



Lead Pipes.

Doctors Wood and Bache, in the "United States Dispensary" for 1847, when treating of the properties of lead, give the following caution: "Water should never be kept in leaden cisterns on account of the risk of dissolving a small portion of the oxide of lead. The risk is greater in proportion to the softness and purity of the water." This subject of lead pipes is attracting considerable attention at the present time in this city. A long discussion has been going on, in regard to the proper material to be used for pipes, in distributing the Cochituate water in Boston.—Doctors Wood and Bache have ever been held in high authority, and if what they state, as above, is correct, it would appear to be highly improper to use lead pipes for house distribution.

Prize Essays by Working Men.

A clergyman in Edinburg, has proposed several prizes for essays, on the temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the working classes. The competitors were to be working men in the strictest sense of the expression. The number of working men, engaged at some kind of handcraft from morning to night, who have entered the lists on this occasion, is not smaller than nine hundred and fifty. This is creditable to the intelligence of the working classes of Scotland whose population is only about that of this State.

A Bold Push for News.

It is stated that the steamer America, in her recent wonderful trip from Liverpool, experienced a slight detention from the following cause:—During the passage, a vessel was seen in the distance with signals of distress flying. Capt. Judkins immediately bore down towards her, and when within hailing distance found it to be a Dutch barque, the skipper of which inquired the news about the war in Mexico.

Railroad Accident.

A serious accident occurred on Wednesday on the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad, within about 14 miles of Richmond. The axle of the baggage car gave way when there were four persons standing outside on the platform. In consequence of the breakage, the cars came in contact with each other, when the four persons outside were more or less injured.

Wonderful Marching.

The march made upon Rosales by the Missouri troops under Col Price, will compare with anything of the kind on record. The artillery under Lieut. Love, performed the distance of three hundred miles in seven days, and the last sixty miles in twenty-four hours. This was not a masterly retreat, but a run to meet the enemy, whom they encountered entrenched behind fortifications, and overcame them, although the besieged outnumbered the besiegers three to one.

Wool Trade in Michigan.

The wool trade of Michigan increases rapidly. The crop of the State last year was estimated at 1,600,000 lbs., of which 1,000,000 was a surplus for exportation. In 1841 the amount exported did not exceed 20,000 pounds. The stock of sheep has been largely increased, during the past season, and the surplus wool of this year, it is presumed, will reach 1,500,000 pounds.

Composition of Corn.

Starch 28.40, nitrogenized matter, 4.80, fat matter (oil) 35.60, coloring matter, 0.20, cellular tissue 20.00, dextrine 2.00; various salts 7.20, loss 1.80.—1000 00.

No other grain is so well adapted for fattening animals as Indian corn, and by grain driers preserving it from the effects of sea voyagers, we may expect that grain will yet be shipped in large quantities to England, for the fattening of their cattle, as they now appreciate its value.

The Sun Flower.

This plant which always turns its face to the ruler of the day, was not used much for any thing but a horse medicine until within a few years. It has now become a valuable plant, both as a sure crop and a useful one. From it is made a great quantity of oil which burns well, and is also very good as a mixture with the best linseed, for painting. By the hydraulic press 19 bushels of sunflower seed has produced 23 gallons of oil. The demand for this oil is on the increase, and it is not an unprofitable business for a farmer to engage in who has the funds to purchase a good hydraulic press.

Model Manufactory.

A Belgium paper says that a model manufactory for elastic stuffs has been established in Western Flanders, the intention being to give work for five years to twenty five weavers and sixty workmen. Some of these workmen after having learnt the trade, are to be drafted in rotation to various other manufactories throughout the kingdom, and their places in the model manufactory will be immediately supplied by others.

Fire at East Boston.

On Monday of last week five two story brick houses were burned at East Boston. The fire was caused by a defect in the chimney. Chimneys should be carefully inspected every few weeks. There is no safety in trusting to the honesty of sparks walking through the cracks of a chimney flue to have a dance among the shavings.

An Editor in Luck.

