

## Communications.

For the Times.

MR. GLENN—I am not a newspaper scribbler, and when I indited the short paragraph which appeared in your paper two weeks ago, I did not suppose that I should be under the necessity of troubling you again. I wished merely to throw out a hint to some of the lecturers at our Lyceum; but in so doing it appears I have called down upon me the indignation of some heretofore slumbering genius, who, no doubt, now since he has seen himself in print, thinks he is as great a man as "Cato" of old—and if I were to remain silent he might believe that he has won as great a victory as some of the old Grecians or Romans, to whom, I understand, he often refers. "Cato" charges me with making unjust imputations, and says that he should like to know from what particular "almannac," &c. &c. HE took his lecture. This is rather a hard question for me to answer, but I can tell what I do know: I know that I have saw a part of an extract from a lecture (published but a short time since) in a school book called "Porter's Analysis," and if any body will turn to the 303d page of said book, they will find it in a speech delivered by Edward Everett, about the pilgrims landing at the "ice clad rocks of Plymouth." I know that I once heard part of a lecture very similar to a piece in "Thrifty's almanac," on the page opposite (I think) the month of May. I know that there is something in Goldsmith's "Animated nature" very similar to a part of another lecture; but I could not be qualified that the lecturers copied from these works. Great men and great minds very often run side by side in the same channel, and not unfrequently run foul of each other.

I do not know who Mr. Cato is—perhaps he is entitled to a higher title than that of Mr.—and in this respect he has the advantage of me. If he knows that I have been guilty of plagiarism let him tell it; but it would be well perhaps to first find out whether I have had the honor to read a p—r before the Lyceum, or not.

I have been well pleased and much edified at the Lyceum, thus far, both with the lectures and debates, and I hope it may be kept up. I intend no disrespect to any member, not even to "Cato," and I am sorry he flew into a passion at a hint intended for his own benefit.

Clio.

For the Times.

MR. EDITOR—Please to allow me the use of a little freedom, and the enjoyment of no inconsiderable pleasure, in this expression of what I experienced at the examination of a school in one of your neighboring villages.

On the 25th ultimo, the independent school of Wilmington, which is under the tuition of Mr. W. G. MOXROE and lady, assembled in connection with a respectable number of citizens and visitors, and exhibited a scene of more than common gratification to all who delight in the progress of mental cultivation.

A class of sixteen scholars were examined in the study of arithmetic; of 18 in English grammar; of 24 in geography, and a class in ancient history, all of whom acquitted themselves with honor to the school and superintendents. At intervals, the school and audience were politely attended with suitable refreshments, which aided, with a pleasing variety, the zest of our little intellectual banquet.

I was pleased to observe that the teachers did not content themselves with ordinary attainments on the part of the pupils, and that their labors of instruction had not been given in vain. The questions proposed were answered with a promptness and accuracy which I have never seen surpassed. So much I can say in comparison with the many examinations I have witnessed in our State, some of which have been similar to the one under present notice.

Besides the foregoing proof of assiduity in study, we have indubitable evidence of praise-worthy industry in the fact that the daily exercises of this school are commenced at an early hour. Exclusive attention is given to arithmetic the first two hours of instruction, which begin at half past six in the morning. This arrangement, as well as several others that might be mentioned, is a very good one. The number of scholars in the present term, is about 75; and if we may say, with truth, "Labor vincit omnia," what may we not hereafter expect from the youth of the town and vicinity of Wilmington.

After the examination, an address in behalf of the school, by request, was delivered by the Hon. J. L. HOMAX, who faithfully advocated the cause of learning and of general education. By a general education, I allude to that education which wakes up infant genius, and conducts its restless march till

maturer age receives it on the highway of honorable and useful life! A glorious theme! deserving alike the high strains of the orator and the song of the bard. For already is modern intellect promising to rise with the flight of ancient mind, and vie with its brilliance and power in classic lore. Our speaker was not ignorant of this fact, nor at all neglectful of its importance. In a comprehensive, familiar, and yet tasteful elegance, he portrayed the assiduous student's character, and directed the aspiring youth to attainments of intellectual supremacy. Not to blood-stained victory in the fields of the slain, but to an elevated rank among those whose ascendancy rules in the land of the living, and around the home of the blessed—Not to conquests gained by wit and empty show; but to honors that attend the truly wise—Not to visionary fame or crowisephemeral which pretenders boast; but to fadeless laurels worn by those who seek the loftiest place on wisdom's flowery mount.

The Rev. Mr. HOLLIDAY succeeded with a few remarks, evincing unequivocal interest in the exercises of the day, which were closed with singing and prayer, after the school had returned a unanimous vote of thanks to the above named gentleman for their friendly addresses.

