Weekly THE Chronicle.

Terms—15 shillings per annum :] "Nec Rege, Nec Populo, sed utroque." [12s. 6d. if paid in advance.

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THE CHRONICLE

Is published every Friday afternoon, by DURANT & Co., at their office in the brick building corner of Prince William and Church streets.

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Weekly Almanack.

MAY.		H. SUN.	H. MOON.	H. W.
6	Saturday,	4 46	7 0	28 3 59
7	Sunday,	4 45	7 8	0 50 5 5
8	Monday,	4 44	7 10	1 27 6 23
9	Tuesday,	4 42	7 11	1 53 7 39
10	Wednesday,	4 41	7 12	2 20 8 44
11	Thursday,	4 40	7 13	2 48 9 38
12	Friday,	4 39	7 14	3 20 10 25

First Quarter, 7th day, 5h. 3m. morn.

The FIRST PRODUCTIONS in the WORLD for

The Hair! the Skin!! the Teeth!!!

ROWLAND'S

MACASSAR OIL,

A VEGETABLE PRODUCTION.

The only article that produces and restores HAIR; also WHISKERS, MUSTACHIOES, and EYE BROWS; prevents hair from falling off or turning grey to the latest period of life; changes grey hair to its original colour—frees it from *scurf*, and makes it beautifully SOFT, CURLY, and GLOSSY. In dressing hair, it keeps it firm in the *curl*, uninjured by *damp weather*, *crowded rooms*, the *dance*, or in the *exercise of riding*. To *Children* it is invaluable, as it lays a foundation for a BEAUTIFUL HEAD OF HAIR.

ON PURCHASING, **Beware of Counterfeits!!** ask for "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" and see that those words are on the envelope, with the signature and address, thus—

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Counter-signed ALEX. ROWLAND.

To ensure the genuine article, see that the words '*Rowland's Macassar Oil*" are engraven on the back of the envelope nearly 1500 times, containing 29,028 letters—WITHOUT THIS NONE IS GENUINE.

Price 3s. 6d.; 7s.; Family Bottles (containing four small,) 10s. 6d. and double that size, 21s. per bottle.

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A preparation from *Oriental Exotics*, is now universally known as the *only* safe and efficient *protector* and *beautifier* of the SKIN and COMPLEXION. Its virtues are commonly displayed in thoroughly eradicating all *pimples*, *spots*, *redness*, *tan*, *freckles*, and other unsightly *cutaneous defects*, in healing *chilblains*, *chaps*, and in rendering the most rough and uneven skin pleasantly soft and smooth. To the *complexion* it imparts a juvenile roseate hue, and to the *neck*, *hand* and *arm* a delicacy and fairness unrivalled.

It is invaluable as a renovating and refreshing Wash, during travelling or exposure to the sun, dust, or harsh winds, and after the heated atmosphere of crowded assemblies. Gentlemen will find it peculiarly grateful after shaving in allaying the irritation.

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or,

Pearl Dentifrice.

A WHITE POWDER of Oriental Herbs, of the most delightful fragrance. It eradicates Tartar and decayed spots from the Teeth, preserves the Enamel, and fixes the Teeth firmly in their sockets, rendering them *delicately white*. Being an Anti-Scorbutic, it eradicates the Scurvy from the *Gums*, strengthens, braces, and renders them of a healthy *red*; it removes unpleasant tastes from the mouth, which often remain after fevers, taking medicine, &c. and imparts a *delightful fragrance* to the breath.

Price 2s. 9d. per box, duty included.

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TO LET,

The Subscriber offers to Let from 1st May next :—

A Three story Dwelling HOUSE, situated near the corner of Prince Wm and Princess streets, on ground formerly belonging to the Hon. William BLACK, and nearly opposite the *Commercial Bank*. The house contains 16 Rooms with fire places, with Bedrooms, Pantries, frost proof Cellar, &c. On the premises are two wells of water, too well known to require description, being so well tried at the late fires. J. O'DONELLY.

February 24.

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The Dwelling house and Premises now in the occupation of James T. Hanford, Esq., in Prince William street, with a superior frost proof Cellar, a never failing well of water, with a spacious Garden &c. On the premises is a Three story fire-proof brick warehouse. J. O'DONNELLY.

March 25, 1843.

The above premises would be divided to respectable Tenants, on early application.

TO BE LET.

