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FILE CUTTING BY HAND AND BY MACHINERY.

Many use files, but few know the amount of labor bestowed upon them, or the nicety of touch required by the workman. It would seem that machinery here cannot operate, that it cannot think. The best information on this subject is in the French Dictionary of Arts, etc.—meaning while something may be learned from the extract we give below:

Files are indispensable for the working of all metallic and many other hard substances, and without their aid few articles of machinery could be produced. Holland observes that the use of the file must have preceded every step in the progress of finishing, articles composed of iron and steel in all cases where any intricacy of shape precluded the operation of grinding. He considers that, great as is the antiquity of the revolving grindstone, the file must have preceded it, and refers in confirmation of this opinion, to the first book of Samuel (chap. xiii, v, 21) in which the file is mentioned as the means of sharpening the mattocks, cutters, and other edged instruments of Israelites. He also refers to a passage in the Odyssey, in which Vulcan is represented as using the hammer and file in fabricating the net in which he entangled Menelaus and Venus, as a proof of the great antiquity of this tool.

Files always are, or should be, made of steel of superior quality, as there are few instruments in which a defect in the metal is so completely destructive of utility. An axe, saw, or almost any other cutting instrument, though of inferior metal, may be made to do duty by repeated whetting; but for a bad file, as Holland observes, there is no remedy—no process of restoration. "Let it," he says, be too soft, and immediately on application, the whole toothed surface of the file is crushed down, and ceases to be of any use for its intended purpose; if too hard, on the other hand the teeth, as they come into contact with the body to be acted upon, fly off with every stroke; the file therefore becoming, if not quite useless, certainly a coarse irregular rubber." The importance, therefore, of a guarantee of excellent quality gives a high value to files bearing the marks of manufacturers of established reputation, and leads unprincipled tradesmen to imitate them. "One of the most famous of these marks," Holland observes, "was that granted many years ago by the corporation of Sheffield to Daniel Bramhall; and as an illustration of its value may be mentioned the fact, that in 1825 the rightful owner obtained a verdict of £2000 damages against a Birmingham file-maker for having struck it fraudulently on articles made by himself."

"Several highly ingenious machines have been contrived for superseding the tedious operation of file-cutting by hand, but we believe no file cutting engine has been brought successfully into operation. One very serious difficulty arises from the circumstances, that if one part of the file be either a little softer than the adjacent parts, or narrower, so as to present less resistance to the blow of the hammer, a machine would, owing to the perfect uniformity of its stroke, make, a deeper cut there than elsewhere; whereas, as Dodge observes, 'a workman who has been employed in the trade from a boy (and none others, it is said, can acquire the requisite skill), can feel instantly when he arrives at any variation in the quality or condition of steel, and at once adapts the weight of his blow to it.' Holland, after describing one of the machines contrived for this purpose, observes, that the applicability of an apparatus to the toothing of extremely fine faced files seem conceivable because 'in such the set or direction of the teeth is a matter of much less importance than perfect equality of surface; thus intimating that a great difficulty arises in the apparently attainable point—'The double dead-cut files of the French,' he adds, 'exhibit such a beautiful uniformity of delication when examined with a magnifier, that no doubt seems to be entertained, by many persons conversant with the art, or their being cut by machinery of some sort. But although the French are so successful in the production of this exquisitely delicate cutting, they are not equally so in the execution of the rougher sorts; and consequently English files are in high reputation in Paris, whether large quantities are regularly transmitted.' The writer mentions a French manufacturer of watchmakers' files, some of which, cut in the common manner, but with exquisite neatness, by his daughters, were regarded with suspicion by many, simply from the opinion that they must be machine cut."

"During the war of the French revolution, the supply of English files being impeded, the French file makers were excited to great efforts to supply the deficiency, and according to an article published in the Repository of Arts for 1801, translated from the register of the French Lyceum, it would appear that a man named Roum succeeded in producing files so hard that they would cut or abrade the best English files which, in a series of public experiments, were brought into competition with them."—Penny Encyclopaedia Supplement.

