



Improvement in the Telegraph.

We have conversed with Dr. Roe of Illinois, who is proceeding to Washington with a model of an invention which he calls the Telegraph Manipulator. Dispatches, messages or large documents are set up in *electrical types*, locked in a chase similar to printing types, and the form placed upon the machine. Dr. Roe is sanguine in the belief that he can by this machine transmit to all points connected with the wire, as much matter as would make one entire page of the Chronicle in *twenty minutes*.

The Manipulator is represented as remarkably simple, and not likely to get out of order. And to secure correctness, as well as speed, a proof is taken from the types in the ordinary manner. Dr. Roe has promised us a full description of his improvement after he has secured his discovery by patent.—*Cincinnati Chronicle*.

The Chronicle surely does not believe that the Doctor's machine can set up one of its pages in twenty minutes?

Whaling Business.

The Nantucket Inquirer draws a discouraging picture of the prospects of the whaling business in that place. Since the year 1843 the whaling business has been diminished fifteen sail, by shipwreck sales, &c. The voyages are said to be one third longer than they were twenty years ago, and the number of arrivals and departures is constantly growing less and less.

The consumption of whale oil has been decreasing for a long time as well as the supply. Other carbonic materials are now applied to purposes for which fish oil at one time was alone used.

Bad Gas in Philadelphia.

In a debate before the select council of Philadelphia upon the question of contracting to furnish the Southwark and Moyamensing Gas Company with gas, Mr. Wetherill stated that the amount now consumed every night is 7000 more cubic feet than the gasometer will hold. So that the works must be pushed to a great extent to supply the constant demand. We presume this fact will account in some measure for the bad quality of the gas. There is so great a demand, that it is manufactured in such haste that there is not time for simple purification. This is a great evil.

Professor Morse made Pacha.

A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, writing from Constantinople says that "a decoration in diamonds of a Turkish Order of Honor, such as is given to Pachas of two tails, is actually in the hands of our legation, for Professor Morse, from the Sultan, in return for the view of his Telegraph. It will arrive in America with a Royal diploma at the same time.

Explosions.

A Committee appointed by the Citizens of Cincinnati to examine into the cause of the N. A. Johnston's explosion, have reported and are about memorializing Congress to pass a stringent law for the proper building equipping, manning, officering and navigating the high pressure steamboats on the South Western and Western waters.

Glasgow Athenaeum.

The Athaenaeum of Glasgow Scotland was opened on Christmas by a gorgeous display of talent and greatness. Dickens, Allison, Combe, Chambers, and a host of other eminent men were among the speakers. The American Consul was on the stage in full uniform, and the Union Jack was on one side of it and the Star Spangled Banner on the other side.

Lectures on the Gypsies.

Mr. Caruther, a young gentleman of this city, delivered a very interesting lecture on the Gypsies at the Minerva Rooms last Monday Evening.

New Steam Gauge.

Mr. George Stephenson addressed the following letter to the London Daily News.

"Sir,—A most important invention has been submitted to me for my approval, patented by a Mr Smith of Nottingham, and is intended to indicate the strength of steam in steam engine boilers. It is particularly adapted for steamboats, and can be placed in the cabin, on deck, or any other part of the vessel where it may be seen by every passenger on board. It may also be fixed in the office of every manufactory where a steam engine is used, at a considerable distance from the boiler. I am so much pleased with it that I have put one up at one of my own collieries; it is at a distance from the boiler, and in another house, and works most beautifully, showing the rise and fall of the steam in the most delicate manner. The indicator is like the face of a clock, with a pointer making one revolution in measuring from 1 lb. to 100 lbs. upon the square inch of the pressure of steam: it is quite from under the control of the engineer or any other person, so that its indications may be relied on, and the construction is so simple that it is scarcely possible for it to get out of order. I might give a full explanation of the machine, but I think it best to leave that to the inventor himself. The numerous and appalling accidents which have occurred from the bursting of steamboat boilers, have induced me to give you these observations, which I think desirable to be laid before the public. I may state I have no pecuniary interest in the scheme; but being the first person to whom it has been shown and the first to make use of it, I feel it a duty that I owe to the inventor as well as the public, to make it as universally known as possible. The indicator is put up at Tapton colliery, near Chesterfield, and may be seen any day, by any respectable person on inquiring either for Mr. Hindmarsh or Mr. Langlands.

