PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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PITTSBURGH.

THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 23, 1851.

We have no telegraphic dispatch west of Cincinnati, consequently we cannot give the result of the ballot yesterday for United States Senator in Missouri.

THE STEAMER ATLANTIC.

Another day has passed, and still there are no tidings of this missing vessel. On Saturday last the insurance offices in New York declined taking any additional policies on the Atlantic. She left Liverpool on Saturday, the 28th ultimo; she is therefore in her 20th day.

The Liverpool Mercury of the 31st ult. says, the United States mail steamship Atlantic, Capt. West, left the Mersey on Saturday, for N. York, with the usual mails, and a fair complement of passengers, being the second American departure hence on Saturdays since the opening of the winter season. She was passed during the evening, off the Bell Buoy, by the mail steamship Asia.

The New York Tribune, of Saturday, says:

Nothing has yet been heard of the Atlantic. She has probably got out of coal, or had her engines disabled. We do not doubt that she will finally arrive in safety. So substantial a ship can outride any tempest ever seen at sea. We see no cause for anxiety on account of her delay. The United States was twenty eight days on her last voyage from Europe.

The N. Y. Commercial, of Saturday afternoon, has the following article:

STEAMSHIP ATLANTIC.—The non-arrival of this vessel has caused much painful anxiety among those who have friends on board. We have every confidence that the noble ship is safe, believing that her supply of coal has been short, and her officers have made for the Western Islands, St. Thomas, or some other of the West India Islands, to obtain a supply.

The following are the names of the passengers, but whether the list includes the whole number or not, we are not informed:

W. A. Wheelock and lady, N. Y.; W. E. Case and lady, N. Y.; J. H. Easter, R. H. Harris, L. Pettingen, Baltimore; C. C. Hatch and lady, N. Y.; H. E. Welker, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Sutten, D. H. Griffin, D. Rankin, G. B. Reese, Philadelphia; Abbot Lawrence, Jr., Boston; C. Schayerer, Mr. Schlisman, Mr. Elsmer, W. Benjamin, Jr., N. Y.; G. Mackenzie, J. S. Lowrey, Mr. Alexander and servant, Mr. Wadsworth and servant, M. Goldstein, G. A. Curtis, J. J. Lering.

The Washington Union says:

We understand from reliable authority that the Atlantic has pumps sufficiently powerful to flood the ship in case of fire, and a metallic life-car to land, through any surf. Besides, the lies six of "Fremer's metallic fire-proof life-boats," of immense power and size. Three of them will carry one hundred persons each, and the boats cannot be submerged. The Atlantic has seven boats in all; and too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Collins for his thoughtful provision for the safety of his passengers in case of those unavoidable accidents which may happen to all who "go down into the deep in ships."

PLANK ROAD TO BUTLER.—We are much gratified to learn from the *Butler Herald*, that we are really to have a plank road to Butler, and certainly no section of the country needs such an improvement more. Its value to Butler, and all the intermediate country can scarcely be estimated, but it will be such as will surprise even the most sanguine. The Herald says:

"The desirable and certainly much needed public improvement is now certain to be made. We learn that upwards of $40,000 of the stock has already been taken. The balance of the stock will soon be subscribed. $60,000 is supposed to be sufficient to make the road, and make it well. The charter has been taken out in pursuance of the provisions of the act of incorporation, and nothing remains now but to go to work in good earnest and make the road. The road is to be made in the most substantial manner, and we have every assurance that it will be speedily completed.

"It is to be hoped the trustees will immediately set about to have it located and put under contract. There is no occasion for delay. The importance of the work to the interest of our county demands that it should be made as speedily as possible. We hope the trustees will elect practical and energetic managers—men who will push the road through with all the speed possible."

SILVER AND GOLD—REVOLUTION IN THE CIRCULATING MEDIUM.—The recent advices from Europe reveal approaching changes in the circulating medium of continental Europe. The plethora of gold is filling with alarm the Governments. Its abundance is depreciating its value, which, by the way of amendment they are about further depreciating by withdrawing it from public circulation as a legal tender. The example of the Dutch Government is catching. France is about to follow, and to make silver alone legal tender. Remarking on this subject, the New York Post says:

This, from the increasing scarcity of silver, will add a considerable per centage to all monetary transaction, increasing taxes, and all obligations involving payment of money; while the additional demand for silver consequent on this change, and the great abundance of gold, displacing it partially from circulation, will increase the existing difficulty.

If gold ceases to be legal money in any country, while silver become scarce, serious difficulty may hereafter be felt in money matters. The movement, however, will be confined to the continent. England will retain her gold legal tender, making probably, some alteration in the legal proportion of value between the metals, and thus obviate the present difficulty. Gold is, by far, the best metal for legal money, though an additional abundance may have the effect of raising the prices of commodities generally.

