The Weekly Observer.

Established in 1818, Under the title of "The Star." { Whole No. 1690.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1850.

VOL. XXIII.—NO. 26.

The Observer.

Published on Tuesday, by Donald A. Cameron, at his Office, corner of Prince William and Church Streets, over the Store of Messrs. Flewwelling & Reading.—Terms: 15s. per annum, half in advance.

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS Company is prepared to receive applications for Insurance against FIRE upon Buildings and other Property, at the Office of the subscriber. I. WOODWARD.
St. John, Nov. 11, 1846. *Secretary.*

☞ NOTICE

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of The Honorable HUGH JOHNSTON, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested; and all those indebted to the same Estate, are required to make immediate payment to John M. Robinson, one of the undersigned.

HARRIET M. JOHNSTON, *Executrix.*
HUGH B. JOHNSTON, } *Executors.*
JOHN M. ROBINSON, }
St. John, May 7, 1850.

Farmers's Company.

For Insurance against Loss or Damage by Fire and Lightning.

"Nearly six years in successful operation."

The Largest Mutual Insurance Company in the World!

GUARANTEE CAPITAL over ONE MILLION of Dollars—Charter renewed for Thirty Years.

Monthly Report of business transacted by the Washington County Mutual Insurance Company of Granville, New York, from 3d to 31st August inclusive;—

Whole number of Policies issued	-	3102
Do. of Applications received,		3264
Do. of do. rejected,		162

This Company has Agents throughout the United States, the Canadas and the Lower Provinces. In the Province of New Brunswick, (through the St. John agency,) the facilities afforded, and the moderate rates charged by this Company, have led to a large business, which it is designed to increase by the extension of Agencies throughout the several Counties.

Parties applying for resident or travelling Agencies will meet with good encouragement.

The standing of this Company is undoubted, as can be shown by its annual financial statements, audited by Commissioners appointed by the State of New York.

All applications for Agencies or Insurance, must be made, post paid, to CHAS. L. STREET,
Sept. 24.—3i. *General Insurance Agent.*

GAS FITTINGS.

C. & W. H. ADAMS

Have just received and now opened a good assortment of low priced Bronzed and Relieved Gas Fittings, for Dwelling Houses and Shops, viz.:

TWO and Three-light LAMPS: Harp HALL LAMPS, to slide, plain and ornamental;
One, two and three-joint BRACKETS;
Union jet GAS BURNERS, every size;
One light Pendants, stationary and sliding.

PIANO and ORGAN.

MR. F. W. CLEAR, Teacher of the Piano Forte, Organ, and SINGING, would notify his friends and the Public, that he has REMOVED from his former residence to the house of Mr. John Armstrong, Charlotte-street, four doors north of King's Square.

Mr. C.'s terms for instruction are 30s. per quarter; and he pledges himself to give satisfaction, or no charge will be made. January 1st.

Ladies' Boots and Shoes,

Manufactured in England for the Brunswick Shoe Store, Germain-Street.

WE have received by *Harriott*, a part of our Stock of *Ladies' Fashionable Prennella Boots, &c.*, manufactured expressly for Ladies and Misses of New Brunswick, and are of the same workmanship as those of last year, which gave such substantial evidence, that Boots and Shoes can be made, *which will not Rip.*—Only try one pair and the fact will be demonstrated.

Country Ladies will please give a call at Hennigar's corner, nearly opposite old Trinity Church.
May 21, 1850. FAULKE & HENNIGAR.

London Groceries, &c.

Now landing ex ship "Lisbon," from London—

100 CHESTS Congo TEA;
10 Hhds. Crushed LOAF SUGAR;
3 Casks Day & Martin's BLACKING;
20 Boxes BLUE STARCH; 2 cases SALAD OIL;
1 Case Old Brown WINDSOR SOAP;
1 Barrel E. I. GINGER; 10 cases ground GINGER
1 Case NUTMEGS; 2 carooels CURRANTS;
10 Bags Black PEPPER;
20 boxes Valentia RAISINS; 1 Chest INDIGO;
1 Case MACCARONI;
1 case MACE and ISINGLASS; 1 cask Pearl SAGO

Ex Charles from Halifax:

50 Hhds. Bright Porto Rico SUGAR;
4 Cases Preserved GINGER.
For sale by JARDINE & CO.
St. John, Oct. 1, 1850.

FLOUR, &c.

Landing ex "Juverna," from New York—

100 BRLS. Superfine FLOUR,
15 kegs No. 1 TOBACCO,
10 tierces RICE.

A large assortment of CHURNS, CHEESE PRESSES, PLOUGHS, Grindstone Rollers, and AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—For Sale by [Sept. 3.] JARDINE & CO.

