

where superstition holds dominion and the love of the Slave, and in which the mind has not risen from its groveling condition, a truly contrary to infidelity, to appreciate the worth of the constitution of the Society, which that government which protects and *limits* the Society's operations to the reflects the rights of the meanest as well as the *free* as the greatest. But, in relation to the *people* of color. The committee were, benefactors of mankind, we wish the therefore, unanimous in recommending sentiment. "He never dies in our memory" to be universally felt and acknowledged, public virtue must exist in society. And is public virtue to be fed and kept alive by enlightening the mind? The downfall of nations proves to us that it must take its rise in knowledge, and one of the prominent traits of a philanthropic spirit, is the desire, that knowledge should flow as free as the rivers of our land that we may approximate in our manner nearer the Great Intelligence which governs all.

Steam Fire Engine.—In the last number of that excellent weekly publication the American Rail-Road Journal, there is a model of a Steam Fire Engine called the Comet, which has been built in London for the King of Prussia. An experiment made, proved very satisfactory to the friends of the invention. A pipe of one and a quarter inch in diameter was attached to the machine, and the water was carried from 15 to 200 feet. It makes eighteen strokes per minute, and throws one ton of seven hundred and thirteen pounds of water each minute. The greatest objection to this machine is the length of time it will take to get the engine under operation, which we learn is about half an hour.

The subjoined paragraph gives a melancholy (but not entire unlooked for) account of the overland expedition undertaken a year ago to the mouth of Columbia river. It always appeared to us a perilous as well as an unprofitable adventure.—*Vid. Int.*

The Oregon Project.—We have been anticipating for some time the bursting of this bubble, and our anticipations are beginning to be realized. Some time since we noticed an advertisement from a part of the settlers who were in New York, stating that any contributions in money, meat, clothes, &c. would be gratefully received; in plain English, asking charity of the community. It appears now, that the land expedition of eighty men, accompanied by Captain Wyeth, of Cambridge, has been compelled to return, with the exception of thirteen men, including captain, who are probably at rest among the ice cliffs of the Rocky Mountains. Never was there an enterprise more rashly planned, or likely to be more fruitless in its results; yet how much abuse was lavished upon the philanthropists who at the time lifted up their voices against the mad waste of life and labor which they were certain it would involve!

A Good one.—On Thursday last, a cause was tried at the court in this place which excited a good deal of interest. It was to recover the value of some clover seed, which the plaintiff asserted had been destroyed by the defendant in his clover mill. A bag of clover chaff was exhibited in court, as a specimen of what the plaintiff alleged had been destroyed. The following was written on the occasion by one of the members of the bar; which forms a pretty good estimate of law suits in general:

In such a case, three Lawyers feed,
May well make people laugh;
The Lawyers take the cloverseed,
The Clients get the chaff!!!

It has been a custom in the State of Maine, to challenge a witness at the bar upon the grounds of religious creed. A Universalist, for instance, might be turned away for want of a belief in future punishment. To meet which, the following bill is now before the Legislature of that state: [U. S. Gazette.]

"An Act to secure to Witness, Friends of Opinion in matters of Religion, the same right as is now secured by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Legislature assembled. That no person who believes in the existence of a Supreme Being, shall be adjudged an incompetent or incredible witness, in the Judicial courts, or in the course of Judicial proceedings in this state, on account of his opinions in matters of religion; nor shall such opinions be made the subject of investigation or inquiry."

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 8, 1832.
Dear Sir:—Last evening I attended an adjourned meeting of the *American Colonization Society*, held in the Rev. Mr. Post's meeting house. The object was, the acceptance of a Report of an honorable committee, to whom had been referred a consideration of the best mode of conciliating conflicting sentiments, which had unhappily arisen from a change in the officers of the Society, made at the last anniversary.

The honorable committee who had entirely exonerated from blame all who had been instrumental in the changes made in the offices; but said, that suspicions had been extensively circulated, the effect of which was to throw odium on the Society at the South by representing the change of officers as an effort to alter, alter, examine.

