, and I could not deny risking as much for my shipmates as they had done for me, so, scarcely knowing what I was doing, I advanced and drew my button, when I stood, afraid to look upon it, and remained some time in a state of unconsciousness, until I was aroused by the rest of the crew who had passed the rubicon in safety, and who with loud voices exclaimed—"Come, shipmate, show your hand and let the business go on." I looked and thanked the fates when I discovered that I had drawn a white button and was safe.

Having no further interest in the horrible proceedings, I retired to a distant part of the vessel, where I was soon lost in profound reverie, and was only awakened by a piercing shriek, and the cry of—"Tom —'s the man!" and on rejoining my companions I found alas, it was too true: Poor Tom had been singled out as the victim, and upon this fact becoming apparent he had uttered the shriek and fell back in a swoon, where he then laid, while the hungry crew were discussing the propriety of putting an end to his life while he was yet in his present insensible condition. Kneeling down by his side, I found in him no sign of life, but imagining he gave a gentle pressure to my hand, and that he would soon return to consciousness. I left him, and calling the crew together begged as a favor, that they would allow him one hour, in hopes he

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PROMPTLY AND NEATLY EXECUTED.

Is Slavery Morally Right? That is the Question.

Strange as it may seem, this question is now being raised in a country which boasts of its free institutions, its liberal laws and just legislation.

Whether it is right in a moral and religious point of view to take a man by brute force and reduce him to abject servitude, oblige him to labor and toil under fear of the lash during a whole life, take the avails of his labor without one cent's consideration or reward, treat him worse than a brute, sell him like a dog, and after a life of degradation in misery, starvation and unrequited toil, bury him out of sight, as you would a dead, worn-out truck horse, is one of the great questions now before the people of this country for decision.

Whether it is right in the eyes of a just God, and in accordance with the teachings of his holy religion, to drag helpless women away from their husbands, children and families, to sell them in the shambles, as you would cattle in the market, separate little children from their parents, make both father, mother and children articles of merchandise, and sell them to those devils of human flesh, called slave-dealers, is one of the questions raised by a great political party in the United States. Whether wholesale inhumanity, in all its abhorrent forms, is a virtue, or a vice, is made an issue between political parties at the present day. Until within a few years even Southern men have not contended for the morality of slavery. They have, in times past, declared it an evil entailed upon them by their forefathers, for which they are not directly responsible. This was generally the tone of the pulpit, the press, and the public men of the South. Neither Northern or Southern men were called upon to endorse the justice of the slave trade. More recently the Southern men have changed their tactics. This change has grown out of the necessities of the case. The last twelve or fifteen years has been a time of aggression on the part of the South against the North, to extend and perpetuate slavery. To carry on this warfare, the aggressors were compelled to take the ground, either that slavery was right, or that they were defending a wrong. They chose the former alternative, and now the whole slaveholding interest in the South are seeking to defend this iniquitous system as an institution standing upon a sound moral foundation. This position has been assumed by the so-called democratic party of this country. In the South the party, through its legitimate organs, openly declared it; in the North the leaders of the same party believe in the same moral code, but only profess it, when they think the success of their political organization will not be endangered thereby. Border-refugees demand in the free States, many of them, pretend they are opposed to slavery and against its extension into free territory, but all such professions are as idle as the whistling wind, so long as they act and cooperate with a party pledged to slavery expansion. While the Republican party stands by the old landmarks, upon the ground consecrated to freedom by the fathers of the Republic, its opponents have inaugurated the new policy that the men who founded the government were all ignorant and did not understand even the elementary principles which underlie the high time structure.

