Every newly ascertained fact respecting has an importance for the world: and although the progress of the art in China is entirely unconnected, we believe, with its progress in Europe, it is interesting to know what the Orientals had already done in the way of the multiplication of works of art at a time when monks in the West were toiling at the reproduction of manuscripts.

Klaproth, in his treatise on the Compass-Memoire sur la Boussole-says that the first use of wooden blocks for printing dates from the middle of the tenth century of the Chris-tian era. He says:—"Under the reign of Ming-tsong, of the dynasty of the later Thang, in the second of the years Tehang-hing (932 A. D.), the Ministers Fong-tao and La-yu proposed to the Academy Koue-tseu-kien to revise the nine King, or canonical books, and to cause them to be engraved on blocks in order that they might be printed and sold. The Emperor adopted the proposition: but it was not until the time of the Emperor Thaitson, of the dynasty of the latter Tcheou, in the second of the years Kouang-chun (952 A. D.), that the engraving of the King was accomplished. They were then published and distributed throughout all the cantons of the empire." The same author adds:-"Printing, originating in China, might have been known in Europe 150 years before it was discovered there if Europeans could have read and studied the Persian historians; for the method employed by the Chinese is pretty clearly explained by the Djemma'a el-tewarikh of Rachid-eddin, who completed his immense work about the year 1310 A. D."

The subject has again come before the world through the labors of M. Stanislas Julien and M. Paul Champion, a chemist, who has spent some time in China in order to compare the industries of that country with the accounts found in native works, and to give the European world a practical and scientific account of the methods there employed. Their work is entitled "Industries Anciennes et Modernes de l'Empire Chinois, par M. Stanislas Julien, accompagnees de Notices par M. Paul Champion," etc. (Paris,

Lacroix) MM. Julien and Champion go beyond M. Klaproth, and say that Europeans might have known printing 860 years before they did had they been in relation with China a few years before the commencement of the seventh century. With the process then known, imperfect as it was, it would have been possible to reproduce, at small cost, the master-works of Greek and Roman antiquity, and to have preserved a great number from the loss that is now irreparable.

If this be true, engraving on wood for the reproduction of text and drawings in China is infinitely more ancient than has been hitherto believed. The proofs are numerous. In the Chinese Encyclopædia, "Ke-tchi-king-youen," book xxxix, fol. 2, is the following -"In the eighth day of the twelfth month of the thirteenth year of the reign of Wen-ti, founder of the dynasty of the Soui (593 A. D.), it was decreed that all drawings and texts in use should be collected and engraved on wood in order to be published. "This," adds the Chinese author, "was the commencement of printing by means of wooden blocks; and it will be seen that it occurred long before the epoch of Fong-ingwang or Fong-tao, by whom it is said to have been invented about the year 932 A. D."

According to a Chinese encyclopædia, enti-tled "Po-t'ong-pien-lan," book xxi, fol. 10, which cites an earlier work, called "Pi-tsong, printing with wooden blocks commenced in the reign of the Soui as early as 581 A. D., advanced sensibly under the Thang (618 to 904 A. D.), increased rapidly under the five petty dynasties (907 to 960), and reached its relopment under the dynasty of the Song, between 960 and 1278. Now, supposing that the Chinese authors quoted did not all draw upon their imagination for the facts in question, this is startling evidence. Another Chinese writer, who lived in the middle of the eleventh century of our era, says positively that the invention of printing by means of wooden blocks dates back full 400 years before the time of Fong-ing-wang, to whom many Chinese writers, and Europeans after them, have attributed it. It appears, indeed, that it was already known and in use before the year 593; for in that year the Emperor ordered certain things to be printed without anything being said about the art being

