PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1851

BRADDOCK'S EXPEDITION.—The original paper published in our columns to day, will be read with much interest in this section, and by all who are fond of the early history of our great and flourishing country. Our obligations are due to our correspondent "C." for giving us the privilege of laying this paper before the readers of the Gazette.

THE PILGRIMS AND THEIR PRINCIPLES.—*A Sermon before the New England Society of Pittsburgh, preached on the evening of Dec. 22, in the 3d Presbyterian Church, by* REV. D. H. RIDDLE, D. D.

This excellent discourse, we are pleased to see, has been published by the Society before whom it was preached. It is an eloquent and glowing exposition of the principles of the heroic men who, escaping from persecution and intolerance in the old world, sought in the then wilderness of North America a home where they could enjoy the rights of conscience; even though at the expense of every thing else. The stern principles of civil and religious freedom for which they suffered and contended here found a congenial soil, and the Rev. author traces down through successive generations these same principles, expanding and gaining strength, and stamping upon the character of this great nation those peculiar features which are its highest boast, and have made it what it is.

PUBLICATIONS.

"APPLETON'S MECHANIC'S MAGAZINE, AND ENGINEER'S JOURNAL"—This is a monthly publication, each number containing sixty-four large pages, published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. It is devoted wholly to the Mechanic arts, and contains numerous engravings cuts to illustrate the subjects treated of. Each number will embrace five heads, to wit: Mechanical Science, Miscellaneous Extracts from Scientific Journals, Reviews, Patents, and Correspondence. It must prove of immense value to mechanics and engineers, if it continues to be conducted with the ability manifest in the first number. Its price is three dollars per annum. A. H. English & Co., Wood street, Agents.

"SHENANDOAH: By Emma D. E. Nevit Southworth. New York: D. Appleton & Co."

This American lady author made a very marked sensation by her "Retribution," which was published in the columns of the New Era. She now appears before the public in a novel of much greater extent, and bids fair to take her stand among the most noted writers of the day. For sale by A. H. English & Co.

DUCK RIVER SLACKWATER.—By a reference to our advertising columns it will be seen that this important work is offered to contractors.

We have before us the report of Sylvanus Lothrop, Esq., our townsman, who is the engineer. He speaks in glowing terms of the feasibility and importance of this work. Duck River is a tributary of the Tennessee. It is proposed to make a steam boat navigation on it, by means of dams and locks, from Columbia to its mouth, a distance of 125 miles. The region which will thus be opened by steam boat navigation is said to be one of the finest in Tennessee.

IMPORTANT TO HOUSE BUILDERS.—We examined, yesterday, a very complete and satisfactory invention for raising and lowering a Window Sash. It is called "*H. C. Brown's Premium Patent Sash Balance;*" having taken the premium at the State Fair in Cincinnati. By this invention the upper and lower sashes of a window are made to balance each other, instead of using iron weights. It appears to us to have all the advantages of the weight and pulley, and some others besides, as on the new plan the sash can be taken out to be washed. But the great advantage of this new invention is in its cheapness, as they can be afforded at about 30 cents a window, while the box frames, and weights and pulleys, cost about $3. The agent for the patentee is in town, and will remain until Thursday, and can be seen, with a model of the invention, at Weaver's Hotel, corner of Fourth and Grant sts.

CANAL COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

From this document we gather the following facts:

The gross receipts for the year ending 30th Nov. 1850, were	$1,768,204 46
Total expenses,	857,228 00
Nett receipts over expenses,	910,981 46
Total receipts for all purposes on Columbia Railroad,	$638,441 56
Total expenditures on do	410,541 29
Nett receipts of do.	228,103 26
Total receipts on Portage Rail Road,	$241,817 45
Total expenditures on do.	247,544 37
Loss on do.	5,626 72
Total receipts on main line of Canal	$479,446 39
Expenditures on do.,	161,969 77
Nett receipts on do.,	317,545 62
Receipts on Delaware Division,	$215,347 87
Expenditures on do.,	60,834 22
Nett receipts on do.,	154,513 65
Total receipts on Susquehannna N. W. Branch Division,	$195,150 19
Expenditures on do.,	76,304 64
Nett receipts on do.,	118,845 55

This is exclusive of the expense of avoiding the inclined plane at the Schuylkill, and of the pay of Canal Commissioners, their clerks, &c., as item of $5,200.

It is stated that the Columbia Railroad is in better condition than it has been for several years;

"But (say the Commissioners) it is essential to truth to state that the condition of the road is far from being what it ought to be. The officers make every exertion to keep it in such order that it may be passed over with safety and dispatch. These exertions, however, of little avail, when they have to contend with rails which are nearly worn out on nearly the whole length of the road. The time has, therefore, arrived, when immediate measures must be taken to relay the worn out light rails on the whole line for those of a heavier pattern. Estimates have been so officer brought to the notice of the Legislature as to prevent the necessity of enlarging upon it at present. Whatever amount may be required in addition to the proceeds of the sale of the road east of the inclined plane, will be made known to both Houses, as soon as the report of the engineer, who is now engaged in surveying the road, is received."

