### Wonders in Inventions.

The last ten years in the history of American inventions have been wonderfully prolific in important results. To say nothing of the telephone, the phonograph, the electric light and the system of automatic and quadruplex telegraphy, all of which have been so fully described that their principles are perfectly famil-iar to the general public, there have been numerous discoveries, and improvements which, in their way, have brought about revolutions in the arts and sciences. Among the most important of recent discoveries are improvements in the manufacture of vulcanized india rubber in its various applications, which have resulted in making it the best and cheapest material for superior and highly finished combs. These combs, in flexibility and durability, are equal to the best horn and shell, and are now extensively manufactured. The principal factories for the making of rubber combs are located in Connecticut.

The material produced by this new process possesses peculiar qualities. It is more perfectly elastic than common caoutchouc, resisted the action of the ordinary solvents of that material, is better able to resist the wear and tear of its surface and preserves its flexibility at all temperatures. Then Mr. Nelson Goodyear patented a process for solidifying form of process of manufacture.

The next invention of any importance

was a pegging machine. Pegged shoes made by hand was manufactured in large quantities a long time before the invention of this machine; but the manufacture was, and is, confined chiefly to men's boots and shoes, and to the coarser kind of ladies' shoes. Lynn, the great center of the manufacture of ladies' shoes, was never engaged to any extent in the manufacture of pegged shoes. The introduction of this machine largely increased the production, and, of course, diminished the cost of the product. There have been many improvements in the stitching machine, the product originally of the mechanical genius of Elias Howe. This machine was first perfected

A process has recently been patented in the United States, by which shot is made at a low elevation by forcing a strong current of air upon it as it falls into the water. Another important use to which lead is put in the preparation of oxide of lead or white lead as a pigment. In this branch of the lead industry this country takes a prominent and probably a leading position, as the practice of painting dwelling houses is more common than in any other country.

The safety drum, another new invention, is a safety device which guards against accidents arising from such derangement in elevator machinery, or some obstruction in the hatchway, whereby the ropes may be uncoiled from the main drum of the engine, while the car remains temporarily lodged at a greater or less distance from the bottom. It is also a perfect safeguard against the too rapid descent of the car, in case the belt or any part of the gearing connected with the engine should give way, or if run too fast by the carelessness of the operator.

Great improvements have been made iron safes, making them impregnable to expert burglars. The doors, which are generally the weak point of a safe, are constructed of plates so dove-tailed and fitting correspondingly into the jam s fectly powerless against them, while the accuracy with which they fit offers no opportunity for any crevice into which nitro-glycerine or any other explosive fluid can be introduced. The body of the safe being also constructed of alternate plates of iron, welded iron and steel, carbonized and decarbonized steel and crystal steel, fastened together by bolts from the outside, effectively prevents them being forced by sledge hammers, jimmies, jack-screws or any other burglarious instrument. Their fire-proof qualities are also secured by a filling of concrete, which makes them absolutely proof against fire and damp. In addition to the fire-proof filling, the safes are furnished with improved combination locks, varied for each safe, many of which are supplied with an automatic rotary movement, and consequently operated without any arbor or spindle passing through the door in the lock, rendering it impossible to pick them by any process yet invented.
In 1849, Dr. Gathney invented a

method of transmitting power by means of compressed air driven through pipes. Up to ten years ago his application for a patent for this process from the United States was rejected on the ground that it was a discovery, and not an invention. Patents have, however, been obtained for it in Europe, and it is by means of was used in the work on the Hoosac Mountain tunnel.

tion to improving the gun which bears his name, and the success which has at- into balls and cuds. When the animal tended his labors seduced him from the arrives at the conclusion that he has

to bear upon soap. Several materials it thoroughly with saliva. After masti-have been avowedly and openly mixed cation it passes into the third stomach with soaps as improvements. The use of resin has been utilized. Silex, either as process. Ruminants begin to sand or in the form of "water glass" or end as soon as they cease to liv soluble glass (nitrate of soda,) is one of and begin to take bulky food. the most common, and soaps made in this way are extremely efficient and useful. Modified soaps for various special purposes are now made by mixing limewater, dissolved alum, etc., with soap

already made. It is gratifying to note that inventors are taking advantage of the great capabilities of iron for beautifying forms as shown in its use for architectural purposes. Its strength makes it suitable for the richer beauties of the Greek orders, the characteristic archee and stratifications of Rome, the points and pinnacles to happiness?" "Well, no," he and the "Household" took the first premium for swered, mechanically, "I was thinking the characteristic archee and stratifications of Rome, the points and pinnacles make."

The "Household" took the first premium for swered, mechanically, "I was thinking the points archee and stratifications of Rome, the points and pinnacles make."

of Gothic design and the traceries and arabesques, domes and pinnacles of the Moors. Some of the combinations recently produced by a union of light castings and wire or rod work in trellises and verandas are wonderfully rich and light in effect.

