The Pittsburgh Gazette.

ALONG THE RAILWAY.

The Ravenna Peat Bog—How Peat is Manufactured—Its Commercial Uses—Peat in Pennsylvania—Alliance and its Surroundings—Mount Union and its Colleges—A Valuable Museum—Rare Works of Arts—The Crops.

[Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

Yesterday your correspondent was enjoying the bracing atmosphere of Lake Erie; to-day he is among the high hills and broken country of Western Pennsylvania. The railway route between Cleveland and Pittsburgh is replete with interest to the traveler. As you leave Cleveland with its Euclid avenue and Prospect street residences, valued at $25,000,000, and their beautiful surroundings, you enter a level country, and passing Woodland Cemetery soon reach Newburg with its vast rolling mills and iron manufactories, the iron mart of Cleveland. Through the trees a glimpse of the Northern Ohio Lunatic Asylum, an elegant and commodious structure, with its spacious and highly ornamented grounds, is obtained. Passing the little villages of Bedford and Macedonia, the beautiful village of Hudson is reached, the seat of the Western Reserve College. As we leave Hudson we observe patches of peat bog on both sides of the track, which increase in extent until Ravenna, the county seat of Portage, is reached, embracing in extent 3,000 acres of bog, varying in depth from fifteen to thirty-five feet. On one of the bogs, half a mile south of Ravenna, men are engaged in digging peat, and a large mill has been started by a company from Cleveland, who have commenced the manufacture of it for domestic and manufacturing purposes.

The bog now being worked is one hundred acres in extent. The peat is first dug as earth by ordinary spades, then loaded into a car, which, when filled, is run up an inclined plane to the mill. At the summit of the plane is an immense hopper, in shape not unlike the ordinary hopper of a grist mill. In this hopper the car load of bog is deposited, and there being a false bottom to the hopper, the earth falls into an elevator and is drawn up rapidly into the mill, where it is ground, the refuse roots being separated and the bog pressed in a mould, come out in long thick strips of peat on a frame, and as fast as each frame is filled it is pushed out on a tram railway several hundred yards where it is taken off the trestle work. Two frames are then set up like the two sides of a wall tent, one frame supporting the other, and after an eight day's exposure, the strips of peat are sufficiently dried and shrunken for marketable purposes.

The day we passed the bog 25,000 racks were drying, each rack containing 60 pounds, making 1,500,000 pounds or 750 tons, which for a little over two months, with a force not exceeding an average of sixteen hands, is a remarkable product. This, too, is only surface peat obtained at a depth of four feet, and which yields only 65 per cent. of carbon. A small lakelet exists at the northern border of the bog, which has been found to contain the richest kind of a deposit, over thirty feet in depth, of 80 per cent. of carbon. The cost of manufacturing peat is at present about $2,65 per ton, and it is sold at $6,00 to compete with coal, but it is thought it can be furnished much cheaper.

The question has been asked what is peat valuable for besides the ordinary purposes of fuel? In the manufacture of iron and steel it has long been celebrated; for generating steam it has been used with success on European and American steamers and railways, and for the past ten years Canadian and Massachusetts railways have been run with it, its superiority consisting in its rapid combustion, intense heat and its economy, costing two dollars per cord less than wood, where wood is plenty and nearly five dollars less than coal per ton, besides leaving no smoke or dust behind, thus being a great desideratum in steam conveyance; it burns well in steam engines; for cupola use in foundries it has no superior; excellent gas is made from it. Sulphate of lime, ammonia, parafine, napths, acetate of lime, and fixed and volatile oils are a part of its composition. In the manufacture of pyrotechnics, for making road beds on wooden or stone pavements, for tanning leather, for cornices or ornamental work, peat is very valuable, and in all these has been tested with perfect success, and as a disinfectant and fertilizer it has no superior. In fact peat can be made serviceable in most every department of business, and is destined to be brought into general use in many sections of the United States.

The peat bogs diminish as you approach Alliance. There appears to be but a limited formation in Stark county, but it crops out toward Canton and northwardly in small quantities of bog. Below the lake slope it is not found, nor does it exist in the Ohio river. The number of acres in Ohio is said to exceed 40,000. In the coal and oil regions of Pennsylvania it does not exist, but along the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers valuable deposits of very rich quality have been discovered. Reports of its existence in other parts of the State have been very meagre, but a geological survey is now being made in which the subject of peat will be specially investigated.

