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AMERICAN PROGRESS—II.—FROM 1820. TO 1840.

In no era of our country's existence does it appear that greater progress was made than during the twenty years previous to 1840. Early in 1840, Dr. Richard Hare introduced the deflagrator, a form of voltaic battery capable of giving effects of great intensity, and also another form of voltaic apparatus called the calorimotor, designed to generate, with a low intensity of electricity, an enormous volume of heat. By means of it large rods of platinum can be ignited and fused in a few seconds, and its magnetic efforts are equally surprising; yet it is hardly capable of producing the faintest spark between the carbon electrodes. During the same year Henry Burden invented his first cultivator, which was the beginning of a series of splendid inventions.—In 1825 he received a patent for a machine for making the wrought spike, and in 1835 for a horseshoe machine. Then followed an apparatus for making the hook-headed spikes used on railways, a self-acting machine for reducing iron into blooms after puddling, another horseshoe machine, a machine for rolling iron into bars, and finally an entirely new machine for horseshoe making, which is a marvel of mechanical skill. It is self-acting, and produces, from iron bars, horseshoes at the rate of one a second.—From these several inventions, Mr. Burden amassed an immense fortune. Also in about 1820, Jordan L. Mott invented the stove for burning small coal. Previously only large lumps had been devoted to domestic purposes, and the small fragments were wasted. During his lifetime he took out more than forty patents connected with coal burning apparatus, and also instituded the change from blast furnaces to the cupola in making stoves and other light castings. His son carries on the business of his father at the present time in this city on a most extensive scale.

In 1832 James McDonald, of New York, patented an important machine for breaking and cleaning unrolled flax and hemp. During the following year, Nicholas Longworth, of Cincinnati, made his first essay in making wine from Catawba and other native grapes, thus starting the manufacture of the famous Catawba wines. At the same time another great inventor became known in the person of Joseph Saxton. In 1823, he invented the machine for giving the epicycloidal form to the teeth of notched wheels; in 1825 he made an astronomical clock, for adjusting the compensation rod in the pendulum of which he invented the reflecting pyrometer and comparator. In 1839, he went to London and there invented the magneto electric machine.—Subsequently he devised a self-registering tide gage, a deep sea thermometer, a dividing engine, and an hydraulic printing press with flexible platen.

In 1824, the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia was founded, and in the fall of the year its first annual fair was held. During the same year, Zadoc Pratt established his great tannery in Prattsville, on Schoharie Creek, N. Y., for the manufacture of hemlock-tanned leather. He probably tanned more sole leather than any man in the world, and, it is said, employed a capital of over $250,000, and continued the business till his death, without a single litigated lawsuit, or the loss of one dollar in bad debts, or having a single hide stolen. He was elected to Congress in 1836, and there proposed the introduction, through United States' consuls and national vessels, of foreign seeds and plants for distribution by the Patent Office, and publication and engraving of all important patented inventions for circulation throughout the country, and the establishment of a bureau of statistics. The year 1825 is memorable for the completion of the Erie canal, one of the greatest engineering works in the country. It connects the Hudson river with Lake Erie, is 363 miles long, and costs only about $8,000,000 to construct.—In 1825 the first house furnace using flues was employed in Philadelphia, by Professor W. R. Johnson; and in London Jacob Perkins exhibited steam artillery, which did good experimental executions against iron targets, before the Duke of Wellington.

The first signs of the electric telegraph new becomes apparent; for in 1826, Harrison Dyer erected a line on Long Island and used frictional electricity to give sparks wherewith to make chemically prepared paper. Dr. Nott, of Union College, in the same year, patented his celebrated stoves, which gave him a world-wide reputation. In 1827, John McClintic, of Pennsylvania, devised the first practical mortising and tenoning machine; and in the same year Mr. W. C. Redfield published his "Laws of Storms," wherein by long-continued observation, he showed that storms are vast whirlwinds, having both a rotary motion and a motion of translation on a curved path Mr. Redfield's discoveries are of immense value, since they afford a knowledge of cyclones which enables navigators to avoid them. The first locomotive trip in America was made on the Carbondale and Honesdale road in Pennsylvania, in 1828. During the same year, the first American patent for a locomotive was obtained and the first straw and hay paper was made. It was in 1828 that James Bogardus invented the ring flyer for cotton spinning now in general use, and then, like Saxon and Burden, produced invention after invention with wonderful celerity. In 1829 he invented mills with eccentric grinding plates, which have never been fully superseded, in 1832 the dry gas meter, and a machine for transferring bank note plates. In 1836 he devised a marvelously ingenious engraving machine, and in 1840 machines for pressing glass tumblers. He also made important improvements in drilling machines, and in 1847 erected in New York the first cast iron building, we believe, ever constructed.