### Water Question in Boston.

That the public water supply is bad is well recognized fact. That the cause of the trouble can be found and met remains to be seen. The cause has not yet been found, so the Water Commissioners say, and until it is it were idle to expect any means looking towards a cure. The trouble may be permanent, and it may be but temporary. Be it either way, the citizens of Boston have largely ceased to expect anything better, and are turning their thoughts to other means for getting water. The question of supplying the city by artesian wells has been mooted from time to time, and is now being discussed with renewed interest. While the preponderance of geological and unprofessional opinion is adverse to the practicability of this source of sup-ply, there are still no inconsiderate num-

ber who think the project feasible.

The experiment of J. A. Whipple near the Providence railroad station is the most important attempt to settle the question that has been made, and has consequently attracted more than common attention. This well has heretofore been fully described in the Transcript. It will be remembered that when a depth of 2155 feet was attained work on the well was stopped. On the 24th of September, however, work was resumed, and it is still progressing. A depth of 2240 feet has been reached, and Mr. Whipple intends to bore two hundred or three hundred feet deeper. He hopes to strike through the rock strata into a watercourse which will give a flowing well. At any rate, he is going down to see what he will get. The water in the well, standing within three feet of the top, is pure and sweet, but when pumped in great quantities has a sulphur taste. This proceeds from a source above the 1600-foot line, and can, it is thought, be remedied by cementing the wall of the well. The prevailing character of the rock penetrated is slaty, resembling the North river flagstones. It is sometimes hard, at other times soft. Among the borings was found some gold-bearing quartz, besides some beautiful crystals of pink quartz. The capacity of the well is from

150,000 to 200,000 gallons per day.

Mr. Whipple has two other wells, both of them outside the city, however. The one at Watertown is 700 feet deep, and the water stands within nine feet of the top. With a pump only half the well's capacity, 175,000 gallons a day, is drawn out. With a proper pump 200,000 or 300,000 gallons could be got from it daily. The water is good and free from glackeride, and the appears would be alkaloids, and the supply would be ample for the whole town. The third well is in Somerville, near East Cambridge, is 502 feet deep, and of the same capacity as the Watertown well. Regarding the large amount of water consumed by the city of Boston, 35,000,-

000 gallons per day seems enormous, and one can hardly credit the truth of the statement till he thinks of the vast amount of machinery all over the city, the boilers, the elevators, the railroads, in the methods of construction used for the sugar refinereries, etc., the hotels and almost any appliance in use by the most and tenement bouses, for instance, used during the year ending April 30, 1881, 171,135,185 gallons; the railroads consumed during the same time 135,-783,067 gallons; the sugar refineries,97,that the wedge, the most effective implement used by the burglar, is perare the mercantile buildings, factories, stables, etc., which must all be taken into the account. Cedar Grove Cemetery uses 1,036,660 gallons yearly, and the Forest Hills Cemetery 3,192,900 gallons. There are 275 elevators supplied with power from the city aqueducts, and 56 motors. The largest amount of water supplied in any one instance for an elevator is 7,064,625 gallons per annum, but there are 56 elevators that use more than 750,000 gallons each per year, and many of them approximate to the highest figure named. The largest motor uses 1,203,750 gallons per year, but the most of them use much less than this. To this is to be added motive power supplied from the city aqueducts for 25 church organs, the largest use for which in any single instance is 562,500 gallons per year. Three others take upward of 375,-000 gallons each per year. Many other figures might be added, but enough has already been given to show that without water, and plenty of it,a city would soon come to grief. - Boston Transcript.

### Chewing the Cud.

It may appear somewhat strange, but it is true, that among people who pass their lives with cattle there should be a doubt that the process known as chewing the cud is actually the mastication of the of this method that the tunnel of Mount food previously swallowed. Many be-Cenis has been worked. The process lieve that the chewing of the cud is done by ruminants for amusement only, and that it is possible for them to drop and In 1872, Dr. Gatling invented and lose their cud on the field as easily as a patented a steam plow, or earth pulver- lady will sometimes lose her purse on izing machine, to be propelled by steam | the street. The cow has four stomachs; and animal power combined. The failure of his health and the low price of
grain at that time prevented his bringing
this invention into practical use. Dr. tially chewed in the gathering. From this invention into practical use. Dr. tially chewed in the gathering. From Gatling had devoted his time and attention the first stomach it passes to the second, and there it is moistened and rolled up more congenial field of peaceful invention. sufficient supply aboard, or when it has toon. Inventive talent has also been brought | these cuds, chews it carefully and mixes cation it passes into the third stomach without going through the ruminating process. Ruminants begin to shew the cud as soon as they cease to live on milk

