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TERMS.

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POETRY.

SPRING.

BY MRS. LYDIA JANE PIERSON.

The beautiful Spring, the generous Spring,
She has come to her own again;
From the gem-like isles that repose in smiles
On the breast of the Southern main.

She comes with her angels, a beautiful train
Of the sinless, the bright, and the free;
Who joyously fling from each glittering wing
A sparkle of melody.

The Sun in his gladness salutes the young Spring,
From his sapphire dome on high,
Shining down from above, like the spirit of love,
From his home in a clear blue sky.

The fountains gush up like a young maiden's joy,
And flow with a laughing song;
And the rivers give out a melodious shout,
As their plumed waves march along.

The bright dandelions bespangle the vest,
Of green velvet that Earth puts on,
And Zephyrus weaves of the young forest leaves,
Her silver and emerald crown.

Her lap is an altar to Spring consecrated,
Fill'd with offerings rich and rare,
Of young dewy flowers from the balm-breathing
bowers,
And wild fawns and young lambs fair.

There's a hymn on the earth, there's a hymn on the sea,
There are hymns on the balmy wind;
There's a flush of delight, on the fair and the bright,
There is beauty and love combined.

There's a rich gush of life in the myriad breasts
That feel the warm breath of Spring;
There's a praise all abroad to the bountiful Lord,
And a free will offering.

The beautiful Spring, the generous Spring,
She has come to her own again,
With a message of love from the heavens above,
Where the pure and the beautiful reign.

MISCELLANEOUS.

History of a Fiend.

A suit of law has been commenced within a short time in New York, which has brought to light the conduct of a fiend, which, for baseness and turpitude, can find no parallel, we should think, in the civilized world. The Express relates the particulars as follows:—

"The individual to whom we have alluded is a native of Spain or Cuba. He married a young girl a few years ago at Havana, by whom he had a daughter. He then seduced the mother of his wife, was arrested for the crime, and tried and condemned to transportation. The vessel on board of which he was placed, with other convicts, was wrecked on a storm on our coast, by which he escaped and made his way to New York. After being some time here, he went to Havana for his wife and child, who in due time, arrived, being accompanied by his wife's sister. Subsequently he seduced the sister, who had offspring by him—and now comes the dreadful point of our story. When his own child had arrived at the age of fourteen or fifteen years, she also became the object of his hellish lust, and proved *eniente* by him. The authorities hearing of the matter began to stir in the business, when he thought it best to fly, which he did, carrying off his own daughter as a mistress, and leaving his wife here, with one or two other children.

As to business, he had been engaged for some years as agent to a house at Havana. Previous to leaving New York, he placed his goods in the hands of a third party. The house at Havana hearing of the transaction, sent a power of attorney to a gentleman here to obtain and take charge of the goods which had been in the individual's hands. The gentleman applied to the third party who had them in possession, but who refused to give them up, claiming to own them. The gentleman then commenced proceedings at law, but in doing so gave an opportunity to the party to bring a counter suit against him, which he did, laying damages at \$20,000, and the gentleman was ordered to be held to bail in \$6,000. This, we believe he has not been able to obtain, and may have to go to prison, and his little business and family are broken up—truly verifying the old adage, "One man commiteth sin, and thousands feel the evil effects thereof."

Temperance Prize Tales.

Two prizes, one of \$50, and another of \$25, were offered last fall by the publishers of the New England Washingtonian for the two best Tales illustrating the nature and effects of the Washingtonian Reform. Of these prizes, the first has been awarded to Mrs. Mary Livermore of Fall River, and the second to Harriette M. Carlton of Dorchester.

Mrs. Livermore's tale, the "Trials of Charlotte Austin" appeared in the New England Washingtonian of last week. We extract a passage from it, promising that it is founded on facts—it is the picture of a drunkard's wife:

One wintry afternoon, when huge drifts of snow blocked up the narrow and irregular streets of the city, when the fitful wind which blew from all points of the compass dashed hither and thither through the keen air the broad snow-flakes, Mrs. Austin, scantily clad, and illy calculated to brave the raging tempest, left her home to seek one of the numerous women's clothing stores, called "slop shops" which were scattered throughout Ann street and its vicinity. In her hand was a large bundle of work just completed by herself, George and Emma, and upon the payment which she was expecting for her labor, the family was depending for their evening meal.

