

Scientific American.

THE ADVOCATE OF INDUSTRY, AND JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC, MECHANICAL AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

Vol. 5.

New York, August 25, 1849.

No. 49.

THE
Scientific American.
THE
BEST MECHANICAL PAPER IN THE WORLD.
CIRCULATION 12,000.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY.
At 129 Fulton Street, New York (Sun Building,) and
13 Court Street, Boston, Mass.
By Munn & Company.
The Principal Office being at New York
Barlow & Payne, Agents, 89 Chancery Lane, London

TERMS—\$3 a year—\$1 in advance, and
the remainder in 6 months.

Poetry.

THE TWO SHADOWS.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

It was an evening calm and fair
As ever drank the dew of June;
The living earth, the breathless air,
Slept by the shining moon.

There was a rudely woven seat,
That lay beneath a garden wall—
I heard two voices low and sweet—
I saw two shadows fall.

Two shadows—side by side they were—
With but a line of light between;
If shapes more real lingered there,
Those shapes were all unseen.

The voice which seemed of deepest tone
Breathed something which I scarcely
And there was silence, save alone [heard,
One faintly whispered word

I heard a sound that lovers know—
A sound from lips that do not speak;
But oh! it leaves a deeper glow
Than words upon the cheek.

Dear maiden, hast thou ever known
That sound which sets the soul on fire?
And is it not the sweetest tone
Wrung from earth's shattered lyre?

Alas! upon my boyish brow,
Fair lips have often more than smiled;
But there are none to press it now—
I am no more a child.

Long, long the blendid shadows lay
As they were in a viewless fold;
And will they never break away,
So loving, yet so cold?

They say that spirits walk the vale,
But that I truly do not know—
I wonder, when I told the tale,
Why Fanny crimsoned so?

The Green Wood.

BY GEORGE HALLAND.

I love the green wood, O hide me not
For loving the wood, 'tis a beautiful spot;
God, when he made it, pronounced it good,
And 'tis just as he left it, the same green wood.

I love to wander for hours and hours,
And pluck from its bosom the sweet wild flow-
O set me down in some shady nook, [ers;
And teach me a lesson from nature's book.

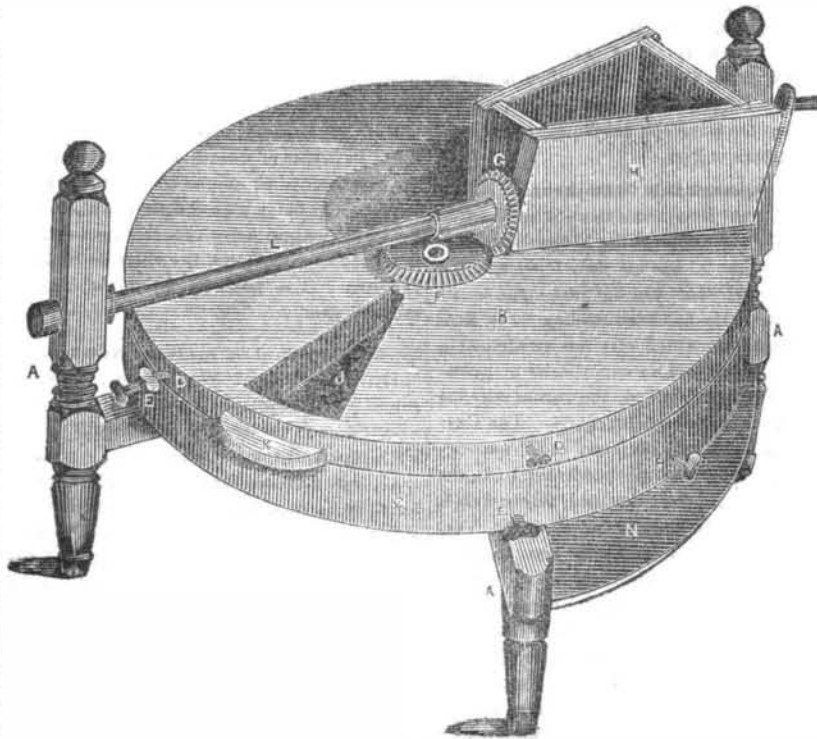
I love the song of the merry bird,
I love the low of the distant herd,
And ever the hum of the busy bee
Has an inexpressible charm for me.

I love that old forest-tree standing there,
With its arms extended in ceaseless prayer,
And the trim brook as it dances along,
Praising God in an endless song.

Commune with nature but one short hour,
All the baser passions lose their power;
The mind becomes calm, serene and clear,
And is in harmony,—God is here.

Here I would come when sad or gay,
Here I would come to praise and pray,
Here I would live, and here I would die,
And when I am dead, O here let me lie.

MEAT CUTTING APPARATUS.—Figure 1.



This is an excellent Meat Cutting Machine, invented by Mr. John G. Perry, Mumford's Mills, Kingston, R. I., who has made application for a patent therefor. It is constructed in a very different manner from all other machines which have heretofore been used for the same purpose, inasmuch as all the others were constructed upon the chopping principle, while this one is made to operate upon the principle of a grinding mill, but its action on the meat is to cut it. It has, therefore, superior advantages.

FIG. 2.

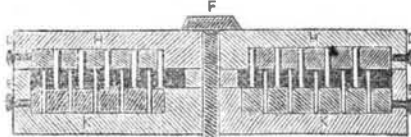


Fig. 1, is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section, showing the knives and driving studs. The machine consists of a round box, having its bottom piece like the nether mill stone, stationary, and its top like the upper stone, moveable—revolving. On the face inside of its bottom, are sets of sharp crescent edged knives, K K, set out at certain distances apart, in the circle. On the under side of the top are sets of studs, or square metal cogs, represented by H H, fig. 2. The studs are set in such a manner as to pass between the knives, K, as seen in fig. 2, carrying the

Prussic Acid.