Pale Geneva, Tobacco Pipes.

Now landing for the Subscriber:

20 HHDS. Pale Hollands GENEVA,
80 boxes Tobacco Pipes, well assorted for this market—in boxes of each 5 and 10 gross.
For sale low by JOHN V. THURGAR,
Nov. 5. North Market Wharf.

Pressed Nails, Carpets, &c.

From Liverpool—for Sale.

40 KEGS 7d. 8d. 10d. and 14d. Pressed NAILS;
2 Bales Fine and Superfine CARPETS;
57 Slabs SPELTER.

—ALSO—

By the Venture, from Boston:

25 assorted sizes Cook STOVES;
8 dozen assorted CHAIRS:

And from New York—

1600 Pieces PAPER HANGINGS.
JOHN KINNEAR,
August 27, 1850. Prince Wm.-street.

Wallsend and Liverpool Coals.

500 CHALDRONS, on hand, in yard,—warranted as good and as round as any that comes to the port.—For Sale at 27s. 6d. per chaldron.

Also—100 Chaldrons of Joggins COALS, at 22s. 6d. JOHN KINNEAR.
10th September, 1850.

Fall Importations.

Per ships Lisbon from London, and Thetis from Liverpool—

A LARGE and varid assortment of DRESS GOODS, consisting of newest Styles and Materials; also, SILKS, SATINS, Persian, French and English Cap and Bonnet RIBBONS, Silk VELVETS, Cotton do. in all shades.
Ladies' and Gent's Fancy NECK TIES, China and British;
Silk HANDKER'FS, LACES, NETS, Blonde QUILLINGS, &c.
FURS, in Muffs, Boas, Victorines, Cuffs, &c.
Ladies' and Gent's French KID GLOVES;
Fancy Cachmere CLOTH, LAMBS WOOL, Buckskin do.
Children's Vermont & fancy Lambs Wool Hoods;
HOSIERY, HABERDASHERY, &c.
Broad Cloths, Doeskins, Cassimeres, Pilots, Beavers, and Vestings;
FUR and CLOTH CAPS;
Gent's HATS, &c.
MANCHESTER GOODS, &c.
7 8, 9-8, 5-4 printed Cottons and Regattas:
Grey and White SHIRTINGS, Sheetings and Swansdowns;
Plain and Fancy Embossed LININGS;
MUSLINS, Linens, Lawns, Diapers, Towellings, black and colored Cotton Velvets, Moleskins, Ticks, Drills, printed Druggets, OIL CLOTHS, Fringes, Worsted and Algermes, Braids;
Mixed Cloaking, do. Worsted and Yarns;
SMALL WARES, &c.

☞ *Scotch Goods hourly expected.*

J. & H. FOTHERBY.
Market Square, Oct. 7.

HATS, CAPS, AND FURS,

The subscribers have received at the "CHEAP HAT, CAP, and FUR STORE," No. 1, Prince William street, in part their Fall and Winter Stock of Fashionable GOODS—ex ships Lisbon, and Faside, from London—Oriental, Thetis, Mary Caroline, and Harriott, from Liverpool—and Edward, from Glasgow,—comprising the best assortment they have yet offered to their customers and the public—

GENT'S French Satin Velvet HATS—*fall style,*
Youth's and Children's Satin HATS,—do.
Gent's and Youth's Drab and Colored Felt Hats,
Gent's and Youth's CLOTH CAPS—*every pattern,*
Gent's Silk Plush Caps—*very nice pattern,*
Gent's and Youth's FUR CAPS—*in South Sea Seal, Astrachan, and British Sable FURS,*
Ladies' MUFFS, Boas, Victorines,—Gauntlets, and Cardinals, in French Sable, Stone Martin, Fitch, Grey Squirrel, and British Sable FURS,
Gent's French Kid Gloves, Fur Gloves, Silk Handkerchiefs, Stocks, Shirts, and Collars.
Gent's Seal, Lama, Wolf, and Buffalo COATS, Buffalo Robes, Trunks, Valises, Carpet Bags, and Umbrellas; with a large assortment of other Goods.

☞ Wholesale and Retail at very low prices.

☞ *CASH PAID FOR FURS.*

LOCKHART & CO.
Oct. 8.—4i. No. 1, Prince William Street.

