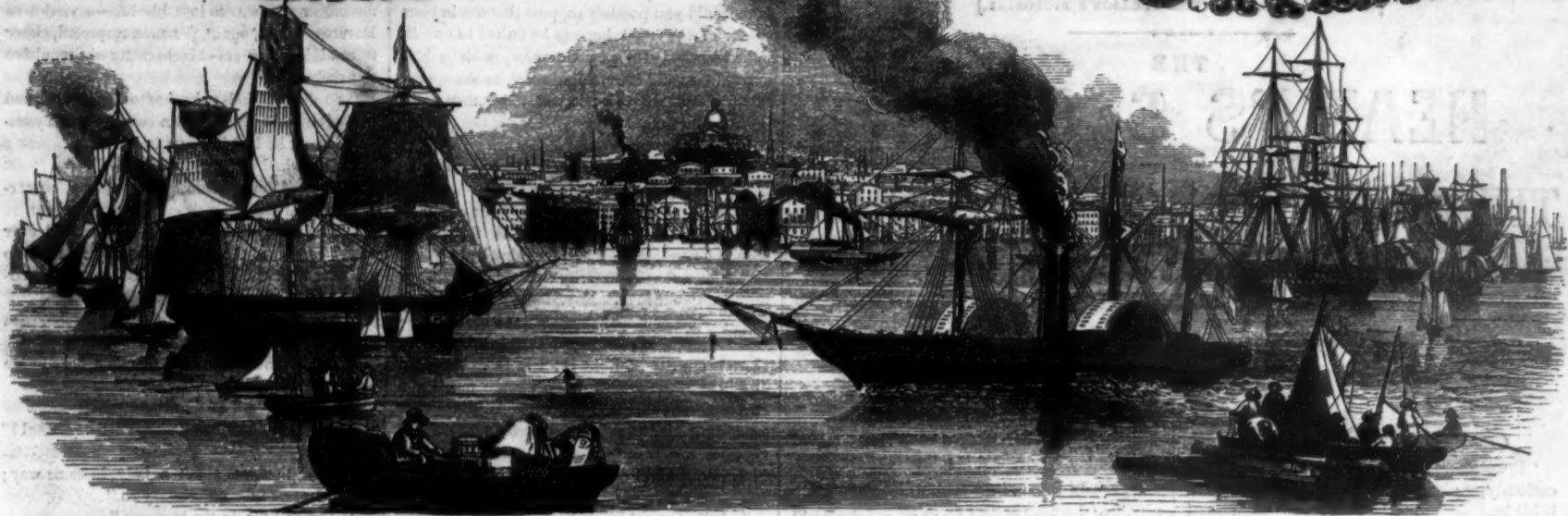


GLEASON'S PICTORIAL



F. GLEASON, { CORNER BROMFIELD AND TREMONT STS.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1852.

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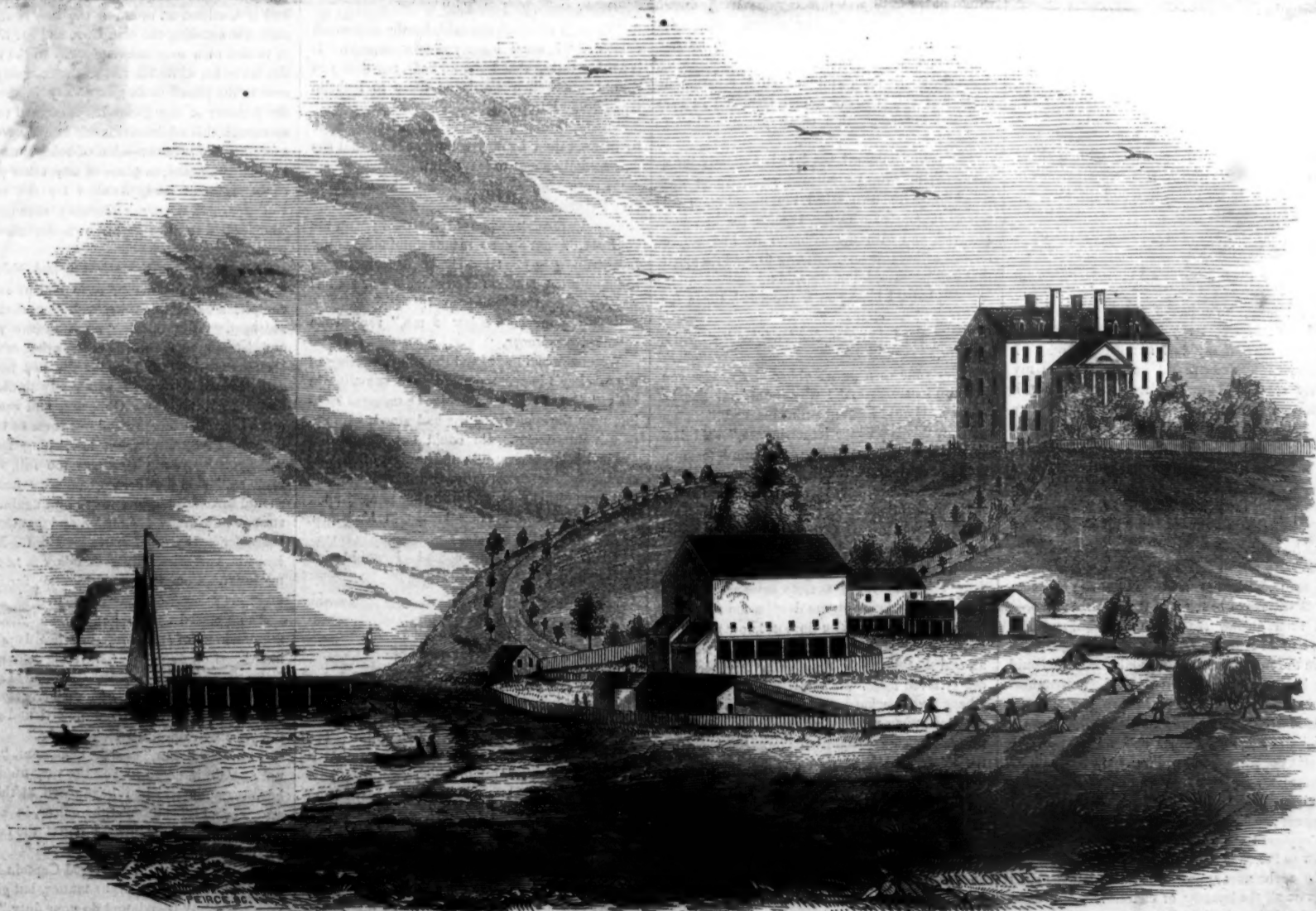
THE BOSTON FARM SCHOOL.

Last week we gave a very fine picture of the Blind Asylum, at South Boston Point, just on the edge of our harbor; below we give a scene not far removed from the former, being an original and accurate view of the Farm School. This institution is on Thompson's Island, about four miles from the city, and about a mile from Dorchester. By its insular position and salubrious air, it affords peculiar advantages for accomplishing the purposes of the institution. It contains one hundred and forty acres of land, about seven-y-two of which are under cultivation; the remainder being devoted to pasturage and the accommodation of the pupils. The soil consists of a rich loam, with a light sub-soil, and is well adapted to the raising of all the grains and vege-

tables usually cultivated in New England. The establishment is situated on the highest part of the island, and commands an extensive view of the city, its harbor and surrounding country. It is a substantial brick edifice, with a projecting centre and two wings. The first floor contains a wash-room, kitchens, dining-hall and office; the second, a very spacious school-room, and several apartments for the superintendent, family and teachers. The boys' sleeping-room is in the third story, and is fitted up with beds in such a manner as to separate each boy from his neighbor, and permit the teacher, who sleeps with them, to overlook their conduct. The establishment at the island is under the immediate direction of a superintendent, a matron, and an instructor. A school is kept, both morning and

afternoon, for about six hours daily, in which are taught the elements of useful knowledge: reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and grammar. During the evening, especially in the winter months, instruction is also given in the first principles of agriculture, horticulture, botany, etc. The moral and religious culture of the pupils is an object of pre-eminent importance in an institution like this; and, of course, it is the aim of the managers, as far as practicable, to make the whole discipline and instruction of the pupil, whilst upon the island, bear upon his moral and religious nature. There is a good collection of juvenile books, selected with due regard to the character and capacities of the pupils, to which the boys have access. That the pupils may be trained to habits of order and industry, and en-

abled, when they leave the institution, to pursue some occupation by which they may gain a livelihood, they are required to perform as much of the manual labor done on the farm, and in the house, as their various ages and capacities will permit. During the season of farming operations, all the boys in the institution, of sufficient age and strength, are regularly employed in labor on the farm, under the care of the superintendent, who is a practical farmer. The object is to make them skilful, practical farmers. At the age of twenty-one, each boy is entitled to a suit of clothes; and, if apprenticed to a farmer, to one hundred dollars in money in addition. The present number of boys in the institution is ninety-four; and there are accommodations for one hundred.



THE BOSTON FARM SCHOOL, AT THOMPSON'S ISLAND, BOSTON HARBOR.