THREE convenient STORES with Lights and Landing Places in front and rear, situated on the North Market Wharf. The stores can be finished to suit the Tenants if applied for immediately.

April 7. JOHN ROBERTSON.

To be Leased,

And possession given immediately, if required :—

CERTAIN parts of the subscriber's fire proof WAREHOUSES, fronting on the North Market Wharf, with an entrance also from *Nelson street*. Apply to E. L. Jarvis & Co. *31st March.* R. M. JARVIS.

Poetry.

WELLINGTON AND SOULT. 1813 AND 1843.

"None of M. Guizot's colleagues displayed more spirit at the close of the debate than the old Marshal, and we scarcely know of a more singular parallel in parliamentary history than that which the respective positions of the two oldest and greatest of soldiers in Europe present at this moment—both occupying the foremost line of defences against a petulent Opposition—both contending for the maintenance of amicable relations between the two countries, whose respective armies each has led, and might again lead, to the field—and both devoting the unextinguishable energies of their brave and honourable lives to the preservation of peace throughout the world."—*Times.*

Two warriors stood on the battle plain,
Engaged in the mighty shock
That thrilled through the Gallic despot's reign,
From the broad Garonne to the winding Seine,
And burst the bonds of delivered Spain
On the Pyrenean rock.

The one retreated with lion glare,
Still keeping his foes at bay;
The other stoop'd down from his mountain lair,
With standard and oriflamme streaming fair,
Like the eagle that sweeps through the reals of air
On her scattered and panting prey.

The thunders of War have ceased, and Time
Hath wrapt in his circling zone
The scenes of blood and the deeds of crime
Which polluted each city, and, soil and clime,
From the Pharaoh's tombs and Nilotick slime
To the Scythian's icy throne.

Where are these warriors now? No more
Opposed in the battle strife,
Their voices are heard like that voice of yore,
Which rebuked the storm on Gennesaret's shore,
And amidst the wind's and water's roar
Redeemed the Apostle's life.

These heroes twain of the olden war
Now bid the Destroyer cease;
Unsolve the steeds of his iron car,
And, looking to regions beyond the jar
Of furious Faction, adore the star
Of universal Peace.

SONG—By JESSIE HAMMOND.

Lady, though the leaves are flying,
Scatter'd by the howling blast,
Hopes are chill'd and flow'rs are dying,
And the radiant summer's past,
There's a flower will fadeless be;
Affection's flower still blooms for thee.

Lady, when the winter low'rs
O'er the path we oft have rov'd
Shrouds the plain, and blights the flowers,
And darkens every scene we lov'd,
Affection's flow'r shke will bloom,
In summer's sun and winter's gloom.

Lady, there's a bright star peeping
From behind the threat'ning storm,
Smiling while the winter's sweeping
O'er each fair and fragile form:
So will affection's flower show,
Amid life's darkest clouds of woe.

Miscellany.

BIOGRAPHY OF SIR HUMPHREY DAVY.

Davy was one of the most accomplished of modern scientifics, if we may be allowed the use of a substantive so adjective-looking. He was an orator, a poet, and a chemical philosopher. Chemistry is generally accounted a most anti-poetical science; and one reason why the present age is so very prosaical is said to be that it is peculiarly a chemical or matter-of-fact age. Davy, however, showed that the imaginative and the demonstrative were perfectly compatible; and that, as they both existed together in nature, so they might also exist together and coalesce in the human mind. It has been observed also, that there is a peculiar propriety in his poetical analogies, as if he sought not only artistic beauty of sentiment and language, but philosophical accuracy of metaphor. Davy's career was more splendid than that of man of science in general is. He was a philosophical meteor, and clothed the most material of all the sciences in such poetical and attractive attire, as to command the attendance of gentlemen and ladies of the highest rank. He gave an impetus to the study of chemistry to which it owes much of its subsequent prosperity. His public history begins with the century, as Chemical Lecturer in the British Institution, an office now filled by his talented successor, Doctor Faraday.

