



Factory Labor.

The Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania have passed the following law:—"Be it enacted that labor performed during a period of ten hours in any secular day, in all cotton, woolen, silk, paper, bagging, and flax factories, shall be considered a legal day's work, and that hereafter no minor or adult engaged in any such factories shall be holden or required to work more than ten hours in any secular day, or sixty hours in any secular week, and that after the fourth day of July, of the present year, no minor shall be admitted as a worker, under the age of twelve years in any cotton, woolen, silk or flax factory, within this commonwealth; that if any owner or employer in any such factories aforesaid, shall employ any such minor, he shall be adjudged to pay a penalty of fifty dollars, one-half to the party so employed, and the other half to the Commonwealth, to be recovered in like manner as debts of like amount are now recovered by law. *Provided* That nothing contained in this act shall be construed to prevent minors above the age of fourteen years from being employed more than ten hours in any day, if the same be done by special contract with their parents or guardians.

A Good offer to Emigrants.

The Government of New Grenada, South America, offers to every person who will settle there as much land as he chooses to cultivate for himself and family,—protection in the exercise of his religious faith, whatever that faith may be—exemption from all taxations for twenty years—freedom from every species of military service—repayment by the government of the expense incurred in his emigration to New Grenada, and admission from the moment he occupies the land to all the rights and immunities of any of its citizens.

Full protection and every encouragement is offered to all industrious Americans who desire to become cultivators of the soil of that Republic. New Grenada is in advance of many more powerful nations, in seeking to allure and establish within her borders a hardy and industrious yeomanry. This is the very policy England should pursue were she wise for her own interests.

Florida Oranges.

The Tallahassee Journal states that a new and formidable enemy has just made its appearance in the orange groves in that State. An insect of the smallest, most minute class, fastens itself upon the tree; in endless numbers they spread themselves over all the surface of the stem, the branches, the young shoots, and foliage of the tree, till certainly, though slowly, it withers and decays. Tree after tree—extensive groves have already been destroyed. And still the little and seemingly contemptible enemy is carrying on his work of destruction, with accumulating force. There are very few trees in that section of Florida, it is said on which, he has not already commenced his attacks. No remedy for this new evil has as yet been suggested.

The Propellor Sarah Sands.

This propellor packet ship made a rapid passage to England from this port, on her last voyage, 13 days and 22 hours. This is said to be a fair test of her machinery and sailing qualities. The Sarah Sands is an iron ship, of light and beautiful dimensions, and a powerful propellor. It is our opinion that the screw has not been fairly tested. The great and superior speed of paddle steamboats is not the result of a few years experience, and were the screw to be as long tested to detect imperfections and apply proper remedies, we have no doubt but that extra houses on the sides of steamboats would be unknown.

The debt of France amounts to 1,045,000,000 dollars.

The Arctic Expedition.

Two expeditions have been fitted out by the British Government to go in search of Sir John Franklin, the celebrated navigator, and Lady Franklin offers a reward of three thousand pounds to whalers that will assist in the search.

The British Government has with an infatuation that must excite admiration, endeavored to find a North West Passage to the Pacific. Hitherto all attempts have failed. But suppose they would discover such a passage, what better would the world be for it, as long as no confidence could be placed in its being always open? What merchant navigator would risk the safe but long passage by the Cape to the short but perilous passage through the midst of crashing icebergs and freezing tempests? While we must admire the heroism that has been exhibited in Polar expeditions, we cannot but think that the results have been dross in exchange for gold.

Iron in Architecture.

For a long time the attention of architects and builders has been directed to iron as a material for building. Hitherto the price of iron has been an object. But recent improvements made in the process of manufacturing has had a tendency to reduce the cost of this imperishable article. The very great reduction which iron has undergone within a few months will suggest its increased use for architectural purposes. It is susceptible of very great variety of pattern, affording a wide field for designing.

