

FOREIGN NOTES.

A Paris letter to the *World*, dated July 16, says: Dr. Helmbold's family affairs are once more occupying the public. His wife has again had him thrown into a mad-house as a lunatic. He escaped day before yesterday, but has again been carried back.

The Irish Presbyterians still stand out as a body against the use of instrumental music in public worship. The recent general assembly at Belfast argued the question all over, and finally dropped the subject without action, but substantially committing itself against such music.

While in England, the Shah had an opportunity to ride a mile a minute. He expressed a wish to go faster. The English papers are laughing at our Lightning-Express train, between Boston and New York, which goes at the rate of thirty-one miles an hour. They ask if that is the rate our lightning goes.

It is reported from Coburg, Germany, to the great disgust, intimates a local journal, of all the widows and maidens, that the Landtag has voted a resolution abolishing the so-called tax on celibacy, an institution of great service to the gentler sex. Until now there existed in Coburg a custom of deducting a certain percentage from the bequests of every unmarried man, which his heirs were obliged to pay.

Japan has just negotiated a loan in England of \$12,500,000, issuing for it 25 year 7 per cent. bonds, for the payment of which the faith and revenues of the government are pledged. These bonds were issued at 92, and were all subscribed for in three days, the quotation having since risen to 98½. The proceeds have nearly all been sent to Japan in gold, silver and Mexican dollars, and are to be devoted to the completion of the Yeddo and Osaka Railway, a line of about 250 miles, and to the improvement of various public buildings.

"Coal will never again be so cheap as it was two years ago." Such is the unanimous voice of the witnesses examined before the House of Commons coal committee. It sounds like a note of warning to Englishmen, and tells of dear labor, dear iron, dear gas and dear manufacture; of decadence, difficulty, class movements, shifting of burdens, and all that well-to-do, peace-loving men sigh to think of. But everything conspires to this result, even though over production may lead to comparative and temporary cheapness.—*Ex.*

There is a prospect that the production of coal in Sweden will be greatly increased by the discovery of a large field in the province of Skara, lying in the south of the kingdom, and through which the railroad from Gotheborg to Stockholm runs. Experimental borings have been made, and in one case, at the depth of 560 feet, twelve different seams have been found, varying from three to eight feet in thickness. Several companies have been organized to work the new mines. This discovery is of exceeding importance to Sweden, whose iron ores are among the best in the world.

An Irishman, resident of this city, noted for his wit upon all occasions and also for his successful attacks on the tiger, was proceeding home the other evening, and when he had reached the divide was stopped by some footpads with a request to "hold up his hands." The robbers knew he had made a large winning and got off with it, and had preceded him for the purpose of waylaying him. Pat did not scare worth a cent, and, when stopped, quietly asked the robbers what they wanted. They answered, "We want your money!" Pat, quietly proceeding to light his dudheen, said: "O, murther, murther! but ye fellers are awful thick to-night!" "Awful thick?" said one of the robbers, "what do you mean?" "I mane," said Pat, "that this is the fourth time I was stopped since I left Virginny!" One of the men, disgusted with himself to think that others of the profession had got in ahead of him, struck Pat on the neck and then kicked him, saying: "Get out of here or I'll blow the top of your head off." Pat did "git" willingly, and arrived safely home with \$700 in coin in his pocket.—*Gold Hill News*, August 5th.