We now reach the period when the discoveries of Professor Joseph Henry, foremost of living American scientists, were made known. Previous to his investigations, the means of developing magnetism in soft iron were imperfectly understood. He was the first to prove by actual experiment that, in order to develop magnetic power at a distance, a galvanic battery of intensity must be employed to project the current through the long conductor, and that a magnet surrounded by many turns of one long wire must be used to receive this current. He was also the first to actually magnetize a piece of iron at a distance, and he invented the first machine moved by the agency of electromagnetism. In 1820 he exhibited to the Albany Institute electromagnets of power superior to any before known; in 1831 he transmitted signals by an electromagnet through a wire more than a mile in length, and caused a bell to ring. In 1833, while Professor of Natural Philosophy at Princeton College, he explained the electromagnetic telegraph, but he never reduced the principles described to actual practice. Professor Henry also as nearly as 1830 demonstrated that the discharge of a Leyden jar consists of a series of oscillations backward and forward, a fact afterward by him proved true of lightning. He also made the remarkable discovery that a voltaic current induces an extra current in the conductor in which it is itself conveyed, which, however, manifests itself only on making or breaking connection with the battery. The system of conductors adapted to the demonstration are flat spirals of copper ribbon, known as Henry's coils; and by these, induced currents of the ninth order have been demonstrated, and the possible number is theoretically unlimited.

The years 1830 to 1833 were prolific in electrical discovery. Following so close upon Henry's investigations as almost to be mingled with them came those of Dr. Charles G. Page. He invented ingenious electromagnetic locomotives, two of which pulled a car, weighing eleven tons and carrying fourteen passengers, at the rate of nineteen miles an hour; he observed that the molecular changes in a bar of iron produced by magnetization are attended by audible sounds; he invented a pole changer whereby a magneto-electric machine may be made a substitute for a galvanic battery in electrolytic and galvanoplastic operations. He also devised the earliest form of induction coil, and made a large number of important discoveries in connection therewith, resulting in the invention of a spark-arresting circuit breaker.

It was in the autum of 1832 that Samuel F. B. B. Morse, then an artist in painting by profession, embarked at Havre to return to this country. On that voyage, while in casual conversation with a passenger on the recent discovery of the relation of electricity and magnetism, he conceived the idea of the electromagnetic and chemical recording telegraph substantially as it now exists. Before the close of the year a part of the apparatus was constructed in New York; but the telegraph was not experimentally exhibited in operation until 1835. In 1837 he filed a caveat and sought, fruitlessly, Congressional pecuniary aid. From this time, the inventor's life was a continued struggle against scanty means and adverse circumstances, until the season of Congress of 1842-3, when he obtained an appropriation, and in 1844 the experimental line between New York and Washington was completed, and the practicability of the electromagnetic telegraph demonstrated. To Professor Morse is also due the origination of submarine telegraphy, and the first submerged lines were laid by him in New York harbor in 1842. He also made the first daguerreotype apparatus and took the first sun pictures produced in America.

In 1832 Edward Evans patented the method of unhairing hides by sweating, without the use of lime. During the same year, Dr. Samuel Guthrie, of Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., discovered chloroform, although he did not understand its true constitution, and called it chloric ether.—At this period also was produced the first lock stitch sewing machine, by Walter Hunt. He made and sold his machines, but was an erratic genius, too versatile to be successful, and through his sheer negligence lost the opportunity of acquiring the fame and fortune which Elias Howe and other patenters subsequently realized. In 1832 M. W. Baldwin, of Philadelphia, was engaged in perfecting many of his numerous inventions in locomotive mechanism. He devised the plan of attaching cylinders to the outside of the smoke box, metallic ground joints, and other valuable improvements. His most important invention was the flexible truck locomotive, patented in 1842. Seth Boyden, of Newark, N. J., had already discovered the japan or varnish by which patent leather is produced, and had laid the foundation of the manufacture of that material, which has been successfully carried on at the latter place ever since. He also pursued experiments with a view to converting the hardest laminated iron into soft malleable iron; and these succeeding, he began making malleable iron castings, between 1831 and 1835. He subsequently invented several important improvements in steam engines, notably the cut-off instead of the throttle valve, and the connection between cut-off and governor. The first practical automatic pin machine appeared in 1832, and was the invention of Dr. John I. Howe, of Connecticut. It formed the head of the pin by dies from a coil of fine wire. In 1833, Hussey, of Maryland, made the first practical harvester. It had open fingers, with a knife reciprocating in the space. He was followed in 1834 by Cyrus H. McCormick, who invented the reaper, in which a sickel-edged sectional knife was reciprocated by mechanism from the drive wheel, and fingers gathered the grain. This was an invention of great importance; and it met with worldwide usage and secured great rewards to the inventor, who still carries on the business of manufacture on an enormous scale in Chicago.

