

though among so many thousands there will occur violations of the law, it must be acknowledged that crimes are rare and pauperism nearly unheard of. Their intercourse with the native element is of the friendliest character although they mingle perhaps not so freely as might be beneficial to themselves. Their intercourse among themselves is proverbial for sociability. The system of association prevails in every phase of life and besides their religions, education and benevolent institutions there are many for mutual improvement and amusement. We have already mentioned their theatres, concerts, musical societies, &c., and it remains only to add that there exist here 8 lodges of Masons and Odd Fellows, 3 Mutual Aid societies of mechanics, 3 associations for gymnastic exercises, 1 consumers association, (for the reduction of the market prices for the members,) and three large and many smaller social clubs. The first three clubs are chartered by the Legislature, and possess considerable property beside the individual wealth of their members, the richest in regard to the wealth of members is believed to be what is called the "Germania," which consists mostly of commercial men who never open their rooms to the public. In regard to the property held, the "Concordia," is the wealthiest, which owns in buildings and contents, not less than \$200,000.

This club liberally opens its premises, except the club rooms proper, to the public at large and is famous for the elegance of its interior arrangements and its patronage of the Fine Arts. It is unsurpassed in the United States in its character and its display. The third club is the Schutzen Verein, which has only lately purchased for \$40,000 a very fine estate, where now handsome buildings and other improvements are under progress. The location of this spot called the "Schutzen Park," near the limits of the city, is exceedingly beautiful and soon will be the favorite resort for rural festivals and excursions. The public establishments for social pleasure consist of three German hotels, about six wine saloons, and not less than from 1,200 to 1,500 beer houses of more or less capacity, some of them with handsome halls, and gardens. In reviewing the features of German life in Baltimore, and comparing it with other cities, we should direct the attention to the circumstance that it has the handsomest and as many claim, the best German theatre, the largest Schutzen Verein, about 400 members and the most valuable and picturesque grounds and buildings for the favorite sport of target shooting, the most extensive tobacco and nearly the largest piano factory in the whole Union.

#### THE POLITICAL LIFE.

As much as the Germans here cultivate sociability, as little attention they pay to politics. There are numerous causes for this seeming apathy. With many the difficulty of the English idiom, with others, the dislike to identify them-