EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature well or ill-conducted is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown—RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich, and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all."

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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AGRICULTURE.

IMPROVEMENT IN WHEAT.

The name of Gen. Harmon, of Wheatland, Monroe Co. promises to become as honorably connected with the improvement of the great staple article of food in this country, wheat, as has that of Le Courteur with the progress of wheat culture in England. The business could not have fallen into better hands. Possessed of ample means, his soils admirably adapted to wheat, and in the very centre of the very best wheat district of the states, with a fund of information on the subject, gained from experience and from books, and with a patience and perseverance which enables him to pursue any course of enquiry to its final result, General Harmon is the man to enter upon and carry out such improvements in the culture of wheat, as circumstances may suggest.

General Harmon's principal crop is of the variety he calls the Improved Flint, which had its origin in the common white flint wheat, introduced into Western New York not far from 1820. This Wheat is so well known as to need no description. It is hardy, not very liable to rust, never shells in gathering, and weighs well.—The most serious objection formerly made to this wheat was the difficulty of threshing it by hand, a difficulty done away by the introduction of the threshing machine. On favorable soils its yield from 20 to 25 bushels per acre. By careful cultivation and selection, and not allowing any other kinds to come in contact with this wheat, either in the field or the granary, General Harmon has brought the Improved flint to a purity and uniformity of quality, we have never seen equaled. This wheat is much sought after for seed, and much the greater portion of his crop is always used for this purpose. The advance he makes on the price, over ordinary wheat, is a reasonable, not extravagant one, and his sales are consequently extensive. We had the pleasure of seeing at the house of a farming friend of ours in Onondaga county, last fall, 20 barrels of this wheat he had just procured for seed, and a beautiful sample it was, as all who have examined the specimens produced by General Harmon at the State Agricultural Fairs will readily believe.

General Harmon is experimenting with a variety of other wheats, some of which have been lately introduced into this country from abroad, and others are kinds which have long been known to our wheat growers. Among these are the Kentucky white bearded, more commonly known as the Canada Flint, a valuable wheat, the berry plump, white and heavy; the old Genesee Red Chaff, grown since the first settlement of the country, and were it not for its liability to rust and blight, would be one of the best wheats in the state. Some of the heaviest crops of wheat ever grown in the United States were of this variety: 40 acres of it have been known to average more than 60 bushels to the acre. The Wheat land Red wheat is a variety orginated by Gen. Harmon, and promises to be a valuable sort, ripening early, and producing a fine berry. He also cultivates the Virginia May, long a great favorite in the south, the Talavera Wheat from England; the English Flint, much resembling the old Genesee Red Wheat; with other varieties not necessary to enumerate.

In sowing wheat, Gen. Harmon pursues the course long since recommended in the Genesee Farmer and in the Cultivator, of thoroughly washing in brine, and drying with a quart of quick lime to a bushel of the seed. We have never known a crop of wheat damaged by smut where this method was faithfully practiced, and very few escape without some smut, where it is not. We can recommend from our own experience, the benefits of a change of seed, and with us that change has been most beneficial when the seed has been brought from oak lands, and which contain less vegetable matter than is usually found on those of beech or maple. Gen. Harmon prefers cutting wheat as soon as it is well out of the milk, or when the berry will yield to the pressure of the thumb and finger easily. His experience in this respect, agrees with that of our English correspondent, Mr. Hannam. The almost perfect exemption of Gen Harmon's crops from cockle, chess, &c. is doubtless one great reason why his wheats are so much prized for seed. By perseverance he has eradicated all such matters from his soils, and as in his hands wheat never turns to chess, &c. his crops are consequently clean. In this respect, as well as in the care and success with which he produces wheat he has set an excellent example to American farmers, and for his labors he deserves and will doubtless receive an ample reward.—Cultivator.

