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STAR, AND CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.

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Purification of the Atmosphere. An important invention has been lately made by which the smoke from steam engine boilers, locomotive, marine, or stationary as well as large furnaces of every kind, may be consumed by the same fire from which it proceeds. This invention is not more remarkable for its utility than for the extreme simplicity of the apparatus by which the very desirable object may be accomplished; neither is the expense increased, but a considerable object may be accomplished; neither is the expense increased, but a considerable saving of fuel may be ensured by its use. When this shall be generally applied to the large factory chimneys of the metropolis and other large towns, and, as probably one day will be the case, if it be applied to fire places generally, we may boast as clear an atmosphere in towns as in the country. The nuisance also arising from the volumes of dense black smoke which the steam boats carry with, as well as leave behind them, may be at once abolished by the same means. It is stated that this is the first instance of any perfect smoke consumer having been produced for which reason it has been hitherto necessary on railroads to use coke. The principle of this invention consists essentially in so arranging the form of the furnace and position of the bars that the fuel is regularly advanced by gravitation upon inclined fire-bars, without the aid of machinery or any apparatus besides the simple instruments in common use for the management of furnaces. The carbon and various inflammable gasses are set free in the process of combustion, and being more charged with the oxygen of the atmosphere and heat of the fire, proceed through and over the fire, which increasing in heat to its termination gradually subjects the less combustible gasses to perfect combustion, and not a particle of smoke is seen to issue from the chimney. When new fuel is thrown upon the fire, and the most dense smoke is seen at the mouth of the chimney. The intensity of the fire is kept up by a hot blast. Another material point should be mentioned, and that is, that the ashes which in the case of steam vessels are frequently thrown over board, may, with the new furnace, be again and again thrown upon the fire. Every thing is consumed, nothing is wasted. This plan is the invention of a Mr. John Chanter, and has been tested before a large body of scientific gentlemen, at Messrs. Coade's manufactory near Waterloo-bridge, and found entirely successful.

Attention to business at the Home Office.—In December last, Lord J. Russell introduced a bill intitled "Benefices Pluralities Bill," and gave a reason for introducing it so early in the season, that he wished to have it printed and circulated among the clergy, who were the most interested in its enactments. In consequence of this, a neighbouring clergyman wrote to his lordship requesting that a copy might be forwarded to him, but no notice was taken of the application; and at last, after waiting nearly two months, in the middle of February, he wrote again. To this second letter he received an answer that Lord John Russell was sorry he had no copies of the bill left. The bill has now been read a second time, and we will undertake to say that not one clergyman in fifty has ever seen it.

Lord Teignmouth, the newly-elected member for Marylebone, is in his 43d year, and succeeded to the Irish barony of Teignmouth on the demise of his father, John, the first lord, formerly Governor of Bengal, in 1834. His lordship is connected with the family of General Lord Hill, by the marriage of his sister the Hon. Anna Maria Shore, with the late gallant Col. Sir Thos. Noel Hill, commandant of the cavalry depot at Maidstone. The Hon. Mr. John Shore, the noble lord's surviving brother, lately died in the East Indies, where he was in the civil service, and his relict and family are on their passage to England.

The Government Snarley-yows.—Our mendacious ministers have this week been so beaten in the mass and in detail—have been so cudgelled, pummelled, peppered, driven from one point to another, kicked, discomfited, tarred and feathered—and still, like the Snarley Yow of the novelist, they are as alive—as savage—as ugly, and as many as ever! They have been thrown overboard by the Radicals, kicked on the head and buried in a ditch by the Conservatives, yet, lo, and behold! there they are though half-blind and almost bereft of their tail, in possession of the state cabin in Her Majesty's service. Verily, we should almost doubt their mortality, but that the political death of their master gives us hopes that their own dissolution is close at hand.

HANOVER.

On the 20th February King Ernest opened in person the Session of the States of Hanover. After the celebration of Divine Service in the Castle chapel, the members of the States repaired to the hall of the legislative body and

took the oath tendered to them by the hereditary marshal of the kingdom, Count Munster. The prince royal also attended at this ceremony. At a quarter past two o'clock the royal cortege left the castle, and on reaching the legislative palace His Majesty was received by the hereditary marshal and the members of the boards of both houses. The king having then entered the hall, seated himself on his throne, the prince royal being on his right, and the grand dignitaries of the crown on his left, and delivered the following speech: "Noble Lords, worthy and faithful Deputies,—

