

TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN."

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

H. B. MASSER, Editor. 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.

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.—JERRARD.

By Masser & Eisely.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, Sept. 19, 1846.

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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 or less make a square.

PETER JAZARUS, UNBURY.

Northumberland County, PENNSYLVANIA.

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public in general, that he has taken the Brick Store, formerly occupied by George Prince as a public house, (east of the State House, and opposite the Court House), where he is prepared to accommodate his friends, and all others who may favor him with their custom, in the best manner.

In short, no exertions nor expense will be spared to render his house in every way worthy of public patronage.

Sunbury, April 4th, 1846—6m

CARPETS AND OIL-CLOTHS

At the "CHEAP STORE" No. 41 Strawberry Street, Philadelphia.

OUR Store rent and other expenses being very light, we are enabled to offer OIL-CLOTHS, CARPETS, OIL-CLOTHS, &c., wholesale and retail, at the lowest prices in the city, and buyers will find it greatly to their advantage to call and examine the large assortment we offer this season.

Beautiful Imperial 3 ply Double Superfine Ingrain Fine and Medium do Twilled and plain Venetian

together with a large stock of OIL-CLOTHS from 2 feet to 24 feet wide, very cheap, for rooms, halls, &c.; also, Mattings, Floor Mats, Rugs, Cotton and Rag Carpets, &c., &c., with a good assortment of Ingrain Carpets from 12 to 50 cents.

and Stair and Entry Carpets from 12 to 50 cents.

ELI H. DODD & BROTHER, No. 41, Strawberry Street, one door above Chestnut near Second Street, Philadelphia.

March 21st, 1846—3m

A CARD.

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V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, duly authorized and empowered, by the proprietors of most of the best newspapers of all the cities and principal towns in the U. S. and Canada, to receive subscriptions and advertisements, and to give receipts for them, respectfully notifies the public, that he is prepared to execute orders from all parts of the civilized world, embracing Jobbing, Firms, Societies, Clubs, Reading Rooms, Corporations, &c., at his several offices in the cities of Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York and Boston, and where communications and inquiries, post paid, may be directed. Address V. B. PALMER, Philadelphia, N. W. corner Third and Chestnut streets; Baltimore, S. E. corner Baltimore and Calvert streets; New York, Tribune Buildings opposite City Hall; Boston, 20 State st.

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V. B. PALMER, American Newspaper Agent.

Editors throughout the United States for whom V. B. Palmer is Agent, will promise the advantage of all concerned, by publishing the above.

PUBLIC NOTICE.—V. B. Palmer is the duly authorized Agent for the "SUNBURY AMERICAN," in the cities of Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Baltimore, of which public notice is hereby given. March 14, 1846.

ALEXANDER L. HICKEY, FRANK MAKER, No. 150 Chestnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.

WHERE all kinds of leather trunks, valises and carpet bags, of every style and pattern are manufactured, in the best manner and from the best materials, and sold at the lowest rate. Philadelphia, July 19th, 1845.—1v

SHUGERT'S PATENT WASHING MACHINE.

THIS Machine has now been tested by more than thirty families in this neighborhood, and has 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 latest inventions, 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, Leominster, 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 in use, in our families, "Shugert's Patent Washing Machine," and do not hesitate saying that it is most excellent invention. That, in washing, it will save more than one half the usual labor—that it does not require more than one third the usual quantity of soap and water; and that there is no rubbing, and consequently, little or no wear of the fabric. That it knocks off all buttons, and at the finest clothes, such as collars, laces, tucks, &c., may be washed in a very short time without the least injury, and in fact without any wear and tear, whatever. We therefore cheerfully recommend it to our friends and to the public, as a most useful and labor saving machine.

CHARLES W. HEGINS, A. JORDAN, GHS. WEAVER, GHS. PLEASANTS, GIBSON MARKLE, Hon. GEO. C. WELKER, BENJ. HENDRICKS, GIBSON LEISENRING.

