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BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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DOMESTIC.

Cotton.—The Journal of Commerce gave a short time ago a rough estimate of the proceeds of the last year's cotton crop of the United States which shows the vast extent of this branch of our agriculture. The number of bales exported is set down at one million and fifty thousand, the average price at 13 cents per lb., making the value of each bale about forty eight dollars. The quantity consumed in the United States is estimated to be two hundred thousand bales. So that in round numbers the whole crop of the year yielded fifty eight millions of dollars. On this large amount a due proportion of profit is realized by American Commission Merchants and ship owners. The planters in all parts of the country are represented to have done a good year's business. A widow in Louisiana sent ninety five bales to market, the produce of the labor of five hands, assisted by her own three children, for which she received \$3,300, exceeding \$750 a hand. The Journal adds:—

"The circumstances which have sustained the price of cotton during the current year, are worthy of deep consideration, for they are not of a transitory nature. They are not speculation as in 1815, for the whole quantity has been and will be consumed; so that the stocks in the world at the end of the year will be little if any larger than at the beginning; and this, notwithstanding the stoppage of many of the cotton mills in our own country and diminution of the demand for cotton fabrics among us.—The spindles of Europe have been driven, through the year, by an uninterrupted demand for manufactured goods, which yet continues unabated. The solution of the whole matter is, that the world is at peace, pursuing the arts of peace, and that knowledge, religion and kindness, are extending the principles of free trade in every direction. One of the chief items in the account is the throwing open by the British Government of the India trade to individual competition. Hitherto the trade has been, and in fact still is, cooped up in the compass of a little speck of earth but it is now expanding itself in South America, in Africa, in Asia, and not less in Europe."

Yankee Enterprize.—The Boston Traveller says, "It will be remembered Mr. Macomber was delegated last year by several enterprising associates, to proceed to South Africa to obtain, if possible, a collection of birds and beasts more numerous and rare than any yet exhibited in this country—and that, after some ten months' toil in exploring the interior, roaming the forests and traversing wastes where the foot of civilized man had never trod, he succeeded in his wishes, and returned here, laden with the spoils of Southern climates. After several months occupied here in fitting out the exhibition, which consisted of upwards of one hundred animals, drawn by 75 grey horses in about 30 carriages, and requiring the care of about fifty men, including a splendid band of music, the caravan set off only two or three weeks since, and has already passed through Bristol county, and several other towns in Rhode Island; attracting every where an immense

number of people. It is undoubtedly the most valuable zoological collection ever brought together in this country; and all classes and ages, in every town and city, seem fully to appreciate it. Three large pavilions, containing 12,000 feet of canvass, were provided for the travelling menagerie, on the supposition that space sufficient would be thus afforded. But the proprietors are disappointed; at New Bedford, last week, the crowd was so great that many were compelled to wait for admittance, and at Newport it was found utterly impossible to accommodate all, and a second exhibition was accordingly given. We rejoice at this result of honest, persevering labor—this reward of bold untiring American enterprise.

Balloons.—We copy from the National Gazette the following description of a Balloon used in Philadelphia, by Mr. Mills, which will give some idea of the cost of constructing them:

"The Balloon is made of 517 yards of white silk, carefully varnished. Over this is thrown a netting of white twine to give it strength, and to afford attachments for cords of the car, which is sustained solely by it. The diameter is 23 feet; so that it is larger than an ordinary house; and the contents are over 11,000 cubic feet. At the top a valve is fixed, which closes by a spring. The valve opens like a door inwards, and is governed by a string, which extending through the centre of the balloon, passes out at the bottom and descends to the hand of the passenger in the car beneath. When this valve is open, the light hydrogen gas flows out, and thus the aeronaut is able to lower himself.—On the other hand, when he wishes to ascend again, he throws out some ballast, and thus makes the machine lighter.

Most persons suppose that a Balloon is closed at the bottom—that is not the case. A closed balloon, if full at starting, would burst before it reached an elevation of 500 feet. As the gas from its levity cannot fall out at the bottom, that is left open, for the escape of a part, when it is enlarged and forced out by the lessening pressure. This renders ballast indispensable—fer when the balloon is made to descend by letting out gas, it falls back through the air with less hydrogen in it than when rising, and has much less buoyancy;—hence to prevent a too abrupt descent, or to rise again for a choice of a good place to land, some ballast must be thrown out. The ballast of sand tied up in bags of about ten pounds each. Such bodies might by falling, do injury, and therefore each bag is in succession loosened, and the sand poured out.

Balloons have sometimes sailed to great distances. One sent up at Paris at the coronation of Napoleon fell near Rome. This contained no one. A French aeronaut travelled through the atmosphere from Paris to Bordeaux. That is perhaps the longest aerial voyage on record."