It is high time the true position of men and parties were rightly understood. The Buchanan democracy is the great bulwark of slavery, the direct agency through which its supporters act. Profess what they may, the leaders set upon the principle that slavery is morally right, and that is the great question which now specially attracts the attention of the religious world. The Buchanan democracy have arranged the government against the moral and religious sentiment now prevailing in every civilized government upon the globe. The policy of the party is a retrograding policy, carrying us back to barbarism and rank infidelity. If, as a nation, we would preserve our integrity, it can be done only in two ways, either by compelling the democratic party to abandon its infamous principles and practices, or completely demolishing the party itself. As well might Sodom and Gomorrah have defied the avenging wrath of the Almighty who doomed them to destruction, as for this nation to expect escape from his hot vengeance, unless they have some better code of morals than exists among murderers, adulterers, pirates, and man-stealers.

TEMPERANCE STATE AGENCY. Hon. Sidney Perham of Woodstock, has been appointed agent of the State Central Temperance Committee. The duties of this position, are to canvass the State, with the endeavor to awaken a fresh interest in temperance matters, and to collect information in relation to the cause. Mr. Perham is a gentleman admirably fitted for this work. While he is a zealous friend to temperance measures, and the prohibitory principle in legislation upon this subject, he has that measure of discretion, which will prevent him from adopting hasty or injudicious measures, such as would have a tendency to awaken strong prejudices against the cause. He has a good work before him, and we feel confident that it will be well performed.

THE DEAN DUNSTON. A Philadelphia paper writes from the Norfolk Argus the following strange statement:

"The bodies of the fourteen physicians and assistants from Philadelphia who perished in that city in the pestilence of 1855, are to be disinterred, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Webster, the Chairman of the Philadelphia Relief Committee, and taken to the latter city for interment there. The present feeling exhibited towards the people of the North requires the removal."

Can this be possible? We venture to say that there is not a city of the North which would not have erected a monument to the memory of men who had sacrificed their lives under similar circumstances. Norfolk has shown no gratitude for the services rendered by Northern cities, when "pestilence stalked abroad at mid-day," but such black ingratitude can hardly be realized.

[Boston Journal.]

THE CONSTITUTION AS UNDERSTOOD BY A BUCHANAN ORGAN. The Boston Post says that "Slavery is an institution which the Constitution was ordained to protect." That's what the bogus "Democracy" says it was ordained for, but the Republican Party say it was ordained for a very different purpose. Our interpretation of that instrument, is contained in the following words,—the words of the constitution itself.

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do Ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Herein is a marked difference between the sham "democratic" party and the great, national, Constitutional Republican Party. One says that the Constitution was "ordained to protect Slavery,"—the other, says it was ordained "to secure the Blessings of Liberty." [Jeffersonian.]

SEQUESTER. It appears from the Custom House books of Portland, that while the Maine Law was in force, in only twenty-three pipes of Brandy came in from New York in six months. During the last six months 1,040 were entered. [American Messenger.]

Political Arabs.

One of the strongest evidences of total depravity we have ever seen has been found in the conduct of certain men who figure largely in the ranks of the pro-slavery democracy of Maine. These creatures (for we ought not to disgrace our species by calling them men) make a difference in political opinions a matter of personal malice and revenge. In other words, they are foaming mad against every man who happens to differ with them in politics, and go bawling round the streets and in our public offices and other places, calling their political opponents hard and vulgar names, scandalizing and abusing men, the "latchet of whose shoes they are not worthy to unlace." They seem to forget that they live where people are civilized, but imagine (judging them by their conduct) the world they live in to be one great bear garden.

To make an honest difference in political opinions a matter of personal offense, is evidence conclusive of a small, narrow-minded, bigoted, mean fanatic. We have one or two of these malicious donkeys now in our mind's eye; and in times past when obliged to come in contact with them, they have snapped and snarled at us, like puppies by the way side, and the latter have taught us the lesson that the former animals "never bite." We never have and never shall respect a man any the less for his political opinions. They are his own property, and he has a right to them.