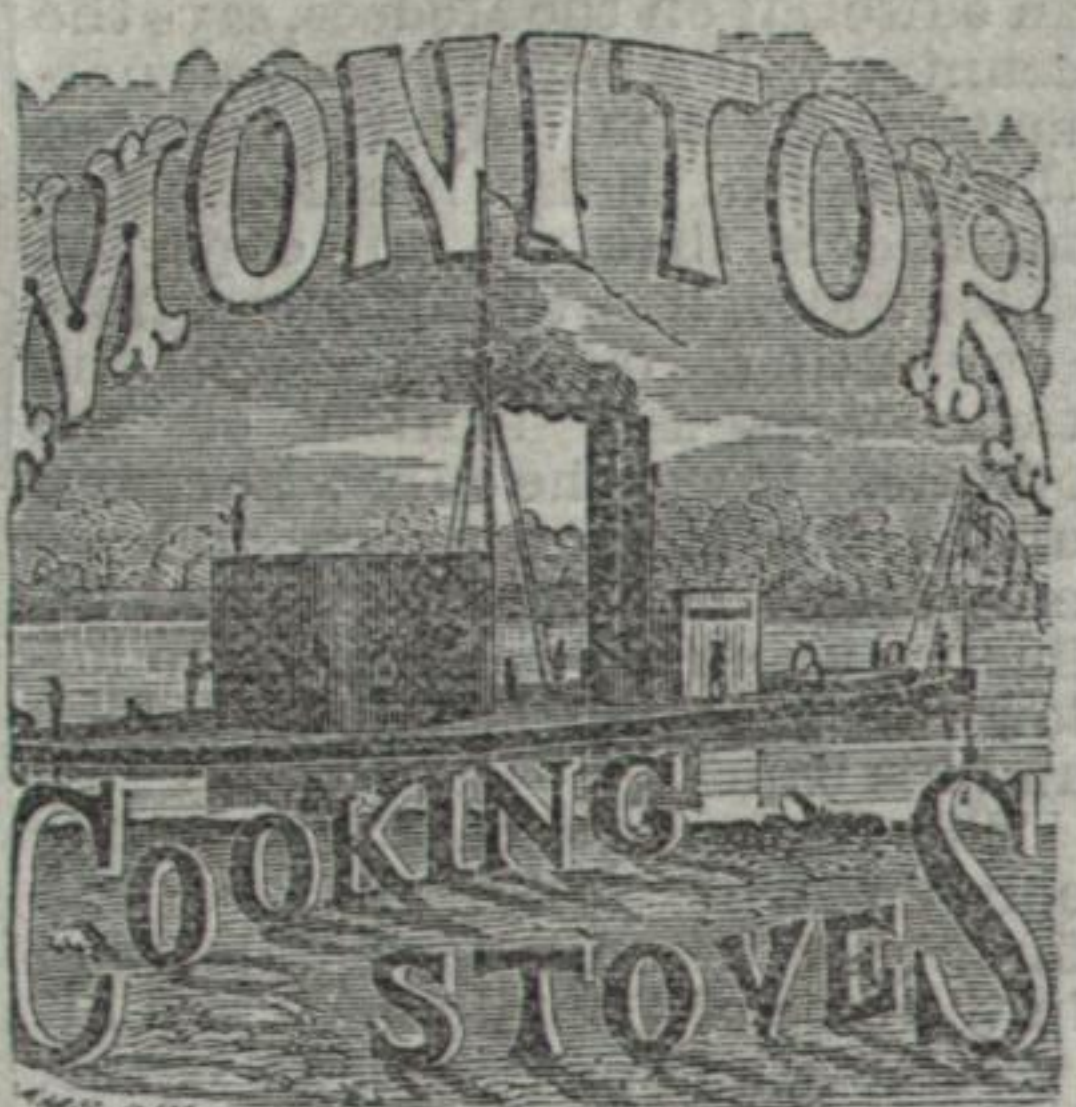
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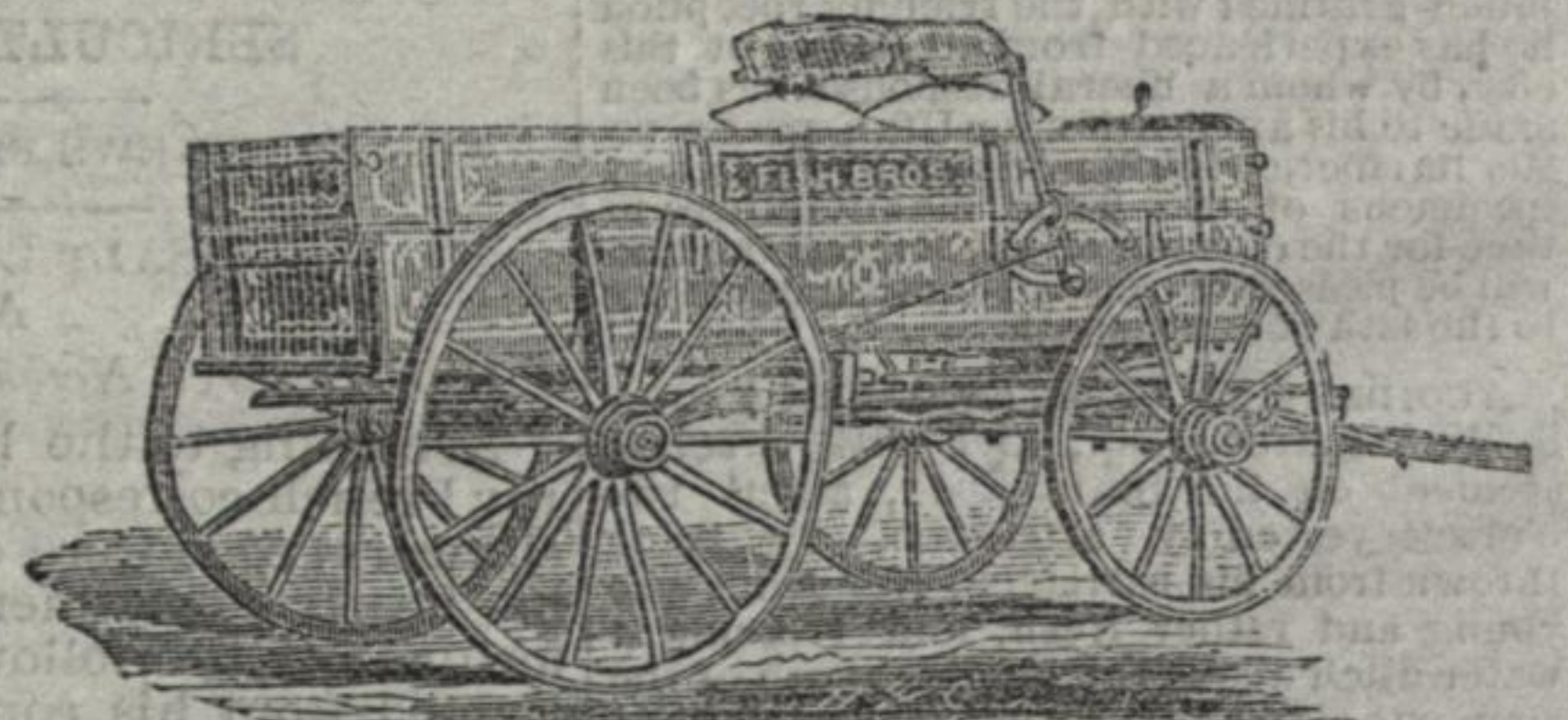
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