In 1834 Professor Denison Olmsted, of New Haven, Conn., by observations of the great meteor shower of the preceding year, reached the theory that meteors are portions of a nebulous body drawn into the earth's atmosphere and inflamed by the heat generated by the resistance of the atmosphere to their motion. During the next year, Dr. J. W. Draper began his magnificent investigations of the actinic rays of the spectrum, which included experiments on the absorption of the chemical rays by solid and liquid media, the decomposition of carbonic acid by light, the interference of chemical rays, the crystalization of substances by rays of light, the supposed magnetizing properties of light (which he found not to exist,) and the effects of light upon vegetation. Dr. Draper was the first to photograph Fraunhofer's lines, the first to take a portrait by daguerreotype, the first to suggest the relation between the spectra of incandescent bodies and their physical or chemical composition, the first to devise charts of the spectral lines of bodies, the first to explain the mechanical cause of flow of sap in plants, and that the yellow ray and not the violet produces the reduction of carbonic acid therein, and the first to photograph the moon. No one American investigator has made more original researches, or extended them over a wider field, or contributed more largely to the general progress of Science, than Dr. Draper.

In 1836, another great invention appeared in the shape of revolving fire arms, which were patented by Colonel Samuel Colt, of Hartford, Conn. These were first used in the Florida war of 1837; but it was not until the outbreak of the Mexican war of 1847 that Colt erected the works in Hartford which have since assumed such immense proportions. Colt also invented a submarine battery of great power. In the next year (1837.) A. A. Wells patented the process now in general use for forming the bodies of fur hats by depositing the material directly on a perforated cone revolving in connection with an exhausting fan. At about this time John Ericsson successfully applied the screw propeller to purposes of navigation in England, and immediately thereafter emigrated to this country, to which belongs his subsequent record, of which mention will be made further on. In 1839 the United States government despatched an exploring expedition to the antartic regions. No other explorations of that part of the globe have since been made, and the somewhat doubtful report of an antartic continent, brought back by the United States' vessels, has not been fully verified. During the same year Charles Goodyear made the important invention of vulcanizing india rubber.—He had already discovered a method of treating the surface of native india rubber by nitric acid, which allowed a surface of rubber to be exposed on goods, hitherto impracticable owing to the adhesiveness of the material. In the course of experiments in 1839, he found that a piece of rubber, mixed with ingredients among which was sulphur, upon being accidentally brought in contact with a red hot stove, was not melted; but that in certain portions it was charred, and in other portions remained elastic, though deprived of adhesiveness. More than sixty patents were afterwards taken out by him for improvements in treating india rubber and on articles manufactured from it. In 1839 also Erastus B. Bigelow invented his power loom for weaving ingrain carpet. This machine could easily weave from twenty-five to twenty-seven yards per day, whereas the previous hand loom production never exceeded eight yards. The invention was followed later by a power loom for Brussels and tapestry carpets, one of the most ingenious pieces of mechanism ever devised. Mr. Bigelow also invented a machine for weaving coach lace, and another for weaving counterpanes, both of which are in extensive use.

Here we may close the review of a period remarkable for the number of great inventions made during its continuance. The original types then produced have since formed the foundation of thousands of modifications and improvements, and the ends of making such changes seems far from being attained.—Progress therefore since 1840, though rapid, is due to development of previous ideas, more perhaps than to origination of new ones.

Our next issue will contain a continued history of the more remarkable inventions and discoveries from 1840 up to the present time.

If Mr. Bayard should be placed on the Democratic ticket, either for President or Vice-President, (the former not impossible by any means, and the other quite possible) it will require a candidate not less strong than Bristow to hold fast the Republican vote. Mr. Bayard has impressed the popular mind with a conviction of his honesty, and at this time that goes very far with the people. He has seemed to be a man of honorable and high-toned qualities, and these there is a great thirst for, after the disgust created by the exposurses of the last twelve months.—*Wilmington Del. Commercial [Rep]*

OF A BETTER BREED.—A story has been going the rounds of the papers that Hon. R. Y. McAdden, would be nominated by the Rads, for State Treasurer.

