

America, and the time saved in travel is equal to seventy per cent. The rivers of every country in the world nearly, are traversed by steamboats. In 1800, there was not a single railroad in the world. In the United States alone there are now 8,707 miles of railroad, costing \$286,000,000 to build, and about 23,000 miles of road in England and America. The locomotive will now travel in as many hours, a distance, which, in 1800, required as many days to accomplish. In 1800 it took weeks to convey intelligence between New Orleans and Philadelphia, and now it can be accomplished in minutes through the electric telegraph which only had its beginning in 1843. Voltaism was discovered in March, 1800. The electric magnet in 1821. Electrotyping was discovered only a few years ago. Hoe's printing press, capable of printing 10,000 copies an hour, is a very recent discovery, but of a most important character. Gas light was unknown in 1800; now every city and town of any pretences is lighted with it, and we have the announcement of a still greater discovery, by which light, heat, and motive power may be all produced from water with hardly any cost. Daguerre communicated to the world his beautiful invention in 1839. Gun cotton and chloroform are discoveries of but a few years old. Astronomy has added a number of new planets to the solar system. Agricultural chemistry has enlarged the domain of knowledge in that important branch of scientific research; and mechanics have increased the facilities for production, and the means of accomplishing an amount of labor which far transcends the ability of united mental effort to accomplish. The triumphs achieved in this last branch of discovery and invention are enough to mark the last half century as that which has most contributed to augment personal comforts, enlarge the enjoyments, and add to the blessings of man. What will the next half century accomplish? We may look for still greater discoveries, for the intellect of man is awake, exploring every mine of knowledge, and searching for useful information in every department of art and industry.

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**MAKE HOME BEAUTIFUL.**—It is a true index of the progress of our race, to observe the regard paid to homes: and it is a con-

soling reflection that its sanctity has attracted, at last, the attention it deserves. To be loved as it ought, to awaken the affection home should inspire, it must be beautiful, and worthy of being cherished. When it is so easy a thing to beautify and adorn home, is it not a matter of surprise that so little attention, in this respect, is given to it in many parts of our country? Indeed, we may fear that this neglect will become "a byword of reproach." It is a mistaken idea that home cannot be made beautiful, but by the costly exotics. Incentives, of the highest character, are held out to induce men to plant and cultivate shady trees. No argument is needed to confirm the truth that shade trees promote health, that they are conducive to comfort and pleasure; and he is truly to be pitied, who sees no beauty in trees, nothing majestic or grand in trees, Nature's waving, "frowning Titans." If more is required to induce the growing of trees and shrubs for shade and ornament, compare the appearance of some of our villages, where, for near the full circle of a mile, scarce a solitary tree intervenes its grateful shade to break the rays of a summer sun's roasting heat, or to invite the cool, refreshing breeze: compare one of these, (for there are many such,) with the pleasant town whose streets and squares are tastefully planted with handsome elms, maples, or locusts. Not only is the aspect of the latter more pleasing, or the effect more delightful; but it is the safest criterion by which to judge of the virtue, refinement and intellectual cultivation of its citizens; for where Nature's beauties are cherished, vice and sensuality cannot flourish. What is true of towns and villages, is equally true relative to the homes of men, except the influence of the former is more general, while that of home, whether farm-house or village residence, more directly affects the individual family. There is no investment of labour or time that remunerates man with so much and healthful enjoyment, as that bestowed upon the cultivation of shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery. These make home beautiful; beauty will endear it to his soul and make it "part of him;" then, in truth, will it be his own "sweet home," and his country—

"The land of the myrtle, the cypress, and vine,  
Where all, save the spirit of man, is divine."