

TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN."

H. B. MASSER, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR. JOSEPH EISELY, PROPRIETOR.

Office in Centre Alley, in the rear of H. B. Masser's Store.

THE "AMERICAN" is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum to be paid half yearly in advance.

No subscriptions received for a less period than six months. All communications or letters on business relating to the office, to insure attention, must be POST PAID.

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NEW CARPETINGS.

The subscribers have received, and are now opening a splendid assortment of the following goods: Saxony, Wilton and Velvet Carpetings; Brussels and Imperial 3 ply do; Extra superior and fine Ingrains do; English shaded & Damask Venetian do; American twilled and fig'd do; English Druggets and Woolen Floor Cloths; Stair and Passage Bookings; Embossed Piano and Table Covers; London Cheville and Tuffed Rugs; Door Mats of every description.

A large and extensive assortment of Floor Oil Cloths, from one to eight yards wide, cut to fit every description of rooms or passages.

Also, low priced Ingrain Carpetings from 31 1/2 to 62 1/2 cents per yard, together with a large and extensive assortment of goods usually kept by carpet merchants.

The above goods will be sold wholesale or retail at the lowest market prices. Country merchants and others are particularly invited to call and examine our stock before making their selections.

CLARKSON, RICH & MULLIGAN, Successors to Joseph Blackwood, No. 111 Chesnut, Philadelphia, Feb. 22, 1845.

UMBRELLAS & PARASOLS, CHEAP FOR CASH.

J. W. SWAIN'S Umbrella and Parasol Manufactory.

No. 37 North Third street, two doors below the CITY HOTEL, Philadelphia.

ALWAYS on hand, a large stock of UMBRELLAS and PARASOLS, including the latest style of Pinked Edged Parasols of the best workmanship and materials, at prices that will make it an object to Country Merchants and others to call and examine his stock before purchasing elsewhere.

SHUGERT'S PATENT WASHING MACHINE.

This Machine has now been tested by more than thirty families in this neighborhood, and as given entire satisfaction. It is so simple in its construction, that it cannot get out of order. It contains no iron to rust, and no springs or rollers to get out of repair. It will do twice as much washing, with less than half the wear and tear of any of the best machines, and what is of greater importance, it costs but little over half as much as other washing machines.

The subscriber has the exclusive right for Northumberland, Union, Lycoming, Columbia, Luzerne and Clinton counties. Price of single machine \$6. H. B. MASSER.

The following certificate is from a few of those who have these machines in use.

Sunbury, Aug. 24, 1844. We, the subscribers, certify that we have now used, in our families, "Shugert's Patent Washing Machine," and do not hesitate saying that it is not excellent invention. That, in washing, it does more than one-half the usual labor, it does not require more than one-third the quantity of soap and water; and that there is no rubbing, and consequently, little or no wear or tearing. That it knocks off no buttons, and the finest clothes, such as collars, laces, tucks, &c., may be washed in a very short time about the least injury, and in fact without any wear and tear, whatever. We therefore earnestly recommend it to our friends and to the public, as a most useful and labor saving machine.

CHARLES W. HEGINS, A. JORDAN, CHS. WEAVER, CHS. PLEASANTS, GIDEON MARKLE, HEN. GEO. WELKER, BENI. HENDRICKS, GIDEON LEISNERING, No. 16 Chesnut street, Philadelphia, September 21, 1844.

have used Shugert's Patent Washing Machine upwards of eight months, and do not state to say that I deem it one of the most useful and valuable labor-saving machines ever invented. I formerly kept two women continually occupied in washing, who now do as much in two as they then did in one week. There is no wear in washing, and it requires not more than one-third the usual quantity of soap. I have a number of other machines in my family, but in no decidedly superior to every thing else, and the liable to get out of repair, that I would not without one if they should cost ten times the price they are sold for. DANIEL HERR.

BLACK BEED—The highest price will be given for Flax Seed, at the store of HENRY MASSER, Oct. 9, 1845.

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.—JAZZARON.

By Masser & Eiseley.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, May 23, 1846.

Vol. 6--No. 35--Whole No. 295.

From the Sunday Times.

