

United States Senate at my first election in 1830—his name was Benton Boone, and so named after my father.

Abhorrence of debt, public and private, dislike of banks and love of hard money—love of justice and love of country, were ruling passions with Jackson, and of these he gave constant evidence in all the situations of his life. Of private debts, he contracted none of his own, and made any sacrifices to get out of those incurred for others. Of this he gave a signal instance not long before the war of 1812—selling the improved part of his estate, with the best buildings of the country upon it, to pay a debt incurred in a mercantile adventure to assist a young relative, and going into log houses in the forest part to begin a new home and a farm.

He was attached to his friends and to his country, and never believed any report to the discredit of either, until compelled by proof. He would not believe in the first report of the surrender of General Hull, and became sad and oppressed when forced to believe it. He never gave up a friend in a doubtful case, or from policy of calculation. He was a firm believer in the goodness of superintending Providence and in the eventual right, judgment, and justice of the people. I have seen him in the most desperate part of his fortunes, and never saw him waver in the belief that all would come right in the end. In the time of Cromwell he would have been a Puritan.

The character of his mind was that of judgment, with a rapid and almost intuitive perception, followed by instant and decisive action. It was that which made him a General and a President for the times in which he served. He had vigorous thoughts, but not the faculty of arranging them in a regular composition, either written or spoken; and in formal papers usually gave his manuscript to an aid, a friend, or a secretary, to be written over—often to the loss of vigor.

But the thoughts were his own, vigorously expressed, and without effort, writing with a rapid pen, and never blotting or altering; but, as Carlyle says of Cromwell, hitting the nail upon the head as he went. I have a great deal of his writing now, some on public affairs and covering several sheets of paper, and no erasures or interlineations anywhere. His conversation was like his writing, a vigorous, flowing current, apparently without the trouble of thinking, and always impressive. His conclusions were rapid and immovable, when he was under strong convictions, though often yielding in minor points to his friends. And no man yielded quicker when he was convinced; perfectly illustrating the difference between firmness and obstinacy. Of all the Presidents who have done me the honor to listen to my opinions, there was no one to whom I spoke with more confidence when I felt myself to be in the right.

He had a load to carry all his life, resulting from a temper which refused compromise and bargains, and went for a clean victory or a clean defeat, in every case. Hence every step he took was a contest, and it may be added, every contest was a victory. I have already said that he was elected a Major General in Tennessee—an election on which so much afterwards depended—by one vote. His appointment in the United States regular army was a conquest from the administration, which had twice refused to appoint him a Brigadier, and once disbanded him as a volunteer General, and yielded to his military victories. His election as President was a victory over politicians—as was every leading event of his administration.

India Rubber Shoes.

The following interesting article describing the manner of making India Rubber Shoes, now so much in demand, we find in the N. York "Journal of Commerce."

Contrary to the general impression India Rubber, in the process of manufacture, is not melted, but is passed through heated iron rollers, the heaviest of which weigh 20 tons, and thus worked or kneaded, as dough is at a bakery. The rubber is nearly all procured from the mouth of the Amazon, in Brazil, to which point it is sent from the interior. Its form, upon arrival, is generally that of a jug or pouch, as the natives use clay moulds of that shape, which they repeatedly dip into the liquid substance until a coating of the desired thickness accumulates, when the clay is broken and emptied out.

The rubber, after being washed, chopped fine, and rolled to a putty-like consistency, is mixed with a compound of metallic substance, principally white lead and sulphur, to give it body or firmness. These sheets designed for the soles of shoes are passed under rollers having a diamond-shaped surface. From these the soles are cut by hand and the several pieces required to perfect the shoe are put together by females, on a last. The natural adhesion of the rubber joins the seams. The shoes are next washed and baked in an oven capable of holding about 2000 pairs, and heated to about 300 degrees, were they remain seven or eight hours. This is called the "vulcanizing" process, by which the rubber is hardened.