We see by the marriage list in our New Hampshire exchanges, that John S. Walker Esq., editor of the Clairmont Eagle, was lately married to Harriet H., daughter of the late George, B Upham, of Clairmont. The bride brings to her husband as a dowry, the nice little sum of \$500,000 left her by her father.

Otto of Rose.

At the last session of the Franklin Institute, it was stated that the otto (or attar) of rose is both a volatile and essential oil, made generally in Turkey by immersing the leaves in water, when the oil rises to the surface, and is gathered by cotton. We seldom get it in its pure state, it being mixed with the oil of benseed, but this may be detected by dropping it on clean paper, and evaporating; if pure, there is no trace left of it, but if adulterated, it leaves a translucent spot. The flower from which it is made, is not similar to our roses, nor does it have the same flavor, and the otto in its concentrated form is quite disagreeable.

The Bear and the Tea-Kettle.

The bears of Kamtschatka live chiefly on fish, which they procure for themselves from the rivers. A few years ago the fish became very scarce. Emboldened by the famine, and the consequent hunger, the bears, instead of retiring to their dens, wandered about, and sometimes entered the villages. On a certain occasion one of them found the outer door of a house open, and entered it; the gate accidentally closed after him. The woman of the house had just placed a kettle of fish in the court. Bruin smelt it, but burnt his nose. Provoked at the pain, he vented all his fury on the tea kettle. He folded his arms around it, pressed it with his whole strength to crush it, but this of course burnt him the more. The horrible growling which the rage and pain forced from the poor animal, now brought the neighbors to the spot, and a few shots put Bruin out of his misery. To this day, whenever anybody injures himself by his own violence, the people of the village all call him the "bear and the tea-kettle."

New Way of Sowing.

A Spanish Peasant, when he eats a good apple, peach, or any other fruit, in a forest, or by the road side, plants the seed, and hence it is, that the wood lands and road sides of Spain have more fruit in and along them, than those of any other country.

The Toronto Examiner states that the Niagara Suspension Bridge will be ready for the passage of vehicles next week.

Health Associations.

There exists throughout the large towns of Great Britain, "Health of Towns Associations," the object of which is to ascertain the actual causes that vitiate the general health, to ascertain remedies, and to carry them into effect. The Times has lately shown that remedies cannot be applied under the laws as they are. No family can be forced, contrary to their will, from a nest of disease. Charity is no match for cupidity, for possession, for ignorance, for domination of habit and for obstinacy, all sustained by the negations of the law. Success must begin in legislation; in a just municipal economy; then intelligent philanthropy can act out its wisest dictates. Philanthropy will instruct legislation.

Splendid Prize.

It is understood that the New York Art Union have purchased the well known and very beautiful series of pictures—the Voyage of Life—painted by Mr. Cole for the late Samuel Ward, Esq., for which the artist received 6,000 dollars. These pictures will be distributed as one lot by the Art Union in December next.

Gas.

The city of Providence is taking measures to light its streets with gas. "The Almy Gas Light Co.," have commenced laying pipes and putting up fixtures, and have purchased the old theatre lot for their works. The place having been heretofore badly lighted, the inhabitants evince great joy at the new way of illumination.

A Lump of Silver.

A cake of native silver, dug from the works of the Lake Superior Company, bed of Eagle River, has just been assayed at the U. S. Mint with the following results:

Weight—6 lbs. 10 oz. avoirdupois:

Assay—95 per cent silver, 5 per cent earthy matter. Value—\$118 57, hard money.

A pocket full of such rocks would not be very bad. Money is the root of all evil but for all this Cooper Ellis used to say "recommend me to it."

What a Spike can do.

There was a grand turn out at Albany, on the 15th inst., to see a new steam ferry boat launched. The company were waiting in almost breathless expectation to see her go off—the band struck up a beautiful air—the stock was cut away, and the craft stood stock still; she would not budge an inch. After a close inspection, it was discovered that some mischievous person had driven an iron spike about a foot long, through the ways into her hull. This was finally removed, and off she went.

Fast Walking.

A young gentleman of this city, on Wednesday last undertook the feat of walking 4 miles in 40 minutes. He performed the distance in 47 minutes, thus losing the race by 7 minutes.

