

Miscellaneous.

New York State Fair.

The Annual Agricultural Fair, closed the exhibition at Syracuse last week. It was the largest Fair that ever was held. The cattle were excellent, especially the horses and sheep. The agricultural implements that were exhibited, showed signs of improvement. There were no less than three or four hundred agricultural implements. Reaction Water Wheels, Cultivators, Ploughs, Horse Powers, Pumps, Straw Cutters, Threshers, &c., all of which gave evidence of increasing ingenuity and care in the construction of such valuable auxiliaries to the farmer. In this department, the influence of the Scientific American, was distinctly observable. No good farmers can be content with poor tools. The best articles, although highest in price at first, are always cheapest in the end.

Prof. Johnston delivered the address. He is well known for his writings on Agriculture, and came over from Britain by invitation to deliver it. Our yeomen make brothers of all the human family who follow the same occupation. The theme of the address, was the state of agriculture in Europe, especially in Scotland, the land of the Professor. The matter was excellent, although the delivery was not first rate, but some how or other, it was attractive. These Fairs do much good, and none that has preceded the present one, has done so much to whet the minds of our farmers, with the important object of "Excelsior."

Interesting Railroad Trial.

A trial is just concluded in Doylestown, Bucks county Pa., which involved the question whether the Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad Company, through its agents, had power to enforce the rule they have adopted of making a difference in the prices of fare between way and through passengers. Mr. Bodine, who took his seat at Jersey City for Trenton, but put his baggage in the car for Philadelphia, was ejected at Bristol, for not paying the continuation fare (\$1.50) instead of 75 cents, which is the amount charged for way passengers from Trenton to Philadelphia. The Court in charging the jury held that the company had authority to make the regulation alluded to; that the regulation was in itself a reasonable one, to which the public are bound to conform. If they could not fix their own standard of fare, every man who took his seat in the cars might regulate his fare to suit himself, and involve the company in an endless sea of troubles. The Court also administered a rebuke on the effort to throw the cry of "monopoly" in the jury box. It was their duty to try the case upon the law and evidence, without any regard to the prejudices and passions of the community. The jury, after deliberating about eight hours, came into Court with a verdict of "not guilty." This decision will put the question to rest.

Great Balloon Ascension.—American Aeronautes.

An English paper says that Mr. Charles Green, being determined to show the public that the late accident to the Nassau balloon was one that had occasioned no injury, ascended from the fire-work grounds at Vauxhall Gardens, in sight of some thousands of spectators, whom curiosity, more intense since the reported mishap, had brought together to witness the result. The balloon had two cars attached to it—one below the other. In the upper one were Mr. Risley, the celebrated American Athletic; Hernandez, the well known equestrian; Mr. Rush, who has so often accompanied Mr. Green in his trips; Mr. Ferrar, who was one of the gentleman who alighted last week on the house on the London road; Miss Orme, Miss Forresh, and Mr. C. Green himself. In the lower car were Mr. Henry Green, Mr. R. David and two other gentlemen. The balloon was completely inflated, and notwithstanding the great weight of the passengers and apparatus, it rose most rapidly and almost immediately obtained an immense elevation.

New Steamship Ohio.

This new steamship made her trial trip on last Saturday. A large party was on board, and it seems that the run down the Bay was anything but agreeable, to a great number who were on board, the one calling the other Vandals, as a great number of spurious cards of invitation were printed, and more than double the number of the real invited, were on board to have a share in the puddings and pastry.—The Ohio draws 19 feet of water, is 275 feet in deck length, 45 feet beam and 33 feet deep.—She was built by Messrs Bishop & Simonson.—She has two engines built by Secor & Co the cylinder of each being 7 feet 6 inches dia. and 8 feet stroke, very powerful indeed, she, like the Cunard liners is built to be fitted in a short time, for a vessel of war, a bargain with our government having been made to that effect. The Ohio did very well. Why not give her a trial across the Atlantic.

Growth of our Cities.