We sometimes feel bound to attack party measures, and parties themselves; but in doing this we would avoid everything like personal attacks upon men. At other times, we feel compelled, by a sense of duty, to review, and perhaps with some severity, the official conduct of public men—yet we would make no assaults upon the men aside from their public acts. Many of our warmest personal friends are political opponents. Men are and should be social beings; and we all are more or less dependent upon each other. This dependence when rightly viewed and properly considered, is a mutual blessing, contributing to the general happiness of a community. That man who indulges in passionate, angry words, with a political opponent, is a fool. Politicians, as well as other men, should learn to be philosophers—take things in a good natured way. When others storm and rage, they should laugh, and be sure always to save their powder for game that will at least pay for the ammunition.

In doing this, they will not only contribute to the sum total of their own happiness, but lead others less discreet and wise, to see the absurdity and folly of a different course of conduct.

The March of Freedom is Onward.

Nothing is more common than to hear the border ruffians in our own midst declaiming against the free State men in the free States, on the alleged ground that their efforts in the cause of liberty has tended to perpetuate slavery wherever it exists. This is all gas, and the men who blow it off know it. It is only retailing Southern brag. These defamers of Republican principles well know that the great party of freedom in this country have never had any intention of meddling with slavery in the States. Notwithstanding their motto is "non-intervention" in the slave States, the great principles of human rights they specially advocate, are claiming and receiving the attention of some of the best citizens south of Mason and Dixon's line. More than this, these principles are taking deep root in the hearts of many of our Southern brethren; they begin to see the blighting influences of slavery upon their section of the Union, they see free States, with rapid strides, marching on to wealth and prosperity, leaving slave-cursed municipalities far in the rear.

In Kentucky, recently, several public process have come out boldly in favor of universal emancipation. This is truly an encouraging sign. It shows progress in free principles upon the enemy's camping ground. It indicates the return of those great fundamental principles which southern men in revolutionary times boldly and openly advocated.

In the border ruffian State of Missouri, beacon lights of freedom are springing up, and in the great commercial city of St. Louis, the enemies of constitutional liberty have been boldly met and overthrown by the emancipationists.

It will be recalled that in the last Congressional election in that State, Francis P. Blair, Jr., an out-and-out Republican upon the open issue of the non-extension of slavery, was triumphantly elected to Congress. In the recent municipal election in that city, the border ruffians were beaten and completely routed.

St. Louis hereafter will be found acting on the side of freedom. Her best, most wealthy, intelligent citizens, have long seen the curse slavery is entailing upon them. It has driven away her best trade,—obliged the great tide of emigration to seek other channels of communication—disgraced her fair fame, and now hangs like a deadly incubus upon her best interests.

The bold, independent spirit of St. Louis, will yet go out all over the State, and Missouri will ere long be free. Every blow for freedom in the free States has an influence for good in the South—it foreshadows the day when the clanking chains of slavery shall be thrown away—when the wailings of the oppressed shall no more go up to call down the vengeance of Heaven upon a guilty slave—when every yoke shall be broken, and every captive shall go free.

NEW YORK TREES. A case has been tried before the United States Court, at its present session, in Portland, between the proprietors of a New York Nursery and a farmer in Glenburn. The action involved the payment for some 30,000 fruit trees, sent into Penobscot County, on orders procured by an agent. The plea was that the trees were not such as the plaintiff agreed to furnish. After a lengthy trial, during which a large number of the trees were brought into Court and examined, the jury brought in a verdict for the defendant. The defendant had ordered but one hundred trees, but several of the farmers in the vicinity united with him to test the question, and rest their cases upon this decision.

Oxford County—Reform—Retrenchment.