FLOUR.—A writer in the Rochester Democrat after taking a view of the wheat crops in this county and in the principal wheat growing countries in other parts of the world, including Great Britain, and comparing the probable supply with the probable demand, comes to the conclusion that he "cannot see any prospect of an advance of prices" for this important item of human food. The article embodies much information. We gather from it the following statements:

The U. S. census of 1840 put the entire product of wheat in this country in 1839, at 74,984,155 bushels. Considering the quantity of land cleared for cropping since that date, in Michigan, Indiana Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa the addition to that crop is put at 25 millions of bushels, and the total crop in this country in 1842, is estimated at 100 millions of bushels. Mr. Ellsworth's report to Congress puts it at 102 millions.

In the debates of the British Parliament, and in Congress, the average annual consumption of grain has been estimated at five bushels per head; and McCulloch estimates the *wheat* portion, in Great Britain, at two and a half bushels per person. The Rochester writer puts the wheat portion, in this country, at four bushels per person, and, then gives the following statement:

How then stands the matter?	
Wheat raised in 1842, 100 bushels,	101,000,000
Consumption of 18,000,000 persons	72,000,000
Estimate for seed next year,	3,000,000
Used by the manufacturers to make starch,	1,000,000—76,000,000
Surplus of crop of '42, in bushels,	25,000,000

To this should be added the amount in the country, of the crop of the previous year, which was not inconsiderable.—

But we will consider only the surplus of last year, which being 25,000,000 bushels, will give, at five bushels to a barrel, a surplus of *five millions of barrels of flour*!

He then remarks that under treaties with the U. States our bread stuff is admitted into 61 foreign countries, including colonies; and he gives a statement, from a report of the Treasury Department, of the amount of our exports last year, of flour and wheat. They were sent to 45 ports, and amounted to 1,516,817 bbls. flour, the money value of which was $7,759,646; and 865,585 bushels of wheat at the money value of $832,881—the wheat being equivalent to 175,600 barrels of flour, and making the whole equal to 1,691,417 barrels of flour, as the last year's export.

The export of 1842 consisted, of course of the crop of 1841, and the principal quantities went to the following markets:

To England, 205,151 bls. flour, and 119,864 bushels of wheat; to the British West Indies, 216,465 bls. flour, and 35,622 bushels of wheat; to the British American Colonies, 377,866 bls. flour and 695,389 bushels wheat; Brazil, 282,406 bls. flour, and 16,457 bushels wheat; to Buenos Ayres 22,132 bls flour; to Venezula, 28,796 bls. flour; to Mexico, 19,602 bls. flour; to Cuba 69,357 bls. flour; to other Spanish West Indies, 15,566 bls. flour; to British East Indies, 11,357 bls. flour to Gibraltar, 19,229 bls. flour; to Dutch West Indies, 11,532 bls. flour; to Danish West Indies, 42,384 bls. flour; to Swedish West Indies, 15,624 bls. flour; to Hayti 36,456 bls. flour and various small quantities to other places.

But the surplus crop of 1842, being put at 100,000,000 bushels wheat in round numbers gives 5,000,000 barrels flour; and if the export to foreign markets be as large even as last year, viz. 1½ million barrels and rising still there will be nearly 3½ million barrels of surplus.

Suppose however, there should be a scarcity in England, (of which there is no prospect,) still, in her greatest scarcity we never sent over 400,000 barrels to that market and besides, the European wheat and flour exporting countries are so much nearer to England than we are, they would send a supply before we could.

This is demonstrated by the following statement, made up at the Liverpool Custom House for the use of Sir Charles Napier in Parliament showing the average length of voyages from the U. S. ports to Liverpool in 1841:

	Total number of ships.	Average length of voyage.
From N York	50	23 days.
Boston	1	16 "
Philadelphia	11	20 "
N. Orleans	20	45 "
Baltimore	4	32 "
Alexandria	1	43 "
Total	68	

But the voyage to any of the flour ports of Europe could be made in half the time.

On the whole, the conclusion is, as we have said, that the price of flour in this country is not likely to rise during the coming year.