The Superintendant says: "The iron upon the Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad, although much worn, is of an excellent quality. I have caused bars of it to be rolled into new T rails, 64 pounds to the yard, which are pronounced by competent judges superior to any rails manufactured by any of our rolling mills. There is enough of this iron upon our road, (it being rolled into new rails 64 pounds to the yard,) to lay 64 miles of track. It can be rolled at a cost not exceeding $20 per ton. The cost, therefore, of converting our old rails into new ones of 64 pounds to the yard, may be estimated at $168,000. The problem to be solved, however, is how to take up this iron without suspending or interfering with the business of the road. This can only be done by purchasing a certain quantity of new rail, wherewith to commence laying a new track, and to roll the old iron into new rails as fast as it can be taken up. With the plan in view, I would recommend for the present year an appropriation of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for relaying the north track with T rails 64 pounds to the yard. If the plan which I have proposed of rolling our old iron into new rails is adopted, and the Legislature further authorize the proceeds of the sale of old materials to be applied to the expense of relaying the north track, the appropriation here recommended will not only cover the expenses of relaying the track, but will also afford us the means of reserving the best of the old rails taken up for repair of the south track. This is the most economical plan which I can imagine to put the road in a condition to accomplish the great destinies for which it is reserved, and I respectfully commend it to your special consideration."

The Board concur in the proposed plan for improving the road, but deem it inexpedient at present to ask for the additional appropriation.

The Board recommend the construction of a wire suspension bridge over the Susquehanna, at Duncan's Island, in place of the wooden structure recently destroyed by fire.

North Branch Division.—As soon as it was ascertained that an additional appropriation of $250,000, made at the last session, for the completion of the North Branch Canal, was available, the Board caused nearly the whole of the work to be placed under contract, restricting the contractors to the amount appropriated. The work has prospered as fast as the means at the command of the Board justified. As the number of contractors were largely increased by the last letting, the present fund can be exhausted in a short period. The work done up to the 30th of November, 1850, amounted to the sum of $143,264 19.

Total estimated cost of the work,	$1,245,708
Amount appropriated,	400,000
Amount required to complete,	$845,708

The great advantage of this work to the public revenue, and to the section of the country through which it passes, is now almost universally conceded. No argument in favor of its early completion need be adduced. The large sum of money expended upon it has been lying idle for years. In a financial point of view, it is economy to bring it into use as soon as possible. The Board, therefore, recommend an appropriation for the completion of the work at the earliest possible period.

The tolls for 1851 are estimated at $1,800,000.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

BRADDOCK'S EXPEDITION.

Mr. D. N. WHITE:—With this note I hand you an extract of a long account of Braddock's expedition, written by a person who was present, and witnessed all that he relates. This extract was kindly furnished me by the *Hon. George Bancroft*, our late Minister in England, and was obtained by him in the course of his researches, preparatory to the writing of the fourth volume of his admirable history of the United States. This volume will embrace that period when the attempts to settle the country around the head of the Ohio began; when Gist first saw the Ollio, when Washington, in his youth, gave the first evidences of that discretion, sound judgment and indomitable firmness and courage, which characterized his future life; when that war began in which the mighty talents, the genius and the irresistible energy of that great man from whom our city derives it name, was displayed with so much brilliancy and effect. This was truly a period of absorbing interest to this section of country; and from the eloquent and glowing pen of the author, we may expect an interesting and instructive account of it.

Accompanying this extract, I received a very handsome plan of the field of Braddock's Battle, and of the disposition of the troops at the commencement of that action.

In reading the account of the march of Braddock, it occurred to my mind at once, that there was no very clear evidence to sustain the usual charge of headstrong rashness against that officer. Prudent precautions appear, to me, to have been adopted upon all occasions, and especially those used, on the day of the defeat, in twice crossing the Monongahela, seem to have been perfect, as they certainly proved safe and effective. The difficulties which had been looked to with so much anxiety had been overcome, and defeat overwhelmed the army at the moment when it was least expected. One blunder was committed, *probably*, in not placing the Virginia troops in advance and on the flanks of the army. Their acquaintance with the woods, and the Indian mode of warfare, might have been very useful. A contemporaneous account, in an Irish magazine, republished in volume first of the *Olden Time*, attributes the defeat to the cowardice of the same troops who, in 1745, just ten years before, disgraced themselves at *Preston Pans*, in the action with Prince Charles Stewart.

Your readers will, no doubt, notice that the Virginia troops are not mentioned at all, and the name of Washington does not appear until after the defeat.

The account is long, but I am very sure that none of your readers will regret its publication in the Gazette. C.

GEN. BRADDOCK'S EXPEDITION, 1755

KING'S LIBRARY, VOL. 212, P. 87, TO THE END.

