

## Miscellaneous.

## Interesting Trial of Rope.

A test trial, says the Cincinnati Commercial, of Manila and Kyanized American rope, was had on Saturday last, at Griffey's Foundry, which resulted most favorably to the American manufacture. The parties met at about three o'clock, P. M., and immediately proceeded to the trial. A small Manila rope, of the best quality of Boston make, was first tried, and was broken, after sustaining a weight of 1520 pounds. The Kyanized rope, invented and manufactured by J. T. Crook & Co., of Maysville, was then put to the same test, and sustained a weight of 2320 pounds before parting. A second trial was then had of the same size of Manila rope, which sustained a weight of 2200 pounds. A second trial was then also had of the Kyanized rope, and sustained a pressure of 2410 pounds. Two trials were then had with a larger size of the Manila rope, manufactured by Bonte, which parted first at 2840 pounds, and on the second trial at 2796 pounds. One trial was then made with the Kyanized rope, which sustained the weight of 3220 pounds before parting. The average difference in favour of the Kyanized unrotted hemp rope being in the first trials 500 pounds, and in the last trial 400 pounds. This shows that the Manila rope, which has always been considered the best that was ever used, is far inferior to the American unrotted hemp rope. The Kyanized rope is manufactured from the unrotted hemp, and is not only the strongest rope made, but by the chemical process of Kyanizing, is by far the most durable.

## Yankee Wonders.

The Mexicans on the frontier said, when the American army was in Mexico, that it never rained so much in their country before, and they attributed it to the coming of the Yankees. The same is also said to have been the case in California; and Col. Doniphan's expedition, when perishing with thirst in a sandy desert in the midst of a dry season, was refreshed by a heavy shower of rain, said by the oldest natives never to have occurred before at that season. Now, according to the last accounts from California, a still greater wonder has happened. A letter from the government surveying party, at San Diego, says a river 20 yards wide and 10 feet deep has burst forth in the middle of the great desert, which is 90 miles wide, between the San Diego and the mouth of the Gila. The Indians are described as frightened by its appearance and lay it all to the Yankees.

## How Many Miles a Printer's Hand Travels.

Although a printer may be setting all day, yet in his own way he is a great traveller, or at least his hand is, as we shall prove. A good printer will set 8,000 ems a day, or about 24,000 letters. The distance travelled over by his hand will average about one foot per letter, going to the boxes in which they are contained, and of course returning, making two feet every letter he sets. This would make a distance each day of 48,000 feet, or a little more than 9 miles; and in the course of a year, leaving out the Sundays, that member travels about 3,000 miles!

## Bleeding at the Nose.

Dr. Samuel R. Smith of Tomkinsville, Staten Island, New York, communicated to the Boston Medical Journal a method of stopping bleedings at the nose, which he learned of an old shipmaster. His process was to roll up a piece of paper and place it under the upper lip. Dr. Smith stopped bleeding which had continued four days, by tying a knot in a bandage and applying it on the upper lip, and tying the bandage round the head. The rationale of this treatment is, that pressure at the point mentioned compresses the artery furnishing the blood.

## Quick Sailing.

The Cunard steamer Canada, in her last passage to England, made eight hundred and ninety-two miles in three successive days—a greater speed, we believe, than was ever main-

tained for so long a period at one time by any of the line steamers.

## Extraordinary Phenomena.

A communication in the New York Evening Post, says: Saturday, about 3 o'clock, P. M., an electric current, of great depth of volume, extended from below the horizon in the southwest, to and beyond the horizon in the northwest; its northern edge was about 20 degrees south of the zenith, and perfectly straight; it had great intensity of force, and continued for several hours. Before sunset I repaired to the western edge of the Brooklyn Heights, in order to watch the effect of the sun's rays upon this current. When that luminary passed below the horizon, the sun's rays first rested on the extreme south-western portion of the electric current, and imparted to it the richest and most beautiful coloring I ever beheld; this coloring gradually extended until the whole current was decorated, and the visible arc became lighted up by the brilliant coruscations—it was splendid beyond description, but it was a fearful exhibition of a tremor of the earth—it was the bright blossoming of an earthquake of great energy, in which lightning, thunder and snow were born. An equilibrium had both preceded and succeeded this phenomena, followed by an equilibrium of more than nine hours' duration, the first of 53 degrees on the wires, and the second of 48 degrees. A rain storm here followed, and the air was of high temperature. There was a lurid glow resting on the earth while this illumination continued, and it had a quivering, tremulous motion, and there was an invisible current in the lower atmosphere, and I could realize in my breathing that I was inhaling winged air.