About two years ago, some gentlemen largely interested as tax-payers, furnished for publication in our paper, certain extracts from the files and records of this County, tending to show in what manner the financial affairs of the County had been conducted; and believing the people had a right to know how their money had been appropriated, we published them—these papers being certified copies from the records. The publication of these authenticated papers brought to light some most astounding facts. Among other things it appeared that bills had been allowed and paid twice, the voucher in both cases being on file,—that claims against the county, presented in different forms, had in some cases been paid three times over, and that, in various ways, large sums of money had been illegally taken from the County Treasury under the forms of law. Those facts were published to the world, accompanied by the proof, and it is a remarkable fact, that those implicated thereby have never to this day made even a public denial of the truth of the charges. The inference to be drawn from these two circumstances of such a nature as to place the truth of the allegations to which we have just alluded, beyond all controversy. All these things happened under the administration of the border ruffian democracy, and that party thereby became responsible.

Without going into particulars, the county files and records show that year after year, under the misrule of this party, the public funds, which had been drawn in the shape of taxes from the pockets of the people, have been strangely appropriated, and that, too, in many cases, apparently for partisan purposes. Republicans who have had just claims upon the county, have had their claims rejected, while noisy, bawling politicians in the sham democracy have been, in certain cases, paid two or three times over. Everybody has been complaining that the county taxes in Oxford have been enormously high, and so they have. In the last State election the people of our good old county came to the conclusion that they had borne these outrages about long enough, and hurled from power the party that had been instrumental in their perpetration. This result pointed in unmistakable terms to the work of reform; and we confidently believe the reasonable expectations of the people will be realized. Upon the board of County Commissioners the Republicans now have a majority, and we believe we have the men for the occasion. The people want past abuses ferreted out, and the leaks that have drained the Treasury stopped up.

Our county expenses ought to be largely curtailed. There is no reason under heaven why our county taxes should be so enormously high. Let our county officers take a bold stand against all public abuses, let them study economy in the appropriations of money, hold each other to rigid accountability, strike for reform in every department under their jurisdiction, and the people will nobly sustain them.

The Custom House Marking Iron.

The Saco Democrat, which has assumed the official marking of Mr. Buchanan's appointees to office in this State, from which we quoted at some length last week, has lost much of its spirit and point in the brief space which has elapsed since that time. This marking iron is evidently becoming obliterated by use, probably from the cool rasps it has received from the colonels and captains of the "board of trade." It has, however, a few extracts worthy of quotation, as exhibiting good specimens of irony and rebukes of Democratic leaders.

As a good piece of irony, we take the following from its remarks on the rival settlement of the slavery question by the often quoted principle of squatter sovereignty, which has been utterly repudiated by Buchanan and the South, which controls both the Territories and the Democratic party. The Territories have not the right to choose one of its executive officers—not one—and yet the Saco Democrat praises the President for his efforts to secure popular sovereignty, as follows:

But as yet no great democratic principle has been applied to the settlement of these vexatious slavery questions, they might as any time break forth again with redoubled fury and devastate the country—yes, more, it was certain that aspiring party leaders would not forego the advantage of questions upon which the masses of the people could be so readily divided and so deeply excited. Such was the condition of the country when the administration of President Pierce was called upon to organize territorial governments for Kansas and Nebraska. There was need of an adjustment of these slavery questions upon principle—upon a basis that should prevent their recurrence. Then it was that the democratic administration—the democratic party—the democratic principle—proved, as in times past, equal to the emergency in which the country was found. Then was embodied and applied to the settlement of these slavery questions, the great principle of popular sovereignty as naturally deducible from our Constitution and so consonant to democratic principles. This marks an epoch in the history of the democracy and of the country. Every year has since more clearly demonstrated the wisdom of that policy; and when time shall have cleared away what remains of mere personal and transient prejudice, the act will stand forth as an enduring monument to President Pierce, and a bright page in the history of the country.

So it seems, now that Franklin Pierce, as well as the Omnibus Bill, has again settled the slavery question forever. It is now a finality past all "recurrence."