We had believed all along that they were trying to humbug somebody by this story, and so it turns out. Here is the letter upon the subject written to the Raleigh *News*:

CHARLOTTE, N. C., June 2d, '76.

Editor Raleigh News:—Dear Sir—I see it stated in your paper that it is reported in official circles that I would be the Radical candidate for public Treasurer. Twice before I have seen my name mentioned in your paper in connection with prominent positions on the Republican ticket. I did not attach enough importance to the first two announcements to notice it, but as the rule is that three tips is out, I will notice, if for no other purpose than to thank the *News* and its correspondent for the interest they seemingly take in my welfare, and whilst thanking you for your kindness, permit me to say that there is such a thing as hugging to death and as I do not propose to be hugged to death by any man, I will state for the information and relief of all that I am not a candidate for any position on either ticket, as I can make a tolerable living outside of a political office, and feel that my services are not absolutely necessary in any official position to the State: and in addition to this, I have so far escaped the prevailing epidemic—the desire to sacrifice one's self in the service of the dear people.

As your paper might in a section where I am not known, produce the impression that I had changed my politics for office, I will state that I am a delegate to the Democratic State Convention, appointed from Mecklenburg county where I live and where it is presumed my politics are well known. I expect to attend the Convention and exert what influence I can to nominate such a ticket as will command the undivided support of the true Conservative people of the State and thereby insure a Democratic victory not only in this State, but in the United States at the ensuing election.

Respectfully,
R. Y. McADDEN.

A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH.

——, MISSISSIPPI,
March 4, 1876.

Hon. —— ——,

Dear Sir:

To an outsider anxious that harmony shall prevail in the views of the Democrats of different sections, it appears that entire success will not probably attend the present efforts being made at Washington to bring about so desirable a condition of feeling. I say "appears," because I can only speak of things as they look to a "layman" at this distance. Although I sympathize entirely with all effort to produce unity of sentiment and action upon the financial question, it does seem to me that if a little more determination of purpose to go for hard money were made apparent by those who favor that view of the question, supported by those who are not so deeply concerned for the success of that principle as for a change of Administration, it would do more to secure concert of action than anything that has yet been tried.

I take it for granted that all the Southern States except South Carolina and, *possibly*, Florida, will vote for the nominee of the Democractic party, without much regard to his views upon the financial question; simply because to them (the Southern States) a change of administration, with all that implies, is of more consequence than the question of "gold and silver, or greenbacks"—important as they recognize the latter to be. This will give us 127 electoral votes to start with; and as 185 is a majority, there will be only 58 more necessary in order to succeed. To most Northern people it would no doubt have the appearance of political heresy to state that any question is of importance than the one of finance. Be that as it may, it is none the less true, as regards us of the South. If the North knew the situation in the South, especially, if they had *felt* as we have, they would, perhaps, look at the matter as we do.

Promising that any candidate who will be nominated will get the 127 Southern votes, as above specified, would not the votes of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, making 50, and those of California and Oregon, making 9 more, be safe for the Democrats with a hard money man? This would give us a 186 votes, and that would be a majority *without another State*. It is apparently very doubtful, even with a soft money platform, about carrying *any* of the Western States; and such a platform would probably lose us all the above Northern and Pacific States. The chances to carry those above mentioned for the Democracy with a hard money platform are evidently much better than to carry the Western States, or any of them, with a soft money platform. An intermediate platform would probably carry neither. Besides, if the Western States saw a determination to carry out the above policy, enough of them would probably acquiesce to make the triumph assured for a larger majority; if, indeed, any of the Western States can be carried by the Democracy, at all; which is more than doubtful.

The South, I think, does not favor contraction; but a hard money platform can be made without contraction, and resuming as early as 1879; if resumption be, as is generally held, impossible without contraction. I think the entire South, with the exception of the two States previously named, will go for the nominee of the Democratic party upon a hard money platform, if there were no contraction feature in it. That is the way it looks to me.

The desire for change of Administration is more strenuous with us than any and every thing besides. All this I say without intending to give an opinion on the mooted question of "gold or greenbacks;" but to show the only way, as it seems to us here in the South, to secure a change of Administration—a thing the South needs, and at present wants, more than any change in finance and currency, important as that may be.

