

The Ice Dealers have thus far had a poor year for securing their supplies for the ensuing summer, and the season is so far advanced that but little hopes are entertained of their being able to procure a sufficient stock for their customers during the ensuing summer. The consumption of the article is annually increasing, and should the next Summer be a warm one, it will be necessary to import it largely from the eastward, where we have been informed but a limited amount has been housed.

We visited the houses along the Schuylkill yesterday, and were astonished to find so many of them still empty and most of the others not half full. The ice cutters have been working night and day during the past week, but the Ice does not exceed six inches in thickness, and much of it has been rendered worthless by the snow freezing upon it. The warm sun of the past two days has rendered it "rotten," so that in some places it will not support the weight of the teams driven upon it. On account of the lateness of the season an increased number of men have been put at work, but the accumulation of stock has been quite slow. At the close of last week, fifteen hundred men were at work on the river, but yesterday not one-third of this number were employed. Messrs. D. B. Kershow & Co., the proprietors of the "Knickerbocker Ice Company," are making every effort to get in their usual stock. At their houses above the Columbia Bridge, they have stored all that can be secured in that neighborhood, and are now floating it down the Schuylkill a distance of a mile; but the ice is so snowy that they are about to cease operations.

The snow which fell some ten days ago, caused much trouble, as it became necessary to scrape it off before it was cut—a very expensive operation.

There are twenty-two ice houses on the banks of the Schuylkill, above Fairmount, capable of holding 120,000 tons, but the whole amount cut and stored up to this date, will not reach 35,000 tons. The following is a list of them:—

Fairmount Ice Company—Wm. H. Kern has four houses, three on the east and one on the west of the river. Two of these houses are empty, and two of them half full.

The Knickerbocker Ice Company—Messrs. D. B. Kershow & Co. have four houses—two at Fountain Green, and two above the Columbia Bridge. They will average one-third full.

The Schuylkill Ice Company—Messrs. Denny & Lacy have one house on the west of the river, which is one-quarter full.

Messrs. Wolbert & Bro. have one house on the east of the river, near Fairmount, which is one-third full.

The Crystal Cove Ice Company—Mr. Peter Wagner has two houses on the west side of the river, one-third full.

The West Philadelphia Ice Company—Messrs. Wintling & Rodgers have one house on the west of the river, below the Girard Avenue Bridge, which is about one-half full.

The Mantuville Ice Company—Messrs. Bickley & Davis have one house on the west of the river, about one-half full.

The Cold Spring Ice Company.—Mr. Thomas E. Cahill has one house on the west of the river, which is only half full.

The Waverly Ice Company.—Messrs. B. K. Esler & Co., have one house on the east of the river, one-fourth full.

The Sweetbriar Ice Company.—Mr. W. S. Torr has one house on the west of the river, above the Girard Avenue Bridge, nearly half full.

The Independent Drivers' Ice Company, have two houses, on the west side of the river, about half full.

The Pennsylvania Ice Company.—Mr. Peter Ashman has one house below the bridge about half full.

Mr. Charles Carpenter has one house near the Columbia bridge, east of the river, which is about half full.

The Eagle Ice Company, Messrs. Cornell & Hendry, have one house on the east of the river, above Carpenter's house. It is about one-third full.

The Knickerbocker Ice Company have one house at the foot of Willow street, on the Delaware, which is used for the storage of ice received from the Eastward. It will hold about one thousand tons, and has now in it only one cargo of two hundred and seventy tons—the first and only cargo received from thence this season. It was cut at Asbott Pond, about 25 miles from Boston. The

Knickerbocker, Waverly, Eagle, Crystal, Cove, and West Philadelphia Ice Companies, were the only parties yesterday at work. All the balance have stopped, trusting for a "cold spell" to complete their supplies, but as the thermometer goes up, their hopes go down.

The Knickerbocker company have in operation a machine patented by Mr. Augustus Hunt, one of the firm of D. B. Kershow & Co., which hoists the ice into the store-houses with comparative little expense. It consists of a number of cradles, so arranged as to seize the ice as it is floated up to the opening, and carry it safely into the building without the aid of assistants.