516 HOTEL, (formerly Tremont House, No. 116 Chestnut street,) Philadelphia, September 21st, 1844.

I have used Shugert's Patent Washing Machine my house 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 years as they then did in one week. There is no wear or tear 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 it is so decidedly superior to every thing else, and little liable to get out of repair, that I would not without one they should cost ten times the price they are sold for. DANIEL HERR.

ALAN SEED.—The highest price will be given for Flax Seed, at the store of Aug. 9, 1845 HENRY MASSER.

From the Water-Cure Journal. TEA A POSITIVE POISON.

It may be said perhaps, to treat of tea as both a medicine and a poison, is to make a distinction without a difference, since every efficient medicine is a poison of course. There is truth in the suggestion; nevertheless, it is more convenient to arrange my thoughts on the subject under two separate heads.

One evidence that tea is poisonous, is found in the fact that, like alcohol, stramonium, belladonna, and many other medicines, it produces its specific disease—the tea disease. This part of our subject will be best illustrated by the experiments and deductions of Mr. John Cole, a distinguished member of the Royal College of Surgeons in London.

Mr. Cole does not, indeed, attempt to show that every tea drinker has the tea disease; a point as difficult to establish as that every one who uses alcohol drinks of any kind has the drunkard's disease. All who use tea however, are on the high road to the tea disease, just as every dram drinker, and in truth every wine, cider and beer drinker, is on the road to delirium tremens.

There is one thing, moreover, which seems a little peculiar in relation to the effects of tea. Though it disturbs, most readily, those constitutions whose tone has been lowered from the healthy standard, by fatigue, debility, loss of blood, &c., yet it has also the power, when taken a long time in excessive quantity, of reducing the healthy constitution to that state in which it becomes accessible to its own deleterious influence. The following is his description of the progress of the disease, in those whose systems were already prepared to be injuriously affected by it:

"In a longer or a shorter time after taking the beverage, (from a few minutes to two or three hours,) an uncomfortable feeling arises in the stomach—a craving, sinking crises—which soon acquires a degree of intensity that is almost insupportable. The hunger-like gnawing and craving are described as being to the last degree painful to endure. The stomach being full, has no effect in preventing its accession; neither does eating relieve it. This is often all that is felt for a long time: but by degrees a fluttering, as of a bird, in the left side, is superadded; and a feeling of fulness pervades the chest, with breathless and frequent sighing. The fulness is more especially felt about the clavicles, (or collar bones,) and the root of the neck.

"When black tea or coffee has been taken, considerable excitement often ushers in this succession of phenomena; the face becomes flushed, the eyes sparkle with unusual brilliancy, all the earlier effects of intoxication from alcohol are observable—the pulse being full and throbbing, and considerable quickened. If green tea have been taken, the previous excitement is less, or perhaps not at all perceptible; the skin soon becomes pale, the eyes become sunken, the pulse feeble, quick and fluttering.

"Whichever may have been taken, the hands and feet often become cold as marble, and bedewed with a clammy sweat. Efforts to warm them are made in vain, even in the hottest weather; a feeling of coldness and numbness also invades the back part of the head.

"This is the milder form of the disease, (if I may so term it,) the one which is most commonly seen; but occasionally a variety of aggravated symptoms arise. To the coldness and numbness feeling of the back of the head, there is added formication of the scalp, (a sensation as if ants were creeping in it,) violent pain in the head, dimness of the sight, unsteadiness in walking, and vertigo; and these are accompanied by a fluttering, feeble pulse. To the feeling of fulness of the chest and about the clavicles, are added threatening of suffocation, insensibility, and convulsions. The sufferings felt in the stomach are aggravated to violent spasms. The fluttering at the heart becomes pain, violent palpitation, or feeble action, bringing on a syncope. I may add, here, that the mind does not escape injury, but partakes of the disorders of the body, as is seen by the temper becoming peevish and irritable, so as to render the sufferer a torment to all about him."

