

be quite intelligible to those who are familiar with barn-yard fowl. Fire and water are at the foundation of the transaction, partly through the agency of their powerful offspring—"steam." The mechanism for converting Christmas eggs into chickens is remarkably simple; like all great inventions. It consists of a small stove, fed by charcoal in the first instance, and a tank of water. The water is preserved at the necessary warmth by the stove, and the eggs are placed in a drawer with a wire-cloth bottom, and a cover of plate glass. The water from the tank passes slowly over the glass, maintaining a steady warmth, which is assisted by the circulation of heated air through the wire-cloth bottom. The eggs remain in this position for generally 21 or 22 days before the shells are opened, and the chickens make their appearance; but as there are always eggs at all the various stages in the drawer, visitors never fail to see the various processes going forward. The chicken is allowed to remain only a very short time in the drawer after it has fairly escaped from its shell, and is next conveyed to a home strewn with cut straw above the stove and the tank, where it experiences all the advantages of heat, not overdone, and learns quickly to use its legs. The next emigration is to a very ingenious shelter, formed by a number of pipes from one inch to one and a fourth inches diameter, and of length varied to accommodate the number of the family that may be contemplated. These pipes can be heated by steam or water from the tank. The chickens find their way to the heat instinctively, and thrust their little heads between the pipes, with the view of catching all the benefits that these substitutes for wings and feathers can afford. They are compelled to pick up food for themselves; but either from example or instinct, they run out and in, and make astonishing progress in collecting a good livelihood. With the corner where their water is placed, they become immediately familiar, and they seem to thrive admirably; still they have a helpless look, and create a feeling of sympathy for their parentless state, to those who are acquainted with the great care bestowed by the parent hen on her little flock—a care so strict and affectionate, that it has been selected as an obvious illustration for the greatest purpose in the Bible. From that source many who visit the Argyle Arcade, without having ever watched the arduous labours of a hen for her progeny, and the affection that turns the most kind and peaceable inmate of the barn-yard fowl into one of the most courageous, may have the highest imaginable idea on the subject, and thus can pity the poor parentless chickens thrown so early on their own resources. The best little book of songs for the nursery ever published belongs to Glasgow, but if these hydro-incubators ever become common, and art supersedes nature, Mr. Robertson will have to strike out one of the best songs, and the most intelligible to young people; for what could they make, in that case, of such a verse as the following. It would become as unintelligible to a Lanarkshire wean as it is at this moment to a Devonshire child:—

"Saw ye chuckie wi' her chickies,
Scrapin' for them dainty pickies,
Keekin' here, and keekin' there,
Wi' a mither's anxious care,
For a pick to fill their gebbies,
Or a drap to weet their nebbies?
Heard ye weans cry, teuckie, teuckie,
Here's some moolins, bonnie chuckie?"

But for "dainty pickies," or "a drap to weet their nebbies," these little feathered orphans look out amazingly for themselves, and will well repay the visit of the curious in natural history. We should like to know what kind of "chuckies" they would make in after life.

NEW VESSEL FOR THE NAVIGATION OF THE GANGES.—Mr. John Laird, of Birkenhead, has nearly completed, for the East India Company, a large iron steam vessel, of a peculiar form, fitted for shallow water, and intended for the navigation of the Ganges. The vessel is upwards of 200 feet long, and 30 feet beam, and will draw, when loaded, about two feet of water. Her model resembles that of the Napier, (a former vessel built by Mr. Laird for the same purpose,) with such modifications as experience has suggested. The form is that of the canoe, shovel shaped at both extremities, and the bottom, amidships,—without keel—forming an inverted gentle segment of an arch; the centre portion, however, or floor, being nearly flat. The rudder is applied at either end, as necessity requires. The vessel is divided longitudinally into three parts, by water-tight bulkheads, and traversing these, there are other bulkheads, dividing the whole vessel into 30 water-tight compartments, and adding greatly to her strength. Her depth from the spacious flush-deck varies from 11 feet in the middle to 8 feet towards the extremities. The floorings, engine-bed, &c., are all of tubular wrought iron, imparting great strength. She is to be propelled by paddle-wheels, to be worked by engines of 160 to 180 horse-power, but which may be worked with safety to a much higher pressure. It is expected that she will be capable of towing two or three large cargo or luggage boats. The bottom being of the canoe form, should she go upon a sand bank with the current in her behalf, an anchor may be let go at the stern end, and the water washing under her will clear away the sand and release her from the danger to which ordinary boats are liable in such navigations of getting broadside on and being damaged or capsized. Should she take a bank or snag, when running against the tide or current, the anchor may be let go at the bow, and she will drift