SUGAR FROM CORN.—Very considerable interest has been excited among the planters of Indian corn at a discovery recently made of extracting sugar from the common corn. The Commissioner of Patents, Mr. H. L. Ellsworth in his last report to Congress, gives a very full and interesting account of this discovery, and the mode of extracting the sugar.—According to Mr. Ellsworth, the corn stalk yields more sugar, in proportion to weight of material, than sugar cane—and that the quality of the sugar and molasses is better. Experiments sufficiently extensive have not as yet, perhaps, been made to establish the cost of making the corn sugar, and whether it can be produced at an expense which will justify our farmers directing their attention to the matter. But now that the fact is beginning to engage attention, we shall not long be in doubt on this subject. If it should prove, upon sufficient trial,—and as the report of Mr. Ellsworth leads to the belief it will—that the sugar from corn can be made as cheaply as the sugar from cane, it will soon become an important business of our farmers, & lead to an important revolution in the trade of the world.—*Pat.*

The following is an abstract of the report of Mr. Ellsworth on this subject.

All accounts concur in representing the juice of this plant, when it has been grown with reference to the increase of its saccharine matter as some 20 per cent richer than that of cane, growing in Louisiana. It has many other advantages over that plant in the production of sugar. Cane is only propagated by layers, and it takes the entire crop of one acre to plant three. One acre of good corn will plant a hundred. The machinery for crushing cane and expressing its juice cost at least three times as much as that required to perform the same operation on corn stalks. The process of evaporation of maize juice is very similar to that used in making sugar from cane

After having selected good seed corn it should be planted with a drilling machine in rows two feet and a half a part and if practicable from north to south. A kernel of corn should be dropped every two or there inches in each row. The after culture is done with a horse hoe.

The next operation is taking off the embryo ears. Many stalks will not produce any, but whenever they appear they must be removed. This should be done just before the formation of the kernel, and after the silk is visible on the ear. Before the frost comes, and after the stalks are matured, they should be topped and bladed, and then cut up and taken to the mill and ground immediately. The mill is constructed something after the fashion of those used for crushing apples in the manufacture of cider. Or what is better, one made of three cast iron rollers lying horizontal, and so arranged that the stalk passes twice between them.

The juice after coming from the mill should stand only a few minutes to deposit some of its coarse impurities, when it must be strained through a flannel cloth in order to separate such matters as will not pass through it. Lime water is then added in the proportion of two spoons full to a gallon, to neutralize any acidity that there may be in the juice. If the acidity by any means becomes considerable, a sufficient quantity of the carbonate of soda must be added to correct it

The evaporation should not be delayed but must be performed rapidly in large pans made for the purpose

The juice should be carefully skimmed before ebullition commences.

In judging when the syrup is boiled enough a portion is taken between the thumb and finger; and when moderately cool if a thread half an inch long can be drawn, it may be regarded as fit to chrystallize, and should be poured into suitable vessels for that purpose. From some cause not yet explained, chrystallization does not usually take place as readily, as it does in syrup made from cane or sugar maple. This process is some times delayed two or three weeks.

The molasses obtained from maize is said to be superior to the best sugar house of commerce.

From the Boston Journal

A NAVAL REMINISCENCE.

"In the naval public service commanders must act upon delicate suspicions—upon the evidence of their own eyes, they must give desperate commands and they must require instantaneous obedience.—*Chancellor Kent.*

In the year 1822, the Caribbean Sea was infested with Spanish privateers—amongst them was a fairy like brigantine, called the "Panchita" she was the very witch of the waters—and although professedly after Columbian property, she often indulged in the less honorable practice of taking upon *easy terms*, cordage, duck, provisions, &c. from *neutral* vessels.

At about this time, the U. S. schooner Grampus, under the command of Lieut. F. H. Gregory,* dropped anchor in the fine harbor of St. Thomas—Vessels which had been *relieved* in one way or another by the sharkish Panchita, were continually arriving at that port, and the brig's reputation as a *very free trader*, was pretty well established.

After a short stay, the Grampus sailed on a cruise, and soon found herself on the weather quarter and within pistol shot of the well-armed and daring "Panchita." The American ensign waved at the peak of the Grampus, and the sickly-looking flag of Spain hung at the main of the corsair.