The following paragraph, in the point of tameness, present a great contrast with the counterblast of last week. The assertions about democratic principles, and the idea that democracy, as now practiced, has anything to do with popular rights, is a mere hallucination. The probable truths here alleged of the leaders, in the first paragraph, prove this fact beyond question. The Saco paper says:

The persons from this State, whose conduct, while in Washington, we have characterized as anti-democratic and dishonorable to our State, appear to have been misapprehended, or to have been willingly ignorant of the intimate relations between the present and the past administrations, and not to have taken into account the peculiar position of their own section of country. They could indeed show that they were loud in professions of friendship for the incoming administration, and that they had been but indifferent supporters of the outgoing one—as is very natural for some who are out of office and wish to get in.

The true, and only vital bond of union among the democracy is in principle, in accordance with the motto, Principles, not men. A fundamental principle of democracy is, that the people should choose their own rulers. When, therefore, any leading men assume to settle among themselves and designate who shall be candidates of the democracy, and make use of public patronage at their disposal with a view to forestalling the action of the people at their primary meetings, they are virtually taking from the people their rights, and are departing from the principles which should govern honest democrats. Such combinations serve only to perpetuate quarrels of rival leaders and cliques, and to keep the democracy in the minority. We have had in this State such quarrels about more men—quarrels of office-seekers—and they have had much to do in breaking down the power of the democratic party.

SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS: or how to make the school interesting; embracing simple rules for military and gymnastic exercises, and hints upon the general management of the school room, with seventeen engravings, by N. W. Taylor Root. Published by Barnes & Co., New York.

Such is the title of a new work on Education, by a practical teacher, who looks to the laws of Nature and their Author, rather than to the worn out conventionalisms of decrepit fancy, to benefit, improve, strengthen and amuse the rising generation.

Physical weakness and debility are marked characteristics of the student of the present day. We refer to those who commence their studies at the age of twelve and fifteen, and follow them through an Academic and College course of from one to ten years. By violating the laws of nature, by taxing the brain to its utmost, day and night, while the muscular energies are wholly neglected, or but partially and imperfectly exercised, decrepitude and weakness are sure to follow. Training and educating the intellectual powers gives tone and energy to intellect. Training and educating the muscular powers gives strength, grace and energy to the whole man. To train the former without the latter is a violation of nature. It is reversing the laws of cause and effect. It causes intellectual giants to be united with physical dwarfs, and therefore combines parties and elements which were never intended for each other, and which are constantly flying asunder.

The little work by Mr. Root, who has conferred a great favor upon all teachers and pupils by its authorship, is intended to effect an entire reform in this matter. He calls upon teachers not only to instruct their pupils in all the usual branches of education and amusement, but in addition he requires them, by example and precept, to instruct and drill their scholars in certain kinds of physical employments which will exercise and develop the muscles of the whole system, and thereby render health more certain and life more prolonged. For this purpose he introduces military drill and tactics, the gymnasium, pedestrianism and various other exercises. Illustrations are given showing the teacher how all these things may be done. They are all simple, plain and systematic, and such as any teacher can readily adopt.

Our teachers of Academies, especially, should provide themselves with this book, which is honored with a place in the N. Y. Teacher's Library, and avail themselves of its benefits, first to themselves, and then to the community. Its publication has already stimulated the Faculty of Yale College, Conn., to appropriate a large sum for the construction of all the apparatus necessary for carrying out its principles, and it should likewise stimulate lesser institutions, in some slight degree, to imitate such an example. The publishers deserve the thanks of all teachers and pupils for this timely and truly useful publication.

We hope Messrs. Barnes & Co., will publish one other work forthwith, and that is a work that will hold the same relation to females that this does to males.

The Lady's Book for May has arrived in due season. It is rich in beautiful engravings and fashion illustrations. It takes the lead in fashion, and its publisher, Mr. Godey, is entitled to the highest credit for its many excellencies.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal is a weekly visitor, and under its present management is a most acceptable medical publication. Its communications, reports of medical societies, and editorial are all interesting, able, and highly instructive. We hope the medical profession of this county are all provided with this work. If they are not, now is the time to subscribe. It is published weekly by David Clapp, 184 Washington St. Price \$3.00 in advance. Cheap enough for a weekly journal of 24 pages.

