



New York Western R. Road.

A few months hence we shall behold a great change in the condition and operations of the central line of railroads through this State. The heavy iron track is already complete from Albany to Utica, and in the different sections between the latter place and Buffalo, the old and nearly worn-out track is being rapidly replaced by a substantial T rail. The Auburn and Rochester Company are making strenuous exertions to complete the new structure by the middle of September of the 1st of October. About 500 men are kept constantly employed along the line, at an expense of \$25,000 per month. They usually lay about seven miles of new track in a week. They could easily complete the work by the last of August, if their labors were not constantly interrupted by the passing and re-passing of the cars. The Directors of the Company have ordered a new set of locomotives of the largest class, to be used on the new road, some of which have already arrived.

The Tonawanda Company have also commenced laying a new track with the heavy T rail. The foundation is very firm, while the superstructure is laid in such a manner as to prevent all shaking and jarring, so that the traveller finds himself almost as comfortably seated as on one of the North River steamboats. The new track upon this line will not be completed till next season.

The Directors have commenced laying a new track on the Attica and Buffalo line also; we expect then to have quicker travelling along these routes. At present the locomotives on these routes, go slower than our North River Steamboats.

#### Neutral Papers.

Now is the time, in the midst of an exciting political campaign when neutral newspapers are particularly valuable and ought to be welcome visitants to every family. They attend to the things of the busy world generally, and are free from the noise and clamor of dispute. What a compound is a political sheet during a presidential contest! Here you have a column or two of speeches by nobody knows whom, upon nobody knows what; there a column or two of gas, bagatelle and braggadocio; then a column devoted to the exposure of fibs by opponents; another to what seems to be the production of the same articles; and a large balance of party scraps, slops and dish water. We fancy that the public turn from these to a neutral paper with a genuine relish, as they would from a hot sun into a shady avenue.

#### Something New for Nurses.

A coppersmith in Quincy, Ills., has just patented a tea-kettle that sings the baby to sleep. By means of a little contrivance connected with the spout, a style of melody is got up that nearly equals Jenny Lind. This is a desideratum long desired, but it is not equal to the machine *down East* where they do up their things the slickest of all this 'ere broad potatoe patch. One tinsmith in Salem has made a machine which not only sings the baby to sleep but rocks the cradle, sweeps the floor, thumps the ducks and combs the tinsmith's head with a three footed stool.

#### Nine Bars of Gold.

The product of ore taken from mines in Buckingham County, Virginia, are attracting no small share of attention in that State. It is said that the mines yield \$75 per day, while the expense of working them is only about \$18 per day. We should call that a fair profit.

#### New application of Chloroform.

Mr. Nunneley, surgeon, of Leeds, England, has announced as the result of a series of experiments with ether, chloroform, and other anæsthetic agents, that by immersion in a small quantity, or by the local application of the vapor—parts of the body may be rendered insensible to pain without affecting the brain.

#### Fair of the American Institute.

The next FAIR of the American Institute, to open on the 3d of October, will be the Twenty-first annual exhibition of that Institution in this City.—Very extensive and complete preparations have been made for a renewed exhibition of the products of American skill and industry, and the occasion will prove, as it always has done, entertaining and instructive.

Castle Garden is again selected. Excellent accommodations will be provided for all branches of the exhibition—A *separate building* is to be erected, outside the walls, for the reception of the moving machinery. It is to be about 150 feet in length, and 25 wide—the center opposite the back-door of the Fort, and extending each way 80 feet; covering a space of 3,476 square feet. A walk of five feet width is left between the building and the picket, and the height of the edifice will be about 12 feet, from floor to rafters.

By this arrangement, much additional room will be afforded in the Garden; and, to add to these conveniences, the interior of that building has undergone a number of improvements during the past few months, under the direction of its proprietors. The Bridge will be covered with a tight roof, and will be devoted, as usual, to carriages, sleighs, wagons, agricultural machinery, hydraulic apparatus, &c.

Five hundred dollars have been appropriated for handicraft of apprentices or minors, for the purpose of exciting emulation and improvement among ingenious youth. The premium lists are to embrace all the objects of Art and Industry usually encouraged by the Institute, and a separate list of the works will be kept—so that minors, the young ladies included, shall compete *only* with minors, and not with experienced and finished workmen.

