



#### Late News.

The American steam ship *Hermann* arrived at this port last Monday from Liverpool, making the passage in about thirteen days. This is encouraging. The *Franklin* will beat this. All Europe appears to be slumbering on the verge of a volcano. The armies of France, Austria, Germany, and Russia, stand looking at each other with fierce and hostile fronts, and we may expect soon to hear that war has commenced between France and Austria. England stands with folded arms, but ready with her keen political sagacity, to step in and pick up the bone about which the dogs of war have quarrelled. Ireland is divided against itself. Her war leaders use too strong language to enable them to "speak in deeds." It is a pity for that country. The Danes are fighting with Prussia and Hanover. England favors Denmark. An army of 350,000 Russians, are concentrated on the frontiers of Poland, ready to swallow up Prussia and all Germany at once. Some may remember the significant remark of the Emperor last year after a splendid review: "This is not mere theory. I will yet lead those troops to splendid conquest."

The government of France is now a Republic, root and branch, in the most democratic form. It is in the hands of the middle classes, and Lamartine is the ruling spirit. Some peasantry have proposed to burn Lord Brougham's Chateau in Cannes. Abdel Kader is removed to the strong prison of Pau—thus showing that patriots and prisoners are one and the same thing in the eyes of a selfish government whatever its name may be. We will soon hear the news of bloodshed and scaffolds.

#### Manufacturing in New Haven.

The largest establishment in the Union for the manufacture of "Yankee Clocks" is located in New Haven. It is perfectly amusing to see the way they turn out time pieces, averaging more than thirty thousand a year, half of which are sent to Europe. They are neatly finished with mahogany cases, the interior is of brass and the average cost not beyond \$3. An infinite variety of small wares are also manufactured there, aside from the extensive commerce which is carried on with the West Indies. Vessels are constantly leaving that port with horses and mules for the Islands, where they are used upon the sugar plantations. These animals are brought from every part of the Northern and Middle States, and many come from Kentucky.

#### Sarcasm.

Counsellor Lamb, an old man, when the great Lord Erskine was in the height of his reputation, was a man of timid manners, and nervous disposition, and usually prefaced his pleadings with an apology to that effect, and on one occasion, when opposed in some cause to Erskine, he happened to remark that he felt himself growing more and more timid, as he grew older. "No wonder," replied the witty but relentless barrister, "every one knows that the older a *lamb* grows, the more *sheepish* he becomes."

#### Factories.

At Salem, Mass., a mammoth steam mill is going up, to run 40,000 spindles. At Manchester, New Hampshire, two or three mills, of the largest class are being erected. At Nashua, a large mill is also building. At Lowell the Merrimac Manufacturing Company have put up a mill 400 feet long, running 20,000 spindles, and the Hamilton Company are also about building a large mill 300 feet in length, to run 15,000 spindles.

Mr. J. R. Hind, the celebrated astronomer, announces the discovery of a new star, of the fifth magnitude, and therefore visible to the naked eye, which has just made its appearance in the constellation of Ophiuchi. This star is in a line joining Eta and Theta, rather nearer to the latter.

#### Freak of Lightning.

A singular accident with lightning lately happened at the New Hartford Manufacturing Company, Oneida Co., N. Y. The fluid passed down the rod which ran along the angle between the main building and a brick tower in front of it and adjoining, till it came to a joint. There it left the rod and perforated a brick wall, leaving a clean opening three or four inches in diameter, thence passed through the stone wall into the interior of the building. In the upper room it knocked out a block which supported one end of a spinning machine, and broke a hole through the floor by which it descended into the room below, leaving no further marks above. Here it passed along the course of two carding machines stripping them of everything combustible, then made a leap of the length of the room to a third machine, which it treated in a similar manner, and then eloped without further notice. The rooms were filled with a dense smoke, and as the accident happened in the day time the fire was extinguished after some little trouble. The damage is estimated at about two hundred dollars.

The astonishing fact that the fluid passed through a neighborhood so inflammable as the rooms of a cotton factory without producing instant and general combustion, is to be accounted for by the circumstance of its having happened on Sunday, as the last duty on Saturday was to clean the machines and rooms of all loose cotton.