FALL IMPORTATIONS OF

Hats, Caps, and Furs,

AT THE

Hat, Cap, and Fur Store of G. & E. SEARS,

Barlow's Corner, foot of King Street, (up Stairs,)

—CONSISTING OF—

LADIES' MUFFS, BOAS, VICTORINES, CUFFS and Gauntlets, of various FURS.
Gent's French SILK HATS; Beaver ditto
Youth's and Children's Silk and Beaver HATS
a large assortment of FELT HATS—various colours; Latest patterns of CLOTH CAPS; Silk and Lawn Glazed ditto; Infant's FUR CAPS; Leather Hat Cases; Peaks and Straps; Gent's and Youth's Fur and Seal CAPS; Plush and Sealette ditto; BUFFALO ROBES, &c., &c., &c.—For Sale at the *lowest prices—Wholesale and Retail.*

☞ Cash, and the highest prices paid for FURS.
Oct. 8, 1850.—1mp.

19th October, 1850.

Received per recent arrivals from Liverpool and Glasgow—

8 ROLLS SHEET LEAD, 2 casks SHOT,
100 bags SPIKES, 4 to 9 inch,
3 cases Hoole, Blainforth & Co's Mill SAWS, &c.
Pots, Bake Ovens, Spiders, Griddles, Boilers, &c.
Cart Boxes and Waggon Boxes: Barrow Wheels,
2 cases Thomsons's SCREW AUGERS,
1 case CAST STEEL, for Axes,
1 cask London GLUE, 29 bags Horse NAILS,
1 cask TRACES; Ploughshare Moulds,
LEAD PIPE; 1 cask SAD IRONS,
2 crates Japanned COAL SCOOPS,
121 bundles SHEET IRON,

A VARIETY OF SHELF GOODS;—

Files, Cutlery, Nails—and a good assortment of HARDWARE expected daily.
C. & W. H. ADAMS.

S. K. FOSTER'S

Ladies' Fashionable SHOE Store,

GERMAIN STREET,

Next door but one to Foster's *Corner.*

NEW FALL GOOD . .

Just Received per Ships Faside and Thetis—

A Splendid Variety of New and Fashionable

BOOTS and SHOES,

COMPRISING

LADIES' *Jenny Lind* SHOES—for Fall;
Do. Victoria, Coronation, Hungarian, and all the Newest Styles of WALKING SHOES;
Do. White and Black Satin SLIPPERS;
Do. Black Satin BOOTS;
Do. Patent SLIPPERS, of every quality;
Do. French SHOES—assorted;
Gentlemen's French Calf and Morocco BOOTTEES;
Do. Black and Drab CLOTH BOOTS;
Ladies', Misses', and Children's CLOTH BOOTS.

☞ Further Supplies Daily expected.

S. K. FOSTER,
Oct. 1, 1850. *Germain Street.*

By the "Olive," from Liverpool:

109 CASKS NAILS—consisting of—
10d. Horse NAILS,
9d. Horse NAILS,
8d. Horse NAILS.

Also—4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14d. Clasp and Rose Head Wrought NAILS.

—AND—

500 Yards Fine and Superfine Wool CARPETS:
With—
400 Doz. Ginger Beer BOTTLES.—For Sale by
JOHN KINNEAR,
Oct. 15, 1850. *Prince Wm. Street.*

Bank of British North America STOCK.

WANTED to purchase—a few SHARES of the Stock of the BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, by early application at the Counting Room of JOHN V. THURGAR
Oct. 15. *N. Mkt. Wharf.*

Miscellaneous.

FRUITS.

BY ELIZA COOK.

The roses are bright, in their summer days' light,
With their delicate scent and their exquisite hue;
But though beautiful Flowers claim many a song,
The Fruit that hangs round us is beautiful too.

When Midsummer comes, we see cherries and plums
Turning purple and red when the glowing sun falls;
They hang on the stems like a cluster of gems,
In ruby and coral and amethyst balls.

How delicious and sweet is the strawberry treat!
What pleasure it is to go hunting about,
To raise up the stalks all besprinkled with dew,
And see the dark scarlet eyes just peeping out.

Don't you think we can find in the nectarine rind
A colour as gay as the dahlia's bloom?
Don't you think the soft peach gives an odour as fine
As the hyacinth, petted and nursed in the room?

The apricot, yellow, so juicy and mellow,
Is tempting as any fresh cowslip of Spring;
And the currants' deep blushes come through the green bushes,
Or hang in white bunches like pearls on a string.

The mulberry tree is enchanting to see
When 'tis laden with autumn fruit, pulpy and cool,
And those other rich berries so guarded by thorns—
Oh, who loves not the flavor of gooseberry-fool?

The woodbine's fair leaves and clematis that weaves
Round the window, are pleasant to all that pass by;
But I'm sure the full clusters of grapes on the vine
Are as lovely a sight for the traveller's eye.

The apples' round cheeks, with their rose-colored streaks,
And the pears that are ready to melt on the spray,
I am sure we must own they have beauties that vie
With the daisy and buttercup spread in our way.

