OCEAN TELEGRAPHS AND SURVEYS.

[From the Scientific American.]

Five years since, when our lines of telegraph were few and feeble, we stated that the time would yet arrive, and was not far distant, when an electric belt would encompass our globe, and the New York merchant would hold converse, by the lightning's flash, with his fellow merchant in London. We did not then conceive, however, that measures would be as soon arranged, as they have, to carry out this grand result. It was then generally supposed, that the Atlantic ocean would present too many difficulties for a line of wires to be laid down in it, or to be worked in it by the most powerful batteries if laid down. A line running through the north-west of our continent, then across Behring's Straits, through Northern Asia, and down to Europe was then supposed to be the most feasible route for a world's telegraph.

But this is an age of great enterprise in inventions and works of engineering skill and daring. Any reasonable payable project, however vast, is sure to receive attention, when placed clearly before the public. What was merely suggested a few years ago regarding an ocean telegraph, is now fast growing into a *fixed fact*. Companies have been formed, money subscribed, and measures arranged for the accomplishment of this great undertaking. The work is to be a joint effort between an American company in New York and an English company in London; but the scheme was projected and the first measures taken by the former.

Last year in an attempt to connect our continent with the island of Newfoundland telegraphically, the cable was lost in a storm; but another has arrived from London, and with the precautions to be taken it will soon be laid down successfully, after which we shall be able to receive news from Europe in two days' less time than we now do, as the mail steamers will then touch at Newfoundland and leave the news.

But after this is accomplished, the great cable nearly 1,800 miles long has to be laid down. To ensure its success, positive information respecting the bottom of the ocean on which it is to be laid is required, because many parts of the ocean's bed are as steep and rugged as the Rocky Mountains. To lay down a telegraph wire on the bottom of the ocean, a distance of 1,600 miles between the opposing shores, and that bottom interspersed with such submarine mountains and valleys as those represented in the map on page 256, Vol. 9, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, would be impracticable, according to the present calculations made by the Ocean Telegraph Companies. It has been asserted, that there is an ocean plateau of almost uniform level extending from Newfoundland to Ireland, and that on this marine elevation it would be easy to lay down the cable. This plateau was stated to have been discovered by Lieut. Berryman in the U. S. sloop *Dolphin*, three years ago, when taking deep sea soundings; but that partial survey is not thought to have been sufficient; and at the solicitation of Lieut. Maury and Prof. Bache of the Coast Survey, Secretary Dobbin has ordered the exploring steamer *Arctic* (which was sent after Dr. Kane) to be fitted out to take a thorough survey of the entire route projected for the ocean telegraph. This is laudable and commendable act on our government, for which its projectors deserve great credit. The *Arctic* will be commanded by Lieut. Berryman, whose knowledge of his peculiar duties are unequalled; under him will be Lieut. Strain, the heroic explorer of the Isthmus of Darien, and other able officers. She is fully equipped for her work, being provisioned for 90 days, and coaled for 50 full days' steaming. She is provided with instruments of every description for taking ocean, atmospheric, and astronomical observations, including a reel of 10,000 fathoms—over 11 miles long—which will be raised by the power of steam, but descend by gravity.

To take the soundings different weights are employed—sometimes leads and sometimes shot of 68 pounds. These are never drawn up again. The shot are slung in a socket, which is attached to the line by hooks in such a way that the moment the shot strikes the bottom it is unshipped, and the line left clear. To haul it up would be impossible.—But through the centre of the shot there passes a tube, in which are fixed several quills. These gather up from the bottom specimens of mud, sand, shell, and so forth, to indicate the character of the sounding. Marks upon the line and checks show at a glance the depth to which the weight has descended. These soundings are to be taken every 30 miles over the route, and if the survey furnishes satisfactory results, the laying down of the great telegraph cable across the ocean will be attempted as soon as possible afterwards.

It would be a waste of words to speculate on the probable results of this ocean survey at present. A fine dinner was given in this city last week to commander Berryman, and the officers of the *Arctic*, by Peter Cooper, President, C. W. Field, Esq., and others of the Telegraph Company. She proceeds direct to Newfoundland, to the starting point designed for the telegraph cable, and thence in as straight a line as possible to Ireland. We wish success to this ocean surveying expedition and the Ocean Telegraph Companies.

HOW AN INDIAN BATTLE IS FOUGHT.

