

TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN."

HENRY B. MASSER, PUBLISHERS AND JOSEPH EISELY, PROPRIETORS. H. B. MASSER, Editor.

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SUNBURY AMERICAN.

AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL.

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of Republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism.—JEFFERSON.

By Masser & Eisely.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, October 10, 1840.

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PRICES OF ADVERTISING.

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Advertisements left without directions as to the length of time they are to be published, will be continued until ordered out, and charged accordingly.
Sixteen lines make a square.

FROM "PIERPONT'S POEMS"—JUST PUBLISHED.

JERUSALEM.

JERUSALEM, Jerusalem,
How glad should I have been,
Could I, in my lone wanderings,
Thine aged walls have seen!

Could I have gazed upon the dome
Above thy towers that swell,
And heard, as evening's sun went down,
Thy putting candles' bells—

Could I have stood on Oliver,
Where once the sycamore stood,
And from its height, to look down upon
The City of our God!

For is it not, O heavenly God,
Thy Holy City still—
Though there thy Prophets walk no more—
That crowns Moriah's hill!

Thy Prophet walk no more, indeed,
The streets of Salem now,
Nor are their voices heard up
On Zion's saddened brow;

Yes—every morning, as the day
Breaks over Olivet,
The holy name of Allah comes
From every minaret;

I know, when at that solemn call
The City holds her breath,
That Omar's mosque hears not the name
Of Him of Nazareth;

Yes, from that day when Salem knelt
And bent her queenly neck
To him who was, at once, her Priest
And King—Melchisedek,

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FROM THE U. S. GAZETTE.

Malleable Iron from Anthracite.

The vast natural resources which Pennsylvania possesses in her inexhaustible mines of iron and coal, render any discoveries which may tend to increase the production of the one, and the consumption of the other, of importance not only to persons directly interested in those articles, but to her citizens generally. The public mind has, therefore, been much occupied with the success which has recently attended the attempts made to employ anthracite coal in the manufacture of pig metal; yet as nearly seven-tenths of the iron consumed in this country is used in a wrought state, it has still remained a subject of interesting inquiry, whether this fuel could be employed on a large scale, and with economy, in the processes necessary to convert cast into malleable iron.

Until lately, the experiments which have been made with this object have been attended with but partial and imperfect success. During the last month, however, the New Jersey Iron Company have succeeded in overcoming all difficulties and impediments, and are now daily manufacturing every variety of finished wrought iron, made from the ore exclusively with anthracite coal.

Having lately visited the Company's extensive establishment, at Bononon, New Jersey, and having been politely furnished by H. Brevoort, Esq., & Mr. McCarty, under whose superintendence and direction the furnaces were constructed, with every facility to inspect their works, and to ascertain the consumption of material, it may not be uninteresting to many of your readers to learn the results of their operations.

The alterations which have been made in the construction of the puddling and heating furnaces are slight. By means of a change in the balvatory of the furnaces, a contraction of the grate, and the introduction of a strong blast directly underneath it, pig iron is puddled, and piles of the largest size brought to a welding heat with the greatest facility, with anthracite coal. No stronger proof of the complete success of the new process need be adduced, than the fact that the workmen, who are always strongly prejudiced in favor of their old methods, prefer working with anthracite; and the increased cleanliness consequent upon the absence of the clouds of coal smoke and dust, would be alone a sufficient recommendation for its use. But the new fuel possesses other and greater advantages. In occasions less wear and tear to the furnaces, the cost of keeping them in repair being thus much diminished.

The waste of the iron in the process of conversion is also much less than by the old method. With bituminous coal, 22 1-4 cwt. of pig iron was necessary to produce a ton of puddled bars. With anthracite, 21 1-4 cwt. has been found to be the largest quantity required. In the subsequent processes of reheating and rolling, the waste was formerly ten or twelve per cent. It now does not exceed five per cent. The amount of anthracite required to puddle a ton (2240 cwt.) of pig iron, has been found to be 16 or 18 cwt. and to reheat, roll, and finish, for small sizes, 3 or 5 cwt.; for large merchant iron, axles, etc., 8 or 10 cwt. The quantity of the iron thus produced is quite as good as that manufactured with bituminous coal. There remains, therefore, no longer any doubt, that anthracite coal can be employed, with entire success, in the manufacture of iron in all its branches, and in every variety.