A large quantity of cotton cloth and cotton flannel is used to line shoes, and is applied to the surface of the rubber while it is yet in sheets. Not a particle of any of these materials is lost. The scraps of rubber are remelted, and the bits of cloth are chopped up with a small quantity of rubber, and rolled out into a substance resembling paste-board, to form the inner sole. The profits of this business have been somewhat curtailed of late, by the prevailing high price of rubber, which has varied within a year from twenty to sixty cents per pound. The demand, however, is very large. A species of rubber shoe lined with flannel is extensively used in some parts of the country as a substitute for the leather shoe.

More Silver.—Collector Hastings, of Pittsburg, has received \$30,000 in silver from the Secretary of the Treasury, which he proposes distributing among the community for gold, at the rate of \$500 per week, until the whole is disposed of. This makes \$55,000 sent to Pittsburg for distribution within a few months.

The Lehigh Register.

Allentown, Pa.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1854.

The Mail Carriage of Newspapers.

By the following extract from the Message of Washington to Congress on the 3d of December 1793 it will be seen he was the first advocate of free mail carriage to News-papers and Public documents—a measure which has never yet been fully carried out. Weekly newspapers are only free to citizens of the country in which they are printed—but daily papers are not sent free to any. Extract from the Message:

"But here I cannot forbear to recommend the repeal of the tax on the transportation of public prints. There is no resource so firm for the Government of the United States, as the affections of the People, guided by an enlightened policy; and to this primary goal nothing can conduce more, than a faithful representation of public proceedings, diffused without restraint, through out the United States."

The wise men at Washington city, after an experience of fifty years have not been able to see as far as the great "Father of his Country."

Court Proceedings.

January 30th, Court met pursuant to public notice. All the Judges in their seats. *Reuben Ross*, was appointed to attend to the Grand Jury, and Henry F. Nagel and George R. Carl, as stipulates.

Commonwealth vs Henry Helrich—This was an action of fornication and bastardy on oath of Eliza Dull. The Jury found a verdict for fornication but not of bastardy. The court sentenced defendant to pay a fine of twenty-five dollars and cost of prosecution.

Commonwealth vs David Scheirer—Case of fornication and bastardy on oath of Leah Schneek. Continued to next term.

Commonwealth vs Jacob Sell—Fornication and bastardy on oath of Mary Ann Niess. Verdict guilty. The Court sentenced Sell to pay a fine of one dollar, costs, twenty-five dollars expenses up to date, and give security to pay fifty cents a week until the child arrives to the age of seven years.

Two other cases of fornication and bastardy were continued to next term.

Commonwealth vs John Johnston—This was a case of assault and battery on oath of Elizabeth Wolfenberger. The Grand Jury returned no bill and the case was discharged the county to pay the costs.

Commonwealth vs John Moran—Sarjity of the peace on oath of William Richards. On hearing the complaint, the Court dismissed the case, and ordered each party to pay half of the costs.

Commonwealth vs Patrick Ward—Assault and battery on oath of William Chase. Continued to next week.

Commonwealth vs Edward Crampsey—Case of larceny on oath of Daniel Stettler. The defendant was indicted for stealing a silver watch, the property of Daniel Stettler. The Jury found a verdict against defendant. Sentence deferred until next week.

Commonwealth vs John Gross—Indictment for resisting the Constable of Hanover township. It appears in evidence that Richard Miller, the Constable of Hanover township, Lehigh county, had an attachment issued at the instance of Andrew Kratzer against John Gross the defendant, by Michael Ritter, a Justice of the Peace of said township, by virtue of which he attempted to take a horse from the defendant, who refused to give him up, alleging that the horse belonged to a man in New York; the Jury on hearing the evidence thought otherwise and found defendant guilty in the manner and form as he stood indicted. The court sentenced Gross to pay a fine of one dollar and the costs.

The cases in the Common Pleas were commenced with on Monday last, February 6. The court adjourned on Wednesday morning to meet again on Monday February 6, 1854.

Sensible Remarks.