TALES OF THE REVOLUTION. The attempt to blow up the Eagle 64 Gun Ship off the Battery, in New York, on July 17, 1776.

Howe, in a fright, starts upright, Awoke by such a clatter— Rubbing both eyes, he loudly cries, "For God's sake what's the matter?" At his bedside, he then espied Sir Erskine at command; Upon one foot, he had one boot, The other in his hand, "Arise! arise!" Sir Erskine cries; "The rebels—more's the pity— Without a boat, and all afloat, Are ranged before the city."

(Hopkinson's Battle of the Kegs, in 1777.

In the month of July, 1776, the Eagle 64 gun ship, bearing the flag of Admiral Lord Howe, was lying in the harbor of New York, below the city, about half way down to Staten Island. In the early part of the month a large fleet of vessels of war and transports, with troops from Halifax and England direct, arrived at Sandy Hook, and landed the army at Gravesend and on Staten Island.

It has always seemed unaccountable why the two Howes did not attack the city at once on their arrival, and take possession under the guns of their shipping. The artillery of the Americans was entirely too feeble to have opposed them with any success; and by so doing, the British commander would have struck a severe blow at our cause. To show how useless were the American batteries, this extract of a letter from Washington to Congress, dated New York, July 13, 1776, is proof:—"The design of this is to inform Congress, that at about half after three o'clock this afternoon, two of the enemy's ships of war, one of forty and one of twenty guns, with three tenders, weighed anchor in the bay opposite Staten Island, and availing themselves of a brisk and favorable breeze, with a flowing tide, ran past our batteries up the North river, without receiving any certain damage that I could perceive, notwithstanding a heavy and incessant cannonade was kept up from our several batteries here, as well as from that at Paulus Hook. They on their part returned and continued the fire as they ran by."

General Putnam at this time was the executive commanding officer in New York. His headquarters were in the house now occupied by Mr. Prime, at the corner of Broadway, facing the Bowling Green. He had for some time been devising a plan to destroy a part of the men-of-war in the harbor by means of rafts and fire-ships. The British sailors, however, were too wary to fear much danger in this way and 'Old Put's' schemes were useless.

Among the Connecticut troops was an officer of the name of Bushnell, a man of education, of somewhat eccentric habits, but of a very strong mechanical turn of mind. When at college, in 1775, (the year of his graduating) he had prepared a model of a submarine explosive machine, or torpedo, of very ingenious construction. This coming to the ears of Putnam, he sent Major Burr (Aaron Burr was at this time the aid-de-camp of Putnam) to Bushnell, with an invitation to dine with him. After dinner Putnam mentioned to his guest that he understood he had invented a machine for destroying ships, by attacking them under water, and asked him if such was the case. Bushnell replied that he had the model of such a machine at his quarters, and if the general desired he would send for it. An order was at once despatched to fetch it, and after an hour spent in the examination, Putnam declared with an oath, that 'if the machine could only be got into h—l, it would blow up the devil himself, and be d—d to him!' Putnam had a very bad way of swearing in those days. Bushnell was immediately supplied with the necessary funds, and set to work on the torpedo.

In the course of three days the machine was completed. A condensed description may not seem out of place. Outwardly it bore some appearance to a large sea turtle. And what would be the head of such an animal, was an opening sufficiently large to hold a man. This apartment was air-tight, at the same time containing air to support the operator for half an hour. At the bottom, and opposite the entrance, was lead for ballast. The operator sat upright, and held an oar for rowing forward or backward, and was furnished with a rudder for steering. An aperture at the bottom, with its valve, admitted water for the purpose of descending, and two brass forcing pumps served to eject the water within when necessary for ascending. Behind the submarine vessel was a plane above the rudder for carrying a large powder magazine: this was made of two pieces of oak timber, large enough, when hollowed out, to contain one hundred and fifty lbs. of powder with the apparatus used for firing it, and was secured in its place by a screw turned by the operator. Within the magazine was an apparatus constructed to run any proposed period under twelve hours; when it had run out its time, it unpinioned a strong lock resembling a gun lock, which gave fire to the powder. To the curious in such matters, for a full description of Bushnell's machine, we refer them to

'Howe's Memoirs of Eminent American Mechanics.'