"My anxious desire to see assembled round my throne the worthy states of this kingdom is at length gratified. It is for me a great satisfaction. When I determined on abrogating the fundamental law of December 26, 1833, by the promulgating of my royal patents of November 1, 1837, an attempt was made to create a belief that it was my intention to arrogate to myself an arbitrary power over the subjects. Providence has committed to my care. I have ever detested an arbitrary form of government, and I wish to govern my beloved people only according to law and justice. In order, worthy States, to give you unquestionable proof of the uprightness of my intentions, I will shortly cause to be laid before you the draught of a new constitution for my kingdom, based on the principles which have so long secured the prosperity of the people of Germany. I indulge the hope that my views will perfectly coincide with yours on all the main points of the new charter. Various other important bills will also be submitted to your deliberation. I declare that the session of the States is opened."

After delivering this speech, the King left the hall to return to his palace. The royal cortege followed in the same order as on its way to the house, and His Majesty received on his passage through the streets, as well as on his arrival before the palace, unequivocal proofs of the satisfaction and affection of his subjects.

THE USE OF SINGING.—It is a striking fact, that in Germany—the country where, above all others, singing is made a regular branch of education in the schools, and where all are taught to use the voice and musical powers with which their Creator has endowed them, consumption, the most fatal disease of the lungs in this country, is almost unknown. This is probably in no small degree attributable to the cultivation of the voice, and practice of the lungs in singing.—The cultivation of music, besides collaterally improving the mind itself, is highly beneficial to the health and good spirits, as all must be able to testify who have practised the art of singing. Unfortunately for the young, it is nearly

unknown, or at least very little practised by the youth in this country.

PRESSURE OF THE PRESS.—Yesterday I did not write a line of Woodstock.—Partly, I was a little out of spirits, though that would not have hindered. Partly, I wanted to wait for some new ideas—a sort of collecting of straw to make bricks of. Partly, I was a little too far beyond the press. I cannot pull well in long traces, when the draught is too far behind me. I love to have the press thumping, clattering, and banging in my rear; it creates the necessity which always makes me work best. Needs must when the devil drives. and drive he does even according to the letter.

A table has been published showing the progressive increase of Christians from the first century to the present.—The first century is put down at 500,000, the tenth at 50,000,000, the nineteenth at 250,000,000, and the nineteenth at 260,000,000.—N. Y. paper.

According to a Belgian journal, the annual consumption of Geneva or Holland at Tournay, the population of which place is 24,000 souls, amounts to about 370,000 quarts.

THE ROYAL SCEPTRE.—The sceptre of England is made of gold, the handle plain, the upper part wreathed; in length about 2 feet 9 1/4 inches; in circumference about 3 inches at the handle, and 2 1/2 inches at the top. The pommel of the latter is enriched with rubies, emeralds, and small diamonds, and about 5 1/2 inches above the handle is embellished and embossed with sapphires. On the top is a mound with a cross.

The first canal in England, with locks and sluices, was made A.D. 1563, near the city of Exeter. The inventor was one John Trew, of Glamorgan.

VENTILATION.—In the construction of houses and public buildings, there is, for the most part, but little care taken to provide for due ventilation, which is capable of being regulated on the strictest scientific principles. Who has not experienced the ill effects of this neglect, in headaches, flushings, languor, and debility, incurred by attending meetings of large number of persons? These evils are caused by the inhalation of air from which much of its oxygen has been abstracted, and which is thus unfit for the purposes of respiration. Persons of delicate health, especially those whose lungs are weak, ought to beware of frequenting numerous and crowded assemblies. The theatre, the ball-room, and other fashionable places of resort, have destroyed many a victim.—Curtis on Health.

ANTIDOTE TO POISON.—A few days ago eight persons, at Basenth, who had been poisoned with arsenic, were all saved by the employment of the oxide-hydrate of iron, though the quantity of arsenic which they had taken with their food was very considerable.

HIEROGLYPHICS.—Most of the figures by which the great truths of Revelation are familiarised to us, come from this source. We have already frequently referred to that universal hieroglyphic, the light. What ideas do we entertain of truth so forcible as those which that emblem conveys to us? What words can speak so beautifully and so intelligibly as that figure? What account can we give of purification, that that emblem of water does not far excel? How can we so fearfully portray trial, as by fire,—so beautifully illustrate innocence, as by a lamb,—affection, as by a dove? Or, what laboured preaching could so speak to the heart of the weary, as this figure, "I am the Bread of Life?" Now if these figures are so expressive to us, even in a language