

Scientific American

NEW YORK, APRIL 26, 1851.

Knowledge is Democratic.

The few remarks which we are now about to make, are applicable to men of every age and in every condition of life. "Knowledge is power:" wealth is only desirable because of those things which it can purchase to gratify the desires, but there are some things which cannot be purchased with wealth, and knowledge is one of them. Wealth can purchase houses, lands, adherents, and bauble honors, and a man may sit down and enjoy these things at once. An heir to an empire may be born, he may be the legal successor to thrones, armies, and navies; over all these he may exercise dominion and be their possessor, but no man was ever born an heir to knowledge. An idiot may be born a prince or lord, a fool among beggars, while the son of a beggar may be more than a prince among kings and more than a titled lord among magnates. Books, teachers, and money may be lavished to procure knowledge, but the individual cannot obtain it from teachers or books, without personal effort. Knowledge can only be obtained by labor, and without this no man can obtain it; and however poor a man may be, if he labors to acquire knowledge, he cannot fail of success according—yes according—to the amount of labor he expends in the search of it. The nobles and magnates of European nations are well aware of the "power of knowledge." This is the reason why they have endowed splendid colleges to which they send their sons to labor as any plebian's sons must labor, in acquiring knowledge. Knowledge therefore, is democratic; it is true that more time and means may be at the command of the rich than the poor, and in this respect, the former have the decided advantage; but they are brought to the same level in one respect, they must work. One acquires knowledge faster than another, all have not the same faculties, but talent is in the mass. The majority of great men have sprung from the people. Shakspeare, Newton, Franklin, Watts, Burns, Fulton, &c., were men of the people, the workers—plebians born, but kings of mind, while crowned monarchs beside them are but kings of mud.

There is another wrong notion abroad respecting "a learned man." Some suppose that a man cannot be learned unless he is a great astronomer, or can speak twenty or thirty languages, and soon; and others that a man must be profoundly acquainted with all the sciences. There are very few who acquire a profound knowledge of more than one science, as a single science requires a lifetime of study. Such men as Humboldt and Henry are exceptions; but although a few men become eminent in a number of sciences, the fact is beyond dispute, that a man must pursue continually one branch of science to become profoundly versed and eminent in it.

We talk of this and that influence, levelling the mass of men upwards, but the great elevator and democratic reformer is knowledge. The well behaved intelligent man is respected although he may be poor, and we wish this fact to be spread far and wide, and to be felt by every man. The possessor of knowledge who enjoys the simple pleasure of reading, is more rich strictly speaking, than the rich ignorant man and he feels conscious that he has the means of gratifying a desire—of enjoying an enjoyment (tautological though the expression be) of a more pleasurable nature than any which can be enjoyed by the most wealthy barbarian who cannot say his A B C.

New York Gas Lights.

Our corporation authorities are great philosophers. Whatever progress others may have made out of the common well-beaten track of old common sense, they exhibit a patriotic spirit of conservatism, for which each member deserves more than a civic crown, or the equivocal honor of being supposed to be caponlined, when wearing the heraldic honors of ex-alderman &c. To the honor of our corporate authorities be it spoken, they alone seem

to preserve that deep respect for almanacs (as almanacs of moonlight) which seems in this sceptical age to have departed from all the world beside. Thus when a contract with a gas company to supply our streets with gas light, (gas was not made to light our streets with light, but to supply the city with gas, mind that), the moon in her usual course has always been brought in to fulfil part of the contract. Now this would have been very wise, had the moon been a primary luminary, but no matter. Well it so happened on the nights of Wednesday and Thursday of last week, that the moon failed according to the almanac, to fulfil her share in the contract, and consequently our city was without light. The streets during the storm were so dark, that even "a lantern dimly burning," would have been an object of delight to cheer the lonely traveller on his darksome way. The fault was in the moon not fulfilling the part allotted to her in the contract. As for the almanacs wherein that part of the moon's contract is specified, why we don't know what our philosophic aldermen may make out of it, unless it be to pass some penal statute, to force the nightly luminary into future obedience. As a people we are far in advance of other nations in some things, but not in municipal management—that's a fact, more especially in the manner of illuminating our streets.

Atlantic Mail Station on the West of Ireland.