To those who are unacquainted with the details of iron making, it may appear to be a matter of little moment, whether one species of fuel or another be employed in its production; yet this simple substitution promises to exert a mighty influence upon the trade and commerce of Pennsylvania. Any one at all conversant with the expense of a rolling mill, will perceive, from the data above given, that if we assume the cost of making pig iron with anthracite, in the valleys of the Schuylkill and Lehigh, and our other coal districts, to be even as high as \$50 per ton, (a rate which the daily experience of the furnaces now in blast proves to be above the correct mark) railroad bars and merchant iron can be rolled from it and delivered in Philadelphia at an expense not exceeding \$45 to \$50 per ton, and other descriptions of iron in the same proportion. Now the price of these articles, of ordinary qualities, in Liverpool, is a average £9 10s. for the last five years. So that in the very infancy of the trade here, we succeed in making iron as low as it can be sold in LIVERPOOL, without adding freight, insurance, duties, etc., into the calculation at all. And upon finer descriptions of iron, the discrepancy would be still greater in favor of this country. Besides, we must remember, that in any process, perfection is not attained at once; and it would be unreasonable to suppose that experience will not suggest such further improvements as will materially reduce the expenses of the manufacture.

The limits of a new paper forbid a more detailed calculation; but it is evident, that the use of anthracite coal will enable Pennsylvanians to manufacture iron profitably, at a reduction of at least twenty-five per cent. upon the present market rates of railroad and bar iron, and of from forty to fifty per cent. upon the finer descriptions of rods, bands, hoops, etc., which are now protected by a high tariff.

The effect of such a reduction must necessarily be to concentrate the manufacture of nearly all the iron used east of the Alleghenies into the anthracite coal districts. For the importation of foreign metal will be more effectually prohibited by such a reduction, than by the highest tariff. And the same great laws of trade which have collected all the vast establishments which supply Great Britain with her iron, into her three coal districts, must produce similar effects with us.

It is notorious, that the factories now in operation with charcoal and bituminous coal barely remunerate their proprietors, at the present market value of their products; and the change in price to which we have alluded, will gradually, but certainly, compel by far the greater proportion of them to remove their establishments into Pennsylvania.

The convention which met in New York in 1831, reported the amount of iron then made and imported annually into this country, to be two hundred and twenty-five thousand tons. At present, it cannot be less than three hundred thousand tons. But the reduction in the cost of the raw material, which the use of anthracite will effect, must vastly increase the consumption of the metal. Iron is employed in England for the pillars, rafters, and roof, of houses and mills; for building ships and steamboats of the largest size; for the construction of bridges and viaducts, and for a thousand other purposes for which we have been compelled, by its high cost here, to resort to other materials; and it is on'y the great expense of the raw material which has so far prevented our American mechanics from entering into competition with foreigners in the manufacture of arches, cables, cutlery, hardware, and many other articles consumed mainly of iron.

Much of the one million tons of iron annually produced in Great Britain is consumed in articles of this description. In view of these facts, it does not seem doubtful, that when a sufficient number of manufacturers are in operation, to effect a reduction in prices, which we contemplate, there will be a market for at least two hundred thousand tons of Pennsylvania iron annually. The production of such an amount of metal would yield the state an income of ten millions of dollars per annum, all given in exchange for the production of her soil, and the industry of her sons. It would employ vast amounts of capital, give occupation to thousands of workmen, and mechanics, require many miles of canals and railroads for its transportation, and send forth fleets of vessels; enrich the farmer and husbandman, by creating a ready and constant demand for the products of their labor, an add immeasurably to the wealth and importance of this city, and of the whole commonwealth.