There are also the offer of special premiums for Domestic Wool, for the best Fruits and Flowers, Farms and Gardens, and a Central Convention of Fruit Growers, to be held during the second week of the Fair.

#### Fair of the Maryland Institute.

The Managers of the Maryland Institute have sent us a Circular for their "first annual exhibition" to take place at Washington Hall in the City of Baltimore on Tuesday the 31st, of October next.

Medals and honorary diplomas are to be awarded as articles exhibited deserve. The managers are gentlemen whose honor and impartiality is pledged in regard to impartiality, and from them every thing is to be expected that will tend to make the Fair of the Maryland Institute, not only an honor to Baltimore, but to all America. They invite mechanics, artists, and manufacturers to exhibit the fruits of their labor and genius in Baltimore and those who go will not be disappointed. Those who wish to know all the particulars about the Fair, will get the necessary information by addressing (post paid,) Edward Needles, Cor. Secretary of the Institute, Baltimore.

#### Singular Explosion.

A short time ago at a stove factory in Rochester, N. Y. a cast iron wheel 7 feet in diameter, and weighing about 800 pounds, going almost with the speed of lightning, exploded, and scattered the fragments in every direction. At the time, a boy was on each side feeding it, and fifteen men stood in different places in the immediate vicinity, and strange to say, not one of them was injured! One piece, weighing about 100 pounds, was carried through the roof, and came to the ground some fifteen rods distant, sinking some distance beneath the surface. The escape of the boys and men is remarkable.

#### Manufacturers Moving.

The Cotton Factory owners around Pittsburgh it is said, have appointed a Committee to seek a location somewhere on the Ohio river, in Western Virginia, not too remote from the coal region, for the purpose of building up a Western Manufacturing town for cotton and woolen goods—a sort of Western Lowell—to which it is intended to remove their machinery. The object is to avoid the frequent turn-outs which now so much embarrass their business, which they think are encouraged and fomented by the presence of the crowded population in large cities.

#### The Dead Sea Expedition.

The Dead Sea exploring party have successfully and satisfactorily completed their task, and returned to Jerusalem, where they were May 19th. They sounded the sea in its parts to the depth of 600 fathoms, and found the bottom crusted with crystallized salt. The pestilential effects attributed to the waters turn out to be fabulous. Ducks were seen swimming over the surface, and partridges abounded along the shore. The party were upon the sea in their boats, or encamped on its borders, for some two months, and their researches and estimates have been of the most thorough and interesting character. All were in excellent health and spirits, no sickness or accident having occurred. By the Arabs they had been received, and uniformly treated with the utmost kindness and attention. The Syrians consider "the men of the Jordan," as they call them, the greatest heroes of the day. Lieutenants Lynch and Dale will visit under the most favourable circumstances, all the places made memorable in Scriptural history, and we may expect from them a highly interesting account of their exploration of the Dead Sea, and their adventures in the Holy Land.

#### Evil Company.

Sophonius, a wise teacher, could not suffer even his grown up sons and daughters to associate with those whose conduct was not pure and upright.

"Dear father," said the gentle Eulalia to him one day when he forbade her, in company with her brother, to visit the volatile Lucy, "dear father you must think us very childish, if you imagine that we could be exposed to danger by it." The father took in silence a dead coal from the hearth, and reached it to his daughter. "It will not burn you my child, take it."

Eulalia did so, and behold her delicate white hand was soiled and blackened, and as it chanced, her white dress also. "We cannot be too careful in handling coals," said Eulalia in vexation.

"Yes, truly," said her father, "you see my child, that coals, even if they do not burn blacken. So it is with the company of the vicious."

#### Superstition against Improvements.

The German farmers have protested against the transit of the electric telegraphs; their protest commences: "We the inhabitants of Cadenbergh, have once and again protested against the transit of the electric wires through land because they are injurious to our lives and property, and pernicious to our crops." They seem good agricultural protectionists.

