



#### American Linen.

A very liberal charter has recently been granted by the Kentucky Legislature, for the manufacturing of Linen at Maysville, with a capital of \$200,000, in shares of 100 dollars each, payable in calls of \$10, not oftener than once in thirty days. The intention is to manufacture Linen of hemp, though flax may be used. Mason County, in which Maysville is situated is the first hemp growing county in the State, having produced in some seasons 3,000 tons. The soil near Maysville, both in Ohio and Kentucky, is admirably adapted to flax, and if a demand existed for it any quantity could be produced. The farmers in that section often grow flax for the seed only, cutting the straw with a scythe, which, after being threshed, is thrown away.

One quarter of the capital stock is reserved for such of the hands as choose to purchase, making them, so far as their purchase extends, partners in the establishment. We commend this provision to all manufacturing companies, as an appropriate means of securing the care and faithfulness of the operatives, and as a very sure means of elevating them. Will it not do away with that antagonism which so frequently exists between employers and employed, to the injury of both parties? Some persons from Ireland and Scotland, who have had experience in manufacturing linen of hemp, are expected to engage in this Maysville enterprise.

America can be if she chooses, the greatest linen as well as the greatest cotton manufacturing country in the world—and what fabric can equal fine linen.

#### Portsmouth N. H. Steam Factory.

During the past year about two millions three hundred thousand yards of lawns have been manufacturing at this mill. The product of October, Nov. and December, was about 675,000 yards, which is at the rate of 2,700,000 per year—200,000 more than the highest estimates of the product of the mill. And while the amount of yards manufactured has been much increased, the expense of coal has been reduced about fifty per cent, for the last half-year.

#### Mammoth Mining Company.

One branch of the Missouri Legislature has passed a bill to incorporate the Mammoth Mining Company. This bill incorporates a Company with a capital of \$400,000, for the purpose of mining, smelting, and manufacturing ores, minerals and metals in the Counties of Jefferson, Washington and Franklin. This Company will be the owners of the mammoth lead mines in Jefferson Co. and other valuable mineral lands, and a heavy capital will be put into useful operation in those counties.

#### The Late Locomotive Explosion.

The commission consisting of Isaac Adams, Holmes Hinkley, Gardner P. Drury, Jabez Coney, Lewis Kirk, Wilson Eddy, John B. Winslow and Seth Adams, requested to examine into the causes of the recent explosion of a locomotive boiler on the Boston and Providence Railroad, have reported that the evidence in the case is clear and there was very little, if any, water in the boiler at the moment of the accident, and give it as their mature opinion that the explosion took place from over-heating the boiler, in consequence of a want of water.

#### Another Boiler Explosion.

At Alston, Illinois, the steam boilers attached to the steam mills of Messrs. Burrows & Co. exploded recently, killing the fireman and wounding several others in the establishment. One of the boilers was literally torn to pieces and a large portion of it thrown into the middle of the street; the other boiler was thrown against the main building, making a large breach in the solid wall. Fragments of the ruin were strewn thick upon every hand, and yet no serious injury occurred to any persons out of the mill.

#### LITERARY NOTICES.

##### Ranlett's Architect.

No. 6, of vol. 2 of this splendid work has been issued by Dewitt & Davenport, Tribune Buildings. Like its predecessors, it combines the beautiful, ornamental and useful in the designs presented, mainly with a view to elevate the architectural taste of our people and at the same time not overlooking those things which tend to the comfort of body as well as pleasure of soul. In this number there are two designs of cottages in the Anglo Norman style, with perspective and sectional views of the same, also full specifications and an estimate of the expense.

##### Lectures on the Philosophy of Mesmerism.

This is a neat little work by the Rev. John Bover Dods, published by Fowlers & Wells, the well known Phrenologists, Nassau st.—It treats of the nature and describes the whole process of animal magnetism.

##### Tobacco.

In the city of New York alone, the consumption of cigars is computed at ten thousand dollars a day—a sum greater than that which the inhabitants pay for their daily bread; and, in the whole country, the annual consumption of tobacco is estimated at one hundred thousand lbs., being seven pounds to every man, woman and child, at an annual cost to the consumers of twenty million dollars.

