

"KNOWLEDGE FOR THE PEOPLE, Or the plain way and means."

Is the title of a book, which we learn from the Athenaeum has been recently published, and concerning which it thus speaks.

[Christian Register.

This is the first portion of an attempt to simplify science, or rather to trace effects, which we see every hour, to scientific principles, or in common parlance, the plain Why and Because, and reduce it to plain and popular terms.

The present part is devoted to Domestic Science, or the phenomena which occur in parlour, kitchen, chamber and hall. Each question begins Why—and the answer Because, and of these there are upwards of 400. We quote a few specimens:—

Fire.—Why does water thrown on a brisk and flaming fire apparently increase the combustion?

Because the water is converted into steam, which expanding and mixing with the flame, causes it to spread out into a much larger volume than it otherwise would have occupied.

Why does sunshine extinguish a fire? Because the rays engage the oxygen, which had hitherto supported the fire.

Why does a fire burn briskly and clearly in cold weather?

Because the air being more dense, affords more nourishment to the fire.

Effects of Heat.—Why do we stick a pin in a rushlight to extinguish it?

Because the pin conducts away so much heat that the tallow will not melt or rise in the wick.

Why does the heater of a tea urn soon change when placed near the water?

Because it parts with its heat to the water, until both are of the same temperature.

Why is a harp or piano forte, which is well tuned in a morning-drawing room, not perfectly in tune when a crowded evening party has heated the room?

Because the expansion of the strings is greater than that of the wooden frame work; and in cold the reverse will happen. Why does a gate in an iron railing shut loosely and easily in a cold day, and stick in a warm one?

Because in the latter there is a greater expansion in the gate and railing than of the earth on which they are placed.

Why are thin glass tumblers less liable to be broken by boiling water than thick ones?

Because the heat pervades the thin vessels almost instantly and with impunity, whereas thicker ones do not allow a ready passage of heat.

Why does straw or flannel prevent the freezing of water in pipes during winter?

Because it is a slow conducting screen or covering, and thus prevents heat passing out of the pipe. By the same means the heat is retained in steam pipes.

Evaporation.—Why is profuse perspiration so cooling to laboring men, and all evaporation productive of cold?

Because of the necessity of a large quantity of caloric being combined with fluids, to convert them into vapour or gas.

Why do persons take cold by sitting in wet clothes?

Because they soon lose a large portion of heat, which is carried off from the body by the evaporation of the water from the clothes.

Boiling.—Why should the bottom of a teakettle be black, and the top polished? surfaces; and the top has to return heat, which is ensured by polished ones.

Why is a crust so frequently seen on the insides of tea-kettles and boilers?

Because of the hard water frequently boiled in them, which holds in solution carbonate of lime, but being long boiled, the latter is no longer soluble and becomes precipitated.

Why is hard water boiled brought nearly to the state of soft?

Because it is freed from its gases, and its earthy salts and substances, by which its hardness was produced, are precipitated.

Why is water when boiled mawkish and insipid?

Because the gases which it contained have been expelled by boiling.

Why is it wasteful to put fuel under a boiling pot with the hope of making the water hotter?

Because the water can only boil, and it does so at 212 degrees of the thermometer.

From the National Gazette.

We proclaim no particular individual as a candidate for the office of President; we do not attach ourselves to the peculiar interests or policy of any man; our main object and fixed design is to be useful to the country by stating the truth and giving sound conclusions, as far as we can compass them, on every topic of public importance. If the truth and sound opinion happen to operate in favor of any particular candidate, the operation is fair and honorable, and must be salutary; and whoever the individual to whose benefit it redounds, we shall rejoice in the effect. There is a positive, direct pleasure in paying tribute to an upright character, a moral life and a patriotic career, which we would not forego for any consideration. Private worth is to be earnestly celebrated when it is associated with official eminence; it is the best public fund, and as it abounds or diminishes, the republic decays or thrives. The old observation is good, that he who contributes most to it to the general stock, is most his country's friend. We have our doubts whether the sovereign people in these states are fully aware of the importance, which they, for the common weal, for their special interests, should ascribe to it in their election of public servants. No popular institutions can be durable, if domestic virtue, public spirit, and real capacity, are not jointly regarded as the principal means of acquiring place or profit in or under the government.