A correspondent of the Delaware County Republican communicates to that paper the following good and timely advice. Every word is true to the letter:

Subscribe for a Paper—The present is a favorable period for those who wish to take a paper, to subscribe for one. The long evenings which accompany the present season give all classes an abundance of time for reading, especially those in the country. It is to the interest of all persons, if they properly understand it, to subscribe for the paper published in their vicinity or county, because it contains the local news of the county or district—the marriages and deaths of their relatives, friends and acquaintances—notice of the settlements of estates—notice of religious, political and other meetings—proceedings of their courts of justice—nominations and elections of township, county and state officers—public and private sales of real estate, and personal property by themselves and their neighbors, by executors, administrators, trustees or assignees—besides the general news of the day, extracted from other journals. It is a great satisfaction to read and ponder over the latest intelligence from every quarter of the globe, upon all subjects of general interest. I doubt whether two dollars per year, when applied in any other manner, can yield a rational being more satisfaction, or a greater equivalent for his money. Then I would say, send on your names.

A Female Soldier—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says that there is now before Congress a petition from Mrs Elizabeth C. Smith, of Missouri, who in 1840, under the assumed name of "Ben Newman," volunteered in the Mexican war, where she served faithfully for ten months, when her sex was discovered and she was discharged from the service. "Ben" has since married, and now applies to soldiers and not to men, this female soldier may be successful.

Frauds on the Columbia Railroad.

We last week published a paragraph, taken from the Harrisburg Union, in which allusion was made to alleged frauds on this road, in the Collector's Office at Philadelphia. The Whig party for years have contended that the grossest frauds and peculations were frequently committed by some of the horse of officers who had charge of the public improvements of the State. The admission is now made by the organ of the locofoco party of Pennsylvania, and the investigation demanded may bring to light some startling disclosures.

The "heaven will soon leave the whole lot," and we still hope to see the day when this school of moral pollution, political degradation, and robbery of the people's money shall forever be broken up. But the most startling disclosure has turned up in a few days—namely, that the grossest frauds and defalcations have been discovered among the officers on the Columbia Railroad. We have heard intimations of this state of affairs on the Columbia Railroad, but have not felt authorized to mention it publicly, until the whole affair is now in every person's mouth. The "Union" of last week with a show of honesty rather unexpected, calls for an investigation of their reports, and the exposure and punishment of the guilty persons.

Report says defalcations to the amount of \$60,000, in several instances have been discovered, and that almost every officer on the whole road was implicated in this grand scheme of robbery and villainy. Is not a sad picture for the over-burdened tax-payer to contemplate the system of defalcation, fraud and corruption daily practised on every mile of our Public Improvement? Does not the Governor admit in his Message that the system of managing the Public Works is very imperfect and exposes the Treasury to fraud? Does not the Report of the Canal Board frankly admit that fraud has been practised on the Portage Railroad, and that it is impossible to prevent it under the present system? Is there a man who is in the least acquainted with these matters, be he Whig or Locofoco, but will confess that these five are but stepping stones to fortunes, by pilfering the Treasury? Why the people will be so blinded to their interests, and suffer such a state of things to exist, as too strange. They do not do so for want of evidence to convince them of the facts, for the reports of the Auditor General and Canal Board, and the Message of the Governor afford ample testimony of these facts? The late disclosure on the Columbia Railroad, no doubt will undergo investigation, and we will be able to judge of the extent of the villainy practised there, unless, as too frequently the case, this investigating committee devotes its time to smoothing over these defalcations, instead of exposing their deformities. As one discovery leads to another, we may expect more along the line of our Public Improvements. An insight into the way things are managed on the Portage Railroad, would, we imagine, startle the "natives considerably," and wake up the "pell-bound tax-payers. We will await the action of our Locofoco friends to explain these matters, as it seems "a waste of the raw material," for a Whig to charge corruption on these officers. Perhaps the people will believe it, if they are convicted before a locofoco jury.

Serious and Nearly Fatal Mistake.

