

A new gun has been invented in England that will project 32 lb. shot 9,600 yards—over five miles.

The sugar crop of Louisiana, one of the states of the American Union, for 1858, is estimated at 326,482 hog-heads.

Telegraph lines are being established in London as a substitute for post carriers. Messages are to be sent any distance within ten miles for about five pence.

It has been discovered in France that straw is a powerful conductor of electricity; an electrical shock sufficiently powerful to kill an ox may be discharged by a single straw.

A railway bridge over the Junina, in India, is to be built,—length 3,214 feet: number of spans 15; depth of river below low water mark 50 feet; the railway will be 81 feet above low water level.

It has been discovered that if substances containing acid are boiled in zinc vessels, the water will be poisonous.

The usual load for a full grown camel is 800 lbs., some of them have been known to carry 1400 lbs.

The Koran, the Bible of Mahomet, forbids making plates representing the human body. Printing was introduced in Constantinople in 1726. It was interrupted again from 1743 till 1784; and during the last 100 years, previous to the late war—only sixty books have been published.

An Italian Chemist has discovered that the poisonous state of a newly painted room, where white lead is used, does not arise from the use of the white lead, but from vapors of the oil of turpentine.

The Great Eastern, steamer, will cost, when ready for sea, £300,000.

Electric Clocks are set up along the streets of Marseilles, France.

A new steam plough has been invented in Illinois, which is so arranged as to draw a gang of ploughs.

There are 43 free drinking fountains in Liverpool, England,—it is estimated that 1,000 people drink daily at each.

The amount of Gold and Silver annually taken from the mines of Europe is valued at

America yields	£ 6,250,000
Asia	36,250,000
	6,250,000

Africa has no silver mines, but produces gold to the value of 750,000

Australia is also without silver, but produces gold to the amount of 50,000,000

Total—£95,500,000

ORIGIN OF THE NAMES OF COUNTRIES. — *England* derives its name from *Angles*, one of the Saxon tribes who settled in the southern section of the country in the fifteenth century.

The origin of the word *Scotland* is dubious; all that is known of it is, that the term *Scoti* was applied to the Pictish inhabitants in the second century.

The word *Ireland* is also of dubious origin; it is contended by some that the words *Erin*, *Erne*, etc., signify *sacred*; others, that *Eir*, *Erin*, etc., mean *west*; or *Ireland*—west land from Britain.

*France* derives its name from a tribe of Germans called *Franks*, or the free, who inhabited the country, called Gaul, while it was under the Roman power.

*Spain*, the ancient *Iberia*, is a modernised term of the latin word *Hispania*.

*Portugal*, the *Lusitania* of the ancients, is said to be a corruption of *Partus Galorum*, or part of the Gauls, who settled at Porto or Oporto.

*Switzerland* is so called from *Switz* or *Shewitz*, one of the towns and cantons of the Republic.

The word *Italy* or *Italice* is of doubtful origin,—by some it is derived from *Italus*, an Arcodian Prince; by others, from the Greek word *italas*, an ox,—being a country abounding with oxen of a large size.

*Turkey* derives its name from its