



Signs of the Times.

(The following extract from an editorial under this head, in the "Spirit of the Age," especially its easy and sudden transition from the sublime to the ridiculous, is perhaps the most perfect illustration of the real, prevalent spirit of the age that could be produced.)

From all quarters of the world we hear news of the most exciting and interesting character. Commotions, convulsions, combats, cannonading—popular tumults—progress of free principles—omens of war—preparations for strife—starvation—pestilence—floods, fires & famine—earthquakes and tempests—disasters at sea and casualties on land—the spread of infidelity and the triumphs of truth—moral machinery for the conversion of the world, and physical improvements to perfect its material forms—the divine and the infernal from the spirit world, working by "influx," strange developments in the natural—philosophy which predicts that our round earth shall stand forever unharmed by floods of fire, and undestroyed by any convulsion of nature—and on the other hand prophecies with "times half times" and "prophetic periods," mysterious numbers, and alarming calculations, coupled with dire prodigies in the heavens and in the earth, fulfilling the divine foreshadowing of the sacred records. All these taken in connexion with the war in Ann street against the Temperance reformation, are enough to startle the minds of the stoutest, and awaken the fears of the most incredulous.

A Smuggler with Four Millions of Money.

There lives in Silesia a peasant, named Gudalla, as he was briefly called. He was formerly a smuggler. One day the Custom House officers were in pursuit of him, and having fired, the ball passed through his right arm, which was obliged to be amputated. Gudalla, forced to resort to another calling, established himself in a village called Rua. He had only been there a few days before his good fortune returned, and he had the luck of discovering a valuable zinc mine called Mary's Mine, and it has now become one of the most profitable zinc mines of any in Europe. Gudalla having asked and obtained permission to work his discovery, this peasant who can neither read nor write, is now in possession of a fortune estimated at 30,000,000 of thallars or about four millions of pounds sterling! Gudalla is unmarried and likewise being a founding, having no relations or offspring, the whole of his immense property, according to the Prussian laws, will go to the King of Prussia. During his recent tour the King visited Gudalla, who felthighly honored by the visit; he is in good health for his time of life, being upward of sixty years of age.

Startling Occurrence.

The Dubuque Republican has published an account of a fall of ærolites in that neighborhood. In one instance, a large stone some six feet in diameter, and resembling a mass of sulphur, in its descent went through a large tree, crushing it to atoms, and entered the earth to the depth of about twelve feet, from whence it was afterwards recovered by those who witnessed its fall.

Colossal Candelabra.

A cut glass candelabra has been manufactured at Birmingham, for Ibrahim Pacha. It is seventeen feet six inches in height, and stands on a crystal vase upwards of three feet in diameter. It realises the idea of an Eastern dream, and looks like a tall palm of an Oriental tale converted into crystal by the wand of a magician. Though apparently one entire whole it consists of upwards of five hundred pieces; yet the minutest scrutiny fails to detect a single metallic fixing in the whole candelabra—The shaft supports twenty-four arms—sixteen in the lower tier, and eight in the uppermost.

A mechanic in Philadelphia has invented an India rubber arm which weighs but little over a pound, for the benefit of those who have been obliged to submit to an amputation.

The Wonders of Nature and Art.

This is the appropriate title of a new work of 324 pages, by Gilroy, author of "Manufactures of the Ancients, &c." It illustrates particularly the wonderful construction of the most wonderful of all machines, the human frame and system;—the pernicious effects of alcohol thereon;—chemistry and its adaptations and practical uses in the arts and sciences;—harmony of modern scientific discoveries with the physical facts of the sacred scriptures;—wonderful automata;—the formation of images in a dark chamber, and transposing prints to metal plates;—architectural engraving and mechanical drawing. The index refers to about sixty different subjects, and the work is embellished with sixty one engravings. This work is published by Burgess, Stringer, & Co., 222 Broadway, and we have made arrangements to furnish a few copies from this office, and shall send them by mail, postage paid, to any part of the United States for one dollar per copy. Price at the office 62 1-2 cts.

Ranlet's Architect.

