LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.

Syracuse, N. Y., May 31, 1851.

Dear Readers: We do not know how it is, but somehow we never see any new place, or thing, that we have not an itching desire to communicate it to you. Syracuse, from whence we date our present jottings, is a city of some 23,000 inhabitants, and is, all in all, one of the finest and most enterprising inland towns we have visited. Every street, lane, alley, and nook, gives evidence of the enterprise and liberality of its inhabitants. Much of the ground upon which it is located was a few years ago little better than a marsh, but now, where once croaked naught but bull-frogs and their kindred denizens of the swamp, is vocal with the busy hum of successful business and commercial prosperity. Surrounded on all sides by an agricultural country unsurpassed in western New York, and being the centre of the salt trade of the State, and we might say the Union, we predict for Syracuse much future prosperity. Perhaps the salt trade is one of the principal sources of this. We visited to-day many of the boiling establishments, and witnessed the modus operandi of manufacturing that necessary article, from the coarse rock salt, so called, to the finer, to be found upon the tables of almost everybody in the country. We should like to enter into a minute description of this, to us, novel process, but time will not permit. The springs or wells are, we believe, the property of the State; and the water raised from them and distributed to the various boiling establishments by machinery, claims the same proprietorship. To renumerate the State for this, and to furnish her coffers with a revenue, each barrel pays a nominal duty into the public treasury.
This trade gives to Syracuse a great deal of capital and wealth. This is evident, not alone in the business aspect the city wears, but also in the number of costly residences which meet the eye of the traveler at every turn. No place of its size, we venture to say, can boast of more elegant and beautiful dwellings, or of a greater number. The architecture of these private residences, and the arrangement of the grounds around them, give evidence also that wealth, refinement and good taste are here combined; and that the vulgar taste for gaw-gaw show and ostentations display, which one so often sees in the lucky possessor of the "almighty dollar," is here not a common thing.

We visited some of the public buildings and the public grounds. The Cemetery, just back of the city, on a beautiful side-hill, is in decided good taste, and on the whole creditable. For natural location and extent, ours, however, is much its superior. The plan for improving ours is, also, much the best. The Odd Fellow's Hall is
said to be the finest in the State. It certainly is a grand affair, and reflects honor upon that numerous and respectable brotherhood. The room is some sixty feet square, with an arched dome some 20 feet high. The furniture and adornments are upon an equal scale of elegance. The Churches of the City are also numerous and rich. The first Presbyterian is a magnificent gothic edifice, built of red granite. The Dutch Reformed, is also a superb structure, though not quite so large or expensive as the one just named. The Catholics, Universalists, Baptists, and Methodists have each their respective places of worship; while the Jews, not to be outdone, are constructing a synagogue. We saw the walls, and the busy workmen upon them, and could not but reflect upon the perfect freedom of thought and opinion such facts indicated. But we are getting prolix, and believing in the doctrine that short sermons make long hearers, we bid you good bye.