Unfortunately, this well managed scheme failed through the simplest reason in the world, and that was, the want of a quid of tobacco! You shall hear. A brother of Captain Bushnell whose mind was as ingenious as that of the inventor, was fixed upon to go down in the machine; but he was taken sick the day before the attempt was to be made, and the trouble now was to find a substitute. At length a sergeant in a Connecticut regiment from New London, volunteered for the service.

The man's name was Abijah Shipman, better known among his comrades as 'Long Bige.' He was an amphibious kind of fellow—had been in early life a sailor, engaged in carrying 'stock' or horses to the West Indies, and was what would be termed a 'queer fish.' He stood six feet two inches, and was remarkably lean and bony, and full of dry wit or humor in his remarks. Fear formed no part of his composition, and his chief faults were rather too strong a liking for St. Croix rum and tobacco. 'Bige' was taken by General Putnam and Bushnell to inspect the machine. After a full inspection the only remark he made was this:

'It's all right, I guess! But I tell ye what, Gin'ral, if that ere thing is to be my coffin this hitch, there'll be some trouble to get me out on resurrection mornin'.'

'Yes,' replied Putnam; 'but sergeant, you can send the Eagle up first, to clear the way, you know.'

Before daylight, on a morning in July, the sergeant was put on board the torpedo on the North River side, preparatory to being pulled off into the stream, from whence he was to drop down with the tide, and get under the bottom of the Eagle. Putnam, Bushnell, General Heath, Colonel Knowlton, Burr, and a large number of officers accompanied him to the shore. The undertaking was extremely hazardous, and required great skill in the management of the machine. If the sergeant could strike the ship, and attach the magazine to any portion of her bottom, her destruction was inevitable, beyond doubt. But to do this, great skill, caution and judgment was needed.

Every thing was now ready—'Bige' had got aboard his 'terral mud turkle,' as he styled the machine, and was about to enter the aperture to screw himself in the air-tight room or hole, when of a sudden he ran up and exclaimed—'Thunder and marlinspikes! who's got a chew o' tobacco! This old quid won't last no how!' and he threw it away.

A general laugh took place at the oddity of the sergeant's appeal, at such a juncture, when the serious attention of all was riveted upon the machine and its operator, about to depart on so dangerous a service. Inquiries passed round for tobacco, but not even a bit of pigtail could be raised among the group. Daybreak too, was not far off, and it was necessary that 'Bige' should move immediately.

'Ah! sergeant, you see how it is,' said Putnam, 'we continental officers are too poor even to raise a tobacco plug. Push off, my fine fellow, and to-morrow some of the Southern officers shall supply you with a keg of old Virginia.'

'Too bad!' answered 'Bige' despondingly, but mind, Gin'ral, if the old turkle doesn't do 'her duty, it's all on account o' my going to sea without tobacco—mind I tell ye.'

The machine was towed into the stream cast off, and 'Bige' and his 'terral mud turkle' disappeared under water. For the space of an hour and more did the officers wait upon the extreme point of the Battery, expecting momentarily to see the Eagle ascend into the air. When day broke, suspense gave way to fear. Nothing was to be seen of the torpedo, and the officers began to mourn 'Bige' as one to be reported among the 'missing' at the next call of his regimental muster roll.

Putnam had been examining the vicinity of the Eagle with his glass, when he suddenly exclaimed—'There he is!'—Sure enough, the top of the machine was left of the Eagle. It was observed from the ship's deck, for a volley of musketry was fired into it, and 'down below' popped the turkle, 'Bige' evidently not liking this species of recognition. Barges were now sent off the shore to pick him up, and the Eagle was observed to be getting under way in great haste. The sergeant was taken up near Governor's Island, after having cast off his machine, which being set to run about an hour, exploded with tremendous force, throwing up the water in every direction. The Eagle up anchor, followed by the Asia, Chatham and several other men-of-war; and such a rapid 'gitten down to New York bay' was never seen before or since. Lord Howe thought a 'young hell' had broken loose under charge of the Yankees, and it is a fact no less strange than true, that until the morning of the battle of Long Island, not an English vessel ventured from Staten Island to the bay. 'Bige,' on landing, gave the following account of his perilous journey under water:

'Just as I said, Gin'ral—it all failed for want

of a chew! You see, I'm nervous without tobacco. I got under the Eagle's bottom, but somehow the screw struck the iron bar that passes from the rudder pintle, and 'twouldn't hold on no how I could fix it. Jist then I let go the oar to feel for a chew to aid my nerves, and hadn't any. The cursed tide swept me under her counter, and away I slipt top o' water. I couldn't get back, so I pulled the lock and let the infernal critter slide. It raised h—l, didn't it! I say, can't you raise a chew among you now?'

