



Latest Foreign News.

By the latest foreign news it is believed that a fearful tragedy of anarchy and bloodshed was being enacted in Paris. The soldiers of the Army and the National Guards were in fierce conflict with the populace and all communication between the city and country had been cut off. It is something to be deplored, but is not supposed to be doubtful. Free institutions can only be maintained by a people educated in virtue and a respect for law. The French are intelligent, but they are volatile and easily excited.

Ireland has not yet struck the blow: on the contrary, she is more peaceful. The clubs are numerous, but it is to be feared that much money will be thrown away on mere parade.

The crops in England look well.

#### The Harvest in France.

The Paris National states that, from all quarters, the most satisfactory accounts are received of the state and prospects of the harvest. All the journals of the interior repeat that the "oldest inhabitants," cannot remember a season so favorable to the fruits of the earth. The corn is strong and well advanced. The vines are covered with grapes and flowers. The grains are abundant, and already in many parts of the country it has been necessary to mow the artificial prairies where the luzerne, the sain-foin and clover begin to suffer from excess of vegetation.

#### Charges against the Commissioner of Patents.

Charges have been preferred against Commissioner Burke of the Patent Office by Thomas G. Clinton, Assistant Examiner. Among the charges is one against the Commissioner for publishing a letter in the *Scientific American*, over the signature of "Fiat Justitia," on the 27th of May last. There are no less than 21 charges, of a very serious nature. It would have been as well for Mr. Clinton to have kept out the charge of "furnishing statements" for the *Scientific American*, as this point is beyond his proof.

#### Infringement of a Patent.

A very interesting Patent case was decided in the U. S. Circuit Court at Boston, last week, before Justice Sprague. Chester Gorham was complainant against William Mixer, for the violation of a patent granted for a machine for pressing palm leaf hats. The case occupied the court for several days. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff and damages to the amount of \$1000.

#### The Steamer United States.

This splendid vessel made her last passage out to Southampton in 12 days and 13 hours. She is evidently a superior vessel, and does honor to the mechanics who constructed her engines. After our mechanics have a little more experience in the practical of marine steam ships, a noble and superior fleet of New York built steam ships will be seen departing for all parts of the world from this port every week.

#### A Knotty Question.

A man puzzled himself with the following question—"What will be the consequence if an irresistible force should come in contact with an immovable body?" To this question he answered—"I suppose it will knock a hole in it." A wit replied—"Knock a hole in what?—the irresistible force, or the immovable body?" and added—"It is impossible to do such a thing to a force: and if the hole is knocked in the body, some part will give way, which will show that it is not immovable."

#### Power of Water.

Water running takes a power to stop it equal to its own weight multiplied by its own velocity, which is also the law governing projectiles; upon the same principle is explained the method of raising water by means of the hydraulic ram.

#### Saving of Fuel in Gas Works.

At the last meeting of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts, Mr. W. Kemp stated that he had made a valuable discovery in economizing fuel at Galashiels Gas Works. Where coal tar is burned, it has an injurious effect on the furnace bars and retorts, the greatest annoyance arising from the rapid clanking up of the furnace bars, to remove which, the fireman had frequently to throw water into the furnace, which caused the rapid destruction of the bars. To prevent this, the idea occurred to Mr. Kemp, of using the exhausted tan bark of the tan works, which had the desired effect. The force pump for injecting the tar into the furnace was next thrown aside, as it was found that the dry bark absorbed tar equal to its production at the works. His method is as follows:—The bark is dried and mixed with the coke of the gas coal, bulk for bulk: a pailfull of tar is thrown upon it, not quite so much as it will absorb, and it is then turned over. The mixture burns with a fine clear flame, attended with less smoke than formerly; the furnace bars, by remaining unclinkered, admit the oxygen freely for the combustion of the fuel. Where tan bark cannot be had, peat moss, loose and dry, makes a good substitute. Mr. Kemp stated that, in one year, £126 was saved in furnace coal.

#### Atmospheric Pressure.

Animals living upon mountains are found to have much larger lungs than those of the vallies. In the city of Mexico, which is several thousand feet above the level of the sea, consumption and pulmonary complaints are never found unless taken there, the air being much lighter, requires larger and better developed lungs in such places than in valleys, where they are contracted by the weight of the atmosphere. We are not apt to notice the weight of the atmosphere, which is equal to fifteen pounds to every square inch of the body, because it is equal in all directions.