[The above would be very interesting, if the eloquence of its inditement did not smell so strong of hash nonsense. Just think of the "bright blossoms of an earthquake of great energy, in which thunder, lightning and snow were born."

## Exploration.

Mr. Charles Whittlesey is at Green Bay for the purpose of engaging a corps of *voyaguers* to accompany him on a geological and mineralogical exploring expedition in the region North and West of that place lying between the Menomonee and Wolf rivers. Mr. W. is engaged by the Government, and his report will be looked for with a great deal of interest as he has the experience and ability requisite for the service, and the region through which he will pass is supposed to abound in mineral and interesting geological formations. Mr. Foster, passed through from Lake Superior to Green Bay, following down the Menomonee in 1848, discovered in his hurried passage extensive iron deposits, beautiful flesh-colored limestone, nearly approaching to marble, and other interesting features in the Menomonee country. The worn-out condition of his men prevented his enlarging upon these discoveries.—Mr. W. will commence near where Mr. F. passed, and going westward will come down the Wolf, making such extensive observations as the lateness of the season will allow.

## The Crops in France.

Vintage has commenced in the South. The quantity of grapes will be about an average—perhaps rather less than last year. In Champagne the yield is abundant and the fruit of excellent ripeness. Wheat produces an ordinary crop throughout France. Cider is three times as abundant as in ordinary years. Flax has been injured by the bad weather, but the portion untouched by hail is superior. Throughout the western departments the potato crop is described as magnificent and without the slightest taint.

## Alabama Coal.

The Chief Engineer and the Commander of the British Steamship Dee, have given a certificate that 106 tons of Tuscaloosa coal is equal to the best Welsh, with which that vessel used to be furnished in the West Indies. This is very important information to the Alabamians.—Mobile will soon be a great entrepot for British vessels trading, by the New Navigation Regulations between the West Indies and the United States.

## American Institute—Gold Medals Awarded.

- For best Bank Locks, to J. H. Butterworth & Co. Dover, N. J.  
 For best Piano-Forte, to David I. Van Winkle, New York.  
 For superior Leather Hose and Pipes, to J. H. Bowie & Co. New York.  
 For best Gas Fixtures, Chandeliers and Candelabras, to Cornelius & Co. Philadelphia.  
 For an Equatorial Telescope, to Henry Fitz, New York.  
 For an Ore Separator, a beautiful application of Modern Science, to Ransom Cook, Saratoga Springs.  
 For best American Steel, to Adirondack Steel Manufacturing Co., Jersey City.  
 For best Grist-Mill, to E. Harrison, New Haven, Conn.  
 For best improved Cloth-Shearing Machine, with Self-acting List-Guards, to Davidson, Park & Woolson, Springfield, Vt.  
 For best Iron-Planing Machine, to G. B. Hartson, New York.  
 For best Improved Ventilating Smut-Machine, to Leonard Smith, Troy, N. Y.  
 For a Gold-Melting Furnace, to Barron Brothers, New York.  
 For a Lathe for Face-Turning Screws and Gear Cutting combined, a superior article, to G. B. Hartson, New York.  
 For improved Cop-Spinning and Winding Machine, to J. C. Dodge & Sons, Dodgeville, Mass.  
 For Swords of elegant workmanship, to Ames Manufacturing Co., James F. Ames Agent.  
 For best specimens of Velvet Tapestry Carpeting, to A. & E. S. Higgins, New-York.  
 For best specimen of Enamel Wares to Alexander Marshall, New York.  
 For best specimens of Flint Colored, Plain, and Cut Glass, to Brooklyn Flint Glass Co.  
 For Pen and Pocket Cutlery, to Waterville Manufacturing Co., Waterbury, Conn.  
 For best Table Cutlery, to Pratt, Roper, Webb & Co.  
 For best Daguerreotypes, to M. B. Brady, New York.  
 For best Lithography, to Edward Lawrence, New York.  
 For best Statuary-Marble Mantel-Piece, to M. G. Lenghi, New York.  
 For best Black Broadcloth, to Derastus Kellogg, Skaneateles, N. Y.  
 For best Cassimeres, to Burlington Mills Company, Burlington, Vt.  
 For best Fancy Cassimeres, to Millville Manufacturing Company, Millville, Mass.  
 For best Woolen Long-Shawls, to Bay State Mills, Lawrence, Mass.  
 For superior Twilled Jeans, to the New York Mills.  
 For best Cashmere d'Ecosse, to Robert Rennie, Lodi Print-works.  
 For Fine and Coarse Hemp, to Henry Alexander, Mason Co., Kentucky.  
 For India-Rubber Goods, with some improvements over last year, to Union India-Rubber Company, New York.