Who does not see, in a substance that can induce all these mischiefs on the living system, a less severe though certain poison? Is there a possibility of mistake?

But Mr. C. brings forward a list of ten cases of disease from tea drinking, of which the following is an abstract. It should be premised, however, that except during what he calls the paroxysms, this distinguished surgeon was not in the habit of giving medicine—relying solely, for a cure, on total abstinence from the drinks which produced the mischief.

His first case was that of a female, thirty-five years of age, who complained of great pain in the stomach after eating, with a sense of sinking and emptiness, and such a feeling of faintness that she could hardly walk, followed at length by fluttering in the side, fulness about the clavicles, and vomiting.

The second was that of a female, forty years of age. She was just recovering from catarrhal fever, when one morning, after taking her breakfast, was seized with symptoms similar to those already mentioned, except the vomiting. It appeared, on inquiry, that her tea that morning, (it was black tea,) had been made stronger than usual, and that she had also drank more than was customary with her.

His third case was that of a female thirty years of age, who had long been in the use of very strong green tea, in large quantity. For a year before Mr. C. was called, she had been subject to violent spasms of the stomach, which had at length become so frequent and severe, that the slightest exertion, even a little walking, was sufficient to bring them on. When Mr. C. arrived she was suffering from spasms of usual violence. She had likewise the other usual symptoms of tea disease. On inquiry, he was fully satisfied that all the trouble, in this case, was the effect of tea. She was directed to abstain from it; and for several weeks had no return of the spasms, nor other symptom of disease. But one day, on venturing upon a single cup of her favorite beverage, she had a slight attack of her old complaint. She resumed her abstinence, and remained well.

The fourth case was another female, thirty years old. She had the usual symptoms of tea disease, or tea poison, with the usual nervous suffering. The tea she had used was green tea. She had been in the use of digitalis and colchicum a fortnight, with no other effect than to add to her sufferings, as might have been expected from the addition of two more poisons to the one which was already undermining her constitution. She abstained from tea, and in three days recovered.

The fifth case was that of a female, twenty-five years of age, famous in her profession of tea drinking. Mr. C. prohibited tea as usual; but was surprised to find, after having made his daily visit for a week or so, she was no better. On a more rigid search, he found her still indulging herself clandestinely. She complied at length, with his prohibition, and in a few days was well.

Case sixth was that of an author and parliamentary reporter, of middle age. He was a green tea drinker—sometimes using it stronger as his common drink, for five or six hours together, to keep up his mental strength. He had become so enslaved, that two or three times a week, he was found lying in a state of insensibility on the floor.

A middle-aged mother was the seventh. She had been subject for some time to occasional fits of insensibility, which occurred in the evening. She had used black tea twice a day, which Mr. C., suspecting to be the cause of mischief, forbade her, and she quickly recovered.—I should have said that she had taken the strongest medicines without success.

A shop-keeper, forty years of age, is next mentioned. He was not only a great tea drinker, but also a coffee drinker. His head was more affected than that of the others. To total abstinence from every drink but water, was added, in this case, for ten days, a little valerian.

The ninth case was that of a young man of twenty-two—a great drunkard, even at this early age, on black tea. In addition to the other symptoms of disease, he was at length attacked with bleeding at the nose. He was cured in the usual manner, in a very short time.

The last case mentioned is that of a female—a most devoted slave of the teapot. She had long been a sufferer, but would not abandon the cause of her suffering, till a severe cough, with a bloody expectoration, compelled her to do it.

Mr. C. concludes his remarks by observing—"I could extend the number of cases so as to form a body of evidence which it would be difficult to resist. Those I have brought forward are, I think, sufficient to excite considerable doubt as to the harmless qualities of."

"The cups that cheer but not inebriate." "If it be true," he adds, "that the continued disturbance of the function of an organ will induce change of structure, what are we to expect from the use of tea twice a day, when it deranges the function of the heart for three or four hours after each time of its being taken? If the answer be that it may be expected to produce some structural disease, then there arises this other question,—May not the greater prevalence of cardiac (or heart) disease, of late years, have been considerably influenced by the increased consumption of tea and coffee?"

