

ery, patented by T. Fowler, also of Connecticut—one person only being required to attend to this wonderful piece of mechanical ingenuity. All of these improvements; *originating in the United States*, have been for several years adopted in England, and throughout Europe. At the present time, the total weight of pins manufactured in this country is upwards of twelve tons per week, and in quality they are quite equal to those of British manufacture.—*Home Journal*.

Rules to observe when you handle a Gun.

Whenever you take a gun in your hand, inquire if it is loaded. Should there be no person to answer you, if the gun is a muzzle loader, place the butt on the ground, outside the left foot, having previously fixed the hammer at half-cock, and holding the muzzle in a forward direction, clear of your person, draw the ramrod, insert it gently into the barrel. If there is a charge in, you will feel the "thud" of the ramrod upon it, while the rod's upper end will project about three fingers' breadth above the muzzle of the gun. Should the piece not be loaded, the ramrod will sink right down, and the broad metal end will soon announce the empty barrel by the tap against the breech-plug. Never handle a loaded gun except for the purpose of discharging it, and never, at any time, in jest or earnest, point a gun at any living thing you don't deliberately intend to kill.

Swallows.

As a proof of the valuable services rendered by swallows, it is estimated that one of these birds will destroy, at a low calculation, nine hundred insects per day, and when it is considered that some insects produce as many as nine generations in a summer, the state of the air but for these birds may be readily conceived. One kind of insect alone might produce 560,970,480,000,000,000 of its race in a single year.

The Coarse Arts.

"The fine arts do not interest me," said Theodore Parker, "so much as the coarse arts, which feed, clothe, house, and comfort a people. I should rather be a great man as Franklin than a Michael Angelo—nay if I had a son, I should rather see him a great mechanic, who organized use like the late George Stephenson, in England, than a great painter like Rubens, who only copied beauty. In short, I take more interest in a cattle show, and feel more sympathy with the pope's bull than his *bul lum*. Men talk to me about the absence of art in America. You remember the stuff which Mr — used to twaddle forth on that theme, and what transcendental nonsense got delivered from gawky girls and long-haired young men. I tell them we have cattle-shows and mechanics' fairs, and ploughs and harrows and saw-mills, sowing-machines and reaping-machines, threshing-machines and planing-machines. There is not a saw-mill in Rome. I doubt if there is in the Pontifical States."

It costs nothing to carry knowledge, and you do not know what day it may become of use to you.

SUMMARY.

Virginia, says the *Petersburg News*, has not a glass factory, a button factory, a paper mill, a broom factory, a manufactory of wooden ware, a brass foundry, a porcelain factory, a chair factory, a carpet mill, a pin machine, an agricultural implement factory, a manufactory for cutlery, a type-foundry, a factory wherein a single article of printer's use is made, a brewery, a calico-print factory, a lock factory, a linen factory, or a cotton factory, above capacity for the commonest work. —It is proposed to construct a Pneumatic Railway from Whitehall to one of the Railway Stations, which shall run through an iron tunnel under the River Thames. Another Metropolitan Railway of 8 miles in length is projected, that will run through the Thames Tunnel.—A Mr. Gale of Plymouth, England, has discovered a mode of rendering gun-powder non-explosive, in five minutes; and in another five minutes to restore its explosive character. Powder thus prepared may be stirred with a red hot poker, or a shell may burst amongst it, without exploding it.—A large deposit of guano, some eight hundred cubic metres, the produce of bats, has been discovered in a cave in France.—For some time past the Second Avenue Street Railway cars, in New York, have been run by three "dummy" engines. They can be stopped more readily than horse-cars, and so far no accident has occurred.—A poor man who was killed in one of the recent railway disasters in England, had paid 4d. for a return journey Insurance ticket, and his family received thereby £500 sterling. A poor compensation to the family for the loss of its head, but proves the utility of such Companies.—The late Handel Festival in the Sydenham Crystal Palace, composed of 4,000 performers, is described as the most stupendous Musical performance the world, perhaps, ever knew.—Another new light is said to have been discovered in Turin, Italy, applicable both to photography and social life, and costs little or nothing. It does not dazzle the eye like the electric light, nor is it intermittent like that produced by magnesium. We are anxious to know what it is.—One of the peculiarities of the magnesium light is, that it displays colors as in sunshine, which fact may be proved by burning some wire in a garden at night. It is now used to distinguish delicate shades of color at night, or during cloudy or dark foggy weather, as well as in taking photographic pictures.

The reading of a large proportion of the light and frivolous books now-a-days published, is a mere fashionable duty, entered into not for any supposed advantage to be derived by the reader, except to avoid being deemed out of the mode.

In no kind of employment are the chances of reaching a given result, through a long series of years, so great as with the Farmer.

Many persons find it difficult to take the lower box from a copper pump. Just pour some hot water on the outside of the pump and it will expand it so as to release the box.