New-York, March 28.

City Bank Robber taken.—A great excitement was caused in the city yesterday morning, in consequence of the detection of one of the robbers of the City Bank. It appears that intimation had been received that a suspicious person had recently put up with a respectable citizen at 179 Elm street. High Constable Hays, his son and Mr. Homan, repaired to the place on Saturday evening, went to his room, and found a trunk, which they unlocked, and discovered to contain a large sum of money.— They then waited until the person suspected returned, who was immediately arrested, and, with the money, brought to the Police. He is an Englishman by the name of Edward Smith, and has a wife and two children in this city.

On counting the money, there was found in the trunk 185,758 dollars, as follows:— \$57,328, City Bank Notes. 50,118, various city notes. 44,000, Lansingburg Bank notes. 26,000, Morris Canal. 8,272, uncurrent—belonging to S. & M. Allen. 40, counterfeit.

Smith was immediately committed to Bridewell; his wife is also detained. He is about 34 years of age, and has been in the country about two years. He is the companion of Henderson, who was tried and convicted, in Brooklyn, about a year ago, for robbing the store of Mr. Shenck. On that trial Smith was acquitted, after which he removed to this city, and recently set up a small shoe shop in the Bowery, and resided at 15 Division street, which place soon became notorious as the residence of a set of noted villains, some of whom have recently been convicted, among them Welsh, for theft, and Simpson sent to the state prison for picking Dr. Smith's pocket. On the morning of the bank robbery, Smith left his own house in Division street, and took lodgings at the house where he was arrested.

The officers of the bank were in attendance at the police office, and had the satisfaction to receive from the magistrates the above \$185,758. There is still \$62,242 deficient, including the gold. There can be no doubt that there are some accomplices concerned. It is a remarkable fact that Hays with the other public officers, have been on the alert after Smith since Monday morning last.—Daily Ad.

From the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.

Smith is, we believe, a native of England, although a report is in circulation that he is a South-Carolinian. His wife, to whom he was married in London, and who is a very handsome and a highly interesting looking woman, (probably aged about 26 years,) was brought up to be examined. She denied all knowledge of the transaction, but was, however, committed to prison. When children might be allowed to remain with her; the magistrate referred her to Mr. Homan, the officer who was about to take charge of her, and he granted the request. The third person apprehended, who appeared to know the prisoner, was examined, but nothing material was elicited; he stated that his name was Pyle, the son of a man who lives out of the city, and who is a distiller; he was committed for a further examination.

The prisoner is thick set, a morocco dresser by trade, and was considered a very industrious man by the person who employed him. It is said, that a short time after he landed here with his wife, she was accused of stealing some muslin from a dry good store; but that from her appearance, and the fact that a fellow passenger of more suspicious appearance was with her at the time, the prosecution was not followed up. Her fellow passenger, whom it was believed stole the things, soon absconded.

A gentleman was at the Police Office yesterday, who observed, about four weeks ago, a man and a woman come down from the Phoenix Bank steps, about 8 o'clock in the evening, under suspicious circumstances. He was not able, however, to identify the prisoners as the persons. Five or six small keys were found in Smith's pockets.

We are much pleased to be able to announce to our distant readers, that so large an amount of the money stolen has been recovered, and such is our confidence in the efficiency of Old Hays, B. Hays and Homan—all of whom are actively at work—that we feel a confidence in predicting that the remaining \$63,000 will very shortly be recovered and safely deposited in the vaults of the City Bank; and we congratulate the officers and stockholders of that institution upon the success which has already attended their efforts to recover the large amount stolen.—Cour. & Enq.

From the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer.

Bank Robbery.—As the all absorbing topic of the day in relation to the late robbery of the City Bank, and as I have frequently heard it remarked, that no robbery of equal extent had ever been committed in this country, I send you the following account of two bank robberies, under similar circumstances.