We are in receipt of another number of this unrivalled work, and have decided to advise the publisher to double the price thereof forth with: it is too bad that a work worth two dollars a number, should go for only 50 cents.—Otherwise, we shall advise some speculator to take up the whole edition of each number, and double his money thereon. It is enough to increase one's love of life to see the splendid and tasteful cottage edifices represented in bold *claro obscuro* with their gay piazzas, shaded porticos, fancy windows and surrounded with shrubbery, grass-plats and gravel walks. But we have said enough. Perhaps our readers will not remember that this work is published at Graham's in the Tribune Buildings.

Thirteen More New Papers.

We are not informed how often the old ones die, but it is surprising to see how rapidly new papers make their appearance on the stage. The one we have particularly in mind—because it lies before us,—is "the Champion of American Labor," a large, embellished and well printed *New York city paper*, containing a little of every thing, published at 27 Ann st, by an association of mechanics. We shall not venture much of a puff at this time, but if it does not prove to be worth as much as the other dozen, we shall think the first two numbers are not fair specimens.

A Pattern Justice.

A Mr Alonzo Lewis, in a letter to the Lynn News, says: "I have been a Justice of the Peace for more than six years—and during that time have had many cases presented to me, all of which, with a single exception, I have settled without a dollars' expense to either party. When all my brethren can say as much, their sleep will be as sweet as mine is.

Singing in Primary Schools.

The general introduction of singing into our primary schools, is one of the most pleasing and important improvements in education at the present time. Music is one of the richest sources of enjoyment to well informed minds; it is one of those precious gifts of Heaven which man's perverted nature has not been able to entirely destroy, and when cultivated, does much toward restoring what has been lost by sin.

Locomotive Struck by Lightning.

On the 13th ult., a locomotive attached to the passenger train passing from Atlanta to Augusta, Ga., was struck by lightning. The fluid passed along the machinery of the engine to the cars, shaking some of the inmates prettily severely, but doing no damage. It is supposed that Mr. Townsends horizontal smoke-pipes may be so connected as to form a perfect protector of the cars from lightning.

Iron Bridge Rail.

Mr. Wood of the British Iron Company's Works in Abersychan, recently succeeded in rolling iron rails weighing 90 lbs. per yard, and 30 feet in length. These rails are said to be perfect, and very nicely finished. It is difficult to say where the limits to the size of iron rails will be found.

Gen. Worth is known by the cognomen of "The Waving Plume." It is a pretty title, graceful and spirited.

Wire Bridges.

It is stated in the Rochester Democrat, that the Niagara Suspension Bridge Company will shortly proceed to the erection of a Wire Bridge across the Niagara river. The whole of the stock, \$200,000 has been taken—one half in Canada, and the remainder in New York.—"Contractors in Philadelphia and Pittsburg offer to build a good and substantial bridge of wire for \$200,000. It will be 40 feet wide—the centre track for cars to connect with the Canada road through to Detroit, and capable of transporting 300 tons over it at once, at the rate of 10 miles an hour. There will be two tracks for carriages and a foot path. It will have three spans with abutments 200 feet high.

The Nomination of Gen. Taylor.

The other day, at one of our hotels, a gentleman was reading from a newspaper the nomination of Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, subject to the decision of a National Convention. "A National Convention be —," exclaimed a six foot Kentuckian; "why, sir, I tell ye, General Taylor will be nominated and elected too, throughout the whole of these U. States by *spontaneous combustion!*"

Lake Superior.

The following are the returns to the government office, of the copper ore taken out by the different companies for the month of January, viz:—Pittsburg & Boston Co., 500,000 lbs.; Copper Falls Co., 20,000; Bohemia, 40,000; North West, 10,000; Eagle River, boulders pure, 1,000; Eagle Harbor, 4,000; North Western, 4,000; Suffolk, 200,000; Luc La Belle, 20,000.

Singular Occurrence.

We find it stated in papers from Buenos Ayres, that at Sacramento a widow woman while on the mole superintending the embarkation of cattle, fell suddenly dead after having embarked about 60 head, and all the cattle died at the same time from some unexplainable cause. The affair produced general consternation.

An Extensive Town in Prospect.

J. K. Mills Esq., of Boston, has purchased the entire water privilege and factories opposite South Hadley, Canal Village, for a company who intended to enter largely into manufacturing. The villages will undoubtedly be connected by a bridge.

School for Rogues.

It is said there are two convicts in the State Prison engaged in engraving plates for bank checks, also printing them. We should think they would be apt to profit by it when they obtain their release.