A RAILWAY TOWN AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

Alliance, the next town of importance below the peat region, is characteristically a railway town. It is, however, emerging into a healthier state, and begins to show signs of prosperity. In the vicinity of the station the numerous second class hotels, eating houses and saloons give it a decidedly western appearance, but up the main street you can find excellent stores, a spacious new Opera House, and fine new residences. Manufactures have come in with their attendant wealth and enterprise, and the place now has a population of over 5,000 inhabitants.

Adjoining the suburbs of this prosperous town is the pleasant village of Mount Union, on grounds shown by actual survey to be the highest point in the State of Ohio. Its healthfulness, the beauty of the surrounding scenery, the fertile soil, the literary and religious privileges, and the hospitality, enterprise and intelligence of its citizens, give it a special advantage as a place of residence. Twenty-two years ago, in the loft of a woolen factory, a school of six pupils was organized under a boy teacher, and without money it progressed from year to year, growing and strengthening into a regularly organized institution, which is now known as Mount Union College, with an average attendance of 500 students, male and female, from all parts of the United States, a corps of excellent teachers under the supervision of the Rev. Dr. Hartshorn, well known as a prominent teacher of youth, the institution being very largely endowed.

The property belonging to this institution is valued at nearly a quarter of a million of dollars. The grounds comprise a campus of twenty acres, beautifully laid out near the centre of which are the spacious buildings, one a chapel four stories in height, erected at a cost of over $100,000, and which contains a very large and elegantly furnished public hall, recitation rooms, society rooms, a Commercial department, a museum of Geology, Fine Arts and Natural History, a chemical and philosophical hall, and chapel. On the observatory which surmounts the tower, is a telescope of great magnitude, manufactured in Paris, and said to be one of the best in the United States. From the roof of the observatory, a view embracing a scope of twenty miles is had, the towns of Salem and Canton being plainly observable. The other building is used as a boarding hall, and is nicely fitted up with reception, reading, bathing, music and sleeping rooms with all the modern improvements. The boarding is furnished on the co operative plan, which proves highly successful in its operations.

The course of study pursued is very thorough and embraces six departments, namely: Classical, Scientific, Normal, Commercial, Musical and the Fine Arts. Diplomas are granted in each of these departments. The apparatus for the scientific course cost over $15,000, and is most useful and comprehensive.

But we must not overlook the extensive museum of Science and Art, which is really one of the most valuable and perfect in the United States. The collection of minerals and fossils from all parts of the globe, obtained by eminent travelers, and presented to the institution is very large. Among the precious stones, are a few specimens of jasper, carnelian, onyx and agate, which are said to excel the specimens of the same in the British Museum. Among the antiquities are Roman medals of the medieval age, porcelains from Pompeii, skulls from the catacombs, curiosities from the Nile, Arabia and the Holy Land. The specimens of iron, copper and lead ores of the United States and Europe are very fine, the compilation being very large. The crystal and quartz formations are also very perfect in their classifications. The fossils comprehend every country in the world. The Natural History department is very large and full, the collection of shells numbers several thousand. A department of trophies taken in the different battles, which have taken place since the earliest history of our country contains a great variety of curiosities. The fine art department is very full. The gallery of paintings, copies from the old masters, obtained in Rome and Florence, are noticeable for the rich coloring and portraiture of the figures prominent on the canvas. They are mostly of scriptural character. "Christ and the Woman of Samaria," "Mater Dolorosa," and "The Repentant Magdalene" are among the finest. A crayon head, eight by twelve inches, though small, is the best work of art. There is also a class of photographs, comprising *cartes* of the crowned heads of Europe and of distinguished men of the Old and New World, and lastly, views of the lake and river scenery of France, Germany and Prussia, elegantly colored, and said to be perfect representations.

The number of students for the coming session will easily reach six hundred in the different departments of collegiate study. Since the formation of this college over six thousand students have been in attendance, representing twenty-five States of the Union.

All along the line of the country from Alliance to Pittsburgh, especially along the Ohio river, the corn crop, notwithstanding the rains, presents a fine appearance, with the prospect of a bountiful harvest. Should the corn crop equal that of the wheat, we can safely say that the entire grain crop will be greater than has been for a quarter of a century previous. So says the "oldest inhabitant."

R.

Matrimonial Advances.