In 1840, it was ascertained by a committee appointed to procure and report statistical information on the subject, that above one million five hundred thousand persons were engaged in the manufacture and cultivation of tobacco in the United States—one million of whom were in the States of Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri. Allowing the population of the whole country to be seventeen millions, it will be seen that nearly one-tenth are in some way engaged in the cultivation or manufacture of this article. The value of the export during the year was nearly ten million dollars.

In 1690, the Pope excommunicated all those who took tobacco and snuff.

##### Early Tomatoes.

When the assistance of a hot bed cannot be obtained, tomatoes may be successfully started in pots, or other suitable vessels, in a warm room. In this manner the maturation of the fruit will be advanced a week or two and without involving any serious trouble or expense.

"While the fruit remains green," says a recent writer on the management of tomatoes "I have much facilitated the ripening by removing the large leaves from dense branches of fruit, and placing white boards behind them, so as to reflect the sun's rays strongly upon them. With the same view, an English author of eminence, recommends tin.

The British fruit raisers consider a good wall for fruit, equal to an advance of six degrees toward the equator. By planting the tomato in beds under a fence brilliantly white-washed, or painted white, maturation of the fruit would no doubt be materially advanced. Frequent and copious irrigation with soap-suds and cleanly cultivation, greatly facilitates the development of this fruit.

##### To Cure Stammering.

First.—Commence speaking while the breath is going out, and speak very slow. The stammerer always attempts to speak while drawing in the breath, and cannot succeed until he begins to breathe, or the breath is going out.

Second.—Place the tongue flat on the bottom of the mouth, before attempting to speak, for the tongue of the stammerer inclines to the roof of the mouth, and there adheres, while he is striving to speak by drawing in the breath, but is disappointed.

Third.—Begin by attempting short sentences and easy words; as the Lord's Prayer, and commence by placing the tongue on the bottom of the mouth.

Fourth.—The operator may commence with easy words to pronounce, and then proceed to hard words.

A bill has been reported in our Legislature to abolish stone cutting at Sing Sing State Prison.

#### Increase of Gold and Its Effect on Value.

The Liverpool Journal says that the annual addition to the stock of gold made by mines is about £12,000,000, of which Russia and South America contribute each £5,000,000. The Russian mines have been worked about twelve years, and have enlarged our stock of gold by £60,000,000, without having produced the least effect in price. The effect of the discovery of gold in California, it thinks, will be to close many of the South American works, and this may extend even to Russia, so that the average aggregate supply will be less than is generally supposed, and, as the stock in existence is estimated at £800,000,000, the addition of £26,000,000 annually could not essentially interfere with its value.

#### The "United States."

This gallant steamer, which was so severely tried in her last trip, has just been disposed of by her original owners, C. H. Marshall & Co. She was purchased by Mr. Auguste Belmont, Austrian Consul, for the German Empire, and is to form a part of the new German Navy. The price paid for her, according to the best information we can obtain, is \$275,000. This is a considerable sacrifice to the owners, as she has run herself in debt about \$50,000, and cost originally about \$300,000.

#### British Trade in Luxuries.

The imports into London from the commencement of the season to Jan. 22, amounted to 10,000 tons. A great increase is said to be going on in the manufacturing districts, as is shewn by the clearances at London and Liverpool for home consumption. The consumption of currants in the United Kingdom in 1846, was 18,000 tons, the highest point it had ever reached. In 1847 it was less. In 1848, the estimate is, that it will exceed 19,000 tons. Of raisins, the consumption in 11 months of 1848, was 9,000 tons. Of prunes, 600 tons were cleared at London and Liverpool during the last four months of 1848.

#### Congressional Library.

The total number of volumes in this Library is rated at 45,000, and though not one of the largest in the country, the library is unquestionably one of the most select and truly valuable. The rooms of the Congressional Library, as now arranged, are crowded to the utmost capacity. The Library is undoubtedly one of the most attractive places in the metropolis, for strangers as well as scholars, to visit, and during the sessions of Congress it is open every week day, from nine o'clock until the two Houses adjourn for the day, and when Congress is not in session it is open to the public three days in the week.