Between the invention of wooden blocks for printing and that of movable types came printing from stone-an invention believed to be unknown hitherto to the missionaries and savants af Europe. As early as the middle of the second century of the Christian era, it was the custem in China to engrave ancient texts on stone tablets in order to guard against the errors that crept in through the carelessness or ignorance of scribes. In the biography of Tsai-yong, in the annals of the latter Han, is the following passage:- "In the fourth year of the period Ai-ping (175 A. D.), Tsai-yong presented a memorial to the emperor, praying him to cause the text of the six canonical books to be revised, corrected, and settled; it was subsequently written by the memorialist himself, in red characters on stone tablets, and able artists were employed to cut away all the blank portion of the stone, leaving the char-acters in relief. These tables were placed without the doors of the grand college, and the literati of all ages went daily to consult these tablets in order to correct their copies of the precious books." Of course, there was originally nothing in these tablets more connected with printing than the Egyptian obelisks or the Damietta stone. Their object was simply the preservation of the sacred

writings.

Towards the end of the Thang dynasty, about the year 904 A. D., the idea of using stones for reproduction arose, and texts were cut for this purpose, with the characters reversed. In this case the proceeding was the opposite of the former, the characters were incised, and, consequently, the printing was white on a back ground. The printing was white on a back ground. The practice of printing from mooden blocks had, it seems, either never been largely practised or had fallen into disuse, for you-yang-sieon, in his archeological treatise, enviled "Tsi-kou-lo," says that during the troups which arose after the extinction of the Thang dynasty, Ouen-tao opened imperial tombs and possessed himself of the manuscripts and paintings inclosed ere. He appropriated the envelopes and re-leaux, which were of gold, studded with precious stones, but left the documents where he found them; and thus the autograph manuscripts of the most eminent men of the Wei and Tsin dynasties, which the Emperors had preserved with religious care, were lost or fell into unworthy hands. But this accident, like so many others, was productive of important results, for in the eleventh month of the thirteenth year of the Chun-hoa period (992 A. D.) the Emperor Thai-tsong decreed that all the manuscripts which could be recovered by purchase or otherwise should be engraved on stone and printed. The mode employed at that time was, after the stone

was inked to lay the paper upon it and pass | might be found all-efficient for large and spethe hand over the back of the sheet; at present the Chinese use a brush for the same purpose, and thus produce far more perfect

No record seems to have been found of the manuscripts thus reproduced; but in the cyclopædia entitled "Tchi-pou-tso-tch'ai" is embodied a work in two books, in which is a minute description of all the antique inscriptions and autographs of celebrated men re produced in the manner described, that is to say, in white on a black ground, between the years 1143 and 1243 of the Christian era.

The practice of printing from wooden blocks seems to have been abandoned for time, for we are told that from the period when Fong-ing-wang printed the five books of the King on stone, that process was adopted for the publication of all legal and historical works.

We now arrive at another step in the de velopment of printing. In the period King-Li, between 1041 and 1049 A. D., according to the book last quoted, a blacksmith, named Pi-ching, invented a method of printing with what were called ho-pan, or blocks composed of type. This word "ho-pan" is used at the sent day in the imperial printing office at Pekin for the forms used in that establishment. The method adopted by Pi-ching is thus described:-He made use of fine adhesive clay, which he formed into small regular cakes as thin as the pieces of money called Thsien, and on these he engraved the characters most frequently in use; and these types he burned in fire to harden them. A sheet of iron was placed upon a table, and covered with a coat of very fusible mastic composed of resin, wax and lime; an iron form, with vertical divisions to form columns, according to the Chinese mode of writing from the top to the bottom of the page, was laid upon the pre-pared iron plate and kept in position by the mastic; the types were then arranged close to each other in the columns, and when the whole of these were filled the form was carried to the fire, in order to soften the cement, then returned to the table, when the types were forced into the mastic uniformly means of a flat piece of wood, precisely like the planer in use for a similar purpose at the present day, and the face of the type was as equal as that of an engraved block of wood or stone. Two forms were used at the same time, so that as soon as a sufficient number of impressions had been taken from one page of type another was ready to complete the sheet, which then, as now, in Chinese printing contained only two pages of printed matter and both on the same side, the sheet being folded in half with the double edge outwards for binding.

