

is intended for passengers paying twopence a mile. The compartments in front and behind are raised somewhat higher, for the purpose of placing the wheels under the body, so that ladies' dresses will not be soiled by entering or leaving the vehicle. But the most ingenious part of the invention lies in the wheels. There are eight, four under the front carriage and four under the hinder ones; the whole of which are connected by bars from the axles, which give a uniform motion to the whole, no wheel being capable of moving, without giving a corresponding motion to the other seven. Two horses will generally be used, but when the line of route is hilly, three horses will be attached abreast, as in Paris. Each station in town will be a mile; and should the passenger wish to ride further, other omnibuses will run in conjunction; so that the traveller can proceed in another conveyance, either in the same line or at a tangent, as his business requires.

**FORTUNE TELLING**—A short time ago, a party of gypsies pitched their tent in a lane leading from Wine Wall to Wycoller, in the neighbourhood of Colne, and have been practising amongst other things, the art and mystery of fortune telling. Last week, one of them succeeded so far as to prevail on a simple minded farmer and his wife to part with £100, to perform some wonder with, and has not been heard of since.

**GOVERNMENT WORKS IN GUERNSEY.**—The slight and parenthetical manner in which the intention of her Majesty's Government to construct extensive works in Guernsey was announced at the last meeting of the State, caused the value of that fact to be less perfectly appreciated than it would have been had it been more emphatically exposed to the public. The importance of this fact can scarcely be over-estimated. The works upon which Government have determined, will, be believe, be of the most extensive nature, involving an outlay in this island of at least £500,000. The plan, we believe, embraces the construction of stupendous break-waters, so as to form a naval harbour between Fermain bay and the Terres point, with magazines and other requisite buildings, together with barracks, in the vicinity of Fort George, for the accommodation of several thousand men, whilst defensive works will also be established at the Vale, and at Jethou or Brehon. These works, while in course of construction, will occasion an immense expenditure in labour alone, and the wages of this labour will, of course, be chiefly expended amongst the tradesmen and farmers of the island, so that our commerce and agriculture will receive an infusion of new life, and be restored to that healthful vigor to which they have so long been strangers; and houses and land may again acquire something like their former value. Nor will the completion of the works bring a termination to this state of things. On the contrary, it will make it permanent. With an extensive naval harbour, and barracks for a large military force, there will be the crews of ships, and troops, whose expenditure will fertilize the island, giving activity to all branches of industry, and adding sensibly to the local revenue. Moreover, the completion of the works in question, and the formation of the establishments which must be connected with them, will give Guernsey an importance which it has never hitherto possessed, and perhaps invest it with those attractions to visitors in which it at present is wanting. Another immense advantage will be that, in case of war, persons will feel perfectly secure in remaining in the island, as the defences which it will possess would effectually guarantee it against a *coup de main*, the only danger to which it could at any time be exposed, and consequently it would not be depopulated, as it now would be, if hostilities were to take place.—*Guernsey Star*.

**MINERAL WEALTH OF THIS COUNTRY.**—In the course of a lecture delivered to the general classes of King's College, by Mr. Tenant, on mineralogical geology, the lecturer stated that the annual value of the mineral produce of this country amounts to about twenty-five millions. Of this £9,100,000 is from coals, £8,400,000 from iron, £1,200,000 from copper, £920,000 in lead, £400,000 from salt, £390,000 from tin, £60,000 from manganese, £35,000 from silver, £22,000 from alum, £8,000 from zinc, and £25,000 from the various other metals, as antimony, bismuth, arsenic.

In consequence of the great price of coals in Egypt, an English engineer has tried the refuse of cotton seed, that has hitherto been thrown into the Nile, which, on account of the oil contained in the seed, or refuse, is found to be an excellent substitute for coal, and is now used instead of coal for the Pacha's land steam-engines.

The Grand Duke of Saxe Weimar has opened to the public his cabinet of oriental coins, and medals,—the richest of its kind in Germany. It contains, amongst others, a complete series of the coins struck under forty different dynasties of Asia.

**INTERESTING GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.**—A private letter from Philadelphia informs us of a very interesting geological discovery. About two months ago, Dr. Dickeson, of that city, had exhumed, near Natchez, on the Mississippi, from the depth of one hundred feet below the surface, a fossil human bone. The fossil was examined at a meeting recently held in the house of Dr. Samuel George Morton, of Philadelphia, the eminent ethnologist; Professor Agassiz, Mr. George R. Gliddon, and several other palæontologists and archæologists, were present. The fossil, was pronounced to be one of the pelvic bones of a man between the ages of sixteen and twenty years. It was found amongst other fossilized remains of the megatherium, megalonyx, and other primeval creatures. The specimen has been deposited in the museum belonging to the Academy of National Sciences at Philadelphia.—*Spectator*.

