

THE BANNER

The delay this week, was caused by our paper not coming to hand at the time appointed, we have now a good supply. In consequence of the change of publishers, all letters and communications on business with the office, must be addressed to W. Marriott, who will transact all business. Mr. Wickizer has left his accounts with W. M., and he will settle his business.

Mr. Hiram A. Talbot, took the oath of office on the 25th ult., but Auditor Dunn, refused to surrender until after the committee, appointed by the Legislature, have examined the books of the office.

The Land Office at Jeffersonville, Vincennes, and Waukegan, in this State are discontinued.

On our first page we give extracts from President Pierce's River and Harbor message.

Gov. Seward has been nominated by the Whigs of N. Y. for U. S. Senator.

John Seward, Democrat is U. S. Senator for Louisiana.

14th.

Cupid intends to carry on a big business next Wednesday, and that he may operate more effectually, his general, St. Valentine, has sent to his army at Dr. Lemon's store, the largest variety of comic and sentimental implements ever brought to Plymouth, and ranging in price from 2cts to \$2. This is to give notice, that all persons in Cupid's army are to call at said Dr. Lemon's, select, pay for, and take away all Valentines they require.

Communicated.

For the Banner.

THE "REVIEW" REVIEWED.

The world is full of people who are too indolent and superficial to devote the thought and study necessary to acquire a thorough knowledge of any branch of education, but who are quite willing and desirous of ranking among the talented and well informed, if they can acquire that position without any great exertion on their part. Such people are always the first to advocate and adopt the "New and Easy Systems" that are so rapidly springing up, and though they have only a mushroom existence, they live long enough to find a few adherents and advocates in the above named class of people. Those persons will not learn that the easiest way is not always the best; that the study, thought and discipline necessary for the mastery of many branches of an education, are often far more beneficial than the mere acquirement itself.

If such persons wish to learn to sing they will invariably learn the square notes—simply because they are told that they can learn the science in one half of the time, they can by round notes. And when they have finished their course of instruction, paid their money, and spent their time, they discover, to their great mortification, that they know nothing at all about music as a science; they can neither compose nor arrange with accuracy, the simplest melody, no matter how great their natural talent, while those who study the round note system, which to understand, requires close and continued application, find themselves qualified to arrange the most difficult music with care and correctness; and more, they can read the buckwheat notes with the same ease, and far more correctness than those who have learned only square notes.

Any person who has ever received a common school education, knows that Algebra, the most intricate of any branch of mathematics, is never studied for its practical need, but for the strength, the discipline it gives the mind to study and master its obscure principles and theories. It gives depth and correctness to the reasoning powers, and fits the mind for severe and long-continued exertions. Just so it is with the science of Languages. If it be hard, difficult, and if to understand it thoroughly requires the exercise of sound discretion, memory, judgment and patience, the study necessary for the mastery of difficulties, will enlarge and strengthen those faculties, and fit the mind for better efforts in different departments of science, and in short make men what they were intended for: "thinkers." There is only reasonable to conclude that our language any less difficult, the more effeminate and weak man would its powers as a language.

The article that appeared in the Banner of Jan. 18, under the title of "not Improvement," was not written by me, but by a young man, doubtless predisposed to the "New and Easy Systems," and scientific pedagogues, especially in that part of the country.

Any one who has studied the purity of the English language, and the various styles in which he has done so, will learn, that he can learn more in less time, and with less difficulty, than he can in a longer time, and with more difficulty.

There is no such thing as "not Improvement," and the article in question, was not written by me, but by a young man, doubtless predisposed to the "New and Easy Systems," and scientific pedagogues, especially in that part of the country.

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study. In that article he quotes the saying of Archimedes, "Give me a fulcrum and I will move the world," and then immediately adds, "There is a volume contained in the very words expressed above." A volume of nonsense, certainly; for no child of the present time who understands the first principles of Natural Philosophy would ever think of advocating so absurd a theory. "The world believes this," he says, "because it looks reasonable." Pray, how reasonable? One of the first principles laid down in any work that treats of the screw and lever, is, that the power, to move the weight, must move as many times further than the weight, as the weight is greater than the power—therefore, if Archimedes should find his fulcrum and undertake to move the world, he would be obliged to move himself through the space of more than 33,695,400,000,000 miles to move the world one fourth of an inch. And as that is further than any reasonable man can expect to travel, the world is in little danger of being thrown out of its orbit. And if Phonetics bears the same relation to the education of the world as Archimedes' lever does the moving of it, the result can not be doubted. The world must remain undeviated.

