



NEW YORK, OCTOBER 3, 1846.

**Privilege of Inventors.**

There appears to be an erroneous impression prevalent among inventors, on the subject of using or selling their newly invented or improved articles, prior to making application for patents: and some have felt restrained from selling, or offering for sale, such articles until letters patent were issued therefor. We have had frequent occasion to explain this point to inventors, and assure them of their privilege of proving the saleability as well as utility of their inventions, before their inventions were entered at the Patent Office, especially if they took the precaution to publish full notices of their inventions, and of their intention to apply for patents therefor. For the purpose of inducing confidence in this respect, we subjoin the 7th section of the act of Congress on this subject, passed in 1839.

‘And be it further enacted, That every person or corporation who has, or shall have, purchased or constructed any newly invented machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, prior to the application by the inventor or discoverer for a patent, shall be held to possess the right to use, and vend to others to be used, the specific machine, manufacture or composition of matter so made or purchased, without liability therefor to the inventor, or any other person interested in such invention; and no patent shall be held to be invalid, by reason of such purchase, sale, or use, prior to the application for a patent as aforesaid, except on proof of abandonment of such invention to the public, or that such purchase, sale, or prior use, has been for more than two years prior to such application for a patent.’

**Ruinous tendency of the Free Trade policy at the South.**

It has been distinctly understood from the commencement of this paper, that we advocate tariff protection of American manufactures; and not for the sake of the manufacturers alone, but for the sake of the whole country. We have felt assured that the people of the South who have strongly advocated free trade, were blind to their own interests. Many of the citizens of the Southern States are waking up to this fact, and have ventured to speak in a manner consistent with common sense on the subject. As a specimen of this, we give, below, an extract from a letter from a gentleman in South Carolina, as published in the Charleston Mercury.

‘Every body in this section is engaged in subduing the grass which has sprung up luxuriantly during the late rains. Corn looks badly, and cotton worse. There has been a good deal of suffering this year, on account of the scarcity in the provision crops, and I fear there will be more next. A purely agricultural people, you see, will always lead a miserable existence. If the crops are good, there is no one to purchase, and all they can get is a mere living. On the other hand, if the crops fail, they all suffer together, because they have no money to purchase from abroad. Even the prospect of fruit, so fine, a month ago, is likely to be cut off. The apples are falling before they are ripe; peaches have but little flavor. Melons of all kinds are comparatively tasteless, and the grapes, which promised so well, are rotting by the bushel. Such is our fate, and I suppose we must submit to it. Had we less opposition to a fair Tariff in Carolina, and a little more diversity of labor, we might be supplied with means, when our crops are short, to purchase from abroad.’

**City Improvements.**

The hack and omnibus owners are endeavoring to procure the removal of the rails from the Bowery, Broom and Centre streets. Let them work at it. If they succeed, it will be only a signal for relaying them in a more substantial form than at present.

**Mechanism.**

The science of mechanism, embraces almost every principle of Natural Philosophy—and may be defined generally, a knowledge of the properties possessed by matter, and the various uses to which it may be applied in the progress of civilization.

Without a knowledge of this science, man would be a mere machine—a thing unworthy of his omnipotent intellect. Compelled forever to remain stationary, or at least, unable to visit the isles of the ocean, or to move in the ‘living thing,’ across the clear blue sea, or the tranquil river—he would live in perfect ignorance of other men and distant climes; without an idea of the principles of mechanism, man would remain exposed to the alterations of heat and cold, sunshine and shade, storm and calm; land lies before him that knows not of these wonderful things—stormy, unimproved and uncultivated. His amusements are scarcely above those of the beasts that roam over the fields, while his greater agility, keener perception, and intellect, render him capable of enjoying the entertainments of the angels above. But once let philosophy be demonstrated to the wild nation—let the knowledge of mechanism be diffused—and so all ‘the valleys shall be raised up, the hills made low, the rough places smooth, and the crooked straight. Then shall the wilderness and the solitary place be made glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.’ Where the uncouth hut stood, the comfortable rooms of a warm mansion appear; damp walls are exchanged for pleasant ceilings; friends, thousands of miles apart, are brought by the power of mechanism, near; trade goes on between the most distant nations of the earth, to facilitate the comfort and happiness of man:

‘Great river of progression,  
Pursue thy onward way;  
Roll through to every nation,  
Nor in thy grandeur stay!’