During her absence, her husband staggered homeward in a shocking state of inebriety, where Emma, and Charles the younger son, were endeavoring to amuse the infant Charlotte, not yet a year old, who, always delicate, was now helpless as infancy itself, from a recent severe illness, and who lay in the cradle, wailing her mother's absence. As Mr. Austin approached the little one, and raised her in his arms with the natural kindness which not even intemperance could banish from his nature, Emma, unaware of her father's deep intoxication, accustomed as she was to seeing him more or less so, constantly, and perceiving that the babe was quiet, ran down stairs to the almost empty wood-shed, where her brother George was seeking fuel to prepare their supper, and Charles followed after her. Mr. Austin moved towards the fire place, and endeavored to seat himself; but losing his balance, he fell; and in falling, the babe rolled from his arms, with his face downwards, into the fiery bed of glowing coals that lay on the hearth-stone. The child was too much enfeebled by recent illness to extricate itself, the father so dreadfully intoxicated that some minutes elapsed before he was fully aware of its condition, or could recover his feet; its cotton garments were then blazing, its tender face, neck and bosom were hissing on the hot coals, and its efforts to shriek were only convulsive and agonized gasps.

One glance at his infant's excruciating situation, drove the fumes of intoxication from his brain; clearness came to his head, steadiness to his hand, and with the quickness of lightning he drew the burning babe from the flames, dashed over it a vessel of water, and was hastening to the door for assistance, when the fleet and anxious footsteps of his wife sounded on the stairs, and whither than the sheeted dead, his tongue rigid with horror, with the reeking, blistered, blackened, form of his babe in his arms, he stood face to face with his mother.

Oh, God! who can tell the unspoken agony of the moment! paralyzed, rooted to the floor as if transformed to stone, with parted lips from whence issued no sound, her heart beating loud and heavily so that she almost reeled from the force of its sickening throb, she fixed her eyes steadily upon her husband for a moment, as if to read the whole tale, and then prompted by the instincts of her maternal heart, she threw off her trance of horror, and flew to seek relief.

But the poor little innocent had inhaled the scorching gas of its fiery billow, and the severest of its burns, terrible as they were externally, could neither be seen or reached. The small veins of its neck were tense and knotted under the quivering flesh, its every breath caused convulsive throw, and rolling upwards its sightless eyes, spasmodically clenching its feeble hands, its delicate sinews tightened with agony, the half-released soul that hung quivering on its lips, was speedily freed.

It was months ere Charlotte Austin could throw off from her spirit the horrible torpor which settled upon her, after the agonizing death of her delicate babe. It seemed as if paleness would never more leave her cheek, as if her eye would never more burn steadily, or her voice be cleared of its huskiness, as if she had forgotten even to smile or converse, for she moved about as if all but the animal mechanism of her life were paralyzed. None knew the secret of the accident which had occurred save the parents, and the vague reply of Mrs. Austin, that "her babe fell in the fire during her absence," fastened upon her the charge of carelessness and neglect, both among her neighbors, and in the multifarious accounts of the occurrence that found their way into the city. She never repelled the charge, but Christ-like, was content to bear the sins of him who had so cruelly wronged her and hers, and to receive the odium which he deserved. With the same meek, uncomplaining kindness, she continued to minister to his wants, uttering no words of harshness, looking no rebuke save what was conveyed by the mournful gaze of her eye.

POTOMAC FISHERIES.—We learn from the Port Tobacco Times, that the fisheries on the Potomac are doing a good business. They are catching from 30,000 to 40,000 herring at a dip, and also doing well in the shad line. Herring are selling at from \$3 to \$4 a thousand, and shad at from \$6.25 to \$6.50 a hundred.

In the Quincy Market House, Boston, the good will of a butcher's stall brings \$4,000.

CATS KILLED BY A RAT.—That the whole of the kind are a very cowardly tribe, is only known to those tolerably well versed in zoology. To those who have considered how clear the distinction is between bravery and ferocity, and who, therefore, associate the idea of interpidity with the fell tiger, and the sanguinary panther and leopard, the proposition will appear extravagant, nevertheless, it is true. Of all animals, the dog alone will attack a much superior enemy, and fight against any odds. The cat kind, even when hungry, never attack where they are not sure of possessing superior force.

