

used a sufficient length of time to prove that at least one-half the fuel now used upon our railroads can be saved which is a very important item to all interested in railroads. The arrangement is very simple in its construction; indeed, the cost of an engine is very much diminished by it—there being fewer pieces and joints to keep in order.

TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.—Roman Catholics, says the Albany Register, will be cheerfully accorded all the protection of the laws, and all the rights guaranteed to them by the constitution. If they choose to become citizens, no obstruction will be thrown in their way; but when they are such it must be simply as American citizens, and not Irish or Catholic citizens. As religionists, nobody will question or impugn their faith. It is theirs by the constitution, and nobody will interfere with it, or molest them in the exercise of it. But when they band themselves or permit themselves to be banded together as Irishmen, or Germans, or Catholics, and as such enter the arena of politics, they forfeit all claims to the sympathies of the American people, and will have no right to complain if they come to be regarded only as Irishmen, or Germans, or as Catholics. As American citizens they will be respected and cherished; as Irish citizens, or German citizens, or Catholic citizens, they will not be respected or cherished by the American people. If they carry their Catholic prejudices and instincts into politics, they will be met by Protestant prejudices or instincts, and whether those who wield the latter are called Know Nothings or by any other name, they will comprise nineteen out of every twenty of the American people.

FACTS ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN MESSENGER.

NOTHING BUT AN INSECT.—A French naturalist spent several years in examining the structure of a single insect, and left the work unfinished. In the body of an insect about an inch in length, another naturalist enumerated 306 plates composing the structure of the outer envelope; 494 muscles for putting them in motion; 24 pair of nerves, and 48 pair of breathing organs. The number of lenses in the eye of a common fly is six or seven thousand, of the dragon-fly twelve thousand, of the butterfly seventeen thousand. On a single wing of a butterfly have been found 100,000 scales. The house-fly's wing has a power of 600 strokes in a second, which can propel it 35 feet, while the speed of a racehorse is but 90 feet a second. So thin are the wings of many insects, that 50,000 placed over each other would only be a quarter of an inch thick, and yet, thin as they are, each is double.

SUGGESTIVE FACTS.—Massachusetts, where the common-school system prevails, with a population of 994,504, has but 1,861 native born adults who cannot read and write; while Virginia, which is without the system, with a population of less than one half greater, has 77,005 whites who cannot read. Louisiana, with a population of 255,491 whites, has 21,221 natives who cannot read or write; while New York, with a white population of 3,048,325 has only 10,670.

HISTORY OF CHOLERA.—It is stated that this disease first appeared in 1781, at Gunjam, a coast-town 500 miles north-east of Madras. The next year it reached Madras, and in 1783, 20,000 died of it in India. It then disappeared. In 1817 it returned to India, as a terrible epidemic disease. It visited China. In 1821 it reached the Persian Gulf; in 1830 it reached Moscow; in 1832, Great Britain, France, and America, this being the year of its greatest violence in New York and other portions of this continent. In 1837-8 it disappeared from Europe. In 1849 it again visited New York from July to October, and has since, from time to

time, appeared in various parts of our continent, rather as a sporadic than an epidemic disease.

BRITISH EXPORTS.—The value of the produce and manufactures of Great Britain exported to the United States and the British possessions in North America, was in 1847, £10,947,161 to the United States, and £3,233,051 to the British possessions; in 1852, £16,567,737 for the former, and £3,065,364 to the latter; in 1853, £23,658,437 to the former and £4,898,545 to the latter.

POSTAGE ON PRINTED MATTER.—EXTRACT FROM THE LAW.—“Each newspaper, periodical, unsealed circular, or other article of printed matter not exceeding three ounces in weight, shall be sent to any part of the United States for one cent; and for every additional ounce, or fraction of an ounce, one cent additional shall be charged; and when the postage upon any newspaper or periodical is paid quarterly or yearly in advance at the office where the said periodical or newspaper is delivered, or is paid yearly or quarterly in advance at the office where the same is mailed, one half of said shall be charged.

“Newspapers and periodicals not weighing over one ounce and a half, when circulated in the state where published, shall be charged one-half of the rates before mentioned.

“Small newspapers and periodicals published monthly or oftener, and pamphlets not containing more than sixteen octavo pages each, when sent in single packages weighing at least eight ounces, to one address, and prepaid by affixing postage stamps thereto, shall be charged only half of a cent for each ounce or fraction of an ounce, notwithstanding the postage calculated on each separate article of such package would exceed that amount.

“Books, bound or unbound, not weighing over four pounds, shall be deemed mailable matter, and shall be chargeable with postage at one cent an ounce for all distances under three thousand miles, and two cents an ounce for all distances over three thousand miles, to which fifty per cent shall be added in all cases where the same be sent without being prepaid.”

“The postage on all transient matter shall be prepaid by stamps or otherwise, or shall be charged double the rates first above mentioned.

NEW YORK CITY.—According to the recent assessment, the value of real estate in this City for 1854 is \$330,300,396 being an increase of \$35,663,101 over 1853; the value of the personal estate is \$131,721,338 being an increase of \$12,727,200 over 1853.

LOST ITS SIGNIFICATION.—The meaning of Iowa is “here is the place,” and was given by the Indians, who, having been driven from Illinois and Wisconsin beyond the Mississippi, thought they had found a place where they could live unmolested.

MAHOMMEDAN PREJUDICE DECLINING.—A Society has been formed in London for the purpose of assisting evangelical missions in the Turkish empire, especially those of the American Board. At its first meeting, the Earl of Shaftesbury stated that his son was in the British fleet when it first sailed to the East, and being at Constantinople, was anxious to get admission to a mosque, but he and his friends did not dare to go under peril of their lives. He was there again at the close of the year, and with other officers went into nearly every mosque without any opposition, being only requested to take off their shoes before entering, as a mark of respect; their prejudice being abated by constant intercourse with Europeans. He also stated that the Sultan had given a large sum of money for the repair of the Protestant cemetery at Constantinople, and has signified his intention to give a large space of ground for the erection of a Protestant church.