Columbia Spy.

Saturday, August 23, 1856.

Editor.

A. M. BAKER.

Legislation in a Business Point of View.

We are not unfrequently asked what is the use of legislation, and what benefit it is to the community. The question is a natural one, and is answered in various ways, according to the standpoint from which it is viewed. Some look upon legislation as a necessary evil, and others as a positive benefit. Both are right, and both are wrong. Legislation is a necessity, and is a benefit, when it is confined to its proper sphere, and is exercised for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of the people. But when it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the interests of a few individuals, at the expense of the many, it is a curse, and not a blessing. Unfortunately, the latter is the character of most of the legislation of the present day. Instead of being confined to the enactment of laws for the protection of the rights of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of granting privileges to individuals, companies, and corporations, which are calculated to injure the many, and benefit the few. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the general welfare, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the welfare of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the general welfare. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of protecting the rights of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of depriving them of their rights, and conferring them upon individuals, companies, and corporations. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the interests of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the interests of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the interests of the people. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the prosperity of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the prosperity of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the prosperity of the people. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the happiness of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the happiness of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the happiness of the people. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the welfare of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the welfare of the people. Instead of being exercised for the purpose of promoting the rights of the people, it is exercised for the purpose of promoting the rights of individuals, companies, and corporations, at the expense of the rights of the people