"Slavery in the New School Presbyterian Assembly.—It will be seen that the New School Assembly have pursued a different course from that adopted in the other body, having passed resolutions condemning slavery in the abstract, but refraining from making it a subject of ecclesiastical jurisdiction. The Old School Assembly simply declined to take any action on the subject. We are pleased to see that the next session of this assembly is to be held in this city.—Rich. Times.

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES, Editors & Proprietors.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR IS SAFE."



RULES. DO THIS, AND LIBERTY, Genl. Harrison.

NEW SERIES, NUMBER 8, OF VOLUME III.

SALISBURY, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1846.

GEN. HOUSTON.

This individual, who has acquired an accidental fame, remarked, in one of his late demagogical speeches, (all his speeches are of the *ulcrauntum vulgus* character,) that "discipline is not valor." This may be true—and so may Gen. Houston be a humbug; though he was present in the early part of the battle of San Jacinto, and reaped the laurels which should adorn the brow of his worthy colleague in the United States Senate. But if discipline be not valor, it is certainly something very near akin to it, for it frequently achieves what mere valor never could effect without.—We presume there is no man more conversant with what constitutes the elements and essentials of the effective soldier than Gen. Winfield Scott, (we hope readers will pardon us for mentioning the eagle and the buzzard in the same paragraph) who, in the Florida campaign of 1836, assured us that he knew many of the regulars in that service, who were, by nature, the most arrant cowards, and yet, such was the wonderful effect of discipline, that he could, by a single command, cause them to march up to the cannon's mouth, although they might believe that instant death would be their inevitable fate. The reason of this is sufficiently obvious—it is also obvious, that cowardice, unsupported by discipline, would prove unequal to the danger.—Temperance Advocate.

A Pretty Face.—Yes, your friend has a pretty face, and that is all you can say. Her skin is fair, her eyes brilliant, and her lips are like a "crushed rose leaf." Beautiful to look upon—but what is her mind? Vanity lives in her bosom, and pride makes her actions detestable. And her form, what is it?

"Awkward, embarrassed, stiff, without the skill of moving gracefully or standing still; Que leg, as if suspicious of its brother; Desires seems to run away from Mother."

There are many such who have nothing but pretty faces to recommend them.—Devoting much time and attention to look well, they seldom study, and are therefore deficient in intellectual acquirements.—Besides, they are lazy, and are therefore deficient in intellectual acquirements.

Who arise early to wash and iron and bake? Their mothers. Who scrub the floor, mend the stockings, and wash the dishes? Their mothers do all, while their beautiful daughters are standing before the glass, adjusting their hair, and fixing their dress. As wives, what are they good for? A man better live single all his days than unite himself to a vain, proud, and lazy young woman. He cannot live happy with her unless he has a fortune for her to squander away. Our advice is, look to the heart. Study the character and not be carried away by a fair skin, a pretty mouth, or a laughing eye.—Portland Tribune.

DELICIOUS APPLE PUDDING.

It is convenient, as it may be made several hours before it is baked, or when a nice addition is wanted unexpectedly.—Pare and chop fine half a dozen or more, according to their size, of the best cooking apples—grease a pudding dish, cover the bottom and sides an inch thick with grated bread, and very small lumps of butter; then put a layer of apples with sugar and nutmeg, and repeat the layers until the dish is heaped full. Before adding the last layer, which must be as bread and butter, pour over the whole a tea-cupful of cold water. Put it into the oven as soon as the dinner is served, and bake it for twenty-five or thirty minutes. It may be baked the day before it is wanted; when it must be heated thoroughly, turned into a shallow dish, and sprinkled with powdered sugar. It requires no sauce.—American Agriculturist.

Dreadful Affair.—The steamer Queen City, hence for Cincinnati, while lying at Natchez, on Wednesday morning, between 1 and 2 o'clock, burst her steam-pipe, killing 7 persons and badly scalding 38, five of whom have since died. The others were sent to the Hospital. Most of them were German emigrants.—Tropic.

It is said that Henry Clay, Jr., is raising a company of mounted men in Louisville, Kentucky, for Texas.