In the year 1708 the Bank of Pennsylvania, then kept in the Carpenters' Hall, in Philadelphia, was entered, and about one hundred and sixty thousand dollars taken away. As no force appeared to have been committed, the natural conclusion was, that the bank locks had been opened by means of false keys. The directors attached suspicion to Mr. Patrick Lyon, a very ingenious blacksmith, who made the original keys for the iron doors, which he had also manufactured. On inquiry being made for Lyon, it was found that he had, just after the robbery, left the city in a shallop for Cape May, to which place he was pursued, apprehended and brought back a prisoner to the city, and committed to jail, on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery.— The yellow fever was then prevailing in Philadelphia; most of the inhabitants had removed to the country, and the poor honest fellow remained in confinement a considerable time. An upright jury awarded him \$12,000 damages against the directors of the bank. During the following winter, a journeyman carpenter, I believe his name was Davis, began to move in considerable style, made deposits in different banks, and endeavored to make his way into company other than he had been accustomed to.— This excited the suspicion of the Mayor, who I believe was Mr. Robert Wharton. He laid his plans, apprehended Davis, and obtained from him within a few thousand dollars of the amount abstracted from the bank. I do not recollect if he was punished; but I believe he was not. It appeared that he had acted in conjunction with the man having charge of the keys to take to the Cashier's house. This man died of the yellow fever the same season, being taken ill immediately after the robbery.

The other case was that of the old branch bank at Charleston, S. C. which was also entered by the means of false keys, and one hundred and sixty or seventy thousand dollars taken off, all in gold and silver. The directors offered a reward of ten thousand dollars, which set to work almost the whole city; every suspicious person, conversation and observation, were reported to the directors, when the following circumstance brought the matter to light. A man by the name of Gray, went into a grocery store, and paid a small debt in specie. As he was a man known to be very short of cash, the grocer observed to him, that if he was not a person of good character, they would suppose he had robbed the bank. On which observation, he was observed to change color, could hardly speak, and appeared to be choking; took up a bottle, and drank off near half a pint of rum. Some persons present began to joke with him, and elicited sufficient to induce the bank to apprehend him; yet nothing could be brought against him. A slave of his was taken up and put in confinement, coaxed and threatened, but nothing could be elicited from him, and he was discharged. Another slave of Gray's was apprehended, and on a promise of his freedom developed the whole of the robbery, pointed out the place where the money was concealed—which was in a hole near which Pyle was taken up, and found the whole of the money taken from the bank, and with the exception of a few hundred dollars, the whole amount was returned to the place from whence it had been robbed exactly one week from the time it was taken away. Gray was convicted and branded in the hand. He afterwards confessed the whole, and the manner he had pursued to effect the robbery. The bank paid the reward, purchased the freedom of the black man, and sent him to Philadelphia with directions to change his name.

Gibbs the Pirate.—The Providence Subaltern states that—"Gibbs the pirate, now under sentence of death in the city of New York, convicted of piracy and murder committed on board the Brig Vineyard, has made to his counsel, since his condemnation, a confession, fraught with horrible and frightful atrocities. Among other acts that he confesses he admitted, he says, that some two or three years ago, he was commander of a piratical vessel which sailed from the Island of Cuba.—That while out on a cruise, he captured a valuable American ship, with a numerous crew and passengers, all of whom, excepting a female, the wife of one of the passengers, he put to death. That he freed the female for some weeks to be his wife, but the cruise being up and it being necessary for him to make a port for a fresh supply of provisions, he cut her throat and throw her overboard. The story of this man's life stands unsurpassed in the black catalogue of crime, and it will be remembered long after the histories of Pierre Le Grand, and Kidd are forgotten.

"The name of Gibbs, which the man bears, is an assumed one, to which, for the sake of his family he set up a claim. His real name is known only to his counsel, to

whom it was communicated with the charge of profound secrecy. He is a native of Rhode Island, however, and is known to be attached by affinity and consanguinity to one of the most respectable and ancient families of the State."

LATE FROM EUROPE.

