



Western Correspondence.

Messrs. Munn & Co.—I should feel proud if in every workshop of my acquaintance your paper could be seen. But too many think the matter contained in it beyond their grasp.—There are not many mechanics here, but all are engaged. Nothing is shipped from this point in the way of manufactured articles, yet we have plenty of timber unsurpassed by any other in the world, and an immense water power on our rivers, having five locks and dams on the Green and Barren rivers without any machinery worthy of the age. It is a lamentable truth that many of our working men are without an education—even a common school education is voted down by the district majorities. Short sighted policy, that may in the South and West continue to curb our destiny for years. It is to be remembered, however, that most of the youth at mechanical trades are either orphans or sons of indigent parents, unable to pay for an education, or their own want of it makes them think so. J. M. D.

Bowling Green, Ky., March 12, 1848.

[Our worthy correspondent at Bowling Green has sent us a great number of subscribers both for this and the back volume. He is a man who thirsts after useful information, and wherever we find mechanics of this stamp we may be sure to expect, not in vain, some future distinction. We endeavor to be simple brief and plain in all our articles, looking to the benefit of our readers, although it is not possible in all scientific articles to keep clear of much that is abstract. We feel for the education of the mechanic and all the rising generation, and when this article reaches Bowling Green, we know that our subscribers there and the young men generally will feel that they should form a Mechanic's Institute and meet weekly and give their opinions upon useful subjects proposed for conversation. A good and kindly spirit and a zeal for mental and moral improvement, is an evidence of the true spirit of civilization.—Ed.]

American Anthracite Furnaces.

From the Pottsville Emporium we learn that the Firmstone furnaces at Easton, Pa., have yielded in one week, viz. The 10 feet bosh stack, 102 tons; in averages 93 tons; the 12 feet bosh stack, 142 tons; in averages 126 tons; the Lehigh Crane Co.'s 18 feet stack, 168 tons; in averages 150 tons. No furnaces in Europe have ever equalled this production. Peter Cooper has two 18 feet stacks in process of operation in New Jersey, opposite Easton. The rich magnetic iron ores of Jersey are brought to all these works by the Morris Canal. When their metal is for foundry purposes, one-sixth part of this ore is used in mixture with the leaner of the neighborhood. When forge metal is wanted, they use one third of the magnetic ore, which cheapens the cost of the metal.

Canada Gold Mines.

Gold ore has frequently been found by the peasantry near the Chaudiere River, below Quebec. Mr. Cunningham, a scientific mineralogist from the Southern States, has spent years in explorations, in the Chaudiere Valley, and Mr. De Levy reported most favorably. The ore is said to be rich and abundant, and a joint stock company has been formed to work the mines. The gold has been pronounced of the richest and purest quality.

Steam Boiler Explosion.

On Monday last a terrific explosion of an engine took place at a tobacco establishment in Philadelphia. The boiler burst in two parts dividing in the middle. Two lives were lost. The jury upon the inquest rendered a verdict expressing the opinion that both the owner and builder of the boiler were highly culpable, the boiler iron being scarcely an eighth of an inch thick, and being defective where it burst.

Daguerreotype. Discovery.

It is well known that the edge of the sharpest and most polished lancet, looks as blunt as the back of a case knife, and as jagged as a saw, in viewing it through a microscope.—The finest painting thus viewed becomes rough and uneven, and is entirely destitute of beauty of coloring or outline. It is not so with the photographic art. A professional gentleman of this city, a few days since, applied a microscope to a daguerreotype miniature, and to his surprise it became a life like "bust," or cast, with the natural coloring of the hair, the eyes, and the dress, with the natural expression of countenance. The bust will appear as of plaster, of granite, or of Parian marble, according to the purity of the glass set over the picture.—To test this discovery, take a microscope—a watch maker's eye glass for instance—apply it to the eye, and in a proper light, range it at the true focal distance from the picture, and you have a view that is truly wonderful. It may be used to detect any imperfections of the picture not perceptible to the naked eye.

New Vegetable Manure.