Thus ended Bushnell's famous torpedo scheme. Bushnell died in Georgia, in 1826. 'Bige' died near New London about twenty years ago, avowing to the last that Admiral Lord Howe owed his earldom, which he won by his famous victory over the French on the 1st of June, 1794, solely to old Put's not furnishing him, 'Bige,' with a quid of tobacco when he went down in the "eternal mud turkle."

THE PROGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC.

The following passage from Mr. CRITTENDEN'S speech on the Oregon question in the Senate is as full of meaning as it is eloquent in expression:

It is a little more than two centuries since a feeble band, very few and very feeble, landed on the bleak shores of an unknown land. And what do we now behold? They have spread their empire across this broad continent, from sea to sea; they have overcome the wilderness and filled it with cities; from a few hundreds of people they have already multiplied to twenty millions, and the child is born who will see that number swelled to one hundred millions. And all this done by the mere course of Nature. No art has been called in to urge for onward progress; the country has grown up with people, and as rapidly as the one multiplies and spreads, the other holds out her supplies, and opens her rich resources. That is your inheritance. How proud ought it to make us feel!

Why so impatient to get to-day, what, by the mere force of circumstances, by a destiny that cannot be controlled, will be yours to-morrow? Cannot we afford to be a little wise, a little patient? We are going ahead upon a tide of prosperity, upon a sea of glory, with unequalled celerity and the speed of the wind. Can we not be satisfied? Why must we be trying artificial means to get on still faster? This is the only way by which our onward progress can be successfully impeded. We are the greatest born of this continent. This continent is ours by a title indefeasible, irreversible, irresistible. I smile inwardly and exultingly at all petty Europeans' endeavors to check us, by establishing what they denominate a "balance of power." It provokes no feeling in my breast; I know it is natural; it rather provokes my pride. This republic is not seventy years old; as a nation it has not yet attained to the length of an individual life—it is justly and correctly spoken of as an "infant republic"—and yet we see it exciting the wonder and the jealousy and the diplomatic plots and schemes of the kingdoms of Europe. What can they effect? What can Monsieur Guizot's fine drawn policy of a "balance of power" on this Western continent accomplish in stopping the march of this advancing people. We are this day twenty millions? where will he find his 'balance' for this?

I was much amused the other day by reading a memorial of the Count de Vergennes addressed to the King of France. It accompanies a survey of the United States, and the memorial treats of the true basis for the future policy of the French Government towards us. This was written sixty years ago, just after the treaty of our independence in 1783; and the policy and wise Count there states to the king, his master, that there is a very powerful and formidable tribe of Indians called the Cherokees, who live in the gorges of the western mountains, and he recommends the King to cultivate friendship and alliance as a "barrier against the people of the United States"—mark that—[much laughter.]—"least the people of the United States," says the worthy Count, "more ambitious than wise, should attempt to cross the heights of the Alleghany Mountains, and look even as far as the Mississippi itself." Renewed merriment thro' the Chamber and galleries.

To check this overwhelming daring of an ambitious people, he recommends an alliance between the Crown of France and the powerful nation of the Cherokees! Here is Monsieur Guizot's "balance of power." In that day the Cherokee Indians were to be the counterweight in the French balance of power to keep us back from being so daring as to look even towards the Mississippi itself. Poor Count de Vergennes! The day is coming when our posterity will look, with the same feelings of wonder, at our present anxiety and greediness to get the "whole of Oregon," just as if it would not be ours without any action of our own. Nothing can withhold us from our natural destiny; we cannot avoid it but by the grossest folly and wickedness. Nothing else can disappoint our hope or frustrate the designs of Nature and

Providence in our behalf. Let things alone. Take care of your Union; that is all you have to look to. The shadow of your free institutions goes before you every where; or rather let me say the bright radiance of those institutions illuminate your path in every direction.