The Editor of the Omaha Nebraskian is laboring to convince emigrants that there is not the least danger to be apprehended from the depredations of the Indians in that Territory. Since its settlement, but one white person has been killed by them, and it was by mistake. He was dark-colored, and the Sioux thought he was a half-breed Pawnee. The writer gives a graphic description of an Indian battle, which we copy:

The war party usually consists of two or three hundred men, women, and children, dogs and horses, come in sight, and halt at a distance of from one-half to a mile of each other. The women, children, dogs and horses are immediately carrelled by the men surrounding them, to prevent a general stampede. When this arrangement is finished, the dusky warriors pitch in alternately, as follows: The young aspirant for glory, with horse shoe fastened upon his buffalo skin or blanket, and red vermillion on his eye-brows mounts a war steed, (generally a lazy, scrubby pony, and with spur and whip describes, as swiftly as possible, a semi-circle in the direction of the enemy's carrelle, keeping, however, out of the reach of arrows or bullets from the bows or worthless flint locks of the main body of the Indians, but ready to meet a straggler and ride himself into other camp. If the two curved lines described by the warriors come from their camp within a hundred yards of each other, the warriors, at full gallop, discharge their respective weapons, be they bows or rusty fire arms. After the champions return safely to the camp, two others, (one from each part) with a whoop and yell, more alarming than their weapons, start out upon a similar course. In this way, the battle is carried on for hours without a single fatal shot from either party. After giving to each other sufficient evidence of prowess, the parties retire, no damage is done to either, unless some luckless or hardy hunter is caught out alone, when he is attacked by the whole unfriendly tribe. This is an Indian battle—very poetic indeed, but not so very dangerous after all.

—Men are like bugles—the more brass they contain, the farther you can hear them. Women are like tulips—the more modest and retired they appear, the better you love them.

WORTH REMEMBERING.—In cases of accidental poisoning, a spoonful of mustard mixed in a tumbler of warm water, and drunk immediately, is said to be a safe and certain remedy.

WESTERN PROGRESS.—A Western paper says: One year ago the town of Clinton in Iowa, on the Mississippi, was not known on any map of Iowa. To-day it contains a population of 1000 souls, and has three hotels, seven dry goods stores three grocery stores, two hardware, one furniture, one clothing, one boot and shoe store, one tailor, (self-styled), one saddler, one tin shop, one warehouse, two doctors' offices, four lawyers' offices, one brickyard, two limekilns, two sawmills, one lumberyard, and two stone quarries.

ALPHABETS.—The Phœnician alphabet, invented by Cadmus, had originally only fifteen letters, but the English has twenty-six, the Spanish twenty-seven, the Arabic twenty-eight, the Persian thirty-two, the Turkish thirty-three, the Russian forty-one, the Sanscrit fifty, and the Chinese two hundred and fourteen.

STREET BATTLES IN NEW ORLEANS.—The New Orleans *Delta*, says:

The neutral ground, or as it may now be more fitly called, the battle-ground, on Canal street, was the scene of quite an iutense excitement this morning, about 9 o'clock, on account of a rencontre between two prominent ex-officials of our city—Mr G. W. Kendall, our late Postmaster, and T. S. McCay, who, it is said, has resigned the office of U. S. District Attorney. The affair, as we have learned, was in this wise:

Mr. Kendall who was coming from the post-office, whilst passing over the battle ground, opposite Exchange alley, turned round and saw Mr. McCay close by him, upon which he seized him by the collar, and said to him, that since he had resigned they were now on the same footing, and that he was going to thrash him, which he commenced doing in quite an effective manner, notwithstanding the intreaties of Mr. McCay not to do so. The latter, however, seeing that his adversary was intent upon his hostility, drew a revolver, which was at once knocked out of his hand by Mr. Kendall, who then threw him down and continued assulting him, until the bystanders separated them.

Officers being at this time on the ground, both gentlemen were taken into custody and brought before Recorder Stith. Mr. McCay declining to make any charge against Mr. Kendall, they were both liberated: the latter, however, being fined ten dollars, rests for the present.

The same paper of 2nd inst. has the following:

The sidewalk by the battle ground on Canal street, witnessed another stirring time yesterday about half-past two o'clock. As there were no pistols used, the crowd had a fair opportunity for seeing the sight, without the danger of being promiscuously shot at, consequently a numerous audience attended the exhibition, and, of course, was highly delighted. The parties engaged were Messrs. G. W. Kendall and Thomas A. Adams. Various conflicting accounts are given of the occurrence, but as far as we can judge, we believe the following brief version is correct:

It appears that both gentlemen were sitting on a box in front of Burnside's store, when some conversation of a private nature occurred, which took an angry turn, and ended by Mr. Adams calling Mr. Kendall a liar; the expression being used by him in second turn. Mr. Kendall struck him, and was struck back by Mr. Adams, and fell to the ground from stumbling on the iron step in front of the door. During the *melee* a knife was drawn, some say by Mr. Kenball, and that it was wrenched from him by Mr. Adams; though others say, that such was not the case, Mr. Adams himself having drawn it; Mr. Kendall received a slight stab in the thigh during the fight No other injury to speak of was done to either party.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—Captain Denham, R. N., of H. M. S. *Herald*, in his recent Hydographic Notice of the Islands and Reefs in the South West-ern Pacific Ocean, writes thus of Norfolk Island:—

"12th June, 1855.