Jonathan's visit to N. York.

Did you ever go down to York?

My stars! if that place don't heat all—
May I never eat pumpkins and pork,
If York, isn't a rocker, by goll.

There's the houses pil'd all in a heap—
The chimneys and steeples, I vow;
And every thing's sold there so cheap,
The owners must steal um, I swow.

What a darn sight of vessels they've got,
There's one there I vow she's a snarter
And steam boats, they're thicker than
shot.— [ter!

By George, how they go thro' the wa-

What a hissing and splashing they make!

By golly, if some there ain't rulers—
What a darn'd site of wood it must take
To heat them infernal great bilers.

I see one there, by golly, what a whaler!

She started, then whew, what a whirr!
She went like a duck—what a sniller—
And her wheels flew around like a burr.

Next went up 'mong them are houses—

My stars, what an ocean of stores!
There was coats, & jackets, and trowsers,
Hang out thick as mud at the doors.

There was hats, shoes, and stockings, I
swan,

Thicker'n pumpkins around on the
vines;

And where in the world is the man

That made them incarnation great sines

There's plenty of folks too, I swan—
Thicker'n bees in a hive altogether;

Where can their wood come from, I yun,

To keep 'em all warm in cold weather.

I swagger, sich osbuns of things

I never did see since Ize born;

The folks must be richer than kings,

And have money as plenty as corn.

There's some pluggy slick gals there, I
swan,

As handsome as pictures can be,

With waist girt as tight as a drum—

I wish there was one there for me.

But then they're as stiff as a poker,

And as shiv as a mouse on a shelf—

If you want to know more, then by hoky,

You must go there & look for yourself.

Hydrostatic Bed.

This is one of the most happy inventions that have sprung from the practical application of science in the wants of life. It not only delights us by its ingenious novelty and great simplicity, but commands a still greater interest when we consider the relief which it will afford to innumerable cases of protracted suffering, where hitherto the patient has been considered in a great measure beyond the power of the physician.

In all cases of diseases where the system has been much enfeebled, and the patient long confined to bed, the circulation of the blood goes on so imperfectly in some of those parts of the body that are more immediately and more constantly subjected to pressure, that they frequently mortify or lose their vitality. The dead parts thus formed become a continual source of irritation, often exhausting the patient's strength by a very slow decay, where otherwise every hope might have been entertained of recovery. And when he does survive, they are removed solely by the slow process of ulceration, during a tedious convalescence.

The hydrostatic bed will mitigate or entirely remove these evils; and when they appear in a milder form still it becomes of the utmost value from the certainty with which those sources of irritation are removed that arise from the inequality of pressure in a common bed, and prevent that refreshing sleep which it is always such an object to procure.

This bed is constructed in the following manner: a trough six feet long, two feet six or nine inches broad, and one foot deep, is filled to the depth of six or seven inches with water, and a sheet of water proof India rubber cloth placed upon it.

It is fixed and firmly cemented

at the upper part of the trough, being of

such a size as to hang down loosely in

the inside, and floating on the water,

which admits therefore of the most perfect freedom of motion.

A light hair mattress is placed upon the water proof cloth, upon which the pillow and bed clothes are to be placed. When the patient rests upon it, he at once experiences the surpassing softness of the hydrostatic bed; he is placed nearly in the same condition as when floating in water the fluid support being prevented from touching him, however, by the peculiar manner it is sealed, hermetically, as it were, within the water proof cloth, and by the intervening mattress.

The hydrostatic bed was invented a few weeks ago in London, under the following circumstances, by Dr. Arnott, the well known and talented author of the Elements of physics:—A lady who had suffered much, after a premature confinement, from a combination and succession of low fever, jaundice, &c. and whose back had sloughed (mortified) in several places, was at last so much exhausted in consequence of the latter that she was considered in the most imminent danger; she generally fainted when the wounds on her back were dressed, and was passing days and nights of uninterrupted suf-

fering, the pressure of an air pillow had mortification.