Such a prospect, gratifying and pleasing as it is, is neither idle nor visionary; and such, slowly but surely, by the regular effect of fixed causes, must be the result of the final success now attained in manufacturing iron with anthracite coal.

T. T.

Perkins' Steam Gun.

An exhibition is now open at the Assembly Building, corner of 10th and Chesnut streets, of that wonderful instrument of warfare, the "Steam Gun," invented by Perkins. Having seen it in operation, we must say that the accounts heretofore given of its destructive capabilities, are not at all exaggerated; showers of bullets are often spoken of; but it requires a steam gun to realize the idea. The model now shown, throws 158 balls a minute, and with such tremendous force, that without resorting to anything like its possible power, and at a distance of over 100 feet, the leaden balls are flattened to the thinness of the wafer against the iron target, some of them passing completely thro' the sheet iron.—The barrel used in this model is about the size of an ordinary rifle, but the principle is applicable to pieces of any dimensions, and the one employed in experiment before the Duke of Wellington and other distinguished officers, drove ounce bullets at a distance of 35 yards through an iron plate one-fourth of an inch in thickness, and likewise through eleven hard deal planks one inch thick and placed an inch apart. Continuous showers of balls were also projected with such rapidity, that when the barrel of the gun was slowly swept round in a horizontal direction, a plank, twelve feet in length, was so completely perforated that the line of shot holes nearly resembled a cut from one of its ends to the other.

There is likewise a newly invented steam generator attached to this gun, also invented by Perkins, which combines the qualities of simplicity, safety and economy, to a degree never before attained, and which is well worthy the attention of the scientific. The exhibition is therefore a very interesting one in several respects, and will doubtless attract crowds of visitors.

No one can witness the operation of the steam gun without being satisfied that it is destined in all respects, to change the aspect of war, and that particularly as a defensive weapon, it cannot easily be overrated, while a terrific combination can be formed of steam vessels of war with this tremendous invention. The only objection urged against it is, that it is too murderous, and that it would annihilate fleets and armies coming within its range, in the twinkling of an eye. Such doubts would be its execution; but it appears to us that it rather deserves to be looked upon as a great benefactor than as a destroyer of the human race. To bring destruction thus to its maximum and to effect in a few minutes, results which usually require whole campaigns to accomplish, would be by no means likely to increase the intelligent spirit-

of pugacity itself would be overawed at such certain slaughter. The joy of battle would be gone—the pomp and circumstance of glorious war would be no more, and there would be little of the romance with which the trade of human butchery is strangely invested, if battalions were to be blown to fragments by the opening of a steam valve; and if in place of glittering warriors, and plumed troops, and music, feathers and gold lace, the fate of nations was to be decided by a few swarthy firemen in red flannel shirts, sweating with blackened brows over the hot and greasy engine, shooting cannon balls by the corded from hissing pipes, and poking the fire to keep up the necessary heat, instead of having recourse to pealing trumpets and rattling drums to blow the sparks of military ardor into a flame. This would be reducing war to its essentials; it would be getting rid of all its fascinating deceptions at once; it would be such an application of the labor saving principle to the business of thinning population, and of making widows and orphans fight, that neither nations nor individuals would lightly go in search of such ghastly honor.—Penn.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY INVENTION.

Mr. Henry M. Naglee, a young but ingenious and accomplished engineer of this city, has just invented a mode of constructing the rails for cars in railroads, which, we think, is of a very important character. It attains the great desideratum in civil engineering of enabling cars to turn upon the shortest necessary curves without difficulty or danger—the usual inconveniences are escaped—friction is diminished, and the axles are exempt from injury, while the wheels of the car regulate themselves to the turn, avoiding the danger of running off. The invention is simple and upon the combination of two established mechanical principles. The committee of the Franklin Institute, have, as we understand, awarded Mr. Naglee the Scott's Legacy premium, for his important and useful improvement.

Steam.