#### Steam Vessels of the British Navy.

The steam vessels in the British navy, of all classes, amount in number to one hundred and eighty one. Their steam power ranges from 20 to 800 horses, and the number of guns carried ranges from 1 to 80 each. This list includes several of their frigates and line of battle ships that have been converted into auxiliary steamers, and, also, thirty one still on the stocks, and does not include any of the numerous mail packets that can at any moment be pressed into service.

#### Improvement at South Hadley Falls.

The new Paper Mill at South Hadley Falls is completed, and commenced the manufacture of writing paper last week.

The large and beautiful structure, at the same place, called the "Glasgow Mill," will soon be ready for operation in the manufacture of a certain kind of cotton fabric. The mill is to be lighted with gas, made in the basement of the building.

#### A Good Shot.

Gen. Shields was shot through the breast at Cerro Gordo, and now takes the place of Judge Breese, in the U. S. Senate. This has given rise to the following good thing by a Sucker wag:

Some men have "lost their heads" and lived, But stranger far than these, The shot that pass'd through Shields' breast, Instead of him, killed Breese.

The Grand Jury of Wayne Co., Michigan have petitioned for the re-enactment of the death penalty, owing to the increase of capital crime since the penalty was abolished.

#### Algebra.

Mr. Jacob Haff, of Plumb Brook, Macomb, Co., Michigan, writing to the Tribune of this city says "I have discovered a mode of solving Cubic Equations, which is almost as simple as the extraction of the Cube Root, in arithmetic; and I believe the mode may be successfully and advantageously applied to all the higher equations. If any person wishing a sample of this mode of solving Cubics will signify his wishes to me by mail, (post paid) I will send him a solution. I should choose to have the applicant select an equation—one from the class denominated "Irreducible," if he pleases."

#### New Mode of Fishing.

The Watertown (Wis.) Chronicle says: The fishing at Beaver Dam continues as good as ever. Tons of the finest pickerel have this winter been taken there. At an air hole in the ice, a few miles above the village, fish are taken in large quantities with common pitch fork! Incredible as this may appear, it is nevertheless true. One man, the other day, caught a cord of fish in this way, in the course of a few hours.

#### Remarkable Case of Recovery from Insanity.

A man (says the Boston Traveller) who has for the last forty years been confined as a raving maniac in the Poor House at Newton, has been suddenly restored to his senses. He has been regarded as incurable, and for a great part of the time during his confinement he has been so violent as to render it necessary to chain him. He appears like one awakened from a long sleep and remembering distinctly events which occurred previous to the loss of his reason, but nothing that has transpired during the long years of his confinement.

#### The Copper and Gold Regions.

Jonathan Carver, who traversed the North-West in 1777, wrote a history of it. He was not able to get it published in this country, as his statements were considered visionary.—It was done in London, but was not credited. His notice of the existence of an abundance of copper on Lake Superior, has proved true. His remarks in relation to California we are getting daily evidence of. We never heard of an American edition of the work being published. Probably but few copies of the work are now to be found.

#### Fire at Oswego.

The large starch factory at Oswego has been destroyed by fire. The factory turned out four or five tons of starch per day, and had a capital of \$100,000. It was owned by stockholders residing at Oswego and Auburn.

#### An Artist's Loss.

Mr. Carbella, the Italian artist, has lost about \$6000 worth of paintings by the late fire in Hartford, Conn. This is a painful loss, as some of the paintings were splendid, and he is now old and less able to buffet with the tempest of life for a livelihood.

#### Growth of London.

It is estimated, says the New York Herald, that more buildings have been erected in London for the past year, than the city of New York now contains.

#### A Great Machine Shop.

The Lowell, Mass., Machine Shop can furnish machinery complete for a mill of 600 spindles, in three months, and a mill can be built in the same time.

No arrangements (as heretofore reported) have been made to run the Cunard line of steamers direct between New York and Liverpool.

A motion has been introduced into our Legislature to convert the Clinton Co. State Prison into an Insane Asylum.

It is rumored that a new steam ship line is about to be established between this city and the city of Glasgow, Scotland.

They are talking in London about establishing a balloon railway to California.

By the last steamer we learn that the Pope is still at Gaeta.

The cholera is decreasing in Britain and trade is getting better.