**Railroads.**

The St Louis New Era says, “The latter experiments prove that railroads can be profitably used in carrying heavy freights at low rates, and that they will come into successful competition with navigable rivers. The experience of the past year shows that they can be successfully used in transporting southern cotton to the north, and in carrying the produce of the valley of the Mississippi to the Atlantic ports. We need a railroad direct from St Louis to the Atlantic,” and must have one, too, at no distant day. The subject ought to be agitated, *agitated*, *AGITATED* constantly.

**Extraordinary Facilities of Education.**

Some of the Albany papers give an astonishing account of the progress of certain classes of pupils, in different branches of literature, under the tuition of Prof. Wailon. By his improved mode, children 12 years old have acquired a very perfect knowledge of Geography, retaining the names of places and things, by a combinations of Mnemonics, with the use of improved, maps, globes, &c. If Mr. Wailon is equally successful in other branches, he will confer great advantages on the community.

The Magnetic Telegraph between this city and Buffalo, is said to have as much business as it can manage, and, of course, is making immense profits.

**Corn Roots.**

There are now, in the National Gallery, corn roots taken from one side of a hill of corn laid bare by a freshet, sixty days after planting, some of the larger roots of which, covered with lateral branching roots, were more than four feet long. The aggregate length of all the roots in the hill, fine and coarse, were estimated at over 5000 feet.

**Successful Advertising.**

A few days since a lady of New York advertised for a husband in one of the Pittsburg papers. Last week the same paper contained the announcement of her marriage to a respectable citizen of that place.

It is said that gold has been discovered in such quantities in Siberia, as to endanger its present value. 11,000 miners are at work there, and 23,000 more could find employment.

**Scientific Mechanic.**

*Advantages derived from Momentum.*—

There are very few branches of business, but what are in a great measure, dependent on the momentum of bodies, to effect the ordinary operation thereof. To commence with the farmer—if he chops a log, or drives a post, he depends on the momentum of his axe at every stroke to accomplish the work, after having been put in motion for that purpose. If he shovels earth, or manure, he depends on momentum to carry the same, from the shovel to the cart. A carpenter, requires momentum to impel his broad-axe, or adz, through the timber, separating the chips from the main body. The momentum of the mallet drives the chissel, and that of the hammer, the nail. The effect of the sledge-hammer of the blacksmith, is produced by the same principle.—The turner, having produced a half-revolution of his lathe-wheel, by the pressure of his foot, depends on momentum to accomplish the other half. A sailor is dependent on momentum to continue the headway of his vessel while *going in stays*; or that of his boat, during the interval between the dips of the oar. The sportsman would find but poor sport, were it not for the action of momentum, in carrying the ball or shot, from his gun to the game. A coachman’s whip would be of little service, without the aid of momentum, and even the pedestrian, would find it a very awkward job to propel his body by the action of his legs and feet, without the same regulator. Machinists and engineers, well know the value of the momentum of the fly wheel. The pendulum of a clock, and the balance wheel of a watch, equally dependent on this principle, for their peculiar regularity of motion, nor can any method be found for measuring time, without it. Without momentum, there could be no such thing as wind—for even a moving current of air would be destitute of force or effect. All fire engines would be useless, and projectiles would not be known. Bells, and stringed instruments would be silent. Children could no longer play with balls, hoops, or kites, and even the planets, being stationary in their respective places, there would be no change of day, night, or seasons. Time, itself, would hardly be known, and all nature would be greatly deficient of the beauty, science, and interesting variety, which now furnishes much of the excellence of life, and happiness of man.