The growth of American cities is unparalleled in the history of the world. Already half a million are embraced within the limits and suburbs of New York; and nearly four hundred thousand in that of Philadelphia.—New Orleans contains about one hundred and fifty, Boston, one hundred and thirty, and Baltimore, one hundred and five thousand inhabitants. The second child born in Cincinnati, it is said, is still living, and has not reached the middle age of life. The city has a population of more than one hundred thousand. The population of St. Louis was one thousand six hundred in 1810; sixteen thousand in 1840; forty thousand in 1845; and is now probably not less than sixty thousand. Buffalo contained two thousand four hundred and twelve in 1825; in 1846, twenty-nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-three; and now contains about forty-five thousand. In 1828, the population of Lowell was three thousand five hundred and thirty-two; it is now more than thirty thousand. Chicago, a place scarcely known on the latest maps, has already reached a population of eighteen thousand; and Milwaukee, of still more recent origin, is rivaling it in its growth and population.

Prize for Artists.

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts offer prizes amounting to \$1500 to any artist whose work, approved by a committee, shall consist of a picture on some Historical, Scriptural, or Dramatic subject in size not less than 50 inches by 40; to be delivered at the Academy on or before April 10, 1850. The prizes are to be distributed as follows: One prize of \$740, one of \$500, and one of \$250. The directors further offer one prize of \$300 and one of \$200 for pictures which shall consist of landscapes or Marine Views, and not less in size than 54 by 40 inches. On payment of the money the pictures shall become the property of the Academy. If the artists desire their successful productions to remain for sale, they shall be taken care of, without any charge or expense to the artist, and every effort will be made to dispose of them to the best advantage.

Curious Flower Amalgamation.

The Van Buren, Ark., Intelligencer says that Mr. E. B. Bishop of the place has a flower which partakes of the cypress and morning glory.

A year ago, the seed of the morning glory and cypress were planted together so as to entwine each other. This year three vines came up and produced, each, a different leaf and flower; the morning glory has a natural shaped leaf, with a deep orange colored flower, small and round shaped; the cypress produced leaves and flowers perfectly natural; and the amalgamation produces leaves as large as the morning glory, with half their size, divided out in small spangles like the cypress, producing a flower of beautiful vermilion red, and half way between the other two in size.

A correspondent writes to us that the best way to plant lima beans, is in hills of 4 or 5 beans in clayey loam soil.

Sixty miles of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad Vt., is laid, and the cars are running 28 miles on it, from Bellows Falls to Ludlow

Sir John Franklin.

An English paper states that the Rev. Dr. Scoresby delivered a lecture last month in England, "On the Hopes and Fears concerning the absent Arctic Expeditions." The lecturer who has explored those regions himself, and whose father made several important discoveries in arctic navigation, first entered into an historical account of the different discoveries made in those parts, and then entered into the more immediate subject of the lecture. He (Dr. S.) is of opinion that the hopes of Sir John Franklin and his company ought yet to outweigh the fears for many reasons: first, because the first summer they were out has been proved to have been a bad one for making researches in those seas, which would of course delay them; secondly, that Sir J. Franklin knowing that this would be the last expedition that in all probability would be sent out, would naturally endeavor to make the most of it; and thirdly, that although he only carried out provisions for three years, yet, when seeing that he was likely to be longer detained, he would begin to lessen the quantity of victuals served out to the men, as one-half the full quantity allowed is sufficient to keep a man in health, and therefore he was not likely to suffer on that account saying nothing of the occasional supply of seals, birds &c., which abound in those regions. The lecturer also showed from a map the different places where he supposed they could quarter safely for the winter. He thought, however, after all, that, if we received no intelligence from them before the end of the Autumn, the chances in their favor would be greatly lessened.

John Banvard and his Panorama.

John Banvard has given a free admission to his panorama to all the charity children and ragged schools in the parish of St. James, in which his panorama is exhibited, they are received in detachments, and the wonder and delight manifested by these poor children, in this to them rare and peculiar indulgence are not easy to be conceived. We may add that the great success of Banvard has had the usual effect. Numerous imitations are now exhibiting in the country, and one of these has the anning to state in its handbills and advertisements—"This is the very subject exhibited before her Majesty at Windsor."—London Paper.

General Burgoyne's Watch.

Mr. Baldwin, a gentleman of Newark N. J. while travelling through the state of New York, came across a venerable Dutchman, who had in his possession a watch which formerly belonged to the British General, Burgoyne, of Revolutionary memory. Mr. Baldwin succeeded in purchasing the watch. Upon it was engraved the name of the former owner. It is very large being from 3 to 31.2 inches in diameter, and about three-fourths an inch thick, and would probably weigh about seven or eight ounces.