A moment's reflection on the purpose of the celebration of Christmas day, and a review of the pleasant decorum of manners which prevailed in this juvenile assembly, are calculated to inspire feelings of both wonder and enthusiasm—of wonder, when we behold so many votaries to the grand reformation in the manner of celebrating a day which has been to often desecrated; of enthusiasm, when we consider the growing interests of an enlightened republic, with all the advantages arising from an increase of knowledge in the west. Who has a thought or a wish for our country's welfare, and is not pleased to indulge the proud fancy that both eastern and western improvement ere long shall be hailed with a paean to science, when all the friends and foes of useful learning shall unite, in general jubilee, to swell the triumphs of a free, intelligent, and blissful community?

AN OBSERVER.

## Indiana Legislature.

THE AD VALOREM BILL.

On Wednesday evening, the committee of the whole, in the House of Representatives, to which had been committed a bill providing for an ad valorem system of taxation, concluded their deliberations, and the bill with its amendments were reported to the House; but before a question was taken thereon, the House adjourned. No amendments were made, materially changing the principles of the bill as introduced. The general features of the bill may be gathered from the first section, which provides, "that all lands and town lots and all buildings and improvements erected thereon or affixed thereto, which is the property of any individual, or individuals, both corporate or politic; also all personal property, including household furniture, over the value of one hundred and fifty dollars; all moneys loaned at interest on simple contract, bond or mortgage; the capital of all merchants and exchange brokers employed in this state; all capital in stocks or the stocks of moneyed or other incorporations, shall be, and the same are hereby declared to be subject to taxation, with exceptions hereinafter specified, to be levied and collected agreeably to law." The bill exempts from taxation, all lands sold by congress, for the term of five years from the day of sale—also exempts from taxation the property of different benevolent institutions, together with certain exemptions in favor of revolutionary soldiers. An assessor for each township is to be appointed to take a list of all taxable inhabitants and make an assessment of the property within the same. It provides for a poll tax on each male inhabitant over the age of 21 and under 59 years. The taxes of the present year are to be levied and collected as heretofore. The principal discussion in committee of the whole, took place on an amendment, striking out the amount of exemption of personal property from taxation, and in lieu thereof inserting a provision practically designating the articles subject to taxation. While this amendment was pending, considerable discussion took place whether hogs—one of our most important staple commodities—should be subject to taxation. The principle argument in favor of designating the articles, was the trouble of making out a schedule for valuation, of every minor article of personal property, and the difficulty that would arise, in compelling the assessor to invade the private sanctuary of every man's dwelling, in order to find out the most trivial

articles that would be subject to taxation. It was contended on the other hand, that there would be a difficulty in designating the particular articles, as was already witnessed in the debate, relative to the item of hogs—and that the man who makes a parade of splendor, by throwing around him a large amount of personal property, could not be reached by taxation, and consequently the provision would operate unequally. The amendment was not adopted, and the first section of the bill stands as above stated. Another amendment offered by Mr. Crume, created considerable discussion, providing for an exemption from taxation of all dwelling houses or other buildings, where the valuation shall not exceed two hundred dollars. Mr. Henkle offered an amendment to Mr. Crume's amendment, so as not to include in the exemption, buildings in towns and villages. This proposition created considerable debate with regard to the propriety of making a difference between the citizens of town and country. Both of the above propositions also failed in the committee. No particular vote has been taken testing the strength of the friends and opponents of the bill; but it is given up, on all hands, that the bill will pass the House of Representatives by a considerable majority.

Mr. Wallace moved that the House concur in the amendments generally; when Mr. Brackenridge called for a division of the question, and that the amendments be acted upon separately. Mr. Bryan moved that the bill and amendments be laid on the table; which, after an animated discussion, was decided in the negative. The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Wallace to concur generally in the amendments, the Speaker decided, that a division of the question being called for, the question would be first put on concurring in the amendments separately—when Mr. Wallace appealed from the decision of the chair—and the question being put, is the decision of the chair correct? it was decided in the negative, Ayes, 35, Noes 39. Before any further question was had, the House adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M. In the afternoon the House took up the ad valorem bill and concurred generally in the amendments made in committee of the whole. The first section of the bill was amended in the House, by striking out the exemption of a certain amount of personal property and specifying the items of personal property to be taxed. [Indiana Democrat, Jan. 16.]

From the Indiana Journal, Jan. 23.