Humphrey Davy was born at Perzance, in Cornwall, in 1778. His father was a wood-carver, and had realized a small independence, which enabled him to send little Humphrey to the Penzance Grammar School. He was an apt scholar, but particularly fond of play, and he preserved this character to the last; fishing being one of the favourite diversions of his mature life. He was also particularly fond of making a display of his oratorical powers, by standing upon a cart, or a barrel, or a log of wood, and extemporizing to his school-mates. When he was fourteen years of age he was sent to Truro, to the school of Dr. Cardew. Next year he lost his father, and the year following he was apprenticed to Mr. Borlace, an apothecary of Penzance. Here he commenced his studies of chemistry and geology, and thought more of the bowels of the earth than the bowels of his patients. Mr. Tonkin, surgeon of Penzance, gave him the use of a garret to experiment in, and used jocosely to designate the young enthusiast by the name of "Sir Humphrey." He constructed his own chemical and other apparatus, and pressed into his service every kind of vessel, pot or pan, domestic or professional, which he thought might answer his purpose. His zeal very soon excited attention, and he was introduced to Dr. Beddoes, of Bristol, who had just founded there his Pneumatic Institution. Of this institution he offered Davy the superintendance, which was accepted, and here the young philosopher commenced a series of dangerous experiments on the virtues of the different gases, which had well nigh proved fatal. It was at this time that he discovered the properties of *nitrous oxide*, vulgarly called laughing gas, which he inhaled to such an extent as to produce corporeal insensibility, though the spiritual being was so elated that he felt sorry when he once more returned to corporeal sensibility. The results of these experiments he published when only twenty-one years of age, and the publication attracted so much attention, that Count Rumford, who was at that time laying the foundation of the Royal Institution, instantly resolved to make Davy the offer of the chemical chair of the new institution. The count had not yet seen the youth, and when he made his appearance he was so uncouth and awkward, that the count repented his resolution, and would not suffer him to appear in the great theatre until he had given a specimen of his capabilities in the small lecture-room. Here he astonished the audience, and the count emphatically exclaimed, "Let him command any arrangements which the institution can afford." He was immediately appointed to the vacant chair, and his success exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the patrons of the institution. His youth, his eloquence, his ardent poetic temperament, combined with extraordinary skill and facility in manipulation, gave such a novel aspect to chemical science, that it instantly became an object of fashionable attraction. He was the lion of the day, and like Edward Irving when he first shot like a falling star upon "Babylon foredoomed," his lectures were attended by noblemen, and gentlemen, and ladies of rank and fashion, thus forming one of many illustrations of the important fact that any subject may be rendered attractive, merely by clothing it with that which to the mass of human beings constitutes attraction. For, after all, it is not the subject, but the clothing, that attracts. Chemistry was still as dry as ever in the abstract, and ever will remain so; but poetry, and fancy, and image, and metaphor, which always were, and always will be, attractive, were associated with it, and lent it for a season their irresistible charms.

This success, however, spoiled the simplicity of Davy's character. He became a coxcomb. The philosopher was gradually enveloped in the gaudy trappings of the fop. He seemed to think that the cut of a coat, the tie of a cravat, and the purity and quality of a pair of kid gloves, were as indispensable considerations in the art and mystery of philosophical ambition, as philosophy itself. The fact is, that he got into the drawing-room, and the ladies spoiled him, not perhaps directly, by recommending such conduct (for it is quite as offensive to intelligent women as to the other sex,) but he was led astray by his own imagination, to suppose that it would recommend him. He was rude and unpolished when he first came amongst them, and he made a sudden leap into the opposite extreme, which was quite as remarkable, and loss in character. His philosophical ardour, however, did not diminish, and his great activity and volatility of mind enabled him not only to pursue the most laborious researches, but to indulge in society, and make rural excursions for health and pleasure.

In 1803 Davy was elected a member of the Royal Society, and Professor of Chemistry to the Board of Agriculture. At this time he was engaged in galvanic researches, the results of which were made known in his first Bakerian lecture, before the Royal Society in 1806. The principal points established were the correction of errors of former science respecting the agency of galvanism and electricity, and the lecture was so very satisfactory, that Dr. Paris says of it, "This grand display of scientific light burst upon Europe like a splendid meteor, and, in spite of national prejudice and national vanity, was crowned by the Institute of France with the prize of Napoleon."

