COMMUNICATIONS

Communications in Reply

[Text continues on the page, consisting of various articles and editorials.]
FINDING THE TIMES.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1858.

THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO PETITION.

We have received an interesting letter under the above head, which we have extracted. The writer states that the right of the people to petition is a fundamental right, inherent in the nature of man, and essential to political liberty. He quotes from the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." He then goes on to say that the right of petition is a natural right, and that it is derived from the fact that all men are equal. He quotes from the Constitution of the United States: "Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." He concludes by saying that the right of petition is a fundamental right, and that it is essential to the maintenance of a free government.