Then the brown nut that drops as we push through the copse,
Till busy as squirrels we rest on the sod,
Oh! I think it has charms for our gathering hands
To match with May blue-bells that sparkle and nod.

So, though poets may sing of the blossoms of Spring,
And all the bright glory of Flowers may tell,
We will welcome the berries, the plums, and the cherries,
And the beautiful Fruits shall be honored as well.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

While the whole civilized world is agog for news from Sir John Franklin's expedition, hopes for the safety of which are again revived only to be once more dashed, we fear, in the bitterest disappointment, it will be found instructive and entertaining to read the following succinct history of Arctic Discoveries, as given by the London Observer:

"A thousand years have come and gone since the great Arctic voyagers first went forth upon their perilous expedition; and to this day the perils have not decreased. Nature is immutable. From the era of the discovery of Spitzbergen or Greenland, by the Norwegians, Ingolf and Hiorlief (A. D. 874) to the year of grace 1850, when four separate expeditions sailed into these regions, the circumstances of this voyage have been uniformly the same—

"Miserable they!
Who here entangled in the gathering ice,
Take their last look of the descending sun;
While full of death and fierce with tenfold frost,
The long, long night, incumbent o'er their heads,
Falls horrible."

Yet the dangers that were braved, or the sufferings that had been undergone by the Arctic navigators, were found insufficient to deter men from following in their wake; and the world in consequence of this daring spirit, has now once more to mourn the absence of the gallant Franklin, and the possible loss of his ship's company.

The history of Arctic enterprise is, perhaps, one of the most curious and at the same time most melancholy chapters to be met with in the records of human adventure. There is little doubt among the learned that Greenland was discovered by the Norse voyagers just named, or that it was colonized from Iceland, itself a Scandinavian colony, in the reign of Harold Haarfæger, the Danish conqueror of Norway. The eastern coast of Baffin's Bay is pointed out as the site of the first settlement, called Eireksford, from its founder, Eirek the Red-handed, the leader of the colonizing expedition, at a place now known as Tunnuliorbek; and it is mentioned in the Norwegian annals that christianity was introduced among the settlers between A. D. 986 and 1100, by Leif, the son of this Eirek. There was, it appears, a Cathedral, and of course a bishop, in a place called Garda—the exact situation of which is not now known; and documentary evidence of unimpeached authority is still in existence to prove that the first prelate of the see was ordained A. D. 1121—the last A. D. 1474. Subsequent to 1409, nothing is known of the colonies; but broken urns, fragments of church bells, implements and utensils of various descriptions, have been found in the spots indicated by constant tradition as their sites. A curious circumstance is mentioned in connection with these settlements, viz., that they were "sorely invested with a wild nation," on whom they had bestowed the contemptuous title of "skrælings," or dwarfs—most likely the Esquimaux of the period; and it is considered probable by those who have investigated the subject in all its bearings, that when the colonists were ruined first in their source of subsistance—viz. trade—by the mother country, Norway, they were afterwards slain in their starved state by those obnoxious neighbors—in the same manner as the statements of Sir John Ross's interpreter, Adam Beck, would infer that Franklin and his companions were sent out of the world by the modern race of Indians, their successors.

The voyage of Madoc, the Welch prince, rests upon less substantial grounds of belief than that of the Norsemen; but, still, it is not to be lightly treated by the inquirer into Arctic naval history.—A citizen of Marseilles certainly touched on the coast of Spitzbergen, in the century of its alleged first discovery; and there seems to be no doubt that a Northman resident on the borders of Lapland, in the reign of the English King Alfred, sailed in the same direction (A. D. 890). His voyage by that Prince, written from his dictation, is among the most interesting remains of mediæval antiquity in letters. There is an account of a voyage to this quarter made by a Venetian Merchant, A. D. 1380, but it is believed to be a fabrication on the part of the Portuguese Government of the day; it is unquestionable, nevertheless, that Siera Quermo, another Venetian, did proceed thither A. D. 1481, and that he was cast away on his return upon the north coast of Norway.

Sebastian Cabot, however, is really the first navigator to whom the public are indebted for a knowledge of the Arctic regions. He originally sailed from Bristol in the summer of 1498, and reached the 67th parallel of latitude. Cortereal, a Portuguese, led about the same time penetrated the northern seas to the coast of Labrador, and had brought to Lisbon several natives of the country—whose description, as given by the Venetian ambassador to the Court of Portugal, A. D. 1501, is perfectly identical with that of the Esquimaux of the present period. Cortereal was subsequently lost at the entrance of Hudson's Bay, in a second expedition, as well as his brother, who, on the news of his death, set off to seek him the year after. In the May of 1553, Sir H. Willoughby set forth from London, with three ships duly equipped, but the expedition was caught in the ice, and two years afterwards it was found, with all the crew and the commander stiff dead. Willoughby had his journal in his hand.