A very singular incident of the cowardice of the tribe occurred lately at London. At a place called Bank side, Westminster, on the margin of the Thames, a laboring man caught a large rat. Being a fellow of an eccentric turn of mind, he took into his head that he could train the animal to fight its natural hunter, the cat; and, to that end, fed it entirely on young kittens, in order to give it confidence, as well as a taste for its prey, and at the same time allowing it no liquid but milk, for the purpose of strengthening it. After he had thus dined the rat for a fortnight, he proposed that it should fight as many cats as it could, at half-a-crown each, stipulating, in return, that the person whose cat might kill it, should be entitled to one guinea; at four o'clock on that day a full grown cat was put to the rat in a vat, in which the rat had been previously fed, but the cat jumped out, and would not face the rat. No less than fifteen cats, were, one after another, set on to combat this animal, of which eight ran away, and seven lay dead. A sixteenth was shamefully sat at it. This, being bolder and stronger than the rest, and its poor antagonist being exhausted with so many hard fought battles, had better success than his fifteen predecessors, and killed the rat; not, however until a severe round of fighting.

The National Fair.

Circular of the Committee of Superintendence of the National Exhibition of American Manufactures and products of Mechanical Art, AT THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, IN MAY NEXT.

Many persons friendly to the permanency of the present protective system, and others, who, without being committed to its support, desire information in reference to its effects, have suggested the importance of procuring an exhibition of American Manufacturing and Mechanical products to be made at the seat of Government at an early period, during the present Spring, as the opportunities for accomplishing such a project might allow. It is believed that an exhibition, embracing specimens of every kind of handicraft or manufacturing skill employed in the nation, or at least all such specimens as may be conveniently procured for the occasion, together with the prices at which they may be purchased, and the names of those by whom they are fabricated, would embody, in an impressive form, a mass of useful facts which could not fail to be appreciated as they deserve by the public authorities upon whom rests the responsibility of sustaining the prosperity of the great interests connected with this subject; and that such facts collected from the daily transactions of the people, authenticated by the personal examinations of all who choose to inspect them, would furnish incontrovertible arguments in favor of that industry which so greatly honors as well as enriches the mechanics of America.

A recommendation of a similar exhibition by the National Institute two years ago met with a high degree of favor from the public at that period; and the success of such an effort now may, it is hoped, lead to its regular adoption hereafter, as a means of presenting at suitable intervals a visible demonstration of the advance of the country in those arts upon which its prosperity so greatly depends.

At a consultation recently held by many members of the present Congress—gentlemen of both political parties—the proposition of inviting such an exhibition as we have referred to was considered and adopted, as an enterprise of eminent utility at this time, and with a confidence that it would find a hearty assent from the friends of national industry throughout the whole Union. To give efficacy to this proposition they have nominated the undersigned as a general committee of superintendence, and have charged them with the duty of presenting the subject to the country at large, of inviting the aid of the friends of national industry to the scheme, and of making such preparations as may be necessary to render the exhibition as full and as effective as the time allowed will permit.

Thus summoned to this labor from a source so amply entitled to the respect and confidence of the nation, and fully concurring in the importance attached to the subject, the undersigned have not hesitated to comply with the wishes of those by whom they have been put in requisition, and promptly to enter upon the duties assigned to them. In the performance of these duties they invoke the earnest co-operation of all who may have any thing to contribute to the proposed exhibition, hoping that this invitation will be answered in such a manner as shall enable the committee to present such a display of the work of our artisans as shall adequately attest the great skill and perfection to which our country has attained in manufacturing and mechanical art.

The committee propose that the exhibition shall be opened at Washington on the 20th day of May next, previous to which date ample provision will be made for the reception, security, and suitable disposition of all specimens which may be sent to their care. They invite the transmission of specimens of

every kind of manufacture and handicraft known to the artisans of the United States, and desire that the price, as well as the maker's name, be furnished with each article intended for exhibition. Committees will be appointed for the superintendence and arrangement and preservation of all parcels sent to the exhibition rooms.

The rooms will be ready to receive articles for exhibition from and after the 1st day of May.—The exhibition will be kept open not less than two weeks.

Owners of parcels exhibited during the exhibition will, unless directions to the contrary be given, be expected to allow the sale of such parcels at the prices marked, to be delivered at the close of the exhibition.