Lieutenant Janvier, of the French Navy, is said to have discovered the means of getting up the capital of engines with much rapidity, that in ten minutes from the first lighting of the fire, and although the water in the boiler may be quite cold, a vessel may be set in motion. This, it is added, to be accomplished without any additional apparatus.

Mail Packets between France and America.

The French Chambers have promulgated a law regulating the establishment of steam packets to convey the mails between Havre and New York. Two principle lines of communication are to be established by the Government, and served by steam packets of 450 horse power, one starting from Bordeaux every 20 days, and one from Marseilles every month, in order to arrive at Martinique, and continuing by Guadaloupe, St. Thomas, Porto Rico, Cape Hayti, St. Jago, to Havana. The other starting from Nazaire every month to Rio Janeiro, passing by Lisbon, Guice, Pernambuco, and Bahia. The secondary lines, served by steamers of 220 horse power, will be established in order to continue the principal line, the first to Mexico, touching at Vera Cruz, Tampico, Galveston and New Orleans; the second to Central America, touching at Chagres, Cahagens, Santa Martha, and La Guayra; the third to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres.

To effect this, a special credit has been opened to the Minister of the Navy, to the amount of \$8,400,000 francs, to be devoted to the construction, arming, and fitting up of 14 steam packets of 450 horse power, and 4 steam packets of 220 horse power, and which is to be appropriated to the expenditures of 1840, 1841, 1842, and 1843.

A NEW WAY TO CHEAT THE DEVIL.

The Paris Sketch Book—recently published—presents a variety of anecdotes, sketches, &c. to suit almost every taste. Among the lighter articles, is one entitled the Painter's Bargain, which states that one Mr. Gambaige, a poor painter, with a scolding, drunken wife, and not a sou in his pocket, sells the "remainder" of himself, at the end of seven years, to the devil, on condition that in the interim the latter is to do his bidding in every thing, when the last year of the seven of feasting and wealth is half expired, Mr. Gambaige, feeling exquisite qualms as to the fate which awaits him, and having tried every manner and means, even to the Pope's absolution, to get rid of the contract, but in vain—his wife, the following ingenious expedient. He gives a great feast to all his friends; calls upon the devil at desert time; and, handing over to him his red faced spouse, Grikinness, commands him to live with her for the next six months! This is too much, even for the devil; and in gnashing his teeth bitterly, he tears up and annuls the hateful contract, and leaves Gambaige to "go to the—his own way."

THE NESTOR OF THE CLERGY IS NO MORE.

The venerable Dr. Nathaniel Emmons died at Franklin on Wednesday last being the oldest clergyman probably in the United States, and previous to his death he was the oldest surviving graduate of Yale College. He was settled in 1773, as pastor of the church in Franklin, in which office he remained 54 years, and then resigned his pastoral charge, but continued to reside in that town till the time of his death.—Boston Transcript.

Eulogy on Cold Water.

On the occasion of an excursion to the great basin and basin of the Croton Water Works, near New York, Mr. Stevens, the President of the Board of Commissioners, gave the following eulogy on Cold Water. The sentiment which concludes it, however, according to the Express, was washed down by the juice of the grape.

Cold Water.—The Deity, the manufacturer; the Ocean, the raw material; the Sun, the generator of the vapor; the Skies, the condenser; Electricity and Attraction, the distributors, in showers and dews, if truly attenuated as to be respired through the pores of the most delicate plants. Rivers and Lakes, so abundantly distributed as to support not only the whole animal creation. It checks and disengages the most destructive element, and finds its level between the tops of mountains and the tops of houses. It wants neither steamboats nor locomotives to be transported. It cleanses and beautifies all nature, and is so subservient to man, that it neither disorders the stomach, excites the passions, or maddens the brain; so necessary to all life, that the humblest insect exists not without it. The forest tree, monarch of the forest, and man, monarch of all, in its absence, alike droop their heads on the parched earth and die!