Its steadiness of value will be little affected by the fifty millions of dollars of gold coming from California annually. Its displacement from the currency of Europe must, to a greater or lesser extent, hurt trade. England joins in such a measure, the effect will be comparatively harmless.

Prices will settle according to the new degree of abundance, and every thing would move with regularity. While, on the contrary, a scarcity of silver, combined with an increased demand for it, from being it the only coin for settlement of transactions, would involve a momentary crisis.

Silver being less durable than gold, does not stand the wear and tear of circulation so well, and a much larger supply of it is needed to replace it.

SWITZERLAND.—An treaty of amity and commerce, proffered by the government of the United States to that of Switzerland, has been accepted by the latter with expressions of joy and gratitude. Switzerland being in the heart of Europe, having no ports, and only to be reached through the territories of other powers, has hitherto had no diplomatic relations with the United States.—But now, when despotism is advancing with overwhelming force towards the west of Europe, it is a noble act on the part of this great Republic to take that noble little one by the hand.—She is the only bright spot in all that region, and it is possible that before another year elapses her liberties may be trodden out by the ruthless foot of the Cossack. But it will be some protection, it will secure her some respect, to have the stars and stripes waving over her soil. In the following eloquent and glowing language Switzerland expresses her emotions on this, to her, joyful event.

"Although the different stipulations of the treaty are of a nature to obtain the approval of the Federal assembly—although the treaty, from the advantages and facilities which it accords to the citizens of the two contracting parties, must be saluted as a joyful event, yet it is the manner in which it was concluded—it is the nature of the circumstance attended upon negotiations—it is more particularly the fact of a great nation extending to us by it the hand of friendship, that invests the treaty with a profound meaning and a high moral importance.—Is it not an event of the utmost importance and joy for Switzerland, a country so often threatened, so often attacked, and insulted with unjust demands, to receive from a State which appears to be destined, like very few others, by Providence, to be the bearer of progress and of legal liberty, tokens of friendly affection and avowed respect—and that through the means of one of its eminent statesmen.

From this we derive the conviction that, on the one hand, the position occupied by Switzerland since her regeneration in the European family of nations, has been fully appreciated by the free people of North America; and that, on the other hand, the government of the Union perfectly acknowledges the importance of the relations which should exist between the two States. And, in fact, from the extraordinary extent of the commercial relations, from the connections resulting from emigration, from the similarity of political opinions and institutions, it becomes a necessity for both States to attract each other, and endeavor to preserve and tighten the bonds of friendship. Innumerable ties connect the ancient confederacy with the mighty and flourishing republic of the new world; nor can America remain indifferent to the fate of the ancient bulwark of liberty in the heart of Europe."

THE VALLEY OF THE ALLEGHENY.

Although the section of country drained by the Allegheny river has become, within a few years, famous for its iron manufactures, and has increased greatly in population and productive industry, yet its resources are by no means fully developed. At present, it is languishing under the unwise policy of the government in refusing to protect its enterprising, but not yet wealthy, people against foreign competition. No new furnaces are being erected, and many of those erected under the tariff of '42, are out of blast.

The extent to which the manufacture of iron might be carried in that valley, is almost beyond limit; and doubtless in time—for this folly will not be persisted in forever—it will become one of the greatest sources for the supply of this most valuable of minerals on the continent.

The Brady's Bend Company is still struggling against foreign competition in the manufacture of rail road iron. They get a little higher price than is paid for English iron, but it is a better article. This, and this only, saves them; but yet it is doubtful whether they are making any profit.

The Rolling Mill at Kittanning—an admirably arranged establishment—is going on, and probably making a little; but it is well managed. It is the men who dig the ore out of the hills, and convert it into pig metal, who are suffering most.

Kittanning is a thriving town. Its population was more than doubled during the last ten years. It is very pleasantly situated, and has fine facilities for manufacturing purposes of almost every kind. A spirit of enterprise has sprung up within a few years, which will carry it forward in the march of improvement and progress. But as it is intimately connected with the iron business, now so depressed, its prosperity will necessarily be retarded to some extent.

The steam boat trade of the Allegheny is now very considerable. When business is brisk, it employs some half dozen boats, some of which ascend to Warren, many to Franklin. These boats are almost always crowded with passengers.—But early in the summer, the water generally becomes too low for steamboats; for not a dollar has ever been appropriated to improve the navigation.

