



Foreign Correspondence.

GLASGOW, Feb. 12, 1848.

Dear Sci.—I embrace the opportunity of sending you a few scraps of a general description with the Britannia, which sails for your port in a day or two. I am sorry to say that there is little prospect of an improvement in our commercial affairs, but indications, deep and foreboding that the depressed condition of affairs has not yet reached its crisis. The late venerable divine of Morningside, (Dr. Chalmers,) once truly said: "Enterprise alone, is not the soul of a nation's commercial prosperity, but on the opposite, an over-reaching, an extending beyond the limit of the New Testament rule, is sure to bring matters into anarchy and drive the operative to want and destitution." In some good measure this sage reasoning can account for the present distressed condition of the working classes. In England things are assuming a more favorable aspect—at Ashton nearly all the mills are running full time, while many others are working half time. Besides mills stopped in Lancashire, there are an immense number of machine shops shut up. In Scotland the Bankrupt list is still on the increase. Some of our most public and long established factories have failed, among them I may mention McPhails, of Greenhead. Calico printing is at a very low point. Our streets exhibit masses of working men all out of employment. A society has lately been formed in this city, the object of which is to form a Scottish Union of Literary and Mechanics Institutions. The typhus fever has considerably abated during the last two weeks. Much excitement exists in the minds of the people regarding the progressive advance of the great scourge and destroyer, the cholera. There are soup kitchens in many of the towns and villages in the West of Scotland, supplying the poor and unemployed. A paragraph has went the round of the papers, relative to a phenomenon having lately been seen in the Moon—the article is entitled "Volcano in the Moon," A bright spot was seen about one quarter the size of Saturn, became visible, and varied in intensity as an intermitting light resembling flashes from Etna, with the flowing out of the volcanic lava. The old Duke, (the "Rough and Ready" of Waterloo,) is anxious to have old England better fenced in and says it is necessary to have our garrison 65,000 men strong. If he would live a little more economical, and get sinecure pensions abolished, he would confer a greater blessing on his country. Your papers are regularly received, extracts from which, often appear in our papers, which I take to be your Exchanges. A melancholy accident occurred on New Year's day at the Busby Cotton Mills; the proprietor taking advantage of the holiday, three men were repairing the cistern connected with the gasometer. On one of the men approaching the receiver where the gas is contained, he stooped down with a lighted candle in his hand to examine some bolt hole; the fluid became ignited, and the result was, the whole went off with a terrific explosion, two men were killed and the third is still in a dangerous condition. Capt. Ryrie is here getting the American ready for New York, by which I shall send more scientific news than there is contained in this Epistle. Yours, &c.

GLENBURN.

Honor to the Mighty Dead.

A great procession in respect to the memory of the departed Sage and Statesman, John Quincy Adams, marched through our streets on Wednesday, accompanying his remains while passing through this city on their way to Boston. The procession was one of the grandest ever seen in this city and forcibly proclaimed the unchanging truth that the actions of men are immortal, and though their mortal lives are as the grass, "he being dead yet speaketh." The Hon. Henry Clay united in the funeral demonstration.

First Paper Mill in Havana.

Some two years ago, Senor Don Mesty, of Havana, obtained from the authorities of that Island, the sole privilege to build and to run for a number of years a paper Mill. For the building of the machinery of this Mill, proposals were received from England, Scotland, France, and this country. The successful competitors were all of New England, viz., Willis G. Eaton of Newton, Lower Falls, and Smith and Winchester of Ct., for the general machinery, and Howe and Goddard of Worcester for the Foundriner Machines. The machinery was built and shipped over a year ago. Amos Stevens of Newton accompanied it, to set up the machinery, and G. B. Curtis, as superintendant of the Mill. Some eight or ten others, Yankees, were engaged as operatives.

Before operations a priest was sent to the mill with a basin of holy water, with which everything was plentifully besprinkled. It was an epoch celebrated by its inhabitants with public rejoicing.

Another mill is soon to be erected there by the same person. It goes by water power, and the gates, sluices, &c., are of mahogany.

Coal Trade.

