VERONA. March 4, 1873.

Letter from Verona.

Editor of Standard:

Hans hastens to acknowledge the invitation to dine with the Standard on the 27th at the Har- douin House. If the Almanac can be induced so to change the calendar as to make the 27th of March come upon Saturday instead of Thursday, Hans will gladly accept the invitation. In consequence of close attention to his profession, Hans cannot leave Verona, save on Saturdays.

Verona continues to experience severe weather. It rains and sleets and snows. It snows and sleets and rains. Bowens bowls from the North and succeeds sometimes in dispersing the gathered clouds. The sun then for a day or two darts his healing rays upon the earth and the hope of spring revive. Vegetation begins to wake from its long sleep and to think of donning its array of green. But it proves to be a delusion, winter aion reasserts his sway, "sullen and sad, with all his black rain, vapors, and clouds, and storms."

Gardening has necessarily made but little progress. The more enterprising have prepared a few squares and sown peas, lettuce, potatoes, and onions. Generally, however, the spade and hoe have been idle, and the gardens present a dreary and desolate appearance.

The farms in the neighborhood of Verona likewise present little or no indication of the industry or energy of the tenants. No little opportunity of ploughing have the farmers had, but they will not be prepared to welcome the return of the planting season. It is but a few days, until corn should be in the ground, and yet Hans far but a small area of land has been prepared for its reception.

As Verona has no one to get drunk and create a disturbance, there is no need of police intelligence, and Hans will therefore be permitted to discuss other topics.

How to write for a newspaper is a difficult question to determine. Many readers imagine they could do better than those who usually fill the columns. The simplest style appears the most easy of imitation, and yet it is the most difficult to acquire. Let any one attempt to imitate the sweet simplicity of Dr. Francis Wayland; he will readily see that he has either over-estimated his own abilities or underestimated the difficulty of the undertaking. Long and intricate paragraphs, inappropriate everywhere, should be most carefully avoided by all newspaper writers. Sentences should rather be short and pregnant with meaning. A long sentence is occasionally admissible, if its meaning is clear, its construction easy, and its flow immensuaous. The style should be so perspicuous, that the reader's mind fully absorbed in the subject would not be diverted by having the attention directed to the language in which the thoughts are portrayed. Language should be used simply as a translucent medium through which to view the thoughts of another. But, it is too often employed as a cloak to veil the purposes of the writer. Virtues are visible at the bottom of a political stream, and by no means indicate its depth; so the thoughts in a printed article should be clearly seen, and yet leave with the reader no impression of prolixity.

Many preach better than they act. Many can tell how to write for the press, who cannot carry out their own instructions. Such is the theory of Hans; but how he is to put it in execution remains to be seen.

Your sincerely,

Hans.