A system of dams and locks, making a slack-water navigation for steam boats, extending from Pittsburgh to Olean, N. Y., where it would meet the New York and Erie Rail Road, and the Genesee Valley Canal, would make the Allegheny one of the greatest thoroughfares in the country, and we think it would be well for the New Yorkers to think this matter. Were that done, merchandize could be put on board a boat at Olean, nearly one hundred miles east of Dunkirk, and landed at Pittsburgh, or Cincinnati, or St. Louis or St Pauls, or Independence, or Council Bluffs! It would open into their own State, and to within a few hours of their commercial metropolis, a direct communication with the twenty thousand miles of unbroken steam boat routes of the Mississippi Valley. It would open a direct avenue of intercourse between Western New York and Western Pennsylvania, to their great mutual advantage; for their natural character and productions are very different, and such an avenue of trade would lead to a vast amount of exchanges. At present we can scarcely get to each other at all, except by way of Lake Erie.

Now, whether a slackwater navigation on the Allegheny would be a better improvement than a rail road along its margin, is a question open for discussion. We think the former would be less expensive in the first instance, and, would, perhaps, be a cheaper mode of transportation when completed. But either the one or the other of these improvements will soon be imperatively called for, not only by the growing importance of the region through which it will pass, but as another medium of communication between the east and west.

OHIO CONVENTION.

The proposition to repeal charters, that truly locofoco idea, has elicited no little debate among the members of the Convention, which they occasionally enliven with a little fun.

Mr. Stanbery, a whig, is quirring Mr. Reemelin, of Hamilton county, on his democracy.

Mr. Stanbery.—I made this supposition, because the gentleman from Hamilton has told us that he has a "holy horror" of all corporations. I was much surprised when the gentleman from Licking [Mr. Case] told us, this morning, that the gentleman from Hamilton had selected his quarters in the house (the Burnet) owned by a corporation. I would almost as soon have expected to hear that he had taken up his abode in a den of lions. Who would have dreamt that his democratic trend should ever be heard upon the marble floors of that incorporated palace! I can see him now in those saloons decorated with more than oriental splendor—regarding his democratic features before those vast mirrors

"In which he of Gath,
Goliah—might have viewed his giant bulk
Whole without stooping—towering crest and all."

I can see the gentleman reposing his democratic limbs upon the yielding velvet of those incorporated ottomans—basking in the glare of those crystal lamps, blazing with many a row of burning crescents, and yielding "light as airy nothing" from a sky." And I can follow him a little further,—when he takes his seat at that incorporated table, and finds before him an incorporated plate, an incorporated knife, and an incorporated fork—a silver fork at that, with as many prongs a hay-rake. And I can regard him still a little further, but with less surprise. I can see him drink—

Mr. Reemelin [in his seat.] Home made Catawba.

Mr. Stanbery.—of that incorporated brandy; and although he has always insisted that corporations have no soul, I think, by this time, he must have found out that they have some spirit.

Mr. Reemelin [in his seat] Has the curtain dropped?

Mr. Stanbery. I wont follow the gentleman into any other of the incorporated places about that house.

Mr. Reemelin [rising.] I would say to the gentleman that he don't know what democracy means—that it is one of the first ideas of a democrat to live upon the best which the country affords.

Mr. Stanbery. Yes, if he is a rich one.

Mr. Reemelin. No; if he is a poor one, as well.

Mr. Stanbery. I shall pursue the gentleman no further. I was laid away into an episode, which I could not help following a little.

WISE LEGISLATION.—The world is very much disposed to laugh at the eccentricities of the Palmetto State, and some of her most loving sons abroad; who are free of the infectious spirit that animates her mercurial and impulsive people at home, honestly confess that a great many foolish things are said and done by her, really prejudicial to her character and interest. But yet, South Carolina is in intention, at least, true to herself; and although she has been most stupidly blind to her real interest, by wasting her time and energies in the discussion of fruitless abstractions, rather than developing her natural resources, and giving employment to her population, it is an infirmity, exciting our commiseration rather than our contempt. The conduct of her last Legislature affords an apt illustration. A great many silly laws were proposed, and extravagant and ridiculous sentiments uttered by sundry of her jejune legislators; but the larger portion of these laws were consigned to the oblivious fate they merited, and when they served the purpose as intended, of safety valves for the vent of surcharged steam, they were laid aside, and nothing more heard of them. Among all this legislative trash and rubbage, there were some wise and judicious measures adopted; among them, an act incorporating the South Carolina Atlantic Steam Navigation Company, the object of which is to encourage a direct trade between Charleston and Liverpool.

The capital stock of the company is $250,000, with the power to increase it to $1,00,000, in shares of $1,000 each.

The pioneer steamship of the line will be on the water very nearly by the 1st of July next. On the completion of this, the State appropriates a sum equal to the building of a second. The condition of this aid from the State, is that the vessel shall be of a quality fit for war service, and shall be at the call of the State on payment of the original cost.

The Mercury is exulting over the prospective prosperity of Charleston, and indulges in the following gratulatory strain:

"The line of steamships now projected, removes the only obstacle in the way of the restoration of Charleston to its early comparative importance among the cities of North America, and that implies an amount of importation greater than our exports, while our favorable position is sure to give to this route a large portion of the Southern traveling custom. That there is thus a broad and sure foundation for success to this enterprise as a commercial undertaking, admits, we think, of no doubt."