A few days since, a German, named John Halvaar, called at the Drug Store of Mr. Jacob S. Lawrence, in Minersville, and asked in broken English for *Saleratus*, but the Clerk understood him to ask for "Poison for Rats," and accordingly dealt him out a portion of *Arsenic*. This Mr. Halvaar took home and his wife mixed it with the Cakes which were served up for supper. The family partook of the Cakes and were all taken suddenly ill one of the children being so much affected that its life was despaired of. Medical aid was immediately called in and they all happily recovered. This case we trust will prove a salutary lesson to Druggist generally.—*Pottsville Emporium and Press.*

Beiton on Douglas—Some one asked Col Benton a day or two ago, says a Washington correspondent of the Tribune, why he had never pitched into the Little Giant. "Mr. Douglas, Sir, Mr. Douglas, Sir," said the Colonel, "Ah, he reminds me of a story. A man having a fractious bull and desiring to kill him, was unable to reach him in his prancing and leaping. An old negro standing by asking his master why he was so anxious to hit the bull? "Let him alone, Massa, and by and by he jump so high he break his own neck in the fall!" "Again, speaking of the Nebraska bill, Benton is reported as saying: "Douglas, Sir, is politically dead, Sir. If he fails to carry his bill, the South will kick him in the rear, Sir and if he does carry it, the North will beat his brains out. That's all, Sir."

A New "Plover" Paper—Andrew Hopkins, Esq., has issued proposals to establish on or about the 22d of February instant, a new "Democratic" paper at Harrisburg, to be called the *Pennsylvania Patriot*. Mr. Hopkins is the son of Col. William Hopkins, one of the present board of Locofoco Canal Commissioners. The object of the paper, it may therefore be readily surmised, is to back up the rascalities of the plunderers on the public works. As there is no lack of Locofoco patriots who live by stealings, the new paper will perhaps have a large circulation, and be acknowledged as the true organ of the party in the Commonwealth.

The Next Agricultural Fair—The Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society have fixed the time of holding the next State Fair on the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th of September, and appointed a committee to receive propositions from the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, for the place of the Exhibition. Harrisburg and Philadelphia, so far, appear to be the only places that have manifested any disposition to offer proposals for the Fair. Harrisburg will probably be chosen again.

Legislative Proceedings.

SENATE.
January 30. Mr. Fry moved that the communication be referred to the Committee on Finance. He understood that frauds had been committed and offered the resolution because he thought it to be his duty. He wanted to know who had committed these frauds, and their names. When he came here, it was to represent his constituents and not the interests of certain gentlemen about Harrisburg. He wanted to know if these defalcations could be committed with impunity, and the names withheld from the Senate. If they had done wrong, their names should be held up to the community as guilty of what is commonly called stealing, and it was his belief that a good deal of it was done.

The motion to refer was agreed to.
Mr. Fry, a memorial from Lehigh county against a prohibitory liquor law. Which was read.

January 31. On leave given Mr. Hamilton presented a petition from Lehigh and Northampton counties, for the incorporation of a bank at Catawauqua.

February 2. The bill to empower Courts of Common Pleas to incorporate Scientific and Agricultural Associations, was also considered and passed.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
January 31. The bill relative to the divorce of Aaron and Dianna Druckenmiller, being before the House.

Mr. Hart called for the reasons, in favor of the passage of the bill.

Mr. Laury gave an explanation of the nature of the bill, and had the record of the court read setting forth his conviction for larceny, and subsequently for arson. He stated the particulars of the case, and the bill passed second and final reading, without opposition.

Important Invention—John Ging, of Pottsville has invented an important and valuable machine for cutting stone. Its capacity for labor per day is equal to forty men. It is constructed on a principle differing altogether from anything ever heretofore tried. The stones, when finished on the faces will be equal to the finest tooling. It is able to cut the smallest mouldings, without either breaking, or stunning any of the members. Application is about being made for a patent.—Mr. Ging is a practical stone cutter, and thoroughly understands the wants of this branch of business.—*Minersville Reg.*

The Central Railroad—Passage through the Tunnel—We learn by a despatch from Mr. Haupp the Superintendent of the great Pennsylvania Railroad, that on Friday morning a locomotive and cars, from Pittsburg, passed through the tunnel and over the whole road to Altoona, at the eastern base of the Alleghenies, thus completing the entire line of the Great Central Railway route, and placing Philadelphia within 14 hours of the city of Pittsburg. This is, indeed, gratifying intelligence, and it comes at an opportune moment, at the commencement of the Spring Trade.—*Bicknell's Rep.*

Longevity of Farmers—It appears, from the Massachusetts register of births and deaths, that the duration of the lives of agriculturists was thirteen years above the general average, nearly nineteen above that of common laborers, and nineteen per cent. above the average age at death of mechanics.

