

count of its lovely blossom; one of the prettiest flowers in the calendar of horticulture. Observing men in the south who know the history of the cotton raising business of this country are generally of opinion that tea growing is about to become quite as important to us, in even less time than it has taken us to become the great cotton growing country of the world. The character of soil and climate adapted to the growth of the tea plant, are not such as to make it interfere at all with the production of cotton; tea lands and cotton lands—those which produce these plants best, being as different in all their attributes as they well can be.

**GIANT'S BONES.**—The Elizabethtown (Ky.) Register says that a week or two since Mr. John Harned, living on Rolling Fork, about twelve miles from this place, discovered a human bone protruding out of the sand on the river bank. It proved to be a thigh bone, perhaps the largest ever seen. It measured about six times the number of cubic inches as that of a common sized man. Judging from the size of the bone found, it once belonged to a human being 12 or 13 feet high.

✍️ Postmasters will see that the mail arrangements of the department are faithfully executed.—They will promptly report every variation from them, with the name of the contractor who makes it, especially where different days for the mail trips, or a different mode of conveyance, may have been substituted. They will also report all defects of arrangements in the days and hours of departure and arrival, and also every disconnection of one route with another.

**REVOLTING NARRATIVE.**—We learn by a despatch just received from Detroit, that the steamer J. D. Morton picked up a man from

the spar of a vessel, on lake Michigan. The vessel was capsized in a gale a week ago, since which time he has been drifting about the lake. For the want of food, he had eaten his fingers entirely off. He is still alive.

✍️ The citizens of St. Louis are still vigorously prosecuting the enterprise of a Pacific Railroad, across the Plains, by the way of Jefferson city and Independence, Mo.

### BOILING BUTTER.

A physician who has travelled through Switzerland, describes a process of preserving butter as adopted in that country, and which he states to be far better than the English way of salting. The process is as follows.

Into a clean copper pan (better, no doubt, tinned) put any quantity of butter, say twenty to forty lbs., and place it over a gentle fire, so that it may melt slowly, and let the heat be so graduated that the melted mass does not come to boil in less than two hours. During all this time the butter must be frequently stirred, say once in five or ten minutes, so that the whole may be thoroughly intermixed, and the top and bottom change places from time to time. When the melted mass boils, the fire is to be so regulated as to keep the butter at a gentle boil, for about two hours more, the stirring being continued, but not necessarily so frequent as before. The vessel is then to be removed from the fire and set aside to cool and settle still gradually; this process of cooling is supposed also to require about two hours. The melted mass is then while still liquid, to be carefully poured into a jar, in which it is to be kept. In the process of cooling, there is deposited a whitish cheesy sediment, proportioned to the quantity of butter, which is to be carefully prevented from intermixing with the preserved butter. The cause-

ous grounds are very palatable and nutritious, and are constantly used as food. Butter so prepared will last for years perfectly good, without any particular precaution being taken to keep it from the air, or without the slightest addition of salt.—[Mass. Ploughman.]

### FIRE-PROOF CORDAGE.

To a commercial city like New York, the discovery of any process which, by improving machinery, makes life more secure and the transportation of merchandise less hazardous, must be regarded with interest, and not only this, but be adopted the instant its merits shall be made apparent. Such a discovery has been made, we think, by Professor J. H. Johnson, now in this city, *en route* for Europe. Professor Johnson now offers to the test of the commercial interests of the world specimens of cordage and wood which are incombustible; not only utterly impervious to any and all degrees of heat for any length of time, but cordage and wood whose structure will remain firm as long as the iron that enters into the composition of ships and fire-proof safes.

The terrible wrecks of the Lexington, the Atlantic, the Griffith, and the thousand other accidents where valuable lives have been wasted from inefficient, because perishable steering apparatus, and the untold losses of papers from fire, when their possessors depend upon "safes," admonish every one of the value and the interest felt in the success of such a discovery as the one now challenging the closest scrutiny. Measures have been taken to secure the benefits of this invention to its author, and we shall attempt to give some idea of the process.

We may briefly say that the vegetable matter, whether of wood, hemp, or cotton, is first submitted to a process which has the same effect upon it as is produced upon wood in a charcoal pit, by covering it from the atmosphere while burning. This process of abstract-