We would here mention, what we have done in another paragraph, that all the stock offered to the citizens for the construction of the first vessel was taken up in Charleston without any effort. This is doing very well for a city with about one-fourth the population of New Orleans. —*N. O. Com. Bul.*

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

These fine islands, notwithstanding the healthiness of the climate, are becoming rapidly depopulated, the decrease being at the rate of about eight per cent per annum. In 1849 the population was 80,641. When Capt. Cook discovered these islands, some 75 or 80 years ago, it is supposed the population was four times as great as it is now. But diseases introduced by Europeans and the effects of gross licentiousness which for a long time characterized the intercourse between them and the seamen who visited them, caused a rapid diminution in the population. It seems indeed that the physical constitution of the whole people is affected. It was hoped that the introduction of Christianity, and the habits of civilized life, would arrest this decrease in population; but it has not done it. It is not that the mortality is so great, but the natural increase is so small—the average number of children to each pair being not more than half of what it is with us.

Should this process of depopulation continue, emigrants from the United States will take the place of the natives, and by and by annexation will follow. They are capable of sustaining a large population, and lying as they do in a line between this continent and Asia, their commercial importance will soon be very great.

IGNORANCE AND BAD TASTE.—There are few things more offensive to a man of good taste and bright feeling than that of making some sacred truth, sentiment, or expression to give point to a silly jest. To show what we mean, we clip the following from an exchange paper:

"Pa," said a little fellow the other day, "wasn't Job an editor?" "Why Sammy?" "Because the Bible says he had much trouble, and was a man of sorrow all the days of his life!"

The Bible says no such thing. He whom the Bible denominates 'a man of sorrows' was greater than Job. The fellow who perpetrated this miserable witticism betrayed at once his ignorance and his profanity.

JENNY LIND.—The admirers of this charming songstress can procure her portrait, handsomely executed, at Holmes' Literary Depot, Third street.

SILVER COIN.

We recently alluded to the fact that the scarcity of silver change was seriously felt at the New York Post Office. The Postmaster of that city, who sought for relief at the U. S. Mint, by asking for gold dollars in exchange for coin of larger denomination, has received the following letter on the subject:

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,
January 12, 1850.

SIR—I have had referred to me, a letter of yours to the Post Office Department, in which you refer to the want of gold dollars in your office, and suggest your desire to exchange for them, at the Mint, American coin of the larger denominations.

Having been requested by the Department to address myself to you upon this topic, I have to state that an exchange, such as you propose, would infringe on the fundamental purpose of our organization, which is to coin into the national currency bullion not previously in that shape.

I can think of but one means by which, in a perfectly regular manner, we could furnish you with these coins, which is, by the Treasury Department, drawing on our bullion fund for the requisite sums, payable in gold dollars.

I suggest this method, however, with much reluctance, because we have already a difficulty in meeting the regular demand for these coins, and because, further, it would involve the diminution of our bullion fund at a time most unpropitious to our depositors.

The difficulty in regard to small change has grown entirely out of the variance in the value of silver, as compared with gold, by which it has become profitable to hoard and export the most valued metal, silver, and employ gold as a preferable medium in the payment of debts. It is evident, therefore, that so long as the present relation of the two metals continues, the present scarcity of silver will continue unabated. It is just as clear, too, that the Mint cannot furnish the remedy, since the silver deposites which furnish the material of our coinage must continue to diminish. Considering these facts, it seems to me that creditors, and the post offices in particular, will find that the only remedy in their power is to decline receiving any coins in payment of debts which do not constitute the precise sum due. The obligation of making change is certainly not required by law.

Should any offer be made, legal tenders for the amounts on their face, or for any multiples of those amounts. But there is surely no right to tender a larger piece in payment of a debt for which the law provides a smaller piece. A double eagle may certainly be declined if offered in payment of a five cent postage; and if a double eagle then why not any other coin, except the exact half dime itself.

Very respectfully, your faithful servant,

R. M. PATTERSON, Director.

WM. V. BEADY, Esq., P. M., New York.

THE AGE OF STEAM.

Collins, the enterprizing steamship proprietor, says that in less than *five years* he will own a steamer that shall cross the Atlantic, plough a road through it a week. Shades of our fathers what an idea! And then to think that it will really cease, in five years, to be an idea but shall grow into the full fruition of a fact! What would Hendrick Hudson, and the grave seamen who swung their hammocks in his good ship Half Moon, think, if some daring speculator should have erected by tobacco, and dreaming of that mystic bark which marine fable has long invested with the speed of the winds, had suddenly proposed the idea that the stormy, broad Atlantic, with its tumbling waves, and vapory islands, and nervous storms should be crossed, as a course of some days, in a single day, is no trifling thing in this world of ours. The report of the British and Foreign Bible Society contains an amount of information as to the languages and dialects of the earth, not easily to be obtained from any other source. Fifty years ago the Word of God was translated into languages spoken by about two hundred millions. To day the same holy book may be read by more than six hundred millions of the earth's population. Is not this result of associated charity of great historical importance? Has it no bearing on the intellect, the liberty, the life, the progress, and the prospects of the world?"