The people of our country, living under other systems of despotic rule, or solicitously volunteering to come under the shelter of your laws and the security of your protection. Without wrong or injury or violence, without a blow and without a wound, you may conquer more effectually than ever did the Roman legions. This, this, and not the sword, is your all-conquering power. It is the burning example of your liberty. This it is that carries hope into the breasts of the hopeless and teaches the most depressed that there is happiness yet within their reach. You are yourselves the great living practicable illustration of your own principles; you want no more. Why, then, so impatient to pluck that fruit green to-day, which to-morrow will fall full ripe into your hand?

I say not these things in any spirit of aggrandisement, or with any desire to have my country usurp its neighbor's right. No sir; no. It is a part of the elements of our conquering character, a part of the augury of a great career, that we shall be just to all; that we shall violate no right; that we shall do no injury; that we shall respect the weak, but submit to no injustice. Take care of yourselves, preserve your sacred Union, and all the rest is certain as the course of Nature. For ourselves not merely, but for the common race of man, we hold the sceptre of an empire such as never before was seen upon earth. Do not, by precipitancy and childish impatience, mar the fortune which nature and destiny hold out to you.

TO MAKE FRUIT TREES THRIFTY.—In the spring wash them as high as a man can reach with one quart whale oil soap, diluted in fifteen gallons of water; and if in April there are caterpillars, give them another dose; then put round the roots of the apple and pear trees two or three shovels of charcoal or anthracite ashes; to the peach, plum and nectarine trees I have tried various experiments, yet have hitherto been most pleased with tobacco stems, which are purchased at two cents per bushel. Half a peck of stems around each tree is sufficient. The roots are first laid bare; the tobacco is then placed over them and covered with soil. To this three or four shovels full of anthracite ashes may be added with advantage. The past spring I have tried on all, save peach and nectarine trees—which were so diseased with worms that I ordered them cut up—an application of warm (not hot) coal tar from the gas house. We first removed the earth from the roots, picked out the worms, and then, with a painter's brush, covered the trunk of the tree eight inches up from the roots. After this soil was immediately replaced around the tree. The effect was astonishing. In May we applied half a pint of guano as a top dressing to each tree, and thurifier trees, fuller of fruit, and with a deeper, richer green foliage, cannot be seen. I mean to treat all my peaches this way, as the cheapest and best manner of protecting them. Two peach trees I gave up last fall as past a hope of saving. On these I tried an experiment of putting to each fifteen gallons of urine neutralized with a peck of Plaster of Paris. The trees are now living, and the leaves are green; but whether they will thrive well remains to be seen. I think, however, the dose will effect a cure; and if so, it is worth knowing. You shall have the result hereafter. R. I. COLT.

Patterson, N. J., June 5, 1845

DELICIOUS APPLE PUDDING. Pare and chop fine half a dozen or more, according to their size, the best cooking apples—grease a pudding dish, cover the bottom and sides half an inch thick with grated bread, and very small lumps of butter; then put a layer of apples with sugar and nutmegs and repeat the layers until the dish is heaped full. Before adding the last layer, which must be of bread and butter, pour over the whole a teacup full of cold water. Put it into the oven as soon as the dinner is served, and bake it for twenty-five or thirty minutes. It may be baked the day before it is wanted; when it must be heated thoroughly, turned into a shallow dish and sprinkled with powdered sugar. It requires no sauce.—Am. Ag.

It is estimated that 245,000 persons have been annually killed in battle, for the last four thousand years, to say nothing of the wounded.

Christianity is all mildness and beauty—it breathes nothing but pure benevolence to God, and it appeals to the best feelings of man. It is essentially a religion of love, and has no dark shades blended with its brilliant tints.

Moral principle is the citadel of the heart. All education, therefore, which is conducted irrespective of this, is but the erection of outward works to besiege the strong holds of virtue.

PRICES OF ADVERTISING.