Subscription to the North Pennsylvania Railroad—The Board of Commissioners of the District of Northern Liberties at a meeting held last evening subscribed for ten thousand shares in the capital stock of the North Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

A Steep Railroad Grade—The steepest railroad grade in Europe is upon the Piedmontese Railroad, between Tanis and Genoa. It is near the town of Gleni, and the ascent is one hundred and eighty-five feet to the mile! Experiments which have been made have shown that two locomotives, drawing a train of six loaded cars, weighing altogether 1000 tons, ascended the grade at a time when the rails were exceedingly wet and slippery, at a speed of 18 miles an hour. This is a feat unprecedented in the annals of railroad history. The engines used were of a peculiar construction, and were built by a London manufacturer, after plans furnished by the Piedmontese engineer of the road.

Fatal Accident—On Saturday last the 4th instant, Mr. James Loran, a resident of Schuylkill Haven, Schuylkill county, came to his death in a frightful manner. It appears he left home in a boggy on that day, and came over the Blue Mountain into Lynn township, Lehigh county, to buy a horse. Returning he tied the horse to his vehicle, and in going down the mountain, it is supposed they took fright, and ran away. They were taken up by some person, who went in search of the owner, and found him lying insensible, about half way up the mountain. He after being taken up spoke a few words and expired. Mr. Loran leaves a family, and several children to mourn his loss.

Shoes—Next to agriculture, the shoe-making business is the most important and profitable pursuit in Massachusetts, and has the largest number of persons engaged in it.—The Andover Advertiser says that the aggregate value of boots and shoes manufactured in Massachusetts is \$37,000,000, or more than that of all the other States combined and far exceeding that of any other manufacture in the Commonwealth. About one-third of the above amount is shipped to New York, and the remainder is sent to the South and West, to California, the West Indies, South America, Australia, the Sandwich Islands, England, and the European continent. Lynn is more extensively engaged in this business than any other town, making nearly five millions of pairs annually. Then come in succession, Danvers, Stoneham and Gratton. In the latter town, a single manufacturer uses one hundred bushels of shoe pegs every year. The pegs used in this immense business are mostly made in New Hampshire; they are cut by machinery, and one firm manufactures fifty bushels per day. Machinery is also now used to a considerable extent, for sewing & stitching the leather.

Terrible Explosion.

About ten minutes past 1 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the patent cartridge manufactory owned by Mr. French, at Ravenswood, Long Island, was blown up, and some fifteen or twenty persons, mostly boys and females, were instantly killed.

The shock occasioned by the explosion was tremendous, and was sensibly felt at a distance of six or eight miles; and during yesterday afternoon, a report was current in Williamsburg and Brooklyn, that an earthquake had taken place somewhere upon the island.

The scene at Ravenswood beggars description. The building occupied by Mr. French for the manufacture of French's rifle cartridge was a one-story wood building, twenty-five feet square which was blown into fragments, and not a single stick could be found that a child could not lift.

There were about twenty persons—mostly boys and females—in the building, engaged in filling and packing cartridges, all of whom, with one or two exceptions, were instantly killed.

The following persons were so seriously injured that it is thought impossible for them to recover:

Andrew Carney, a Scotch boy; had a portion of his bowels and lungs blown away; he cannot survive.

John Smith, a young man, who has been in the employment of Mr. French but two or three days was literally blown to pieces, having his arms and legs broken, and his body and face dreadfully mangled. He was conveyed to the New Hospital.

Christopher Casey, a young man, was so badly injured that it is considered impossible for him to recover.

It is supposed that there were about twenty persons in the building, and but three were known to have been taken out alive.

It is said that the fire originated in the north-east corner of the building, in the opposite end of the building from the stove, but from what cause is unknown.

