

LITERATURE.

TYPE SETTING BY MACHINERY.

Willis, in his letter to the *Horn Journal*, says: "The machine to insert a pig at the end and grind out sausages at the other is really 'slow' in comparison with the new invention for setting types—a visit to which I made the other day. Before describing it, let me ask, with our friend the editor of the *Albion*, 'Where will civilization stop?'—his (Mr. Young's) unwillingness to 'improve' any further, being based upon the contrivance of the new gun, (McCord's) which is to be worked by a crank, can be fired two hundred and forty times in a minute, and is loaded through a 'hopper'—killing, of course, a respectable-sized regiment every two seconds. For even this is nothing to the foreboding of Alden's type-setter, which not only can set types as fast as eight men, but 'distributes' or restores to their places, the same amount by the same process—an *auto-recuperation* of outlay, which is wonderful to believe (for an editor, at least) may be a possible principle in Nature!

The type-setter is worked like a piano, by playing on keys—the mere touch on the key, for the letter *a*, for instance, being instead of the old fashion of taking up that letter with the fingers, turning it right end up and right side front, and putting it into the line, to be adjusted with spaces. It is a revolving table of brass the machine—worked by the smallest steam power, and the cost is about fifteen hundred dollars. It would 'clear itself' by the saving of labor, (to say nothing of the acceleration of work to which speed is so necessary,) in a very short time. Without going into a particular description of the machinery, I may say, as one who has been a well-taught type-setter himself, that it seemed to me as the locomotive seems to the stage driver, or as the steamboat to the paddler of the canoe an impossible *deus ex machina* brought miraculously to pass.

Perhaps the most curiously ingenious part of the invention is that which gives the compositor a chance to scratch his head or indulge in a reverie, speak to his friend, or light his cigar, mend the grammar or criticize the 'copy'—obviating, that is to say, the necessity of rigidly keeping up with the unvarying steam-propulsion of the machine. This is done by a register-wheel, which makes signals for the letters before they are taken, and which will allow as many as sixty to accumulate before they are disposed of, yet with no hindrance to the action of the machinery. Could anything be more like a brain turned into brass?

The inventor of this wonderful affair, Timothy Alden, was a practical printer; and to it he devoted twenty years, dying when he had at last perfected it—his brain and nerves giving way to the diseases of over-concentration of thought and will. How many are victims, in these 'fast days,' to this kind of over-tasking! Yet Alden lived long enough of a life, if measured by benefit to his race. What were the eventful centuries of a Methuselah, (as a good to the world) in comparison with the twenty-year invention of this Massachusetts type-setter?

CAVALRY GRAPNEL.

This is a newly invented weapon of destruction, and is designed to render cavalry vastly superior to infantry. It is an admitted fact in the science of war, that infantry formed into a square, or in mass, and standing firm and unbroken, can defeat an equal number of cavalry, each being armed with the ordinary weapons. This fact has been fully demonstrated upon many a well-fought field, in the last half-century, including the celebrated battle of Waterloo, where the French cavalry repeatedly charged the squares of English infantry, and were uniformly repulsed, the squares standing firm and unbroken.

A man and horse acting united, have the strength and speed of several men; and ought, if properly armed, to be competent to the defeat of several men. The Grapnel is a new weapon, adapted to this superior strength and speed, and Cavalry armed with this destructive machine, and well-skilled in its use, can easily defeat four times their number of infantry, mowing them down like grass before a scythe. This weapon may also be used by cavalry against cavalry, and even by infantry against infantry.

COL. ELLSWORTH'S ZOUAVES.

The Philadelphia Press of this morning says: Some seventy-five or a hundred of Col. Ellsworth's Firemen Zouaves, from New York, are of that class whose irrepressible propensities for mischief cause themselves and their friends no little trouble. Yesterday they were disposed to have an unrestrained 'time,' and gave their officers no little trouble to keep them within anything near the bounds of propriety. They scattered themselves over the city generally, and went in for amusements novel, exciting, dangerous and otherwise. At the Smithsonian, a portion of them amused themselves in feats of jumping, every man leaping clear over the six-foot iron rail fence around the grounds of the Smithsonian.

It is the determination of Col. Ellsworth to return about a hundred of them back to New-York. This will relieve the regiment of that element which has given the officers and great majority of the men so much trouble, and leave a regiment of as orderly, noble, and brave men as ever were called together for military duty.

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MASSACHUSETTS.

