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The Observer.

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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*

HARDWARE, &c.

C. & W. H. ADAMS

Have received per late arrivals, an assortment in the above line, which, with Goods on hand, will be sold as low as any in the market—Amongst which are

A GOOD assortment of LOCKS, LATCHES and HINGES, containing a few *American Mortice Locks* and PEARL WHITE PORCELAIN KNOBS, with SILVER PLATED Furniture.

Mineral and Glass KNOBS;

Carpenters' Patent Hall Door Rim Locks, with night keys;

Axle Sash-pullies, Sash Cord and Fasteners;

GRIDDLES, Bake Ovens, Pans, Tea Kettles, Sauce Pans, &c.

Wood STOVES, Sleigh Shoe Steel, Sleigh Bells, (white and yellow.)

Horse and Ox NAILS, Borax, Rasps and Files, TRACES, Ox Chains;

Cattle Ties, Halter and Dog CHAINS, Sad and Tailors' IRONS;

Cart and Waggon BOXES, Curry Combs, Wool and Horse Cards;

CARPENTERS' EDGE TOOLS, a good assortment, and of the best manufacture;

Glass, Signal and Stable LANTERNS;

Scales and WEIGHTS; *American Cast Steel Shovels and Forks*; Grain Shovels, Socket do. *Sanderson's* Axe Steel;

'Hoole & Co's' SAWS and MILL FILES; Vickers' FILES; CUTLERY;

Plough Moulds and Plating, Heel Plates, Tip Nails, Sparrowbills, Cut and Wrought Nails, Brads and Tacks, Block Bushes and Rivets, Blacksmiths' BELLOWS, Anvils and VICES, Steel Yards, Plate and Dish Covers, Tea TRAYS, Hearth Brushes, School Slates, Improved Japaned Coat and Hat Hooks, Cesspools, Improved Door SPRINGS, Carpet Hammers, Hand Bells, Coach WRENCHES, Joiners' BENCH HOOKS, Flush Chest Handles, Tinn'd Copper Tea Kettle Bottoms, Toy Sad Irons and Stands; Japanned Jacket LAMPS; Blind Fastenings, &c.

Daily expected, per Olive—

SHEET LEAD, SHOT, HINGES, BRASS GOODS, COAL SCOOPS, &c.

November 20.

No. 1, SOUTH WHARF!

HARDWARE, &c.

WALKER TISDALE & SON

Have received per *Unicorn*, *Charlotte* and *Olive*, a perfect assortment, which, with their stock on hand in the above line, will be sold at greatly *reduced prices for cash.*

6 SHEETS LEAD, 3 to 5 lbs.; 1 ton SHOT, assorted Nos.;

Pots, Bakepans, Frypans, Griddles, Teakettles, Saucepans and Fish Kettles;

Ox Chains, Horse Traces, Short link Chain;

Cut and Wrought Board Nails, Horse and Ox Nails, Clout and other Nails;

Cut and Wrought Tacks, Spikes and Sheathing Nails;

Cart and Waggon Boxes, Patent Axles, Block Bushes and Rivets;

Heel and Toe Sparrowbills, Heel PLATES, Tip NAILS;

Smiths' BELLOWS, Vices, Anvils, Hammers and Sledges; *Naylor's* CAST STEEL;

Blister, German and Sleigh Shoe Steel;

Vickers' Mill, Cross-cut, Smiths' and other FILES and Rasps;

Hoole, Stamforth & Gray's 5½, 6, 6½ feet Mill SAWS;

Welch & Griffith's 5½ and 6 feet MILL SAWS;

Do. do. 18. 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, and 36 inch warranted Circular SAWS;

Rowland's Philadelphia 5, 5½, 6, 6½ and 7 feet MILL SAWS;

Also, Cross-cut, Hand, Tenon, Buck and other SAWS by the above makers;

Shovels, Spades, Manure and Hay Forks; Cast Steel American SHOVELS;

Axle Sash Pullies, Sash Cord and Fasteners, Door Springs, Bolts, &c.

Carpenters' Bench and Moulding Planes;

A superior assortment of Locks, Hinges, Latches, Mortice Locks, with Mineral, Glass, China, and Porcelain Knobs;

Chest, Pad, Cupboard, Desk, Till, and other Locks in brass and iron.

Hair CLOTH, plain and figured; Curled HAIR; Iron Wire, Copper and Brass WIRE; House Bells, Sleigh Bells, strung or otherwise; Brass Balls for cattle's horns; Gridirons; Italian Irons; Sad Irons, improved make; Iron WEIGHTS and SCALES; Fire Irons; AND IRONS and Fire clogs; COFFIN Furniture, &c. &c.