The accounts from Constantinople furnish lamentable details of the ravages of the cholera in Asia Minor, where it was reported to have carried off some 40,000 persons. Letters from Bagdad of 15th October state that the malady had disappeared in that city. It first made itself manifest about the end of September; and in less than a fortnight 4,000 persons died out of a population of 35,000. The English Consul took up his residence at Ctesiphon, where he placed himself and his establishment in quarantine. Father Saint Alphonse, the head of the Latin mission, was carried off, as was Reschid-Effendi, brother of Fuad-Effendi, who was Turkish Ambassador in Spain. Letters from Tauriz state that the cholera appeared there on the 11th of October, and in the three first days carried off 150 persons.

It has been calculated that there are at the present time about 400 new churches in course of erection in England.

Capt. Sir Edward Parry, the celebrated polar voyager, is to succeed Capt. Carter as Superintendent of Haslar Hospital.

Major-General Brotherton, it is understood, will be the Inspector-General of Cavalry, in the room of Lieut.-General Lygon.—*Globe*.

Mr. William H. Cooke, of the Oxford Circuit, has been appointed by the Dean and Canons of Hereford to succeed the late Sir Charles Wetherell as counsel for that Cathedral.

We understand that Mr. E. Eyre is to be appointed Lieutenant-Governor of New Zealand under Capt. Grey.—*Times*.

Mr. Alsager, the official assignee, and well known city correspondent of the *Times*, committed suicide at his town residence by cutting his throat. After lingering several days, he expired on Sunday week. The verdict returned by the Coroner's jury, was—"That the deceased was found with his throat cut, and that he died of wounds done with his own hand, but what state of mind he was in when he inflicted them there was not sufficient evidence to prove to the jury." It was elicited in the course of the inquiry that having resigned writing the city article for the *Times*,—the cessation of such occupation, besides the loss of his wife some time since brought on a despondency which led to the fatal and unhappy event.

A feeling of extreme regret has been manifested in commercial circles at the melancholy end of this esteemed gentleman, and one of deep commiseration for his friends. Mr. Alsager had for very many years most deservedly enjoyed the highest regard and respect of a numerous and highly respectable circle of influential friends in the city, who had learned to appreciate, not only his distinguished talents and acquirements in commercial matters, but also the strict honor and integrity which he maintained for so many years in the responsible position which he has held in the mercantile community. .... The lamentable decease of this distinguished amateur has caused universal regret in the musical circles. Mr. Alsager was the founder of the celebrated "Bethoven Quarter Society," the influences of which, in the advancement of high art, have been incalculable. For many years Mr. Alsager invited to his house, in Queen's Square, the *élite* of the musical profession, native and foreign, for quartet playing. He was equally the friend and supporter of the rising native artist as of the most accomplished foreigner. It is to Mr. Alsager that the credit is due of having removed many prejudices as to the later productions of the immortal Bethoven. Mr. Alsager was also a steady supporter of the Philanthropic Society. His loss will be severely felt, and a gap has been left in musical patronage difficult indeed to be filled up.—*Chronicle*.

**CHURCH FOR THE SEAMEN OF THE PORT OF LONDON.**—In May last, the foundation-stone of this Church was laid by His Royal Highness Prince Albert. The building is nearly completed and will be ready for consecration early in the ensuing year. The seats, 800 in number, are all free, and the church is within a very short distance of the London and St. Katharine Docks, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the Sailors' Home, and the locality in which a great number of the seamen reside. The cost of the church, the purchase of the site from the Commissioners of the Woods and Forests, with the endowment, and repairing fund, will amount to nearly £10,000; of this sum only about £7,700 has been subscribed.

**THE COLONIAL BISHOPRICS.**—Her Majesty's intention of subdividing the diocese of Australia into three, by the erection of two new bishoprics, one at Melbourne for the district of Port Philip, and the other at Morpeth for the northern division of New South Wales, will almost immediately be carried into effect. It is expected that a Bishop will be nominated to the see of Melbourne at an early period, and it is intended to issue a commission to the Bishop of Australia, empowering him, with other bishops, to proceed to the consecration of the Reverend Robert Allwood, as bishop of Morpeth. Mr. Allwood went out on the recommendation of the society in the year 1839, and is at present rector of St. James's, Sydney.—*Globe*.

Meetings are being held all through Germany to concert measures for providing cheap food for the poorer classes of the population.

[From the London Watchman, December 2.]

**PORTUGAL.**—By the *Royal Tar*, there is intelligence from Lisbon to the 20th, and Oporto to the 21st inst. The insurgents were still in arms. A battle had taken place at Chaves, in the North of Portugal, between a portion of the insurgent army under the command of Visconde de sa da Bandeira, and the Queen's troops