For a community like New York where, by the impurities of water, and still more the deleterious beverage of man, life is shortened and our world's goods profusely given to the flames, I may be justified in the sentiment:

"The pure, wholesome, and abundant water of the Croton,—cheap at any price."

Mormons.

If we may credit the statements recently published, the sect of "Mormons" is rapidly on the increase. In England the society numbers two or three thousand members, mostly in Lancashire. They have regularly organized churches in Edinburgh, Birmingham, &c. In the United States the growth of the sect is still larger. In Illinois state and Iowa territory, the number of members is about five thousand. They have several churches built in Springfield, Jacksonville, and other parts of Illinois. Preparations were making to build a church in Cincinnati. In every state of the Union, excepting Missouri, Georgia, Louisiana, and Alabama, they have organized societies. Thus do we see exemplified, the truth of the saying, that there is nothing in religion too absurd to be believed.

THE MODERN ICARUS.

A man, carrying a large bundle, applied some days since, to the keeper of the column in the Place Vendome, for permission to go up to the top of the column. He was requested to leave his bundle with the keeper, but this request so disconcerted him that he retired in disgust to the Pantheon, where the same request was preferred, and the same conditions met with the same exhibition of anger. Upon this the man returned home, took out his large great coat, under which he contrived to conceal his bundle, and demanded admission to the tower of Notre Dame. The keeper accordingly accompanied him to the top of the cathedral towers, and as soon as he arrived there he asked in which direction lay Montmartre. The keeper pointed it out to him, and the man suddenly pulling aside the lapets of his coat, revealed the bundle, and, tapping it mysteriously, he said, "should you be surprised if I were to alight on the top heights of Montmartre within ten minutes?" The keeper replied in the affirmative. "Say not a word," continued the intrepid aeronaut, "and I will take you with me." The keeper, however, respectfully, but firmly, declined the invitation, and exhausted all his persuasive powers in attempting to induce the maniac to abandon his aerial expedition, but all to no purpose. At length the keeper exclaimed, "well, then, since you will go, take me with you." The maniac immediately took out of his bundle some large straps and feathers, and commenced with great gravity to strap them on his shoulders like a pair of wings. He then seized the keeper round the waist, but the keeper returned the compliment, and succeeded in bringing down his bird, and detaining him until assistance was procured. The man proved to be a carpenter, who had frequently given indications of mental aberration, but, being gentle and harmless, had been allowed to remain at large.

TURKISH WIVES.

There is a general idea prevalent in this country, that the Turks have a plurality of wives, but such a custom has no existence in reality. It is true that the Koran allows the Sultan seven wives, and every other Musselman four; but there are few instances in Turkey at the present day, of Turks having more than one wife, and I was assured by a boy, that, with the exception of three or four of the wealthiest pachas, there were not five Turks in Constantinople who had more than one wife. On one occasion I asked an old effendi how many wives he had. "One is all I can afford." I said it would be almost as cheap to keep four wives in a house as one, and his answer was, "Probably four English wives might live peaceably in one house, but Turkish wives must have separate houses; and a man must have as many establishments as he has wives, for if they were to live in the same house, they would scratch one another's eyes out." I was, however, acquainted with one effendi, who, getting tired of his wife, sold her, and bought two black ones with the money he got for her.—Reid's Turkey and the Turks.

PRINCE LOUIS AND HIS FINANCES.

The trial of this unfortunate young man, will keep Parisian curiosity alive for the next three months, and will assuredly present a singular prologue to the ceremonies that are to take place in the same capital in honor of the remains of his illustrious uncle. It seems that the French Government was well aware of the projects of Louis Bonaparte, and for a long time past a very strict surveillance has been kept up all along the coast, as it was uncertain where the landing would take place. It would appear, likewise, that Louis Bonaparte had plenty of money. When his father reigned in Holland, the frugal king had economized on his civil list a sum of 3,000,000 francs, which he had laid out in purchasing diamonds, but when he resigned his crown, with scrupulous honesty, he declined taking away those diamonds, that had been, after all, purchased with the public money, and, in spite of the opposition of his Queen Hortense, the conscientious King persisted in leaving the diamonds behind him at the Hague. At a later period, the ex-king still declined to solicit any compensation from the king of the Netherlands for the 3,000,000 of jewels which had become the property of that monarch. But Hortense and her son Louis, (the hero of Boulogne) not being so tender on this point, proffered to King William of the Netherlands divers claims, which, it is said, have not proved unsuccessful, and the 1,000,000 francs of indemnity given by the Dutch sovereign is the fund that has enabled the rash pretender to the crown of France, to undertake his insane enterprise.