BRASS GOODS in great variety;

A good assortment of CUTLERY;

HORSE and OX CARDS and Curry Combs;

Thomson's AUGERS, Axes, Zinc;

5000 feet 9x7, 10x8, 12x10 Window GLASS, &c.

December 4.

Sugar! Sugar!

Landing this day, Tuesday, 8th January, ex the schr. *Charles*, from Halifax:—

12 HHDS. very Bright Porto Rico SUGAR, will be sold low by

JOHN V. THURGAR.

8th January 1850. *North Mkt. Wharf*

New and Cheap Room Papers.

THE Subscriber has just received a new Supply of very handsome Cheap *ROOM PAPERS*, which are offered for Sale from 4½d. to 9d. a Piece.

S. K. FOSTER.

November 6.—6i.

Window Glass, Nails, Tin, &c.

By the "Olive," from Liverpool:

7000 FEET 8x10 to 12x16 English Sheet GLASS.

25 Kegs 7, 8, 9 and 10 Horse NAILS,

10 do. 1¾ to 2¼ inch BOAT NAILS,

20 do. 6 and 7 inch *SPIKES*,

20 boxes IC. Charcoal TIN,

20 do. DC. ditto do.

20 do. IX. ditto do.

18 bundles No. 22 *SHEET IRON*,

18 do. No. 24 do. do.

For Sale by JOHN KINNEAR.

November 27.

FALL GOODS!

Per "Snowdon," "Lisbon," &c.

MORRISON & CO.

Prince William-street.

MORRISON & CO. are now opening an extensive variety of Goods suitable for the

FALL TRADE,

which have been carefully selected in the best

English and Scotch Markets,

by a person thoroughly conversant with the styles suited to this market.

DRESS GOODS.

PLAIN ORLEANS, Lustres, and COBURGS, SHOT CHAMELEONS, COVENANTERS, *Striped Glacies, Poplin Lustres*, CASHMERES and DELAINE'S, &c. &c.

SHAWL DEPARTMENT.

Plaid, Wool, Printed Cashmere, Paisley, NORWICH, BEN NEVIS, MAUDE, GALA and CLOTH SHAWLS, LONG SHAWLS.

CLOAK MATERIALS.

Gala Plaids, all Wool PLAIDS, TWEEDS, Napoleons, BALMORALS, &c.

FANCY GOODS.

ENGLISH and FRENCH RIBBON, VELVETS, PLUSHES, TERRIES, Black and White LACES, Fringes, GIMPS, HOSIERY and GLOVES, *NECK TIES, SASH RIBBONS*, Black Gro de Naps, Turc Satin.

FUR DEPARTMENT,

Muffs, Boas, Cardinals, Cuffs, Victorines, Riding Boas, &c., in every variety of Fur.

FURNISHING GOODS.

Witney, Bath and Point BLANKETS, Counterpanes, Quilts, Sheetings, Damasks, *MOREENS, FRINGES*, TABLE LINEN.

DOMESTIC GOODS.

White, Red, Blue and Yellow FLANNELS. SAXONYS, in white, coloured and check'd, TWILLED FLANNELS, *PRINTED COTTONS in great variety*, Grey, White, and Striped COTTONS, *COTTON WARPS.*

Gentlemen's Department.

Broad CLOTHS, Kersermeres, Rich Vestings, PILOT and BEAVERS in all colors, New Fancy Trowserings, *BRACES, Neck Ties, Scarfs*, GLOVES and HOSE, LAMBSWOOL VESTS, DRAWERS, &c.

with an endless variety of other seasonable Goods, all of which will be offered to the purchaser at the lowest market rates.

October 2.

VICTORIA HOUSE,

October 16th, 1849.

EXTENSIVE IMPORTATIONS OF

Fall and Winter Goods,

From LONDON, LEEDS, MANCHESTER and GLASGOW, per ships *Snowdon, Lisbon* and *Unicorn*, comprising—

BRITISH and French SATINS & SILKS, *in newest shades and patterns*,

LADIES' DRESS GOODS, newest styles, in French Merinos, DeLaines, Cashmeres, Cobourgs, Orleans, and every kind of newest WOOLLEN and WORSTED Materials,

Long and Square SHAWLS, in *Plaid Wool, Fine Cloth, Paisley, Maude, &c.*

CLOAKINGS, in every new style, in Plain and Fancy Fine Cloth, Tweeds, Plaids, &c., with Trimmings to suit, and a few LONDON made FRENCH PATTERN CLOAKS.