The *New-York Tribune*, in an able article on Massachusetts, and the promptness, with which she answered the call of the government says:—

"In this mighty uprising of a great nation, Massachusetts led the van.

"That privilege was hers by right. The children of the men who faced, unarmed, in State street, the fire of British troops; who waited on Bunker Hill till they could see the color of the eyes of the approaching foe before they pulled a trigger; who drove back from Lexington, with such arms as they could snatch from over the kitchen fireplace, the best disciplined soldiers of Europe, were not the men to hesitate at such a time as this. And it was well for Massachusetts that she had for Chief Magistrate one whose foresight had anticipated events, and whose large judgment had provided for them. 'We are ready to start on the instant, said the people 'but have not the means.' 'Send on your men,' replied the Governor, 'the means are ready;' for by his diligent care, for months they had been provided. The wires which carried the proclamation of the President to Boston had hardly ceased to vibrate, ere Massachusetts men, dropping the tools of their trades, and the implements of farming, hurried from workshops and fields, gathered in village-squares, as their fathers did eighty-six years ago, and commanding wives and children, and parents, to the kind care of neighbors, made quick adieus, and marched to report themselves at headquarters, ready for service. There were instances where the alarm was rung out from village-steeples, and men sprang from their beds, and fell into the ranks at the place of rendezvous, and ere the sun had lit up the homes which many of them were never to see again, were on their way to fight their country's battles. Before a soldier from any other State, except a few from Pennsylvania, had reached the Capital, these first minute men of Massachusetts were coolly surveying the shores of Virginia from behind the walls of Fort Monroe.

"How quickly others followed these, and how straight a path they made to the defence of the Government at its seat, there is no need of telling. The troops of Lowell and Lawrence have followed with bowed heads and many tears their honored dead to sacred graves, and all Massachusetts repeats the dying words of one of these men—'All hail to the stars and stripes!' Send home their bodies 'tenderly,' was the prayer of the Governor when asking for the unnamed dead, for where rights are so revered and men so prompt in their defense, Man, be his condition or estate what it may, is sacred. The monumental marble that marks the nineteenth of April, in Massachusetts is not yet white enough, nor piled high enough in memory of her sons.

"When the Governor of that State issues his yearly Proclamation for a day of Thanksgiving and Prayer to be read in all the churches, he appends to it a blessing to be invoked on the good old State. In this time of doubt, of danger, and of trial, every heart in the land responds to that prayer: GOD SAVE THE COMMON-WEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

A DEFIANT LETTER FROM LOUISIANA.

The following letter was received in response to one asking a candid statement regarding the feeling in Louisiana:

NEW-ORLEANS, April 29, 1861.—The war excitement has taken possession of all men, women and children. You say half a million of men can be raised in the North in thirty days and \$20,000,000.

In answer, I have to say that every man and boy over seventeen years of age in the whole South is under arms, and ready to march to the seat of war at an hour's notice; and in five days eight million dollars were paid down in cash to the Confederate Government. Ten times that amount can be raised if needed. The ladies are holding fairs, making lint and uniforms for the army. Yesterday there left our city for Virginia about 1,000 men. Louisiana has already in the field 9,000 men, and some 3,000 to 5,000 at home.

The North is the aggressor now; let us see who will come off conqueror.

We are fighting for our rights and our homes. No man south of Mason and Dixon's line is unprepared for the conflict, and no one doubts but that the result will be in our favor.

We trust now, that as soon as authority can be obtained from our Congress, Beauregard, the hero of Fort Sumter, will burn the old fanatic, Abe Lincoln, out of Washington.

We are seizing every Yankee bottom we can get our hands on now, and will soon have quite a fleet in the naval line. Look out for breakers before the week is over.

A CONVERSATION WITH JOHN C. CALHOUN.

Com. Charles Stewart has written a letter, in which he relates a conversation held with Hon. John C. Calhoun, at Washington, in 1812. The conversation turning upon Southern character, the Commodore said that Southerners were 'aristocratic,' to which Mr. Calhoun replied:—