The Rev. Dr. Bushnell, in his new book, "The Reform Against Nature," writes on this subject as follows:

There is one matter where a genuine reform would accomplish more for woman, as I verily believe, and take them out of the corner that now pinches them a great deal more, certainly, than to give them the right of suffrage and of civil office; having also the further advantage that it would give them a more open way to the proper woman's life, for which they are better made, instead of taking them off into quasi battles with men for points of precedence, and prerogatives of government which do not belong to them, and never can. I speak here of a reform that takes off, or somehow loosers the embargo on woman, as respects advances toward marriage. The assumption now is that women must be first lassoed and taken, courted long and skilfully then, and almost to the death, before they can venture an approving look. If they cannot be conquered then, they must not be had, and they must take this ground themselves. On one side there must be a close fence of prudery, hard as possible to be got over; and on the other, the man who will try, must go to it bravely, which, alas for his modesty, is likely to be quite impossible. Full three-quarters of the men who get stuck in their batchelor life and are never married, are, in fact, the most inborn adorers of women; such as never in their lives can muster courage for any advance, just because the shrine they look upon has too much divinity in it for their mortal approach. Of course it will not do for unmarried women to put themselves in a way of being suitors to men. That kind of suitorship would even be an offense, and raise a sense of repulsion. Nobody would recommend to women that they get over their modesty, but the almost cholic stringency of what are called good manners in this matter might be relaxed, without real impropriety and with great advantage. The present iron-clad modesty which is simply ridiculous in either party, might be so far mitigated as to let feeling feel its way, and carry on its own courtship, requiring no restriction save the restriction of words and formal advances, and allowing nature to interpret and work out her problem, hampered by no unnatural coyishness. Women can not be forward and bold, but they are now a great way further off than they need be.

NEW ENGLAND.

Anniversaries—Commencements—Conventions &c—Spiritualists in Council at Portland, Me.

[Correspondence of the Pittsbugh Gazette.]

YARMOUTH, ME., August 3, 1869.

Anniversaries, Conventions, Commencements, Examinations and Exhibitions of schools have been the order in New England for July and will extend into August. This week the commencement of Colby College in this State takes place, and it is not a little remarkable that Bowdoin, Colby and Bates Colleges, in this State, are all named for generous donors in Massachusetts. So Fletcher who has just given $100,000, and Walker who recently gave $500,000 to Amherst and Tufts, are from the same glorious hub. Peabody is from the same state. Were there more such hubs so generously to found and sustain the great institutions of learning and religion in different parts of our land, vice and crime would be greatly diminished and the permanency of our government would be much increased. Deride and abuse this hub as men may, they do it "ignorantly," as once heathen gods were worshiped. And such a people can be pardoned for presuming that one who was not born in Boston and did not graduate at Harvard, and has not a lot in Mount Auburn, might better have never been born.

This week the venerable "American Institute of Instruction" will meet in Portsmouth, N. H., and on the 18th the American Scientific Association will assemble in Salem, Massachusetts. Both of these are National Associations and the oldest in their spheres in our country, and the lectures, essays and discussions will be able and instructive.

Last week a Convention of Spiritualists was held in Portland. This afforded a striking contrast to the Convention of the Y. M. C. Associations. It was composed of a different class of persons. They held a different view of Christ. One of their resolutions is, "That while we recognize Jesus, Socrates and Confucius, and all other reformers, as in some sense the Saviours of others, nevertheless it is the imperative duty of man to become his own saviour by living a true life." Here Jesus is classed with Socrates and Confucius as a "reformer" merely, and, "in some sense" only, a Saviour, and man is called upon to become "his own Saviour." This is a very different view of Christ from that held by the former Convention. It is Parkerish or Emmersonian. In proportion to their assumed elevation, being made media of communication from another world, they have detracted from Christ. The revelations to them have diminished their regard for "the revelation"—the Bible. The reason why others are not permitted to hold in tercourse with the departed is, as we heard one affirm, that they are not pure enough. Then our astonishment was the more increased that *he* could be a medium. Of his intercourse with the departed we, however, saw no evidence. Arrogant assertion took the place of true knowledge, and yet some of them are learned men and are sincere. They really believe they are in daily communication with their departed loved ones. They claim Prof. Stowe as one of their number. In "Oldtown Folks" we think there is evidence that the distinguished authoress sympathizes with some of their views. And there are many who, from facts which have come to their knowledge, or from having read "Footfalls on the boundaries of another world," believe there is something as yet unexplained in this whole matter—that there is some truth in it, although it may be far less and far different from what many spiritualists claim and which it may require a century or centuries to solve. The whole subject now is too much in the hands of ignorant men who assume as facts what are not such, and who adopt unwarranted theories to account for phenomena.