New-York, April 2.—We stop the press to announce the arrival of the packet ship France, from Havre, whence she sailed on the 13th of February.

We have our files to the 11th. A Havre paper of that date says, that a telegraph communication has been made at Lyons, that a serious Revolution had broken out in Italy; that Reggio, Bologna, and Modena, had been overthrown, and that the Duke of Modena had been killed.

The Captain of the packet, who arrived at Havre two days after the date of our papers, says the news was confirmed previous to his departure.

The Deputies of the Belginn Congress had had a solemn audience with Louis Philip, and read to him the proceedings of the National Congress offering the Crown of Belgium to the Duke de Nemours. The answer was, it is said, a refusal, accompanied, however, with very flattering excuses. A new arrangement, by which the Prince Charles of Naples should receive this crown is spoken of, in which case he would marry the Princess Mary, daughter of Louis Philip. The Prince is a nephew of the King of the French.

POLAND.—The Polish Diet have issued a long answer to the proclamation of General Count Diebitsch, which is a spirited document, and which concludes as follows:—

"The Polish Nation, united in its Diet, declares, that for the future, it constitutes an independent people, which has the right to confer the Polish Crown upon him whom it shall deem worthy of it; upon him whom it shall judge capable of observing faithfully the principles which he shall have sworn to, and of preserving untouched the National Liberties." The declaration was signed unanimously by the members of the Diet.

The Polish Diet, by a vote of 83 to 13, had placed the Executive Power in a Commission of Five Members, composed of Adam Cartorowski, President; Vincent Menjowski, Thoman Morawski, Stan. Bazykoneski, and Joackhim Lelewel. The New Poland newspaper complains that one only of these had a part in the late Revolution.

The intelligence from Vienna is, that every thing in that capital is on the footing of war, especially against Poland, which is threatened with invasion at once from Russia, Austria and Prussia. Prince Metternich is in close connexion with the Duke of Montpel, who, however, is watched closely by Marshal Maison.

On the other hand, the news from Constantinople by the way of Naples is, that the Grand Turk means to take advantage of the embarrassments of the Russians to withdraw from complying with the late treaty. The greater part of the Paclias of Asia are ordered to be ready for service in May.— The greatest activity prevails in the Divan. Agas have been sent on missions to Albania, Servia and Bosnia: finally the Sultan, it is said, is endeavoring to induce the Persians to act, so as to give employment to the Russians on that frontier.

Cardinal Capellari had been elected Pope.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

London, April 2.—By the Br. hague favored with the London Times of the 10th Feb. the only paper brought by her.

A large portion of this paper is occupied with a debate upon the Finances, which occurred the preceding evening, in the course of which the various items contained in the budget was touched upon. The proposed duty of 1d. per lb. upon Cotton was opposed, on the ground that it would press most heavily on the imports from the East Indies, and other British Colonies generally; the Cotton from which, it was contended, would be taxed twice as high as the Cottons imported from any other part of the world. If a duty was to be laid upon the article, an ad valorem one was preferable to the specific duty proposed upon all descriptions of Cotton, without regard to value.— A deputation of those interested in Cotton, waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the 14th Feb. to remonstrate against the proposed duty, and were told, that it "was indispensable to his plan of finance that he should obtain a revenue of about half a million from Cotton, and that if they were unable to devise any other mode, that part of the budget must be persevered in."

A letter of the 15th, says—"You will see that it is proposed to alter the duty on Cotton, by adding 1d. per lb.; but the Chancellor will most likely be beat out of his plan."