Nutmegs banged off!—We have in our office a specimen of Yankee Soap, the chief constituent of which is yellow clay; it looks well—smells well—but will not wash at all—at least it washes any other way than clean...*Salisbury Watch.*

Infatuation.—About four months since a young man was arrested by a watchman of this city while in the act of stealing a quantity of clothing from a house at which he had formerly boarded. He was taken before the Mayor next morning, and committed for trial, the evidence against him being of a character sufficiently strong to authorize such a course. It was afterwards ascertained that he was a brother of a highly respectable merchant of the South, who visited the city, and exerted himself to procure the release of his relative, who

was not more than twenty one years of age, and who, according to the representations of the brother, had, up to that period sustained a spotless reputation. It was discovered, however, while the brother was interceding, that the young offender, before he reached the city, had resided in a neighbouring town, and had, while there, engaged the affections of a female of respectable connections, several of whose letters, breathing the warmest attachment, were found upon his person. The attachment met with the most decided opposition from the parents of the lady, and the father was immediately apprised by the authorities here of the nature of the letters found in his possession, together with the particulars of his arrest. Of course this information increased his opposition, and he wrote a letter in reply, urging the adoption of some course calculated to save his child from the fascinations of a supposed villain. It so happened that the proofs with regard to the robbery of clothing, were, on investigation, ascertained to be not of the most decided character, and when taken in connection with the alleged and supposed purity of life led by young — together with the intercessions of his brother, he was released under a pledge on the part of the merchant, that he would take his brother home with him, and be especially careful to prevent his return to the town at which the young lady alluded to resided.

All this transpired some months since. The young man was released and accompanied his brother south. A few weeks ago, however, he contrived to make his escape—saw the infatuated girl whose affections he had engaged, persuaded her to forsake her parents, and marry him, and accompanied her to this city as her husband. The affliction of the family on discovering this result, can be better imagined than described, especially as it has since been ascertained that while a resident of the town where he first met with his wretched wife, for she can scarcely be otherwise now, he was arrested and imprisoned for forgery, broke jail and made his escape to this city, and this was known to her before she consented to blend her fate with us. A case of more deplorable infatuation has seldom been recorded.—*Phil. Inq.*

Lucky Dream.—A correspondent of the United States Gazette gives the following curious account of the manner by which the mode of *making round shot* was originally discovered. We believe it will be new to many of our readers:

"My Father was a Plumber in this city and for a long time could think of nothing but how to make *round shot*. *Round shot* was the burthen of the night as well as the day. One night he was awakened by a blow in the back from my mother, who exclaimed, I have found out how to make round shot. I dreamt I was going into a shop to buy the child (myself) a hat, when on hearing a hissing noise proceeding from an inner room, I was informed that they were making round shot; on going in I looked up, and saw a man pouring melted lead through a sieve at the top of the building, which fell into a tub of water on the floor, and on taking some of the shot in my hand, I found they were perfectly round! My father exclaimed in ecstasy, you have found it out—immediately he set the melting pot to work, and on pouring some of the lead from the top of the stairs he found the shot much rounder than any which he had before made; at daylight he poured some from the top of the leading tower in the city, succeeding much better; and on pouring some from the shaft of a mine, he found that he had obtained "*round shot*."

Thus the discovery was made by *Mrs. Watts*, and in justice, it ought always to have been known as *Mrs. Watts' patent shot*.

Great Calamity.—The new cotton and wool factory lately erected at this place, and principally owned by Messrs. Dearing and Nisbet, was burned to the ground on Friday morning last, together with the whole of its splendid and extensive machinery. The fire was discovered about 2 o'clock, A. M. after having advanced so far as to render all efforts to save the building or machinery unavailing. It was supposed to have been communicated by spontaneous combustion, as it was at first discovered in the attic story, where a quantity of refuse cotton had been stowed away. Nothing of consequence was saved. The actual loss is estimated by the proprietors to be not less than \$40,000; not a dollar of which was insured. The destruction of this splendid establishment is not only a great and serious loss to the proprietors, but may be justly considered as a public calamity.—*Southern Banner.*

Horrid Massacre at the Fijee Islands. The correspondent of the Salem East India Marine News Room, gives the following particulars of a most distressing Massacre at the Fijee Islands:—"A letter has been received by the owners of the brig Charles Doggett, of this town, from Capt. Batchelder, dated at Manilla, April 7th, in which he gives the melancholy intelligence of his crew, fourteen in number, having been attacked by the natives of the Fijee Islands, and nine of the number killed, while employed on shore, in September last. After an absence of ten or fifteen days, Capt. B. returned to the place of this disaster, when the natives restored the bodies of his deceased men. On the voyage to Manilla, Capt. Batchelder touched at the Pelew Islands, and was attacked by several hundred of the natives, which he beat off, without any loss of his men, except one Sandwich Island boy. The 2d officer was thrown overboard in the skirmish, but was fortunately saved."

Braking up of Gambling Houses.—The Richmond Compiler, which has taken a very active part in putting down the gambling houses and these gamblers, gives a very particular account of the scenes that were visited—and publishes a very curious memorandum, which was taken from a Book, kept by one of the gamblers. It purports to be a statement, under the heads of "*Gain*" and "*Loss*," of the transactions of one table from the 3d December, 1832, to March 8, 1833—from which it appears, that in the above period \$6,735 was *won*, and 770 *lost*—leaving the comfortable neat gain of \$5,965!

Another Mob.—There has been another riot at Canterbury, in Connecticut, where Miss Prudence Crandell, (now, we believe, Mrs. Phileo) has her school. The pupils had to be dismissed and the school discontinued.

This is as we expected. We foresaw that a husband and one or two little Phileos would cure Miss Prudence of her penchant for teaching, and cause her to dismiss her school.—*U. S. Td.*

Governor Mason, of Michigan, has called an extra session of the Legislature, for the purpose of taking steps for the formation of a State Government.

Petersburg Int.

☞ A singular oversight occurred on a funeral occasion in New York a few days ago.—Soon after the hour appointed for the burial of a deceased person, in the lower part of the city, the funeral procession was formed, and set off, with the hearse at its head; and it had proceeded nearly to the place of interment, when a messenger overtook the cavalcade and communicated the fact that the corpse was left behind.