BLACKWOOD, for April, has just come to hand. It contains the following table of contents: All Fool's Day, or the rival robbers—a Political Pantomime; Scenes in Clerical life; Afloat; Botany and Botanicals in Greece; The Athletics; The Land of Gold; Melodger's Lament; Remonstrance with Dickens; Letters from a Lighthouse.

New York: L. Scott & Co., publishers, 54 Gold Street. Price, \$3 a year.

LEWISTON FALLS ACADEMY. We have received from E. T. Luce, A.M., the catalogue of this institution for the Academic year 1856-7. Its summary shows an attendance, during the year, of 294 students—of whom 138 were in the Classical department, and 156 in the English department. A class of 14 are fitted for college, and will enter this fall. We hear the school highly recommended.

For the Oxford Democrat.

MR. EDITOR: I called a few days since to see one of the greatest curiosities that ever came to my knowledge. It is a calf, (or, rather, it owns a cow for its dam,) but in almost every respect it resembles a bull-dog. Its head would hardly, either in look or action, be distinguished from the bull-dog. The hair is red, but is like dog's hair in appearance and quality. It is built stout, with rather short legs, and its tail, which is short, turns up over the back. It will creep under a crib and lie down most of the time, making no noise but a whining sound. It is now about five weeks old, and in good health. This wonderful production may be seen by calling at the barn of Mr. Timothy Holt of this town. B. W. ELLIOT.

Rumford Post, May 5th, 1857.

"The opinion of the Court belongs to an epoch prior to the introduction of christianity, and is more in accordance with the teachings of Aristotle, than with those of the Gospel." [Brownson's Review.]

Probably there is no sect or association of men, in the civilized world, whose members cling to each other, through good report and evil report, with such tenacity as do the members of the Roman Catholic church. And especially cautious are their bishops and priests in exposing to the world the fallacies of its members. Chief Justice Taney has been for years a communicant of that church, and as a man of education, position and influence, and professed piety, naturally takes a high position. With these facts in mind, the reader will clearly see the significance of the rebuke, at the hands of Orestes A. Brownson, who is bitterly opposed to Americanism, and still more inveterate in his hatred of the Republican party, or anything else which opposes the designs of slavery extensionists. When such an authority pronounces the doctrines of this decision to belong to the "dark ages," a proper idea may be obtained of the tendencies of the democratic party, which has so promptly adopted its principles.

WELL PCT. In the Southern Convention held some time since, a resolution in favor of the revival of the slave trade, created quite a lively discussion. Mr. Goulden, of Georgia, takes a view of the matter which seems perfectly just, but is a hard doctrine to those who believe slavery to be a scriptural institution and yet oppose the slave trade. Such consistency is rarely witnessed among the democracy. He spoke as follows:

"Mr. Goulden, of Georgia, defended his resolution against charges which had been made outside, that it was ill-timed, and that it would prejudice Mr. Buchanan's administration. He did not think so. He believed in his inmost soul that slavery was an institution from God, and therefore could be defended. The African slave trade was the great bugaboo to frighten women and children—a very Pandora's box of evils. If that was a great and damnable crime, he said, 'what worse was it than was done every day in their midst, when they went to Virginia and took the negro from his home and family, and brought him to work their rice and cotton fields?' He thought it was straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel."

THE AGE OF MAJORITY. Attorney General Cushing, in compliance with the request of a Foreign Minister residing in Washington, has given an opinion as to the age at which a citizen of the United States acquires a legal capacity to act for himself.

"The Attorney General remarks that there is no general Legislative enactment on the subject, and no adjudication of the point by the Supreme Court—but the whole question depends on the English common law inherited by the original thirteen States, and on the acts of the State Legislatures. Mr. Cushing, by the way, and in a vein quite unwonted to eminent lawyers, stigmatises the old fund of English law as a 'most heterogeneous, incongruous and contradictory mass'—'a jumble of jurisprudence.'"