SAXONY.—THE KISO.

A letter from Dresden of the 13th instant, narrates the following interesting anecdote: "A party of foreign botanists, while lately making their researches in the Reinsberg, were joined by a person who was a stranger to them, but whose manners denoted him to be of some distinction, and who was attended by two other gentlemen. He showed great knowledge of the natural sciences in general, and of botany in particular, and the party were so much delighted with his conversation, that at his request they accompanied him to his residence in the mountains, and passed the evening. Next day the party came to thank him for his politeness, and requested to be informed who he was to whom they were under obligation for his hospitality. Their host replied with a smile, 'I am a minerologist and a botanist, and a called Kiso of Saxony.'

KEEP ME FROM MY FRIENDS.

Mr. J. J. in his juvenia, went to a club, and as his appearance was anything but respectable, he borrowed a pair of breeches of a friend. In the course of the evening the leader called out to him, "J—, don't sit down in the damp there in my breeches." A friend who condescended with the embryo critic upon this expense, offered to lend him a pair of unmentionables for the next meeting—he did so, and J— had hardly entered, when his benefactor exclaimed aloud, "J— you may sit down wherever you like in my breeches."

JOHN REEVE, MORALISING.

John Reeve was accosted in the Kensington road by an elderly female, with a small bottle of gin in her hand, "Pray, sir, I beg your pardon, is this the way to the workhouse?" John gave her a look of clerical dignity, and pointing to the bottle, gravely said, "No ma'am; but that is."

CINCINNATI.

It is stated that more than one-fourth of the entire population of Cincinnati consists of Germans.

SPECTER.

The ship Natchez, from Valparaiso, has on board two hundred and seventy-two thousand and forty dollars in specie.

A Cincinnati paper says that four hundred miles of hogs were killed in that city last year. That seems to be a new way of counting swine.

GOLD.

The Great Western brings £100,000 in Gold, to the aid of Mr. Jaulon, agent of the U. S. Bank, who is himself a pensioner.

The Methuen Gazette propounds the following mathematical question: "If a man is too poor to pay for a newspaper, how many dogs can he afford to keep."

"Hallo, stranger! What time is it? How high is the creek? What's the price of butter?"

"Past eleven—almost twelve—waist deep, and eleven pence."

WILL IT BE SO.—An old lady in the western country, seriously asked her husband, if Harrison should be elected whether the lever and ague would long prevail.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—The big Temperance, from Rotterdam, has brought 140 pipes gin, 2 cases opium, and one case fiddles!—Boston Post.

"Do those dogs belong to you, or do you belong to the dogs?" asked a countryman of one of our dandy loafers, who was walking up Beacon street with a couple of mistiffs behind him, the other day.—Boston Post.

PARTY.—A young lady was asked which party she was most in favor of, replied that she preferred a wedding party.

*This name, now generally written Ibrahim, is the same as that of "the father of the faithful," the cotemporary of Melchisedek.

THE BANKS OF BALTIMORE.—We learn that the banks of Baltimore have a circulation of \$1,800,000, and about \$1,000 in specie in their vaults. Philadelphia is indebted to Baltimore about \$700,000, and Baltimore owes other eastern cities about \$300,000. Money is considered easy there, and the banks discount nearly all the good paper that is offered. It is believed that they will resume specie payments immediately after the banks of Philadelphia resume.

"I'm getting fat," as the loser said when he was stealing gold.