"We learn from Ireland," says the Tribune, "that the advantages which the harbors on the Western coast of the Island, and especially Galway, offer to American commerce, are about to be set forth in a memorial to the President and Congress of the United States, which will bear signatures of great respectability from Dublin and other parts of the Island. It is contended that the voyage would average at least forty hours less than to Liverpool, and might be accomplished with greater safety and with less delay from unfavorable winds. The memorial will ask to have the U. S. Mail Steamers stop at Galway instead of going to Liverpool. We have no doubt its petition will be respectfully considered, and that such action will be taken on it as on mature consideration shall be found most advantageous to the interests concerned. If it is a fact that the transit between Europe and America can be made more quickly and safely by way of Galway, that must eventually be the route."

It is all a piece of nonsense to suppose that either the American or British Governments will pay the least attention to the unreasonable notions of Irish corporations or any other corporations. The payability of mail routes is the first question, not the practicability. The route between Halifax and England is shorter than between Liverpool and New York, yet it was one of the wisest moves ever made by the British Government, in allowing the Cunarders to come direct to New York. If Galway was a shipping port of any consequence,—if it would pay to carry freight and passengers there direct, then their requests would be reasonable, if backed up with the home authority. What if the American mails were carried to Galway, without any provision by the British Government to make that a mail station? Why the mails might be there for a month without reaching the London Post Office. The best way the Irish people can do is not to go round the world begging for an Irish Atlantic Mail Station, but to jump in and invest their funds in steamships and make Ireland a commercial country. Let Dublin, Galway, and Cork look to Belfast, and take an example from her in respect to commercial enterprise. It would be more reasonable for the people of Boston to petition for the departure of the American Mail Steamers from that port, it being at least one day's sail nearer to England, but would not the idea be laughed at? Why? Because the mail contractors are a New York Company, and they have rights which cannot be annulled by the government. It is the same with the Cunard vessels, but the Irish corporations seem to think that governments should do every thing for that people and the people nothing for themselves. The people make the country, not the government.

The Cunard steamships are owned by a Scotch company; why not an Irish one? Scotland pays about as much taxes, has only one half the inhabitants, her soil is poor to a proverb, her nobles are continually in England, and yet one single company, in one city, owns more steamboats than all Ireland. Ireland has the same advantages. Let Irish gentlemen stop talking and go to work and do something for themselves. Ireland has noble rivers, a rich soil, and a good climate, and yet what do we see? Only one city in progress in all the island (Belfast), and that one in a barren part of the country compared with Dublin or Cork. Those who dare not tell the Irish the truth are not the true friends of Ireland.

Painting.

The time is at hand when houses will be painted to restore the worn out coating, and old paint, dingy, but of sound surface, will receive the force of the scrub brush. When we take into consideration the preserving nature of paint, it may be said "it costs nothing." It is very unwise to allow the paint of houses to fade or be worn off to a certain point of abrasion, in order to save a little—the intended saving is an extra expense. Well do careful captains of ships take advantage of every opportunity to put on the paint, they know that economy lies in following the old maxim "a stitch in time saves nine." Almost all our farmers do their own painting, so do our mechanics who reside in the rural districts. White paint is that which is most generally employed, and there is no other kind so universally applicable, both for the outside and inside of buildings. In the mixing of paint, let us give a few words of advice, and first of all, the cheapest is not the cheapest in the true sense of the word. White zinc is stated to be a good substitute for white lead, we do not speak thus personally about it. Use only the best white lead if you use any, and employ the best linseed oil boiled. A little turpentine is used in the mixture, and here is where we wish to give the caution, use but very little of it. It is well known that turpentine makes the paint dry much quicker, but it fulfils the old adage "soon ripe, soon rotten." The turpentine reduces the oil into a saponaceous compound, therefore, if much turpentine is used, the paint will wash away with heavy rains. Those who have seen one paint last three times as long as another will now be able to tell the reason. Boiled linseed oil, when dry, has a hard yet elastic skin; in this consist its preservative and enduring qualities. Rosin varnishes are liable to crack and blister, not the linseed oil varnish.

In painting rooms we have noticed some grand mistakes, and they are not uncommon. In the choice of color, much, yea, everything, depends on situation. A room that is much shaded should be painted a lively color, and one that looks to the north should be painted a warm color, one looking to the south may be painted a moderately cold color. We have seen rooms looking to the north painted light blue, they always looked cold and cheerless. The same care should be exercised in selecting paper for rooms, so as to have the colors harmonize with the situation. Carpets should be selected with the same regard to the association of feelings. Houses facing the north side of streets, when painted dark brown, really look as if they were "done up" brown.

Quarrels of our Countrymen in London.