All goods intended for the exhibition can be directed to Mr. David A. Hall, secretary of the committee, who will see to their safe-keeping, and attend to their being repacked after the close of the exhibition.

In case of a sale of them, the money will be duly transmitted.

As there will be many goods undispensed of which the proprietors may not desire to have sold for their benefit, the committee will cause a sale at auction of such articles as the owners may desire to have so disposed of.

Motive power will be furnished at the exhibition rooms for such machinery as may require it. As the committee can only give this general invitation to the manufacturers and artisans of the country, each one will be pleased to consider it addressed to himself individually.

Editors of papers throughout the country friendly to the object are respectfully requested to give this circular a few insertions.

WILLIAM W. SEATON, Washington.
THOMAS P. JONES, do.
JOHN W. MAURY, do.
DAVID A. HALL, do.
W. A. BRADLEY, do.
R. C. WRIGHTMAN, do.
THOMAS BLAGDEN, do.
WILLIAM EASBY, do.
JOHN F. CALLAN, do.
JAMES LYONS, Richmond, Virginia.
J. P. KENNEDY, Baltimore, Maryland.
JOHN WETHERED, do. do.
O. C. TIFANY, do. do.
March 28, 1846.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FIVE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE—ARRIVAL OF THE PILOT BOAT ROMER, AND PACKET SHIP QUEEN OF THE WEST.

By the arrival at New York, on Saturday morning, of the Pilot Boat Romer, and the packet ship Queen of the West, London papers to the 11th ult., and Liverpool to the 12th, have been received.—We are indebted to the New York Sun, the Tribune, and the Herald, for the following intelligence:

The corn markets are active and improving. There are to be great reductions in the Russian Tariff.

It is said that the French funds had declined. The English government were active in sending out re-inforcements to India.

Free trade Associations have been formed at Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and other places in France, on the principle of the English Anti-Corn-Law League.

The number of seamen required by the English Navy estimates, is 27,500; boys, 2,000; mariners adof, 5,500; ashore, 5,000—total, 40,000.

It is said that the artillery, turned with such fatal effect against the British troops in India, was purchased in England about five years ago, by General Ventura, for the late Rajah Runjeet Singh.

A deduction equivalent to 2s 3d per ton, has been made in the charges for stowage of British ships, at St. Petersburg.

Commercial treaties have been entered into between Naples, Sweden, Norway, and Sardinia.

The Dublin Evening Packet says, that at a late meeting of the members of the '82 club, Mr. Barrett, proprietor of the Pilot, (Mr. O'Connell's organ) was proposed as a member of committee, and was black-balled.

On the 2nd of March a tremendous hurricane burst upon Glasgow, Scotland, and continued to the 3d. One large stone store and several houses were blown down, several unroofed, and many chimneys demolished. The shipping in the port suffered considerably.

Letters have been received in Cork, intimating that government are about forming naval depots for coal and other stores in Cove and in the Shannon.

One of the Liverpool papers says:—From the Queen of the West, New York packet ship, consigned to Fielden, Brothers & Co., there were this week landed and weighed in thirty-seven-and-a-half hours, 8,070 packages, weighing 1,400 tons. A commercial and navigation treaty, upon a perfect system of reciprocity, has been entered into between Russia and Sardinia. All differential duties upon both sides are done away with.

We have received advices from Paris to the 6th ult., inclusive.

The steamer Charlemagne, which reached Marseilles on the evening of the 2d inst., brings news from Algeria to the 28th ultimo. The cavalry, 600 strong, under the orders of General Yusuf, had encamped between Blidah and Joinville. Blidah had been strengthened by the arrival of 200 troops of the line. At Dellys, on the 26th, all was perfectly tranquil. Three hundred infantry and two

hundred *tirailleurs* left Bona on the 21st, under the command of M. de Chambriere, for the camp at Bathna.

Cotton had advanced one eighth—Flour one shilling—Wheat one to two pence per seventy pounds higher.

Parliament is engaged on a Coercion Bill for Ireland. The Liverpool Courier, of the 11th says, the state of that country justifies any effort for its amelioration, but thinks the Earl St. Germain's bill be a dead letter.