July 4th.—We marched about six miles to Thicketty-run; the country was now less mountainous and rocky, and the woods rather more open, consisting chiefly of white oak.

From this place two of our Indians were prevailed upon to go for intelligence towards the French fort, and also (unknown to them) Gist the General's guide.

The Indians returned on the 6th and brought in a French officer's scalp, who was hooting within half a mile of the Fort. They informed the General that they saw very few men there or trucks, nor any additional works; that no pass was possessed by them between us and the Fort, and that they believed very few men were out upon observation. They saw some boats under the Fort, and one with a white flag coming down the Ohio. [Alleghany.]

Gist returned a little after the same day, whose account corresponded with theirs, excepting that he saw a smoke in a valley between our camp and Duquesne. He had concealed himself with an intent of getting close under the Fort in the night, but was discovered and pursued by two Indians who had very near taken him.

At this camp the provisions from Colonel Dunbar, with a detachment of a Captain and 100 men, joined us, and we halted here one day.

On the 6th of July we marched about six miles to Monakatuca Camp, which was called so from an unhappy accident that happened upon the march.

Three or four people loitering on the rear of the Grenadiers were killed by a party of Indians and scalped. Upon hearing the firing, the General sent back the Grenadier company, on whose approach the Indians fled. They were discovered again a little after by our Indians in the front, who were going to fire upon them, but were prevented by some of our outrangers, who, knowing these, our Indians for the enemy, fired upon them and killed Monakatuca's son, notwithstanding they made the agreed countersign, which was holding up a bough and grounding their arms.—When we came to our ground, the General sent for the father and the other Indians, and satisfied with and made them the usual presents, and desired the officers to attend the funeral, and gave an order to fire over the body.

This behavior of the General was so agreeable to the Indians, that they afterwards were more attached to us, quite contrary to our expectations.

The line of carrying horses extending very often a prodigious length, it was almost impossible to secure them from insults, though they had yet marched without any interruption. Every Indian having been ordered to carry his firelock, and small parties having kept constantly on their flanks. The disposition of march for these horses had varied almost every day according to the nature of the country, but the most common was to let them remain upon the ground an hour after the march of the line, under the guard of a captain and one hundred men, by which means there was no confusion in leaving the ground, and the horses were much eased. They were now ordered, when the roads would permit, to march upon the flanks between the subaltern's picket and the line; but whenever the country was close or rocky, they were ordered to fall in the rear, and a strong guard marched thither for their security, which was directed to advance or fall back in proportion to the length of the line of carrying horses, taking particular care always to leave parties upon the flanks.

ORDERS AT MONAKATUCA CAMP.

If it should be ordered to advance the van, or send back the rear guard, the advanced parties detached from them are to remain at their posts facing outwards.

Whenever there is a general halt, half of each of the subaltern's advanced parties are to remain under arms with fixed bayonets, facing outwards, and the other half may sit down by their arms.

On the 7th July we marched from hence, and quitting the Indian path, endeavored to pass the Turtle Creek about twelve miles from the mouth, to avoid the dangerous pass of the Narrows. We were led to a precipice which it was impossible to descend. The General ordered Sir John St. Clair to take a captain and one hundred men, with the Indians, guides, and some light horse, to reconnoitre very well the country. In about two hours he returned and informed the General he had found the ridge which led the whole way to Fort Du Quesne, and avoided the Narrows and Frazier's, but that some work which was to be done would make it impossible to move further that day; we therefore encamped here, and marched the next morning about eight miles to the camp near the Monongahela.

When we arrived here, Sir John St. Clair mentioned, (but not to the General,) the sending a detachment that night to invest the Fort: but being asked whether the distance was not too great to reinforce that detachment in case of an attack, and whether it would not be more advisable to make the Pass of the Monongahela, or the Narrows, whichever was resolved upon, with our whole force, and then to send the detachment from the next camp, which would be six or seven miles from the fort. Sir John immediately acquiesced, and was of opinion that would be a much more prudent measure.

The guides were sent for, who described the Narrows to be a narrow pass of about two miles, with a river on the left, and a very high mountain on the right, and that it would require much repair to make it passable by carriages. They said the Monongahela had two extreme good fords, which were very shallow, and the banks not steep. It was, therefore, resolved to pass this river the next morning, and Lieut. Col. Gage was ordered to march before the break of day, with the two companies of Grenadiers, 100 rank and file, of the 44th and 48th, Capt. Gates' Independent Company, and two six pounders, with proper guides, and he was instructed to pass the fords of the Monongahela, and to take post after the second crossing, to secure the passage of that river. Sir John St. Clair was ordered to march at 2 o'clock, with a detachment of 250 men, to make the roads for the artillery and baggage, which was to march with the remainder of the troops at five.

ORDERS AT THE CAMP NEAR MONONGAHELA.

All the men are to draw and clean their pieces, and the whole are to load to morrow on the beating of the General, with fresh cartridges.