Our correspondent merely hints at a misunderstanding among the exhibitors from our country, who are now in London. There has been a dispute, and we are sorry for it—all proceeding from the floundering and blundering certificates granted at Washington, to M. C. F. Stansbury and Mr. Riddle. It seems that Mr. Stansbury received a commission to see all the goods safely on board the St. Lawrence, and safely delivered at the Exhibition, when his powers were to cease, after which Mr. Riddle's were to commence, and to wind up with the termination of the Exhibition. Well, it seems that Mr. Stansbury got himself introduced as the Commissioner, and was introduced to the Queen as such, when lo! who should arrive but Mr. Riddle, and his certificate is at once recognized by the Commis-

sioners of the Exhibition. The American exhibitors have held two meetings, and our friend Mr. Macdaniel stated that he saw the Commissioners hand back Mr. Stansbury's certificate and place Mr. Riddle's on file. A vote was taken to recognize Mr. Riddle as the Commissioner, and adopted unanimously.

It seems that the certificates for Stansbury and Riddle were very carelessly made out—just like the way they do business, sometimes, at Washington. But after it is well known that Mr. Riddle is the sole commissioner, Stansbury, by the last reports, had refused, formally, to deliver over the goods to him, and there the goods of our exhibitors were lying piled up in heaps.

Our government is great for appointing scuffy men to minor offices—men who, by such conduct, bring disgrace upon our country. Others will think we are a set of disorganizers in word and deed. Well, it is a good thing that we have men, and many of them, too, who stand above such petty doings—men who are honored in every land. We hope that our exhibitors will yet stand high in the scale of competitors, and bring honor upon themselves and their country.

The Exhibition will continue open about four months.

Patent Cases.

U. S. Circuit Court, New York, April term. Judge Nelson, Thursday 17th April.

Alfred Hall vs. John Wiles—For alleged infringement of patent for the manufacture of brick presses. Verdict for plaintiff \$1,000.

This case has occupied the court for more than one session; it has been a long trial, and in one instance the jury did not agree. The patent claimed to be infringed is a brick press.

On the same day, before Judge Nelson, the following cases were decided:

John Brown vs. Leonard Johnson and Richard W. Trundy—For infringement of patent for gaff of vessel, the improvement being in a means to prevent its chafing the mast. No defence offered. Verdict for plaintiff for \$5 (for one gaff); amount trebled by the court.

Similar suits, with like results, were tried against Jas. Nesmith and Jose Maria d'Mello.

[The patentees, it will be observed, in these cases, were successful. We like to see infringers real, self-known infringers, put through. This does not always happen.]

Notice to Correspondents.

Those who have any business to communicate with the Editor, he desires them to do so by letter in as few words as possible. Write, and re-write, so as to condense and clarify:—this will be found to be of great benefit to those who write. We have many correspondents who can and who do this, in a commendable manner. We do not address this to them. Thoughts are more easy to condense on paper than by tongue, so every man should also write to us clearly and in a compact style. We have received a number of communications, lately, which have been laid aside. We want short but comprehensive and clear articles.

Young Children in Factories.

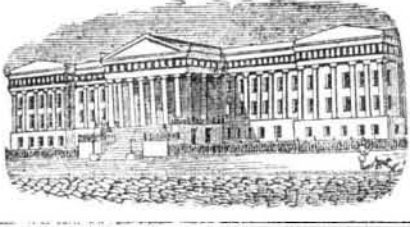
The Providence (R. I.) Post states that there are young children working in some of the Rhode Island mills, of such tender ages that they appear to be more fit for cradles than working in a factory. During the past winter they have been employed from half-past five in the morning till 8 o'clock in the evening. We do not know anything about the positive correctness of the above: it appears too terrible to believe. What are the Quakers of Rhode Island about?

Shortest Passage Ever Made Across the Atlantic.

The American Republican Mail Steamship "Pacific" arrived at this port on Saturday at 10 A. M., after a passage of 9 days and 20 hours from Liverpool, the shortest on record. The Pacific has made the two shortest passages ever made across the Big Pond.

When news of the Pacific's arrival was announced at the Exchange, three cheers were given for the Collins' Line.

It is expected by many now living that they will yet cross the Atlantic in seven days.



Reported expressly for the Scientific American, from the Patent Office Records. Patentees will find it for their interest to have their inventions illustrated in the Scientific American, as it has by far a larger circulation than any other journal of its class in America, and is the only source to which the public are accustomed to refer for the latest improvements. No charge is made except for the execution of the engravings, which belong to the patentee after publication.