The ships were subsequently disengaged and sent back to England with the bodies, seventy in number, on board; but on their passage they sunk all three, with their dead and those that brought them, and were never heard of more. Several other voyages of discovery into these regions were undertaken within a few years therafter from this country; but the most eventful of them was Martin Frobisher, A. D. 1576, who penetrated into the straits which have since borne his name, with three small vessels—no larger than fishing boats or river yachts—namely, of the respective burdens of 36, 30, and 10 tons. Frobisher brought home some substance containing gold—mica, perhaps—which set the whole nation in a fever of speculation, and led to the fitting out of many other expeditions. Of these expeditions, Davis's was the most important in a geographical point of view; and it is creditable to the acuteness of the old navigator that his confident belief in the existence of a north-west passage has since then been all but verified. In latitude 72 degrees he saw a clear open sea to the northward.

Hudson's first expedition, A. D. 1603, was undertaken, like that of Sir John Ross, in 1829, at the expense of a London merchant, Alderman Sir F. Cherie; his last, and fatal voyage (A. D. 1810) was performed in a vessel of 55 tons burthen, fitted out by Sir J. Wolstenhome, Sir Dudley Digges and other men of fortune, who felt persuaded of the existence of a north-west passage to China, or Kathay, as it was then designated in England. Hudson was set adrift by his crew, who mutinied—a fate which his nearest emulator, Capt. Forsyth, was, it is said, on the point of suffering in the last expedition, but which he, more fortunate than his prototype, succeeded in avoiding. Hudson's disaster did not, however, deter others; and since his death there has been a succession of navigators in the Arctic Seas, as well as explorers of the Northern coast of the American continent by land. It is a fact not generally known that Nelson was coxswain of Capt. Lutwidge's boat, in the Arctic Expedition despatched by the Government of George III., A. D. 1773, at the instance of Daniel Barrington, under the command of Captain Phipps, afterwards Lord Mulgrave.

The most promising efforts, however, to discover an open Polar Sea, connecting the North Atlantic and South Pacific Oceans, were made since the begining of the present century; though it cannot be added that their success, in comparison with that of some of the earlier expeditions, was equivalent with their cost to the country. Capt. John Ross and Capt. Parry were the first of this group of explorers, in 1818; but it should be stated, in strict justice, that Buchan and Franklin contest that honor with good reason and right. In 1819 Parry made his first voyage; and in the same year Franklin made his first journey by land to the Arctic Ocean. Back, Dease, and Simpson, and the navigators just mentioned subsequently visited this quarter at several periods. The last expedition of Sir J. Franklin—consisting of the bomb ketches, Erebus and Terror—sailed from the Thames on the 26th of May, 1845; and it has not, unfortunately, since been heard of, notwithstanding seven expeditions in search of him have been despatched to the Arctic Ocean. It is a curious fact that Franklin's expedition consisted of exactly the same number of souls as that of the unfortunate Sir H. Willoughby above adverted to, namely, seventy officers and men.

NATURE AND PROPERTIES OF WATER.—No living thing can exist except it contains water as one of the leading constituents of the various parts of its system. To so great an extent does this go, that in a thousand parts of human blood, nearly eight hundred are pure water. This distribution of organized beings all over the world is, to a great extent, regulated by its abundance or scarcity. It seems as if the properties of this substance mark out the plan of animated nature. From man, at the head of all, to the meanest vegetable that can grow on a bare rock, through all the various orders and tribes, this ingredient is absolutely required. Insipid and inodorous in itself, it takes on the peculiarities of all other bodies; assumes with readiness the sweetness of sugar, and the acidity of vinegar. Distilled with flowers, or the aromatic parts of plants, it contracts from them their fragrance, and, with equal facility, becomes the vehicle of odours the most offensive to our sense. We talk about the use of water, and imagine that nature furnishes us a perennial supply; we constantly forget that in this world nothing is ever annihilated. The liquid that we drink to-day has been drunk a thousand times before; the clouds that obscure the sky have obscured it again and again. What, then, becomes of the immense quantities of water, which, thus entering as a constituent of the bodies of animals, give to their various parts that flexibility which enables them to execute movements, or, combining with vegetable structure, fits them for carrying on their vital processes? After the course of a few years, all existing animals and vegetables entirely pass away; their solid constituents disintegrate and take on other conditions, and the waters, lost, perhaps, for a while in the ground, at last escape in the form of vapour into the air. In that great and invisible receptacle, all traces of its ancient relations disappear; it mingles with other vapours that are raised from the sea by the sun. From the bodies of living animals and plants immense quantities are hourly finding their way into the reservoir. From the forests and meadows, and wherever vegetables are found, water is continually evaporating, and that to an extent far surpassing what we might be led at first to suppose. In a single day, a sun-flower, of moderate size, throws from its leaves, and other parts, nearly 20 ounces weight. In the republic of the universe there is a stern equality; the breath of the rich intermingles with the breath of the beggar. A man of average size requires a half-ton of water a year; when he has reached the meridian of life, he has consumed nearly three hundred times his own weight of this liquid. These statements might lead many to doubt whether the existing order of nature, as dependent on the waters of the sea, could, for any length of time, supply such a great consumption. The human family consists, probably, of a thousand millions of individuals; it would be a very moderate estimate to suppose that the various animals, great and small, taken together, consume five times as much water as we do, and the vegetable world two hundred times as much as all the animal races. Under such an immense drain, it becomes a curious question, what provision nature has made to meet the demand, and how long the waters of the sea, supposing none returned to them, could furnish a sure supply? The question involves the stability of existence of animated nature, and the world of organization; and no man, save one whose mind is thoroughly imbued with an appreciation of the resources upon which the acts of nature are founded, would, I am sure, justly guess at the result. There exists in the sea a supply which would meet this enormous demand for more than a quarter of a million of years.