An Iowa paper tells of two lovers who were permanently separated by the interposition of a "cold cloud of realism." Being freely interpreted, this means probably that they were not kindred souls. The circumstance recalls the instance of a romantic young lady who had a very fine head of hair. One evening, when her affianced stood gazing very inquisitively at it in the midnight, structures and tracery of a light and she said, with much feeling, "John, are graceful effect, altogether beyond what you thinking that each one of these is possible in wood or stone. In it can hairs is like a golden cord binding you now be rendered both the simpler and to happiness?" "Well, no," he an-

### Slightly Surly.

He came into the barber shop, hung his hat and coat on a hook, took off his collar, grabbed the Police Gazette from the table and awaited his turn. "Next," clicked the affable tonsorial

"Shave, sir?" inquired the man of soaps and hair dye.
"Do you 'spose I want a tooth pulled?" growled the customer.

'Fine weather-"No, it's too damp."
"For ducks, I mean," said the barber,

pleasantly. "Haven't said anything to the ducks myself about it.'

It seems to be the general impression that Arthur is going to make a good President."

"No, it ain't. Arthur's a fraud. Feel like kicking myself every time I think how I was obliged to vote for him to get Garfield elected."

"Evidently you are not a stalwart." "Not much.

"Barber put the helm hard-a-lee and stood off on the port tack. "I reckon Blaine will be retained in the cabinet; don't you think so?"

"Blaine! He's the worst rascal in the heap. He's known to be corrupt from

the ground up."
"No half-breed blood in your veins."
"Not much." A pause.
"Shave the back of your neck. sir?" "No sir-ee. You are old enough to know better than to ask such a fool question as that. Nobody with any sense allows the back of his neck to be

shaved." "Oil?" "Naw!"

"Shampoo?" "Naw!

"Part your hair on the right side?" "Naw! Take me for a confounded idiot? No man of any sense allows his hair to be parted on the right side.

'Cosmetic?" "Naw! No man with the least grain of

sense ever uses cosmetic.' "Ah! That's just why I supposed you'd want a little. Next.'

And the patient barber sprung the surly customer out of the chair and bowed low to the approaching "subject." - Modern Argo.

### The Complexion as a Detective.

In speaking of a prisoner who has just been sent back to the cells in the Butlerstreet police station, in Brooklyn, Sergeant Dyer said: "I don't like his color. In fact, it betrays him." When asked to explain he said: "We can nearly always tell a newly-discharged convict who has served a long time in prison by his color, which comes over his face because he is denied the sunlight. Many a man has been picked up by that fact, and detectives keep it constantly in mind. The face gets a pallid look, with a yellowish cast. All the noted thieves who have served for a long time in prison get this hue. Some of them are sharp enough to try to overcome it by cosmetics, and they are as particular about fixing up their complexion, under the circumstances, as a woman going to a ball, for they know that the detectives will spot them if they once catch a glimpse of their color." "Do not other men than criminals have the same complexical." "Year night editors. That's plexion?" "Yes; night editors. That's ere we get mixed sometimes

There were half a dozen ladies and gentlemen in a street car, when the driver stopped the car and said: "There is somebody in this cartrying to beat me out of a fare." The passengers looked at each other, and all said they had put in their fare." "It don't make any difference. There are only six fares in the box, and seven people in the car." a gentleman got up, and with a sigh put in the missing fare remarking: "I put in one before, but as I was once in the Legislature everybody will say it can't be anybody else but me, so I'll have to

#### New Market Theater, W. E. Sheridan, the great actor will

open at New Market theater, Portland, Nov. 30th in King Lear, to be followed by some of the best standard plays. He will be supported by Miss Nellie Holbrook the celebrated California actress, and a good company. After playing a week at New Market this accomplished actor will make a trip to The Dalles and Walla Walla returning to Portland, for a short Manager Stechan is bound to furnish the public with the best talent to

### An Excellent Druggist.

In our columns is the advertisement of Dr. Jonu A. Child of Portland. Dr. Child has been but four years in the drug busi-ness in Oregon, but during that time has built up a fine trade. He has always carried a fine stock of goods in the tollet and fancy line which he procures direct from the east and sells at eastern prices. His holiday stock is now arriving and will contain many unique and handsome articles. We can vouch for Dr. Child as an honorable dealer and are glad to say a word in his praise—Pacific Overseer.

Lady Fingers.-Four ounces of sugar, yelks of four eggs, mix well four ounces flour, mix again; if too thick add another whole egg, a half teaspoon flavoring. Beat whites to a froth and stir in. Squeeze through a funnel made of writing paper into pans lined with buttered paper. These are used for Charlotte russe.

When you go to Portland be certain and visit Isaac Barman, The Clothier, as it is the only store in which you can so easily contract for an outfit and be sure of receiving satisfaction. Or send your order; state your size and quality of goods desired, and if you do not receive them as ordered don't accept them. Address ISAAC BARMAN. The Clothier, corner First and Washington streets, Pertland Oregon

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