

BEST TIME TO CUT TIMBER.—It has been proved by repeated experiments, made in different sections of the United States, that the timber from trees cut in the month of May or June, when the trees is full of sap, lasts much longer than that cut in December, January, or February. This is vouched for by the best authorities. In some cases, timber of the same kind (oak) cut in May, lasted twice as long, with the same exposure, as that cut in February. This is an important fact, and well worth remembering.

EARTHQUAKES IN BRITAIN.—Few persons are aware that from 1700 to 1844 there are on record 101 shocks of earthquakes in England, 138 in Scotland, and 117 in Wales.

SALTING MEAT.—A Patent has lately been taken out in England for a short process of salting meat. It is placed in a strong iron vessel, and the air being then exhausted by an engine, the prepared brine is admitted and passes through the meat thoroughly in about fifteen minutes.

VELOCITY OF WIND.—Smeaton, the celebrated Engineer, gives the following as the results of long experience :—

Light Airs, from 1 to 3 ms. per h.	Strong Gale from 30 to 35 ms. per h.
Breeze, " 4 to 5 "	Hard Gale, " 40 to 45 "
Brisk Gale, " 10 to 15 "	Storm, " 50 to 60 "
Fresh Gale, " 20 to 25 "	Hurricane, " 80 to 100 "

A VERY USEFUL COMMITTEE.—It is proposed, in a Boston paper, that every man should constitute himself a self-examining committee, to inquire into his own conduct. It is believed the business each committee would have to transact would keep it constantly and usefully employed.

WEIGHT OF THE NATIONAL DEBT.—Supposing it to be put up in £10 Bank Notes, it would weigh 47,650 pounds, and would require nearly 300 men to carry it! Its weight upon an impoverished people is greater than can be reckoned by figures.

SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY.—In 1779, when Captain Cook was preparing to sail on his second voyage, Mr. Banks, who took a great interest in it, from having been engaged in the first, invited Dr. Priestly to accompany the captain, as astronomer to the expedition. Advantageous terms were proposed, including a provision for his family. He entertained the proposal, and then agreed to it; but objections were taken by the clerical members of the Board of Longitude, not to his ignorance of astronomy and of natural history, but to his Socinian principles in religion, which one might have supposed, could exercise but a limited influence upon his observations of the stars and of planets. I know not if the same scientific authorities objected, on like grounds, in the council of the Royal Society, to receiving papers upon his chemical discoveries. It is certain, that a like influence prevented Professor Playfair from afterwards proceeding to India, where he had designed to prosecute his inquiries into the science of the Hindoos. Such passages stamp the history of a great nation with indelible infamy in the eyes of the whole world.—*Men of Letters and Science, of the time of George III, by Lord Brougham*

MODESTY OF A GREAT MAN.—Sir Isaac Newton would never dispute in company. When he had delivered an opinion which any one chose to controvert, he would not be at the pains to defend it, but contented himself by saying, "I believe, sir, if you will be at the trouble of examining my opinion, you will find I have very good reason for it."