Mexico.—We have already given the particulars of the death of Guerrero, as officially made known in the city of Mexico. A writer in the Daily Advertiser of Thursday morning, gives the following version of the circumstances which led to his capture. It will be perceived that they differ materially from those already published:

N. Y. Cour. & Enq. 26th ult. Guerrero was peacefully living in Acapulco, constantly a stranger to the operations of the southern insurgents of the con-

try against the government of Bustamante, although obliged to live sheltered among them that he might not fall into the hands of his personal enemies, by whom he had been declared to be an outlaw. But Bustamante and his ministers, Alanon and Fazio, thinking that the destruction of Guerrero alone could cause that of all the democratic party in the nation, formed in January last a secret contract with a Francisco Pitagala, then in Mexico, captain of the Sardinian brig Colombo, anchored in Acapulco, and an agent of the house of Girolamo Rossi, of Genoa. Pitagala was then seen to depart again for Acapulco. On arriving at Chipalcingo he was imprisoned probably by virtue of a previous plan concerted secretly with General Bravo, (residing there) as a spy of Guerrero: he was tried and set at liberty, for want of proof. He then proceeded to Acapulco, to show to Guerrero an official copy of this sentence, as a title to his confidence and friendship. Guerrero fell into the snare; they became intimate—they gave dinners to each other—and finally Pitagala invited Guerrero, together with Primo Tapis, Pita Tavalita, and two other persons, to a dinner on board the Colombo. There they spent a joyful day. The night approached, coffee was served in the cabin, when Pitagala went suddenly on deck, shut the door of the cabin, cut the cable, and set sail. The darkness of the night prevented the garrison of the fort from perceiving the treacherous movement of the brig. She left the port in safety, and landed the victims at Huatulco, a small port of the neighboring state of Oajaca, where every thing was prepared to receive them.

LIBERIA, February 6.—Death of the Ourang Outang.—This great natural curiosity died on the 17th ult. For two or three days previously her spirits appeared rather dull, and though noticed, no one dreamed that her end was so near. Her death may impute to a complete change in her diet. She became remarkably fond of sugar, and purloined it every opportunity, though upon her arrival she turned away from it in disgust. The taste which these animals acquire for comfits has proved the death of most of them; and we may not be much in error in attributing her disease to the same cause. As before stated, she was quite young, and perhaps required a mother's kindness and care to nurse her. Her features were disgustingly like the human, and this likeness was rather increased, when death had laid its icy hands upon her poor body. Our time has never allowed us to say half what we desired on this subject, and works on Natural History being out of our reach, we have been rather timid in offering much.

From the Philadelphia Sat. Eve. Post.

The Rail Road Fever.—Rail Roads now constitute the "rage" in this city. It began last week—the first symptom was developed by capitalists, who were observed running about endeavoring to obtain proxies to purchase stock in the Philadelphia, Germantown, and Norristown Rail Road Company. It having been previously decided by the Commissioners that one applicant might purchase five shares each for thirty proxies, the great object, of course, was to secure that number. One, two, and in some instances, five dollars were given for the use of a name! The books were to be opened at nine o'clock on Monday morning, but before daylight the City Hotel, or at least some of the gentlemen took up lodgings for the night near by, and before daylight had secured footing, by a private back entrance, very near the Road to wealth. They were discovered in their hiding places about five o'clock in the morning, but manfully stood their ground, although Mr. Heiskell's exertions to remove them were backed by a posse of the city watch. At 9 o'clock the grand struggle commenced, and a scene ensued, the like of which we never before saw, and trust, for the honor of our city, we never shall again. Hundreds struggled for hours to get near the door. A very few succeeded, as a band of ruffians had concerted their plans to block up the entrance, with the determination to admit only those who would give them a handsome fee. Twenty, fifty, and as high as a hundred dollars, were paid to these gentlemen, we are informed, for the privilege of passing in. One scoundrel boasted, in our hearing, that he had made \$150 by his morning's work! But when this permission was granted, it was only by the most desperate struggling, almost at the risk of life, that an entrance could be gained. Many mounted on the heads and shoulders of their neighbours, and with the loss of nearly all their clothes forced their way over to the door, and succeeded in slipping in, as it was partially opened, at long intervals, to admit the nearest combatants. One enterprising fellow mounted a window-frame, about six feet from the door, and appeared to be only watching the sport. But the door was no sooner again opened, than he made a bound over the heads of the whole coalition, and fairly succeeded in entering as far as his middle. The mob cried out—"going in!" and laid hold of his heels to drag him out, but he held on and accomplished his purpose. It is impossible to give a faithful picture