Pi-ching multiplied his types sometimes to the extent of twenty; and the duplicates not in use were kept carefully wrapped up in paper. The types were classed according to the tonic arrangement; and each class had its own particular case. When a character occurred that had not been previously prepared, a type was engraved, and, being dried by means of a straw fire, could be used immediately. The reasons given for the inventor not having used wooden types are, that the tissue of wood is hard in one place and soft in another, and that when wetted it becomes uneven; and further, that, when once in contact with the cement, wooden types could not easily be removed, whereas with terra-cotta types, the moment the form was done with and the iron plate warmed, they could be swept off with the hand without a particle of the mastic or even a stain remaining upon their surfaces.

When Pi-ching died, his companions, or partners, inherited his types, and preserved them with great care; but the invention fell out of use. And this is not surprising, when we consider the nature of the Chinese lan-, for, in order to be able to print all kinds of works, it would have been necessary to have 106 cases, that being the number of sounds in the tonic arrangement. It was easier and more expeditious to paste the text down on the surface of a block, and cut out the whites with a graver, as is practised at the present day. From the death of Pi-ching down to a comparatively recent date, the Chinese seem to have adhered constantly to this system of block-printing, but using for superior work copper-plates instead of wood.

It was not until after 1662 that another change took place. In the reign of the Emperor Khang-hi certain missionaries, who enoyed credit with that monarch, induced him cause 250,000 movable types in copper to be engraved, which were used for printing a collection of ancient works, which formed 6000 volumes, in 4to. This edition is admirably printed, and some of the works composing it are to be found in European libra-Some years afterwards these types were all melted, and it took a century to replace

In the year 1773, the Emperor Khien-long decreed that 10,412 of the most important works in the Chinese language should be engraved on wood and printed at the cost of the State, but the Minister of Finance, Kinkien, seeing the enormous number of blocks that would be required and the immense expense that would be incurred, succeeded in persuading the Emperor to adopt the system of movable types, and submitted models of those required, arranged on sixteen plates and accompanied by all the necessary instructions for the cutting of the dies, the striking of the matrices, the founding of the type and the composition. The ministerial proposition was adopted, and the works were ordered to be printed. A catalogue, descriptive and raisonne, published by imperial order and bearing the formidable title of "See-kou-thsiouen-chou-tsong-mo-ti-vao. gives a full account of the above mentioned works, and fills 120 vols. 8vo. This catalogue, which is to be found in the Bibliotheque Im periale of Paris, also contains a narrative of the undertaking.

The result of the decree was the establishment in the Palace of Pekin of an edifice known as the Wou-ing-tien, in which a considerable number of works were printed every year by means of movable types, which re-ceived from the Emperor himself, it is said. the elegant appellation of tsiutchin, or assembled pearls. The editions there printed are of remarkable beauty. Unfortunately, the establishment has recently been burned

The official report which precedes one of these editions records a fact which may serve as a hint to Europeans. Our steel punches and copper matrices are exceedingly costly and liable to rust and oxidation. The Chinase wood, we cost of which is between a halfpenny and a penny per type, and produce
their matrices in a kind of porcelain: these
are afterwards based, and from them are cost
the types in an alloy of lead and zinc, sometimes mixed with silver. The justification
of matrices composed of such material
would seem a very distance matter, on account of the shrinking in the first but works
printed with types thus produced exhibits perfect regularity. Even if such matrices be unfitted for small type, it is possible that they we escaped both these exils by catting their

Such is the history of the revolutions which the art of multiplying documents has undergone in China during some twelve centuries. At the present day, printing by means of movable types is making its way gradually in that country, and probably before long the use of wooden blocks will be discontinued. Many important works have issued from private presses; amongst others, "Wout-hsienheou-pien," a treatise on the military art, in twenty-four volumes; "Li-tai-ti-li-yan-pien, a tonic dictionary of the names of towns, in sixteen volumes, 4to: "Hai-koue-thou-tchi," a descriptive geography of the globe, from Chinese and European sources, in twenty volumes, 4to. These editions are far from rivalling those of the imperial press, but they are well executed, and more correct than those obtained from wooden blocks, as the Chinese printers, in using movable types, have naturally adopted the European and American system of proofs and revises.