SABBATH HYMN.

Oh Jesus, thy gracious eye Be turned on me to-day, And may I feel thy presence nigh, Whenever I praise or pray. Drive far away vain thoughts, my Lord, Unholy tempers slay; And let me ponder on thy word Throughout this holy day. For, hast thou not in love to me, Six days in seven given, When I uny carthy good procure, But give this one to heaven. Then may thy hallowed hours be thine; No trifling thoughts intrude; But holy songs attune my mind To higher, nobler good. So when my fleeting journey's trod, And sin and death o'ercome, Oh may I say, through Christ, my God, The victory is won. Then lean upon my Saviour's breast, And breathe my life away, Pass calmly to the promised rest,—An endless Sabbath day.

THE NATIONAL FAIR.

closed finally last night at ten o'clock, agreeably to the notice published some days ago. This great exemplification of American ingenuity, projected and prosecuted under some doubts of its success, has far more than equalled the highest hopes of the patriotic gentlemen who originated and carried it forward. During the entire fortnight that it has been open, its immense saloons have been thronged by day and crowded by night with interested and gratified spectators, who have come hither from all quarters to view its treasures. As an experiment it has been crowned with the most complete, and, we will add, the most merited success. Such a display of beautiful specimens of American skill and progress in the various branches of manufacturing, mechanical, and scientific industry, was well calculated to gratify all hearts which cherish the real independence of the country and its solid prosperity. Especially must it have gratified all such to observe the numerous and varied proofs of our country's independence of the foreign world in all those plainer but more essential fabrics which belong to the comfort of the people. Beautiful and rich and admirable as were the countless specimens of ingenuity in the embellishments and luxuries of life—much as there was to delight the eye—we confess it was the vast display of the homelier productions, essential to individual and domestic comfort, which imparted to us the highest pleasure. All that, however, will be treated of appropriately, and with due discrimination, by pens and in publications devoted to the subject. We can only say that the National Fair has been a source of pleasure and instruction to the thousands who have visited it, and of no little advantage, we believe, to our National Metropolis; that we feel that our city is much indebted to the liberal contributors to whose public spirit we owe it; and we trust that they will find in the success of their experiment a sufficient inducement to repeat it periodically, or occasionally, hereafter.—Nat. Intelligencer.

AN ADMISSION.

The Washington Union declares that the Mexican war constitutes no reason for refusing to reduce the tariff, because there is a surplus of twelve millions, and less than this sum is to do all the needful in regard to Mexico. Here is an admission that the present tariff produces more revenue than is expected from the new proposition of the administration. We thought from representations of the partizan Presses which sustain free trade, that the democrats expected to get more revenue from Mr. Walker's plan; one of the arguments against the tariff, being its tendency to prohibit or decrease importations.

These are strange times. It really appears as if politicians do not think it important to pay any regard to facts, because the power of discipline is such that the people sustain a measure, regardless of its consequences, when recommended from head quarters. So we have the doctrine that the present tariff brings in more than is needed; and again, that it does not yield so much as a revenue system ought to do; and from these premises the members of Congress are invoked to repeal it. Did the world ever before witness such a consummation of political wisdom as this? The effects of the tariff, according to partizan representations, are so and so, and then again they are neither so nor so—and for these sapient reasons the tariff must be repealed. But there is a reason which overwhelms all others, and is imperative: The Baltimore Convention so decided, and the party is bound to obey.—Wilmington Commercial.

BRITISH CORN LAWS.

These laws, so far as it depends on the House of Commons, are repealed. Their fate in the House of Lords is yet uncertain. The great question with us, how shall we be affected by this measure? The answer to this question is given by the New York Herald, a free trade paper, which says: "The immense quantity of foreign flour and grain locked up in bond in the principal ports of the United Kingdom, ready to be forced upon the market the moment the existing restrictions are removed, will undoubtedly produce a depression in prices, but whether that depression will be temporary or permanent it is impossible to tell; but our impression is that it will be permanent, and that lower prices for breadstuffs will rule in the corn markets of Great Britain than has been realized for years, if not lower than ever experienced." Where, then, is the market for American bread-stuffs, of which so much has been said? If we cannot afford to send wheat and flour to Great Britain now, how can it be done when the prices shall be still lower than heretofore? And yet this is the great boon held out to the American wheat-grower, to induce him to consent to the destruction of a system which gives him a steady and remunerating home market for his surplus products!—Richmond Whig.