**Portable Iron Boats.**

Messrs. Knapp & Foster, of Pittsburg, have completed four iron boats, intended for the use of the U. S. Army. These boats are each 45 feet in length, 10 feet in breadth, and 4 1-2 feet deep. They are wholly of iron, and built after the fashion of a canal section boat, in three sections of 15 feet each. By means of bulk heads each section is perfectly water tight. Both ends are modelled alike, so that the boat can go either way. By building them in sections, they can easily be transported across the country on wagons.

A farm in Cleveland, Ohio, contains six thousand fruit trees, consisting of a fair proportion of apple, pear, peach, plum and cherry trees.

Upwards of three thousand cases of suicide occurred in the city of Paris within the last year. It is getting to be quite a fashionable amusement.

Earthquakes have been remarkably frequent within the year past. We have accounts of no less than fifteen within the last nine months.

The sailors in Buffalo are on a strike for higher wages. They are now receiving \$18 per month, and demand \$25.

The Parkersburg (Va.) Gazette of the 10th inst. announces that seven slaves, belonging to Abel James, Esq., absconded a few nights before.

The latest case of absence of mind is recorded of a lady, about to ‘whip up’ some eggs for a sponge cake, who whipped *the baby*, and sung Watt’s cradle hymn to the *eggs*.

A new iron steamer is being constructed, to run between Lewiston and Montreal, and is expected to make the distance in 24 hours.



**The Mormon War.**

We have neglected to publish any thing on this subject lately, for the reason that we are heartily ashamed for our country, in view of the movements now going on in a section of the Union. It is indeed among the wonders of this wonderful age, to see in one of our States, an armed and organized force of five or six hundred, making open war against another organized band of 300 peaceable citizens of the same State, and actually fighting with artillery and muskets, while the ridiculously tame and inefficient municipal branch of government, calmly looks on to see the sport without interfering. The villainous, cowardly band of anti-Mormons, having after much manœuvring, advanced toward Nauvoo, the Mormons marched out to oppose them, and a long and smoky battle was fought, which would undoubtedly have been a bloody battle, had the assailants ventured within gunshot of their opponents. Subsequently several assaults have been made by the anti-Mormons, but their cowardice has thus far prevented the accomplishment of any thing very honorable to themselves, or disastrous to the Mormons, except the loss of a few men killed and wounded. It is to be hoped that if they succeed in conquering the Mormons, they will next turn their victorious arms against the officers of the State, destroy the papers, kick out the Governor, and organize a new government.

**Manufactories in Florida.**

We are gratified to learn from the Pensacola Gazette, that the manufacturing enterprise is making important advances in that section of country. There is a cotton factory established at Arcadia, and in successful operation. The building is ninety four by thirty feet, and employs forty operatives, young black women mostly married, and who are said to be comfortably lodged, well fed and clothed, kindly treated, and well pleased with the business.—Bagdad, in the wild woods, three and a half miles from Arcadia, is said to present the appearance of a manufacturing town. In various other places, arrangements are making for introducing manufacturing machinery, which, as in other places, gives an impulse to business and sensibly enhances the value of other property in the vicinity.

One of our exchanges speaks of a parent potato raised in Pittsfield, Ohio, and measuring two feet and three inches in length. They must have a long pot to boil it in.

A cotemporary has discovered that the report of a marriage of a gentleman in Boston to a lady in New York, by Telegraph, is a sheer hoax! Bright, isn’t he?

The price of wool has been so far reduced by the new tariff, that several merchants in this city have been shipping it in large quantities to England.

The Burlington (N. J.) Gazette states that a Mr. Bronson, in that county, is now producing abundance of second crop strawberries.

The Mexican word for a kiss, *tetenamaquilitli*, contradicts the proverb that any thing is easier said than done.

‘Look to your pockets, now days,’ says the Albany Knickerbocker. What’s the use?

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