The City of Books. There is something touching in the terms in which the printers of Leipsic, in the year 1640, expressed their intention to celebrate the bi-centenary of the invention of printing. Germany was then in the depths of woe and devastation on account of the Thirty-years' War, but nevertheless they resolved to have a jubilee, "to thank God for this benefit, and in friendly talk to take a drink and frugal meal in stillness." Leipsic, though always an important citadel of the book trade, did not, hewever, enjoy its present motropolitan dignity till the year 1765, when Nicolai and a few other leading booksellers agreed on account of certain vexatious restrictions at Frankfort to remove the central mart from that place. At the same time they laid the basis of a booksellers' association at Leipsic, which, not successful for a time, was afterwards, in 1825, codsolidated and ex-tended, and now numbers about 1000 members. The handsome building called the Booksellers' Exchange, opened in 1836, is the financial headquarters of this associa tion. Here, at the time of the great fairs, especially of the Easter fair, a lively spectacle may be witnessed. Hundreds of booksellers throng the great hall discussing and disseminating literary intelligence, while in the lesser hall counters are laid out displaying specimens of new works in German and foreign literature. The strictly financial business, which used to be the chief motive for the reunion, is now managed through the medium of the "commissioners," and the principals themselves thereby obtain more time for the cultivation of social and other amusements on the occasion of their periodical visits than in former days. The "commissioners" in the Leipsic book trade are an institution of great importance. They are the general agents for distant firms. At the Great Easter Fair the commissioner receives or disburses the requisite sums on behalf of his employers. It is stated that in 1867 as many as 130,000 cwt, of books were despatched from Leipsic, and probably as many came in. Since then the number has considerably increased.

As to the amount of actual publishing work done in Leipsic, we learn, from the German statistical account before us, that it amounts to about one-sixth of that done in all Germany, including Prussia and Austria. Thus in 1868 twelve thousand works were published in Germany (4300 was the number for England in the same year); of these about 2000 would be the number emanating from Leipsic. Berlin stands next to Leipsic in publishing importance, and claims about oneeighth of the annual contributions to German literature. In the number of newspapers and journals published, Berlin exceeds Leipsic; this is natural considering the political importance of the former as the Prussian

capital. All the branches of industry auxiliary to the making of books flourish in Leipsic. Forty-seven printing establishments now exist in Leipsic and its suburbs, employing 1000 journeymen, 300 apprentices, and 450 women. Within the last ten years, too, there has been a great improvement in the bookbinding trade.

Leipsic is the principal centre for musical publications, not only in Germany, but throughout the musical world. There are twenty-nine publishers in this department, of which the firm of Breitkopt and Hartel stands highest. Roder's, which is the greatest house for musical note engraving, keeps 140 persons at work. The second-hand or "antiquarian" business is very important. There are six leading second-hand firms, well known far beyond the limits of Germany, to each of which appertain immense warehouses, sheltering something like a million volumes. The classed catalogues issued by these six firms form a feature of great interest in the literary world

Leipsic counts at the present time about 258 bookselling firms, having connection with 3500 houses out of Leipsic. The personal staff they employ amounts to from 800 to 900

There are two other institutions connected with the trade which deserve mention, and which are localized in the precincts of this Booksellers' Exchange. These are:-1, the school for booksellers' apprentices, which was attended by seventy-nine scholars last year. It is designed to give scientific and technical training appropriate to the objects of the trade. 2. The business post office of the Leipsic book trade—a chef d'œuvre of practical organization and unremitting ac-