Spiritualism did not originate in New England, neither does it especially thrive here, except in one or two cities. There are errors and heresies outside of New England. Freedom to think will lead to differences of belief; the freedom is a blessing and the differences of belief may not be an evil. Some may embrace erroneous and injurious doctrines. Unmixed good is seldom found. Very many out of New England have very false notions of the theology and different religious denominations here. Yet nowhere do they contend for, and maintain, better, the truth. They may express themselves in different phraseology from their fathers. They claim this right. Congregationalists and Unitarians are here distinct, entirely separate. Little differences, however, do not always cause permanent divisions here. Pittsburgh has more than twice as many different denominations as Portland.

S.

For Cholera—A Remedy.

In view of the prevalence of cholera morbus and similar complaints, it may not be out of place to publish the following prescription, which has been pretty thoroughly tested for many years:

Laudnum, 2oz; spirits of camphor, 2 oz; tincture of capsicum, ½ oz; tincture of ginger, 1 oz; essence of peppermint, 2 oz; Hoffmans anodyne, 2 oz. If the anodyne cannot be readily obtained, substitute sulphuric ether—half the quantity.

Mix thoroughly and shake well every time it is used. Give or take from ten to twenty-five drops, according to age, condition, or violence of attack. Repeat every ten minutes till relief is obtained. In a desperate case take a tablespoonful at once. Take it in an equal quantity of water, and lie on the back quietly, or in an easy sitting posture with the back supported, till it has full opportunity to work. Carry a small phial in the pocket, with a few lumps of white sugar upon which to drop it, to be used in sudden emergencies.

An ingenious German of New Britain, Conn., named Lindner, during recent confinement with disease, made a remarkable piece of mechanism. It consists of a complicated clock-work, inclosed in a miniature castle. A watchman walks round the tower, completing his circuit once in fifteen minutes. Once in fifteen minutes a porter opens a gate in the castle, steps out, and then retires, closing the gate after him. At eleven o'clock the main entrance of the castle opens, and a number of figures appear under the arch, and remain while a music box within plays several airs. Figures also appear now and then at the windows. On the top of the castle is a ball, one side gilded and the other black. The gilded side turns from behind a screen with the moon, indicating the changes of the planet from the first quarter to the full.

GAS FIXTURES

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Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in
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Also, CARBON AND LUBRICATING OILS,
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FRUIT CAN TOP.
COLLINS & WRIGHT,
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It is Clearly, Distinctly and Permanently LABELED,

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PIPES, CHIMNEY TOPS, &c.

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A large assortment,
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WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
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AT EASTERN PRICES.
G. ARBUTHNOT. W. T. SHANNON. J. G. STEPHENSON

NEW SUMMER GOODS
AT
MACRUM & CARLISLE'S
No. 27 Fifth Avenue,
Dress Trimmings and Buttons.
Embroideries and Laces.
Ribbons and Flowers.
Hats and Bonnets.
Glove fitting and French Corsets.
New Styles Bradley's Skirts.
Parasol—all the new styles.
Sun and Rain Umbrellas.
Hosiery—the best English makes.
Agents for "Harris' Seamless Kids."
Spring and Summer underwear.
Sole Agents for the Hemis Patent Shape Collars. "Lockwood's" "Irving," "West End," "Elite," &c; "Dickens," "Derby," and other styles.
Dealers supplied with the above at
MANUFACTURERS' PRICES.
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NEW WALL PAPER STORE,
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WEBSTER STREET.—Notice is hereby given that the Viewers report on widening Webster street, City of Allegheny, has been filed in the District Court, at No. 581 July Term, 1869, for confirmation.
J. C. McCOMBS,
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Merino Shirts, 50 cents and up.
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Gents' Linen Collars, Slightly Soiled, half price.
Neck Ties and Bows at much less than cost.

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Ladies' Hemmed Handkerchiefs, 10 cents.
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AT A GREAT REDUCTION.

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Plain and Ribbed Cotton.
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AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICES.

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Wide Ruffled Linen Collars and Cuffs.
Colored Trimmed Linen Sets.
Handsome Sash Ribbons, plain and fancy.
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Ladies' Neck Ties and Scarfs, much less than cost.
Corsets, of best French make, greatly reduced.
Hoop Skirts, a new lot just received, including extra waists and lengths.
A good assortment of Traveling Satchels.
Silk and Alpaca Umbrellas.
Pongee Silk Parasols.
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Dress Trimmings and Fringes.
Buttons, Ornaments, &c.,
OFFERED VERY CHEAP.

An Immense Reduction
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MONDAY, August 2d,
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Our Stock in this department will be found complete in
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MATTINGS,
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AT LOW PRICES.
We offer many of our goods much below last Spring's prices. Those needing goods in our line can save money by buying at once.
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An Extra Quality of Rag Carpet.
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THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF
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STOCK FULL IN ALL DEPARTMENTS
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