LIST OF PATENT CLAIMS
Issued from the United States Patent Office.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1851.

To C. A. Broquette, of Ruy Neuve, St. Nicholas, St. Martin, France, for improvement in material for transferring colors in Calico Printing. Patented in France, April 1, 1849; in England, April 21.

I claim the use of extract of fibrine, to form, with or without any other oily or fat matters, by the means which I have described, or any other equivalent means, a mastic, adequate to thickening and retaining on fibres, threads, tissues, of every description and of every material or substance, the archil color, and such other colors as are incorporated with that mastic.

I also claim the above process of preparing and purifying the extract of cassine, in order by the means which I have specified, or any other equivalent means, to impart to fibres, threads and tissues, of vegetable nature of every description, by means of a preparation of mordant, the property of better uniting to or attracting the coloring matter of archil, and in general other coloring matters, either in printing or dyeing, whether this preparation or mordant be applied on the fibres or threads of vegetable nature, previous to the weaving, or whether it be applied after the weaving on tissues of vegetable nature, or on tissues composed partly of vegetable and partly of animal substances.

[We understand this to cover the use of glue in color making: if so, we know of it being used perhaps before Broquette was born. The Patent Office, however, knows little about these practical arts.]

To John Buckingham & J. H. Baird, of Watertown, Conn., (assignors to The Scovill Manufacturing Co.), for improved Milling Tool.

The rotating die for making impressions on metals and other substances, is a well known instrument, and we make no claim founded on that instrument, in itself considered. But we claim the combination of such die with an axle, on which the same may vibrate, which axle is at right angles with the axis of rotation, and not in the same plane, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

To E. T. Haun Valcke, of Paris, France, for improvement in Mill Stones.

I claim constructing the running stones of mills with oblique apertures, or passages, through the body of the stone, and provided with hoods or funnels, to collect the air during the rotation, and connected on the grinding face of the stone, with furrows, substantially as described, when this arrangement is combined with the use of vertical pipes leading from the extremity of one of the apertures or passages, to a funnel leading to the next succeeding oblique passage in the body of the stone, substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

To John Krauser, of Reading, Pa., for improvements in Iron Railings.

I claim securing the palings permanently to the horizontal rods or bars of iron, for the purpose of constructing an entire section of railing by means of the methods of operating the rods or bars with the palings having jaws, recesses, and bearings, as described herein, and together with other devices in castings, termed saddles or troughs, having dovetails and tenons cast to them, for the purposes herein named, and this I claim, whether the several parts be formed and adapted to each other, and operated precisely as represented and described, or otherwise, the results always produced being ef-

fectured by means equivalent to those within named.

To R. F. Loper & John W. Nystrom, of Philadelphia, Pa., for improvements in the Steam Engine.

We claim, first, the construction and arrangement of the columns by which the steam cylinder is connected with the bed frame, in such manner that they constitute the air pump and condenser, substantially as herein set forth.

Second, the method herein described of actuating the cut-off valve of one steam cylinder, by a motion derived from the valve or valve rod, of the other cylinder, substantially as herein set forth.

Third, the adjustable supplementary valve in connection with apertures or ports in the steam valves, by means of which the steam can be worked at full pressure throughout the whole length of the stroke, without disengaging the cut-off valve.

To J. S. Marsh, of Lewisburgh Pa., for improvement in Cooking Stoves.

I claim the apertures and the passages by which the air containing the surplus heat from the oven is conveyed to the back of the fire-chamber, where it receives an access of heat, and afterwards to the flues, by which arrangement the heat is equalized between the two ovens, and the upper one is ventilated as set forth.

To S. S. Putnam, of Boston, Mass., for improvement in Window Curtain Fixtures.

I claim the method or means herein described, of fastening the confining bar in the groove of the roller in which the cloth is pressed; that is, by having the ends of said bar rebated as described, and fitting the caps at the ends of said roller over said rebated ends of said bar, as above set forth; this arrangement of the caps and bar, (the said caps or one of them, being loose, so as to move laterally, but not to revolve, the side of the rebated ends of the bar operating as shoulders, to prevent a revolution) enables me to adapt my improved fixture to windows of different widths.

To John W. Robbins, of Camden, Ohio, for improvement in setting logs in saw-mills.

I claim, first, the vibrating dog having the distance of its head or tongue, with respect to the saw, adjusted laterally by a set screw, substantially as represented, so that by planing the tongue of the head, in each successive curf, and bringing the face of the log in contact therewith, the thickness of each consecutive board is exactly counterpart with the first.