No tents or baggage are to be taken with Lieut. Col. Gage's party.

July 9th.—The whole marched agreeably to the orders before mentioned, and about eight in the morning, the General made the first crossing of the Monongahela by passing over about 150 men in the front, to whom followed half the carriages; another party of 150 men headed the second division; the horses and cattle then passed, and after all the baggage was over, the remaining troops which till then possessed the heights, marched over in good order.

The General ordered a halt, and the whole formed in their proper line of march.

When we had moved about a mile, the General received a note from Lieut. Col. Gage, acquainting him with his having passed the river the second time without any interruption, and having posted himself agreeably to his orders.

When we got to the other crossing, the bank on the opposite side not being yet made passable, the artillery and baggage drew up along the beach, and halted till one, when Lieut. Col. Gage, received over the detachment of the 44th, with the pickets of the right. The artillery wagons and carrying horses followed, and then the detachment of the 48th with the left pickets, which had been posted during the halt upon the heights.

When the whole had passed, the General again halted till they formed according to the annexed plan.

It was now near two o'clock, and the advanced party under Lieut. Col. Gage, and the working party under Sir John St. Clair, were ordered to march on till three. No sooner were the pickets upon their respective flanks and the word given to march, but we heard an excessive quick and heavy firing in the front. The General imagining the advanced parties were very warmly attacked, and being willing to free himself from the incumbrance of the baggage, ordered Lieut. Col. Burton to reinforce them with the van guard, and the line to halt. According to this disposition, eight hundred men were detached from the line, free from all embarrassments, and four hundred were left for the defence of the artillery and baggage, posted in such a manner as to secure them from any attacks or insults.

The General sent forward an aid-de-camp to bring him an account of the nature of the attack, but the fire continuing, he moved forward himself, leaving Sir Peter Halket with the command of the baggage. The advance detachment soon gave way, and fell back upon Lieut. Col. Burton's detachment, who was forming his men to face a rising ground upon the right. The whole were now got together in great confusion. The colors were advanced to different places to separate the men of the two regiments. The General ordered the officers to endeavor to form the men, and to tell them off into small divisions, and to advance with them, but neither entreaties nor threats could prevail.

The advanced bank parties, which were left for the security of the baggage all but one run in. Their baggage was then warmly attacked, a great many horses and some drivers were killed, the others escaped by night. Two of the cannon flanked the baggage, and for some time kept the Indians off; the other cannon which were disposed of in the best manner, and fired away most of their ammunition, were of some service, but the spot being so woody, they could do little or no execution.

The enemy had spread themselves in such a manner that they extended from front to rear, and fired upon every part.

The place of action was covered with trees and much underwood upon the left, without any opening but the road, which was about twelve feet wide. At the distance of about 200 yards in front, and upon the right, were two rising grounds covered with trees

When the General found it impossible to persuade them to advance, and no energy appeared in view: and nevertheless a vast number of officers were killed by exposing themselves before the men, he endeavored to retreat them in good order; but the panic was so great that he could not succeed. During this time they were leading as fast as possible, and in the rear, for first half a mile Col. Burton got together about 100 of the 48th regiment, and prevailed upon them, by the General's order, to follow him toward the rising ground on the right, but he being disabled by his wounds, they faced about to the right and returned

When the men had fired away all their ammunition, and the General and next of the officers were wounded, they by one common consent left the field, running off with the greatest precipitation. About fifty Indians pursued us to the river, and killed several men in the passage. The officers used all possible endeavors to stop the rout, and to prevail upon them with us to make a great number of them threw away their arms and ammunition, and even their clothes, to escape the faster. About a quarter of a mile on the other side of the river, we prevailed upon near 100 of them to take post upon a very advantageous spot, about two hundred yards from the road. Lieut. Col. Burton posted some small parties and centinels. We intended to have kept possession of that ground till we could have been reinforced. The General and some wounded officers remained there about an hour, till most of the men run off. From that place the General sent Mr. Washington to Col. Dunbar, with orders to send wagons for the wounded, and provisions and hospital stores, to be escorted by the two youngest grenadier companies, to meet him at Gist's plantation, or nearer if possible. It was found impracticable to remain here, as the General and the officers were left almost alone; we therefore retreated in the best manner we were able. After we had passed the Monongahela the second time, we were joined by Lieut. Col. Gage, who had rallied near 80 men. We marched all that night, and the next day: and about 10 o'clock that night we got to Gist's Plantation.

July 11th.—Some wagons, provisions and hospital stores arrived. As soon as the wounded were dressed, and the men had refreshed themselves, we retreated to Col. Dunbar's camp, which was near Rock Fort. The General sent a Sergeant's party back with provisions to be left on the road on the other side of the Youghiogheny for the refreshment of any men who might have lost their way in the woods. Upon our arrival at Col. Dunbar's camp, we found it in the greatest confusion. Some of his men had gone off upon hearing of our defeat, and the rest seemed to have forgot all dicipline. Several of our detachment had not stopped till they had reached this camp.

