

For the Plain Dealer.

That Strongsville Fracas.

MR. GRAY—Dear Sir:—I notice in your weekly of the 13th inst. a paragraph respecting a row in a school house in Strongsville, that is calculated to produce an erroneous impression. The facts in the case are these: One Henry G. Babcock, late of Oberlin, had been for some weeks teaching school in that district, when he saw fit to require that each pupil should produce a rhetorical essay or composition, and gave them for a subject, "The Human System," of which they knew as little as he appears to have known of human nature. The young lady in question, who is in her twenty-first year, and has hitherto borne a good character, and who has herself taught school eleven months, informed him that she could not write upon that subject, and thereupon left the school. In a few days she returned, took her accustomed place in her class for recitation. He ordered her to her seat, and to take no part in the school. She obeyed and retired. The next day she came again, and told him she wished to remain and take no part in the school until noon, and then she would see the directors, and if they required she would leave the school. He replied the directors did not govern him, and it would not answer, and accordingly dispatched a boy, who procured a blue beach whip some five feet long, warmed it by the stove to toughen it, and then gave her one minute to leave the house. She remained upon her seat, and the whipping commenced, and that you and the people may judge of its amount and reasonableness, I state the fact that eight days after its infliction, seventeen welts were counted across her back, and many of them broken and festering. If outrages upon humanity like this are to be shielded under the character of a teacher and the cause of education, then farewell to teachers and the cause of education too. If wretches who go armed, as he has since this outrage, with butcher knives and pistols, are to teach morals to our children, then farewell to morals. If society is to uphold a wretch, who, because his amorous advances have been repulsed, as was the case in this instance, will take advantage of such circumstances to seek his revenge and gratify his malignant nature, then we say adieu to society. With respect to the reinforcement mentioned in your paragraph as procured by the young lady, no such thing took place. Some five days after the whipping, two young men from a distant part of the town, excited to madness by apparent failure of justice, entered the school house and assaulted the teacher. As to whether he or they got worse whipped, there is a difference of opinion. Neither can brag much. The case must be extreme which justifies a resort to force. The law in this case had provided a remedy, and he has since been arrested, examined, and put under bond for his appearance at the Court of Common Pleas. It is due the young lady and her friends in the neighborhood to say that they neither knew of, nor approved the course of the two men. The young lady has numerous relations and friends in your city, and you will oblige all, and promote the cause of humanity and truth, by giving this a place in your paper. Yours, &c.
Strongsville, Ohio.