GEORGE STEVENSON,
"Tapton House, Chesterfield."

Newton on Infidelity.

Halley, the great mathematician, dabbled not a little on infidelity; he was too fond of introducing this subject; and once when he descanted somewhat freely on it, in the presence of his friend Sir Isaac Newton, the latter cut him short, with this observation: I always attend to you Dr Halley, with the greatest deference, when you do us the honor to converse on astronomy or the mathematics, because these are the subjects that you have industriously investigated and which you well understand; but religion is a subject on which I always hear you with pain, because this is a subject which you have not seriously examined, and do not comprehend; because you have not studied it, and you will not study it because you despise it.

Improvement in Dentistry.

Drs. Grandin and Dudley, of Boston, have made several very important improvements in the mode of fixing a whole set of teeth to a single stump and so firm and durable that it has been represented to us as being a most important improvement in the Dental art.

Ivory.

An elephant's tooth weighing 89 lbs. and worth \$139, was lately lost on the Western Railroad and found by some wight who was so ignorant of its value as to sell it for four dollars and ten cents. The purchaser cut up the tusk and sold it to different people in Worcester, Mass., at 50 cents per lb., thus making a nice bit of speculation out of it.

Exchanging Sides.

Ralph Waldo Emerson of Mass., has been delighting the people of Scotland with his lectures, and Prof. Nichol of Glasgow, Scotland, has been delighting us Yankees on this side of the water.

Luxury.

In the time of Henry VIII, we find directions to "examine every night, the straw of the King's bed, that no daggers might be concealed therein." A writer in 1587, mentions three things in England, "marvellously altered for the worse; the multitude of chimneys lately erected, the increase of lodgings; and the exchange of tureen platters into pewter, and wooden spoons into silver and tin."

Holden's Dollar Magazine.

The February number of this valuable monthly is received and too much could not be said in its praise.—Each number of the above contains 64 pages choice reading matter and is printed on beautiful fine paper issued regular at the close of each month, and what is the most peculiar feature about it is, that the publisher can afford it at such an astonishing low price—Only one dollar a year—See advertisement in another column.

Schramke's New York Croton Aqueduct.

Messrs. Wiley and Putnam, 161 Broadway, have favored us with Schramke's description of the Croton Aqueduct, illustrated with 20 beautiful plates representing the different sections of the work and published in three different languages, viz. English, German and French. It is the most splendid work on Hydraulic Architecture that is sold in this country, and we hope the publisher will get rewarded for the immense expense which the enterprise must have incurred. It was published at Berlin, by the author and is for sale as above, 161 Broadway New York.

The Green Veil.

The American women leave whittling to the other sex, but they have also their hobby—it is to wear a green veil. In summer it is a rampart that defends them from dust and the heat of the sun; in winter against the cold and at all times from curious glances. What husband, what father, would recognise his wife or daughter under this mask? Thanks be to the green veil—the best of cosmetics—it preserves that beauty of complexion for which American ladies are distinguished, and which would fade under the attacks of a cold which is very ungalant, and of a sun which respects nothing.

Sewers and Cesspools.

In London a new system of sewer and cesspool cleansing has been organized, numbering a Cabinet Minister among its new and active Commissioners. Over a million of dollars will have to be expended in one district (Holborn and Finsbury,) to remedy the defects of the old plan. The progress of improvement, as to Sewers, is unparalleled in any former age. Many thousand feet of sewers have been cleansed by flushing.

This is done by force pump with flexible hose. It is well known that in regard to suction hose attached to Fire Engines, America was far in advance of England, but they have gone there into the use of it in the right spirit, and the force pump is employed in London to effect a purpose very essential to health.

They have been actively engaged in emptying cesspools in courts and alleys by the use of the pump and flexile hose, directed to the nearest sewer. The poor inhabitants testified the greatest thankfulness for this riddance. Disinfecting fluids are used while the pump is in operation.

Chloroform.

