



H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, MARKET STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

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TERMS OF THE AMERICAN.

THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance...

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

J. R. KAUFFMAN

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public generally, that he has just received and opened a new stock of goods...

DRY GOODS. Cloths, Cassimeres, Satinets, Merinos, &c. Summer wear of all kinds—Mollins, Calicoes, Ginghams, Checks, &c.

GROCERIES OF ALL KINDS. As Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Molasses, Spirits, &c. ALSO:—Canned and Crockery ware, a full assortment.

SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING. EVERYBODY should embrace this opportunity to buy CLOTHING for Men, Youth and Boys...

DRESS AND FROCK COATS. Habit Cloth, Linen Drilling, Co. Tweeds, &c. &c., together with a great variety of Boys' Clothing.

FURNISHING GOODS. Consisting of Bedsteads, Stoves, Wash-tubs, &c. Also, a full assortment of all the latest styles of Furniture.

TO ADVERTISERS. You are respectfully informed, that C. PIERCE, General Advertising Newspaper Agent, HAS THE AGENCY.

NATIONAL HOTEL, SHAMOKIN, Northumberland County, Pa.

JAMES H. MAGEE. Has removed from his old Stand, No. 118 Vine street, to No. 52 Dilligay St.

BROWN STOUT, PORTER, Ale and Cider. FOR HOME CONSUMPTION OR SHIPPING.

LECTURING MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. DR. J. B. MASSER is the local agent for the Mutual Insurance Company in Northumberland County.

JUSTICES' FEE BILLS. For sale by H. B. MASSER, Sunbury, April 29, 1851.

SELECT POETRY.

Friendship.

How the loneliness heart would sink, In faithless deserts; But for an angel on the brink, To move me from there...

THE PRIVATE HISTORY OF THE PALACE OF GLASS.

FROM DICKENS.

On New Year's Day, in the year 1837, a traveller was proceeding in a native boat, on a difficult exploration up the river Berice in Demetera...

development were astonishingly rapid; for on the month of November a flower was produced, a yard in circumference! In little more than a month after, the first seeds ripened...

Mr. Paxton went to work; and, considering all his improvements in constructing green-houses, with his special inventions for maturing the Victoria Regia...

While Mr. Paxton was busy with this novel and novel garden-house, a hot war was arising in London about a site for the new building for exhibiting specimens of the Art and Industry of all nations in 1851.

Mr. Paxton—a man of high scientific attainments—is not a mere academic student. His Alma Mater is nature. When the Victoria Regia was to be lowered, Mr. Paxton determined to imitate Nature...

Mr. Paxton had already effected many improvements in horticultural buildings; the workmanship of which has always been unnecessarily massive. With the conviction that glass houses are not Egyptian tombs built for darkness and eternity...

who accompanied him to the Board of Trade to see what could be done. Then nothing could be done; for Mr. Paxton (who is one of the busiest men in England—whose very leisure would kill a man of fashion with its hard work) was appointed to keep a special appointment at the tubular bridge over the Menai.

The Paxton scheme was referred to the Building Committee; which, in the regular routine of business, could not entertain it, having rejected all the designs it had invited for competition, and having devised a plan of its own.

When he made his next appearance at the Derby station, at the end of that time, Mr. Paxton had the complete plans under his arm. There was not a minute to spare, for the train was to start in ten minutes.

"This is extraordinary luck," he exclaimed. "I want you to look over a few plans and a specification of mine." Accordingly the plans were unfolded.

The projector's hope rose; his friend's attention was evidently drawn to a vortex, for he went on drawing twenty minutes pulling away at the end of wood, quite unconscious that it was extended! At length, gathering the unrolled papers up in a bundle, he threw them into the opposite seat, exclaiming—"Wonderful—worthy of the magnificence of Chatsworth!—a thousand times better than any thing that has been brought before me! What a pity they were not prepared earlier!"

parties must have had in their resources, and the correctness of their computations. Nevertheless it was one great merit in Mr. Paxton's original details of measurement, that they were contrived to facilitate calculation.

Mr. Paxton's original details of measurement, that they were contrived to facilitate calculation. Everything in the great building is a dividend or multiple of twenty-four. The internal columns are placed twenty-four feet apart, while external ones have no more than eight feet (a third of twenty-four) of separation.

There is no one circumstance in the history of the manufacturing enterprise of the English nation which places in so strong a light as this its boundless resources in materials, to say nothing of the arithmetical skill in computing at what cost, and in how short a time, these materials could be converted into a special purpose.

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slope of one foot in two feet and a half, do not condense in separate drops and descend again, but slide down over the smooth surface. To receive them, therefore, he grooves each rafter under the inside of the glazing.

There was little time for consideration or for setting right a single mistake, were it ever so disastrous. On the prescribed day the tender was presented, with whatever imperfections it might have had, duly and irredeemably sealed. But after checkings have devolved no material error. The result was that Messrs. Fox and Henderson's offer for erecting the Paxton office, proved to be the lowest practicable tender that was submitted to the Building Committee.

It is actually less costly than an agricultural barn or an Irish cabin! A division of its superficies, in cubic feet, by the sums to be paid for it, brings out the astonishing quotient of little more than one half penny (one-sixteenths of a penny) per cubic foot; supposing it to be taken down and returned to the contractors when the exhibition is over.

The smallness of cost is due to the principle we have previously explained, of each component of the building being endowed with more than one purpose. The six rows of columns are, as had been already said, not only props but drains. They are hollow and into them the glass roof will deliver its collection of water.

There are three preachers of the gospel in the Indiana State Prison, convicted for horse-stealing. An immense Cotton Sialk from Alabama, will be exhibited at the World's Fair. The Plant was 20 feet high, and bore 1000 bolls.

When I consider the cheapness of glass and cast iron, and the great facility with which they can be used, I have no doubt that many structures similar to that at Derby will be attached to dwelling houses, where they may serve as sitting rooms, or omnibuses rooms, if I may be allowed the expression. I am now, in fact, engaged in making the design for a gentleman's house, to be covered wholly with glass; and when we consider that wherever lead is now used, glass may with equal propriety be substituted, I have every hope that it will be used for buildings of various conditions and character.

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