A new description of vegetable manure has been received from Africa by Messrs. Keding & Hunt, of London, which is likely to become as important to the agricultural interest as guano. The article is called "Tremoco," or "Lupens," and it is said to be the richest vegetable manure discovered. It is sown the same as any other grain, and when tender, before or about blossoming, is dug up and spread on the land with earth, when it rots in two or three weeks, and the land becomes loose and rich for every agricultural purpose.

The Modest Admission.

The editor of the Farmer and Mechanic admits his incapacity and want of judgment, and has appealed to us for information. It is not possible to enlighten any person, who, like him, has his brain crammed with "leaded matter," and we must therefore leave him as we found him, incorrigible to advice or reproof.

New Engines.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company are building two beautiful engines for the new passenger train which they design running after the first of April. The morning line will leave Philadelphia and Pottsville at 7 o'clock—the afternoon line at 3 o'clock.

Telegraphic Improvements.

The Philadelphia Ledger says that the telegraphic line between this city, and Nashville Tenn., works admirably by means of the newly invented system of Messrs. Cook and Barnes, and the papers speak warmly in its praise. One advantage of the instrument is, that it dispenses entirely with the receiving magnet, which was generally deemed impossible.

The Louisville Courier says that the new telegraph invention for Mr. O'Reilly can print the Roman alphabet entire with one key, and with the same key, and at the same time, write the Morse characters.

Powerful Locomotive.

The Camden and Amoy Rail Road Company have placed, we hear, a powerful locomotive on their line, able to carry a train of cars, with ease, at the rate of 40 miles an hour. We are very glad to hear this, as it will, doubtless, enable the Company, to get their passengers through next summer in time for the eastern boats.

Dosing Royalty.

The wonder is, how the royal personages can ever be ill at all, though, perhaps, the wonder is still greater that they should ever be well, considering the multitude of people who live only on the hope of regal stomachic derangements, and who are ready and willing to turn the whole pharmacopœia upside down if the Queen yawns, or her husband blows his nose with unusual emotion.

Deer Forest.

The largest forest set apart for red deer which exists in Scotland is the forest of Athol, where 100,000 English acres are given up to them. That land may be said to be very dear.

The French Revolution.

"The best laid schemes of mice and men, Gang aft a'ge."—

Never were truer words uttered than those of Robert Burns, the poet and never in the whole history of mankind could they be better applied than to the fate of Louis Phillippe, the King of the French. We well remember the time when he was elevated from a Duke to a Sovereign—sudden was his rise, as sudden his fall. The last steamer brought the news of his dethronement—his actual dethronement—not his abdication, that is all nonsense. Kings may abdicate as they choose, but there is only a single example of unforced abdication in all the history of monarchy.—We seldom trouble ourselves with political changes, but this much we can say of any monarch, that if he is good to his people, they will be a wall of adamant around him, if he is not good, neither armies, nor alliances with surrounding nations, can insure the crown of the father to be worn on the head of the son. We did not even dream that Louis Phillippe could have been touched by all the inhabitants of Paris.

To Fatten Green Geese.

A new mode has been discovered to fatten geese by the operation of animal magnetism, which bids fair materially to lower the price of the fowl tribe. Food sufficient for one is placed on the table among a whole flock, and the operator, (the old gander previously instructed in the art,) then mesmerizes the whole flock, and proceeds to satisfy his own appetite. The rest of course, from mesmeric sympathy, are satisfied when the mesmerizer is. By this means large flocks are fed with trifling expense.

Western Journal.

We have received Number 3 of this magazine devoted to Science and the Arts. It is published by Messrs. Farmer & Fisk, at St. Louis, Mo., and is a very valuable work. In it is to be found much information relative to the mining, manufacturing and agricultural enterprise of the Great west.

The Lost Children.

This is the title of a beautiful and affecting tale by T. S. Arthur, an eminent and moral writer who is fast climbing up the ladder of fame. It is one of a series of tales published by Messrs. Oliver and Brothers, the enterprising publisher of the New York Organ.

Ohio and Mississippi Rail Road Co.

A meeting of the Directors of this road, for which a bill has passed the Indiana Legislature, is to be held at Vincennes, Indiana, on the 29th of this month. We hope that a prompt and thorough organization will be effected, as that road is yet going to be one of the best and most important in the Union.