The attention of Parliament has not been formerly directed to the state of the Oregon relations. The despatches sent over by our Express boat, Romer, had been laid before the ministry, but no time elapsed to show their effect.

The Liverpool Courier, of March 11, says:—The Oregon question has now been advanced beyond the superior right of Great Britain or the U. States to the territory in dispute. All arguments on title are idle in the face of the resolutions recently passed, by a majority of three to one, in the House of Representatives, and the emphatic declaration of President Polk, that he will not abate one jot of the American claim to "the whole Oregon." Mr. Pakenham has done all that is possible to effect an amicable adjustment of the dispute. He proposed a reference to the arbitration of some friendly power; or, if more agreeable to the United States, to a mixed commission of the most eminent civilians and jurists of the time. To these proposals, either of which would be instantly accepted, under similar circumstances, by any of the great powers of Europe, the American Minister returned a flat refusal. This, if it be adhered to, certainly shuts the door against all further negotiation; but the interests of Great Britain and America are so closely united, and both countries are so deeply engaged in commercial operations, that we have little doubt but that long before the time for the expiration of the notice respecting the termination of the joint occupancy arrives, wiser councils will have gained the ascendancy.

The London Standard, of March 10, says:—It is exceedingly difficult to arrive at any definite conclusion as to the real strength of parties on the Oregon and Tariff questions, from the speculations of the American editors. It is more than doubtful, however, if the free trade measures of the English Ministers will have the effect in softening down asperities, and rendering the Americans more tractable in the settlement of the Oregon dispute, which we have occasion to know has been all along confidently anticipated by their supporters here; for every concession that has been made, seems to be attributed to fear, and not to a sense of justice and an ardent desire to avoid a rupture and the consequent horrors of war. As far as any conclusion can be drawn both from the papers and the private letters, the American tariff question will be argued and decided by the real or imaginary domestic interests alone, and not with reference to those of foreign states, either in a commercial or political point of view.

The London Times of March 9, discourses on the Oregon question in this wise:—In the way of concession and of argument little now remains to be said or done by the British Government. The strongest desire has been repeatedly expressed on our side to terminate this controversy. Our case has been stated with such moderation, and our claims confined to such narrow limits, that nothing but extreme presumption, or rather a species of hostile infatuation, on the part of the American Democrats, could lead them to suppose we should make any further abatement of our rights.

We are in actual possession of rather more of the Oregon territory than we have ever claimed as our own, because as long as the joint occupation lasts the concurrent rights of both parties extend over the whole country. We have at our disposal ample means of defending our rights. We had never, at any period in the history of this country, less reason to recoil from a war, or to fear the result of a contest with any power, but more especially with the United States. Yet we, on our side, have strenuously and sincerely labored to effect a compromise.

We have not alluded to the superiority of our maritime strength; from a misplaced respect for the American Government, no use has been made of those blunt arguments to which alone they now appear accessible; until at length we learn, with more contempt than surprise, that Mr. Polk and his advisers are embarking in a course which can only lead, if they are allowed to persevere in it, to aggressive hostilities.

We know not what course Mr. Polk may intend to pursue after the notice for the abrogation of the treaty of joint occupation has been duly given; and we shall await with more curiosity than alarm the enterprises which may be projected for the purpose of expelling British subjects from a district of which we happen to command the coast and the interior, the Indians and the forts. The world is perfectly aware that England is not the attacking party, and that we are content to leave matters in Oregon as they now are.

If the Americans mean anything, they mean to dispossess us of what we hold. At the same time, if this intention be avowed by the Cabinet at Washington, or if it be disclosed by votes of money and warlike preparations which imply a fixed determination to engage in this absurd and flagitious contest, no state is bound to wait to be attacked. Mr. Polk has already instructed the American Minister in London to ask for an explanation of the activity in our dock-yards.

His own conscience might have given it to him; his own language has put us upon the defensive; and although the termination of the convention of 1827 by notice, is no *casus belli*, yet the disposition indicated by that notice, and the means which may be taken to carry that disposition into effect, may hereafter furnish ample ground of suspicion, of remonstrance, and finally of hostilities. A bold and manly course on the part of the British Government will probably not be without a good effect in the United States; and it will undoubtedly command the unanimous support of the people of England.