FURS of every description, in CAPES, BOAS VICTORINES, MUFFS, Gauntlets, &c.

SILK VELVETS in Black and Fancy colors,

TERRY Velvets in all colors, with RIBBONS to match,

British and Fancy Bonnet and Cap RIBBONS, newest styles,

VELVET SATIN and Silk NECK TIES,

HOSIERY and GLOVES of every description,

Thread and Wove Laces, Edgings and Footings,

ILLUSION NETTS, white and colored, for Ladies Dresses, &c.

Fancy and Plain BOBBINETTS,

Black and colored LACE VEILS of every kind,

Limerick LACE CAPES,

French and British Embroideries, in COLLARS, Chemazetts, Habit Shirts, Sleeves, &c.

Infants' Embroidered ROBES and CAPS,

Ladies' French Cambric Pocket H'DKFS., in Plain and Trimmed, with Limerick Lace,

WHITE MUSLINS, in Jaconet, Checked, Striped, Book, Mull, Tarlatan, &c. &c.

French and English Garment and FURNITURE PRINTS,

Earlston and Power Loom Heavy GINGHAMS,

Twilled and Plain Regatta Shirtings, Checks, &c.

PILOT, BEAVER, and BROAD CLOTHS,

VELVET, SATIN, and CACHMERE VESTINGS,

FANCY TROWSERINGS, in Kerseymeres, Cassimeres, Tweeds, &c.

Gent's Silk and Satin NECK TIES, in Squares, Scarfs, Opera Ties, STOCKS, &c.

Gent's India Silk and French Cambric Pocket Handkerchiefs,

WHITE FLANNELS in Saxony, Welsh, Swanskin, &c.

Red, Blue, and Yellow FLANNELS,

BLANKETS, SERGES, &c.

MOLESKINS, Cantoons, Drills, Tickings, &c.

IRISH LINENS, Lawns, Diapers, Hollands, &c.

Damask Table LINENS, Napkins, Towels, &c.

OSNABURGS, CANVAS, &c., &c.

White and Grey COTTONS, SHEETINGS, and WARPS,

Tailors' Trimmings and Small Wares, &c., &c.

☞ *The above being personally selected in the best markets, will be sold at the LOWEST RATES, FOR CASH, and ONE PRICE ONLY.*

JAMES DOHERTY & CO.

NEW FRUIT, &c.

Landing per *Cuba* and *Jane Alison*:

150 WHOLE, Half, and Q^r. Boxes Raisins; 10 kegs Cooking do. 23 boxes TOBACCO,—choice brands.

Just received from Sackville:

130 firkins PRIME BUTTER;

10 brls. Pot BARLEY; 10 barrels OATMEAL.

FLEWWELLING & READING.

December 4.

FIGS.

The Subscribers have just received—

200 DRUMS Fresh Eleme FIGS, a first rate article.

Jan 1. JARDINE & CO.

The Garland.

RESIGNATION.

BY PROFESSOR LONGFELLOW.

There is no flock, however watched and tended,
But one dead lamb is there!
There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended,
But has one vacant chair!

The air is full of farewells to the dying,
And mournings for the dead;
The heart of Rachel for her children crying,
Will not be comforted!

Let us be patient! These severe afflictions
Not from the ground arise,
But oftentimes celestial benedictions
Assume this dark disguise.

We see but dimly through the mists and vapours;
Amid these earthly damps,
What seem to us but sad, funereal tapers,
May be heaven's distant lamps.

There is no Death! What seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the Life Elysian,
Whose portal we call Death.

She is not dead,—the child of our affection,—
But gone unto that school
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,
And Christ himself doth rule.

In that great cloister's stillness and seclusion,
By guardian angels led,
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's pollution,
She lives, whom we call dead.

Day after day, we think what she is doing
In those bright realms of air;
Year after year, her tender steps pursuing,
Behold her grown more fair.

Thus do we walk with her, and keep unbroken
The bond which nature gives,
Thinking that our remembrance, though unspoken,
May reach her where she lives.

Not as a child shall we again behold her;
For when with raptures wild
In our embraces we again enfold her,
She will not be a child;

But a fair maiden, in her Father's mansion.
Clothed with celestial grace;
And beautiful with all the soul's expansion
Shall we behold her face.

And though at times, impetuous with emotion
And anguish long suppressed,
The swelling heart heaves moaning like the ocean,
That cannot be at rest,—

We will be patient, and assuage the feeling
We may not wholly stay;
By silence sanctifying, not concealing,
The grief that must have way.