TO ALL WANTING FARMS IN A LOCALity Exempt from Fevers and Lung Complaints.-To Farmers, Horticulturists, Mechanics, Capitalists, Gentlemen of Leisure, Invalids, and all wanting a homestead in a climate of unsurpassed salubrity, exempt from the rigors of a Northern winter, and in close connection with the commercial centres of the South. Few if any sections offer such a combination of inducements as the town of Aiken, S. C., and its vicinity for a desirable and permanent home. A pamphlet of 84 pages now ready, containing a description of the climate, soils, and the nature of the products in the vicinity of Aiken, especially fruit, cereals, cotton, corn, vegetables, etc., including extracts from letters of distinguished visitors, correspondents, action of town councils inviting emigrants, etc., to which is added a descriptive list of property for sale, including improved firms, orenards, vineyards, water powers, kaolin deposits, uncuproved lands, and town residences. For shie by 7. 3. C. WOOD, Real Estate Agent, Afken, H. D. The book will be sent by mail on recells and the state Address J. C. DERBY, reary, and there 1439, New York, until 1st

PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

FOST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, January 16, 1870. Scaled Proposals will be received until 3 P. M. on the 1st day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing all the "Stamped Envelopes" and "Newspaper Wrappers" which this Department may require during a period of four years, commencing 1st of July, 1870, viz.:— STAMPED ENVELOPES. No. 1. Note size, 2% by 4% inches, of white

No. 1. Note size, 2% by 4% inches, of white paper.
No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1-16 by 5% inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required.
No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3% by 5% inches, of the same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.
No. 4. Full letter size, 3% by 5% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each. No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3½ by 6½ inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of

each.

No. 6. Extra letter size, 3% by 6% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the Proportion of each.

No. 7. Official size, 3% by 8% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the

proportion of each.

No. 8. Extra official size, 4% by 9% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.
NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS,

NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS,
6% by 9% inches, of buff or manilla paper.
All the above envelopes and wrappers to be embossed with postage stamps of such denominations, styles, and colors, and to bear such printing on the face, and to be made in the most thorough manner, of paper of approved quality, manufactured specially for the purpose, with such water marks or other devices to prevent imitation as the Postmaster-General may direct. may direct.

The envelopes to be thoroughly and perfectly

The envelopes to be thoroughly and perfectly gummed, the gumming on the flap of each (except for circulars) to be put on not less than half an inch in width the entire length. The wrappers to be gummed not less than three-fourths of an inch in width across the end.

All envelopes and wrappers must be banded in parcels of twenty-five, and packed in strong basteboard or straw boxes, each to contain not less than two hundred and fifty of the letter or extra letter size, and one hundred each of the official or extra official size, separately. The newspaper wrappers to be packed in boxes to contain not less than two hundred and fifty each. The boxes are to be wrapped and sealed, or securely fastened in strong manilla paper, so as to safely bear transportation by mail for delivery to postmasters. When two thousand or more envelopes are required to fill the order of a postmaster, the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the same must be packed in strong wooden cases, well strapped with hoop-iron, and addressed; but when less than two thousand are required, proper labels of direction, to be furnished by an agent of the Department, must be placed upon each backage by the contractor. Wooden cases, conagent of the Department, must be placed upon each package by the contractor. Wooden cases, containing envelopes or wrappers to be transported by water routes, must be provided with suitable water-proofing. The whole to be done under the inspection and direction of an agent of the Department.

Department.

The envelopes and wrappers must be furnished and delivered with all reasonable despatch, complete in all respects, ready for use, and in such quantities as may be required to fill the daily orders of postmasters; the deliveries to be made either at the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., or at the office of an agent duly authorized to inspect and receive the same; the place of delivery to be at the option of the Postmaster-General, and the cost of delivering as well as all expense of packing, addressing, labeling, and water-proofing, to be paid by dressing, labeling, and water-proofing, to be paid by

the contractor.

Bidders are notified that the Department will re quire, as a condition of the contract that the en-velopes and wrappers shall be manufactured and stored in such manner as to ensure security against loss by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all

stored in such manner as to ensure security against loss by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department, who will require the stipulations of the contract to be faithfully observed.

