

Editor's Table.

MAGAZINES AND PAMPHLETS. ANNALS OF IOWA. A Quarterly Publication by the State Historical Society, at Iowa City, April, 1864.

We have already commended this interesting and valuable issue of an enterprising Society. It deserves to be held as an example to the many State Historical Societies of older Commonwealths.

THE CONTINENTAL MONTHLY for May, contains an article of great interest and value to the Student of Philosophy, on a Universal Language, by S. P. Andrews.

It is learned and ingenious. The writer aims to show the possibility, scientific necessity and characteristics of a universal language.

Could such a discovery be actually accomplished; should it prove to be the simple fact of nature that every sound of the human voice is Nature's chosen vehicle for the communication of an equally elementary idea; and that the combinations of the Elementary Sounds into Words do inherently and necessarily, so soon as these primitive meanings and the law of their combinations are known, produce words infinite in number and perfect in structure, naturally expressive of every precise idea of which the human mind is capable, it becomes perfectly conceivable how a Natural Universal Language would be evolved by discovery alone.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for April, New York: L. Scott & Co. publishers. Philadelphia: for sale by W. B. Zeiber.

Our readers need scarcely be reminded of the intensely tory and anti-American bitterness of Blackwood. "Our Neutrality" overflows with rancour; and preaches up the doctrine that a regard for the welfare of Great Britain should lead that nation by force, if necessary, to prevent "the calamity" of the subjugation of the Southern States.

L. Scott & Co., offer 50 cents for copies of Westminster, for January last, and 25 cents for copies of Blackwood, for October, 1863.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE, April 30. Contains: Correspondence—Burial of Colored People. Gold and Mr. Chase, Editorial. Life and Times of St. Bernard.

GODFREY'S LADIES' BOOK. Still far ahead of all competitors in its line. Louis A. Godfrey, Publisher, Philadelphia.

THE LADY'S FRIEND. Greatly improved on the last issue. Deacon & Peterson, Philadelphia.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE. T. S. Arthur, the editor. His name alone is a host. T. S. Arthur & Co., Philadelphia.

RETRIBUTIONS.—1st. Dr. Brisbane, of Charleston, Baptist preacher and editor of a paper there, read the "Bible against Slavery."

Science and the Arts.

TYPE SETTING MACHINES.

The May number of the Atlantic Monthly contains a graphic account of the attempts made to substitute machinery for the tedious hand-labor of type setting.

But type-setting machinery proper began with the inventor of the calculating machine, Charles Babbage of London.

The pioneer machine was invented by Timothy Alden of New York, and patented in 1857, after seventeen years of persevering and unrequited toil.

Another machine, patented in 1853, by William H. Mitchell of Brooklyn, N. Y., is different in the mode of its working, but like the former, feeds out the type in a long line, and requires hand labor for "justifying."

Superior to these two machines is one invented by a mechanic of Salem, Mass., named Charles W. Felt. It is original and quite distinct from the others; and performs with accuracy and speed all the work of composing and distributing; justifying and leading the types.

The merits of Mr. Felt's machine are manifold. It is comparatively simple in construction, it is strongly made and durable, it cannot easily get out of order, and it does its work thoroughly.

The machine stands in a substantial iron framework, five feet by four, within which the mechanism is nicely disposed, so that there may be ample room for the four operations of setting, justifying, leading, and distributing.

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When the machine is in motion, and I should here mention that it is worked by steam,—a curious piece of mechanism, called "the stick,"—which is about as large as a man's hand, and quite as adroit,—plays to and fro beneath the cases, and acts obediently to the operator's touch.

with infinite celerity. Every time a key is touched, these pincers seize a type from one of the tubes, turn it downward and, as it were, put it into the mouth of the stick. And so voraciously is the appetite of this little creature, that in a few seconds its stomach is full.

Thus the aspiration of inventive genius, in this department of art, is nobly fulfilled. Thus the links in the chain of progress are complete, from Laurentius Coster, walking in the woods of Holland, in 1430, and winning, from an accidental shower, bath, the art of making movable types, down to the wide awake Massachusetts Yankee, whose genius will make printing as cheap as writing, and therefore a thousand times more available for all purposes of civilization.

Miscellaneous.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS OF THE WORLD.

The National Almanac and Annual Record for 1864, published by George W. Childs, of this city, gives us the world as it is in a nut-shell.

The total population of the five grand divisions of the world is set down at 1,284,738,000, of which number the total Christian population is estimated to be 361,718,000, or little more than one-fourth of the whole.

It is evident from Mr. Childs' great book, that our own country takes down the world in the number and variety of her religious denominations.

Although not disposed to favor or recommend Paley's "Natural Theology" in general, on account of its ingredients and deficiencies, I yet know of no sufficient reason why a man may not testify to the benefits he believes himself to have received from any simple remedy, in the hope that he may thus contribute to the benefit of others.

The statistics, as presented in detail, concerning the state of religion in every nation throughout the world, constitute an inexhaustible mine of comparative comment, and the notes with which the tables are interspersed, contain much late and important information.

We call the attention of all having relations or friends in the army to the fact that "HOOPER'S GERMAN BITTERS" will cure the diseases resulting from disorders of the digestive organs as speedily removed. We have no hesitation in stating that, if these Bitters were freely used among our soldiers, hundreds of lives might be saved that otherwise will be lost.

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From Rev. J. H. Turner, Pastor of Holding M. E. Church: Dr. JACKSON—Dear Sir: Having used your German Bitters in my family frequently, I am prepared to say that it is one of the best remedies I believe that in most cases of general debility of the system it is the safest and most valuable remedy of which I have any knowledge.

From Rev. Thomas Winter, Pastor of Roxborough Baptist Church: Dr. JACKSON—Dear Sir: I feel it due to your excellent preparation—Hooper's German Bitters—to state my opinion in regard to the deserved reputation it has obtained.

From Rev. J. Neston Brown, D. D., Editor of the Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge: Although not disposed to favor or recommend Paley's "Natural Theology" in general, on account of its ingredients and deficiencies, I yet know of no sufficient reason why a man may not testify to the benefits he believes himself to have received from any simple remedy.

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