The average freight of coal from Philadelphia to Boston in 1847, was \$2.75 per ton. In 1848 it will be \$1.75, making a difference in favor of the buyer of one dollar per ton. Besides the inland freight to Philadelphia, will be reduced perhaps an average of 25 cts. or more, and some reduction must be expected in our rates here. Altogether we expect to put coal into Boston, at not far from \$5 per ton of 2,240 pounds, for the opening; and we trust our eastern friends with that assurance, will not have to look abroad for supplies.

Solar Light.

The whole establishment of the New York Sun is splendidly illuminated with gas made on the premises, from the refuse oil of the presses, engine and other kinds of grease. The apparatus is portable, invented and applied by Mr. E. S. Riggs of West Street Foundry, N. Y.

New Movement.

A tract of land containing something like a thousand acres, hitherto entirely unimproved South of Hicksville, Long Island, has been purchased for a company of Germans, who are to take possession in the spring. As the land has not been tilled within the memory of man, its cultivation will be so much clear gain to the community, who will also gain by the addition of a body of honest and industrious Germans to their number. We suggest that there is a great quantity of land on Long Island which might advantageously be employed in the same way.

Gun Trumpet.

Sometime ago the Albion of St. Johns, N. B., gave an account of an invention of Mr. R. Wallace of that city, for a sea signal. It was a brass trumpet about five feet long, with a bell mouth, the latter two feet in diameter. The instrument was fitted tightly on the end of a loaded musket, on the discharge of which a very loud noise was produced, similar to that resulting from a cannon of large calibre.

A gentleman from that place has since informed us that the invention is of real utility.

Steam Washing Establishment.

A new three story wooden building is going up in South Water Street, Chicago, where washing is to be done by steam on a large scale. The more special design is, to do the washing for the steamboats and other crafts coming into that port, though it will be sufficiently large to do considerably more.

The Very Last.

A Miss Gilmore somewhere down east, was courted by a man whose name was Haddock, who told her he only wanted one gill more to make him a perfect fish.

The National Medical Association to be held at Baltimore in 1848, desires all physicians to send in the results of their experiments with Chloroform, that concurrent testimony may be elicited regarding its good, or injurious effects. Address Harvey Lindsley, M. D., Washington.

Value of a Dollar.

If you would learn the value of a dollar, go and labor two days in the burning hot sun, as a hod carrier. This is an excellent idea, and if any of our young gentlemen had to earn their dollars in this way, how much less dissipation and crime would we witness every day. So of our fashionable young ladies: if they like some of the poor seamstresses of our large cities had to earn their dollars for making shirts at ten cents a piece, how much more truthful notions would they have of their duties of life, and their obligations to the rest of the world.

Worcester Manufactures.

T. K. Earl, and Co., have an extensive establishment in Worcester, Mass., for manufacturing card clothing by machinery. An order has been received from the Bay State Company, of Lawrence, to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars. In this establishment about eight hundred pounds of wire and one hundred and twenty-five sides of leather, are used weekly, giving employment to ten workmen. The wire used is manufactured mostly in Worcester, and the leather is tanned in that vicinity. The clothing varies from sixty to eighty-five thousands of points to a square foot.

New Worcester.

In New Worcester, Mass., in one establishment, twelve hundred of Coe's patent screw-wrenches are manufactured monthly. If this were not a great country, full of active men who love conveniences withal, it would puzzle a Yankee to guess where a market for so many would be found; and it is equally difficult to fancy any thing more compact, simple and perfect, of the kind, than those same screw-wrenches, patented by Mr. Coe.

There is something in the very name of Worcester that associates itself with mechanical ingenuity.

Raising the Wind.

The best specimen of effecting this desirable object that we have heard of lately, was the case of an officer in India, who, finding the governor deaf to all applications, persuaded a comrade to write to the old gentleman, informing him that his son was dead, and 100 pounds wanted for funeral expenses. The money was sent and duly acknowledged by the son.

Rare Dish.

At an evening party given at Batavia, in Genesee, Co. N. Y., on the 22nd ult., by the Hon. G. W. Lay, one dish graced the table, which was presented to Mr. Lay, by Sir John Ross, the great navigator. The dish was mutton, it had made a great number of voyages, and was thirty-six years old, yet it was so well preserved that it retained all its nutritious qualities.

