

“With respect to what has been said by several of the country presses about the course of the *Courier and Enquirer* we shall take no notice of in the way of unkindness. We are acquainted with the pressing solicitations made through letters, through personal friends and members of the legislature to bring them out for the sole object of sustaining the *Argus*.”—[*N. Y. Cour. & Enq.*]

It is very kind indeed in the editor of the *C. & E.* that he has resolved to be so merciful as not to notice us “country editors” in the “way of unkindness.” We have no doubt the “country editors” will be mortally obliged to him for this act of extraordinary forbearance—but will not take it upon ourselves to say that the “country editors” will deal thus mercifully with the renegade who presides over the columns of the *C. & E.* In this resolution of the editor, however, not to notice the “country editors” we think he has acted wisely—and if his wisdom had come to his aid a little sooner, and admonished him not to notice in the “way of unkindness,” the “**DEMOCRACY** of the country,” it had been better for him—as it is he must abide the consequences.

The assertion of the *C. & E.* that the “country editors” are operated upon by “the pressing solicitations made through letters, through personal friends and members of the legislature to bring them [i. e. the “country editors,”] out for the sole object of sustaining the *Argus*,” is gratuitous—it is unfounded. We do not wish to have our independence estimated by the same rule which governs the editor of the *C. & E.*: that he may be, and for aught we know is, operated upon in this way is altogether likely—and if he imagines the “country editors” are managed in the same way, we must be permitted to inform him that he is grossly mistaken, or that he wilfully misrepresents them—perhaps he has yet to learn that the “country editor” has a “soul and **DARES** be free,” notwithstanding the “city editor” of the *C. & E.* may be governed by unworthy and debasing motives.

It is not at all to be wondered at that the editor of the *C. & E.* should feel a rankling hatred towards “country editors”—they have spoken with one voice and with one mind their disapprobation of his wayward course—for this he abuses them—and with a great deal of dignity and self-complacency folds his arms and says, “we shall not reply to them.” His dignity, however, reminds us of the **OWL**, who perches himself in the branches of a tree, and very demurely sits there and lets the **LITTLE BIRDS**, that is, we “country editors,” pick his feathers out—still he will not deign to make any resistance—but preserve his **GRAVITY** and his **DIGNITY**, until he finds himself shorn of his plumage.