Second, I claim, for analogous purposes, at the rear end of the log, which is destitute of a curf, the vibrating dog, whose distance, in respect to the stationary block, is adjustable, by means of a set screw, the range between the head of the dog and the block, affording an easy and determined means of giving exactly the same thickness to the boards, at the rear end of the log.

To A. D. Spoor, of Troy, N. Y., for improvement in agitating Grate Bars.

I claim the application to the movable grate, of two separate mechanical movements, whereby it may receive a rocking or a vertical vibratory motion, at pleasure, the several parts constructed and operating substantially in the manner shown and described.

To Andrew Dennison, of Brunswick, Me., for machines for cutting out the corners and scouring the edges of paper for boxes. Ante-dated April 4, 1851.

I claim the combination of the knife and die, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein described.

To Samuel Avery, of Phoenix, N. Y., for improvement in apparatus for operating Window-blind Slats.

I claim making the cog wheel with such a length of teeth that, when its spindle is forced outwards by the spring, they shall engage with the teeth on both sides of the cog wheel, F, thereby locking the same and securing the slats in any desired position, substantially as herein described.

To H. Hoffman & C. F. Hill, of New York, N. Y., for improvement in Ornamenting Marble.

We claim the above described ink, and the wax color and etch water used in combination therewith, substantially as described.

To D. G. Littlefield, of Lowell, Mass., for improvement in Cooking Stoves.

I claim the peculiar arrangement or manner of combining the fire-place, the descending or

diving flues, the ash-pit, the lateral chambers, the ascending flues, the central discharge flue, the oven or air heating chamber, and its surrounding flue space, all as represented and specified.

To John & Wm. W. Wood, of Conshohocken, Pa., for improvement in the process of manufacturing glazed sheet iron.

We claim the employment of thick plates of iron as shield plates; or, in other words, placing four (more or less) thin plates between two shield plates of double weight, in forming packs for rolling, so that each shield plate will make two plates of proper size to constitute the inside plates of another pack, for the smoothing and finishing process, or rolling.

DESIGNS.

To D. Arnold, of Providence, R. I., for design for Cooking Stoves.

To John Abendroth, of Port Chester, N. Y., for design for Cooking Stoves.

(For the Scientific American.)

Practical Remarks on Illuminating Gas.

[Continued from page 238.]

The coal to be decomposed is first broken into small pieces, say from 3 to 4 inches square, and is then introduced into retorts (generally of cast iron), which are brought up to a cherry red heat, or a temperature of about 27°, Wedgewood, by a furnace in which they are placed, and whose fire is conducted by a series of properly arranged flues under and around them; the coal is then reduced to a level of uniform thickness, and the retort rendered air-tight by a lid luted with plastic clay, which is placed over its mouth. The amount of coal introduced at one time or as it is termed, a charge, is constantly varying; the amount of the charge being governed by the temperature of the retort, the freedom with which the gas is liberated, and various local causes, but the general quantity used for one charge in a single retort, is 2 bushels, or from 150 to 175 lbs. The decomposition of the coal begins immediately after being introduced into the heated retorts, and continues several hours; the quantity of gas generated gradually decreasing towards the end. According to Peckston, in an eight hours' distillation, the relative quantities of gas given off are, first hour, 20; second hour, 15; third hour, 14; fourth hour, 13; fifth hour, 12; sixth hour, 10; seventh hour, 9; and the eighth hour 8 per cent. of the whole quantity: this experiment was conducted with a uniform temperature and the retorts constantly at a red heat.

Before we describe the remaining portion of the apparatus, it may be proper to make a few remarks upon the ingredients of this gaseous mixture, and also upon the new combinations formed while the decomposition is going on. This combination consists (after the separation of the tar and aqueous liquid) of olifient gas, light carburetted hydrogen, carbonic oxide, hydrogen, vapors of the volatile oils of tar, sulphuret of carbon, ammonia, sulphuretted hydrogen, carbonic acid, cyanogen, sulphocyanogen, sulphurous acid, hydrochloric acid, aqueous vapor, and nitrogen. The carbonic acid and a part of the free hydrogen have doubtless the same origin, being formed from the moisture in the coal and from portions of aqueous vapors that are generated, which, passing over the red-hot coke, are converted into two gases. The nitrogen of the coal is obtained entirely as cyanogen and ammonia, partly in combination, and the latter is also found with sulpho-cyanogen, and the other acids forming volatile salts; the free nitrogen, on the contrary, is the residue of the atmospheric air contained in the retort. Sulphuretted hydrogen and sulphurous acid are due to the sulphur generated from sulphuret of iron, commonly called iron pyrites, which almost invariably accompanies coal, and great care should be taken that all coal containing this substance be rejected. In the former the sulphur unites with the hydrogen of the coal, and in the latter it unites with the oxygen of the water contained in the coal. The first four of the ingredients named, viz., olifient gas, light carburetted hydrogen, carbonic oxide, and hydrogen, together with the vapors of the tar oil, form the proper bulk of the gas, and upon these the illuminating power is wholly