This pressure also enables some animals and insects to walk up smooth surfaces, thus the fly has the power to form a vacuum under its feet, when the outward pressure holds it to the substance which it ascends, which is not the case with other insects; the cat and lion have this property to a limited extent.

#### Mammoth Bones.

The Memphis Eagle of the 16th inst., contains the following:—

"The huge carcass of a monster animal now extinct, was discovered in the Gayoso Bayou, in this city, one day last week, by a negro boy. The carcass lay projecting from the banks of the Bayou, about fifteen feet from the surface of the ground, and was doubtless deposited there before the Bayou was formed. The bones are said to be larger than any that have been found in Kentucky or elsewhere. They were very much decomposed, though portions of the ivory tusks, vertebrae and other bones were taken out whole. The two tusks, or five feet of them, lay side by side and measured twenty-two inches in circumference. It is unquestionably the frame of a monstrous species of graminivorous animal, existing probably anterior to the deluge, the history of which is unknown by us, even by any reliable tradition; their massive bones being the only revelation of their creation and perished existence."

#### A Splendid Sewer.

An English gentleman has taken the contract for building a sewer in 42nd, street, this City. It is to run from west of 11th avenue, to ninth avenue, with branches north and south. The bottom is to be 8 inches thick laid on stone, and the arch from the hips up is to be twelve inches thick. The diameter of the sewer is to be 8 feet 6 inches, and have stone buttments three feet wide. The whole cost will be about one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

#### Emigration from Great Britain.

Among the plans to reduce the redundant population of the British Islands, Lord Ashley has submitted a proposition to Parliament for taking 1000 boys and girls annually out of the ragged schools of the metropolis, and sending them, at the public expense, to the Australian colonies.

#### Holden's Dollar Magazine.

The August number of this public favorite is thus early in the field. We spoke highly of the July number, and from a comparison of the two can call attention to its successor in a more favorable manner. The August number contains no less than eight large engravings, including a magnificent view of Oxford, the size of a full page. Blenheim, the seat of the great Duke of Marlborough, and portraits of John Mitchell, the Irish Agitator, and Robert Holmes, his eloquent defender in the state trials. Besides these there are some dozen smaller engravings of various kinds, making in all about 20 or 22 engravings. The literary matter of this number is far superior to any of the preceding numbers, and entitles Holden's to the name of the *Blackwood of America*. The "Mysterious Huntsman," "American Notabilities," "Border Bullets," and quite a number of other articles, give evidence of this fact. We feel quite an interest in this, our favorite magazine, as it has developed the fact that a good, first class literary and illustrated magazine can be got up and afforded at *one dollar* as well as *three*, thus placing before our mechanics and working people choice literature at a price within their means. We certainly consider Holden's as a family magazine, the best in the country, and feel confident that it will ever maintain the high position it has in so short a time gained. Our country friends will see the benefit of clubbing together when they subscribe, as the price, which is nominally *one dollar a year* is not in reality over 30 cents, when a club of only \$4 is raised. Besides this there is a premium of the "Illustrated History of the Hat," which is given to each subscriber for one year. Address Charles W. Holden, 109 Nassau st., N. Y.

#### A Freak of Lightning.

We learn from Washington that upon taking down the ball from the top of the lofty lantern, which was on the dome of the Capitol, it was discovered that it had been struck one or more times by lightning. The fluid had perforated it in three different places, and then, the ball being copper, apparently coursed round the interior, until it escaped out of a single hole, nearly opposite to where it entered. The ball is about 18 inches diameter.

#### Paper Making.

It is no uncommon thing for some of our paper merchants to sell paper as it were to day, that was cotton rags yesterday. A better illustration of the power of steam could not be given, or of the progress of the age. The rags are placed in the duster, bleached, thence conveyed to the troughs, or vats, where in some kinds of paper the sizing is mixed with the pulp, and from these vats the paper passes over heated rollers, and finally between two immensely heavy rollers, which give it the glazed surface, and it is then cut, folded, packed and sent to the Railroad; all in the course of a few hours. The telegraph enables New York merchants to order paper in Massachusetts at any moment, and receive the returns, manufactured, and even ruled, by the next steamer.