CAVALRY.—An effort is now being made to raise a Cavalry Company in this county. We notice at the head of the list the names of Gen. THOMAS G. POLK and Capt. JAMES E. SELBY. Those who wish to attach themselves to a mounted company should lose no time in enrolling their names.—Holly Springs "Guard."

"Idleness is the great fomentor of all corruptions in the human heart.—Blair.

GENERALS GAINES AND SCOTT.

The resolution of inquiry which passed the U. S. Senate on Friday is as follows:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform the Senate whether any officer of the Army, during the past or present year, has called volunteers or militia into the service of the United States without legal authority therefor; and, if so, what is the number of said force, how it has been organized, and whether officers of the line or staff have been appointed contrary to law; whether any and what measures have been adopted by the President or the Department of War, or any other authority under his direction, in relation to such officers or troops so called into service.

Resolved further, That the President be requested to furnish the Senate with any correspondence which may have taken place between the Secretary of War and Major General Scott, of the United Army, upon the subject of his taking the command of the Army of Occupation on the frontiers of Texas. And with a copy of any letters written by Gen. Scott to Gen. Taylor by the direction or with the knowledge of the Secretary of War. And that the President be requested further to inform the Senate whether any order was at any time given by the President or the Secretary of War to Gen. Scott to proceed to the Rio Grande, or to take command of the Army, (and, if so, to communicate a copy of that order) and whether he has not been daily engaged in the discharge of indispensable duties at Washington, under the direction and by the expressed wishes of the Secretary of War, and how he has been engaged; whether Gen. Scott has not tendered himself to the Department of War as ready and willing to take command of the army to prosecute the War against Mexico, whenever the President should require his service; and whether he has not asked that command as due to him from his rank in the army.

Resolved further, That the President be requested to furnish the Senate with copies of the correspondence between Gen. Edmund P. Gaines and the Government from the 1st of June, 1845, to the present time, on the subject of volunteers or militia ordered to the frontiers of Texas.

The Washington Union has the following article in reference to Major General Gaines and his proceedings at the South. We publish it as indicating the views of the National Executive on the subject:

GENERAL GAINES.

The unauthorized & extraordinary conduct of Gen. Gaines, if we may judge from accounts which have reached us from various quarters, will produce much disappointment and discontent among the patriotic citizens, who, at his instigation, in the ardor of their zeal to serve their country, have organized and prepared to join the army under the command of Gen. Taylor. Checked as this conduct was at the earliest period, still it will involve the country in enormous expense, and throw serious embarrassments in the way of carrying out the arrangements made by the government here. After the reproof administered to him, last summer for his assumption of the power of calling for State troops: after being informed, as he then was, that Gen. Taylor was authorized by the President to call from the States of Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky, any auxiliary force he might deem necessary; after it was explicitly stated to him that the government did not conceive that there could be thereafter any occasion to send into Texas state troops unless on General Taylor's notification; after being, in very explicit language, told that Gen. Taylor's command was entirely independent of him; that orders and instructions for that general's conduct would emanate from the government here, and that he (Gen. Gaines) was directed to abstain from all interference with him—it was not anticipated that he would break out into a wild course of independent action, alike unauthorized by instructions or by law; but such, unfortunately, has been the case, and many thousand patriotic volunteers have left their homes on his unauthorized invitation, prepared to espouse the cause of their country in this war against Mexico. Though the government here deeply lament the disappointment which these gallant men will feel when they learn that they cannot be received into the public service, the result cannot be prevented. It is proper to add that as soon as information reached Washington that Gen. Gaines was exercising the power to call for troops other than those embraced in the requisition of Gen. Taylor, he was directed to countermand his proceedings. He named the governors upon whom he had made his calls, to each of whom the following letter was addressed, and a copy sent to himself:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, May 18, 1846.