In his second Bakerian lecture, in 1807, he announced his discovery of the metalic bases of the fixed alkalis, a discovery arising from the application of galvanism to the decomposition of these bodies. This discovery was accompanied with that of a new metal called potassium, which, on account of its strong affinity for oxygen becomes a valuable chemical test. This affinity is so great that it cannot exist in air, but only in naphtha which contains no oxygen. It burns in water, from which it absorbs the oxygen, and returns to its natural state of potash. The fact is, that potassium is the pure alkali, unfixed; and its union with oxygen, which is the principle of acidity, is the result of that irresistible attraction by which the male and female, or positive and negative, principles of universal nature are drawn towards each other. The curiosity excited by the discovery of potassium was very great, and it is still exhibited in the chemical laboratories as a thing to be wondered at, burning in water. Though Davy's discoveries gave a new direction to chemical science, he was still considerably enthralled by the erroneous theories of the preceding age; and we have heard his successor, Dr. Farady, declare that another great revolution still impends over the science as a whole, which will reduce it to a much simpler and more intelligible form that it has hitherto assumed. It seems to be the destiny of man in the pursuit of knowledge to fix upon the most difficult, and complex, and absurd, theories first, and then gradually to progress to the simple and the intelligible. How very difficult any art is to the novice! but to the skilful artist it is simple, natural, and instinctive; our great discoveries are the simplifiers of old complexities.

It is not our intention to enumerate the discoveries of Davy; suffice it to say, that they were such as to entitle him to the first place amongst the chemists of his day. He was knighted in 1812, and immediately after he married a widow of large fortune. Next year he resigned his professorship, and obtained permission to visit France, notwithstanding the war between the two nations. He was well received, dined, and caressed, but behaved so haughtily as to leave behind him a most unfavourable impression. In walking through the Louvre he exclaimed, "What an extraordinary collection of fine frames!" "Gracious powers! what a beautiful statuette!" was his remark when showed a beautiful sculpture of Antinous. Soon after his return his attention was directed to the fearful explosions which had taken place in mines, and his assistance and advice were solicited. This led to the discovery of the safety-lamp, for which the coal-owners of the Tyne presented him with a service of plate worth £2,000 at a public dinner in Newcastle in 1817. The Government bestowed a baronetcy upon him in 1818. In 1820 he was chosen to succeed Sir Joseph Banks as President of the Royal Society. In 1820, his health beginning to decline, he retired to the continent, and in 1827 he sent from Italy his resignation of the presidency. Next year he published his "Salmonia, or Fly-fishing," a most remarkable work for a chemical philosopher, and one so very indifferent to the fine arts of painting and sculpture. But Davy was a student of nature: and though he could produce fine works of art himself, he could not study them. He went to the fountain-head. He died at Geneva, 29th May, 1829, where he was interred. After his death was published his "Contemplations in Travel, or the Last Days of a Philosopher," which has been much admired. He left behind him a great name, and still stands at the head of chemical philosophers, though many of his novel theories are now rejected.

NEW CEMENT.—I have for many years past been induced to experiment on the best mode of making cement, to join wood, glass china, etc. Amongst other works, I had to "glue" the parts of my artificial shafts for my apparatus for flying in the air by purely mechanical means, in which I so far succeeded, as to form shafts 24 feet long, and xeighing only 3 lbs., that would support my weight suspended from the middle. This was in 1824.

I also endeavoured to form a cement much stronger than glue, and indissoluble in water, for joining parts of fishing rods, dozens of which I have made for my own use, far superior to those of the trade. White of egg and oyster-shell lime make a very good cement; but the best was a basis of shellac. This I united with another substance; and that you as well as Mr. Joiner, may judge of its adhesive power, I will mention a fact. In 1833, I purchased a huge globular bottle, called a turboise, for the purpose of forming it into a vase, in which to keep gold and silver fish. To suit it for this purpose, it was necessary to cut off the neck, so as to form an aperture of, at least, six inches diameter. This I accomplished in the well-known way of winding round it several turns of string, soaked in spirits of turpentine, then setting the string on fire, and throwing on it a bucket of cold water when the flame is about to expire. The separation instantly takes place cleanly where the string was burning. But in this case I used too much turpentine; some drops ran down the sides and caused several vertical cracks. To remedy this error, I wound round the upper edge of the glass globe a long piece of silk ribband, steeped in the compound shellac cement I above allude to. The vase remained exposed to the weather and rain during two months in my garden, but I observed that the ribband firmly adhered. I took it into my head to try its state upon the glass. Upon tearing off a part that touched the glass, numerous scales of glass were brought away, and adhered to it like scales upon a fish!

