

fated *Amazon* steamship off the Scilly Isles, was Eliot Warburton, the gifted author of the "Crescent and the Cross," "Hochelaga," &c. &c. Dr. Joseph Cogswell, who is the Superintendent and one of the trustees of the Astor Library, is said to have purchased thirty thousand volumes for the institution during his recent visit to Europe. These additions to the previous purchases must have already constituted this library one of the most extensive in the United States. Freund, the philologist, is in London, engaged in constructing a German-English and English German dictionary, upon his new system. The second division of the third volume of Alexander Von Humboldt's *Kosmos* has just issued from the German press. The new chapters treat of the circuits of the sun, planets, and comets, of the zodiacal lights, meteors, and meteoric stones. The uranological portion of the physical description of the universe is now completed. Letters from Stuttgart state, that the veteran philosopher has already made good way into the fourth volume of his great work. Shakspeare has just been translated into Swedish, and published in Stockholm, in twelve octavo volumes. A Swedish translation is also published of Hallam's *Europe*, during the middle ages. D'Israeli's life of Lord George Bentinck gives constant occupation to the critics. The *Times* is very severe upon it, as it defends protection and assails Sir Robert Peel. It contains, however, a very graphic sketch of that great politician. Two new volumes of Lord Mahon's *History of England* have been published in England. They cover the period of American revolution. We presume they will be immediately republished in the U.S. A number of humorous drawings, sketched by the pencil of Schiller, and accompanied by descriptions in his own hand, have been found in the possession of a Swabian family. The famous old Westminster Bridge over the Thames is to be removed, and a magnificent structure erected in its stead, to accord with the increasing splendor of the neighbourhood. A most splendid and valuable donation has just been made by the Imperial Government of Austria to the Royal Geographical Society of London, consisting of the series of charts and maps lately deposited in the Austrian department of the Great Exhibition, and sent there by the Imperial Military Geographical Institute of Vienna. For this valuable adjunct to the study of geographical science the society are indebted to Field-Marshal Von Skubank, of Vienna, through whose influence at the Imperial Court they have been secured to this country. As works of art they stand almost unrivalled, one map of Europe being about eight feet in height, and six feet in width, beautifully framed and coloured, and with all the latest improvements. Several others are nearly on the same scale, with one map of Italy in eight large sheets. Law and literature lose an ornament in Basil Montague, Queen's counsel, formerly a Commissioner in Bankruptcy; who died on the 27th November, at Bologna, in the eighty-second year of his age. The distinction acquired by Mr. Montague in his profession was not the only feature of his life which made him a public character. He was the son of John, the fourth Earl of Sandwich, by the celebrated beauty of her day, Miss Margaret Reay. The death of Miss Reay by the hand of another distracted lover, the Rev. James Hackman, form portions of a tragic romance not yet faded from the memory of those who can carry personal recollections to the final year of the last century. It costs the people of the United States fifteen millions of dollars a year for newspapers, and other periodicals, and these newspapers and periodicals are as essential to their safety and happiness, as the roofs over their heads, and more so than the army and navy, which cost twice as much. A letter from the second wife of Sir Philip Francis to Wade, intended to prove that her husband was the author of Junius' letters, has been lately published in *La Revue des Deux Mondes*. The French papers state that Lord Brougham, in his retreat at Cannes, is preparing for publication a work entitled, "France and England before Europe in 1851." The Royal Netherlands Institute of Sciences, Letters and Fine Arts, recently petitioned the King of Holland, in consequence of their limited income, for letters of dissolution. The King took the Institute at its word, and granted letters which fixed the 31st December for the term of its existence. From the 1st January, 1852, the Institute is to be replaced by a Royal Academy, which will specially devote itself to exact and natural sciences. This body will receive from the State an annual grant of 6,000 florins. It will be composed of twenty-six ordinary, twenty-two extraordinary, and five free members, and an unlimited number of correspondents. The catalogue of books for the Leipsic fair shows, that in the short space of time between the Easter fair and the 30th September, there were published in Germany no less than 3,860 new works, and there were on the latter date 1,130 new works in the press. Nearly 5,000 new works in one country of Europe in one half year! The amount of intellectual labour dimly represented in the catalogue appears to have had on the whole a healthy impulse. Of the 3,860 works already published, more than half treat of various matters connected with science and its concerns. That is to say, descending to particulars—106 works treat of Protestant Theology; 62 of Catholic theology; 36 of philosophy; 205 of history and biography; 102 of languages; 194 of natural sciences; 168 of military tactics; 108 of Medicine; 169 of jurisprudence; 101 of politics; 184 of political economy; 83 of industry and commerce; 87 of agriculture and forest administration; 69 of public instruction;