Very Truly Yours,
* * *

As illustrating the value of timber on waste lands, an English journal instances the sale of wood which took place lately on the estate of the Earl of Cawdor, in Nairnshire, England. In 1820 two hills, about 300 acres in extent, were planted with fir and other trees, and, after successive thinning, the sale of which realized large sums, the remainder of the wood has just been sold off for the sum of £16,000 pounds. The sum realized for the sale of the wood on this waste land during the fifty years is stated to be equal per acre to the return for the best arable land in the country.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, June 3—Noon—The Senate has up a bill to appoint a committee to treat with the Sioux Indians for the relinquishment of that portion of their reservation known as the Black Hills.

The judiciary committee in full secret session will consider the report of the sub-committee that Mr. Blaine is in contempt in not surrendering certain papers taken from a witness who is under their protection.

The Kerr committee is quietly continuing its investigation. There is a very slim attendance. The interest had ceased.

The House is in committee on the Indian appropriation bill.

Petitions from New Orleans, Louisville and Detroit in favor of the repeal of the bankrupt act were read.

Several propositions were introduced looking to the sending of a commission to the Sioux Indians with a view to acquiring the Black Hills. There was one proposition for the removal of the Indians to the Indian Territory. The bill finally passed by a vote of 30 to 8. It authorizes the President to appoint a commissioner and five persons to visit the Sioux, Indians as soon as possible, with a view to the negotiation of a treaty or agreement with them for their cession to the United States of the country known as the Black Hills, and in the interests of peace. It appropriates $50,000 for expenses of the commissioners, who appointment is to be confirmed by the Senate.

HOUSE—Disabilities of Roderick S. Kennedy and Wm. R. Jones of Texas were resumed.

The Indian appropriation bill was resumed. Many amendments were rejected, among them one by Seelye of Massachusetts forbiding rations to white men living with Indian women. The transfer of the bureau was reached and the balance of the day was spent in arguing the point of order that the section was not in the interest of economy and therefore not admissable. No conclusion was reached when the House adjourned.

In the Blaine investigation Mr. Fisher testified that he had sent Blaine the $25,000 for the interest in the North Pacific road and afterward received the money back with interest. Did not know why he never received the stock.

Jewell has gone to Hartford but returns Tuesday.

The judiciary committee came to no conclusion in reference to Blaine's refusal to surrender the letters in his possession. The sub-committee continued its examination. Mr. Blaine denied having any connection with the North Pacific Railroad. Mr. Atkins and Mr. Fisher were on the stand in this connection but nothing was elicited.

BY REQUEST.

ADDRESS

To the Young Men of the South,
BY REV. J. J. W. BOWMAN, (col.,)
OF CLEAVELAND, OHIO.

There never has been such a glorious opening for the American people as there is to-day. If they will only discard the past and look to the future they can be sure of success. If they will but live orderly together, harmonize, and be friends, we shall become the greatest nation on the earth. What a splendid opportunity, we contend, for the young men just starting out in life. And if they will only be true to themselves, and make use of reasonable industry, this will be doubly so.

I don't care whether he is at the bar, or the plow; a mechanic or a medical student, he is living in a golden age; that he can distinguish himself in if he will only pursue the proper course.

Young men are often discouraged because they think their reward for patriotic toil is slow in coming. But if they will continue straight ahead, and not allow themselves to be discouraged at anything they will find that there is always some one to discover their merit and lend them a helping hand to a career of success.

There is a great deal said of education, wealth, family connection, and the like, but it all amounts to nothing, unless a young man is determined to make something out of himself. Education is of course a great advantage, but if he depends solely on that, he will find himself outrun in the race of life. Therefore, a young man who thinks that because his family is wealthy and powerful in social influence, he must necessarily be so too, will find that he has cheated himself.—Wealthy families are apt to be broken up, and their riches be scattered by the four winds of Heaven. And then what is the condition of the young man who had an idea that nothing else was essential to his success. It matters not what pursuit a young man may follow, or what profession he adopts, if he will only utilize industry and economize his labor and time, success will sooner or later be his. Never in the history of the world has a more inviting field been opened up to the young men as is now the case in America. The ground is ready and prepared for the seed. All they have to do is to sow good seed, and the harvest will come in due time. Yours, truly,

Elder J. J. W. BOWMAN,
of Cleaveland, Ohio.

A smart Illinois girl who had been cruelly jilted, rose up in her wrath and recovered $5000 for breach of promise,—and she had no sooner got this suit out of the way than she took some of the proceeds and went right to work on another—a handsome black silk made after the "Domestic Fashions."