In the Senate, Wednesday, the bill providing an equitable mode of laying the taxes of this state (in other words the ad valorem bill) was according to the previous order, taken up, and the Senate, in committee of the whole proceeded to the consideration of it. Some discussion took place on a motion of Mr. Morgan to strike out the words "and improvements," the effect of which would be to exempt from taxation the improvements, except buildings, made on farms. The amendment did not prevail. The subject was again resumed yesterday afternoon, but the necessity of closing our paper to meet the mails precludes us from giving any further account of the progress made in the bill.

A bill has been ordered to be engrossed authorizing the Governor to subscribe on the part of the state for five hundred shares, of the stock in the Lawrenceburgh and Indianapolis Rail Road Company, when the other part of the stock shall have been taken by individual stockholders and \$5 paid on each share. What may be the fate of the bill we know not, but we hope it may pass.

[We hope not.—Ed. Times.]

## HOGS.

The dealers in this article have generally returned, and we believe, without a solitary exception, have made money. This fortunate state of the market will throw a considerable sum of money into circulation in Kentucky. We are informed that 60,000 hogs have passed the Kenhawa route—32,000 through the Cumberland Gap, and about 40,000 through Tennessee to Georgia and Alabama—making, in the aggregate, 132,000 head. Suppose half this number to have been slaughtered and pickled for the New Orleans market, and we have the grand total of 273,000 head taken from Kentucky this season. This number of hogs, supposing them to average 200 lbs. net, and supposing the New Orleans market equal to the other markets, will furnish the handsome sum of two millions seven hundred and thirty thousand dollars. From the best information we have on the subject, we are inclined to believe our calculations nearly correct. What sum has probably been realized from the sale of horses, mules, and beef cattle, we have no data for calculation.

From the Cincinnati Journal, Jan. 23.

## ANOTHER CASE.

MR. BRAINERD—In casting my eye over your paper of the 9th inst. I was peculiarly struck with an article over which was the caption, "Insult to a Citizen of Cincinnati." The case there described was by no means a solitary one: For on that day, and at the same place, a number of just such aggressions, committed on several individuals, fell under my own observation. And now, sir, if the following statement will, in your apprehension, subserve the interests of truth, or tend to wake up the citizens of Cincinnati, to the ghostly usurpations of the Roman Catholic church, it is at your disposal.

Obedying the apostolic injunction "to prove all things," I attended for the purpose of witnessing the ceremonies of the consecration of the Roman Catholic Chapel, on Fifth street. Having sanctified the interior of the building, the prosecution of bishops, priests, and "aspirants for the holy" (?) "ministry," fully equipped, not, "with the whole armor of God," but with mitres, crucifixes, censers, holy water, &c., performed the same ceremony around its exterior. During the ceremony, I stood in the public street. I observed, however, that as the procession drew near, many in the surrounding multitude took off their hats, and frequently crossed themselves with great apparent devotion. My pity was excited for the victims of such ignorance and superstition, as could prompt these exhibitions of man-worship. Now the procession was passing before me: but my attention was turned from the gaudy pageant by a rustling noise behind me, and I had scarcely turned myself in the direction whence it proceeded before my hat was forcibly torn from my head, by a gentleman, shall I call him? No! but by a bigot, whose whole appearance made it quite doubtful, whether his devotion to Bacchus, or his zeal for the pope, were predominant. This might seem to afford some excuse for the grossness of the insult. But let it be remembered that he was only imitating the example of a "leading Catholic" who was guilty on the same occasion of the same outrage. I observed others who were similarly treated; but I shall leave them to speak for themselves. In view of such facts the pertinency of your interrogatory, which closes the article alluded to, must be obvious to every observer of the signs of the times.

At a future time I may communicate other facts equally revolting to the republican and christian.

ALEXANDER DUNCAN.

Jan. 19th, 1855.

NEW ORLEANS.—The Louisiana Advertiser states that the revenue of that city is about \$300,000 per annum, derived from the shipping, steam and flat boats, lease on drays and carts, grog shops, and on real estates, &c. The income from grog shops alone is about \$60,000, which sum added to the rents of about four hundred houses, at \$400 each on an average, attendance and support of the same at \$200, each, amounts to the enormous sum of \$380,000, tax paid, by the public for the support of a class of people who are a positive injury to the community. But this is not all. The chief contributors to this fund are the slaves, who are not only encouraged in drunkenness, but have strong inducements held out to them to rob their masters, that they may be enabled to gratify their propensity for drink.—Phil. Gaz.

