



The Fair of the American Institute.  
No. 9.

PREMIUMS AWARDED.  
SILVER MEDALS.

- E. G. Alden, Boston, Mass for best Lard Oil.  
John Vandeventer, 87 Barclay-st. for best Paste Blacking.  
Josiah Macy & Sons 189 Front-st for Refined Sperm Candles and a beautiful specimen of Patent Sperm.  
Union Whitelead Manufacturing Co. Brooklyn, for very pure Dry White Lead.  
John Johnson, 115 Broadway, for best Brass Bedstead.  
J. B. & W. Cornell, 153 Centre-st. for best Wrought-iron Bedstead.  
George W. Stillwell, Brooklyn, for best cast iron Bedstead.  
Batchler & Bensel, 101 Reede-st. beautiful cast-iron Enamelled Tables.  
Horatio Allen, Novelty Works, N. Y. for best Sofa Bedstead and Tables.  
H. W. Kingman, 438 Pearl-st. for best Sofa Bedstead.  
F. French, 475 Broadway for best Extension Tables.  
John Massy, 215 Bowery, the best Invalid Bedstead.  
Jacob Stuzer, 80 Nineteenth-st. best Caned Chair Seats.  
Joseph Bradley, 317 Pearl-st. for best gilded and inlaid Chairs, (inlaying done by G. A. Backus) 144 Fulton-st.  
Thomas Brooke, Brooklyn, for best Rosewood Parlor Chairs.  
Finn & Brothers, N. Y. for a new mode of constructing Parlor Furniture.  
John F. Genin, 214 Broadway for best Silk Hats.  
Gault & Bigelow 120 Maiden-lane, for best Otter Caps.  
Wildman, Stone & Co. Danbury, Ct. for fine water proof white Wool Hat.  
J. W. Griffiths, 618 Pearl-st. for best model of Ocean Steamers.  
Smith & Dimon, N. Y. for best model of Clipper Ship.  
S. P. Wyckoff, 304 Fourth-st. for best model of Yacht.  
J. F. Andrews, Boston, Mass. for best Steam boat Steering Apparatus.  
D. W. Canfield, 1/2 Maiden-lane for best Ready Made Linen.  
Mrs. Mary Stangman, Brooklyn, for best Worsted Worked Chairs.  
Mrs. B. R. Voorhies, Montgomery Co. N. Y. for display of domestic Manufactures.  
John Bruce, for superior finished Copper and Steel Plates.  
R. H. Towner, 306 Pearl-st. for the best Hair Seating, by power loom.  
D. R. Greenough, Clinton-st. for a model of a Balance Dock.  
J. H. Butterworth, Morris Co., N. J. for a superior Bank Lock.  
John Mayher & Co. 195 Front-st. for 2d best assortment Agricultural Implements.

Steamboats Lost on the Mississippi.

The Cairo Delta of the 9th inst. contains a list of the steamboat disasters which have happened on the Mississippi River, amounting in all to 251; by which it appears that 167 boats were sunk, 79 burnt, and 5 blown up.—The Delta says it is indebted for the list to the officers of the steamer Saint Paul, who prepared it expressly for that paper. Estimating each boat and cargo destroyed at \$20,000, the total would be \$5,000,000. The probability, is however, that the loss greatly exceeds this sum, and many of the boats were of the first class with full and valuable freights.

Curious Surgical Case.

A child a short time since in Newburg, Canada West, fell and received a large wound in the head through which the brains protruded. A portion of the brains were cut away by Dr. Cary, in all about 3 ounces, and strange to tell, the child has survived and is now well.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Elements of Chemistry and Elements of Geology.

Two neat volumes with the above titles, being Chambers Educational Course, have been laid upon our table as published by A. S. Barnes & Co. No. 51 John st. this city. This edition of the two works in question has been enlarged and improved by Dr. Reese M. D., LL.D. The works need no recommendation for merit—their fame is world wide. We solicit for them a wide circulation for they are worthy of it. Every young man should have these volumes in his possession. They are standard works, permanently useful. These are the kind of books we like to recommend—because they are instructive and beneficial.

Sartain's Union Magazine.

From the January number of the Union Magazine formerly published in this city we notice the name of Sartain prefixed to its title as above, and that the publication office has been removed to Philadelphia. We know not the cause of this move nor in what manner Mr. Sartain is connected with its publication, but we are confident that his name alone will bring it thousands of new subscribers. Mr. S. is the best mezzotint artist in the country—and if the subsequent numbers maintain the improvement which the January No. possesses over former ones, the work must succeed. Dewitt & Davenport Agents, Tribune buildings, N. Y.