Iron blinds and fronts are now becoming not uncommon in our city, and they look both chaste and elegant, while at the same time they are the most durable and safe.

Remarkable Case.

It will be recollected that some time since, we noticed a very remarkable case of abdominal dropsy, which came under the observation and treatment of Dr. J. B. Henshaw, of Coxackie in this State, the patient having at that time underwent the operation of tapping some forty-five times.—Strange as it may appear, it is nevertheless a fact, that the same patient is still alive, and in very good general health. He has now undergone the operation 108 times, the quantity of water taken, averaging three gallons at each operation, making an aggregate of 326 gallons, or 2,392 pounds: and notwithstanding this, he is at present able to walk about town and transact his business.

Important Discovery.

The New Orleans Delta says; Mr. Davison formerly an associate of Dr. Lardner in Scientific research, has made a very valuable discovery. It is a mode or an apparatus by which meat can be cured at all seasons and in all climates. By this process any person can cure meat thoroughly in three hours, in the warmest weather. Some three or four hundred barrels of beef thus cured, have been shipped from Houston, Texas, for New York, and some specimens of the same are now in New Orleans market, consisting of 11 barrels of beef, at the store of Messrs. Barnley, Doswell, & Co. This will prove a valuable discovery for the South, and will render her entirely independent of the North and West, for her supply of salt meat.

Lumber.

Large quantities of lumber have arrived, from the lumber regions up the Alleghany. The shore of the Alleghany is crowded with it almost as far as the eye can reach. If we continue to be distressed, says a Pittsburgh paper, with the destruction of buildings by fire, as we have been of late, lumber will be in good demand for some time to come.

An Emperor and Mechanic.

While Napoleon was on the throne a poor American came to Paris. He had an invention which he wished to show the Emperor. Napoleon paid little attention to it, and he went away. That was Robert Fulton, whose invention of the steamboat has changed the whole face of the world; who is this day bringing the ends of the earth together; and who has done more for the solid happiness of mankind than fifty Buonapartes. An account of this is to be found in Allison.

Practical Knowledge.

The interesting and highly useful articles on manufactures which appear weekly in our columns are prepared expressly for the Scientific American by two of the best practical manufacturers in this country. Mr. Gilroy is extensively known as author of the best publications on manufacturing ever published, and Mr. Montgomery, as a thorough practical mechanic and agent for one of the most flourishing manufacturing establishments in this State.

The Power of Water.

Let a strong small iron tube of thirty feet in height be inserted into the bunghole of a cask; and the aperture round so strongly closed that it shall be water tight; pour water into the cask till it is full, through the pipe; also continue filling the pipe till the cask bursts, which will be when the water is within a foot of the top of the tube. In this experiment the water, on bursting the vessel, will fly about with considerable violence.

Singular Death.

Mr. Joseph L. Ritchie, proprietor of an extensive vinegar establishment in Philadelphia, was awakened on Monday morning last, by cries and groans in the premises. He instantly rose, and on searching his vats found a colored man in one of them. In endeavoring to assist the unfortunate man out, being stifled with the noxious effluvia, or gas, rising from the liquid, himself fell in, and in that situation both perished.

Useful Article.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Polytechnic Society, in the course of a conversation on the qualities of gutta percha, it was suggested that if valuable pictures were backed with a thin coating of gutta percha, it would enable them, in a great measure, to resist the influence of the atmosphere, and render them all but imperishable.

To Make Furniture Paste.

Scrape four ounces of bees-wax into a pot, or basin, then add as much spirits of turpentine, as will moisten it through, at the same time powder one quarter of an ounce of resin and when it is dissolved to the consistency of paste, add as much Indian red as will bring it to a deep mahogany color; stir it up and it is fit for use.

A New Play.

Fifteen young men who had been employed in the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mill, says the Salem Chronicle, and who were among the best hands in the establishment, have been discharged because they took the liberty of getting up a dramatic exhibition for their own amusement! This was done, too, without informing the young men, that the management of the mill disapproved of their proceedings.