Dr. Arnott reflected that the support of water to a floating body is so uniformly diffused, that every thousandth part of an inch of the inferior surface has, as it were, its own separate and liquid pillar, and no one part bears the load of its neighbor—that a person resting in a bath is nearly thus supported—that this patient might be laid upon the face of a bath, over which a large sheet of the water proof India rubber cloth was previously thrown; she being rendered sufficiently buoyant by a soft mattress placed beneath her—thus would she repose on the face of the water, like a swan on its plumage, without sensible pressure any where, and almost as if the weight of her body were annihilated.

The pressure of the atmosphere on our bodies is fifteen pounds per square inch of its surface, but because uniformly diffused is not felt. The pressure of a water bath of depth to cover the body, is less than half a pound per inch, and is similarly unperceived.

A bed having been made on this plan, and the patient placed on it, she was instantly relieved in a remarkable degree, and enjoyed a calm and tranquil sleep—she awoke refreshed—she passed the next night much better than usual, and on the following day Mr. Earle found that all the sores had assumed a healthy appearance; the healing from that time went on rapidly, and no new sloughs were formed. When the patient was first laid upon the bed, her mother asked her where the down pillows, which she before had used, were to be placed? to which she answered, that she knew not, for that she felt no pain to direct; in fact, she needed them no more."

The hydrostatic bed will be useful, not merely in extreme cases, such as the above, but also in every instance where there is restlessness, or want of sleep, from the irksome feeling communicated by that inequality of pressure which is necessarily perceived in every common bed, and to which the body becomes so remarkably sensible, when fatigued or enfeebled, as when suffering from disease.

The sensations which is experienced by a person reclining on a hydrostatic bed is uncommonly pleasing. It is easy to change the position with a very feeble effort. The patient also can take a little exercise at pleasure, with slight exertion, from the facility with which the water can be moved, a circumstance which will prove highly grateful to those who have been long confined to bed.

Fossil remains of the Mastodon.—Col. Long, of the United States engineers, in a letter addressed to the editor of the American Journal of Geology, dated at Blountsville, Tennessee, August 3, 1832, writes thus:—

I visited a locality yesterday, on my road from Knoxville to this place, in company with J. S. Gaines, Esq. where portions of the skeletons of the Mastodon have lately been found. It is a marshy tract of a few acres, at the base, and on the south side of Chestnut or Eden's ridge, surrounded by hills of considerable height—the rocks in the vicinity, as well as in the marsh are limestone, in stratified beds, highly inclined, and dipping to the S. E. The proprietor of the ground informed me that the beds below the marsh are horizontal limestone. The skeleton was found by him in digging for tannats, at the depth of three feet below the surface. The bones soon crumbled and fell to pieces, on exposure to the atmosphere, which was also the case with a very large tusk. The diameter of the tusk at the largest end was ten inches; the circumference, at the distance of 4 feet from the but end, was twenty three inches; the length of the cavity occupied by the tusk, or that portion of it which was dug out, was by measure, 8 feet. A piece of the smaller end of the tusk was left in the ground, and was not included in the measurement just mentioned.

A minister begging money to purchase his Wife!—It is but a short time since a minister of the gospel preached in Boston, and other northern cities, and solicited contributions that he might be able to purchase his wife! Yes, reader, to purchase his wife! His history is brief.

He was born a slave. By some means he heard the gospel preached; and by the grace of God became hopefully pious.

When the hard labor of the day was ended, he used to retire for prayer;

but was often punished by his inhuman master, and driven from his knees by the lash.

Soon he felt constrained to

preach the gospel. His master, at length,

set a price upon him, and permitting him

to go and beg enough to purchase his

freedom. This he had accomplished;

and when visiting the north, was collect-

ing the means for purchasing his wife.

He stated that he had a large family of

children—and being asked if he was not

anxious for the means of setting them at

liberty also, replied, that he dared not

think of ever being the happy instrument

of the release of all; but that he should

be exceedingly delighted to have one of

them, though he had no choice which.