The dies for embessing the postage scamps on the envelopes and wrappers are to be executed to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, in the best style, and they are to be provided, renewed, and kept in order at the expense of the contractor. The department reserves the right of requiring new dies for any stamps, or denominations of stamps not now used, and any changes of dies or colors shall be made without extra charge.

Specimens of the stamped envelopes and wrappers now in use may be seen at any of the principal post offices, but these specimens are not to be regarded as the style and quality fixed by the department as a standard for the new contract; bidders are therefore invited to submit samples of other and different qualities and styles, including the paper proposed as well as the manufactured envelopes, wrappers, and boxes, and make their bids accordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose

ccordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose proposal, although it be not the lowest, is con-sidered most advantageous to the Department, taking into account the prices, quality of the sam-ples, workmanship, and the sufficiency and ability of the bidder to manufacture and deliver the envelopes and wrappers in accordance with the terms of this advertisement; and no proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a sufficient and satisfactory guarantee. The Postmaster-Gene-ral also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it.

if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it.

Before closing a contract the successful bidder may be required to prepare new dies, and submit impressions thereof. The use of the fresent dies may or may not be continued.

Bonds, with approved and sufficient sureties, in the sum of \$200,000, will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, as required by the seventeenth section of the act of Congress, approved the 26th of August, 1842, and payments under said contract will be made quarterly, after proper adjustment of accounts.

justment of accounts.

The Postmaster-General reserves to himself the right to annul the contract whenever the same, or any part thereof, is offered for sale for the purpose of speculation; and under no circumstances will a transfer of the contract be allowed or sanctioned to any party who shall be, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, less able to fulfill the conditions thereof than the original contractor. The right is also reserved to annul the contract for a failure to perform faithfully any of its stipulations.

The number of envelopes of different sizes, and of wrappers issued to Postmasters during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1869, was as follows, viz.:—

No, 1. Note size—1,114,000.

No. 2. Ordinary letter size; (not heretofore used).

sed). No. 8. Full letter size, (ungummed, for circulars) No. 4. Full letter size—67,367,500. No. 5. Extra letter size, (ungummed, for circulars)

343,500. No. 6. Extra letter size—4,204,500. No. 7. Official size—604,650. No. 8. Extra official size—1700.

Wrappers—3,595,250.

Bids should be securely enveloped and scaled, marked "Proposals for Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers," and addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, Post Office Department, Wash-JOHN A. J. CRESWELL,

1 11 eodtM1 Postmaster General. PROPOSALS FOR PURCHASE OF RIFLED CANNON, ETC.

BUREAU OF ORDNANCE,
NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, January 4, 1870.
Sealed Proposals for the purchase of 30-pounder and 20-pounder Parrott Rifles, with Carriages, Implements, and Projectiles, now on hand in the Navy Yards at Portsmouth, N. H.; Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and Norfolk, will be received at this Bureau until 12 o'clock noon, January 31, 1870.

In the aggregate there are about 390 Guns, 354 Carages, and 96, 157 Projectiles. Schedules in detail of a articles at each yard will be furnished on appli-

the articles at each yard will be furnished on appli-cation to this Bureau.

Bidders will state the number of guns, carriages, implements, and projectiles they desire to purchase at each yard separately, specifying the calibre of gun, kind of carriage, whether broadside or pivot, and the kind of projectiles.

The guns, etc., will be delivered at the respective navy yards, and must be removed by the purchaser or purchasers within ten days after the acceptance of his or their bid. But no deliveries will be made of any article until the parties purchasing shall have deposited with the paymaster of the navy shall have deposited with the paymaster of the nav yard the full amount of the purchase money in each

Many of the guns are new, and all are service-able. Bidders will therefore offer accordingly. No offer for these articles as old Iron or wood will be The Bureau reserves the right to reject any or all hids which it may not consider to the interest of the

Government to accept.
Proposals should be endorsed on the envelope "Proposals for Purchase of Rified Cannon, etc."
A. LUDLOW CASE,
Chief of Bureau.