"Haul down your colors to the United States schooner Grampus!" shouted Gregory, trumpet-tongued, from the lee arm chest.

No disposition to obey this peremptory summons was manifested by the Spaniard, and his flag still curled in the breeze. Presently, a fellow, whose luxuriant mustachios, red silk jacket and yellow vest, denoted authority, took his cigar from his mouth, and in an undertone gave some order, which caused a slight movement amongst the vagabonds around him.

The brig carried a long brass eighteen pounder amidships, on a pivot—this had early attracted the attention of the American, and he still continued to scan it with much interest, if not with admiration. The little Grampus was only fifteen months old, and of course too young to listen to the tones of this beautiful but ponderous instrument. Indeed, from the first, her Commander had decided not to permit any practical illustration of its powers; consequently, when he saw a swarthy looking chap making towards it with a red hot poker, he expressed his dislike in the shape of *a broadside* which was slipped into the brig with most annoying celerity. A finer exhibition of gunnery was never seen! The long eighteen was in the lee scruppers, & a dozen or less deserving fellows had escaped the gallows and the upper works of the brig were completely demolished. She was sent into St. Thomas to repair, and from thence sailed as a prize for the United States, where she arrived with the American ensign flying over the (red) flag of the licensed pirate.

The Panchita had a *regular commission* from the Governor of Porto Rico—and it is not, therefore strange that her capture was considered by many as one of the most daring aggressions ever committed upon the flag of any nation. The writer lived at that time, & for a long time after, near the scene of this exploit, and never knew, or does not remember how the matter was settled by the two Governments, nor is it probable he would ever have recurred to the subject, but for the clamorous maledictions which have lately been uttered against the meritorious commander of the Somers, for having transcended his powers in the taking of human life.'

If a deep laid plan for Mutiny and Murder, must be put in active operation, before it can be considered as any thing more than *sport*, then perhaps, the question may come up amongst the relatives of the slaughtered pirates, whether the gallant Gregory was impelled by 'fear' in firing into the Panchita? and whether he was not bound to consider the act of introducing the red hot poker to the long eighteen, "a mere piece of fun"—the exuberance of youthful romance!

RINGBOLT.

*Now Captain Gregory, the worthy commander of the U. S. seventy-four, North Carolina.

THE GREAT IRON STEAMER.—A late English paper has the following notice of the mammoth Iron steamer erected at Bristol:

The great iron steamer, the largest vessel ever built intended to ply between this country and New York is now complete, except her decorative part, and she will be enabled to go to sea, it is believed, in the Spring of the present year. The following details respecting her can hardly fail to prove interesting in the U. States, where she will soon be an object of wonder.

She will be capable of accommodating 360 first class passengers in fore and after cabins, and of carrying 1500 tons of merchandise and upward.

Her accommodations will be as perfect as ample space, ingenuity, the fine arts, and the best of taste can produce. She will be appointed and fitted with every invention relating to steam-ships which the present generation has introduced—The arrangements made for officers, crew, servants, and a limited number of second class passengers, are most excellent; if the combined powers of man could ensure success, this wonderful vessel will not be found wanting.

The following are her dimensions, with detailed particulars of the iron used in her construction:

Length	320 feet.
Beam	51 "
Depth (total from inside of the upper deck to the keel,	31 " 4 in
Draught of water when loaded	16 "
Tonnage (old measurement)	3500 tons
Displacement of water when drawing 16 feet	3000 "
Engines, four, of 300 horse power each.	

The plates of the keel are one inch thick, and all the plates under water are 3-8 to half an inch thick, at the top, except the upper plate, which is 5-8. She is clinker built, & double riveted throughout; toward the extremities and quite aloft the thicknesses are reduced gradually to 7-16ths. The ribs are framed of angle iron, 6 inches by 3 1-2 by half an inch thick, at the bottom of the vessel, and 7-16th at the top; the mean distance of the ribs from centre to centre is 14 inches, and all these ribs will be doubled; the distance is then increased to 18 inches, and then gradually to 21 inches at the extremities.