dependent; the other ingredients are small quantities of impurities, which are constantly varying under different circumstances, and are mostly governed by the supervision and well-directed care of the manager.

If the heat at which the distillation is carried on is not of a uniform temperature, in all cases, the results, even from the same coal, will vary, according to Clegg, from fifty to sixty per cent, both in quantity and quality. If the retort is too cold, nitrogen and hydrogen are liberated and unite, forming ammonia, vapor of bitumen, (which afterwards condenses forming tar, ammoniacal liquor, and essential oils) and carbonic oxide. If the retort is too hot, all the dense hydro-carburets are resolved into carbon and hydrogen; the product is greater, but the specific gravity little more than that of hydrogen, and the illuminating power of the gas decreased in the same ratio. (It will be found that the illuminating power of gas generated under the same circumstances is almost directly as its specific gravity; the heavier the gas, that is the greater its specific gravity, the greater the amount of light given. If gas of specific gravity 0.300 gives the light equal to six candles, that of the specific gravity 0.500 will give the light of ten candles, or as 3 to 5. This theory has been doubted; but Mr. Clegg ascertained the same result in 1817 from many experiments). Dr. Henry found that below a red heat almost nothing but hydrogen atmosphere air and some tar pressed off with hardly any illuminating gas, but that at a high temperature illuminating gas alone appeared, composed of carburetted hydrogen, carbonic oxide, hydrogen and nitrogen. At the heat of 27°, Wedgewood, or that of melting copper, (which has been found to be the best) the bitumen is decomposed, at the same time the hydrogen is liberated and unites with its carbon forming olifient carburetted hydrogen gases, often of specific gravity 0.470. The operation should not be continued for too long a time, for the process would in the end be productive of almost exclusively carbonic oxide and hydrogen. The following table showing the result of an experiment by Henry, out of 100 parts of Wigan Cannel Coal, fully establishes these statements:—

Time of collection.	Specific Gravity.	Carburetted Hydrogen.	Carbonic Oxide.	Hydrogen.	Nitrogen.	Olifient.	Abs. Wt. by Chlorine.
In the first hour,	0.650	82.5	3.2	0	1.3	13	13
	0.620	72	1.9	88	5.3	12	12
	0.630	58	12.3	16	1.7	12	12
5) hours after com-	0.500	56	11	21.3	4.7	7	7
10) inement,	0.345	20	10	60	10	0	0

After the heat has developed the gaseous and liquid products of the coal, the latter in the form of coal tar and ammoniacal liquor are deposited in receivers or tanks, while the former are conducted by the means of cast-iron pipes to the refrigerator or condenser, which consists of a series of vertical pipes, so arranged as to expose as much cooling surface as necessary, and connected with boxes upon which they rest; the warm gas, as it issues from the retorts, passes through this series of pipes, and becomes cooled, whereby the vapors of water, tar oil are condensed, and deposited in the boxes, while the aeriform portion is conveyed off, with but a very limited quantity of the tar and oil in suspension.

J. B. B.

(To be Continued.)

American Shawls.

Ingenuity has been the occasion of recent success of the eastern mills in manufacturing shawls. The fringes of these shawls, in Scotland, are made by hand. The idea suggested itself to one of the enterprising mill owners at Lawrence, that if a machine could be invented for weaving and knotting the fringes, the shawl could be made at so light a cost, as to enable the manufacturer to undersell the Scotch in our market. An ingenious mechanic—a carpenter we are told—with some aid from his son, hit upon an invention for making the fringes by machinery; and to this circumstance the great prosperity of the manufacture is owing.—[Exchange.]

[Some mistake in the above. The foreign shawls could be sold much cheaper only for the duty; the quarrel between two New York importing houses in this city last year, brought out facts which warrant this conclusion.]