#### New Potatoe.

Mr. Edwin Bryant discovered an oval root or tuber, during his California tour, which he takes the liberty of calling a new species of potatoe. It is a more agreeable esculent, he says, than the common Irish potatoe, farinaceous in its composition, and of course highly nutritious, and undoubtedly capable of cultivation in this climate. It is only about an inch in its lateral diameter. The story is not so large, at any rate, as those once told of the "Rohans." Nor the price either, we hope, knowing something about that by experience.

#### A Quaker Woman's Sermon.

My dear friends: There are three things that I very much wonder at. The first is that children should be so foolish as to throw upstones, brickbats and clubs into fruit trees, to knock down fruit: if they would only let it alone it would fall itself. The second is, that men should go to war and kill one another: if they would only let one another alone they would die themselves. And the third and last thing which I wonder at is, that young men should be so unwise as to go after young women; for if they would stay at home the young women would come after them.

The condition of the most unfortunate is also the most despised; is it not enough that they are miserable, but to enhance their affliction, they must be persecuted with ignominy and scorn. In truth, man is a very savage animal.

#### Hide not the Deed.

The day before the failure of the Canal Bank at Albany, \$1,000 of its notes were paid to workmen on the Attica and Buffalo Railroad, all of which were subsequently exchanged for good money by a Director of the Company. That director's name should not be hid.

#### Prophecies.

Philip Olivarius, a monk of Orval, in the year 1544 predicted, it is said, all the remarkable events of the present century. The following lines have long been current in Germany "I would not be a King in 1848; I would not be a soldier in 1846; I would not be a grave-digger in 1850. But I would be whatever you please in 1851."

A cake of native silver, dug from a vein belonging to the Lake Superior Company, Eagle River, has just been assayed at the U. S. Mint. The weight of the cake was 9lbs. 10 oz. avoirdupois and it yielded \$118,57 hard money.

In the course of a conversation in the House of Commons the curious fact was elicited that the streets of London had increased upon the aggregate length of no less than 200 miles between 1830 and 1848, or at the rate of about 12 miles of street per annum.

A Mexican Squash produced from seed brought from Vera Cruz, is growing at Mobile, one of the fruit measured in circumference two feet five inches by two and a half. The fruit is whitish yellow, and in flavor, far superior to the best American squashes.

Four persons were arrested in this city last week for conspiracy and fraudulent sale of a patent right, for a fish-hook. We believe they are out on bail. The duped and defrauded man we have heard, paid \$500 for the patent right.

The Air Line of Railroad belonging to the "Inventors' Institute," is reckoned to be the greatest invention of the age. Those that purchase stock will not need to purchase snuff, but those who want to buy stock had better buy the snuff first.

Letters from Tabreez mention that the heir apparent of Persia a youthful prince of 16 years of age, has taken to himself nine wives and ordered one more weekly, until they reach the full number of three hundred and sixty-five.

The rock known by the name of the Dent de Naye, which was situated at a height of 7000 feet, fell on the 3d ult. into the valley of Montroux, Switzerland, and destroyed seven houses and all the persons in them. It is said that upwards of 2000 head of cattle were killed in the fields.

Intemperance prevails to such an extent in England and Wales, that one hundred and sixty die daily of drunkenness. This fact is stated on the authority of a late report to parliament.

The telegraph between Troy, N. Y. and Montreal has been carried across the St. Lawrence, and is now working finely direct from Troy to Montreal.

In English not more than a dozen words end in *a*; about two dozen end in *o*. In *y* we have no less than 4900, about one eighth of our whole language, our words amounting to 35,000.

Probably there are no two words which more distinctly point out cause and consequence than these—gin and bitters.

No subject is so barren that something may not be well said upon it; but although the subject should be ever so barren, yet a man has still in reserve the politeness of expression, of which he may be an absolute master, and which can never fail him.

In New York there are 215 churches or chapels, while about the same population in Manchester and its neighbourhood has only 189. Not so bad that for voluntarism.

A barrel of yeast that was on board of a steamboat near Bristol, England, lately, exploded with such violence that a woman, who had unluckily seated herself on the cask, was thrown a height of ten feet in the air.