But Mr. Cole is not the only individual who has suspected tea of containing poison. Distinguished men of both hemispheres have entertained the same suspicions; and several have verified them by experiment.

"As early as 1767," says Mr. Graham, in his Lectures on the Science of Human Life, "Dr. Smith, of Edinburgh, demonstrated, by a series of careful experiments, that an infusion of green tea has the same effect as henbane, tobacco, cicuta, &c., on the living tissues of the animal

body; in all cases first diminishing and finally destroying their vital properties. In 1772, Dr. Lettsom, of Ireland, made a series of similar experiments, with similar results. And still later, Dr. Beddoe, of England, by a series of experiments, several times repeated, completely demonstrated that tea is as powerfully destructive to life as laural water, opium, or digitalis. Indeed it is entirely certain that a small quantity of a strong decoction of tea or coffee will destroy human life, in one unaccustomed to the use of it, as quickly as an equal quantity of laudanum." Dr. Beddoe applied a strong decoction of tea to hearts just taken from living frogs, which extinguished their vitality almost instantly.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Appropriations by Congress, Civil and Diplomatic expenses, Indian Department, Naval service, Army, etc.

RAILROADS IN CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.—The Macon Messenger gives the following statement of the Railroads now in operation in these two States, viz:—

Table with 2 columns: Railroad Name and Miles. Includes Central Railroad, Macon and Western, etc.

THE DEATH OF HON. FELIX MCCONNELL.—The Baltimore Sun gives the following account of the death of Mr. McConnell, member of Congress from Alabama: "He returned to his lodgings at the St. Charles Hotel, about noon, apparently much depressed, called for a pen and ink, and said he intended to write to his wife. Before the messenger returned, however, Mr. McConnell had locked his door, inflicted two cuts around his abdomen, long, but not deep, and several around the throat, severing, as is supposed, the jugular vein. After an hour and a half had elapsed, one of the family went to his room door, and finding it still locked, looked through a glass over it, when the dead body of the unhappy man was seen lying on the floor. To all appearance he must have died instantly. Every body here will understand the cause to be interperence."

ACCIDENTS ON RAILROADS.—Scientific institutions in various parts of Europe are engaged in making up statistical estimates of accidents on various railroads. It has been ascertained that the year 1842 was the most unfavorable in France; and where one accident occurred to 25,000 travellers, in 1844 only one accident occurred to 1,321,900 travellers. In England, in 1840, there was one accident to 64,000; in 1843, one to 60,000. This is favorable to France.—From 1841 to 1845, there were 1057 accidents in England, from which 399 persons died. In Belgium, in 1844, there was one to 85,000. In 1845, one accident to 102,000 travellers. From 1835 to 1844 only 59 persons were killed, and 103 wounded, on the Belgian roads. The German railways seem to have been most fortunate from 1841 to 1845, inclusive. There were only four killed and three wounded.

POWER OF ENDURING HEAT.—The last four or five days we thought sufficiently tested the power of the living body to endure extraordinary heat, but some experiments in Europe prove that the power runs higher up the scale than any degree of atmospheric ferocity that we have yet experienced. Sir Francis Chantrey's workmen used to enter the oven employed in baking the moulds, an iron apartment fourteen feet long, twelve feet high, and twelve feet broad, the temperature of which, with closed doors, was 350 degrees, and the iron floor red hot. They were guarded against the heat of the floor by wooden clogs, which were of course charred on the soles. Those oily individuals who find themselves freely perspiring at 97 degrees will calm their alarm at the consequences until they see the mercury bubbling up to the top of the thermometer.

Hot Springs of Arkansas.

