

surrounded him, but to overcome them. He was one well qualified to "ride on the whirlwind and direct the storm" of agricultural distress or spoilation. His efforts for remedial measures were not selfish, for he was ever anxious to promote, on general grounds and with most liberal feelings, what he considered essentially for the benefit of the agriculturists, more especially for the labouring portions of it, as was evinced in his struggles to the last for the abolition of the Malt Tax. In person Mr. Ellis was above the middle height; in manners he was indeed the "fine old English gentleman"—urbane to a degree, and perfectly accessible to all who had the slightest claims upon his valuable time. In matters of business he appeared to possess almost ubiquitous powers, for even during the last season, while the hops were being picked, he was almost incessantly in one or other of the gardens or oast-houses in Kent. From his long experience as a hop-grower, he was unwilling to adopt modern innovations, and upon a recent occasion, when the writer of this article mentioned to him a newly invented patent article, Mr. Ellis replied, with one of his most affable smiles, "I am obliged to you for pointing it out to me, but at my age if I don't understand growing and drying hops I had better give it up. Let your new plans have the number of years experience that I have had, and then let us see what the improvement is." Mr. Ellis was thrice married; his first lady was Miss Johnson, of Buxted, who died in childhood; the second was the widow of Mr. John Selby, by whom he had one son; the third, his present widow, was Miss Robinson, of Havering, at the Bower, Essex, who has a family of six children. The great object of Mr. Ellis's life, for many years past, has been the removal of the Malt Tax, and it was while attending a meeting for the purpose at the Freemasons' Tavern, that he was seized with his last and fatal illness.—*Sussex Express*.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

At a tannery, near Leeds, (the largest in the kingdom), the proprietor has at present a contract to supply, to one house alone, 2,000 hides weekly. There are weekly turned out from the same tannery 5,000 hides. In one yard there are four hundred and twenty pits, and two large steam engines on the premises to pump water.

The French have introduced a new manufacture by making stockings wholly of indian-rubber thread; they are made by a machine, and are said to be excellent in preventing rheumatic pains.

TRUTH IMMORTAL.—No fragment of truth ever dies. From time to time the body dies of it; but it rises in a more perfect form, leaving its grave clothes behind it, to be, perchance, worshipped as living things, by those who love to watch among the tombs.—*L. M. Child*.

PERSEVERE.—Many of the blessings universally desired are frequently wanted, because most men, when they should labour, content themselves to complain; and rather linger in a state in which they cannot be at rest, than improve their condition by vigour and resolution.—*Rumbler*.

SOCIALTY.—We are but passengers of a day, whether it is in a stage-coach or in the immense machine of the universe. In God's name, then, why should we not make the way as pleasant to each other as possible? Short as our journey is, it is long enough to be tedious to him who sulks in his corner, sits uneasy himself, and elbows his neighbour to make him uneasy also.

THE TAVERN.—Learn to love home—avoid the tavern. It is in the tavern that the devil draws up his army, arrayed against the brains and good resolves of men. It is there that he reviews his legion of bottles, and prepares them for the attack upon weak humanity.

A bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district, all studied and appreciated as they merit, are the principal supporters of virtue, morality, and civil liberty.

In the first place, take care ye never begin to speak till ye have got something to say; and, secondly, be sure to leave off as soon as ye have done.—*Witherspoon, Advice to Orators*.

WONDERFUL ENGINE.—It is alledged that a wonderful engine, called the air-engine, has lately been constructed by Professor Reinagle, who is securing patents in every civilized country of the earth. The power, which is self-produced in the engine, is obtained from condensed air, which, though easily manageable, begets an immense force, the present engine, which stands on a space not exceeding two feet square, having a power equal to five hundred and sixty-eight horses. For pumping water out of mines it is gravely proposed to use a 10,000 or 20,000 horse-power in order to do the work promptly. It is stated that, with the present small engine, two hundred and twenty tons can be propelled at a rate of twenty-five to thirty miles per hour. The description of the action of the machine is very vague, but it is said that several very eminent and scientific men have examined it and expressed their astonishment. Professor Faraday, having seen the drawing and heard the theory and practice of this invention explained, complimented the inventor by declaring, that he had discovered perpetual motion of the most terrific description.

A plan of warming a house, from the back of the kitchen-grate, has been adopted by Sir Charles Menteth. A cast-iron back, an inch thick, is fixed to the grate, and another plate of sheet iron placed at a distance of one or two inches from the cast-iron back, shows a species of stove, which serves to warm the under-ground story of a house; and, by means of a circulation of air passing between the two iron plates, a current of warm air, by means of a pipe from the hot chamber between the iron plate, is carried to the next floor above. The air is heated to 190 degrees by this simple and economical method. The wall is hollowed out to the passage or room behind the kitchen grate. The placing a thin plate of sheet iron behind the fire of a cottage grate adds much to the comfort of the inhabitant. All cottages should consist of two rooms, with a wall in which the grate of the cottager is placed, so that the back of his grate warms the room behind, and dries his clothes.

We had the pleasure of seeing these models in the model-room of the Scientific Institution, which met in Newcastle in August last; and doubt not, what is recommended, will be of essential benefit.—*Dumfries Times*.

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