

# Scientific American.

THE ADVOCATE OF INDUSTRY, AND JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC, MECHANICAL AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

Vol. 3.

New York, May 6, 1848.

No. 33.

THE  
**SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN :**  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY  
At 128 Fulton Street, New York (Sun Building,) and  
13 Court Street, Boston, Mass.  
**By Munn & Company.**  
The Principal Office being at New York.  
**TERMS—\$3 a year—\$1 in advance, and  
the remainder in 6 months.**  
See advertisement on last page.

## Poetry.

### WORDS FOR TO DAY.

When first we wake to that great thing,  
The consciousness of power,  
It is not 'mid the gales of Spring,  
Nor in the Summer bower ;  
Stern the voice the truth to tell—  
Rugged the hand to guide—  
Bitter the struggles of the soul—  
By wo is manhood tried.

And well—oh ! well we have been tried,  
And well have we endured—  
The weary time at last is o'er,  
The triumph is insured.  
Thou who hast seen thy stricken and,  
Nor felt thy heart to break ;  
Remember ! oh, remember, thou  
Art living for her sake.

Tho' all seem crush'd, and black, and dread,  
The germs are sound within,  
Of Love, and Hope, and Happiness  
And thou their bloom shalt win—  
If 'twere as black as thunder-cloud,  
As cold as Winter snow,  
The smile of God is still above—  
The breath of God below.

It is the noblest effort here  
To triumph o'er despair—  
What angel power thou mayst acquire,  
Who shall the struggle dare—  
Believe that all the germs of night  
Are hid in suffering—  
It is the iron casket of  
The tainismanic ring.

Thou who nor loved, nor suffered, know  
Thou dost but live in part—  
A strange new land thou'lt enter when  
Those feelings rule thy heart—  
Thy soul shall ripen in their breath,  
And clothed in glory be,  
And feel the exerting consciousness  
Of immortality.

### FEARLESS AND FAITHFUL.

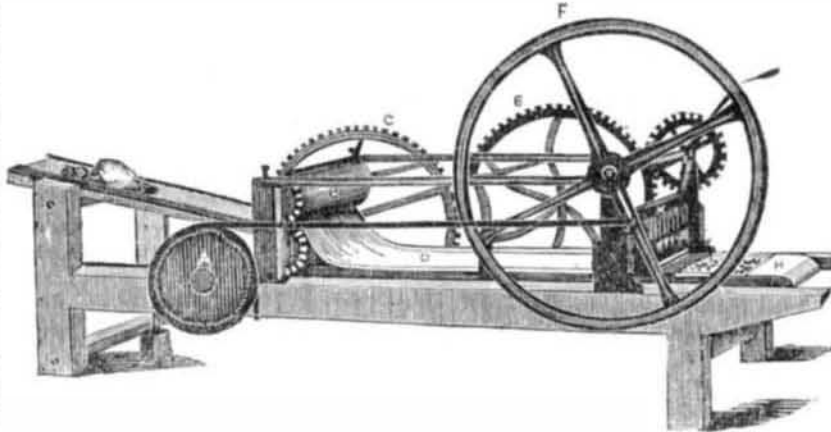
Labor fearless, labor faithful,  
Labor while the day shall last,  
For the shadows of the evening  
Soon thy sky will overcast.  
Ere shall end thy day of labor,  
Ere shall rest thy manhood's sun,  
Strive with every power within thee,  
That the appointed task be done.

Life is not the traceless shadow,  
Nor the wave upon the beach,  
Though our days are brief, yet lasting  
Is the stamp we give to each.  
Life is real, life is earnest,  
Full of labor, full of thought :  
Every hour, and every moment  
Is with living vigor fraught.

Fearless wage life's earnest conflict,  
Faithful be to thy high trust,  
If thou'lt have a memory cherished,  
And a path bright as the just.  
Labor fearless, labor faithful,  
Labor until set of sun,  
And the welcome shall await thee,  
Promised plaudit of "well done."

### NEVINS'S

### CRACKER AND BISCUIT MACHINE.



This is a machine which has long been in contest for the infringement of the invention and a final settlement has been kept back on account of a defective specification. The inventor is Mr. W. R. Nevins, of this city, and the contested point has been set up in defence that this machine was the same as one already patented by a Mr. Poole. The old patent specification was defective, and obtained previous to 1836, and has been surrendered and a reissue obtained under the management of C. M. Keller, Esq. now of this city. This machine carries the dough forward from feed rollers, on an endless web to cutters, and the web after this carries forward the cut biscuit or crackers past the cutters to be lifted therefrom by a person attending the machine. This is the distinctive feature of the invention wherein it differs from Poole's and all others, for Poole's cuts the dough on a stationary table and pushes off, not carries the crackers. We published in No 8 of this vol. of the Scientific American, a cut of Mr. Nevins's improvements on this machine, but a contested point in a patent is always of interest to inventors and patentees.