An officer in the Kentucky Cavalry Regiment, now on its way through Arkansas to Mexico, gives the following description of the celebrated Hot Springs near Little Rock, in Arkansas:

"With some eight or ten officers of the regiment I arrived at this point last night, sixty miles from Little Rock, and twenty from our road, and I now can see about the third wonder of our Union. In a ravine fifty yards wide, between two mountains, spurs from the Rocky Mountains, is Hot Springs Village, composed of about thirty rudely constructed log and board houses. The mountains run nearly east and west, and close in at the northern one the houses are built, while before them, sweeping the base of the other mountain, runs a rivulet as clear as crystal, of 75 degrees temperature before and 110 degrees after its intermixture with the water from the springs. The springs eighty-four in number, are confined to the southern mountain, and gush its side from the base a hundred yards up. The greatest heat of any which I measured (and there is none hotter) was 140 degrees, the least 110 degrees. Their temperature ranges generally from 135 to 145 degrees. The water is strongly impregnated with lime, as is seen by the incrustations of carbonate of lime formed as it flows along; with this exception it must be very pure.—Though so hot that one has to drink it by small mouthfuls, it is very palatable, quickly assuages thirst, and never nauseates; and, the more strange, when a little salt and pepper are added tastes very much like chicken broth. Here is food for reflection: the philosopher may come and analyze the water, note the composition of the rock, soil, and detritus, and then make many uncertain theories to account for the eternal fire that boils the caldron from which issues the many streams. The mountain is composed of very porous limestone, and strikes one as having once been fused and heaved up a molten mass, to take whatever shape its weight and pliability might give it, while the earth, in the interstices of its projections, appears as if charred by a great heat. Its fellow of the opposite side is firm and has regularity of arrangements, strata, and veins. Doubtless the same causes which make a burning volcano also supply this phenomenon.

Some forty or fifty invalids are now here, most of them affected with rheumatism and mercurial complaints, in which disease the astonishing efficacy of the baths is discernible. I see several who arrived a few weeks ago, so helpless, crooked, and deformed that they had to be lifted as inanimate beings, now walking with agility. There are others who had taken a great deal of mercury, and whose systems were not cleansed of it until they bathed here some weeks, when a profuse salivation occurring, and continuing from two to four or six weeks, every vestige of the disease was removed. The baths are thirty steps from the rooms; one of vapor, and another by shower from a stream an inch in diameter, and falling ten or fifteen feet, always being under the same roof. The vapor bath is made by putting an eight-foot room over a spring, protecting the feet by trellis work; their temperature is from 140 to 180 degrees. The bather generally first lets the steam pour upon him, then goes to the vapor bath, and remains from ten to twenty minutes, returns to the spot, which washes him off, then wipes dry and dresses, repeating the last in a half hour, on account of the clothes becoming saturated with perspiration. The bath is very enervating, and it requires discretion to govern an individual who wishes to indulge in it; it is quickly fatal to consumptives.

Many curiosities and abundance of game are to be found in the neighborhood to occupy the attention of the naturalist and hunter. There is one chalybeate spring within a hundred yards of this house, and another three miles off, so large that its stream propels a mill-wheel; by it is a public house for the accommodation of visitors.—Beautiful crystals of quartz, obtained twenty or thirty miles off, pieces of magnetic iron ore, and sulphate of iron have been offered for sale to us; and not far distant is a quarry of hones and whetstones, which is worked, and the product carried to the Eastern markets. Barring the snakes, centipedes, (I saw the first one this morning,) tarantulas, and ticks, this is as pleasant a place as one need wish to be at. There is very little of the fever here, which is so generally prevalent every where else on our road, as to mark the children.

Truly, yours, A. M. B.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.—Washington Irving, who will soon return home, will immediately put to press his history of Mohammed, the materials of which he has collected during his residence in Spain, from the Moorish manuscripts and legends. Prescott has ready his Conquest of Peru, which will be followed by a Life of Philip the Second. Mr. Bancroft has completed the fourth volume of his History of the United States, which will soon appear. Jared Sparks is engaged in writing a History of the American Revolution. The Hon. John P. Kennedy is engaged upon a Life of Wirt.