back into the deep water. Such is the floating capacity of the vessel, and the extent of her decks and accommodations, that she will carry a full regiment of soldiers at a time. All deck or top lumber is avoided. The vessel will, when finished, be taken to pieces and sent in a ship to India, to be finally put together.

CONSUMPTION OF PAPER IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND.—In the Bank of England no fewer than sixty folio volumes, or ledgers, are daily filled with writing in keeping the accounts. To produce these sixty volumes, the paper having been previously manufactured elsewhere, eight men, three steam-presses, and two hand-presses, are continually kept going within the bank. In the copper-plate printing department twenty eight thousand bank notes are thrown off daily; and so accurately is the number indicated by machinery, that to purloin a single note, without detection, is an impossibility.

THE LATE RAT BATTLE IN PARIS.—The scavengers of Paris dined together on Sunday evening, at Bercy, to celebrate their late rat chase in the capital. Some guests were present, and the cover was laid for 165 persons. Mr. John Warton, of London, who had purchased 600,000 rat skins, at 10c. a-piece, sent twenty five bottles of champagne, and the two persons of Grenoble who had at first been in treaty for the skins, sent fifty bottles of fine Macon. At the second service two enormous *pates de Chartres* were placed on the table, weighing 25lbs. each, on the crust of each of which was represented a scavenger transfixing a rat with a lance. At the dessert, M. Dessire Fargeau proposed as a toast, "*La Republique honnette et moderee*," and Mr. Georget Romain, "The complete destruction of the gray rats of Norway and the black ones of England." The dinner continued till twelve o'clock at night, when the guests separated in great good humour. Mr. J. Warton has paid 60,000f. in *bons du tresor* for the skins of the rats killed during the fifteen days' hunt. This sum was divided amongst the 144 scavengers of Paris and their brigadiers, all of whom have taken out a book at the Savings Bank with an inscription of 500f., making up the difference themselves. They all refused to accept the gratuity offered by the municipality of Paris for the destruction of the rats. Mr. J. Warton proposes to make ladies' gloves of the skins.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons indebted to the Estate of George Wm. Oliver, late of Harvey, in the County of Albert, Master Mariner, deceased, are required to pay the same to Daniel Tingley, one of the Administrators; and all persons having claims against the said Estate will render their Accounts, duly attested, to the said D. Tingley within three months from the date hereof.—Dated at Harvey, the third day of February, 1850.

DANIEL TINGLEY,
Resident Administrator.

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NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any legal demands against the Estate of Henry T. Partelow, late of Burton, in the County of Sunbury, Esquire, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within six months from this date; and all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.

CHARLES H. CLOWES, Administrator.

Burton, December 22, 1849.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

PART of the Premises at present occupied by Mrs. Odell, and also Building Lots on the Streets in the rear of the same, and on Saint John Street.—Apply to Mrs. Odell or the Subscriber.
JAMES ODELL.

Frederickton, February 12, 1850.

Additional Subscribers to Frederickton Dispensary.

Colonel Hayne,	£0 15 0
J. Gregory, Esquire,	0 7 6

FREDERICKTON AUXILIARY OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Bibles—Plain, 1s. 3d. to 15s.
— Gilt edge, 2s. upwards.
Testaments—Plain, 6d. to 4s.
— Gilt edge, 6d. to 3s. 3d.

The attention of those who desire to promote the circulation of the Scriptures is invited to the Bibles and Testaments of the above Society, to be obtained at the Store of Henry Fisher, Junior, Esquire, Queen Street.

By Order of the Committee.
C. SPURDEN, Secretary.