The boiler platform is of plate iron, supported upon ten iron kelsons, of which the centre ones are 3 feet 3 inches deep; these kelsons are formed like the flooring of iron plates placed on edge. The hull is divided into five distinct compartments: by means of water tight bulkheads. The decks, five in number, consist of the cargo deck, and an intermediate one of iron, and two cabin decks, 7 inches thick, and an upper deck, 5 inches thick, of wood; these are strengthened and supported longitudinally by three courses of wooden upright pillars, 9 inches in diameter, running from the kelsons to the upper-most deck.

Her rigging is hermaphrodite, with six masts, the whole of which, excepting the mainmast (which is square rigged,) lowers, as occasion requires, on a level with the deck, being secured at their bases in sockets, hinged, of a firm and peculiar construction. She will be propelled by Smith's patent Archimedean screw of the proper power and size required by the four engines of 1200 horse power, which are to work it.

These engines are splendid specimens of mechanism as complete as they can be manufactured, and have been placed in the vessel at right angles, for the purpose of their working to suit her build, and for the better distribution of their dead weight. There are six boilers, with four feeders to each. The whole of the above, and indeed every thing connected with her machinery, and construction, have been manufactured at the Great Western Steam Ship Company's depots.

HEROISM OF AN AFFGHAN GIRL.—*An ungazetted trait of Ghuznee.*—While the Affghans were disputing the entrance of the British Army into the citadel an incident occurred, which for a moment diverted the attention of the combatants and turned their fury into pity. Amongst the foremost of the party who signalized themselves by their desperate gallantry, was an aged chieftain, the richness of whose costume excited general attention, his turban and weapons being resplendent with jewels. The hope of plunder immediately marked him out as an object of attack and numbers at once assailed him. He defended himself like a man who knew there was no chance for life, but who was resolved to sell it as dearly as he could. He had killed several of the Queen's Royals, and severely wounded Capt. Robinson, when a grenadier of the company to which the latter belonged, seeing his officer in danger, rushed to his assistance and with a thrust of his bayonet brought the gallant old chieftain to the ground.—The grenadier was about to despatch him when a beautiful girl about seventeen, threw herself into the melee, and plunged a dagger in his breast. She then cast herself on the body of the chieftain for the purpose of protecting it; and the Affghans forming a sort of rampart before them, maintained their ground until the heroic girl succeeded in getting it conveyed into the interior of the citadel—Shortly after the place was taken, she was found weeping over the remains of the brave old man; who on inquiry, we learned was her father. She was treated with the utmost respect and tenderness by our ment who neither obtruded themselves on her grief nor offered any interruption to the preparation which she made for his interment.—Boston American.

LION VS. LAW.—A laughable occurence took place a few days since in this town. An individual, in some way connected with a respectable establishment of wild beasts now exhibiting, was arrested for debt. After some conversation, he invited the sheriff's officer and followers to view the collection, before accompanying them to durance vile; they agreeing, he described each animal, and concluded by entering the den with a lion, "a la Van Amburg," which latter feet highly pleased the trio of kidnappers, who were waiting to conduct him to Spike Hall. Their consternation however, may be imagined when he politely informed them that he preferred the company of the lion of the forest to the lions of the law, and that it was his intention to remain where he was until after 12 o'clock on Saturday night when, according to law, their authority (for the time being ceased) Threats and persuasions were alike unavailing; all that they could obtain from him was the assurance that if they wanted him they might come and take him. After some time, the plaintiff himself appeared, and was so well pleased with the joke, that an amicable arrangement soon took place between the parties.—Liverpool Mercury.

A WINDFALL.

The New York American says:—"The heirs of one of our oldest & wealthiest citizens, who died a few weeks since, on taking possession of his house, discovered a large sum of money of which they had no previous knowledge whatever. They continued their researches until the sum of one hundred thousand dollars was collected (of which there is no account left by the deceased) part in bank bills but the larger portion in checks, one, two and three years old, upon our city banks—not certified—and yet every dollar of which was promptly paid on presentation at the different banks. Such windfalls are rare enough."