An Engineering Difficulty.

The Bingley bog, across which it is intended to form a portion of the railway between Shipley and Keighley, swallows up sixty tons of earth and stones every hour of the day, without presenting any appearance of the wished-for embankment.

No Spanish Railroads.

It is remarkable that there is not in the world such a thing as a railroad in any country where the Spanish language is spoken, with the exception of the short one in Cuba, which owes its existence to American enterprise.

Ocean Steam Navigation.

The city of Bremen has subscribed \$100,000, the government of Prussia, \$100,000, the free city of Frankfurt, \$20,000, and other cities sumscorresponding to their abilities, towards the establishment of the steamship line between New York and Bremen.

U. S. Mint.

The coinage of the Mint at Philadelphia for the month of March, was, in gold coins \$1,988,880; in silver \$88,600; in copper \$2031. Total, \$2,079,511.

A New Idea.

The Treasurer of the school district in Richmond, Indiana, advertises that he will pay children a certain sum per day for every day they will attend school.

Portrait of Gen. Taylor.

There appears to be no such thing as a recognized likeness of Gen. Taylor to be found. Mr. Geo. Atwood of Philadelphia, has gone to Mexico expressly for the purpose of painting a portrait of the hero.

Powder Mill Explosions.

The Packing and drying houses of Dupont's powder mills near Wilmington, Delaware, were last week destroyed by explosion; 6,000 barrels of powder were destroyed, and eighteen laborers were instantly killed, and one more wounded. The concussion was felt at Philadelphia, a distance of thirty miles.

Annealing Zinc.

It is stated by Prof. Faraday that by pouring melted zinc into water, and often repeating the process, the zinc becomes soft and malleable, losing none of its tenacity, but is capable of being spun into the finest wire, pressed into any required thinness.

The Temperance Reform.

The city of Columbus, Ohio, has gone No License by a majority of 324. Franklin county do. 149 majority. Ohio and Cleveland cities have decided against granting licenses, the former by 204 majority, the latter by 179.—Washington county, Penn., has voted No License by about 1,000 majority.

A Deep Interest in the Earth.

A mason speaking of the difficulties of making a cellar rather deeper than it is usual to have them, was answered by the owner of the property, that he could have it as deep as he pleased, for *he owned all the way through.*

"Good News from a far Country."

The best news by the recent arrivals from Europe, are, that the British Parliament have passed the law forbidding the employment of women and children in the factories for a longer period than ten hours a day.

Factory at Alexandria.

At Alexandria, Va., a meeting was recently held at the Lyceum, for the purpose of organizing a cotton factory company, at which over \$40,000 was subscribed, and a committee appointed to obtain further subscriptions, it being designed that the capital shall be one hundred thousand dollars.

The Manufacture of Paper.

The capital employed in the manufacture of paper in the United States is \$18,000,000; the number of mills 700; the annual product \$17,000,000, and the number of operatives employed 100,000.

Machinery for Confections.

George Duncan of Glasgow has invented a machine for manufacturing confections. 1200 lozenges can be struck in one minute, by one of the machines.

An anti-gambling law has been passed in Pennsylvania, giving magistrates summary power to enter suspected buildings. A person enticing another into a gambling house, is to be responsible for losses incurred, and liable to a fine of not more than \$500 or not less than \$50.

There is supposed to have been at least fifteen thousand foreign emigrants arrived in this city within the last three weeks.

A magazine proprietor is about to offer a prize for the "tale" Hamlet's ghost could have unfolded.

Mr Capon, of Boston, has proposed to the Massachusetts Legislature, the purchase of the freedom of all the slaves in the United States.

The names of twenty seven American officers killed, and thirty eight wounded at the battle of Buena Vista have been reported and published.

One quarter of the children born, die before they are a year old. One half die before they are twenty-one, and not one quarter reach the age of forty.

The average number of inhabitants to a square mile in China is 230; in England 236; in Ireland 275.

Never go to market immediately after eating a full meal, for you cannot possibly judge what will best suit your appetite at another time.

The transportation of free laborers from the coast of Africa to the West Indies, is now carried on by the English government.

The *Academie Francaise*, of Paris, awarded last year a prize of 5000 francs to a Mr. Royband for a work refuting the Socialist system of St. Simon, Fourier and Robert Owea.