I admit your conclusions in respect to us Southerners. That we are essentially aristocratic, I cannot deny, but we can and do yield much to Democracy. This is our sectional policy; we are from necessity thrown upon and solemnly welded to that party, however it may occasionally clash with our feelings, for the conservation of our interests. It is through our affiliation with that party in the Middle and Western States that we hold power; but when we cease thus to control this nation through a disjointed Democracy, or any material obstacle in that party which shall tend to throw us out of that control, we shall then resort to the dissolution of the Union. The compromises in the constitution, under the circumstances, were sufficient for our fathers, but under the altered condition of our country from that period, leave to the South no resource but dissolution;—for no amendment to the constitution could be reached through a convention of the people under their three-fourths rule.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The report of the Atlantic Telegraph Company says, the cable recovered and brought home by Captain Kell had been stripped and overhauled, every portion of the core having been carefully examined. It was satisfactory to find that there was not the slightest symptom of deterioration or decay in any part of the gutta-percha. It had further been subjected to a severe electrical test, and a comparison between its present state of insulation and the records of original tests of the most perfect portions of the cable when it first left the gutta-percha works, three years ago, showed that an actual improvement had taken place in its condition since it was laid down.

It also recommends that the company should be still kept formally in existence, so as to preserve its original privileges, consisting of agreements with the governments of England and the United States. The directors feel confident that the course of improvement in ocean telegraphy will result in the success of a line from Ireland to Newfoundland.

NEW PASSENGER AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE.

We are pleased to see that the Boston, Lowell and Nashua, Concord, Northern, Vermont Central and Ogdensburgh Railroads, known as the Vermont Central line, have established an office at No. 7 State street, which is not excelled in accommodations and appearance, nor in the advantages of location, by any office in the city. This is exclusively a Boston line, constructed mainly by its money, and wholly identified with its trade.

To more fully realize the object of the line in facilitating Boston trade with the Western States the Ogdensburgh Railroad, when Abbott Lawrence, J. Willie Edmonds and Robert G. Shaw were directors, furnished one hundred thousand dollars to build an efficient propeller line to connect with the railroad line at the foot of ship navigation of the Western lakes. This propeller line, organized under the corporate name of the Northern Transportation Company, has become one of the strongest navigating the lakes, and has also united its freight and passenger business in this office.

The trade of Boston is so intimately connected with these lines, the merchants can but feel gratified at the liberal expenditure in fitting up so convenient and commodious a place of business.—*Doc's Journal*.

VAN AMBURGH INDIGNANT.

Van Amburgh, the lion tamer, was travelling through Talbot county, Maryland, last week, with his horses and menagerie, when he was warned by a friend to turn back, as the rebels had formed plans to seize his horses, of which he had one hundred and twenty, shoot his wild animals, and destroy his menagerie. Van Amburgh hastened to Pennsylvania, where he encamped with his property. He now advertises that he will give \$8,000 to any one who will take Jeff. Davis alive, pledging himself, if he gets him in his keeping, to furnish him with a brand-new cage, and take him through the country on exhibition as a traitor whose turpitude is second only to that of Judas Iscariot.

According to the last American census, it takes 750 paper mills and 3,000 steam engines to supply the book and newspaper publishers with paper, at a cost of \$37,000,000 per annum.

THE BLACK FLAG.

The Southern Congress met at Montgomery on the 6th inst., and after a few preliminary resolutions passed in secret session. In this convolve was passed an act entitled "An act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes and prize goods." The following from section 1, in direct violation to the recognized law of nations, is the most flagrant portion of the act:—

SEC. 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact that the President of the Confederate States is hereby authorized to use the whole land and naval forces of the Confederate States to meet the war thus commenced, and to issue to private armed vessels commissions or letters-of-marque and general reprisal in such form as he shall think proper under the seal of the Confederate States, against the vessels, goods and effects of the Government of the United States, and of the citizens or inhabitants of the States and Territories thereof, except the States and Territories hereinbefore named: Provided, however, that property of the enemy (unless it be contraband of war) taken on board a neutral vessel shall not be subject to seizure under this act; and, provided further, that vessels of the citizens or inhabitants of the United States, now in the ports of the Confederate States, except such as have been since the 5th of April last, or may hereafter be in the service of the Government of the United States, shall be allowed thirty days, after the publication of this act, to leave said ports and reach their destination; and such vessels and cargoes, except articles contraband of war, shall not be subject to capture under this act during said period, unless they shall have previously reached the destination for which they were bound on leaving said ports.

BURIAL OF A MEMBER OF THE N. Y. 8th REGIMENT.

Chas. Leonard, of the New-York 8th regiment, who accidentally shot himself, was buried on the 7th. The services commenced with reading and singing "Mount Vernon," with words slightly altered to suit the occasion. The melancholy tone with which this hymn was sung, and the tears that burst simultaneously from every eye in the regiment, in that lonely grove, far away from home, fully attested that the rough soldier bore with him that principle of affection which elevates and tones the human passions.