#### Influence of Cleanliness.

A neat, clean, fresh aired, sweet, cheerful well arranged, and well-situated house, exercises a moral as well as physical influence over its inmates, and makes the members of a family peaceable and considerate of the feelings and happiness of each other, the connection is obvious between the state of mind thus produced, and habits of respect for others and for those higher duties and obligations which no law can enforce. On the contrary, a filthy, squalid, noxious dwelling, rendered still more wretched by its noisome site, and in which none of the decencies of life can be observed, contributes to make its unfortunate inhabitants selfish, sensual and regardless of the feelings of each other; the constant indulgence of such passions render them reckless and brutal; and the transition is natural to propensities and habits incompatible with a respect for the property of others or for the laws.

#### Miscellaneous Tree.

A gentleman of Goltitz, in Altenburgh, carried the art of engraving various kinds of fruit into a native tree so far that it contained 300 samples. This, we believe, has never been surpassed. It was a work of love with him. He appended a piece of board to each engraving which gave the tree an appearance the most amusing. The Russians who once bivouacked in the vicinity, refrained from harming it, although they cut down all its companions for fire-wood.

#### Increase of Memphis.

Memphis, Tennessee, has a population of 10 or 12,000 souls. Ten years ago, it had not more than 2,000 souls; its trade and business have increased as rapidly as its population. It has a commerce of upwards of \$5,000,000 per annum. It exports this year some 140,000 bales of cotton: ten years ago it did not ship over 20,000 bales.

#### Manufacture of Silk in the Eastern and Southern States.

Great progress is making in the western States, in the culture and weaving of silk, which we hope to see soon becoming an extensive article of American manufacture. In Ohio and Pennsylvania, they are producing silk of an excellent quality; and at Louisville Ky., there is a manufactory in operation. Most of the manufactories, both in the eastern and western States are carried on by steam. The cocoons are reeled on the machine universally known as the piedmontese reel; and the silk is spun upon a throstle machine, a modification of which makes the twisted silk.

The first fine needles made in England, were by a negro in Cheapside who kept the art a secret.

#### Conway Tubular Bridge.

This great structure which was noticed some time ago in the *Scientific American* was lowered to its permanent bed on the 24th of last month, and on the next day the first train passed through it, consisting of an engine and tender, and one carriage crowded with people anxious to pass first through the iron tunnel. Mr. Robert Stephenson in person, with his assistant, Mr. Edwin Clark were on the engine, with several gentlemen. Although an accurate infringement provided for the purpose was used, not the slightest vibration or deflection could be perceived; the train passing and repassing several times amid the cheers of the spectators assembled on the occasion. A train of ballast wagons 106 tons weight was run through, and although the wind blew a hurricane outside, no symptoms of any motion could be registered within. Thus a new era in bridge building has commenced, and a few experiments will be final in regard to the true issue of tubular bridges.

#### Distressing Occurrence.

A most distressing occurrence took place in Hadnots, Carteret county, N. C. on Sunday 23 ult. A Mr. Wilson Chance, having previously discovered a bee tree, took his son Henry, and three half brothers, Stanly and Isaiah, and James Mabley, to cut down for the purpose of hiving the bees. While taking out the honey, Isaiah, James, and Henry ate of it. On the way home, his son Henry became blind and sick. Isaiah was taken in a similar manner, and in his blindness wandered out of the path. James having eaten a small piece of the bread, as it is called, on his way homeward, was discovered to be blind and helpless. He expired in half an hour after having eaten the last piece of bee bread. Search was then made for Isaiah, whom a neighbor had found and was met carrying him home blind and helpless. By the frequent use of salt and water, Isaiah and Henry recovered the next day, but not until their lives had been despaired of. This should serve as a warning to all persons to be careful in eating honey taken from bee-trees.

This is a singular circumstance and worthy of scientific investigation.