It was found necessary to clear some wagons for the wounded, many of whom were in a desperate situation, and as it was impossible to remove the stores, the howitzer shells, some 12 pound shot, powder, and provisions, were destroyed, or buried.

July 18th.—We marched from hence to be camp near the Great Meadows, where the General died.

From the Boston Transcript.

GILLARD AGAINST PAINE.

We mentioned, a few days since, the fact stated by a Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, in regard to the examination by a member of American gentlemen in the French metropolis, of a new mode of procuring hydrogen gas, invented by Monsieur Gillard. The mention drew forth a letter from Mr. Paine, who writes us, under date of Worcester, Jan 10, as follows:

"*Dear Sir*—I used a "thin filagree hoop of platina," in combination with the flame of free hydrogen, as a means of illumination, two years ago, as hundreds can testify; it being used openly without any secrecy. I did not consider the use of it as any thing new, having seen it used in the self acting hydrogen lamp 16 years ago. So that you will perceive that the "French water gas" does not affect Mr. Paine as much as the New York Journal of Commerce could wish. I should not have noticed the article at all, had it not been for the invidious remark in that paper, that the "French invention" is very simple, and easier to use than Mr. Paine's.

In the Philadelphia Ledger of yesterday, we find a letter dated Paris, December 10, 1850, from Mr. W. H. Fry, who describes more particularly, the invention of Mr. Gillard, and the exhibition recently made by him. The party present, besides the writer, were Mr. Sanford, American Secretary of Legation; Mr. Sykes, Mr. H. Phillips, and Mr. Alfred Moss, Philadelphia; Mr. Carey, Cincinnati; Mr. Hackell, of New York, and others. Among all, there was but one sentiment of surprise and admiration at the result; and it was believed by them, that the great question, whether gas, manufactured from water, can be used for purposes of light and heat, was satisfactorily solved by Mr. Gillard. Mr. Fry writes:

In the environs of Paris is a manufactory.—Entering the premises, we were first shown a room of the size of an ordinary drawing-room, in which were suspended several burners. The only difference in the arrangement from the ordinary gas burner was, that round each lamp-flame was placed a platinum wick, about an inch and a half in length, and about an inch or so in diameter. The flame itself was blue and dullish, but by the insertion of the platinum net work, (which is round and open at the top,) the platinum became splendidly luminous; and all the burners together cast such a light that the tints of blue and green on paper, which are confounded ordinarily at night, could be distinguished, and the delicate shade of a light straw color adequately discriminated. Whether the platinum is prepared in any special way, was not said; but the network is exceedingly light, and, of course, inexpensive.

Upon a shelf was a stove about eighteen inches high and five across, to which was attached a gas pipe. The stove could be carried about, and a small leather pipe, connected with the main pipe attached to it. The stove requires no chimney, for the gas being free from smoke or color, it can burn in any room. In a chimney place there were a number of jets of the gas, which gave out a strong heat, capable of being regulated by simply turning them on or off, as required. In an adjoining room was a gas heater, where no flame was perceptible, the heat being conducted from beneath. In the kitchen was the gas metre; and there in the kitchen range or oven were placed the different utensils over gas flames, whose intensity could be regulated by a turning off or on the gas in the required quantities. The gas pipe of leather was then applied to the hollow handle of a gridiron, each bar of which was perforated at equal distances with holes of the size of a pin's point. By a turn of the hand the gridiron presented a magical appearance; it flamed up with blue lights, and over them were placed some mutton chops, which were expeditiously cooked."

While this was going on, water was being heated by gas, and the company was treated to some hot punch. In justice to the gridiron, it must be mentioned, that it can be turned on its side, and thus presenting a perpendicular front, it can be used for roasting. A cook by this means could place a vertical gridiron on a handsome centre table, and with a fin kitchen before it, with goose, turkey or pig therein, preside over her work while reading a novel or working at crunets; for the ordinary stooping, perspiring, fuss and litter are done away with.

In a word, the most disagreeable household details, which require despised drudges to perform, are obviated by this means. Of course there is no getting out of coal or wood, no dust or dirt created thereby; no smell; no poisonous exhalation. All you have to do is to have a pipe from the gas manufactory in your cellar, with gas conductors as at present, and your fuel, and oil, and candles, are laid for year in and year out.

The parlor and kitchen experiments being over, we adjourned some one hundred feet to the gas factory. Here, it was shown how it could be manufactured on a grand scale by a company. A brick furnace of about twelve feet square contained the retort, &c., &c., &c. Ambordinary gas establishment, with a conductor, will answer for the manufacture of this new agent. The inventor told me the expense of heating a drawing room was about a sous, one cent, a day. In regard to light, the expense was, he said, as six to twenty six in favor of the cheapness of the water gas over the gas now in use.