"I may remark, in conclusion, that I found the island no longer a penal settlement. The convict establishment was withdrawn on the 7th of May; and is at present occupied by an assistant commissary storekeeper, with a few hands engaged in removing into follow the surplus sheep. The rest are intended for the Pitcairn Islanders, who are daily expected to occupy the island and whose hearts and minds, simple though they be, will not fail to adore the Queen and country which put them in possession, with, fostering solicitude, of the most lovely island conceivable, with all the facilities for industry and comfort; comprising fifteen square miles of land capable of tillage, 800 acres cleared and fenced, beautiful roads intersecting it, eighty-one substantial buildings, including chapel, school-room, hospital, barracks, dwelling-houses, cottages, mills, and workshops; together with household furniture, artisans' tools, and agricultural implements; the gardens stocked with seed, and the farms with 2000 sheep, 300 cattle, horses, pigs, poultry. A bounteous bestowal indeed."

TO BE SOLD

THE Farm at present in the occupation of Mr. Andrew Smith, at the Cross Roads, Belfast. For particulars apply at the office of T. HEATH HAVILAND, Esq. Barrister at Law, Charlottetown, April 25th, 1856.

"ALBION HOUSE,"

STREETLY & COUCHMAN

BEG respectfully to inform the inhabitants of Charlottetown and its vicinity, that they have taken the store lately occupied by MR. NEIL RANKIN, and have opened it under the above title with a magnificent and

MOST EXTENIVE STOCK OF DRY GOODS

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

This stock having been purchased with great advantages, for taste, variety, quality, and cheapness, cannot be surpassed by that of any House in the Island. It would be impossible in the limits of an advertisement to particularize, but on inspection it will be found to contain everything, that is supplied by the most extensive houses in the first Cities of B. N. America, from the smallest article in Haberdashery, to those of the more costly character in

Dresses, Silks, Shawls, Mantles, &c.

In making this announcement, we trust the public will encourage us in this undertaking, and we pledge ourselves to carry on this business in a spirit of liberality, and continue to offer to purchasers advantages which will, we have no doubt, be appreciated.

STREETLY & COUCHMAN.

Charlottetown, May, 17, 1856.

A MARVELLOUS REMEDY! FOR A MARVELLOUS AGE!!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

THE GRAND EXTERNAL REMEDY.

By the aid of a microscope, we see millions of little openings on the surface of our bodies. Through these, this Ointment, when rubbed on the skin, is carried to any organ or inward part. Diseases of the Kidneys, disorders of the Liver, affections of the Heart, Inflamation of the Lungs, Asthmas, Coughs and Colds, are by its means effectually cured. Every housewife knows, that salt passes freely through bone or meat of any thickness. This healing Ointment far more readily penetrates through any bone or fleshy part of the living body, curing the most dangerous inward complaints, that cannot be reached by other means.

ERYSIPELAS, RHEUMATISM AND SCORBUTIC HUMOURS.

No remedy has ever done so much for the cure of diseases of the skin, whatever form they may assume, as this Ointment. Scurvy, Sore Heads, Scrofula, or Erysipelas, cannot long withstand its influence. The inventor has travelled over many parts of the globe, visiting the principal hospitals, dispensing this Ointment, giving advice as to its application, and has thus been the means of restoring countless numbers to health.

SORE LEGS, SORE BREASTS, WOUNDS & ULCERS.

Some of the most scientific surgeons now rely solely on the use of this wonderful Ointment, when having to cope with the worst cases of sores, wounds, ulcers, glandular swellings, and tumours. Professor Holloway has dispatched to the East, large shipments of this Ointment, to be used in the worst cases of wounds. It will cure any ulcer, glandular swelling, stiffness or contraction of the joints, even of 20 years' standing.

PILES AND FISTULAS.

These and other similar distressing complaints can be effectually cured, if the Ointment be well rubbed in over the parts affected, and by otherwise following the printed directions around each pot.

Both the Ointment and Pills should be used in the following cases:—

Bad Legs	Cancers		Sore-throats
Bad Breasts	Contracted and Stiff Joints		Skin diseases
Burns	Elephantiasis		Scurvy
Bunions	Fistulas		Sore-heads
Bite of Mosquitoes and Sand Flies	Gout		Sore-legs
	Glandular swellings		Soft Corns
Coco-bay	Lumbago		Tumours
Chigo-foot	Piles		Ulcers
Chilblains	Rheumatism		Wounds
Chapped hands	Scalds		Yaws.

Sold at the establishment of Professor HOLLOWAY, 244, Strand, (near Temple Bar,) London, and 80, Maiden Lane, New York, also by all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the Civilized World, at the following prices:—at 1s 3d; 2s 3d; and 5s each Pot.

☞ There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N. B.—Directions for the guidance of patients of every disorder are affixed to each Pot.