Miscellaneous.

[From the Albany Cultivator.]

THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN EUROPE.

PROFESSOR JOHNSTON'S ADDRESS,

Delivered at the Annual Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society, at Syracuse, September 13, 1849.

[CONTINUED.]

HOLLAND.—If from the uplands of Germany we descend to the lowlands, and especially to that country which includes the islands at the mouths of the Rhine and the Scheldt, and the low country stretching northward to the Zuyder Zee and the Doilart, we shall find reason to stay our steps and to consider calmly the cause, and purpose, and extent of the wonderful system of canals and embankments which the kingdom of Holland presents.

In a sketch of European agriculture, indeed, Holland is deserving of distinguished mention.—Above all other European people, the Dutch, though slow, have been patient and persevering in their agricultural labours. Occupying a few more elevated and fertile alluvial spots, in the midst of downs and bogs, and marshes and lakes, and the endless ramifications of many rivers, they have century after century, struggled against nature. Draining marshes, pumping out lakes, damming back seas and rivers, reclaiming bogs, fixing by art the wandering downs, intersecting their country with an interminable net-work of gigantic canals;—by such labors as these, they have extended the productive surface of their country, secured its possession, and made its natural riches available. And what makes their praise the greater and more deserved, is the constant watchfulness and care which the retention of their country demands. Exposed, on the average of the last thirteen centuries, to one great sea or river flood every seven years, the possession of the land they have gained is never secure. Lying below the actual level of the sea, large tracts of it are only preserved by the huge dykes that surround them, and to maintain these dykes requires unceasing vigilance, and a large yearly expenditure of money.

And though in times past the Hollanders have done great engineering works, yet the spirit of the sires is not degenerated in their living sons. The draining of the Haarlem lake, now in progress, is the boldest mechanical effort ever yet made in the cause of agriculture in any country, and promises to add no less to the material wealth, than to the engineering and constructive fame of the United Provinces.

I feel a pleasure in thus adverting to the impression made upon my own mind, during my various tours in Holland, in the presence of a meeting of agriculturists, many of whom may inherit from the early settlers of New York, a portion of that industrious and patient blood, which makes every end sure to the determined and persevering man.*

I may mention as an indication of the early desire of the Dutch authorities to promote the diffusion of Agricultural knowledge, that a very old regulation prescribes attendance on agricultural lectures as a necessary branch of study to the established clergy of Holland.† And though in that as in many other countries, men of the old school at present act as a drag on the progress of scientific agriculture, yet enlightened and zealous men are at work in various parts of the Netherlands, and advance is gradually being made. The name of Mulder ought especially to be mentioned as most eminent among the scientific men of Holland, not only in advancing pure science, but in advocating and promoting its general applications to the agriculture of his native country.

ITALY.—From Holland turn for a moment to Italy, in which country drainage works somewhat akin to those of the Dutch, form the proudest monuments of which even that famed land can boast, of the victory which persevering intelligence can achieve over the difficulties and seeming hostility of nature.

Did time permit, I might present to you a most interesting historical sketch of the changes in the agricultural condition and capability which that country has undergone from the period of the ancient Etrurians to the present day. And to the man of science, such a sketch would be the more interesting from the circumstance that in all the changes that have taken place, the physical and geological structure of the country, has exercised a far more prominent and permanent influence, than either the remarkable industry and constructive skill of the Etruscan inhabitants, or the hostile incursions of its foreign invaders.

To the rich alluvial plains of Lombardy, of which rice, and Indian corn, and wheat and abundant milk, are the natural productions; and to Tuscany, in which something of the ancient industry and persevering practical skill of the old Etrurians‡ still survives, the agricultural inquirer must proceed to see the bright side of Italian cultivation.

But it is in Tuscany chiefly that he will find the most interesting evidence of the conquering power of the living mind over the obstacles of physical nature. The Maremme of Tuscany and the marshes of the Val di Chiana, like the Campagna and the Pontine marshes of the Roman dominions, have long breathed forth that pestilential malaria which, like the summer exhalations of the sea islands and river mouths of your Southern states, carries on its wings fever and lingering ague and frequent death. It is one of the great modern triumphs of engineering skill, applied to the promotion of rural industry—second only to the gigantic labors of the Dutch, of which I have spoken, and to the artificial drainage of our English fens—that the terrors of the Maremme have in a measure been bridled in—that the Val di Chiana, in so far as it lies within the borders of Tuscany, has been drained and dried—and that cheerful health and rich crops prevail over large tracts of country, in which it used to be almost certain death to linger.