When this was concluded, Gen. Butler rode forward a few paces toward the coffin, and while tears were coming profusely down his cheeks, delivered a most touching and affecting appeal to the regiment, to maintain the honor and glory of the Union, and calling upon them to swear above the dead body of their comrade, eternal fidelity to the great cause in which they were all engaged.

At the conclusion of his eloquent remarks, scarcely a dry eye was seen in the regiment. The coffin was then raised, and the mourning company, followed by General Butler and aids, as well as all the commissioned officers of the regiment, commenced their slow march to the grave.—Arriving at the chapel, the body was carried into the little graveyard of the village, about two miles from the camp, and consigned to its keeping until it shall be called for by the friends and relatives residing at New-York. Three volleys of musketry were fired over his grave, and in the darkness of the night the company returned to their quarters.

The sword of a swordfish was found sticking in the bottom of the steamship Golden Age when she was hauled up recently in Panama for repairs. The sword of bone was thirteen inches long, and it was driven through the copper and both the outer and inner planking. The fish stabbed the wrong customer for once: had it been a whale, all would have been quite right.

While in Philadelphia, a musician of the N. Y. 7th regiment was much embarrassed for the want of a string with which to tie the bag containing his provisions. An old Quaker lady, perceiving this said, "Friend, I would not give thee an implement of war, but thee shall have a string to preserve thy food," and stooping down, as if to tie her shoe, she in a moment handed him a green band which had been doing duty as a garter.

AMERICAN AND CORNWALL COPPER MINES.

The *Lake Superior Miner* publishes statistics of the yield of Copper in the famous mines and those of Lake Superior, in which it is shown that our copper products are fast coming up in extent to those of England. The product of the Cornwall mines for 1859 was 13,245 tons of ingot copper; that of Lake Superior mines, 2,592 tons. In 1846 only 20 tons of American copper were raised; since that time it has rapidly risen, and in five years from the present date, judging from the past, it will amount to about 18,000 tons per annum. American copper is said to be the purest in the world. The largest mass of native copper obtained thus far weighed 450 tons. In the Lake Superior region there are numerous unmistakable evidences of the copper mines having been worked by an unknown race of people, but of whom no traces have been discovered in the form of graves or skeletons. Their implements for mining are found in many of the workings, and these show the ancient miners to have been adepts in tracing the metallic veins.—Large forests are now growing over these ancient copper pits.

IMPORTANT FROM ST. LOUIS!

Another Disturbance with Loss of Life!

St. Louis, May 12, 1861. The city was the scene of another terrible tragedy last night. About 6 o'clock a large body of Home Guards entered the city through Fifth street, from the arsenal. On reaching Walnut street the troops turned westward, a large crowd lining the pavement to witness their progress.—The crowd began hooting and hissing, and otherwise abusing the companies as they passed, and a boy about fourteen years old discharged a pistol into their ranks.

Part of the rear company immediately turned and fired upon the crowd, and the whole column was instantly in confusion, breaking their ranks and discharging their muskets down their own line and among the people on the sidewalks. The shower of balls for a few minutes was terrible, the bullets flying in every direction, entering the doors and windows of private residences, breaking shutters, tearing railings, and even smashing bricks in the third story. The utmost confusion and consternation prevailed, spectators fleeing in all directions, and, but for the random firing of the troops, scores of people must have been killed.

As most of the firing was directed down their own ranks, the troops suffered most severely, four of their own number being instantly killed and several others wounded.

The following is from a speech of Henry Clay, delivered over eleven years ago in the U. S. Senate:—

"But if, unhappily, we should be involved in war, in civil war, between the two parts of this Confederacy, in which the effort upon the one side should be to restrain the introduction of slavery into the new Territories, and upon the other side to force its introduction there, what a spectacle should we present to the astonishment of mankind in an effort, not to propagate rights, but—I must say it, though I trust it will be understood to be with no desire to excite feeling—a war to propagate wrongs in the Territories thus acquired from Mexico. It would be a war in which we should have no sympathies, no good wishes; in which all mankind would be against us; in which our own history itself would be against us; for, from the commencement of the Revolution down to the present time, we have constantly reproached our British ancestors for the introduction of Slavery into this country."

A schoolmarm in one of our district schools was examining a class in orthography. "Spell and define *flawret*," she said. "F-l-o-w-r-e-t, floweret—a little flower," went off a tow-head in a perfect streak.