I then placed a joint of a fishing rod, joined with this cement, in a water-butt. After a week's immersion the cement was as firm as ever, without any binding over the joined part or any varnish.

So much for marine cement—except that I must say, that shellac will not do alone. Its tenacity is wonderful in a straight pull, but as your intelligent correspondent, Mr. Joiner, justly remarks, it is somewhat too "brittle." I have opened many a well corked bottle of wine with a stick of sealing-wax; but if the pull be not quite vertical, the connexion breaks.

It is well known that Indian rubber, when once dissolved merely by heat, will never again solidify, but remain a clammy tar-like substance, without any power of adhesion. I endeavoured to combine caoutchouc with shellac—but did not succeed to my wish, probably from lack of manipulative skill and other means. But the composition which I have above alluded to, which pulls scales off a glass bottle and is unaffected by the rain for many weeks, will do for all the purposes that I can think of.

For the amusement of your chemical readers I will mention that I have made an artificial caoutchouc, which in appearance and elastic feel cannot be distinguished from the real, but it is not quite insoluble in water. It is thus: dissolve an equal weight of glue in as much treacle, over a mild fire in an iron vessel; then add the like weight of linseed oil. This mixture will soon amalgamate, and the product will be such in appearance and elasticity, as to make any body swear that it is caoutchouc.—COLONEL MACERONI. (From the *Mechanics' Mag.*)

WINTER AND THE FLOWERS.

Old Winter loveth not the flowers, for they
Do mind him, with their meek and innocent looks,
How soon his sceptre must be laid aside.
A while since came the snow-drop, preaching thus:
Him winter heard, and hearing inly vowed,
That he would wreak upon those rebel hosts
Sudden and sharp revenge; so putting on
The aspect of mid Spring, he bade the winds
Blow softly, and the unclouded sun look down
With warmer radience on the quickening earth;
This did he many a day, till, one by one,
Came forth the bursting flowers, and 'gan to ope
Their fairy blossoms, and their perfumes pour
Upon the pinions of the treacherous breeze.
Then laughed Winter, with a scornful laugh—
And stripping off the mask, with killing eyes
He looked around: his helpless victims shrank
Beneath that cruel gaze, and on their stems
Hung, drooping and pale; then shouted he
To his pitiless tailor, Frost, to bind his realm,
Meadow, and garden, each green pastoral spot,
And woodland nook, and dell, and river bank,
In chains of adamant: next morn the flowers,
Lay on the icy earth, withered and dead:
But the sweet sky, as if in gentle ruth
For such fell ravage, veiled the sun with clouds,
And spread with weeping face, above their graves,
A pall of virgin snow.

Enfield, Feb. 1843. T. WESTWOOD.

THE LARGEST STEAM FRIGATE IN THE NAVY.—The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have approved of a plan submitted by Mr. Oliver Lang, Master Shipwright of the Woolwich Dockyard, of a steam-frigate on a far larger scale of dimensions and power than any hitherto constructed; the following will convey some idea of the magnitude of this vessel:—

	Feet.	Inches.
Length between perpendiculars	226	0
Keel for tonnage	186	10½
Breadth extreme	42	0
Depth in hold	27	0
Burden in tons	1,847	

She is to be supplied with Mandsley and Field's patent double cylinder marine engines of eight hundred horse power. The cylinder will be 72 inches in diameter, and the erection of the engines alone has been contracted for at the cost, including the boilers, of the large sum of £40,250. The engine-room will be of the following splendid dimensions:—75 feet long, 34 feet broad, and 27 feet deep; and the weight of the engines and requisite gear connected with them will be upwards of 500 tons. The diameter of the paddle-wheels are to be 34 feet by 13 in breadth. The coal boxes will contain 80 tons of coals; and altogether this great vessel will far exceed in length and other important points the largest ship of the line ever constructed in this country. The Lords of the Admiralty are resolved Great Britain shall continue to reign, as she has previously done, mistress of the seas, and that they will cordially encourage every improvement in modern science tending to render the navy of this country the most efficient, and it may be said, far superior to any other power in the world.