There were over 50,000 ball cartridges made up in the building, beside a considerable quantity of powder. The cartridges nearly all exploded, and the balls were thrown in every direction but providentially no person out of the building was seriously injured. One of the balls passed through a pane of glass into the library room of Mr. Budine, a distance of one eighth of a mile, and shattered the chandelier.

At the time of the accident Mr. French was engaged at work in a small house some fifteen rods distant, and narrowly escaped with his life. A furnace near where he was standing was broken to pieces, and his hat was carried away and could not be found; he also received several slight bruises about the face and body from missiles, which were hurled in all directions.

The shock of the explosion was felt about half past one o'clock. It is said that the sound was heard at Williamsburg, a distance of several miles. The neighborhood, as may be imagined, was thrown into instant commotion, and crowds of persons hurried at once to the place. Crowds of people instantly gathered around the ruins, and the scenes that transpired are said to have been truly heart rending.

The building itself stood in the midst of a spacious open lot, and to use the language of a bystander, "I was almost literally covered with fragments of human bodies. Some of the unfortunate victims appeared to have been absolutely torn into shreds, until all form and likeness of humanity had deserted them. On one side lay a head severed from its trunk, and at a little distance lay its mangled members. Hands, feet, and scraps of flesh, were scattered all over the lots.

Several of those touching and interesting accidents which accompany every great calamity of this kind took place. Nearly all the deceased were young men or boys, and young girls; and the agony of the bereaved parents who arrived on the spot in the melancholy hope to recover some fragments, at least of the bodies of those which had been so pitifully afflicted, is described as something frightful. Here a father searched among the mangled corpses for his son and wept in agony at the sight of the mangled remains of the poor satisfaction of seeing at the lifeless form of his boy was denied him, and there another, desirous with grief, raised showers of tears upon the remains of a child which only the true maternal heart was able to recognize. An affecting incident was told of a poor woman, a native of Ireland, who had a son in the building. On hearing of the catastrophe, though old and infirm, she hastened with tottering steps to the dreadful scene. They told her son was among the dead—her son, to whom she had looked for support and affection, and whom she had idolized, perhaps, as fondly as many of higher birth and larger means. The spectators attempted to keep her back, but her strong love was not to be thus overruled. She forced her way until she stood in the midst of the fearful scene and then began her mournful search. Finally she espied a headless trunk, with the vertebrae protruding from the gory neck, and this she recognized as the sole remains of him who had been so suddenly cut down in the midst of life and health. Blackened, disfigured and bereaved she still knew her offspring. Those who witnessed the scene say that a spectacle more harrowing, even to the coldest heart, was never witnessed.

Such scenes as this were common; probably no calamity since the dreadful steamboat explosion on the North river, has been so prolific in incidents of this nature.

The immediate cause of the explosion is not yet known, and it is not likely that it will ever be ascertained. The people of the village censured Mr. French severely for not employing a greater degree of caution in his dangerous manufactory, and especially for not appointing a judicious and experienced superintendent over his juvenile workman, many of whom were of tender years, some of them being under twelve, and only two or three adults among them, if we are rightly informed. Several of the Irish residents of the place became, shortly after the occurrence quite riotous on the subject, and one was heard to threaten to "string up" Mr. F. Perhaps, in consequence of these threats, that gentleman, with his family, have left the place temporarily.

Some idea of the tremendous force of the explosion may be conceived when we say that every dwelling-house in the immediate neighborhood was shaken almost to their foundations.—Rev. Mr. Waite, an Episcopal clergyman, residing near the manufactory, was forced to remove with his family to a neighbor's house, some distance off to obtain shelter from the inclement weather, every window in his own dwelling being blown completely out. All the dwellings in the vicinity were in the same state. Curiously enough, a stage happened to be passing at the time of the explosion, and the concussion was so great that the glasses in the windows on one side were shattered into a thousand pieces.

We are told that had the magazine, which was situated at a short distance from the main building, become ignited, the consequences would have been still more disastrous. The magazine contained between two and three tons of powder. Fortunately for the poor sufferers, medical relief was instantly at hand, and everything was done that professional skill could devise.

The Coroner's inquest takes place to day, at Ravenswood, when the full particulars of this dreadful affair will be ascertained.