**DESCRIPTION.**—The dough is placed upon the feed table to the left, from which it is taken by feed rollers B, which roll it out the proper breadth as represented in the cut by D, and on it carried forward to the cutter box X, passing under a cutter plate where the cutters act by reciprocating motion communicated by the two cranks which attach the cutters

### American Agricultural Implements.

A number of American agricultural tools were taken over to England by a Mr. Slocum for trial with English implements, and the trial by a committee eventuated as follows. The best Northampton, and Howard's Champion plough required to turn a furrow on a clay soil 5 inches deep, and 11 inches wide, a draught of 420; the American plough 5 inches deep and 15 wide, 364. The next trial was at 8 inches deep and 11 wide, the English plough required 644 pounds, the American 588 pounds. The triers remarked: "In justice to the American plough, we must say, they cut and turned their furrows quite as well as the others, breaking the land to pieces, indeed they are the most simple, light, strong, efficient, ploughs that it is possible to conceive."

The fanning mills were equally as superior. They say, with the exception of cleaning out white caps, they "are quite equal to our best machines, and one man is able to fill more chaff into it than two can put into any of our machines; but its greatest recommendation is its cheapness, simplicity, efficiency, and expedition." "Mr. Slocum's hand machines are the strongest, lightest and most per-

fect articles that ever came under our notice." This result is rather credible to the ingenuity and good judgment of the "Universal Yankee Nation."

**Water Cure.**  
It is surprising to observe what great cures have been effected by the simple use of water, which has now become a most valuable auxiliary to the *materia medica*. A patient in one of the cold water asylums of Mass., says, after five months treatment, that he weighed 127 pounds when he entered the asylum, and has been relieved of thirty-three pounds of bad flesh, and now feels that he has been made over. The water cure is arresting the attention of our most scientific Doctors.

**Singular Error.**  
By a recent survey of Chester Co., Pa., made by accurate surveyors for the purpose of having a map drawn, it appears that Mr. Wm. Smith, who has for the last two years been a member of the Assembly of Delaware actually resides within the boundary of Pennsylvania, his dwelling being about four hundred yards from the Delaware line.

### RAIL ROAD NEWS.

#### Broad and Narrow Gauges.

Out of 3400 miles of British Railroads now opened only 300 are upon the broad gauge.—The broad gauge is 7 feet wide, the narrow is 4 feet 8½ inches. Some trips have been made on the narrow gauges lately which in point of speed have not yet been surpassed on the broad gauge. But if any person wishes to be impressed with a feeling of awe for the mighty inventions of man, one who has stood upon the Pyramids of Egypt has said that he felt far deeper sensations when he beheld a train pass him on the Great West Railroad than when gazing from the top of the Egyptian monument.

#### Whitney's Railroad.

The Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives appointed to examine into the merits of Whitney's project for a Railroad to the Pacific, have reported favorably, only one of the Committee, Mr. Maclay, reporting against it.

#### Nashville Railroad.

Mr. Garnet, the chief engineer of this road has proceeded to examine the route for the first forty miles of the Nashville, Tenn. and Chatanooga Railroad.

#### New Railroad to Philadelphia.

A number of merchants and others in Philadelphia contemplate the construction of a new and independent railroad between that city and this.

The American Railroad Journal states that there are 77 Locomotive Engines on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

We thought that the revolution in France would have unsettled the Railroads in that country, but it seems not. Our valuable exchange the *Journal des Chemins de Fer et des Mines*, has even come more regular since than before the revolution, and what is not a little pleasing to a republican the *red mark* of royalty has disappeared from the wrapper.

#### New Railroad Machine Shop.

The famous manufacturer of Locomotives, Norris of Philadelphia, has commenced a new machine shop at Schenectady, N. Y.

#### Connection between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi.

This interesting event has at length been accomplished by the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, and has been duly celebrated at Chicago. This is an event, in which Chicago has a deep and direct interest, drew out the whole population of the town, and first boat was received with deafening cheers. As if to make the baptism complete, a circuit of a mile or two was taken out in the lake. Upon passing out of the harbor, the boats were welcomed with a salute of a hundred guns. Thus has, at length, opened the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The long and eventful period that has marked its progress has at last been passed—the doubts and distrusts and uncertainties which long hung over it have vanished.

A locomotive named the "Lightning," an 8 wheel engine, with 8 feet driving wheels, made a trip recently in England of 53 miles at the rate of 75 miles an hour. The engine was perfectly steady at the highest speed.

The expedition in search of Sir John Franklin has reached Buffalo, New York, where it is to meet some persons from Montreal, who, together will set out for Hudson's Bay via Detroit, and the Salt St. Marie, in the prosecution of the voyage of exploration. Sir John Franklin, set out on this his last voyage of discovery in the year 1845.