

The National Gallery.

The grand hall of the Patent Office, which was originally fitted up for the now-defunct National Institute, has been arranged as a depository for the historical relics, the trophies, the art-treasures and the imperial and royal gifts in the possession of the general Government. Among these are the personal effects and sword of Washington, the staff and the printing-press of Franklin, the original Declaration of Independence, treaties with the foreign powers, &c., and now the collection is crowned, as it were, by Power's "Washington." This noble statue, which graced the State-house of Louisiana, and was sent here by General Butler as "spoils of war," has been placed beneath, where the light is perfect, and where its beauties can be seen to its greatest advantage. Mrs. Lincoln has also had placed in the National Gallery a variety of valuable and curious articles, sent as presents to the President by the king of Siam and by the Emperor of Japan. Among the most remarkable of these objects are an entire coat of mail, made of iron, copper, silver and gold, exquisitely wrought; the helmet is not unlike those worn by the Saracens in the days of the Crusaders, save a curious pendent curtain which was worn to defend the neck; the chain-work protecting the arms would have done honor to a Damascus armorer, each link being of the finest-tempered steel, the graves are of copper, finely lacquered. A vase weighing one hundred pounds, for an orange tree, is of porcelain, enameled in mazarine blue and white—that same delicious Indian blue for which our grandmothers used to sigh in vain, so rare and so expensive was this color. The monogram of the emperor illuminates its sides, while a Grecian border environs the top. A tassa of porcelain, thirty inches in diameter, profusely pictured in colors, with storks, dragons, butterflies, chrysanthemums, the rising sun and the peak of Fusymma, render it one of the most unique of gifts. Two enormous elephant's tusks (a staple article, by the way, in Siam) gives one a favorable idea of the strength of the beast that wore them. They are valued at \$1,000; this country has never possessed a finer specimen of ivory. The scientific collections made by our exploring expeditions were removed a year or two since to the museum at the Smithsonian Institution; but from present appearance, the space which they occupied in the National Gallery will soon be filled with objects of great interest to every citizen.

Human Remains discovered at Pompeii.

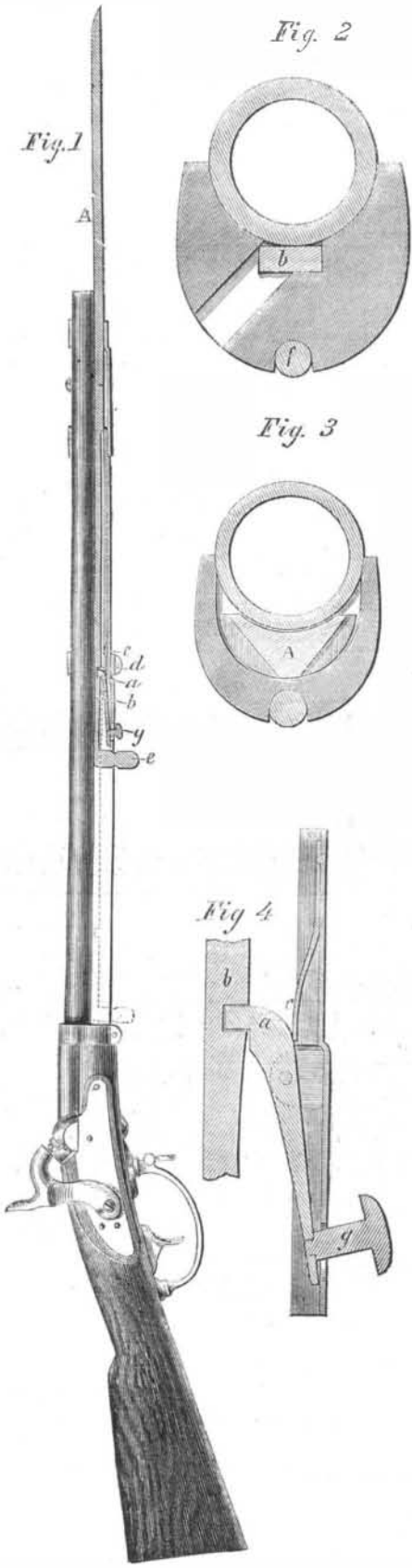
Galignani publishes the following curious story:—  
 "A very interesting discovery has just been made by M. Florelli, the inspector of excavations at Pompeii. While digging at a depth of from eight to ten feet, the pickaxe struck into a little mass of coins and jewels. M. Florelli then continued the excavation with the greatest care, removing the earth grain by grain, and, after some hours labor, was rewarded by the discovery in the hardened ashes of the perfect mold of a man in a lying posture, the skin of whom had dried up, but the skeleton remained intact. M. Florelli caused plaster-of-paris to be poured into the form of the Pompeian, and the casting succeeded perfectly with the exception of two fragments of an arm and a leg, where the mold was incomplete. The cast of the man is of the greatest precision; the moustache, the hair, the folds of the dress and the sandals are admirably defined."

HOW RACES DIE OUT.—The method in which lower races fuse into or escape from the higher is a mystery in its causes, but well understood in its result. The lower race loses its productiveness, and some dozens of extinct tribes, like the extinct genera of animals, attest this. The Red Indians of America, the native race of Peru and the aborigines of Australia are living examples of this rule. In fourteen years (a living traveller says) the aboriginal inhabitants of Tasmania, although numbering upwards of a thousand, did not give birth to more than fourteen children. We may rest assured that at this any race class of beings will soon exhaust itself.

THE Middlesex Mills, Lowell, Mass., are engaged at present, principally in the manufacture of shawls and ladies' cloths. All the machinery is running to its full capacity, giving employment to about 320 persons, of whom 450 are males and 370 are females.

JENKINSON'S PATENT BAYONET:

The invention herewith illustrated is one intended to secure the bayonet from being accidentally or designedly removed, and to protect it from injury when not in use. In some instances we have seen it stated that the foe has struck the bayonet from the musket by a well-directed blow, and so disarmed his antagonist that he was able to either make him prisoner or despatch him on the spot. No such accident



can occur to muskets fitted with this invention; this the reader will perceive to be the case by perusing our description. The bayonet, A, Fig. 1, projects from the lower side of the barrel, and is confined in a case made by the stock; it is forged in one piece and runs down to about the middle of the barrel; at this point there is a catch, a, which engages with the shank, b, of the bayonet; a small spring, c, serves to keep the catch always in connection with the slot, d, formed in the shank previously mentioned. The end of the bayonet shank is turned over, as seen at e, and forms a projecting handle which works in a slot in the wooden part of the

stock. Fig. 2, is a section of the musket through the shank, b, of the bayonet, and shows the form of it, and also the position of the slot in which the handle, e, works. The ramrod is seen at f. Fig. 3, is a section through the bayonet, and Fig. 4, is an enlarged section of the disengaging apparatus before described; the same letters refer to similar parts. The operation of this apparatus will be apparent to any one by a simple inspection of it. By pressing on the button, g, Fig. 4, the other extremity of the lever will be depressed, and the catch thrown out of connection with the recess in the shank; the bayonet may then be slid down in the case by pulling on the handle seen projecting below. The weapon is thus securely protected against any of the casualties enumerated at the head of this article. This bayonet was patented by James Jenkinson, through the Scientific American Patent Agency, on July 1, 1862; further information may be had by addressing the inventor at 111 North First street, Brooklyn, E. D., or Samuel Hirsch, 25 Chamber street, New York.

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