As a heating agent, its powers were fully tested. A room was heated by the gas in a very short time. The heat was of the most agreeable kind; the combination with oxygen producing water, and preventing that dryness which always accompanies our furnaces.

As to the means of the preparation of the gas: a number of methods have been suggested by chemistry, most of them from the decomposition of water; but all of them have been heretofore regarded rather as class experiments, more interesting as to theory than capable of a practical application. Mr. Gillard, by a simple and cheap method, makes pure hydrogen. Steam is passed into an air tight iron retort, exactly like those in gas establishments; the bottom of the retort covered with a layer of charcoal the depth of an inch or so; the retort is heated to a bright red, and carbonic acid and hydrogen are produced. The chemical action is simple; the oxygen of the water combining with the charcoal, forming carbonic acid, and passing with the hydrogen into a chamber containing lime. Here the carbonic acid combines with the lime, forming carbonate of lime, and the pure hydrogen being liberated, passes off. The advantages of this manufacture over that of coal or oil gas, in point of method and expense, are too apparent to be dwelt upon.

I have given you this account, believing it would be interesting, and I trust intelligible, even to those of your readers who are not acquainted with chemistry. The apparatus is so simple that it may be found, with the exception of the platinum wick, in any laboratory, and the method will, I hope, be put to the test by some of your scientific friends, so as to satisfy themselves and convince the public that it is what the inventor claims it to be.

Patents have been obtained for all countries of Europe, and for the United States; and in Manchester it is said the work has been successfully commenced. In the course of a month a Philadelphia gentleman, now in this city, will return home with the requisite authority from the patentee to introduce the manufacture of hydrogen for light, etc., into the U. States.

STEAM VERSUS SAILS.—The frigate Constitution, just arrived at this port, has been three years in commission, serving on the Mediterranean station. During this time she has been two hundred and seventy days under way, and passed two years and three month sat anchor. The expense of her cruise of the first class is $400,000 per annum which for three years would be $1,200,000. The Constitution by log, sailed 19,000 miles, and visited thirteen ports. A steam frigate handled as Collins, Law's or Aspinwall's shipmers are handled, would pass over the same ground in six months. The American Eagle is screaming for domination of the seas, and her voice is heard in the whistle of the steam engine.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The census returns exhibit some curious facts in regard to population. For instance, in Pike county, Kentucky, there is a family, the husband aged 25, the wife's 21, in which there are five children under 5 years, the youngest one month old. The Assistant Marshall challenges the world to beat it. The 7th Ward, Boston equals, if it does not surpass the above, viz: the husband is 35, the wife is 25, five children, the eldest 14, the youngest 8 years. But there is a family in Muskingum county, O. consisting of fourteen children: the husband is 72 years old, the wife 42, the ages of the children being 21, 20, 19, 16, 14, 12, 9, 8, 6, two boys, twins, 4 years, and two daughters, twins, 7 months old, which we think bears off the palm.

GREAT DEFALCATION.

For several days past rumors have been in circulation of the unaccountable absence of a citizen of St Clair county, Ill., who had enjoyed a large share of the confidence of the people of that county. So long as the affair here as an appearance of mystery, which might be explained, we did not think it proper to attude to it. But there is no longer any good reason for this reserve. The delinquent is D. W. Hopkins, who for several years past, Sheriff of St Clair co., and by virtue of that office Collector of the State and County Revenue. He had been in the office of Sheriff, first as Deputy under his uncle, S B Chandler, Esq., and then as Sheriff for several years, and was very popular with the people. The revenue due to the State is payable in December, but about Christmas day Hopkins left Belleville, ostensibly for Springfield, with the avowed purpose of paying into the Treasury the year's revenue He was accompanied by his wife and child, and it was observed that they took an unusual number of trunks with them. He came to this city, and here exchanged other money for gold, to the amount of several hundred dollars He left this city, with his family, and in the direction of Springfield. About the time of the meeting of the Legislature, one of his securities, who happened to be in Springfield, went to the St. Clair county stood as a defaulter on the books of the Treasury, and that Mr. Hopkins had failed to pay over a portion of the money collected from him He deficit was ascertained to be between $10 and $12,000, and this amount, it is said, will be swelled to between $15 and $17,000 in the office of Collector. What his indebtedness to the county may be, is not known, and it is rumored that there will be great difficulty in doing it out, from the manner in which the accounts have been kept. As Sheriff, the defalcation, will be unmissionable, sureties and their counsel not being in the habit of suffering money to accumulate in their hands. The bonds for the two offices are taken separately—the security for the Collector's bond amounting to forty thousand dollars. His relatives and friends are on this bond, and will have to make good the deficiency.