92 of classical philology; 80 of living languages; 64 of the theory of music and the art of design; 168 of the fine arts in general; 48 of popular writings; 29 of united science; and 18 of bibliography. Among the articles added to the British Museum, by Layard's researches, are several curious bowls, made of Terra Cotta, and found buried some twenty feet deep amid the ruins of Babylon. The inscriptions on them, which have only just been deciphered, makes it probable that they were written by the Jews during their captivity. The editors of all the journals in Hungary have been obliged to send into the authorities a list of their subscribers. The *Koinerzetzung* has been fined 50 thalers by the Prussian government, for publishing translations of Elibu Burritt's "Olive leaves for the People." A London correspondent states that the Lord Chamberlain has required all the theatrical farces, &c., prepared for the holiday season, to be sent to him, and that he has rigorously excluded from them all allusions to the Queen, to Prince Albert, Kossuth, Haynau, Louis Napoleon, &c. This is regarded as a great hardship; and indeed it seems to be followed too closely in the footsteps of Louis Napoleon to be very encouraging to those who expect to see England foremost in resisting continental despotism. A leading medical practitioner at Brighton, England, has lately given a list of 16 cases of paralysis, produced by smoking, which came under his own knowledge within the last six months. The statues of the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Falkland, and John Hampden will be put up in a few days in St. Stephen's Hall, (the site of the old House of Commons). Workmen are now putting down the tiles on the floors of the new hall, of the approaches to the houses, and of the cloisters. The cloisters are to have stained-glass windows in antique style. They will be appropriated for the members' reading-rooms, cloak rooms, &c. The public entrance will be in Westminster Hall, leading to St. Stephen's Hall. The members will have an entrance in the middle of Westminster Hall to the cloisters also by the former Speaker's porch. Peers and members will go in by St. Stephen's porch, opposite the Abbey. Mr. Thomas, a recent writer on China, says that the term "barbarian," as applied by them, is intended for a compliment—and that the word so translated means simply "southern merchant." They consider it a special compliment also to call a man "red haired devil." A perpendicular waterfall has been discovered on the Sonoma river, Oregon, some distance above where it empties into Puget's Sound, of 360 feet. Some of the spruce and fir trees in Oregon shoot up to the height of 300 feet, without throwing out any lateral branches. A Mr. J. Keys recently lectured at the Western Institution, Leicester Square, London, upon the subject of "Chemical Lithography." He made a thorough practical exposition of this art. A gentleman present executed a sketch upon stone, of which, by the aid of one of Stanbury's improved presses, a number of copies were speedily reproduced: *fac similes* of autographs of several persons in the theatre were multiplied with extraordinary dispatch; and the method of transferring line engravings, of bronzing, gilding, and silvering, was also exhibited. Mr. Keys pointed out how lithography might be made a means of contributing to the intellectual pleasures of an evening party, by employing it for the enrichment of portfolios, if each of the company skilled in drawing would manifest his skill on the prepared stones, and by the aid of such a press, duplicate copies might be produced to any extent required. The London "Literary Gazette" says that some attention has been excited by the alleged discovery, (by an engineer of some celebrity, named Andrand,) of the means of seeing the air. If (he says) you take a piece of card, coloured black, of the size of the eye, and pierce with a fine needle a hole in the middle, you will, on looking through that hole at a clear sky or a lighted lamp, see a multitude of molecules floating about, which molecules constitute the air. We shall see whether the theory will obtain the sanction of the Academy of Sciences, to which it has been submitted. Mr. George Tate, of Bawtry Hall, Yorkshire, has recently taken out a patent for constructing houses, &c. by fitting together staves, or stave-like and other pieces of timber, or other suitable material, secured by hoops or other binders or fasteners, built of any suitable size, and fixed, either vertically or horizontally, at any height, upon piles or sleepers. Such houses, or parts, may be found one within the other, to leave space for the circulation of air, &c. The floors, roof, partitions, &c., are also formed by wedging up stave-like pieces in concentric rings, with an external hoop and the interstices filled up with glue or other viscous matter, mixed with earthy or mineral substances.

*Irish Submarine Telegraph.*—The success attendant on the establishment of the submarine telegraph between England and France has induced the projection of a similar chord of communication between England and Ireland by parties in connection with the Electric Telegraph Company, whose wires were lately extended to the port of Holyhead. The parties propose to carry it out by sinking in the first instance a four wire cable, the manufacture of which has been commenced, on a somewhat similar, though said to be improved principle, to that already laid down between Dover and Calais. Two of these wires are to be for the exclusive use of the Government, and two for commercial and general purposes.