A FACT FOR FARMERS.—Dr. R. T. Baldwin has recently made public the result of several years investigation and experiments upon manures and the various ways of fertilizing the soil. He states that the best and speediest way, to fertilize any soil, is to cover it over well with straw, bushes, or any raw material, so as completely to shade it. The surface of the earth thus being made cool, dark, damp, and close, soon undergoes a chemical process like putrefaction, and becomes highly fertilized. This plan of fertilizing, he says, may be applied with success to any soil whatever, no matter how poor, and the result will be astonishing.

From Arthur's Home Gazette.

RECOLLECTIONS OF WASHINGTON.

His Address to Congress when Elected for the Last Time.

BY ARTHUR J. STANSBURY.

But I once had an opportunity far more favorable, of beholding this greatest of men, under circumstances the best possible, for exhibiting him to the fullest advantage. It was a privilege which could happen but once to any man: and I esteem the hour when I enjoyed it, as one of the brightest hours I was ever permitted to know. Its remembrance yet glows vividly on my mind—years have not dimmed it—the whole scene is yet before me and I need not say with what force repeated public occasions of a like kind, have since recalled it to remembrance.—Yes, it was my favored lot to see and hear President Washington address the Congress of the United States, when elected for the last time,—of men now living, how few can say the same.

I was a school boy at the time, and had followed one of the many groups of people, who, from all quarters, were making their way to the Hall in Chestnut street, at the corner of Fifth, where the two Houses of Congress then held their sittings, and where they were, that day, to be addressed by the President, on the opening of his second term of office. Boys can often manage to work their way through a crowd better than men can; at all events, it so happened that I succeeded in reaching the step of the Hall, from which elevation, looking in every direction, I should see nothing but human heads—a vast fluctuating sea, swaying to and fro, and filling every accessible place which commanded even a distinct view of the building. They had congregated, not with the hope of getting into the Hall, for that was physically impossible, but that they might see Washington. Many an anxious look was cast in the direction from which he was expected to come, till at length, true to the appointed hour, (he was the most punctual of men) an agitation was observable on the outskirts of the crowd, which gradually opened and gave space for the approach of an elegant white coach, drawn by six superb white horses, having on its four sides, beautiful designs of the four seasons, painted by Cipriani. It slowly made its way, till it drew up immediately in front of the Hall. The rush was now tremendous. But as the coach door opened, there issued from it two gentlemen, with long white wands, who, with some difficulty parted the people so as to open a passage from the carriage to the steps, on which the fortunate school-boy had achieved a footing, and whence the whole proceeding could be distinctly seen. As the person of the President emerged from the carriage, a universal shout rent the air, and continued as he very deliberately ascended the steps. On reaching the platform, he paused, looking back on the carriage and bowing to the cheering crowd of people, the indulgence they desired, of feasting their eyes upon this person. Never did a more majestic personage present himself to the public gaze. He was within two feet of me: I could have touched his clothes: but I should no soon have thought of touching the person of royalty, as I was, I felt as in the presence of a divinity. As he turned to enter the Hall, the gentlemen with the white wands, preceded him, and with still greater difficulty than before, repressed the people, and cleared a way to the great staircase. As he ascended, I ascended by a skin over the head of a barrel, like a drum head—This drumming they accompany with a singing, clapping of hands, &c. The noise thus made is very loud, and by sun down you hear it in all directions.

There is something most remarkable in the passion of the people for this kind of music and dancing. To an ear unaccustomed to the sound there would seem to be as music in the din and confusion of a tin or a cooper's shop; and to them there is nothing more exciting. At the sound of one of these drums in a neighboring yard, I have seen the first idlers who were passing along the streets, begin at once to move to the sound of the tune, and hop and wheel and balance most gracefully, as they went on their way; and the effect seems much the same upon those who are older."

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—*Lard rendered Fluid by mixing with Rosin.*—Professor Olmstead, of New Haven, has lately made the important discovery, that, by adding one pound of powdered rosin to three pounds of lard, well stirred together, the mass becomes semi-fluid at 70° Fahrenheit, and on being melted, which it does at 90°, not withstanding it melted alone the rosin requires 300° and the lard 97° of heat, the compound will remain transparent and limpid at that temperature. As it cools, a pellicle begins to form on the surface at 87°; and at 76° it remains a dense semi-fluid.