But there are some statements in the "review" of the 25th ult., that certainly, in justice to the writer of the article of Jan. 18th, need "reviewing." The reviewer coolly states that the sentiment of the article of the 18th ult., is, that all reforms run into "unreasonable extremes." That is certainly a misconception of the author's meaning, (probable owing to the fact that it was not written in Phonetics.) Anything, no matter how good its principle, when carried to an extreme, becomes an evil; and then it certainly cannot be called a reform. That would be reformers run into such "unreasonable extremes" as are proved by our own experience in the review of the 25th ult. The reviewer seems to put tremendous stress on the fact that the author said some things without giving his reasons at length, relying upon the common sense of the reader to discover, or the truth of the statement: it was in fact a mere *ipse dixit*. But the reviewer has yet to learn, that facts generally known and used merely as reference need only the *ipse dixit* of the writer to have them understood and believed.

Mr. Phonetics bravely puts himself at the head of the reformers of the 19th century, and boldly cries, "Come on ye valiant few—what day to burst the current of Public Opinion! Follow me, and we will overthrow the deadened language that has so long been burthening the world, and no narrow minded conservative shall fix our limits!! Go it, my dear fellow, but remember, the Irishman who was determined to fly.

There are many statements in the review as grossly incorrect, and in such contradiction to the real facts, that to pass them in silence is the best manner of answering them. But there are others however, though equally wrong, the facts of which are not so generally known and not to notice them would be giving them a tacit consent in the minds of many readers. He asserts that "Savis Bonams" have always been in the way of reform—that they called printing an innovation—that they said the application of steam as a motive power was impossible, and that the telegraph was a mere instrument of inanity. Now every well informed man knows that the facts in the case are exactly the reverse of what the reviewer states. It is a well known fact that Fout and Grottenburgh, the inventors of the art of Printing were two of the most intelligent and enterprising men in Holland. Also, that they were very materially assisted by many of the most wealthy and influential of the age. No sooner had the first new copies of the Dutch Bible been struck off, than the demand became enormous, and all except a few ignorant Catholics hailed the invention as a Gift from Heaven. Did not the author of *Letters to a Young Friend* say, "It is not a fact that Congress paid a large sum of money at the expense of the Mouse, when he was experimenting on the telegraph?" If it is not a fact, then "Savis Bonams" ought to be held responsible for the delay in accelerating their invention.

As a general rule people will cover whatever new and original idea will be likely to prove popular, and if it will, it will be at the expense of the author. The author of the "review" of the 25th ult., gives it as his opinion that the author of the "New and Easy System" will be at the expense of the author of the "review." He is quite right in this, but the author of the "review" of the 25th ult., is not the only one who has been at the expense of the author of the "New and Easy System." The author of the "review" of the 25th ult., is not the only one who has been at the expense of the author of the "New and Easy System." The author of the "review" of the 25th ult., is not the only one who has been at the expense of the author of the "New and Easy System."

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SHIPWRECK ON THE PRAIRIES!

250 Passengers in Peril!

Advices were received late Saturday evening, to the effect that the train which left for Springfield early last week, on board of which were the Speaker of the House, the members of the Legislature from this county, and almost a dozen of other members, together with "Lord Coke"—the Clerks of the two Houses, &c., &c., were in imminent peril.

About 40 passengers from Waukegan, it appears the train came to a snow drift, about 15 feet in depth. The Locomotive being nearly out of water, the engineer and conductor proceeded to the next station to get a supply, when on arriving the tank was found to be frozen, so that the engine could not return, and the passengers, 250 in number, were left to pass the night. Being out of water, the first onslaught was made upon the emigrant cars, the seats of which answered the purpose. Next the wants of the inner man claimed attention, and an attack was made upon the express car, which very soon fell into the hands of the victors, yielding a substantial share of spoils in the shape of oysters en route for the *cuisine* of his Excellency Governor Matteson.

When morning broke, the party found themselves alone upon the drift, but spying a house some four miles distant, an able-bodied corps of sappers and miners were despatched for a little aid and comfort. The house proved to be the residence of a worthy farmer, who forthwith loaded his teams with fuel and provisions, and took off the women and children. A couple of gentlemen took a conveyance to Morris, 20 miles distant, where they struck the Rock Island train—some forty others started on foot for Pontiac, ten miles distant—but a greater share remained at the scene of disaster.

When last heard from, the speaker of the house, six in hand, was periling over a wood pile—the engineer of Banks and incorporated, had under consideration a snow bank 15 feet deep and 20 miles in extent—Clearly a bank of "deposits."

The committee on internal improvement were despatched after miners and sand-wichers, while the "Lord Coke" in the chair, had resolved itself into a committee of the Whole on the state of the country.

Mr. Farnham on learning of the circumstances despatched a locomotive from Joliet, with provisions to the train, but we do not learn whether it reached them or not. *Chicago Journal.*

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