A King's Liabilities.

The Paris correspondent of the London Atlas says that Louis Philippe has quitted the country leaving behind him debts to the moderate amount of twenty five millions of francs, his custom being to pay his creditors but once in five years. It is the third year which is now elapsing. Some of his debtor's must come over when he gets here, and sue him, that's all.

The Benefit of Music.

The more we have of good instruments, the better; for all my little children, not excepting my youngest daughter, learn to play, and are preparing to fill my house with harmony against all events so that, if we have worse times, we may have better spirits.—*Bishop Berkeley.*

Lip Salve.

This is made by simmering together equal quantities of deception, and soft soap, with a portion of essence of tin. Pour in of tincture of humbug, a few drops, to flavor it, and strain it through a cant sieve. It is excellent to correct crudities of speech.

Violet Metal.

Melt three pounds of copper with one of the regulus of antimony. It is brittle, of a violet color and takes a fine polish. The copper is melted first.

The Western Art Union at Cincinnati, contains 116 paintings and 10 pieces of statuary. Among the paintings are the four composing Cole's celebrated series of the Voyage of Life, and five others from his pencil; several of Doughty, Landseer, Durand, Sully, Titian, Peale and Copley's.

A bill has passed the Senate of this State for a Rail road from Auburn to Ithaca, also a bill to preserve a fair competition between the Troy and Schenectady, and the Albany and Schenectady Railroads.

A wealthy land proprietor of Paris, recently deceased, has left 1,500,000 francs for the establishment of a beneficial institution for the relief of indigent literary persons.

A recent attempt at boring for water in Venice has proved a total failure, and has been completely abandoned, with a net loss to the French company who undertook it of three or four hundred thousand francs.

An opposition line of Telegraph from New York to Boston is proposed, to be managed by Henry O'Reilly. We understand that the merchants of Boston have taken the subject in hand.

M. Guizot and family have, as Protestants, joined the French Protestant Presbyterian church in St. Martin's le Grand, London.—Madame Guizot, the venerable mother of the ex-minister, attends the service.

The Apprentices' Library, of Philadelphia has a female department which is said to be very useful. During the past year 7,648 books, have been loaned to females, of whom 250 now use the library.

An American gentleman has offered to build a bridge across the river at St. Johns, New Brunswick, and asks no assistance nor any one to take stock till the bridge is finished.

The Mayor of Boston, in England, has declared his determination to preside at no public dinner where drinking customs are permitted.

The ship building business is carried on with great spirit in Milwaukee. Some of the new vessels, it is said, are intended to come round by the Canada canals to the Atlantic.

A captain of a vessel, from Constantinople to Wexford, and several of the crew, died from eating pork that was preserved in a lead-cistern.

A well at Mondroff is 2,200 feet deep, it is said to be the deepest in the whole world. The well of Greenville, Paris, is 1794 feet deep.

The New York Insulating Company, No. 268 Broome St., are covering twisted telegraph wire with Gutta Percha, thus protecting it from the atmosphere and being chaffed.

By the Boston Daily Mail we are informed of a recent important decision in regard to Woodworth's Patent, which we shall notice more at length next week.

The Steamship Great Britain is now for sale at Liverpool. Her repairs and the expenses to get her off, cost more than a hundred thousand dollars.

It has been said that any lawyer who writes so clearly as to be intelligible, is an enemy to his profession.

Dr. Coolidge, under sentence of death in the Maine State Prison, has been set to learn the trade of a shoemaker.

"We praise men for fighting," says a caustic writer, "and punish children for doing the same."

The magnetto electric telegraph improvement said to be invented by Messrs. Zook and Barnes, of Louisville, Ky., has not yet proved successful.

One hundred and fifty millions of dollars are invested in the Railways of France, a great part of this came from England.

The Homœopathic College in Philadelphia, has now been authorised by the Legislature to grant diplomas.