## SPECIAL PREMIUMS.

- For a piece of Bleached Linen Sheeting, woven by Power Loom, to Henry H. Stevens, Webster, Mass.—Tallmadge Premium (Gold Medal.)  
 For best piece Silk, 27 inches wide and 60 yards length—Van Schaick Premium, \$60 and Bronze Medal.  
 For best Silk for Handkerchief, 25 yards length—Van Schaick Premium, \$20 and Bronze Medal.  
 For best 10 pounds Reeled (Raw) Silk—Van Schaick Premium, \$10 and Bronze Medal.

Complaints are made that the new florin, coined at the mint in London, bears upon it the form of a cross. The master of the mint is a Roman Catholic.

GUANO.—Farmers in the Virginia valley are beginning to appreciate the value of this concentrated manure. Two farmers of Clarke have lately received five tons each.

A writer in the Lowell Courier proposes that a Fair should be held there, in the Fall of next year, and suggests a race between three locomotives.

## The Common Hemlock for Hedges.

Attention is now being directed to the common American hemlock as a substitute for the thorn and other deciduous shrubs in hedges. It has been subjected to reiterated trials, it is said, in various localities where it is indigenous, and in every instance with the most complete success. It has many things to recommend it; among the more prominent of which may be mentioned its great hardiness, and the slight injury, comparatively speaking, it receives from transplantation. It is also well adapted to every variety of soil, and will flourish with great luxuriance on ordinary lands without previous preparation or manure. Extensive lines of this beautiful hedge are to be seen in various sections of western New York, where its cultivation has been attended, thus far, with the most astounding success. As the tree is an evergreen, its appearance at all seasons is necessarily extremely ornamental, presenting, in its full, dense foliage, a most refreshing contrast to the dreary monotony of the winter scene, and adding, by its many attractive beauties, to the leafy glories of the spring and the affluent summer months. It is asserted, on reliable authority, that of all trees and shrubs yet applied for this purpose, it is the most certain of success, being less liable to injury from the ordinary evils which so frequently prove fatal to the thorn, the locust, and other cognate species of plants, and in no way objectionable in consequence of root-sprouts, by which the above-named productions foul the contiguous soil, and produce a suburban progeny, extremely detrimental to cultivation, whether directed to the production of root-crops, grain, or grass. [The above is selected for its value, if true. There is nothing of more importance to our farmers than good live fences, that can be maintained at little cost.]

## Light to the Born Blind.

We learn from the Tuscaloosa Observer. Ala that Dr. Read of that place performed a most successful operation for congenital cataract about a year since, but the account of which was not published until the results were fully developed. The subject was a girl of fourteen years; both eyes were affected, and both were relieved by the operation. In a few months she was enabled to learn to knit and to sew, and could distinguish acquaintances at thirty paces distance, without spectacles; her sight is still gradually improving. The difficulty and the delicacy of the operation for cataract will be realized, when it is remembered that the obstacle to vision which has to be removed is situated at the centre of the eyeball and not upon its surface as is commonly supposed.

## Disturbance on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The contractors on the railroad west of Cumberland have considerable trouble to keep down the spirit of rioting so frequently manifest among the laborers on the line. The Civilian says that the Connaught men driven from the Central Railroad, in Pennsylvania, in June last, by a Far-Downs, being now strong in numbers west of that place, indicate a disposition to exclude their opponents from the work. Some scenes of violence have already occurred, and many more are looked for.

A pleasure party, while returning to Lyons in a canoe, steered for a bright light which they supposed was a landing place, but which proceeded from a water-mill. Three were torn and submerged, while the fourth sprang into the wheel and revolved with it until relief came and he was rescued.

A sewer in London exploded, blowing up the cast iron plates covering the man holes, and shocking the whole neighborhood. The flames came through the grating over the gutter holes. The explosion was caused by attempting to draw off the pestilential vapor of the sewer, by connecting it with the chimney of a soap factory.

The London Herald calls the United States, "the non-religious nation." It may be indebted to some of our religious papers for the hint, but there is one thing about our religion: We pay for it without being forced by law, or the bayonet.—What other nation does it?