SILVER SPECIMEN OF ENGLISH MANUFACTURE.—A costly present from Ali Effendi, the Turkish ambassador in London to the Sultan, has been exhibited to Her Majesty and her Royal Consort.—This curious and elaborately finished specimen of ingenuity was made by Mr. Taunton, of Islington, at a cost of £500: it is an umbrella, of little more than the ordinary size, covered with rich brocaded crimson satin, manufactured in Spitalfields expressly for the purpose. The whole of the metal of which it is composed is of pure gold. The handle, which opens with a secret spring, contains a gold chronometer, the dial of which is about an inch and a half in diameter. The part containing the chronometer unscrews, and beneath is a sun-dial and compass (the plate of gold), set with a valuable brilliant of the first water; and upon this portion of the handle being unscrewed, the following articles are beautifully arranged, in six compartments:—a thermometer, a pencil case, and watch-key, a knife with two blades, the star and crescent engraved on either side of the handle, a comb, a toothpick, and an ornamented circular case, containing in three divisions, twenty-five leads for the gold pencil-holder. In the next compartment of the handle is a mirror, set in a bordering of chased gold. The tube, which is of gold, highly engraved, with a design of scroll work and flowers (when divested of the handle and ferule, the latter of which contains a powerful microscope, richly ornamented and carved in gold,) is so ingeniously contrived as to form a telescope, with a 20 miles' range, having a sliding tube to adapt it to various sights and distances. The whole is enclosed in a red morocco case, lined with green velvet and white satin, with the star and crescent emblazoned at the four corners and in the centre. The two massive handles and the locks, keys, and hinges are of solid gold.—The French and Genevese have hitherto been accustomed to furnish similar delicate workmanship to eastern nations, who will now be convinced that the English excel in minute and exquisite mechanism, as well as correct and stupendous machinery—like the gigantic elephant, who can pick up a needle with the same means that up-roots a tree.

(From the British American Cultivator.)

SPRING SOWING AND PLANTING.—The month of May should afford the farmers ample opportunity to finish the spring sowing and planting. Early sowing and planting, provided the soil is in suitable state to receive the seed, will generally be found the most profitable. In Eastern Canada farmers have been in the habit, for the last few years, to put off sowing wheat to the latter end of May, in order that it should not come into ear before the middle or latter end of July, when the danger of the wheat fly would be nearly over, as they seldom continue in the fields after the 15th or 21st of July. The risk, however of sowing wheat so late is considerable, as it will be subject to rust and mildew, that are nearly as fatal to the crop, if attacked by these diseases when in a green state, as it would by the ravages of the wheat fly. In favourable years, such as last year, late sown wheat may succeed, but it is a practice we cannot take upon us to recommend, as the uncertainty attending it is too great to be incurred, unless upon a small scale, by way of experiment.

Peas, oats, barely, and potatoes should all be in the ground this month as well as carrots, parsnips and any other green crop, except turnips, indeed carrots and parsnips should have been sown in April, where the land is suitable. We have always recommended farmers not to sell their wood ashes, as it will be found one of the best manures upon the farm particularly for turnips, when sown; or as top dressing on meadows, or mixed in a compost heap. We would suggest the propriety of mixing some fresh lime with potatoes, immediately after they are cut for seed, and allow it to dry upon the cut part previous to planting. We would also recommend planting and covering in the morning, or when the day is not too hot. It is a bad plan to leave the cut seed for any length of time exposed unrecovered in the drills, to a hot sun. The seed should be covered the moment they are planted.

LONDON HALL OF COMMERCE.—This is a large and convenient building, recently opened in Threadneedle-street. It was erected by the money and influence of one man—Mr. Moxhay. His design is, to furnish increased facilities for the commerce of London and the United Kingdom, and thro' them of our own and other countries. Arrangements are made in management for giving the earliest information to the commercial interest of the arrival of shipping. It will contain a complete registration of every vessel entering and leaving the port of London and the other British ports, and also a similar registry for the ports of foreign countries. Prices current, and every species of intelligence relating to commerce, whether in newspapers or proclamations, will be found conveniently arranged within its walls. A telegraph will communicate news in 4 minutes from the Downs. The cost of the edifice is estimated at £60,000. It will doubtless exert a favourable influence on the pecuniary interest of commerce thro'out the world.—*Hunt's Merchants' Mag.*