"SIR: It being understood that Major General Gaines has made a call on your excellency for volunteers to rendezvous at Fort Jesup, Louisiana, I have to inform you that this was done without the authority of the President, and that the general has this day been instructed to revoke the same. You are requested to take no measures to comply with that call. Those whom he had called from Miss-

souri, Mississippi, and Alabama, at the moment Gen. Taylor's requisition was received at New Orleans, and who had organized and left their respective states, were recognized and received.

The governor of Missouri was informed by the secretary of war that the President had recognized the call made on him by Gen. Gaines to the extent mentioned in his letter to wit: "the troops which may have left the state of Missouri for New Orleans the place of rendezvous, before the notice of your order changing their destination;" and to the governors of Mississippi and Alabama the secretary of war wrote that the call of Gen. Gaines made on those states "had been recognized by the President to the extent of the number furnished and sent to Texas."

Hearing that Gen. Gaines was still busy in organizing and accepting the volunteers, appointing sundry staff officers, employing artificers, &c., the secretary wrote to him as follows: "This call," (alluding to a call on the governor of Kentucky by Gen. Gaines,) "as you must be aware, has been made by you without the sanction of law, as similar calls appear to have been made by you on other states, without authority from the President, or this department, and which are calculated to embarrass the government, you are hereby directed to discontinue your independent action in these matters, and to confine yourself to carrying out the orders and views of the President, so far as they may be communicated to you from this department. You will forthwith revoke any calls you may have made on states for volunteers or militia, beyond the number already sent into Texas, or to Gen. Taylor under these calls."

In a subsequent letter he was again written to as follows: "Your action in calling for or receiving volunteers, independent of the instructions of this department, and beyond the requisitions of Gen. Taylor, is wholly unauthorized and illegal; and you are again instructed not only to stay all such proceedings, but to recall any requisitions, you have made, and act no further upon the subject, without special authority first had from this department." "Since writing the above, it is understood that staff appointments, such as paymasters, quartermasters, inspectors, &c., have been conferred by you on citizens. Such appointments are altogether illegal, and will not be confirmed or recognized."

Thus it will be perceived that the action of the war department in regard to the extraordinary conduct of Gen. Gaines was prompt and decisive, and in no respect can the government here be charged with, or made responsible for, the mischief which may ensue.

Requisitions for Volunteers.—The following tables will show the number of volunteers which have been called for from the several States by the President of the U. S. Also those which are intended for immediate service, and those simply to be enrolled and to wait further orders.

Table with columns: States, Regts. mts., horse, foot, Regts. mts., Foot. Lists states from Arkansas to Wisconsin with corresponding numbers.

Clothing of Volunteers.—Mr. Benton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, has introduced a bill into the Senate providing for the appointment of two Major Generals and three Brigadier Generals in addition to the present Military establishment. In addition to other provisions, the bill has the following, which is important to volunteers:

"The allowance for clothing to each non-commissioned musician and private of volunteers shall be three dollars and fifty cents per month, during the time he shall be in the service of the United States; or, in lieu thereof, he may, at his option, receive clothing to that amount from the United States."

Each corps is also to be allowed an additional Brevet Lieutenant.

SCENE IN CONGRESS.

There are sometimes rich scenes exhibited in the Hall of the House of Representatives, which the regular Reporters shrink from portraying. One of these, advertised to by the Alexandria Gazette, occurred last Monday on the bill making certain appropriations for the territory of Iowa was pending. Mr. Grady McConnell—not under the influence of the Columbian Fountain, (says the Gazette) but of something stronger—proposed amendments, among which was one appropriating \$25,000 for the erection of a "public every" at the Falls of Niagara, and another with the "creature comforts" and "approximating \$200,000" to be appropriated for the purpose of "the full legislation." Some of the amendments proposed by him were too indecent for publication; and falling in his efforts, (as he tract attention or to raise a laugh, (to wit of the House, he it said,) he placed upon his desk, and his head and shoulders on the seat of his chair, his body reclining in the air, and in this position went to sleep.