GLEANINGS.

☞ A fine elk calf was "served up" in Louisville, last week. The flesh is said to be delicious.

☞ Daniel McCloud, an old bachelor, was frozen to death in his bed, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin on the 22d.

☞ The Commissioners of Lawrence county have signed the coupon bonds for \$150,000, for the Pittsburg and Erie Railroad Company, and are now ready for delivery.

☞ It was just seventy-one years on the 1st of February 1854, since George Washington, the first President of the United States, was inaugurated into office.

☞ The people of Erie are violating the Higher Law, inasmuch as it is there laid down that the straight and narrow path is the one.

Why do Teeth Decay—All the theories that have and again have been advanced in answer to this enquiry, have long since vanished before the true doctrine of the action of external corrosive agents. The great and all powerful destroyer of the human teeth is acid, vegetable or mineral, and it matters not whether that acid is formed in the mouth by the decomposition of particles of food left between and around the teeth, or whether it is applied directly to the organs themselves; the result is the same, the enamel is dissolved, corroded, and the tooth destroyed. Much very much of the decay in teeth may be attributed to the corrosive effects of acetic acid, which is not only in common use as a condiment in the form of vinegar, but it is generated by the decay and decomposition of any and every variety of vegetable matter. When we consider how very few persons comparatively, take especial pains to remove every particle of food from between and around their teeth immediately after eating, can we wonder that diseased teeth are so common, and that their early loss is so frequently observed.—*Practical Dentist.*

Ireland's Agriculture—An official return has been made of the total agricultural produce of Ireland, of the number of acres under cultivation, and the amount of stock in possession of the population, during the year 1852. Owing to the extensive emigration to America and Australia, the number of holdings, the extent of land under cultivation, and the quantity of crops sown have undergone a considerable diminution, as compared with the previous year, and yet the aggregate produce of the country is largely increased. Wheat, oats and other crops, in which the diminished cultivation has taken place, have been found to exceed the produce of the previous year, and a similar phenomena is observable in nearly every department which has been brought under review. In the article of stock the returns show a large increase.

Washington National Monument—The amount expended in 1853 in the construction of this monument, \$30,749.08, making with a balance of \$9,274.21 on hand at the beginning of the year, a total of \$40,023.29. Of this sum, \$30,454.91 was paid to the building committee, and \$10,000 placed at interest with Messrs. Corcoran and Bagg. One or two other small bills were also paid and on the first of January the amount due Bank was \$471.42.

Work Knowing—The first Newspaper published in England, was entitled the Public Intelligencer, in the year 1663, only one hundred and fifty years ago. The first in America, was the Boston News Letter, issued in 1704, one hundred and fifty years ago. The second was the Boston Gazette, issued in 1719, one hundred and thirty-four years ago.

The Gutta Percha Trade.

The history of gutta percha is brief, but not uneventful. Previous to 1844, the very name of gutta percha was unknown to European commerce. In that year two cut of it was shipped experimentally from Singapore. The exportation of gutta percha from that port rose in 1845 to 160 piculs, (the picul is 135 lbs.) in 1846, to 5,364; in 1847, to 9,296; and in the seven months of 1848, to 6,768 piculs. In the first four and a half years of the trade, 21,595 piculs of gutta percha, valued at \$274,190, were shipped at Singapore, the whole of which were sent to England, with the exception of 15 piculs to Mauritius, 470 to the continent of Europe, and 922 to the United States.—But this rapid growth of the new trade concerns only a faint idea of the commotion it created among the native inhabitants of the Indian Archipelago. The jungles of the Johore were the scenes of the earliest gatherings, and they were soon ransacked in every direction by parties of Malays and Chinese, while the indigenous gave themselves up to search with a unanimity and zeal only to be equaled by that which made railway jockers of every man, woman, and child in England about the same time. The knowledge of the article stirring the avidity of the gatherers, gradually spread from Singapore northward as far as Pehang, southward along the east coast of Sumatra to Java, eastward to Borneo, where it was found at Druse, Sarawak, and Pontianak, on the west coast, at Keti and Passer on the east.