COTTON IN LIBERIA.—Mr. Roberts, the President of Liberia, states in a letter to Lord Palmerston, that persons from the United States well acquainted with the culture of cotton, have demonstrated by actual experiment, that cotton of as good quality as in the United States can be raised in West Africa, and in large quantities, if persons of sufficient pecuniary means will engage in its cultivation. It is now raised in small quantities, in the interior, and they may, without question, by proper encouragement and instruction, be induced to cultivate it to almost any extent.

Samples of this cotton have been transmitted to England, and submitted to the examination of manufacturers in Manchester, who say, that with respect to the usefulness of this cotton, nothing could be more desirable, than the quality, which these samples present. They do not need any large increase of the finest qualities, their most pressing want is of such qualities as enter into the manufacture of the coarsest and heaviest fabrics. This want these cottons are admirably adapted to supply. The trade of England could receive no greater boon than a large import of them.

This information was elicited in consequence of an expedition fitted out to Africa by English merchants and manufacturers for the purpose of testing, by experiment, the possibility of procuring a supply of cotton from the western coast of Africa. The English, it is understood, have not been very successful in their efforts to provide themselves with that indispensable production about which they are extremely sensitive in their East India possessions.

The present enterprise seems to promise better. A thorough and extensive cultivation of the cotton plant in America has been thought to be the cause of driving new and stronger rivets in the chains of her black population. It would be a striking compensatory providence if a little plant of such sinister influence here were transferred to Africa, should become the means of striking off the fetters from that unfortunate race, and in addition, perhaps, of carrying the captive home to the land of his ancestors with the gospel in his hand.

The vast energies of principal and production, the hunger and thirst for gold as well as righteousness, are thoroughly and almost equally aroused, and it will be, indeed, a misadventure, if the human race at large should not feel the impulse, and be benefitted by the struggle in those large and lasting interests, which nothing less than the mightiest agents seem able to advance.—*Newark Advertiser.*

ENCOURAGE YOUR OWN MECHANICS.—Do not send abroad for help if you have work to do, when it can be done in your own neighbourhood—perhaps at your next door. Encourage your own honest, industrious, faithful mechanics. They need all the work they can get. By such a course, you keep money at home, assist the worthy, and have just as good work performed. It is the only way to make a town prosper—to support your schools and churches.—Where there is a disposition to send a hundred miles for articles, that, to say the least, should be manufactured as well at your own door, there will be always little or no business done in the place—the churches will be thinly attended, and all kinds of labour extremely dull. Wherever mechanics are the best employed, prosperity is seen—the social virtues predominate, travelling mountebanks and pedlars retire in disgust, and a kind of brotherly feeling is experienced, which is the source of unspeakable happiness.

"Whatever you have to be done, look around and see if your neighbours can do it. If you have a house to build or are in want of a shoe, a harness to be made or a pump to be bored, a pack of business cards to be printed or a well to be dug, just look among your *neighbours*, before you undertake to send abroad; and if you have none around capable of the task, it will be time enough to look elsewhere. It is a wrong idea, to suppose nothing is serviceable that is made at home. We know of many instances where men have refused to purchase work made by their neighbours, and sent to a distant city for articles they needed, and paid a third more for them, when behold! they had been manufactured and sent away to sell by the very neighbour of whom they refused to purchase.