THE FIRST SIR ROBERT PEEL.—Robert Peel, having acquired wealth, sought distinction. He entered Parliament, supported the Pitt Ministry, was created a Baronet, and after a long and active life, died in 1830, leaving behind him a good name and a plentiful estate. Old Sir Robert Peel was a practical man—pre-eminently a practical man—Practical men differ considerably in the extent of their range. Some soar almost as high as a theoretical man, or, in other words, approach to the discoverer himself. They have but to get a hint, and they will work out the hint; but to get a hint of a principle and they not only comprehend it, but seize it. But the larger number of practical men stand on a lower platform. They seldom can reach to the appreciation of a scientific principle; they have not strength of wing to soar above the surface of every day life, or power to ascend Mount Pisgah, and survey the "goodly land;" but they are admirably adapted for the valley below. Put your discovery into shape; and they will give it "a local habitation and a name;" hammer out your principle, and they will hammer it into practice. To be sure, Watt and Arkwright were practical men; but all men have not the rare faculty of being able not only to construct a theory, but to work it out in ordinary detail. Sir Robert Peel was a practical man of the lower class; not a discoverer himself, he had quickness, energy, and tact, to apply the inventions of others to the realisation of an honestly and creditably acquired fortune. Old Sir Robert Peel was a profound admirer of the character of Pitt; truly and religiously believing him to have been "the pilot who weathered the storm." Practical as were his notions, carefully and successfully as he directed his numerous sons into the paths of honest industry, he yet had a strong desire that his house should produce a statesman; having, as coarse Cobbett used to banter him, "a presentiment that he should found a family." On his eldest son, therefore, he fixed his shrewd eye, and resolved to make him a second Pitt.—*Sir Robert Peel and his Era.*

AN EQUIVOQUE.—When his sister, the Duchess of Brunswick, was at Berlin, Frederick the Great one day made a present to Count Schwerin, his grand equerry, of a snuff-box, on the lid of which was painted an ass. No sooner had the count quitted the king than he sent his valet to Berlin with the box, and directions to get the ass taken off, and the king's portrait put in its place. Next day, at dinner, the count affected to leave his box carelessly on the table, and the king, who wished to amuse the duchess at the expense of the grand equerry, spoke of the box which he had given to him. The duchess asked to see it. The box was handed to her; she opened it, and exclaimed, "Bless me, what a likeness! the resemblance is perfect! Upon my word, brother, this is one of the best portraits of you I have ever seen." The king was quite disconcerted, and thought that the joke was carried too far. The duchess handed the box to her next neighbour, and it was passed from one to another round the table, every one joining in admiration of the resemblance. The king knew not what to think of the matter, till the box coming at length under his inspection, he discovered the trick, and joined in the laugh.

ROYAL RECIPE FOR RAISING GRENADIERS.

The predecessor of the late king of Prussia was in the habit of travelling about his dominions so plainly dressed and simply attended as to pass for an ordinary person. On one occasion, as he was riding in the neighbourhood of Berlin without attendance or any mark of distinction about him, he perceived, digging in a field, a young woman of extraordinary stature. She was in fact near seven feet high. It is well known that the king had a particular predilection for tall men, and he spared no expense to procure them from all parts of Europe for the purpose of completing his regiment of grenadier guards. At the sight of this woman it immediately occurred to him that, by matching her with a man equally gigantic, a race of patagonians might be founded. He dismounted, therefore, and entering into conversation with the young giantess, was delighted to learn that she was only nineteen years old, unmarried, and that her father was a humble cobbler. Hereupon he sat down and wrote the following note to the colonel of his guards:—"You are to marry the bearer of this note to the tallest of my grenadiers. Take care that the ceremony be performed immediately and in your presence. You must be responsible to me for the execution of this order. 'Tis absolute, and the least delay will make you a criminal in my sight."

The king gave this letter to the young woman, without informing her of its contents; and ordered her to deliver it punctually according to the directions, and not to fail, as it was an affair of great consequence: he afterwards made her a handsome present and continued his route.

The young woman, who had not the least suspicion that it was the king who had spoken to her, considering it unimportant by whom the letter was delivered, so that it was punctually forwarded to its destination, made a bargain with an old woman of her acquaintance, whom she charged with the commission, laying an express injunction on her to say she had it from a man of such a garb and appearance. The old woman faithfully executed her message. The colonel, surprised at the contents of the letter, could not reconcile them with the age and figure of the bearer, yet the order being peremptory he thought he could not safely delay its execution, and he therefore concluded that his master intended to punish the soldier for some misdemeanour by matching him so disagreeably. In short, the marriage was celebrated forthwith before him, to the great vexation of the grenadier, whilst the old woman, exulting with joy, assumed an air of the highest satisfaction.