Among a Republican people, I, who owe allegiance to a constitutional Monarchy, may be permitted to name to you Leopold the First, of Tuscany, as the principal author of all this good.—Whatever our opinions on other matters may be, we shall all, I am sure, agree in this, that those men are great and worthy to be honored, who having been gifted by God with large means and great opportunities, make use of those means and opportunities for the glory of God and the good of their fellow-creatures—who, instead of war and scarcity, and suffering and death, promote peace and plenty, and health, and the multiplication and prolongation of human life—the moral lesson of whose life inculcates the truth that man's proudest triumphs are not those he achieves over his fellows, but those which he gains over himself, or by which he compels the unwilling powers of nature to minister to the material comforts of mankind—who encourages what will unite instead of distract, what will cement instead of divide the nations of the world—as that broad belt of water which laves alike the shores of your country and mine, instead of separating, as in former years, now binds us together more closely than if the same continent contained us.

As the promoter of such ends for twenty-five long years in his country of Tuscany, the name of Leopold the First will not sound unpleasantly even in your republican ears.†

FLANDERS AND BELGIUM.—In Flanders, both Belgian and French, you are probably prepared for an admission on my part, of great agricultural skill and success. I am compelled, however, to confess my own impression to be, that a great portion of what has been written upon Flemish husbandry, partakes of the character of a romance.‡ The cultivators of Belgian Flanders have the merit of raising fair crops from tracts of poor and sandy soil, of husbanding and applying manures so as to keep such land in culture, and of skillfully varying their crops so as to prevent a premature exhaustion. But no knowledge of the general principles of agriculture is widely diffused among them. The improvement of wet and of heavy clay soils, except by open ditches, is almost unknown. Improved implements and thorough drainage, and modern modes of manuring, and some little instruction at least in the elements of science as applied to agriculture, have still to be introduced among them, before they can rank in general knowledge or in skilful practice with the farmers of Scotland or England.

And, indeed, in Belgium, as in France, the progressive subdivision of property opposes a growing obstacle to that general amelioration of agricultural practice, which the wants of a numerous people and the progress of knowledge demand. Where the average extent of properties and farms over a whole province is already reduced to about an English acre, we cannot look for the introduction of any of those improvements which demand the purchase of new or comparatively costly implements, the rearing and feeding of multitudes of stock, the employment of hired labour, or generally the application of capital to the land. As in Ireland, the subdivision or morcelling of the tillage farms, has already, in whole districts, been carried to the starvation limit. As into Ireland, the potato failure brought with it into Belgian Flanders famine and disease, and large emigration,—and notwithstanding all that wise governments can do, it is to be feared that on the recurrence of similar visitations, similar social evils will in both countries again reappear.

FRANCE.—In France, I need hardly inform you, that practical agriculture is far in arrear. In Normandy, the mixture of Teutonic blood has probably some connection with the superiority of the husbandry of this province as compared with most of the other parts of the kingdom. It is certain, at least, that notwithstanding the many efforts made by persons in power to promote the introduction and adoption of better methods, the general farming of La Belle France advances with comparative slowness.

This country indeed presents another striking instance of the small connection which may exist between the existence of extensive means of agricultural instruction, provided by the central government, and the practical skill of the rural population.

In 1843, there existed in France one hundred and fifty-seven agricultural societies—six hundred and sixty-four agricultural committees—twenty-two model farms, some of which had schools attached to them—and fifteen schools and chairs of agriculture and agricultural penitentiaries. In the early part of 1849, under the auspices of the republican government, and as part of the plan of M. Fouret, then Minister of Agriculture, twenty-one farming schools had already been opened—a national agricultural university was about to be established on the farms in the little park of Versailles, and a hundred and twenty-two agricultural societies, and three hundred minor institutions, had participated in the funds voted for the encouragement of Agriculture.

Though it is unquestionable that a country may attain a high rank in agriculture without the aid of formal agricultural schools—provided, as in Scotland, other early mental training is placed within the easy reach of the rural population—and that in spite of numerous schools, if other obstacles intervene, the cultivators of a country may lag far behind;—yet both common sense and experience show that of two nations of the same blood, placed otherwise in the same circumstances, the one which teaches the principles of agriculture in its schools, will exhibit the most productive harvests on its fields; and that as in England and Scotland now, a time will come in the agricultural history of every country, when old means and methods will fail to maintain the rural community in a flourishing condition, and when every new means of fertility which advancing knowledge can supply, must be made generally known, and become generally employed. Such are the simplest and most common sense arguments in favor of agricultural teaching—the inutility of which might be argued with some show of reason, from the comparatively small progress yet visible among the fields and farmers of France and Bavarin.