In looking at the State statutes, although some are based upon French and Spanish jurisprudence, yet the rule of fixing the majority of males at the period of twenty-one years is uniform and may, therefore, be assumed as the common law of the United States.

In regard to females, most States give them enlarged legal capacity at the age of eighteen—and some even earlier—but the general rule of complete legal capacity is the same for both sexes, viz: at twenty-one years of age."

SONS OF MAINE. We learn from the New Bedford Standard that the natives of Maine, residing in that city and vicinity, have united themselves into a Society. A meeting was held, week before last, for the purpose of making a permanent organization. About fifty were present, and an organization was effected by the choice of the following officers: President, Joshua W. Frost; Vice President, Henry S. Smith; Secretary, Edward Milliken; Treasurer, C. W. Brown; Directors, Isaac Sawtell, Charles L. Swasey, James V. Cox, of Fairhaven, Nathaniel Moulton and Sabir P. Chamberlain.

Short addresses were made by Messrs. Frost, Swasey, Cox, Brown and others. At the next meeting a proposition to hold a festival of the sons and daughters of the State at no distant day will be discussed.

GRADED SCHOOLS. We observe that our neighbors at South Paris have made arrangements for conducting their schools, in future, on the graded system. There will be three departments, Primary, Intermediate, and Grammar. The Committee having the matter in charge have prescribed courses of study for each department, and the qualification of the students to be admitted to each. The division of scholars will be according to their qualifications, without regard to age.

The summer term of these schools will commence on Monday, May 18. The Grammar department is under the charge of E. P. Hinds, A.M., through whose exertions, in a great measure, this change has been effected.

CONFERENCE OF M. E. CHURCH. The Maine Conference of this church, closed its session, at Saco, on the 27th ult. We notice among the appointments for this district, the following:

East Poland, J. Gerry; Lewiston, H. B. Abbott; Poland and Oxford, E. Martin; South Paris, Alva Hatch; Bridgton, A. R. Lowell; Naples, S. S. Gray; Waterville, S. B. Bailey; Lovell, Phineas Libbey; Norway, L. Eldridge; No. Paris, E. G. Dunn; Bethel, W. G. Stevens; Rumford, G. Briggs; Livermore, S. W. Pierce; Hartford, Alpha Turner; Monmouth, D. B. Holt.

The next session of the conference will be held at Farmington, in the Spring of 1858.

PERSONAL. Hon. Edward Dexter, of Minnesota, and Charles W. March, member elect and prospective Speaker of the New Hampshire Assembly, left town this afternoon for Minnesota, where, we learn, they are about to lay the foundation of a new city to be called Minnehaha. [New York Evening Post, 16th.

Weekly Summary of News.

A lady, named Ann Eliza Tyler, died suddenly on last Thursday night, in Richmond, Virginia, from the bite of a spider.

The gold box left in trust by General Jackson, with his son, to be presented to the most patriotic son of New York, has at last been heard from. Andrew Jackson, Jr., writes to the committee that he will deliver up the box whenever the city authorities are ready to receive it.

The Grand Trunk Railway, Canada, has accepted the proposition of the Amoskeag Co.'s Machine Shop, Manchester, N. H., for building twelve locomotives of the first class.

The work on the Maine State Seminary at Lewiston is to be immediately resumed. Fifteen thousand dollars are wanted to complete the building. Two thousand dollars of the required sum have been raised, and five or six thousand more is about coming due.

The action for damages brought against John K. Kane, in the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware county Pa., by Passmore Williamson, was some time since argued upon demurrer, and has recently been decided against Judge Kane. The case will therefore go to trial on the general issue, some time during the coming summer.

A bill is before the Pennsylvania Legislature, for the incorporation of a Printer's bank. The amount paid out weekly to printers and compositors in Philadelphia is upwards of \$50,000. It is to be called the Commonwealth bank.