Chloroform is composed of two atoms of carbon, one atom of hydrogen and three atoms of chlorine. It is a heavy, sweet fluid, having a sp gr. of 1.489 at 60 F. (according to some experiments,) or 1.480, as given in books. It boils at 141 F, and is very volatile having a fragrant odor. It is not combustible when flame is applied to it, nor is its mixture with the air explosive, and has a very sweet taste.

In administering it no apparatus is needed beyond a simple piece of cloth of open texture, a small conical sponge, or a linen cambric handkerchief. Take the cork from the phial of chloroform and apply the cloth to its mouth, and shake the bottle, so as to wet a spot on the handkerchief (just as people commonly scent a handkerchief with cologne water) cover the mouth and nose with it lightly, and then let the air be drawn partly through the cloth. Five or six inspirations generally suffice to produce momentary insensibility, and a few more bring on a sound, snoring sleep, in which no pain can be felt, even when the knife or cautery is applied.

House Burnt by a Cat.

A house in Juniata township Pennsylvania, was burnt recently by a cat. A burning ember fell on the back of puss, who ran to the garret and threw it among a heap of flax.

Waterproof Blacking.

We have received a new composition for making boots and shoes waterproof and answering the purpose of beautiful blacking. It is the best composition for that purpose we have ever tried, and the inventor, Mr. John Hutchinson, of Newbern, N. C., has provided for all who wear boots and shoes and wish to keep their feet dry, the one thing needful

Threaded Bank Note Paper.

We are surprised that this invention is not used for every bill now made, as it is a perfect preventive to altering bills. We have in our possession some of this beautiful paper manufactured by Crane & Co., Dalton, Mass., and we must say that the public demands its immediate and general adoption into bank notes and bills, as every day brings before the public some new and well accomplished piece of forgery and alteration.

The Peoria Register Ill., says that there is now in possession of Messrs. J. S. Thompson, and Co., of that City, a horse caught on the Rocky Mountains without mane or tail and covered with wool. It is said to be extremely swift on foot. It is likely to be a doubtful speculation.

It is reported a resurrectionist was lately shot in Cincinnati by a bullet fired by an invention attached to the coffin, which he was about to rob. He went to steal the dead and death robbed him of life. He was found dead beside the corpse.

Lieutenant Brower, (of Brooklyn, L. I.) of the New York Volunteers, the Globe says has been appointed second lieutenant in the regular army, for his gallant services at the taking of Chapultepec. It was to him that General Bravo, ex-President of Mexico, surrendered his sword.

It is said that hens will lay as well in the winter as in summer if they get half an ounce of sausage meat once a day. The hens must be kept by themselves. We have our doubts about this plan.

Lately in the hospital at Trieste, Luca Brisaic died, at the age of 116 years, 96 of which he was a soldier in the Austrian army. He had been an inveterate smoker of tobacco from his fourteenth year, and died with a pipe in his mouth.

The number of beet-root sugar manufactories in France on the 1st. instant was 303, or ten more than at the corresponding period of 1846.

The quantity of water which entered the Wigan coal mines lately, by the irruption of the River Douglas, Scotland, is calculated at 3,495,375 tons.

A Mr. Whalen of Skeneateles, N. Y., is reported to have chopped and corded seven and a half cords of beech and maple wood, four feet stuff, in twelve hours. "It looks to be an extravagant statement."

A Telegraphic message sent from New York to St. Louis, at twelve o'clock noon, will reach its destination on the banks of the Mississippi at ten minutes before twelve o'clock.

The working men of Birmingham England presented to a Hospital in that City lately, the sum of \$4,398. All this was raised by penny subscriptions.

The Key to Don Quixotte, written by Cervantes himself, has been found in MSS. in Madrid Spain and has created quite an excitement.

The fine Steamboat Seventy-six was burnt on the 10th of January in the Mississippi, a short distance from New Orleans.

The citizens of Reading, Pa., are about to erect a monument to the memory of William Penn.

Queen Victoria reigns over an empire of 2,814,040 miles in extent containing a population of 129,829,500.

It has been reported and contradicted, that the Lowell Factories had reduced the operatives wages.

Coffins made of iron galvanized coated with varnish and hermetically sealed are now made in this city.