Some time afterwards, on his return to Berlin, the king wished to see the couple he had ordered to be married. When they were presented to him he fell into a great passion. The colonel vainly endeavoured to pacify him, by justifying himself: the king was implacable till the reluctant bride confessed the truth, finishing her tale by raising her eyes to Heaven, and thanking Providence for conferring on her a benefit the more signal and acceptable because unexpected.

SCOTCH BANKING.—Scotch banking, so far as it possesses any peculiarities, and as we have again and again explained, rests on two or three great principles: such as the necessities of the country, the responsibility of the shareholders to the last farthing of their fortunes, the cautiousness of the directors, the unitarral practice of exchanging notes at short intervals, and, we may add, the public registration of real property, by which each landed proprietor's circumstances are known.—"Chambers' Journal."

CURE OF CANCER.—On the use of arsenic as an external application for the cure of cancer, M. Mance states that, in most of the cases in which it has been tried, mixed with ointment for the cure of cancer, either radical cures have been effected, or the extension of the disease has been checked. The secretions, says M. Mance, for some days after the administration of the remedy, give proofs of the presence of the arsenic, but none of the injurious effects of the poison are manifested in the system.

NEW PRIMER FOR A MUSKET.—A new primer for a musket, recently invented by Mr. Westley Richards, the well-known gunmaker, of Birmingham, has undergone a most effectual trial on board H. M. S. Excellent, at this port, for the last three months; and as Sir Thomas Hastings has recommended the Board of Admiralty to adopt it for the use of the navy, we should hope that this simple and ingenious invention will be secured to the Government. The following is a description of it:—The primer, which is intended to supersede the copper cap, is of a novel character, being made of papier mache, or millboard, and perfectly secured from damp or wet in its process of manufacture. It is one inch in length, half an inch wide, and the sixteenth of an inch in thickness, the form being slightly wedge shape. The application to the gun is most readily applied into a touch-hole suitable to it, instead of the common one or nipple; the priming-powder is contained in the centre of the primer, and covered with tinfoil. The gun is fired in the ordinary manner, and for military and naval use it is decidedly superior to the copper cap, as, after the explosion, the primer is perfectly harmless; and on the deck of a ship, sailors without shoes cannot be injured by laceration of the feet, which must inevitably be the case from an exploded copper cap when on. Their cheapness and undecaying quality is also a great recommendation to them, at the same time they are perfectly impervious to damp or wet.—"Hampshire Telegraph."

HOW TO RENOVATE WORN-OUT FILES AND RASPS.—Allow me to lay before your readers a plan, often practised by me, for restoring, in a great measure, the sharpness of files and rasps, that have become abraded and filled up through use. Boil the file in a very strong solution of soda, or what is still better, soap-boilers' lees, which removes all the adherent dirt. It must then be allowed to remain for about half a minute in a solution composed of two parts of water and one part of nitric or muriatic acid; and after that washed with water, and slightly brushed over with oil of turpentine. To show the efficiency of the dilute acid in producing a keen edge on blunt instruments, dip therein a round-pointed needle, or worn knife, and the result will be satisfactorily seen.—Z. ROCKLINE, in the "Mechanic."

In the early part of his acquaintance with Frederick the Great, when Quintus Icilius still went by the title of Hofrath, or aulic councilor, he was taking a ride one day with the king when they chanced to meet a clergyman mounted on a fine spirited horse, which he sat uncommonly well. "Only see Quintus," said Frederick, "how consequential you parson looks on his bit of blood. Go to him and humble his pride a little." Quintus did not need bidding twice. He rode up to the clergyman.—"How is it, sir," said he "that you are riding such a fine horse whilst your lord and master was content with an humble ass?" "So should I be too," rejoined the witty son of the Church, "only his Majesty has since made all the asses aulic councillors, so that now there is none to be got."

The longest bridge in Spain is the Alcantara, stone, 1,920 feet; in France, the wooden bridge of Avignon, 1,710 feet; in Ireland, at Belfast, wood, 2,500 feet; in England, at Berwick stone, 1,164, feet; Blackfriars, 995; Waterloo, 1,242; Westminster, 1,223; London, 930 feet; in Wales, Menai-bridge, 1,060 feet.