"Let it be the motto of all—I will encourage my neighbours. In turn you will be encouraged also. A mutual feeling of good-will and kindness will spring up in your midst, and prosperity will be observed in every street and in every dwelling.

THE GREAT SHIP.—We are happy to learn that at an interview which the Central Committee on the London Exhibition had yesterday with the Secretary of the Navy, that officer informed the committee that if Congress should see fit to make adequate appropriation for fitting out the *Pennsylvania* for the purpose, he would cheerfully detail that magnificent ship for the transportation of contributions, &c., to the World's Exhibition, instead of the storeship Fredonia, which was some time since designated for the service, but has not returned from the Pacific. We should be proud, indeed, to see the grandest ship in our navy, and the grandest in the world we believe, dispatched on a mission which will mark the benign spirit of the present century; and we should feel no less pride in having such an emblem of our national power exhibited in Europe.

This great ship was built many years ago, at a cost of six or eight hundred thousand dollars, and has ever since been used at Norfolk merely as a receiving ship, without having ever rendered a day's service at sea, or been sent out of our own waters. It would be a pity, and a reproach too, if such a noble specimen of naval architecture and of national strength should have been built merely to be permitted to rot and sink in the mud, unseen and unknown to the world. We venture to express the hope that the public spirited views of the Secretary of the Navy may be promptly seconded by Congress in the way suggested.—[National Intelligencer.

THE WANDERING TRIBES OF TARTARY.—To the northeast of Persia extend the widely spread plains of Tartary, which from the earliest ages were inhabited by wandering tribes, who maintain even to this day, the habits of a pastoral and nomadic race. The first remarkable notice of these warlike shepherds occur in the thirteenth century of the Christian era. The first chieftain who possessed sufficient influence to cement together the various conflicting hordes, was Chengis, or Gengis Khan. Before this time, the Tartars lived in subjection to the monarchs of Cathay, or China, and are spoken of by Bar Hebræus as a race whose savage and uncivilised habits provoked the disgust of their contemporaries. Their clothing was composed of the skins of wolves and of dogs, and they fed greedily on the carrion of dead animals. Their leader was distinguised by an iron stirrup borne before him, which served as a standard in their numerous predatory expeditions.

The religion of this wild people seems to have resembled the rude and baseless superstitions of the early Turcomans. They professed to believe in a God, but they paid him neither honour nor worship, while they received with avidity the predictions and advice of certain kami, or soothsayers, whose credit was however destroyed by the contrivance of Gengis Khan. Having understood that the Chinese possessed magnificent idols and priests of uncommon wisdom, he sent an embassy to request that some of the latter might be sent to him, promising to treat them with great honour. When they arrived, he ordered the kami to hold a public disputation with the new comers on the subject of religion, but the ignorant soothsayers were soon silenced by their more able antagonists, who reinforced their arguments by reading copious extracts from a ritual which they entitled Num. With the illiterate, the affectation of learning is frequently sufficient to convince or to persuade, and the kami retreated from the arena pursued by the sneers and ridicule of their late admirers. In this manner the doctrines of Budh appear, for the first time, to have been introduced among the Tartars.

Horne Tooke being asked by a foreigner how much treason an Englishman might venture to write, without being hanged, replied "He could not tell him just yet, for he was trying."

FUNERAL IDEAS.—A merchant in a considerable town in Scotland was lately visited by the newly made widow of a workman, residing in an adjoining village, who informed him of the loss of her gudeman, and asked his advice and assistance regarding the funeral. She was determined, she said to give him a decent burial, though she spent every farthing she had in the attempt. He kindly took the charge of the business, and engaged, at a moderate rate, a plain hearse and a couple of mourning coaches roomy enough to carry a dozen relatives and friends to the church yard. In a day or two she returned, and was profuse in her thanks at the satisfactory conclusion of the business. "It was a most respectable funeral," she said; "a' her neebours wondered hoo Sally Tamson could afford to bury her man in siccan style." This was the cumulative point of satisfaction; but in the cup of human happiness there is always one bitter drop: and here it was, according to her own native admission: there was just one thing that vexed her, that John, poor man, had not been able to witness the style in which his own funeral had been conducted: "for she was sure he wad hae been proud to see't." This curious confusion of ideas brings to our recollection a story told of an old lady in Liddesdale, who in her will had given particular directions as to her interment, which was to take place in a churchyard far away among the hills, and remote from her then residence. When laid upon her death-bed, and patiently awaiting for her expected dissolution, a heavy snowstorm came on, and appeared likely to continue. Ruminating upon this, she dictated a codicil, revoking her previous orders as to interment, and directing it to take place in a cemetery not very distant from her house; her reasons for the change being, that the funeral party, with so long a distance to travel in such stormy weather, would be sure to catch cold, there would be a great deal of grumbling in consequence, and "she was sure she would never hear the end o't."—*Dumfries Courier.*