The Rev. R. Metcalf, Pastor of the Unitarian Society in Bath, has on account of ill health resigned his charge. He preached his farewell sermon last Sunday forenoon.

An excursion from Portland, to England, Scotland and France, by the new steamship line, has been planned, to start on the 27th of June. The cost of the trip is set down as \$375, for each person, or about half the usual cost.

Lawrence Castellow of Bangor, has been arrested in that city, and after an examination, bound over to the Supreme Judicial Court, upon a charge of having, on Saturday placed obstructions on the track of the Penobscot & Kennebec railroad.

HOPE DENOUNCED IN THE BIBLE.—For proof, we would refer those interested to the book of Isaiah, third chapter, sixteenth verse.

A row belonging to Messrs. A. C. Denison & Co., was knocked off from the high bridge at Mechanic Falls, by the cars, last week. She was so badly injured that it was found necessary to kill her.

S. C. Fessenden, has been appointed by the Governor and Council, Judge of the Police Court at Rockland.

Daniel Sanborn, late of the Bangor Journal, has received an appointment in the Boston Custom House, the great New England Asylum for damaged hunker politicians.

The contract for publishing the Revised Statutes of the State, has been taken by Messrs. Wheeler & Lynde of Bangor. The price fixed upon is \$5 per copy.

Jenny Lind has another daughter—born on the 25th of March. Queen Victoria added to the royal family, a princess, on the 14th of April.

Gov. Robinson, of Kansas, proceeded to Leecompton, last Saturday, to await his trial on the charge of treason.

The Bangor Courier says that it is reported that Wyman B. S. Moor is to have the post of Consul general to Canada—a place worth some \$4000 a year.

The Boston Post contradicts the rumor that Franklin Pierce had bought a farm in New Hampshire, where he intended to erect a house.

NEW POLITICAL MOVEMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA. A despatch from Harrisburg reports an important combination as developing in the politics of that State. The regular Democrats have nominated William J. Parker for Governor, and the Republicans and moderate Americans have united on David Wilmot. Now, however, the disaffected Democrats and straight-out Americans propose to unite upon Governor Geary, as an independent third candidate, and the despatch says he has agreed to accept their nomination. Great excitement prevails among the politicians of the State.

[Portland Advertiser.]

EDUCATIONAL. The number of school districts in Maine is 4061, an increase since 1850 of 711; number of children between 4 and 21 years old 241,097, increase 47,002; average attendance 106,404, increase 21,606; amount raised for support of schools \$286,428 53, increase \$64,512 82. These figures show an encouraging progress in six years.

MAIL CONTRACTS. The successful competitors for contracts for transporting the mails over the several routes in this State, were announced at the general post office, in Washington, on the 23d ult. The Union publishes, among others, the following in this vicinity:

From Portland to Conway, N. Clough, \$583, two horse coach.
From Portland to Bridgton, Richard Gage, \$425.
From Portland to Mechanic Falls, Wm. P. Merrill, \$395.

TOWN OFFICERS LOVELL. We were requested, several weeks, to publish the following list of officers, but it was mislaid and has just "turned up."

Moderator, James Hobbs, Jr., Repub.; Town Clerk, Uriah Dresser, Dem.; Selectmen, John Walker, Dem., James Hobbs, Jr., Repub., Samuel Farrington, Dem.; Town Treasurer, Joseph B. Dresser, Dem.; Town Agent, D. R. Hastings, Dem., nominee of both parties and elected unanimously; S. S. Committee, James Hobbs, Jr., Repub.

DISGRACEFUL. An aged maiden lady, 74 years of age, was carried to the work-house yesterday, who has a brother living in this city who was taxed the past year, on the Assessor's book, for over \$14,000; also, a sister whose husband is taxed for over \$8000; and a cousin who is reported to be worth \$30,000. [Portland State of Maine.]