#### Greasing Carriage Wheels.

The best composition that can be prepared to relieve carriage wheels and machinery from friction, is composed of hog's lard, wheat flour, and black lead (plumbago.) The lard is to be melted over a gentle fire and the other ingredients—equal in weight,—may be added, till the composition is brought to a consistence of common paste, without raising the heat to boiling point. One trial of the paste will satisfy any one of its superior quality.

#### A Compliment to the Ladies.

A minister, a short time ago, held forth to his female auditors, the following:—

"Be not proud that your blessed Lord paid you the distinguished honor of appearing first to a female after the resurrection, for it was only done that the glad tidings might spread the sooner."

#### Stopped Work.

All the cotton factories of Pittsburg stopped work on Saturday, on account of "the ten hour law," which goes into effect tomorrow. They cannot compete with factories in other states, where no such law prevails.

#### Early Harvest.

The Rochester Democrat, says—"before the hay harvest is more than begun, some of the wheat fields in this vicinity are ready for cutting. The sickle was put into one yesterday. The grain fields look yellow and promising in all directions, and next week will be an active one with our farmers." The Auburn Advertiser, observes that the yield of wheat promises to be very considerable, though it was reported that the weevil is doing much damage in the northern part of the country.

Harvest has begun in Pennsylvania two weeks earlier than usual. The yield promises to be most abundant.

#### Magnificent View.

We are informed that grounds are selected to establish a Cemetery, situated partly in Kings County, and partly in Queen's County. The grounds front on the Brooklyn and Jamaica Turnpike, and extend over the hills. They embrace the variety of a level, cultivated plain, the high land and woods, with a view of the cities of New York, Brooklyn, and Williamsburg, the Atlantic Ocean, Rockaway, Sandy Hook, and Light, New Jersey and the Palisades on the North River.

#### Marrying a Deceased Wife's Sister.

The Court of Queen's Bench, England, has recently decided against the legality of all marriages made with a deceased wife's sister. By this decision all such marriages are cancelled and declared null and void—the wives are placed in the light of concubines, the children of such marriages declared illegitimate, and all hereditary rights and claims to property totally abrogated.

#### Caution to House Keepers.

A family in Lancaster county, Pa., were, a few days since, made very ill, by eating of a sponge cake, flavored too highly with "peach water." We beg our young housekeepers to beware how they use this very agreeable and common addition to pies, confectionary, &c., as it is but a mild form of that deadly poison—Prussic acid.

#### Napoleon's Jailor.

Sir Hudson Low's defence of his conduct to Napoleon, is about to be published in England. The deceased jailor of the Emperor has left behind him twenty-seven volumes of manuscript memoranda of his conversation with Napoleon and his staff.

#### A Feat.

One of the hands on a North River steamer recently rode on the walking-beam, from Sing Sing to New York, at the rate of twenty miles an hour. The piston had fourteen feet stroke and the rider rose and fell that distance, with a velocity enough to make a spectators head ache.

#### "Laying to" on the Erie Canal.

The Albany Knickerbocker says, the wind blew so a few nights ago, that the boats on the Jordan Level had to "lay to."—As some of our readers may not know how this nautical feat is performed on the canal, we would state that a horse is fastened to each end of the boat and wallopped till the storm abates, or the vessel breaks in two in the middle.

#### Subterranean Stream.

The Hadley Falls Company, in excavating their new raceway, cut into a subterranean stream, large enough to carry a mill, flowing down the Connecticut, thirty or forty feet below the level of the railroad.

#### Increased Commerce.

The number of foreign arrivals of vessels at the port of Boston for the six months elapsed since Jan. 1, 1848, has been 1390—being an increase of 256 over the corresponding period of last year.

#### New Flour.

Several of the Millers of Washington county, Md., have already commenced the manufacture of flour from new wheat. This is something earlier than the editor of the Times recollects of having ever heard of the like being done before.

#### Death from Tobacco.

A young man in Springfield, Mass., lost his life a short time since by swallowing a large chew of tobacco during his sleep.