DR. M. KLINE CAN CURE CUTANEOUS Mouth and Nose, Sore Legs, and Sores of every conceiva-ble character. Office, No. 3 S. ELEVENTH, between Obcanut and Market streets. PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE ERECTION OF PURILC BUILDINGS. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1870. SEALED PROPOSALS will be received for the llowing work and materials required in the execuon of the WALNUT Street portion of the PUBLIC BUILDINGS, to wit:-

For all the excavations, including the trenches for the foundations. The price to be stated per cubic yard, which is to cover all digging, hauling away the surplus earth, and cutting down and removing whatever trees may come in the way of the excavations, without extra measurement or allow-

For taking down the terrace wall, cleaning the bricks, and piling them up adjacent to the buildings, taking down the iron railings, the gate piers, the coping of the wall and the steps, and depositing them on the grounds, and removing all the rubbish occasioned by the same. The price for this portion of the work to be stated in gross.

For concreting the entire foundation of the build-

ings with small broken stone, and cement, mortar, and grout, in conformity with the specifications The depth of the concrete to be three feet, and the lateral dimensions to conform to the plans. The price to be stated per cubic foot, and to include all materials and labor.

For furnishing and delivering large-size building

stone, the price to be stated per perch of 22 cubic feet, measured in the walls. Also, for select building stone, averaging 3 by 5 feet, and from 12 to 18 inches thick; the price for the same to be stated per cubic foot, delivered on the ground,

For building all the cellar walls, and the outside walls of the basement story, as high as the level line of the pavement, according to the plans and specifications. The price to be stated per perch of 99 cubic feet laid in the walls, without extra measurement, and to include all labor and all materials except stone. The contract or contracts will be awarded to the

best and the lowest bidder or bidders, who will be required to give approved security for the faithful performance of the same.

The plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Architect, Mr. JOHN MCARTHUR, Js., No. 205 S. SIXTH Street,

The proposals to be sealed and endorsed "Proposals for Public Buildings," and addressed to JAMES V. WATSON, Chairman of the Committee on Contracts, and to be left at the office of the Commissioners of Public Buildings, in the new Court House, SIXTH Street, below Chesnut, on the 14th day of February next ensuing, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock A. M., at which time the bids will be opened, in the presence of such bidders as may

By order of the Committee on Contracts. 1 19 wfm 11t H. C. PUGH. Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF FAIRMOUNT PARK, No. 224 S. FIFTH Street,

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1870. PROPOSALS for the privilege of running Park Car riages for the year 1870 from stands within the Park through its entire limits will be received at this office until the first day of February, 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The conditions and stipulations upon which proposa will be received may be seen at this office between the

By order of the Committee on Superintendence an DAVID F. FOLEY. 1 17 mwf 7t

OFFICE OF THE SOUTH STREET BRIDGE COMMISSION, No. 224 S. FIFTH Street.

PHILADELPHA, Jan. 17, 1870.

Sealed Proposals for erecting a bridge over the river Schuylkill at South street will be received at the office of the Commission, in the Department of Surveys, No. 224 S. FIFTH Street, until 12 o'clock M. of the FIRST DAY OF MARCH. 1870. For the construction of a wrougatiron drawbridge, with Murphy's modification of the Pratt truss. To have cast-iron please in river, and stone abutments, with approaches of retaining walls; arches of brick, and iron I girders, as described in the specification. The entire length of structure to be 3418 feet, the truss spans to be 185 feet each, with pivot draw, giving an opening of 77 feet on each side.

The proposal to be for an aggregate bid, to be accompanied by a bond with two approved sureties to an amount of \$50,000. Fifteen ner cent, to be retained as the work proceeds, until the same, inclusive of the \$50,000 noted in bond, shall amount to fifteen per cent, of the contract price, after which the current estimates will be paid in full.

Plans may be seen and specifications obtained at the office of the Commission on and after the 29th instant.

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