The agricultural statistics of France, which the government has collected and published in great detail, would supply many interesting subjects of reflection, were I at liberty to dwell longer on this part of Europe. I may only mention—as pregnant with thought and instruction in regard to the condition, the food, and the general mode of living of the rural classes of France—the fact, that the number of conscripts who are rejected on account of deficient health, strength and stature, is constantly on the increase; that forty per cent. are turned back from this cause; and that though since 1789 the standard has been three times reduced, as large a proportion of the conscripts is below the required height, (now five feet two inches,) as ever.—Rubichon. Such facts as this show how closely the discussion of agriculture is connected with that of the most profound social evils.

SWITZERLAND.—To Switzerland I only allude as one of those countries in which the influence of natural intelligence and a fair share of early instruction, has been brought to bear most successfully on the improvement of the soil, and especially of the breeds of stock which are best adapted to its peculiar dairy husbandry. Those advances which require the application of capital and science, such as thorough draining and special manuring, are there, however, still unmade; and it will probably be many years, before, in these respects, the cultivators of the Swiss valleys and mountain slopes, can closely imitate the present improved practices of the British Islands.

SPAIN.—The agricultural condition of Spain suggests melancholy reflections. The central table lands of this country* are reckoned among the first wheat growing districts in the world. The culture is rude and imperfect. The soil is scratched with a primitive plow, and is seldom manured, yet the returns are said to be prodigious, and the quality of the grain excellent. But where nature does much, man too often contents himself with doing little.—Amid all this plenty, the peasant is miserable. He lives in a cabin of baked mud, or in burrows scooped out from the friable hillocks, ignorant of the luxury of furniture, and barely possessing the necessaries of life. The want of roads and of means of easy transport, makes his produce almost worthless, so that a comparatively spare population exists, and much wretchedness in the centre of fertile fields and a land abundant in corn.

We sometimes think ourselves unfortunate to have been born, or to be doomed to live where clouded suns impart a lessened light and heat; or where the frosts of winter bind up for many months the hardened earth. Yet in such climes, man more really lives, and exercises a truer dominion over inanimate things, than where tropical skies appear to prepare for him an unceasing enjoyment. Where mind and mental energy are dormant, he only vegetates or exercises his brute passions. Where by perpetual struggles he subdues the adverse elements, bends circumstances to his will, forces a copious abundance from an unwilling soil, and in spite of inclement seasons—there he most truly lives, and amidst his hardships enjoys the most refreshing sleep visits him with her balmiest breath, and in the power of mind over matter, which his success displays, he brings out more clearly the claim of man to a likeness with Him who is all mind, and to whose slightest intimation all matter bends. *(To be continued.)*

* The two elevated plains of New and Old Castile, and that of La Mancha, separated from each other by the granites and metamorphic rocks of the Sierra Nevada, are composed of a white limestone, occasionally covered with the drift of other rocks. These plains are burned up in summer, so as to yield no grass till the October rains fall, but they yield magnificent crops of wheat. (Sir E. Head.)

VICISSITUDES IN THE LIVES OF LORD CHIEF JUSTICES.—CURIOUS ANECDOTE OF CHIEF JUSTICE HOLT.—The pages of Lord Campbell's recently-issued "Lives of the Chief Justices," disclose less of political and more of the social life than the "Lives of the Chancellors" presented, and the vicissitudes which occur are more startling. Thus we are rather scandalised on reading of one chief justice (Trevilian) being hung, and another (Hankford) causing himself to be shot by an ingenious stratagem, so that he might avoid the consequences of a verdict of *felo de se*. But the manners of the times are still more strongly contrasted with our own, by the circumstance that two chief justices in embryo—Popham and Holt—were highwaymen in their youths. Holt did not practise this singular profession long; but when he was going the circuit as chief justice, many years after, he recognised a man, convicted capitally before him, as one of his own accomplices in a robbery; and having visited him in gaol, and inquired after the rest of the gang, he received this answer—"Ah! my lord, they are all hanged but myself and your lordship." To this anecdote Lord Campbell appends the following explanatory and consolatory note: "Hanging was not formerly considered so very disgraceful and melancholy an occurrence as it is now. When I first came to London I frequented the famous Cider-cellar in Maiden-lane, where I met Professor Porson, Matthew Raine, the Master of the Charter-house, and other men of celebrity. Among these was George Nichol, the King's bookseller, who, in answer to some reflections on the society who sometimes came there, answered, with an air of conscious dignity, 'I have known the Cider-cellar these forty years, and during that time only two men have been hung out of it.'"