The discovery of the above named fact will be of great importance to those who use lard lamps, as the lard is rendered more fluid by the rosin, and the power of illumination increased two-fifths; yet, after two hours' burning, it loses its brilliancy on account of the wick becoming clogged. This will not be an important objection in families, while in point of economy the gain will be considerable, for lard is worth three or four times as much as rosin.

To machinists, the discovery is very important, as it enables them to make use of lard instead of oil, which is not only a saving in cost, but what is of far more importance, the addition of the rosin completely neutralizes the quality of acidity in the lard, which corrodes metals, particularly brass and copper, to such a degree that it is unfit to apply to anything not in constant use. Professor Olmstead says, a thin coating of the compound laid upon a grate or sheet iron stove with a brush, as thin as possible, will keep it free from rust all summer, although stored in a damp place.

To soap makers, the discovery is also important. If one pound of the compound is added to two pounds of common Windsor soap, the quality is greatly improved, and the tendency of that soap to grow rancid, is lessened. Perfumers, by using it, may render its perfumes far more delicate, and yet retain the same fragrance.

A shaving cream, of an excellent quality, may be made by taking a cake of good shaving soap and steaming it soft in a close cup, and mixing half its weight of the compound, and working it well together, adding a little oil of Almonds, or any other agreeable flavor.

The same compound applied to boots and shoes readers them nearly impervious to water, and if applied to the sole will not soil the floor. The uppers will be soft and pliable, and not prevented from receiving a blacking polish.

For oiling carriages, the mixture of lard and rosin will be valuable; and when wanted for heavy wheels, a proper consistency may be given to it by adding wheat flour, or, if greatly preferred, black lead.

No doubt the soap paste above described would be a good lubrication for carriage wheels. We hope this discovery will increase the consumption of lard, and thereby give an improved market to the farmer, and thus enable him to turn land into lard, and lard into light, and in the mean time enlighten his mind, and improve his condition.

THE PATENT LAWS.

In the discussion now in progress in the Senate of the United States, on the amendment of the patent laws, a good deal has been said in the subject of providing some process by which an illegal patent can be repealed. There is no doubt that the existing law is fatally defective in that respect; and that the public security requires the immediate adoption of some such provision.

In England there are two modes by which an illegal patent may be vacated. Every patent contains a proviso which makes the grant it contains revocable by the Queen or any six of her privy council, for certain causes mentioned in the proviso—such, for instance, as if the grant is contrary to law, or prejudicial, or inconvenient to her majesty's subjects, or if the patentee was not new, or not invented by the patentee. There is no instance, however, in which this mode of revocation has been adopted in modern times.

Another and the usual mode of cancelling an illegal or void patent is by an action commenced by a writ called a *scire facias*, founded upon the record or enrolment of the patent, and matters suggested to the court as a ground for its repeal. An illegal patent is actually in law prejudicial to the entire community; for it commands every one to abstain from the use of the art or invention comprised in it, and deprives every person of the right or liberty which he had before of inventing and using the particular art which is made the patent grant. For this reason, every person in England is presumed to have such an interest in a patent for an invention that if he alleges that it is illegal or void, he is entitled as of right to a *scire facias*, in the name of the Queen, in order to repeal it.

It is singular enough that a Republican government should be less observant than that of England of the rights and interests of the public. Yet in regard to these patent monopolies, it is undoubtedly true that the tendency of Congressional and Judicial Legislation in this country, of late years, has been to sacrifice the public to the patentee; to adopt new and unheard of rules in favor of the patentee; and to introduce such a general laxity in the interpretation of patents that a patentee's privilege, instead of being a matter of reasonable certainty on inspection, is the most vague and indefinite of all subluinary things. So with the *scire facias*. Under the act of 1793 the American public enjoyed the protection of this writ against illegal and void patents. For no good reason, it was omitted in the act of 1836; and now there is no process known to our law by which a patent can be tested until a suit is brought by the patentee himself. This is an advantage over the public which the patentee ought not to possess; and we hope that Congress will adopt some remedial legislation. The giant monopolies of the Patent Office require watching; and the vast powers vested in the Commissioner call for some speedier and more satisfactory process of testing his judgment than that of an action by the patentee.