"Wavelet." "W-a-v-e-l-e-t—a little wave," was the prompt return of number two.

"Bullet." "B-u-l-l-e-t—a little bull," shouted number three, who was innocence personified.

In Bridgeton, Nova Scotia, a hen twelve years old, an exemplary mother in the barnyard, has undergone a great change. Last fall she was sickly, shed her feathers, and began to crow like a cock. Since then a pair of spurs have grown on her legs an inch long, tail feathers resembling a cock's have come out, and the feathers about her neck resemble those of the gentleman hen. The little chickens in the barnyard are puzzled to know whether they shall regard her as their aunt or their uncle.

The Crisis Approaching.

Movements on the Potomac.

TROOPS LEAVING RICHMOND

AN OUTBREAK EXPECTED AT CAIRO.

ATTEMPT TO CUT OFF THE COCHITUATE.

The Great Eastern at New York.

Ten Days on the Passage.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The 1,800 volunteers recently encamped at Lancaster, Pa., are on their way here. Other regiments in Pennsylvania are also moving toward Washington.

Colonel Baker's regiment raised in New York, have been accepted, and orders have been issued for their service. They will proceed at once. Col. Baker left here this morning for New-York.

Major Anderson left here this morning. The *Herald's* correspondent says:—No less than 17 steam crafts all heavily loaded with ammunition, provisions, army clothing and blankets, have arrived here within the last 48 hours from Philadelphia, New-York and Boston. Seven of these are discharging their cargoes in Georgetown, in brick stores, which have been leased by the Government.

Export vessels are going up and down the Potomac. The war steamer *Anticosti* came up the river last night. She reports no batteries erected as yet on the right bank of the river.

Alexandria is now said to be occupied by 1,000 armed rebels. Yesterday afternoon a Washington volunteer who ventured over there experienced some rough handling.

Lieut. J. Hogan died last night on board the receiving ship *Queenstown*.

The troops which came in the steamer *Cahawba* marched down Chapman street, and were met by a large body of citizens, cavalry and a body of old New-Haven grays. They marched in platoons of 16 each, the city police keeping the streets clear. They made a very fine appearance. The whole city was alive with people, and the entire route was decorated with flags.

NEW-YORK, May 11.—The Zouaves have not yet been accepted.

Gen. Scott discovered this morning at 4 o'clock, a body of five or six hundred men leaving Alexandria. They had several wagon loads under guard, supposed to contain provisions for the State troops at Culpepper.

Advices from Frederick state that some four or five companies passed through that place last night. They were half armed.

SANDY HOOK, May 11.—10-30, A. M. Steamship *Great Eastern* with dates of May 1st, is signalled in the eastern offing.

The *Great Eastern's* dates are one day later. She is at anchor at the light ship, waiting for tide.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Orders from the war department for the punishment of all traitors and abettors, very strict and vigorous, have been transmitted to every officer in commission.

Messages have been received between the Government and Cairo.

War is anticipated every night. The messages have been dispatched to-day to Cairo and other points, ordering a concentration of a body of Washington troops at that point.

The President is receiving daily responses from Tennessee, Kentucky and Maryland, offering the requisition of troops from those troops to be in the field.

There is much anxiety about the result of the Union meeting to be held next Monday. We have assurances that they will memorialize the Government for protection from the rebels, and put 5000 men fully equipped in the field for the Union.

A gentleman returned from Howard County, Maryland, to-day, with a valuable horse. He had been trying to secrete the horse for several days, to keep him from the secession dragoons, who are stealing anything they can get.

The Government is in constant receipt of orders for arms to carry on private expeditions.

It does not however propose to follow the practical example of Jeff. Davis.

Secretary Cameron has profers already 600,000 men, 20,000 more than called for, there is a great rush of regiments to secure appointments for the war, but it is doubtful whether the Government will accept them for the new army until Congress meets. Recruiting is going on very rapidly in various sections.

Col. Cowde of the Massachusetts 1st., Regiment, has offered his services for the war, also Lieut. Col. Blonsdell of the volunteer regiment of Boston, and Col. Lawrence of the Massachusetts 5th.

The *Richmond Enquirer* says that the Legislature of North Carolina organized on Wednesday, and a bill calling a Convention of the people passed unanimously.

Boston, May 11.—An attempt has been made to cut off the supply of water from this city. The mason work was too strong for the implements, and it proved unsuccessful.