A day or two since, when suspicion of his nocality had grown into certainty, the parties most interested entered his house at Belleville, but it was found empty. Every thing valuable had been taken out of it, and the memorandums among his papers left no doubt about his defalcation. It is supposed that he had shaped his course for New Orleans, with the intention of getting out of the United States as speedily as possible, but it is now believed that he went up the Ohio, hoping to escape pursuit in that direction. The name of "N. Hopkins and lady, St. Louis," is entered upon the books of the Burnet House, Cincinnati, as having been there last week, and, although bearing a different name, this is probably the fugitive. He will hardly fail to elude his pursuers. The telegraph has been put in requisition, and wherever he may be the police will be on the alert to arrest him.

We believe some disability applies to the members of the Legislature from St. Clair county, in consequence of the defalcation.—*St. Louis Republican, Jan. 11.*

MANUFACTURE OF GLASS BY MACHINERY.—We witnessed, says the Sandwich Observer, at the factory of the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company, the making of Glass bowls by machinery, and of a magnitude that far exceeds in size and weight any heretofore made in this or any other country. The machine, we understand, weighs between two and three tons, and is worked with the accuracy of a steam engine. The glowing metal was taken from the furnace at its greatest fusion by the workmen, placed in the machine by hand, set in motion, and in a few minutes a perfect bowl, of rich design, was turned out, spreading a most intense heat around, which none but those accustomed to the business could stand. It was an interesting sight to notice the arrangement made in working the machine—there is no confusion—each workman is in his diloted place—and it surprises us to see an article of its weight and size handled with so much judgment and skill, that in one minute it was taken from the press by the head workmen, and carried to a side furnace to receive the fire polish, and formed into shape: as soon as that was secured, it was taken to annealing kiln, and placed therein to cool—which requires eight or ten days. The bowl we learn, weighs about sixty pounds, stands twenty one inches high and twenty two inches in diameter at top. It is called the Union Bowl, and the moderate price it is held at will enable hotel keepers and others to posess a beautiful and useful centre ornament for their table.

ANDREW JACKSON—INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

One of the productions which the printing controversy between Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Rives has received from oblivion, is a speech, delivered some years since by Mr. Rives before the Democratic Association, in Washington city. Among other personal reminiscences, it contains two or three anecdotes of General Jackson, which cannot fail to be read with the interest which attaches to every thing that tends to illustrate the character of that remarkable man. Mr Rives tells us that it was not only his fortune to be "patronized by Andrew Jackson," but it was also his good luck to know more about his writings and doings during the last thirteen years of his life than those most near and dear to him. After thus presenting his credentials, he proceeds as follows

"It is so generally known that General Jackson was a man who, above all others, took "responsibility" in peace or in war, that that word brings to the minds of the people of this country his name almost as certainly as the letters which spell it.—But it is not so well known that he made others take it on times of profound peace I know it well. He made me take it, and that made me know him so well. The occasion for making me take it was, his annual message got out from the offices of the National Intelligencer and the United States Telegraph before it was sent to Congress, soon after I came into the Globe office—the first session of the twenty third Congress, I believe—and afterwards, as long as he was President; he gave all his messages to me to have printed, with the admonition—"I will hold you responsible, sir, if that message gets out before Congress is ready to receive it. Don't let a person—not even one of my Cabinet officers—have a copy of it before I send it to Congress."

The printer prints from the rough draught of the President's message, and often gets part of the copy before the message is completed. I invariably went after the copy and took the proofs back to the President myself, which gave me an opportunity of knowing all about who wrote and who were consulted about them. It has been said, and is no doubt believed by many, that Gen. Jackson did not write his messages. Neither he nor any other president ever wrote those parts of their messages which showed the condition of the several departments. They are written by the heads of the departments respectively. Nearly the whole of the balance of Gen. Jackson's messages was in his hand writing The proclamation which was intended to carry out his memorable toast, 'the Union must be preserved,' which was intended as a rebuke to nullification. When I showed it first, at the celebration of Mr. Jefferson's birth day in Washington, was re-written by Mr. Livingston, then Secretary of State.

Mr. Blair, who saw the original paper, has frequently told his friends that he thought it better than the finished production, and not liable to the objections to some of the principles advanced in the latter It was Gen. Jackson's invariable practice to put down in writing every official paper which he submitted to the public He was, however, always willing to admit suggestions, and permit alterations where he thought them improvements"

I will relate an anecdote, or incident, which will lead to a correct conclusion, as to who wrote Gen. Jackson's messages, and, also, who attended to them after they were written:

"When I went after the annual message which degranded of the French King, (Louis Philippe) the indemnity due to citizens of the United States by the French Government, I found Major Donelson, then General Jackson's private secretary, and to whom belonging to the State Department, (Mr. Derrick,) comparing the copies to be sent to both branches of Congress with the rough draught. General Jackson was walking the floor, some twenty or thirty feet from them; smoking his pipe, paying no attention to the reading, as I thought. When they read that part of the message which put the demand in the strongest terms, General Jackson said: 'Donelson! stop there; that is not as I wrote it.'

Major Donelson replied, 'General, the Cabinet had a meeting, and agreed to soften this a little.' 'I wrote it as I wrote it, and it must go in as I wrote it.' Major Donelson then opened his table drawer, and took from it the slip which he had cut from the message, and inserted it in place of the alteration made by the Cabinet.