Berford's World as it Moves.

The first number of this weekly Magazine has been laid upon our table. It is a Magazine originated by Mr. Berford, No. 2 Astor House, who in admiration of the heroic conduct of Frederick Jerome, the sailor, has made him a partner in the work.

This number contains a short biography of the daring sailor, which will be found interesting. The contents are varied and good, the most curious and interesting of which is an article from a recent work of Dr. Davidson of N. J. on Bodily Agitations (Religious Extravaganzas) in Kentucky. This Magazine will be issued weekly at No. 2 Astor House, it contains 40 pages of closely printed matter and is only 12½ cents per number, and it has already arrived to a great circulation.

Money-penny, or the Heart of the World.

An interesting romance of the above title has been laid upon our table and from a hasty perusal of its contents we are inclined to recommend it as an interesting and amusing story. It represents in a faithful manner the upper and lower walks of New York life. Illustrated—price 25 cents. Published by Dewitt & Davenport, Tribune buildings.

The Prairie Farmer.

This is an Agricultural Magazine published monthly by Messrs. John and Amrose Wright, at Chicago, Ill. which deservedly ranks high among our Western farmers, not one of whom in all Illinois should be without it.

Statistics of Metallic Manufactures in France.

The number of French locomotives in France in 1842 was equal to that of those manufactured in foreign countries; in 1843, there were 2 more; in 1844, 44 more; in 1845, 76 more; in 1846, 161 more. In the latter year there were 273 steamboats belonging to private persons and companies, sea-going and navigating the rivers. There were employed in France, in 1846, 4,395 steam engines, of a force equivalent to the power of 2,097,025 men.

It is calculated that there is at this present moment more than one third of these engines in *statu quo*. By next year however, if there be peace, all will be prosperous again.

Labor Saving Machinery.

One of the advantages of labor saving machinery is that not only is work done with far greater rapidity, but is infinitely better done, and much easier done. Is a plain surface required? the machine furnishes it better than man can with all his skill. Is a shaft required the sliding lathe shall present it, perfect, in all its proportions.—Is an immense cylinder required to be bored out exact in its dimensions, the machine with scarcely the intervention of a master accomplishes the task. The machine shop has its wonders and beauties, visible only to the eye of the initiated.

Steam and Charcoal Kilns.

Messrs. Editors—I noticed in the Scientific American an account of a patent taken out in England for cooling coke and charcoal in kilns. The Hammonds, at Crown Point, eject steam into their kilns for this purpose, and it is said to good advantage. My son made a tin tube for them to convey steam to the kiln.

I would also state what may seem new to some of your readers, viz. that slacked lime flung into a spring or pool brings *frogs and fish to the top of the water*. Mr. George Farnum, of this town, caught 412 frogs at one time last summer, by this process.

CLARK RICH.

Shoreham, Vt. Nov. 1848.

[The employment of slacked lime to destroy fish in streams, is known to many. There are penal laws in Britain and Ireland against its use for this purpose. The small beautiful yellow frog does good to springs instead of injury, as it lives upon worms, &c., but all wells should certainly be treated to some slacked lime every summer, to destroy the hideous black frog, &c.—Ed.]

Adams' Steam Gauge Cock.

We hereby publish the certificate of several gentlemen respecting Mr. Adams' Steam Gauge Cock, an engraving of which we published in the Scientific American of last week.

"We the undersigned, having examined the improved Water Gauge for ascertaining the height of water in steam boilers, invented by John Adams of the city of Rochester, N. Y., are decidedly of the opinion that it is far superior to any thing of the kind now in use and must eventually be universally adopted.

John Hebard, official inspector of steamboats for Buffalo; S. T. Newhall, engineer of steam boat Empire State, from Philadelphia; Wm. Wingart, engineer of steamboat Michigan; M. Diffanlaugh, engineer of steamboat Baltimore; John Finney, engineer, Buffalo; C. H. Waterhouse, do do; Clark Wiley, engineer, Philadelphia; Wm. E. Cooper, engineer, Lockport.

A Suspension Bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis.

The project of bridging the Father of Waters might at first seem a little extravagant, but such a thing is positively practicable, and Mr. Ellet, who has already succeeded in connecting opposite shores under as great difficulties for the purpose of facilitating travel and business, now proposes that applications shall be made by the citizens of Missouri and Illinois during the next Legislature to procure a charter to construct a suspension bridge over the river at St. Louis. He proposes that a cheap bridge supported on wooden towers, but of ample strength and width to withstand the weights to be borne, or the gales to be resisted, can be first built and successfully used for many years; and then, when the inclination of the shareholders, or the accumulated profits of the work will justify it the wooden towers may give place to stone, and a more extravagant structure supersede the first, with but little waste of labor or valuable material, and without any intermission of the travel.