HONOR THY FATHER.—There are some children who are almost ashamed to own their parents, because they are poor or in a low situation of life.—We will, therefore, give an example to the contrary as displayed by John Tillotson, the celebrated Archbishop of Canterbury. His father, who was a very plain Yorkshireman, one day came to the mansion in which his son resided, and inquired whether "John Tillotson was at home?" The servants, indignant at what they thought his insolence, were about to drive him from the door: but the Archbishop, hearing the voice of his father, came running out, exclaiming in the presence of his astonished servants, "It is my beloved father!" and falling down on his knees, asked for his blessing. Obedience and love to our parents is a very distinct and important command of God, upon which he has promised his blessing, and his promises never fail.

A NEWSPAPER.—The newspaper is the chronicle of civilization—the common reservoir into which every stream pours its living waters and at which every man may come to drink. It is the newspaper that gives to liberty its practical life, its constant observation, its perpetual vigilance, its unrelaxing activity. The newspaper informs legislation of public opinion, and it informs the people of the acts of legislation. And this is not all. The newspaper teems with the most practical morality: in its reports of crime and punishments you find a daily warning against temptation; not a case in a police court, not a single trial of a wretched outcast, or a trembling felon, that does not preach to us the awful lesson, how imprudence leads to error, how error conducts to guilt, how guilt reaps its bitter fruit of anguish and degradation. The newspaper is the familiar bond that binds together man and man—no matter what may be the distance of climate or the difference of race. There it is that we have learned how to sympathise with the slave, how to battle for his rights, how to wrest the scourge from his taskmasters. Over land and sea the voice of outraged humanity has reached the great heart of England, and raised up a host of freemen as the liberators of the enslaved and tortured negro! The newspaper is a lawbook for the indolent, a sermon for the thoughtless, a library for the poor. It may stimulate the most indifferent, it may instruct the most profound.—*Sir E. L. Bulwer.*

The Official Paper of China has a name which means the *Pekin Gazette.* It is impossible to ascertain when its publication was first commenced, but it seems to be the oldest newspaper in the world. There is a tradition that it began under the Sung dynasty in the latter part of the tenth century. It is originally a sort of hand-bill, containing official notices, posted up on the walls of the Capital and sent in manuscript to provincial officers. At Canton it is printed for the public at large and sold. It appears every other day in the form of a pamphlet of ten or twelve pages. It consists of three parts; the first is devoted to court news, such as the health and doings of the Imperial family; the second gives the decrees of the Sovereign; the third contains the reports and memorials of public functionaries made to the Imperial Government on all subjects concerning the interests of the country. The decrees are concise in style; the reports and memorials are the perfection of verbiage. The former have the force of laws, the Emperor being both legislative and executive. As a record of materials for history the Gazette is of little value, for a little study shows that lies are abundant in it, and that its statements are designed as much to conceal as to make known the facts.—Since the English war the number of documents published relating to affairs with foreign nations is very small. Something is given respecting the finances, but that, too, is of very little value.—*International Magazine.*

COURAGEOUS CONDUCT OF THREE MAIDENS.—A most daring burglary was committed at Mallon Cottage, situated about a quarter of a mile from Abbotskerswell, Devon, on Monday evening last. The proprietor was absent, and had left the care of the house to his three daughters, who had just retired to bed when they herd a noise below, as of some persons breaking into the house. The eldest of them, about 14 years of age, immediately jumped out of bed, struck a light, which she gave to her sisters, and arming herself with two pistols, walked down the stairs followed by her two sisters. On entering the parlour they found every thing in confusion, papers lying about, and the desk rifled. The burglars fled on the entrance of the girl, and the young lady with the pistols jumped from the parlour window into the lawn and fired both pistols after them. The thieves had stolen some money, papers, and plate, but, being eager to get off, dropped some plate in the lawn, which was recovered again in the morning. Two suspicious-looking fellows were begging at the house in the morning, but they have not yet been apprehended.—*Sherborne Journal.*

A PUFF AS IS A PUFF.—The *New York Courier* writes an account of a new iron safe which was exposed to a heat that completely destroyed its competitors, and from which was taken, after the trial, a live rooster and a lump of stamped butter. The butter was harder than when it was put in, the stamp remaining perfect, and the rooster come out alive and well, only suffering from the cold, and almost frozen by the coldness of the temperature to which he had been exposed.—*Boston Mail.*