INTERESTING SELECTIONS.

Coal against Sinews.—Professor Henry, President of the Mechanics' Institute, at Washington, says:—"It has been proved that, on an average, four ounces of coal are sufficient to draw on a railroad, one ton a mile. It has also been found on experiment that a man working on a tread mill, continually for eight hours, will elevate one and one-half millions of pounds one foot high. Now, Cornish engines will perform the same work by the expenditure of a pound and a half of coal. It follows from these data that about five tons of coal would evolve as much power during its combustion as would be equal to the continued labour of an able bodied man for twenty years, at the rate of eight hours per day or, in other words, to the average power of a man during the active period of life.

Great Wheat Country.—The *Burr Oak* says that 1,000,000 bushels of wheat will be raised in Dodge country, Wisconsen, this year. It is also certain that there are thousands of acres that will yield from fifty to sixty bushels to the acre.

Useful Investigation.—The Legislature of New York, at its last session, placed $1000 in the hands of the New York State Agricultural Society, to be expended in making an examination and description of the insects of the State, injurious to vegetation.

De Quincy.—A contemporary thus describes this celebrated and brilliant writer: He is one of the smallest-legged, smallest-bodied, most attenuated effigies of the human form divine, that one could meet in a crowded city during a day's walk. And if one adds to this figure, clothes neither fashionably cut nor fastidiously adjusted, he will have a tolerable idea of De Quincey's outer man. But his brow, that pushes his obtrusive hat to the back of his head, and his light grey eyes that do not seem to look out, but to be turned inward, sounding the depths of his imagination, and searching out the mysteries of the most abstruse logic, are something that you would search a week to find the mates to, and then you would be disappointed. De Quincey now resides at Lasswade, a romantic rural village, once the residence of Sir Walter Scott, about seven miles from Edinburgh, Scotland, where an affectionate child watches him, and where he is the wonder of the country for miles around.

Pillar Dollars.—We learn from the *London Economist* that the Chinese have erected a mint in Canton for coining Spanish pillar dollars of "Charles the fourth, 1778." This coin is the standard of the Chinese, and the scarcity has induced them to coin it, which is rather a novelty in minting, thus re-producing old dated coins. The pillar dollars have always commanded a premium with the Chinese, though intrinsically worth less than the Mexican dollar.

Caution to Persons using Cholera Preventives.—We are informed that no less than eight persons have been admitted into the Lunatic Asylum in a state of insanity, occasioned by consuming large quantities of camphor to prevent cholera. Some of them carried it about in their pockets, and kept from time to time eating small quantities of it. Others took it dissolved in brandy. In all cases where it was taken in any quantity it produced insanity. It is a fact well known, that a comparatively small quantity of camphor will set a dog mad; and that he will soon afterwards die. The public cannot be too cautious in the use of this and other cholera preventives.—*Colonist*.

A Trifling Mistake.—D. C. Whitwood, being in Buffalo awaiting the arrival of some machinery, was expecting a despatch to the following purport: "The blocks will arrive to-night!" This despatch was sent by mistake to Mr. Whitehead, who happened to be a very warm abolitionist, who gathered together an immense crowd to receive the *blacks*, and was intensely disgusted when he discovered his blacks were only *blocks*.

Texas has gone almost unanimous for the Maine Liquor Law, at the recent election.

FOR SALE.

THAT valuable plot of GROUND at the head of Prince Street, formerly the site of the Baptist Chapel, fronting 100 feet on Euston Street, and 104 on Upper Prince Street. It is one of the most desirable situations in the suburbs for a gentleman's residence, or is capable of being divided into three good building Lots. For Terms, &c. apply to

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June 8.

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BY W. C. HOBS.

NOW open in Great George Street, on the old Stand. Old Copper and Brass bought. An Appretnice wanted.

May 18, 1854.

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GEORGE HIX

May 3.

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They possess the power of stimulating the depurative organs throughout the body to a healthy action, thus assisting nature to subvert disease after her own manner. Prepared only by D. Taylor, Jr. & Co., No. 25, Hanover street, Boston.

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IT has become an established fact that accidents will happen notwithstanding the care and attention which may be paid to the safety and convenience of travellers. Explosions will take place, bridges will be left open, and cars run off the track as usual.

It is well enough for the public and legislators to caution companies to "beware," and "take heed," yet these casualties will occur, which result in severe contusions, broken limbs, burns, bruises, &c.

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The man who made a shoe for the foot of a mountain, is now engaged on a hat for the head of a discourse, after which he will manufacture a plume for general intelligence.

The fellow who tried to get up a concert with the band of a hat, is the same genius who a few weeks since played upon the affections of an up town lady.