We saw a man who walked 24 miles in 4 hours, and did not consider the feat much of a job.

Westphalia Hams.

The following compound will give to any common ham the taste so much appreciated in that sold at Westphalia, and is recommended to those who prefer that flavor. In one hundred parts of water dissolve four parts of salt, two parts of brown sugar, one part Barbadoes tar, and one part spirits of wine. After it has been well mixed and stood for several days, three table spoonful may be mixed with the salt necessary to cure an ordinary ham.

Potatoe Disease.

In the spring of 1847, a farmer was advised by a neighbor to sow agricultural salt broadcast on the ground intended for potatoes, before it was prepared for the crop, after the rate of a peck to five square rods of land. He did so, and the crop proved a very good one, and has kept free from blemish or any particle of disease, throughout the winter to this time. On some ground adjoining he omitted to sow any salt, and the potatoe grown thereon were scabby and diseased. He came, therefore, to the conclusion, that salt is a preventive to the disease.

Improvement in St. Anthony's Falls.

A dam 16 feet high, and extending 706 feet from the Wisconsin, to a small island in the Mississippi, a short distance above the principal Fall is nearly complete. Upon this dam, (which is of heavy timber,) will be erected at intervals of space, mills to run 16 saws, and also a flouring mill. It is designed to complete the whole the present year if possible. A portion of the saws will begin to operate by the first of August. Vast bodies of timber lie contiguous to the Falls and from them the above works will be supplied.

Dust of Roads.

Forty-one Physicians of St. Louis over their signatures say that the dust arising from McAdamized roads in dry weather produces inflammation of the eyes, and by being inhaled produces various diseases of the respiratory organs, such as chronic, laryngitis, bronchitis, consumption, &c.

Be Firm.

The wind and the waves may beat against a rock, planted in a troubled sea, but it remains unmoved. Be you like that rock, young man. Vice may entice, and the song and the cup may invite. Beware. Stand firmly at your post. Let your principles shine forth unobscured. There is glory in the thought that you have resisted temptation and conquered. Your bright example will be to the world what the light-house is to the mariner upon a sea-shore. It will guide hundreds to the point of virtue and safety.

A new opathy called Isopathy has been started in Germany. According to this system, when a person is afflicted in any particular part, say the liver, or the lungs, he is dieted on the liver or lungs of animals until he is cured—or otherwise!

An acre of ground will contain one hundred and sixty fruit trees, 16 feet apart each way, 4,843 hills of corn 3 feet apart each way, 174,250 stalks of wheat six inches apart each way, 6,2722,540 blades of grass one inch apart each way.

The glass manufacturers of Philadelphia have discontinued the blowing, flattening, and cutting of glass on the Sabbath day, and they invite the co-operation of other manufacturers.

A gentleman from Wisconsin, is at present engaged on Prince Albert's farm at Windsor, England, in making experiments as to the production of Indian corn in that country.

A writer in an Irish journal, in mentioning the wreck of a vessel, rejoices that all the crew were saved, except four hogsheads of tobacco.

It is stated, that during the last forty years the colored race of the South have increased from one to three millions, at least.

The Rev. Dr. Stone, of Brooklyn, N. Y. has recently inherited an estate of \$400,000 by the decease of a gentleman in England.

Mr. Downing, agent of House's Telegraph, offers to test the merits of House's plan and Morse's on a bet of \$3000 that House's is the smartest. Mr. Smith has now a chance.

There are employed on the Canals in the State of New York, over 30,000 men, 7,000 boys, and 4000 women, making in all more than 41,000 persons.

The figures upon the magic porcelain of the Chinese, are executed in such a manner that they are invisible when the vessels are empty, but become apparent when they are filled with water.

The proportion of phosphorous in the brain of persons of sound intellect, is from 2 to 2.5 per cent. In the brain of maniacs it is from 3 to 4.5 and in the brain of idiots only from 1 to 1.5 per cent.

The best way for a man to overcome evil, is by doing good. No grief arises from reflecting upon good actions.

There are in Great Britain two millions of Sunday school scholars, taught by 260,000 teachers.