Husbands and fathers, what think you of

this? Would not your opinion of slavery be changed, if it were your wives and your children who were held in hopeless bondage? Think of your affection for your companions, and the tenderness with which you regard your children, and then realize how many helpless mothers and fathers, and disconsolate husbands and wives, must see their companions and children suffer the hardships of slavery; and if you can do no more, pity them and pray for them.—*Liberator.*

Depreciation of Property in Jamaica.

A gentleman who has an intimate acquaintance with local property in the island of Jamaica, on looking over our files received by the last vessels, observed that sales have been attempted of the following estates. Temple Hill, with two hundred and forty negroes, which cost, a few years since, fifty thousand pounds, was bid in, eight thousand only being offered for it; Pleasant Hill, a coffee estate, with two hundred and forty nine negroes, cost a few years since one hundred thousand pounds, was bid in, only ten thousand offered. These are said to be fair specimens of the depreciation of the value of estates on the island; and as they were brought to the hammer, the mortgage having been sued up, would not have brought much more than sufficient to pay the costs of court.

From the Pittsburg Statesman.

Confession of a Thief.—The Mayor of this city has lately received from Jacob Hays, high constable of the city of New York, a communication, in which he says that William Whiteman has stated that he went to Pittsburgh, in Pennsylvania, about the first of December last, and remained there till about a week before Christmas. During the time he was there, he entered a large dwelling house, through a window from the back piazza, and took about seventy dollars in Pittsburgh notes, mostly five dollar bills, about \$20 in silver, mostly in half dollars; and silver plate, principally spoons, and one cream pitcher, which property he took to his boarding house, viz. Alderman Carr's. He went over into Alleghenytown, and there, in the night, entered a house from a front piazza, through a door, went into a room up stairs, where several persons were asleep, and took a silver patent lever watch from off a bureau, and then went down below; broke open a small trunk, and took out a \$100 bill of the U. S. Bank, payable at Pittsburgh—also, took out of the same house silver spoons, tea pots, creampots, sugar dishes, pitchers, &c., as much as he could carry—\$800 or \$900 worth—and took them to his lodgings, and put them all in his trunk. He then started from there and went to Wheeling, but gave out that he was going to Washington; remained at Wheeling one night, and took the stage for Baltimore, and never stopped till he reached that place with the money and property. At Pittsburgh he went by the name of William Kean. At Baltimore he put up at Barnum's Hotel, and afterward went to a Jeweller's shop kept in Market race, by a man and his son, foreigners; where he attempted to melt some of the spoons and part of the plate. Not succeeding in the attempt he called in the man of the shop, who said he would melt it for him. He supposed he had about 400 dollars worth. When he first entered the shop he stated that he wanted to try some chemical process. He then took his trunk with the remainder of the silver, and went to a pawn broker's shop. There he pawned the patent lever watch for 20 dollars, also a large pitcher and other plate, for \$50. He went with the remainder of the plate to another broker's who refused to purchase them without reference to his character, which he promised; but not knowing any one he never went back after the silver. When he returned to the shop on Market race where the silver was melted, the man said that the officers were after him, and in consequence he left him with all the melted silver and did not return after it. Where the watch and silver were pawned, he went by the name of White, and received a ticket which he destroyed.

*Supposed to be the house of Wm. Hays, Esq.

Ebenezer Kerr's is supposed to be the boarding house.

Wm. Robinson, Jr. lost the property here referred to.

We learn by a gentleman who left Annapolis yesterday afternoon, that the bill authorized the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-Road Company to make a rail road from Baltimore to Washington, passed the House of Delegates by a vote of 51 to 15. The Bill provides, among other matters, for a subscription of \$500,000 on the part of the State.—*Balt. Amer.*

The Fredericksburg, Va. *Arena* states that Mr. M'Duffie has purchased slaves to the amount of \$10,000 in Virginia, to be employed in the cultivation of cotton in South Carolina.

It is estimated in the N. Y. *Gazette* that the office of the United States District Attorney, for that city, is worth \$30,000. This fat salary is made up by fees, &c. in action against the merchants.