Of course it will be difficult to recover for the people a remedy, or a process, of which they have been deprived. Patentees now form an influential and wealthy class; and it is their interest to make their exclusive privileges illegal or otherwise, as secure as possible. They wish, of course, to retain the liberty of selecting the time and the forum of adjudicating their supposed rights. They have their agents and attorneys, permanently retained for official and legislative, as well as legal services; and the whole class will be active and clamorous to prevent any change in the existing laws that shall be merely beneficial to the public. But we think that that the people are stronger than the monopolists, and that they will insist upon such reforms in the present system as are indispensible to their reasonable protection against the extortions that are practised under color of illegal and void patents, which there is no existing mode of cancelling.—*Wash. Republic.*

MEDICAL BLUNDERS.—Sometimes medical blunders turn out well for both physician and patients as in the case of our friend John Smith. After a convivial meeting, Dr S. was sent for by a young lady who was fond of a sly glass. Upon being left alone with his fair patient, he felt her pulse, but owing to his potations found himself quite incapable of counting it—unconsciously muttering to himself, as he held her wrist—"Drunk, very drunk." It so alarmed the young lady, that she fell upon her knees, and implored the doctor's secrecy as to her frailty.—*Figaro.*

THE MAN WHO DIDN'T WANT TO BE MEAN.—In one of the back towns of a neighboring State, where it is the custom for the district school teacher to 'board round,' the following incident occurred, and is vouched for by the highest authority. A year or two ago an allotment being made in the usual manner for the benefit of the school mistress, it happened that the proportion of one man was just two days and a half. The teacher sat down to dinner on the third day and was beginning to eat when the man of the house addressed her as follows:

"Madam; I suppose your boarding time is out when you have eaten half a dinner, but as I dont want to be mean, you may eat, if you choose *about* as much as usual!"—*Burlington Sentinel.*

A gentleman in one of the Western States became the proprietor of an indiamnable gas burner. Wishing to make an experiment, he inverted a hogshead over it, and when the gas had accumulated sufficiently he seated himself upon it, boring a gimlet hole through the top philosophically applied a lighted candle to the whole. The next that was seen of him he was kicking a pair of red top boots out of an adjoining cabin into which he had descended headfirst. He was rescued and carried home a sadder, wiser, and muddier man.

Desirable Suburban Residence for Sale.

The subscriber offers for sale the house and grounds where he now resides, situated on Park street, below Fremont, in Allegheny, and about 25 minutes' walk from the market house in city. The lot is 140 feet front on Park st., running back 250 feet, to an alley—containing nearly one acre of ground, and is bounded on every side by large open lots, adorned with trees and shrubbery. The house is nearly new, large, and exceedingly well arranged, having a front of 50 feet, and a depth of 32, and contains fourteen rooms, besides hallsand pine feet wide. It is built in the best and 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, coachhouse, &c. The premises have 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 the prime, and yield enough for the wants of an ordinary family. The situation of this property, as to salubrity 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, forming altogether a panoramic prospect of which the eye never wearies. Every boat which enters or departs from the port of Pittsburgh on the Ohio, passes in full view. The residence and grounds are also completely secured from any annoyance of dust, so destructive of comfort and vegetation, and affords a retirement as quiet and peaceful as if located in some quiet nook in the country. The property will be sold at a bargain, and possession given on the first of April. Enquire at the Gazette office.

jan1dtf D. N. WHITE.

Foreign and Home Hardware.

LOGAN, WILSON & CO.,
No. 129 Wood Street,
HAVE NOW IN STORE
A full and complete stock of *FOREIGN AND AMERICAN*
HARDWARE,
Suitable for the spring trade, and which they are prepared to offer to purchasers at prices that will compare favorably with any of the eastern cities.

European Agency.

The undersigned intends visiting the principal cities of Great Britain, France, and Germany, during the months of April, May and June next, having Pittsburgh on March 4th, and will be pleased to attend to any business of a business character which may be confided to his care.

jan1 dtmar1 JOHN D. DAVIS

REMARKABLE CASE!
EVIDENCE IN OUR MIDST.

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

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 case. I said I gave no hope of doing her any good. After which I took her into the country to an old lady, who had been very successful in curing eyes. She told me that the time my father (J. B. Yarkes) came to the conclusion that we had better try your Pyrolean, *she was entirely tired of our eyes.* It is now about two months since 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 Pyrolean.

Yours, respectfully,

M. FRANCES VARNON COLLES.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 20, 1850

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

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

COPARTNERSHIP.—We have associated with us Thompson Bell, late of Bell, Parrott & Co. Dry Goods, and will carry on the business under the firm of A. WILKINS & CO.

EXCHANGE AND BANKING HOUSE
OF
A. WILKINS & CO.,
Corner of Third and Market sts., Pitts'gh.
Citizen's Insurance Company of Pittsburgh.

ENCOURAGE HOME INSTITUTIONS.
Office No. 4 Water street, in the warehouse of C. H. Bell.

C. G. HUSTY, President.....A. W. MARKS, Sec'y.

The Company are prepared to insure all merchandise in store, and in transitu, vessels, &c.

An ample guaranty for the stability and character of the Institution, is afforded in the character of the Directors, who are all citizens of Pittsburgh, well and favorably known for their ability, and for their liberality, integrity, and integrity.