The Telonkonphonon.

This is the scientific name applied to a speaking trumpet made of gutta percha and exhibited before the last meeting of the British Association at Sawney, Wales, by a Mr. Whishaw. It was exhibited as a tube or speaking Telegraph.

We have no doubt but that Gutta Percha would make a good speaking trumpet, but, we positively deny that it is a new invention of a *speaking* Telegraph, although plastered with the name of Telonkonphonon. Speaking tubes are old and it is a consolation for poor ignorant mortals sometimes to know that learned societies are sometimes humbugged with old inventions having new names, like an old veteran with a new wig.

We learn from the Boston Advertiser that the King of Denmark has directed the Comet Medal, founded by one of his predecessors, to be awarded to Miss Maria Mitchell of Nantucket, for her discovery of the telescopic comet of 1st of October, 1847. This is the first instance in which the Comet medal of the King of Denmark has been awarded to a lady.

The Onondaga Coal.

The Syracuse Journal of the 28th ult., has an article on this subject from which we extract the following:

"Instead of finding massive pieces of Coal, it appears to be only a thin strata of what is supposed to be anthracite, and imbedded in such rocks as could not have been formed without consuming its elementary combustible material. We believe it is a fixed fact that where there is an abundance of lime and sulphur as the component parts of the rock formation, Coal cannot be found, except in very inconsiderable quantities. We therefore did not give currency to those statements, and particularly after having been informed that this is not the first time the discovery has been made. Should Coal be found in Camillus to any extent, the scientific world will find a new and ample field for study; and Onondaga County would derive more profit from it than any other county in the State. Indeed, the whole State is interested in the result, yet with but little foundation for public expectation."

Millet.

The American Journal of Agricultural Science, for September, contains an article by Professor Emmons, on the cultivation of Millet. The larger millet is much cultivated in some parts of Europe. Germany for example, where it is seen in the markets, prepared by separation from the husk, in the form of beautiful grains, perfectly round, of a golden color. It is used in soups, and, boiled by itself with water, it forms an excellent and very wholesome kind of hominy. Professor Emmons has subjected millet to an analysis in order to determine the portion of nutritive matter it contains. He finds that "compared with wheat or Indian corn, except in oil, it exceeds both in its power of sustaining life." The grain is "rich in the elements which produce bone and muscle, and its straw is not deficient in the elements common to the cultivated grasses." He thinks it might be cultivated in this country with profit as food for animals, as it yields from sixty-five to seventy bushels to the acre.

Wages.

A correspondent of the London Observer states it as a fact that, for several seasons, Mr. Macready received £100 and £120 a week in London; and that lately, at a minor theatre, he was paid the ruinous sum of £70 a night; that at another theatre it is said that £200 a week was last season paid to two performers, which is a larger sum than is given to the commander-in-chief of an army, the Lord Chancellor, the Chief-Justice of England or the Prime Minister.

So goes the world. A first-rate play-actor will receive for one night's service more than a hard-working laborer can earn in a year, any quantity of glory and adulation thrown in to boot; and a Jenny Lind will exchange her dulcet notes for bank notes, by the hundred per diem, while the daughter of toil can with difficulty keep soul and body together, by plying the needle from early morn till midnight. There are many wrongs to be righted in this world, before the good time coming, of which poets speak, will appear.

But whosoever maketh wrong should be slow to complain of others.

Rebuilding of the Temple.

A Jewish Rabbi from the city of Jerusalem is now in New-York soliciting funds to aid in building a magnificent synagogue, or in rebuilding the temple at Jerusalem, the Turkish Sultan having given them the authority to do so. On Thanksgiving day, the subject was presented by M. M. Noah to the consideration of the synagogue in Crosby-street.

Convention of Cotton Planters.

The Charleston Mercury, Augusta Constitutionalist, and other Southern papers, are endeavoring to get up a Convention of Cotton planters, to take into consideration the depressed condition of the great staple of the South.

In the last number of the London Medical Times, in an article on the reappearance of the scurvy, and alluding to its having been on board the Raritan, Potomac, and Falmouth, while operating in the Gulf. It says the American nation should demand the dismissal of the medical staff connected with our naval service.