"Gently the dews are o'er me stealing," as the man said when five due bills were presented him at one time.

FOREIGN NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA.

TWENTY-ONE DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The Steam Ship Columbia arrived at Boston on Monday morning, at 9 o'clock. She brings Liverpool papers to the 4th inst. her day of sailing, & London evening papers of the 3d.

The overland mail from the East had not arrived, and there was no news from that quarter.

Among the passengers are Captain W. A. Spencer of the U. S. Navy, and Sir Charles Metcalfe, the new Governor of General Canada.

The condition of trade and money in England, is discouraging enough by reason of the discouragement of the former, the latter being superabundant, and without employment.

The Bank of England announces that it will discount paper, not less than £2000, at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

In the manfacturing districts, trade, which at the beginning of the year showed symptoms of revival, has receded to its former state of depression, if it has not gone beyond it. The corn trade partakes of the general gloom—transactions few, prices receding, and a feeling of despondency prevalent.

AMERICAN CREDIT IN EUROPE.—The creditors who have advanced their money to the repudiating States in the Union, have addressed a strong memorial on the subject to Mr. Everett, the American Minister, in London, with a request that it may be forwarded to the President, for presentation to Congress, and to the different State Legislatures. The memorial advances every possible argument for the maintenance of the credit of the States, and shows, truly enough, the almost irretrievable injury which American credit has sustained in Europe through the dishonesty of the States which have repudiated. It has received a great number of signatures. The most striking passage relates to the straightened pecuniary circumstances of the majority of the sufferers, which we subjoin. Every true American, every honest and right hearted man must desire to see so foul a stain wiped from the escutcheon of his country. The fact that in the money markets of Europe, American credit is lower than that of any other government, ought to stimulate every true born Yankee—every one in whom the *amor patriæ* is not extinct, to restore the national character to the same elevated position in which it stood before repudiation became fashionable.

"An impression, we understand, prevails very generally amongst your people, that their creditors in this country, are, in great measure, men of large fortunes, to whom a failure in their securities can occasion but little inconvenience. Even if such were the case, it would, in our view of the matter, furnish no ground for any departure from the ordinary obligations of good faith. In fact, however, though there may be a few among us in more affluent circumstances, yet by far the larger portion of us are persons in the middle ranks of life,—officers on half pay,—superannuated clerks; retired tradesmen living on small means,—aged spinsters,—widows and orphans,—many of whom have invested their all in the purchase of your securities,—at high prices,—and now depend for their subsistence,—some even for their daily bread, on the good faith of your people."

The business of Parliament appears to excite little or no interest in the English papers.

SOMETHING NEW.—It is stated in the London Court Journal that among the new things which Sir Henry Pottinger found at Nankin, and sent as presents to the Queen, was a Chinese Head Dress, or bonnet worn by the ladies of the Court, and different in material from any thing which has before appeared in Europe.

It is made by interweaving the pearl white hair of the Arabian horse, or camel, with a new and very beautiful substance, which has all the brilliancy of diamonds, emeralds and amethysts, spun into threads and wove. The effect is as chaste as it is beautiful. The London chemists and manufacturers are trying to imitate it. If they succeed, the Chinese Bonnet will be to bonnets what the cashmere shawl is to shawls.

Old Herbeault, of Paris, who has supplied the ladies of the Courts of Europe with their head dresses for the last 20 years, made a journey all the way to London to see it.

NOT BAD.—A Lowell, Mass. printer requests one of the Millerite preachers to "call and settle" for the printing of some second advent hymns before he *goes up*. He says "We can go before a magistrate and swear that we believe he *intends* to leave the State."

A STRONG TEMPERANCE ARGUMENT.—Professor Silliman is reported to have stated, during a recent lecture in Boston, that in the course of a few years it would be as common a thing to see persons 100 years of age, as it is now to see those of seventy five years; and this probable result in favor of long life, he attributed to the temperance movements of the present day.

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