A German paper says that suspension of life caused by prussic acid, is only apparent; life is immediately restored by pouring acetate of potash and common salt dissolved in water on the head and spine. In this country rabbits have been at once recovered from the effects of prussic acid by this means.

Substitute for Tea.

Dr. Graham, an old and experienced physician in London, says—"I may state on very respectable authority, that the first leaves of whortleberry properly gathered and dried in the shade, cannot be distinguished from real China teas."

Greeting.

Dr. Chalmers was asked by Wilkie whether Principal Baird would preach before the King. Principal Baird had a sad habit of crying in the pulpit. "Why (says Chalmers) if he does, it will be George Baird to George Rex, greeting!"

meat and pressing it against the knives. The studs and knives are small and set at a short space apart, so as to mince the meat very fine. The studs and the knives are set into the top and the bed of the box, by having a space cut out for their reception, and blocks placed between each set, by the set screws, D E, as seen in fig. 2. Figure 1 will give a correct idea of the form of the apparatus, how it is fed and how it is operated. A A are the posts, B is the top revolving block, and C is the stationary circular knife bed plate, E and D are the set screws that secure and retain the knives and carrying studs; H is a hopper to feed in the meat to the knives. It is stationary and secured to the two high posts; L is a shaft secured in bearings in the post and the hopper; G is a bevel pinion on the shaft, and F another, firmly secured on the top, B. By driving the shaft, L, motion is given to the sets of studs, H, in figure 2, which are secured in the top block, B. T is an opening for a slide, K, to allow the person who attends the machine to get into the interior. There is an opening in the bed plate, into which the minced meat falls, and is received on the board, M. The principle on which this machine operates, will at once be observed to be different from common meat chopping machines. It operates well and gives great satisfaction.

Old Times.

Umbrellas were introduced by British officers into this country about the time of the revolutionary war. Parasols were then unknown. As a defence from rain, men then wore "rain coats," and women "camblets." Gloves were introduced about the year 1755. There were very few carpets before the revolution on the floors; when first introduced, they covered the floor outside of the chairs around the rooms.

Chinese Mode of Administering Oaths.

The witness is made to kneel, and to break a saucer on a bar in front of him. The following oath is then administered: "You shall tell the truth, and the whole truth; the saucer is cracked; if you do not tell the truth your soul will be cracked like the saucer."

There are in Canterbury fifteen parish churches and only one clergyman to whom a settled income of £300 a year is secured.

RAILROAD NEWS.

Riots on Rail Roads.

There is scarcely a week passes over our heads without a riot on some rail road. The scenes enacted upon our new rail roads exhibits could Ireland in miniature; Doneybrook Fair and the Curragh of Kildare, are transferred to the banks of the Hudson, or the banks of the Mohawk. In Ireland, the fights are generally between Ribbonmen and Orangemen, on account of religion; but that is not the inherent cause for softening the crowns of one another in a shillelah melee. No, the cause is inherent in Patrick's nature, and he is just the same man in America as he is in Ireland, until he is civilized by incorporating himself with the Anglo-Saxon. The feuds between the Corkonians and the Connaught men on our rail roads, are not religious feuds, they are *love-of-fighting-feuds*. Something should be done to prevent such disgraceful scenes in our country. Two weeks ago a great riot took place on the Hudson River Rail Road, near Poughkeepsie, on a Sunday evening, in which one man was shot and a number of others wounded. As a general thing, the Irish laborers get drunk before they fight, and when this is known, every contractor should make Temperance Pledges one test of employing men, as a guarantee of quietness.

Cattle on Railroads.

It has been decided in a New Jersey Court that if a cow strays at large upon a railroad track, her owner is responsible for consequences. The rule was made in a case where it was shown that all proper precautions were made on the part of the rail road.

Hudson River Railroad.

The first locomotive for this road has arrived, and there are now at the depot, 30th st., five passenger cars and one locomotive, beside six or eight second-class passenger cars, which have come down from Springfield on the Hartford and New Haven and New York and New Haven Railways, and for the most part now lie on the track of the Harlem Railroad at Twenty-fifth street. This locomotive was built by the Springfield Car and Engine Company.

Fires in the Woods.

The Malone (N. Y.) Gazette gives the particulars of an extensive devastation in the counties of St. Lawrence, Clinton and Franklin, by fires in the woods, which have raged for some days. Farm houses, barns, crops and timber have been destroyed to a large amount. The fire is still at work and more serious results are anticipated under the present dry and parched condition of the earth, if the fires are not suppressed soon by copious rains.

Starvation in Ireland.

An article in Blackwood's Magazine says that at least 15,000 persons perished by famine in Ireland, in 1848, in consequence of the loss of the potato crop, notwithstanding the British Government expended fifty millions of dollars in purchasing food for the population, and extensive donations were received from abroad.

Sudden Death.

Mr. Lucas Cowles, says the Springfield Republican, (Mass.), a highly respected citizen of Westfield, died quite suddenly on Tuesday, under the following circumstances:—He accidentally, while at work, cut his thumb with a buzz or circular saw, and went home and had the wound dressed, and returned to his shop. He soon began to feel seriously ill, and returning to his dwelling, died in a short time. The wound did not bleed, and this probably had a connection with the cause of his death. Mr. Cowles had been previously in the enjoyment of full health.