1 square 1 insertion, \$0 50  
1 do 3 do 0 75  
1 do 3 do 1 00  
Every subsequent insertion, 0 25  
Yearly Advertisements: one column, \$25; half column, \$18; three squares, \$12; two squares, \$9; one square, \$5. Half-yearly: one column, \$18; half column, \$12; three squares, \$8; two squares, \$5; one square, \$3 50.  
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 or less make a square.

THE REVENUE BILL.

The following is an abstract of the new Revenue Bill, which we take from the 'Lancaster Union.' We are getting along wonderfully in the way of taxation. A few improvements upon this bill would place us in the happy condition of the tax-ridden subjects of Great Britain.

Sec. 1. Requires the commissioners of every county in the Commonwealth, at the usual period of making county rates and levies, to assess, or cause to be assessed, for the use of the commonwealth, upon all stages, omnibuses, hacks, cabs and other vehicles, used for transporting passengers for hire, and upon all annuities over two hundred dollars, except those granted by this commonwealth or by the United States, and upon all trust property real or personal, [not taxed under existing laws], excepting all such property as shall be held in trust for religious purposes, three mills upon every dollar.

Sec. 2. Requires the commissioners of every county to include in their precepts to assessors the several objects of taxation mentioned in the preceding section, and to ascertain the amount, description and nature thereof, and make return to them as now required by law, and provides that the taxes on said property shall be collected in the same manner as all other taxes.

Sec. 3. Requires every person, firm, President, Secretary, Cashier or Treasurer of every company or corporation to deliver to assessors, in writing, a statement showing the aggregate amount of money due to them by solvent debtors, whether on mortgage, judgment, bond, note, contract, agreement, account, and settlement in Orphans' Court and Court of Common Pleas.

Sec. 4. Requires said statement to be made out and certified to within fifteen days, or in case of neglect or refusal to do so, the same shall be done by the assessor.

Sec. 5. Provides that if any person, President, &c. shall not make out a true statement, he shall be fined one hundred dollars.

Sec. 6. Provides that the commissioners shall tax all moneys, stocks, debts, &c. contained in said statement at the same rate as similar property is now taxed by the Act of April 26th, 1841, with a provision that 50 per cent shall be added in all cases when parties refuse to make said statement.

Sec. 7. Requires the Auditor General to forward to county commissioners forms of statements required by the preceding sections, and all necessary instructions for carrying the act into uniform effect.

Sec. 8. Provides that all loans and stocks issued by companies chartered by the State, whenever interest is guaranteed by the commonwealth, shall be taxed one-half mill for the use of the State.

Sec. 9. Limits the Act of May 4th, 1841, to the 4th of May, 1846, and exempts Banks from receiving 'Relief notes' issued by them in payment of debts.

Sec. 10. Requires the State Treasurer to pay all fees for Searches, Copies, Entries, &c. into the Treasury for use of State.

Sec. 11. Requires that all dealers in domestic goods shall pay the same annual tax that dealers in foreign merchandise now do, except mechanics who keep a store at their own shops.

Sec. 12. Provides for the better payments of the taxes of dealers in merchandise.

Sec. 13. Relates exclusively to the city and county of Philadelphia.

Sec. 14. Doubles the tax on collateral inheritances.

Sec. 15. Relates to Philadelphia only.

Sec. 16. Requires the next tri-annual assessment to be made in this year (1846) and tri-annually thereafter.

Sec. 17. Declares that the assessment in no county shall be below the valuation fixed by the revenue commissioners, though it may be made higher.

Sec. 18. Relates to Bedford county only.

Sec. 19. Requires that all assessors shall make oath that they have made a true and just return, and authorize the county commissioners to administer such oath.

Sec. 20. Imposes a tax of fifty dollars fine on any person who shall refuse to serve as collector.

Sec. 21. Declares that collectors' warrants shall be effectual for collection of taxes after two years.

Sec. 22. Repeals the act giving \$50,000 to Pittsburg so far as the \$20,000 not yet paid is concerned.

Sec. 23. Provides that property left by deceased persons may be taxed in the name of the Administrators, Executors or heirs, and that such tax shall remain a lien on the part taxed for the period of one year.

A woman may be of great assistance to her husband in business, by wearing a cheerful smile continually upon her countenance. A man's perplexities and gloominess are increased a hundred fold, when his better half moves about with a continual frown, upon her brow.