Explosion.

A steam boiler in the foundry of Cyphus & Duval, in Charlton st., this city, burst last Monday, forcing a large hole through the brick wall of the building, and throwing a volley of missiles into an adjoining house. This is the same foundry at which the terrific explosion of an old bombshell killed several persons some five years ago.

Ewbank's Hydraulics.

Part 5 of this valuable and standard work has just been issued by Greely and McElrath, Tribune Buildings. Like its predecessors, it is equally interesting and instructive. It is principally devoted to descriptions of Fire Engines and Hydraulic Rams and therefore it should engage the attention of a great number of our citizens. It is only 25 cents per number and the mechanical engravings in each number are worth the money. Orders received at this office.

Tinned Lead and Iron Pipes.

Some time ago we received two communications relative to the price of tinned lead and iron pipes. We have waited to give an answer, as the patentee was engaged in a law suit—and have now to say that not an inch of it is at present manufactured in this city.

Most of the operatives at Fall River, who "struck" against a reduction of their wages, few weeks ago, have gone to work again, and most of the mills are now full operation.

The Origin of the Name Ohio.

A writer in the American Review, says, "The Genessee trail, which we have been tracing, was one of the routes to the O-hee-yo, or Alleghany river, for those who sought to descend that stream towards the Southwest. O-hee-yo, the radix of the present word Ohio, signifies by way of eminence, the Beautiful River; and the Iroquois, by conferring it upon the Alleghany, or head branch of the Ohio have not only fixed a name upon one of the great rivers of the continent, but indirectly upon one of the noblest States of our confederacy.

Yankees in Russia.

The American firm of Harrison, Winans, & Eastwick, the well-known contractors for the cars and locomotives on the St. Petersburg and Moscow Railway, have obtained the contract for the new iron bridge across the Neva. Mr. Winans, of this firm, is now in Baltimore on a visit, but will shortly return to Russia to fulfil his contracts with that government.

Henry Clay.

The Hon. Henry Clay arrived in this city on Tuesday last, and was received with great honors.

Cotton Duck is manufactured at three factories near Baltimore. The American of that city states that last year they used of raw cotton to the value of 246,659 dollars, and paid 90,102 dollars in wages, and manufactured over two millions yards of Duck. Formerly the cash went to Russia, from which our shipping was employed.

A new Paper mill is about being started in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This will prove a great convenience to the territorial press, which has for years been subject to the uncertainty of obtaining supplies, and the certainty of being fleeced on what was obtained.

He that mindeth his own business is wise, but he that interfereth in the business of others from crafty motives, is sure to meet the end of the Fox that endeavored to rob the open rock muscle, which closed upon his paw and held poor Reynard fast to the rock till he perished.

It may be said generally of husbands, as the woman said of hers who had abused her, to an old maid who reproached her for being such a fool as to marry him—"to be sure he is not so good a husband as he should be, but he's a powerful site better than none."

The Wheeling Times, says the bridge over the Ohio at that place is rapidly progressing, and gives evidence of the structure being one which will last as long as the earth itself.

A writer in the St. Louis Republican states that the tobacco crop of Missouri, now coming into market, is the best for manufacturing purposes that ever was produced in that State.

The umbrella is a mark of authority among many Eastern nations. The King of Ava ranks among his other high sounding titles, that of "Lord of Twenty-four Umbrellas."

A writer who professes to be a great admirer of antiquity, exclaims, "where do you meet with any modern buildings that have lasted so long as those of the ancients?"

The Bill entitled "An act to limit the hours of labor, and to limit the employment of children in factories under twelve years of age," passed the Senate of Pennsylvania, on Wednesday last.

Women, it is said, have more strength in their looks, than we have in our laws, and more power in their tears than we have in our arguments.

A correspondent of the Exeter News Letter states that the whole of the town of Plaistow is to be used up into bricks, and transported to the city of Lawrence.

McCready's cotton mill at Morristown, Pa. has temporarily stopped on account of disagreement with the hands.

The Montour Iron Works of Pennsylvania have stopped payment.