We are informed by the prodigious volume of American statistics recently prepared for both Houses of Parliament by the diligence of Mr. Macgregor, that the standing army of the United States consists of one regiment of dragoons, one regiment of riflemen, four companies of artillery, and eight regiments of infantry. The whole number of troops now in the service is 9,847, exclusive of 781 commissioned officers. An act of Congress of 1842 reduced the rank and file of the army 3,920 men, this reduction is now proceeding, and when it is completed the standing army will consist of 7,590 non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers, and privates. It is true, that if this corps should appear rather small for the defence of the United States, and the invasion of a region situated 2,000 miles off, on the other side of the American continent, the militia force of the United States might by its numbers at least, have excited the envy of Xerxes or Bonaparte. The Army Register for 1843, contains the appalling announcement that this multitudinous host is commanded by 627 generals, 2,670 general staff officers, 13,813 field officers, 44,938 company officers, being in all 62,205 officers; nor are these numbers at all extensive, when we learn that the forces under their command consist of 1,385,645 men! For the purpose of defence against a foreign invasion we have no doubt that these American citizens would exert themselves creditably. A considerable number of the young men may even volunteer to take a part in offensive operations. But we have no hesitation in saying, that to bring an efficient army of even 30,000 men into the field, prepared to march beyond their own frontiers, is the most arduous task which has ever devolved upon the Federal Government of the United States, and with its present power and resources we believe it to be absolutely impracticable.

The London Times makes another great mistake in the following paragraph:—No estimate can be formed of the real strength of the crews of the American navy, because it is well known that a considerable portion of this fleet is manned by British seamen, who are attracted by the high pay of the American navy in time of peace. But that every circumstance shows the extreme difficulty of manning an American fleet in war, and especially in a war with England. The ships are, in fact, worked to a great extent by English mercenaries, a large proportion of whom would unquestionably return to their own colors, on the outbreak of hostilities.

The Liverpool Times of March 10, concluding a long article on Oregon, says:—The sole choice left to the British Government, if the Senate should concur with the House of Representatives, will be between submission during the next twelve months to worse terms than those which it has already refused—submission at the end of twelve months, to all the claims of the United States—or armed resistance. We fear, then, that there is now little hope that the peace between the two countries will be preserved.

What course the British Government will take, now that arbitration has been refused, and that negotiation has failed, remains to be seen. It will probably wait until the American Government gives its formal notice of its intention to seize on the whole of the Oregon Territory. That notice being given will produce an *ultimatum*, in which the claims of England will again be asserted, and some fair method of settling the question of right will be again proposed; and if that be refused, nothing remains but WAR!

We extract the following from the Liverpool Albion:—The resolutions passed on the 9th of February by the American House of Representatives, excited as much interest as might be expected from any indication of coming events upon which so much of fortune and property are staked. In the present state of our commercial relations with the United States, the breaking out of war would produce a perfect chaos in the mercantile world. No doubt, a certain number of persons, who happen to be holders of cotton, at the present low prices, would reap considerable profits from the rise, but to the majority of the vast masses whose interests are bound up in the American trade, ruin and destruction would be the result. Under these circumstances it is not wonderful that every feather which flies with the wind is watched with intense anxiety.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—The extraordinary activity which prevails in all the dock yards, in overhauling and bringing forward frigates of the heaviest class, is very ominous, as these are precisely the vessels which will be required in a war with America. In addition to the 44 and 50-gun frigates already in commission, the following vessels of the same class are either preparing for commission or are undergoing careful examination, viz:—the Gloucester, a line-of-battle-ship, razed to a 50 gun frigate; the Raleigh, 50; the Southampton, 50; the Isis, 44; the Cornwall, 50; the Conquestor, 44; the Horatio, 44; the Constance, 50; the Portland, 50; the Java, 50; and the Alfred, 50.—There are already at sea the following vessels of this class, the Grampus, 50; the Eagle, 50; the Melampus, 44; the Vigilant, 50; the Warlike, 60; the Vernon, 50; the Enlymion, 44; the President, 50; the Winchester, 50; and the America, 50.—*Liverpool Times.*

Not less than fifteen iron steam vessels are in course of construction in the port of Liverpool.—Two, of 700 tons each, were recently launched from the same yard on the same day. The first iron steamer, built in the Mersey in 1829, is said to be still in sound and serviceable condition.