

of coloration per minute noted at simultaneous intervals. On comparing results, it was found that, when about three miles high, the paper did not colour in half-an-hour so much as it did in the grounds of the Royal Observatory in one minute. This fact is so singular as to require confirmation before any explanation is sought. The temperature at three miles was 21° F., but this great degree of cold could hardly account for so great a diminution of sensitiveness.

The registrations of temperature were 61½° before starting; 41° at one mile; 32° at two miles; 21° at three miles; 16° at four miles; and 12° at four miles and a-half, the highest point reached. The air was extremely dry, both at starting and during the whole ascent. Clouds were reached at the height of one mile, and, on passing them, the shining white clouds extending to the horizon, was exceedingly fine.

James Watt a Photographer.

A discovery of great historico-scientific interest is said to have been just made. It is alleged in a letter published in a Birmingham contemporary that "distinct evidence has been got to show that James Watt was engaged in photographic experiments, and that he took portraits." This announcement is certainly startling enough, but we are assured that "it is true."

The Times.

It is stated that there 350 persons employed in the office of the London *Times*. The usual circulation is 65,000, which requires eleven tons of paper daily. This paper is made wholly of linen. *The Times* is printed on Hoe's lightning press the large cylinder of which turns out eight pages every second and a half, or allowing for stoppages about 12,500 an hour, equal to 1000 every five minutes. When the whole paper is set up, papier-mache stereotypes are made from it, so as to attain greater rapidity of production by printing simultaneously on several presses. The whole business of *The Times* is on the cash principle. The papers are issued directly from the office. If intending subscribers send their addresses and cash, both are handed to a reliable newsmen, who supplies the paper. The great newspaper-vendors settle in cash, once a week. The smaller ones have credit from day to day, and sometimes no credit at all. Advertisements are almost invariably paid for before insertion. *The Times* like the *Illustrated London News*, owns an extensive paper mill of its own.

Illustrated London News.

Mr. W. J. Steward has been appointed editor of the great English pictorial. The salary is about \$6000 a year,—the same as that of Mr. Delane, editor of *The Times*. In addition however, Mr. Delane has a twenty-fourth share in the "Thunderer" Mr. Steward is author of a novel entitled "Footsteps Behind Him," and has another, called "Picked up at Sea," now in the press. Among the previous editors of the *Illustrated London News* have been Mr. F. W. N. Bayley, Mr. John Timbs, and Dr. Charles Mackay.

Pictorial Newspapers.

Mr. McLean, proprietor of "Fun" now in its fourth volume, is about establishing a new illustrated weekly in London. Of the Royal Marriage number of the *Illustrated London News* over 200,000 copies were sold. The clear profit is estimated at nearly £15,000.

The Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock.

A monthly magazine bearing this name, edited by a lady and printed by women, at Edinburgh, has reached its fourteenth number. Among its contributors are Archbishop Whately, Cuthbert Bede, J. O. Halliwell, and Mr. Sergeant Burke.

The Young of Salmon.

Dr. Alcock exhibited before the Manchester Philosophical Society a young living salmon, about fourteen days old, attached to part of the ovum. Dr. Alcock particularly called attention to the form of the vertebral column, which, whilst young, is similar to that of the lower grade of cartilaginous fishes when fully grown; the skeleton of the salmon however, becomes gradually changed, until at maturity it is that of the higher class of osseous fishes.

Sulphur Rendered Flexible.

A very curious chemical discovery has been made by Dissenbacher, a young German chemist. By the addition of a small quantity of chlorine or iodine, pure sulphur is rendered soft; and the Paris Academy, to whom the experiment was exhibited by H. Deville, were astonished to see a thin leaf of sulphur treated as flexible as if made of wax.

Glue for Ready Use.

To any quantity of glue use common whiskey, instead of water. Put both together in a bottle, cork it tight, and set it away for three or four days, when it will be fit for use without the application of heat. Glue thus prepared will keep for years, and is at all times fit for use, except in very cold weather, when it should be set in warm water before using. To obviate the difficulty of the stopper getting tight by the glue drying in the mouth of the vessel, use a tin vessel, with the cover fitting tight on the outside, to prevent the escape of the spirit by evaporation. A strong solution of isinglass, made in the same manner, is an excellent cement for leather.

Weights and Measures.

Mr. Ewar has obtained leave to bring in a bill for decimilising our existing system of weights and measures, and for establishing an accordance between them and those of foreign countries.

Rouge for the Complexion.

A correspondent in the east writes, having lately wondered what was the composition of the rouge with which the arabian girls paint their faces, he analysed a bottle of it bearing a French and American label, and was not a little surprised to find a solution of Hofmann's "acetate of rosaniline" in rose water.