NINEVEH.—Nineveh, the metropolis of the Assyrians, had been levelled with the ground before the period of authentic profane history began; even its site was involved in doubt when Xenophon and his army encamped upon its ruins (for the Mespila of the Anabasis is understood to have been the ancient Nineveh), during the celebrated retreat of the Ten Thousand. According to the chronology adopted by Mr. Layard, it was in the year 606 B.C. that Nineveh was captured by Cyaxares, King of Persia and Medea, a date which agrees with the period assigned both by the Sacred Scriptures and by Herodotus to the conquest and destruction of "that great city." Of the history of Nineveh few particulars that can be relied on have descended to us in profane history. The extraordinary feats related of Ninus and Semiramis, the two founders of the Assyrian empire—the vast armies of men at their command, their immense treasures, their stupendous buildings and hanging gardens, are evidently in a large degree fabulous. It is from the incidental allusions to Nineveh in the Bible that we derive our chief knowledge of the actual condition of the Assyrian capital; and the corroborative light reflected upon the statements of the Bible by the discoveries of Mr. Layard, is probably the most important and valuable contribution of modern times to the external evidences of the Divine origin of our holy religion.—*Scottish Guardian.*

HOW IRELAND WAS PROGRESSING BEFORE 1846.—We lately made a tour of the West after an absence of twelve years. What have we seen—what was the impression made upon us in passing through districts with which we have been long familiar? this—that until the late potato failure and consequent famine, there must have been immense agricultural improvement going forward even in Connaught: for although we passed over miles of country without meeting the face of a human being, and seldom that of a four-footed beast, and though we came, in some places, hot upon the smoking ruins of a recently unroofed village, with the late miserable inmates huddled together and burrowing for shelter among the crushed rafters of their cabins; and although there were large tracts of land untilled and untenanted—still, with the traces of cultivation far beyond what we remembered in former times, passing under our eyes; with improved drainage—in many places rendering the former swamp a meadow—with the dark patches of green crops creeping up the sides of the valleys—with the turnip and the parsnip surrounding the cottage, where, alone, the potato had a footing previously; and, with large tracts of bog reclaimed wherever there was an improving, and, consequently, a wise and humane as well as thriving landlord—we could not but feel that the appearance of the country, generally, had improved since 1837.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

ELOPEMENT IN HIGH LIFE.—A few days ago, one of the oldest and most respectable families in the north of Scotland, the descendants of the celebrated Lord President Forbes, and the present possessors of the extensive estates of Culloden, was thrown into a state of confusion and anxiety in consequence of the elopement of the young brother of the laird with his brother's scullery maid. The young gentleman is only about twenty years of age, and the fair damsel who won the heart and secured the hand of the gallant youth, is a young highland lass of the same age, who possesses considerable personal charms. Upon the discovery of the flight of the fugitives, the hue and cry was immediately raised, and messengers were despatched in every direction to overtake them. The youthful and loving couple were traced along the Highland road to Perth, and from thence to Glasgow. On their arrival at Glasgow, the youthful pair were immediately married. The pursuers were two hours too late; and, to their great disappointment and chagrin, they found, on their arrival, the happy pair asleep. The friends of the young gentleman soon roused them, but the bridegroom said he had made his choice, and resolved to live and die in the society of his blooming bride.—*Scotch paper.*

BRITISH ACQUISITION ON THE GOLD COAST.—The purchase of three or four forts which Denmark possessed on the Gold Coast of Africa may be an event of great importance. The forts were of no use and no benefit to Denmark; and we believe the purchase of all the buildings and stores in them has been effected for £10,000. But in the hands of the British government they will be of great service, not only in directly suppressing the slave trade, but in more effectually realising this object by fostering a legitimate commerce on the African coast. Mr. Duncan, the late British consul at Whydah, the main port in the kingdom of Dahomey, declared in one of his last letters that the trade in palm oil had almost driven the slave trade out of the Bight of Benin. And it is sincerely to be hoped that a successor to Mr. Duncan may be found, to carry out the cotton planting introduced by that enterprising gentleman into the kingdom of Dahomey, which is contiguous to our new acquisitions.

THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE.—We learn from the Menai that there is at length a complete roadway over the Straits, the second great tube having been safely raised to its 100 feet elevation, and forming, by its junction with the other tubes, a continuous rigid wrought-iron highway 18,401 feet long, and between five and six thousand tons in weight. The workmen are now engaged day and night in completing the junctions and adjustments. The greater portion of the permanent way and rails for the trains is laid. The grand approaches to the bridge at either end, where the colossal lions rest, are finished, including the continuation of the line of rail to the stations on each side at Bangor and Llanfair, and every exertion is being made to have the line complete by the end of February, for the first trial trains to go through.—*London paper.*

ABOLITION OF BULL-FIGHTS IN SPAIN.—It is said that measures are about to be taken by the Junta General of Agriculture at Madrid, for the gradual suppression of Bull-fights, in consequence of their prejudicial effects on the interests and morality of the country. It is calculated that 4000 horses annually perish in Spain upon the horns of the bull, and in a country essentially agricultural like Spain, this continued and cruel destruction of a useful animal, deprive those who dedicate themselves to the culture of the soil, of a large amount of working power that might be applied to the augmentation of their posterity. The annual destruction of 1,000 bulls in the various fights celebrated throughout the Peninsula, destroys the best working breeds, impairs the quality of beef, impoverish the milk markets, contributes to the decadence of pastures and fields, and augments the price of butter and milk, which in civilized countries are counted among the necessaries of life. All these considerations, and the fact that the people by attending bull fights acquire habits of brutality and ferocity, by becoming accustomed to scenes of bloodshed, is likely to induce the government to attend to the representations of the Junta of Agriculture.

JENNY LIND.—We are informed by a letter from Hamburg that Jenny Lind has signed an agreement at Lubeck to go to America and the Havana in August or September. Her stay will be about a year and a half there, to sing only in concerts and oratorios; £30,000 to be placed in the hands of Baring Brothers, before she starts from England, or guaranteed with them; equipage, servants' expenses of every kind, paid for her; and after a certain number of nights she gets besides one-fifth of the profits; making fully £70,000 for the time. Besides this she has reserved to herself the right of singing for charities as often as she chooses.—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE POLITE AND THE INTELLECTUAL AMONG MEN.—Polite men frequently take precedence of the intellectual, or of original-minded men, in point of success. Their manner is their genius. They sustain the very necessary conditions of society, and are rewarded accordingly. Their province is to smooth the way of life, and, if not selfish, they do so. In a state of high civilization, where men are brought into constant intercourse on indifferent occasions, a mutual regard and common understanding is indispensable; and possibly the more this is under conventional forms the better. Politeness becomes the atmosphere of some men. They carry through the most trivial as well as the most important affairs in the same fashion.—*Memoir of David Scott, R. S. A., by his Brother, W. B. Scott.*

AGES OF LAW LORDS AND PRELATES IN 1850.—Lord Plunket, 86; Lyndhurst, 78; Brougham, 72; Denman, 71; Campbell, 71; Cottingham, 69; Langdale, 67; the Bishop of Durham, 80; Exeter, 73; Canterbury, 70; Peterborough, 70; Bath and Wells, 68; Lincoln, 67; Gloucester, 67; Worcester, 67; Carlisle, 66; Rochester, 66; London, 64; York, 62; Winchester, 60; St. Asaph, 60; Ripon, 56; Chester, 56; St. Davids, 53; Salisbury, 49; Oxford, 45.

USE OF A MOUSTACHE.—The editor of the *Medical Times*, referring to the moustaches of medical students, assures a correspondent that "moustaches have their uses; and amongst the most important, they are considered to point out the idlest, the vainest, and most self-conceited, if not, probably, the most dissolute in the class. They are beacons to warn others."

The Bishop of Manchester has been appointed director of the studies of the Prince of Wales.

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* For a fuller account of the *Rural Industry and Drainage of Holland*, which I wrote for the Edinburgh Review, see vol. 86, p. 449 of that work.

† This must be considered an admirable provision, enabling the pastor to advise in regard to the temporal pursuits no less than the spiritual affairs of his flock.

* To those who are desirous of obtaining the means of forming clear notions of the physical structure of Italy, of its climatic conditions in the times of the ancient Etrurians, and of the industrial skill as well as the social relations of this people, I venture to recommend a perusal of Dennis's *Cities and Cemeteries of Etruria*.

† For an account of the reign of Leopold, see Napier's Florentine History, vol. vi, and for a detail, with drawings, plans and maps, of the engineering operations by which the Maremme were dried, see *Memorie sui Bonificamente delle Maremme Toscane*, by Fernando Tarlini, Florence, 1833.

‡ *L'Agriculture Pratique de la Flandre*, par M. J. L. Van Aelbroeck, Paris, 1830; and *Memoire sur l'Agriculture de la Flandre Occidentale et sur l'Economie Rurale*, par J. Cordier, Paris, 1845.