

markable, as during the last few years strenuous efforts have been made to advance them in popular estimation. Another curious feature in the foregoing analysis, is that not even the gold discoveries in the Australias have prevented "Brother Jonathan" from obtaining the lion's share of the surplus population of these islands—a circumstance no doubt to be explained by the tendency of the Irish to emigrate in whole families to the great republic, and the readiness with which the unoccupied land of the States has been rendered available for purchase and cultivation.

IMPROVEMENT IN STEAM POWER.

We learn from the Portland papers that the fuel saving invention of Mr. Blanchard has recently been successfully tested in that city, in the presence of a number of experienced engineers. It consists in wholly dispensing with the use of a chimney on a boat while running and by a peculiar construction of the engine, the heat that usually passes off from the top of the smoke pike, oftentimes at so high a temperature as to ignite the gasses, is made available to do duty in the engine. The experiments lasted several days, and according to the certificate of the engineers, shows the quantity of fuel by Blanchard's improvement over the best made boilers to be the amount of over one-half. They also express the opinion, that had the test been made with an expensive working engine, still more remarkable results would have been proved.