DIRECTORS—C. G. Husty, Wm. Bagaley, Wm. Larimer, Jr., Walter Bryant, Hugh D. King, Edward Heazelton, John Hawkins, S. Hartshorn, A. M. Ker.

☞ Mr. Melanx Vennyson—Read the following certificate, and then doubt, if you can, the triumphant qualities possessed by this grand remedy.

Chanberry township, Venango Co., Dec. 21, 1847.

Mr. Blackwell—Dear Sir—I take pleasure in informing you, the bottle of Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge which I purchased from you, has given me entire satisfaction. I gave to a child of mine one teaspoonful of it, and she passed 17 worms. The next morning I gave her a teaspoonful more, when she passed 113 more; the next morning I gave her the same quantity, and she passed 13 more. Yours, &c.

ANDREW DOWNING

For sale by J. KIDD & CO.,
No 60 Wood st.

Domestic and Foreign Exchange, Bank Notes, Gold & Silver, Bought, Sold & Exchanged
AT THE
EXCHANGE AND BANKING HOUSE
OF
WM. A. HILL & CO,
No. 64 Wood Street, Pittsburgh.
☞ INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME DEPOSITS. jan1d

MARRIED,

On Tuesday, the 21st instant, by the Rev. Mr. Passavant, Edward Ingram, of Allegheny city, to JOSEPHINE A., daughter of O. Newton, Esq., of Pittsburgh.

Drawing, Perspective, and Painting in Oil.

MR. D. R. SMITH is now prepared to give instruction to a few pupils in the different branches of this delightful art, at his rooms, in Mechanics Institute, corner of Smithfield street, between Wood and Market streets. Hours of instruction, from 9 to 12, and from 6 to 8½ p. m. Charges and other particulars can be known by calling (afternoon) at the rooms.

☞ Refer to Dr. Chapman or Dr. Addison. ja22dtf

STOCKS FOR SALE—Western Ins. Stock; Turtle Creek Plank Road Stock; Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Louisville Telegraph; Marine Railway Stock; Hand st. Bridge Stock; Ridge Copper Stock GEO. E. ARNOLD & CO. 14 Fourth st

PLAIN BLACK SILKS—MURPHY & BURCHFIELD have received a very full supply of above goods, which they can sell at lower prices than they are generally sold at, viz: Black Figured and Brocade do. of newest styles.

TURC SATINS, of the most desirable shades, to be had at the store of MURPHY & BURCHFIELD

TEA WARE—English & American Britannia Tea Sets; Plated do; Plated Baskets, Candlesticks, Snuffers and Trays; Plated Urns; best quality Ivory Balance Handle Table Cutlery, Silver Forks, Spoons, and Butter Knives; Plated and German Silver Forks and Spoons; Table Mats; Tea Trays of the Birmingham manufacture, highly ornamented; Plated Trays of beautiful patterns; A very superior Powder for cleaning and polishing plated ware. Brushes for cleaning. Chamois Skins, Feather Dusters, &c.

☞ For Housekeepers—Soyer's celebrated Magic Kitchen, about the size of a hat, which will make coffee, cook beefsteak, oysters, or any thing else in a few minutes.

For sale by R. W. WILSON,
62 Market and Fourth sts

COTTON—21 bales for sale by
ISAIAH DICKEY & CO. Water & Front sts

PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER—76 doz assorted sizes, just received and for sale by R. E. SELLERS, Wholesale Agent. 57 Wood street.

TOWNSEND'S ESS. GINGER;
Henderson & Co's Sarsaparilla;
Hull's Sarsaparilla, for sale by R. E. SELLERS, 57 Wood st.

DRIED FRUIT—30 brls Dried Apples; 16 do do Peaches; for sale by WM. BAGALEY & CO. 18 & 20 Wood st.

BULK PORK—200 pieces hog round, well trimmed, for sale by WM. BAGALEY & CO.

BUNCH RAISINS—200 boxes Kreisler brand, landing from steamer Dewitt Clinton, for sale by WM. BAGALEY & CO.

LOAF SUGAR—30 brls for sale by WM. BAGALEY & CO.

POWDER—150 kegs blasting, for sale by J. & R. FLOYD, Round Church

FISH—75 brls No 3 Mackerel; 5 casks Codfish, for sale by J. & R. FLOYD

SODA ASH—25 casks Johnston's brand, for sale by J. & R. FLOYD

BROOMS—150 doz for sale by J. & R. FLOYD

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—The partnership heretofore existing between Thomas McCollister and Wm. Eichbaum, Boiler makers, under the name of Thomas McCollister & Co., has this day dissolved by the sale of all the interest of the said McCollister therein to James Blair and James Thorn, who in connection with the undersigned, one of the members of the said firm, will continue to carry on the business under the name of Jas. Blair & Co. The accounts of the late firm will necessarily be settled by James Blair & Co., to whom only all persons indebted there