I have both the original and the alteration, I believe filed away, but at this moment I can not find them; and then conveniently. Many predicted at the time that the suppressed effront contained in the message would cause France to declare war against the United States. So far from it, it cowed the money to be paid; and Louis Philippe, then King of France, thought so highly of Gen Jackson, that he sent an eminent artist, (Mr. Healy) to the Hermitage, to take his likeness for him. The picture was so completed only a few days before the General's death, and is said to be the best ever taken"

A CANTICLE OF COTTON AND FLAX

Interest is always alive,
Buried never—always toil what can
Last never was was known to arrive,
Immoral, very, to Cotton
Which having long clothed all the men,
Who are blessed with a fair share of brains,
Will soon be abandoned, and then
The sect of the world will be flax

This plant of the North is worth not
By Doylas and Claussen as line
Or as flax, as the parents that rose
Perfection in beauty divine
And cheap as our shirting and sheeting
Egyptian Cotton and woven just so;
Pull your flax! but no rotting, so is sting,
The Chemist does all at a blow!

This plant of the South and its bills
Neglected her commons may grace
The Planters, in despite of their ills
Recall the lost rule of their race:
And, here's to Cotton! long live "Lavin,
And the least of our Flax! let it be
To fostrith 'mong freed of men,
And the sister of its rival to free!

Desirable Suburban Residence for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale the house and grounds where he now resides, situated on Park avenue, Allegheny, and about 25 minutes' walk from the market of this city. The lot is 140 feet front on Park st., running back 252 feet, to an alley—containing nearly one acre of ground, and is bounded on every side by large vacant lots, adorned with trees and shrubbery. The house is nearly new, large, and exceedingly well arranged, having front of 50 feet, and a depth of 42 feet, and within 8 surrounding rooms, besides halls nine feet wide. It is built in the most most durable manner, and has a fire-proof roof, and contains all the modern conveniences. Two pumps, with an unfailing supply of hard and soft water are at the door on the premises, are the necessary out buildings, stable, carriage house, &c. The grounds are laid out mostly as a lawn, covered with choice fruit trees, evergreens, flowering shrubs, currants, gooseberries, raspberries, &c., and a small garden. The fruit is of the best kind, and the trees are in their prime, and yield enough for the wants of an ordinary family. The situation of this property, as to healthfulness and suburban comforts, combined with contiguity to the city, is not surpassed by any residence in this vicinity. It has a view of the Ohio River for over a mile, of Temperanceville, South Pittsburgh, the city, the two rivers, and the hills around, bringing altogether a panoramic prospect of which the eye never wearies. Every boat which enters or departs from the port of Pittsburgh, is in the ohio, passes in full view. The residence and grounds are also completely removed from any annoyance of dust, so destructive of comfort and vegetation, and affords a retirement as quiet and peaceful as if located in any quiet place in the country. The property will be sold at a bargain, and possession given on the first of April. Enquire at the Gazette office.

jan16tf D. N. WHITE

REMARKABLE CASE!

EVIDENCE IN OUR MIDST.

MR. EDIT—Sir: I cheerfully comply with your request that I would give you an account of the almost miraculous cure of my little daughter's eye by the use of your "Petroleum."

She was attacked with a very sore eye in February or March last, when I immediately applied to the best medical aid in the city, by whom it was pronounced a "very bad eye," and at last gave me no hope of doing her any good. After which I took her into the country to see old lady, who had been very successful in curing eyes. She told me that her case was hopeless, as she would certainly lose not only that eye, but also that the other would follow, being a scrofulous affection of the blood. And I do certify, that at the time my father (J. B. Vashon) came to the conclusion that we had better try your Petroleum, she sore entirely blind of one eye. It was about two months after she began its use, and she can now see with both eyes as good as ever she did, and, as far as I can tell, I believe she has, with the blessing of the Almighty, been cured by Petroleum.

Yours, respectfully,
M. FRANCES VASHON COLDER.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 30, 1850.

☞For sale by Keyser & McDowell, 140 Wood st.; R. E. Sellers, 57 Wood st.; D. M. Curry, fs. A. Elliott, Joseph Douglass, and H. P. Schwartz, Allegheny; also by the proprietor,

S. M. KIER,
Canal Basin, Seventh st., Pittsburgh.

PROTECTION

Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

Annual premium, Capital Stock and Surplus Fund

$1,000,000,

POLICIES ISSUED ON THE MOST FAVORABLE TERMS

BY GEORGE E. ARNOLD, Agent,
No. 74 Fourth street, Pittsburgh.

COPARTNERSHIP.—We have associated with us Thomson Iles, late Cashier of the Farmers Deposite Bank, who will devote his personal attention to the business. The style of the firm remains as heretofore.

A. WILKINS & CO.

EXCHANGE AND BAN