New Winter Garden.

Edinburgh is about to borrow a hint from Paris in providing winter amusement. The Caledonian Horticultural Society propose to have a glass-enclosed winter garden, at first to be 140 feet in length by 35 in breadth; and afterwards enlarged, so as to admit of the most rare exotics, as well as to form a brumal promenade. The project is likely to meet with every encouragement.

The Cotton Crop.

The Commissioner of Patents estimates the cotton crop of the year 1847 at 1,041,500,000 pounds.

A bill has been under discussion in the Massachusetts Legislature to increase the capital of the Western Road \$3,000,000. The Senate evinced a disinclination to give such an extended power of increase to this Corporation, and amended the bill giving power to increase \$1,000,000. The bill was then passed.

Dr. Holland says, that if persons are always supposing that they are liable to a certain distemper, the nerves will so act on the part that it is very likely to come upon them.

The speculum of Lord Ross's Telescope is 6 feet in diameter. It can penetrate 500 times, at least, further than the naked eye.

The subject on the Pacific Railroad has been before the Committee on Railways and Canals of the Massachusetts Legislature.

Moorhead's Galvanic Machines.

The graduated Magnetic Machines advertised in another column, we can recommend from personal knowledge to be the best article of the kind in use. We have sold various kinds and seen them used for the various maladies for which they were recommended, but we never sold any kind that gave so much satisfaction to the purchasers as do those manufactured by Moorhead. Price 12 dollars neatly encased in mahogany and Rosewood cases. Address at this office where orders will be speedily filled.

Railroad Accident.

The train from this city to Philadelphia, last Tuesday morning, was precipitated into the Hackensack River, and one life lost. The accident occurred from the culpable carelessness, it is said, of the keeper of the bridge, who did not allow the proper signal to be displayed of the draw being open. The signals that are used on all the railroads are contemptible rags, which if they get wound on the flag staff, as the Hackensack Bridge one did, they are good for nothing. Large globes painted different colors should alone be used; or else the lately invented stationary pneumatic whistle.

The mechanics and manufacturers of Baltimore announce to the public that they will hold an exhibition at Washington hall, in the city of Baltimore, on the 17th day of May next, for the encouragement of manufactures and mechanic arts.

It is stated that the Graniteville Manufacturing Company of South Carolina will be ready to commence operations previous to the first of June next. The Factory itself is a building of some 350 feet in length, and built of beautiful granite quarried on the spot.

A memorial was presented to Congress on the 9th inst., from C. Evans, of Pittsburgh, Pa., praying that a law may be passed authorizing the Government to purchase his patent right for the prevention of explosions on steam boilers.

A bald eagle, which measured eight feet between the tips of his wings, was shot by two sportsmen, in Barnstable, Mass., on Friday last. He held in his beak, when shot, a sheldrake, and in his talons, a water-witch.

Avoid all sourness and austerity of manners. Virtue is a pleasant and agreeable quality, and gay and civil wisdom is always very engaging.

The French spinners, says the Dublin Nation, are now large buyers in our flax markets. All the flax in Armagh market was purchased on French account.

A Missouri sportsman says he saw recently at the confluence of the Missouri and Charles rivers, one thousand turkeys on a single roost.

The Burlington county, (N. J.) jail being without a prisoner, has been converted into a butchers shop.

In England, the practice of loaning newspapers is an illegal act, which subjects the lender to a penalty of \$250.

The weathercock, after all, points to the highest moral truth, for it shows men that it is a vane thing to aspire.

The number of chargeable letters in Britain, transmitted by post in 1839 was 76 millions; in 1847 it amounted to 322 millions.

Moustaches are recommended as a new object for taxation—a license to wear them at five dollars per annum would produce a fine taxation.

A number of artists from this City are going to make sketches of the Hudson for a grand panorama eight hundred feet larger than Banvard's.

A grindstone burst two weeks ago in Savery's foundry, Philadelphia, and severely injured a man standing beside it.

Mr. George J. Weaver, of Philadelphia, has just manufactured an immense rope for the inclined plane on the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad. It weighs 2,500 pounds.