Singular Bad and Good Luck.

On the 8th inst., one of the largest stock brokers in Baltimore, after drawing money at two of the banks, amounting to \$4,700, started in a hack to his deposit bank; but before he proceeded far discovered that his purse was gone! He immediately stopped the hack and set out on a pedestrian search, but could not find it, and was just about to abandon the hope of finding it, when the driver discovered it lying by the side of the curbstone. The feelings of the loser, *just then*, we will not attempt to describe.

To Treat Dog Bites.

When any one is bitten by a mad dog, unquestionably mad, take a carving fork and break off one prong, and eat the other in the hottest part of a common fire; apply this thoroughly to the whole of the bite, so as to destroy the surrounding arts. If a surgeon be within half an hour's journey, tie a string tightly immediately above the part, and use all possible dispatch to secure his aid.

Southern Machine Shop.

Messrs. Poe & Co., of Augusta Geo., have commenced the erection of a machine shop, for the construction of cotton machinery such as power looms, &c.

To Inventors.

Those who wish to have engravings of inventions inserted in the Scientific American during the three weeks of the great Fair of the American Institute, in this city, next month, are requested to forward their models or drawings to this office as soon as possible. Models may be sent by express; drawings by mail.—During the continuance of the Fair we shall issue extra editions of our paper for circulation among the many thousand visitors who annually attend. Those who can should embrace this opportunity, for it is a rare one, of having them illustrated and noticed, there is no doubt that a great many rights may in this way be disposed of. The Scientific American is about the only paper upon which people depend for information about mechanical inventions.

Read This.

We send 5,000 copies of this week's number of the Scientific American, to inventors and mechanics throughout the United States, that they may see the work and thereby become induced to subscribe.

Inventors and mechanics will you not liberally support the journal that advocates your interests and enlightens your understanding?—Show your approbation of the cause we advocate by subscribing, to what is termed by all "the cheapest and best mechanical paper in the world." This number commences a new volume, and therefore is the most favorable time for subscribing.—Peruse the prospectus on the last page and make "particular note" of the inducements there offered to clubs.

Sending Receipts.

It is impossible for us to enclose receipts to our subscribers in the paper without violating the Post Office laws and thereby rendering our ourselves liable to be fined. But all persons who receive the paper may take it for granted that their money has come to hand, or that the time for which they have formerly paid has not expired, for in no case do we continue sending unless the pay has been received in advance.

Steam Frigate.

A large steam frigate, to be called the Susquehanna, is being built at Philadelphia. She will be 80 feet longer than the great ship of the line, the Pennsylvania, but her breadth of beam will be much less, and her tonnage but 2500.—Her machinery will cost \$300,000—the four boilers alone \$30,000—and the whole vessel, when completed, about \$600,000. Her crew will consist of about 300 men. It is expected she will be launched in about six months.

Strange Mechanical Fancy.

There is confined in the Commercial Hospital, in Cincinnati, a crazy cabinet-maker, who is permitted to follow his business, there have been placed in his sleeping apartment all necessary tools pertaining to his trade. The beautiful work he manufactures excites the admiration of all, and not one article is allowed to leave his little shop without having a secret apartment, which he ingeniously contrives.

Singular Accident.

Mr. Chas. Green was knocked down by a plank falling on his head, at St. Louis, on the 28th ult., and laid insensible for about an hour. On coming to himself, he was but little injured, and his senses were perfect in every respect except that he had lost all memory of his past life and all past events.

[Does this point to a chamber of the human mind, on the walls of which are inscribed the images and events that we have seen and heard, which, like a panorama, can be made to pass at will before us?]

The Britania Bridge.

The Britania Tubular Bridge over the Menai Straits in Wales, England, has been arrested in its progress for some time, by the bursting of one of the hydraulic rams, during the raising of the first tube. The tube was raised 21 feet. The cause of the bursting was a defect in the iron of the ram.

On the 12th inst., a fire broke out in the Auburn State Prison N. Y., which destroyed considerable property both in the tool shop, and cooper's shop.