Richmond Whig.

Treatment of the American Prisoners by the Mexicans.—Capt. Hardee, who taken prisoner in the capture of Fort Ton's company, states, in a letter to the Savannah, that they were treated with the greatest consideration and humanity. Gen. Arista received the prisoners in the most gracious manner, and said that the nation had been regarded as lost, and that he wished to prove to the contrary. Capt. Hardee says: "I, Kane and myself are living with Ampudia, lodge in his hotel, and are comfortable. We are not on parole, but in company with one of the General's aids pretty much where and when we please. Two of his aids speak excellent English, and the General himself speaks French, so that we are admirably off in this respect. Every one around us uses the most endeavor to make our time pleasantly, and if anything could make us get our captivity it would be the agreeable manners and general hospitality of Gen. Ampudia. He and General Arista are both men of high character." These facts are highly honorable to the Mexicans.

Mexican Plan of War.—El Estero, the 25th ultimo, furnishes its readers a system of warfare which it is to be supposed the Mexicans in opposing the American invasion is to be emphatically a little, protracted, harassing war, (guerra penosa.) The government is adjured to abandon all idea of a pitched battle, campaign fight, but to keep the troops to the guerrilla war.

The Mexican army is to be split into elements of 500 or 600 infantry and 200 horse with which they are to intercept communications, cut off their communications, hang upon their flanks, pick off stragglers, keep them, by unexpected attacks, in a perpetual state of alarm. They are to watch for opportunities of making a sudden descent on hospitals and magazines, lay waste the through which they are to pass, and in manner wear them out without giving the opportunity of striking a single effective blow.

The Spaniards—Agriculture and

Advertising to agriculture, Genl. Taylor says: "The plough in universal use is that of a thousand years ago—neither more nor less a wooden wedge, without a particle of iron attached to it. The hoe is a wooden one, and an iron spike in the end. What is so remarkable, the only animal used in plowing is the ox: a plow, with twenty oxen, mules and oxen (by no means an unusual number) will only use his oxen in the plow, you ask why this is, the only answer is that the Spaniard never changes his plow for anything else but his government's passion for change that exists in all with him is concentrated in political change."

Mexican Towns.—Mexican towns

diminished very much in importance and exploration. By the following it will seem that their architecture is not so substantial—bearing some resemblance to the famous wall which yielded to sighs and tears of Pyramus and Thisbe. The Burrita, diminutive of Barranca, therefore little ass, and not Barranca, the letter writers call it—is a rambling consisting of less than a dozen lanes of reeds plastered with mud, and built up to Antonio Salinas, the chalmers ferryman. Matamoros contains perhaps 1000 inhabitants. Three-fourths of the houses are made of reeds plastered with mud, and of adobes, (unburned brick) the remaining fourth of soft brick. Do not believe there is a house in the town capable of resisting a four-pound shot. It is not a stone in the town, nor can be found within fifty miles of it.

A poultryer in Liverpool, according to late advices, has been carrying on a business which rivals in ingenuity some of the Yankee notions. He was contriving covering common fowls with pheasant feathers, and selling them as pheasants.

From the Raleigh Register. To the President of the North Carolina State Temperance Society.

HONORABLE SIR.—In behalf of the Temperance Society in this section, and the Western part of the State generally, I would suggest, (doubtless, for holding our next annual Convention in this country; say at Greensboro or Salisbury. At these places, or even at Salem, all the members of the Western Counties could be represented; that has never yet been done, for we have had to get men to go from Asheville, Lenoir, and away to Fayetteville or Wilmington, during the month. Now Sir, it really seems to me, that you should be particularly directed to these spots, for here we have an amply supplied market to combat, that you in the first country meeting, make no rice or cotton can be raised, the people where no market article of whiskey and rum made a Revolutionary War. And it is a demonstration as bright as sun-beams, that as thrilling as earthquakes, to convince the people, as well as to help us by calling your attention to it. Jacobs Fork, N. C. May 9, 1846.