Appearances after Death.

It frequently happens that the features of the dead retain their entire form and individual likeness for many years after their burial. Experience, however, has proved, that after exposure to the air for some minutes dust returns to dust again. The following circumstances occurred at the disinterment of the body of Robert Burns, the poet, some time in the year 1815, for the purpose of its being entombed beneath a splendid monument.

A report having been spread that the principal coffin was made of oak, a hope was entertained that it would be possible to transport it from the north to the east corner of St. Michaels, without opening it, or disturbing the sacred deposit it contained. But this hope proved fallacious. On testing the coffin, it was found to be composed of the ordinary materials and ready to yield at the slightest pressure; and upon the lid being removed, a spectacle was presented, which, considering the fame of the mighty dead, has rarely been witnessed by a single human being. There lay the remains of the great poet, to appearance nearly entire, and retaining various traces of vitality, or rather exhibiting the features of one who had but recently sunk into the sleep of death—the lordly forehead, arched and high, and the teeth perfectly firm and white. The scene was so imposing that most of the workmen stood bare and uncovered, as did Dr. Gregory at the exhumation of the hero of Bannockburn, and at the same time felt their frames thrill with some undefinable emotion, as they gazed on the ashes of him whose fame is as the word itself. But the effect was momentary; for when they proceeded to insert a shell or case below the coffin, the head separated from the trunk, and the whole body, with the exception of the bones, crumbled into dust.

Lord Nugent, on opening the coffin, containing the body of John Hampden, found it perfect, after a burial of two hundred years; even his features were preserved. His hair of a raven blackness, came off at the touch of the hand, and then was discovered an infinite number of little red worms of great activity, playing upon the cranium. No insects were found on other parts of the body, as if the brain contained a living principle, which was engendered by its own corruption.

It is a fact not extensively known that when the body of General Wayne, which had been buried at Presque Isle, Erie, Pa., in 1797, was disinterred forty years afterwards, for the purpose of its being removed to Chester county, Pa., where it now lies, the corpse had undergone so little change as to be readily recognized by those who were familiar with the General in his life time. Its perfect preservation was attributed to the character of the soil, which was argillaceous earth, strongly impregnated with alumine.

HIGH PRESSURE POLITICS.—An editor down east, referring to some of his fellow citizens of opposite politics, uses the following strong language:

"They talk of their holy religion; but their robes of righteousness are woven at Lowell and Manchester; their Paradise is a high per centum on Factory stock; their psalms of rejoicing are triumphs over a rival party in politics on the question of banks and tariffs; they would turn Heaven into Birmingham, and make every angel a weaver, and with the eternal din of looms and spindles drown all the anthems of the morning stars!"

VERY SMALL.—A distinguished politician, alluding to the size of the State of Delaware, once threatened to put it in his breeches pocket. This was making a sovereign State appear insignificant indeed, but the State of Rhode Island is still less, for a Boston paper says, the reason why the earthquake that broke the old windows chime in Massachusetts, did not visit Rhode Island, was that it is not large enough for an earthquake to shake in. There was once a little man sick of a fever in that State, and he died because it had not room to turn him in.

THE WOMEN OF PERU never, it is said, nurse their children while angry, for fear of importing to them a choleric temperament. There are reasons for the omission connected with the bodily comfort and health of the child which should have equal weight under the circumstances.

A SATISFACTORY ANSWER.—"Halloo, stranger, you appear to be travelling?" "Yes, I always travel when on a journey." "I think I have seen you somewhere?" "Very likely, I have often been there." "And pray what might your name be?" "It might be Sam Patch; but it isn't." "Have you been long in these parts?" "Never longer than at present—5 feet 9." "Do you get anything new?" "Yes, I bought a new whetstone this morning." "I thought so, you are the sharp at blade I've seen on this road."