In Blaine's downfall the machine managers of the Republican party have lost their representative and most qualified leader. They saw the success of Grantism, and combined to perpetuate the same policy under Blaine. Everything was staked to make him the candidate, and if money or other means could have secured victory, they would have been expended with a prodigal hand. All the great Rings would have concentrated on him as the natural chief who had been identified with their schemes, and who is really one of themselves. This is a hard blow for Jay Gould and his *Tribune*, and for a crowd of speculating patriots, who had staked their last chip on Blaine and have lost.

THE NEW JERSEY POTATO CROP.—The Trenton (N. J.) *Gazette* says: "There seems to be no reason to doubt that the New Jersey potato crop will this year be a certain and total failure. The Colorado bugs have already appeared in myriads all over the States, and are everywhere prosecuting their destructive onslaught upon the young potato plants. They never before appeared so early as this nor in such countless numbers. This strange and alarming Rocky Mountain pest puts in an appearance at the very beginning of the potato season, and in such vast hordes as to make it seem hopeless to attempt to contend with them. It probably is a hopeless undertaking. They are everywhere attacking the potato plants, and even the roots and young tubers, in swarming hosts, and with a voracious energy that is disheartening. We hear of their destructive ravages in every part of the State, and there seems no reason to doubt that they will continue the campaign, by successive broods, all the summer."

The Danbury *News* says: "There is one thing on which a husband and wife never have and never can agree, that is on what constitutes a well-beaten carpet. When the article is clean, it's a man's impression that it should be removed, and he be allowed to wash up and quietly retire. But woman's appetite for beaten-carpet is never appeased while a man has a whole muscle in his body. And if he waited until she voluntarily gave the signal to stop, he might beat away until he dropped down dead. It is directly owing to his superior strength of mind that the civilized world is not a widow this day.

The Lancaster (Penn.) *Examiner* throws out this hint for the benefit of sleepy jurymen: "Yesterday we recorded the fact of a juryman getting fined $10 and costs for keeping the court waiting on him one hour, while he took his after-dinner nap at his hotel. Another juror with more tact appeared on time, answered to his name, and took his seat in the jury-box and there took his afternoon nap, perfectly oblivious to all that was going on around him, while his right hand neighbor, who had been fined, sat staring hard at the court and witnesses all the afternoon. Of course the one who slept in the court was not fined—that's the difference in the way of doing things."

Protecting Horses from Flies.

A French pharmaceutical chemist has discovered a way to protect horses from the attacks of flies, according to a London medical paper. His invention consists in rubbing the horses, especially on the part most subject to attacks, with a little concentrated oil of laurel. There is not the slightest danger in its use, and the cost is said to be very small. Another repellant suggested by the same person, is a solution of sixty grammes (one pound and five ounces avoirdupois) of assafœtida in two glasses of water, and one of vinegar. If horses be well washed with this, not a fly will settle upon them, as the odor of the assafœtida drives the flies away. This drug has no deleterous qualities as an external application, and may be used unhesitatingly.

Walking on the Water—A Novel Experiment.

Dr. A. D. Barrett, of this city, has been experimenting with an apparatus for walking on the water. It is made of iron and weighs sixty pounds. There are two six inches air tight cylinders, which are capable of floating two hundred pounds. The cylinders are four feet apart and are fastened together with iron braces, which come up even with the hips, holding the body in position, the feet resting level with the water on two swinging stilts which are attached to the iron braces. There is an ingenious contrivance attached to the bottom of the stilts to keep the feet from slipping through the water, and every step must force the machine ahead. Dr. Barrett was walking on the shallow water of the harbor with the machine yesterday morning, and says he will walk from Portsmouth to Norfolk as soon as he gets the machine to work perfectly.—*Portsmouth Enterprise.*

JUST WAIT.

"Young ladies have the privilege of saying anything they please during leap year," she said eyeing him out of the corner of her eye with a sweet look.

His heart gave a great bound, and while he wondered if she was going to ask the question he had so long desired and feared to do, answered:

"Yes."

"And the young man must not refuse," said she.

"No, no. How could they?" sighed he.

"Well then," said she, "will you."

He fell on his knees, and said: "Anything you ask, darling."

"Wait till I get through. Will you take a walk, and not come here so much?"

"What would be your notion of absent-mindedness?" asked Rufus Choate of a witness who he was cross-examining. "Well," said the witness, with a strong Yankee accent, "I should say that man who thought he'd left his watch to hum, and took it out'n his pocket to see if he'd time to go hum and git it, was a *leetle* absent-minded."