#### A Ghost Laid.

The wonderful knocking at Haydesville, Wayne county, New York, about which a book has been written, is at length explained. One or two skeptical individuals who visited the house of Fox, where the marvel was, observed that whenever the "knocking" was audible some one, generally Fox himself, was sitting on the edge of the bed. It was also remarked that he moved his body in a wriggling manner, though very slightly. He was requested to leave the room and did so. One of the doubters took his place on the bed and by a slight movement of the body was able to produce the same knocking. The bed was then removed to another spot where it had a more steady footing. The astounding consequence was, that the knocking ceased, the Ghost was laid, and a vast quantity of faith and credulity exploded into moonshine.

#### Rice Crop.

The Georgetown Observer says, "the weather is seasonable, and our agriculturists are using it as well as they can. The inland planters, whose trunks have rotted away, and who are still endeavoring to keep up this ancient practice in the culture of rice, are trying to mend up and sprout their seed, and rely on rains to nurture the plant. After a long and dry season they have but a small hope of water enough. The tideway planters have nearly all put down their seed, and the weather is seasonable."

The following is a good idea, whoever may be the author of it.

If every pain and care we feel  
Could burn upon our brow,  
How many hearts would move to heal,  
That strive to crush us now.

In cold climates the activity of vegetable growth is suspended during winter; but in the hot or tropical regions the same thing takes place in summer.

Among the articles now sent to England from this country, we notice legs of mutton in casks, in a slightly salted and preserved state, to be manufactured there into mutton hams. If only salted they are admitted duty free, but if they have undergone the process of drying or smoking they are subject to a heavy duty.

Mr. J. D. Reid, of Philadelphia, has invented an exhaustor to carry off the electricity when lightning strikes the wires. The recent bursting of the magnet at Concord, and the constant danger to which telegraphic operators are subjected by lightning striking the wires, makes this an important invention.

A number of paintings of the old masters hastily rescued from popular violence in the late tumults, have found their way from Europe to St. John's, Newfoundland, and been sold for a trifle in comparison to their value.

Just as our paper was going to press we received another communication from Mr. E. Robbins of Syracuse, an honest and industrious lastmaker, who is another victim to the Blanchard Patent.

The whole face of the country from Croydon to Evansville, Indiana, says one of our exchanges, a distance of two hundred miles, is covered with pigeons destroying every species of grain put in the ground by the farmer.

Six years ago potatoes were selling at 25 cents per bushel, and it took six bushels at that price to pay for a bushel of corn. Now a bushel of corn will not pay for a bushel of potatoes.

The town of Springfield, Mass. is to be lighted with gas; and a sufficient amount of the capital stock of the Brooklyn, N. Y. Gas Light Co. has been taken up to warrant them in commencing operations to light that city.

A bill has passed the U. S. Senate permitting Spanish steamers to land passengers and mails in our ports without paying tonnage duties.

The recent discovery of valuable gold mines in Randolph and other counties in North Carolina, has set the whole population to examining rocks and speculating in mining lots.

Large quantities of emery have been discovered in South Australia, and at Ready Creek the supply is so abundant that miners are raising it to 5s. a ton.

The Mormons at Salt Lake, are said to be getting along very well. They have erected two saw mills and a grist mill, and have promising crops.

Some ladies of Venice have petitioned the Government to form a battalion of women, who will tend the sick, make cartridges, and help to fight!

A new steam saw mill of extraordinary dimensions is in the course of erection at Savannah, Ga. It is to be driven by three steam engines of 30 horse power each.

An Irish washerwoman at Hartford, Conn., received a letter one day last week informing her that she had fallen heir to a large fortune.

An extensive manufactory of cedar buckets from the native cedar, has been commenced at Lebanon, Alabama.

The Halifax editors are crowing over a bunch of petrified eels, found somewhere in that neighborhood.

The quantity of coal annually used in London for the manufacture of gas, is stated to amount to 125,000 tons.

Louisville, Ky., has been visited by a cloud of gnats, which covered the whole surface of houses and ground.

The telegraph line between St. Louis and Chicago is rapidly progressing.

Watches were invented in Germany, and the invention carried to England in 1580.

The machine for spinning glass was invented in England.

The first pins were made in England in Queen Elizabeth's reign.