CRIME IN NEW YORK.—Since 1816, according to the official documents, there has been committed to the city prison 23,452 white males—3,757 white females—4,296 black males—2,766 black females. The crimes according to document No. 20, of the Board of Aldermen, are as follows:—14,010 for assault and battery—7,950 for branch of peace—773 for forgery—201 for false pretences—539 for keeping disorderly houses—602 for bastardy—571 for burglary—130 for robbery—213 for riot—53 for perjury—5 for swindling—4 for sodomy—19 for arson—9 for man-slaughter—196 for receiving stolen goods—6 for robbing U. S. mail—68 for murder—17 for mutiny—27 for revolt—26 for rape—31 for bigamy—96 for conspiracy—2 for seduction—1 for horse stealing—2,316 for grand larceny—3,226 for petit larceny—and 14 for piracy!!—N. Y. Sun.

## JESUITISM.

A catholic teacher, by the name of Murphy, some months ago, set up a school in the town of Lawrenceburgh, Indiana. He promised most solemnly not to endeavor to exert any sectarian influence upon the minds of his pupils. Things went on well for a time; but one day, a mother was surprised to hear her little daughters giving a glowing picture of the excellencies of the Catholic religion. Inquiring of her

daughters where they obtained such information, they confessed that their teacher had furnished them with a Catholic novel to read in school, on condition they should not carry it home. This novel lauded the Catholic religion to the skies, and slandered the Protestants. Deeply indignant, she sent me for the teacher, who confessed the whole. He was soon after sent away.

The above is only a specimen of the Jesuit arts which are practised by popish teachers to beguile Protestant children; while Catholic children, being already secured, are left to grow up in that ignorance which Popish priests have always cherished, in all countries, where Protestants have not created a public sentiment in favor of education. We trust our country will be saved from the tender mercies of Popish priests.—Cin. Jour.

## SCRAPS.

This day completes the two hundred and fourteenth anniversary of the landing of the fathers at Plymouth.

[Boston Morning Post, Dec. 22.]

During the late cold weather a stage driver was frozen to death upon his seat crossing the mountains; and at Washington a man and his wife were frozen dead in bed.

There were extensive fires in Troy, New York, during the intense cold. Some of the firemen became so encased in ice, that they were unable to move.

SHIP LETTERS.—During the year 1854, there were received at the Post Office in the city of New York 420,359 ship letters, or eleven hundred and fifty per day; 183,355 of which were for city delivery, and 236,504 were mailed for distant post offices.

A man has been condemned to seven years' labor in the Connecticut State prison, for setting fire to his house and barn, with a view of defrauding an Insurance Company.

Yankee enterprise and perseverance always predominates. The Eastern mail, due at Boston, was only one half hour behind its usual time,—notwithstanding the great snow storm. The mail contractors, turned out one hundred men on the route, who dug a passage for the mail through a drift of snow three miles in extent.

We hear from Bremen that on the 7th of this month there were no fewer than 17 ships with German emigrants waiting for fair wind to sail for the U. States of North America.

There was imported into New York between the 22d and 27th December, \$89,234, in specie.

The number of Presbyterian congregations in the United States, according to the returns for 1854, is 2648; preachers 2159; communicants 246,964.

A desperate fellow, named Charles Wade, who had effected his escape from the goal in Columbus, Ohio, was shot to death, a few days ago by the persons who attempted his arrest. Among a variety of articles which he had stolen after his escape was a brace of horse pistols, one of which he fired at his pursuers and was about to discharge the other when he was shot down.

Extract of a letter from a very respectable source dated Paris, Dec. 6th: "If Gen Jackson in his message should recommend a non intercourse with France, unless our claims is allowed, the strong probability is, that the appropriation will be made. If he does not, there is a strong probability that the appropriation will be denied."

Mr. John Pope Trotter has issued proposals for publishing a semi-weekly paper in Washington to be entitled "The Sun," to advocate the election of HUGH L. WHITE, to the Presidency of the United States.

By a late experiment it is found that rail road cars, rigged with sails, will go, with a favorable wind, at the rate of 9 or 10 miles an hour.

The Superintendent of the Patent Office at Washington, publishes a list of one hundred and fifty-two patents which have expired during the year 1854.

A NEW YEARS PRESENT.—A gentleman of Roxbury, Mass, discovered on Friday morning last, a covered basket, which on opening was found to contain an infant. There was a letter also in the basket in which the finder was requested to shelter and protect it.

The Maryland Legislature have elected Robert H. Goldsborough to the U. S. Senate, in room of Gen. Chambers who had resigned.

The President of the U. S. on the 7th inst. nominated to the Senate, as Judge of the Supreme Court (to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Johnson) James M. Wayne, at present a member of Congress from the State of Georgia which has been confirmed.