— March 3, 58 —

CITY BULLETIN.

DENTAL.—We have no convenient means of ascertaining how many dentists there are in Philadelphia, but from our observations of tin signs and silver door-plates, embellished with the legend, "Dentist," and scattered about in various quiet parts of the town, we should judge that the extractors of molars and incisors, the fillers of decayed grinders, and the manufacturers of false teeth, must be very numerous. On last Saturday evening fifteen newly fledged operators were given to the world by the Philadelphia Dental College. In the report of the Demonstrator of this Institute, made at the time of the commencement, it seems that the following operations were performed by the College during the year:

Operative Department—Ordinary gold fillings, 545; ordinary tin fillings, 287; treatment and filling of nervous cavities, 55; amalgam fillings, 2; superficial caries, 6; extraction of teeth and roots, 2223; removal of salivary calculi, 23; pivot teeth, 9; irregularity plates, 2. Total, 3152.

Mechanical Department—Entire sets of teeth, 5; upper sets of teeth, 21; partial sets of teeth, 59. Total of teeth inserted, 679.

Twenty-two thousand two hundred and twenty-three teeth and roots extracted by this one concern in the course of a year! without counting "ordinary fillings" with all their delightful scraping, filing and jaw straining, or the "filling of nervous cavities"! How suggestive this dread catalogue is of sleepless nights, puffed out cheeks, and hop politics! How eloquent of the miserable agony which goaded Burns on to write as follows:

"Adown may beard the slavers trickle!
I kick the wee stools o'er the mickle,
As round the fire the gilets keekle,
To see me loup;
While, raving mad, I wish a heckle
Were in their doup."

"O' a' the num'rous human dools,
I'll har'st, dast bargains, cutty stools.
Or worthy friends rak'd i' the mools,
Sad sight to see!
The tricks o' knaves, or fash o' fools—
Thou bearest the gree."

"Where'er that place be priests ca' hell,
Whence all the tones o' misery yell,
And rank'd plagues their numbers tell,
In dreadful raw,
Thou, toothache, surely bear'st the bell
Among them a'!

"O thou grim mischief-making chiel,
That gars the notes of discord squeel,
Till dast manking aft dance a reel
In gore a shoo thick!—
Gie a' the faces o' Scotland's weal
Atowm'd's toothache?"

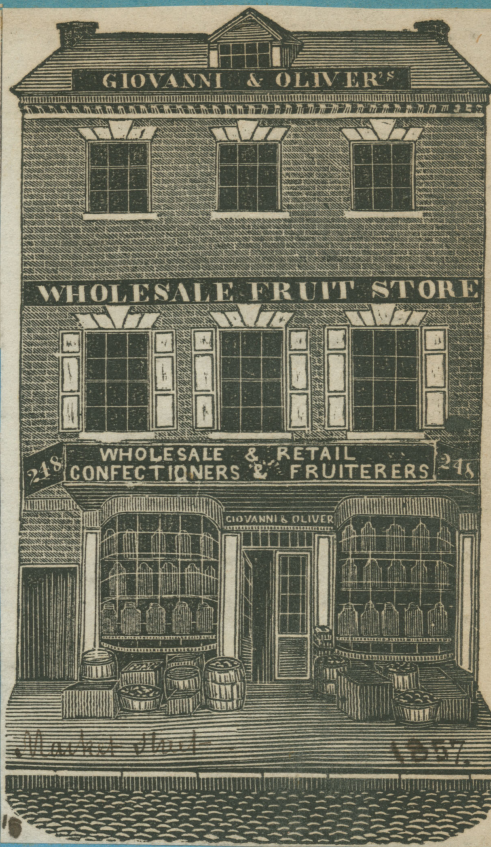
It is very certain that Burns knew from experience, what the toothache was, for no one but an actual sufferer could have written so feelingly upon the subject.

Diseases of the teeth are either far more frequent than they were formerly, or people are more careful of their dental arrangements than of yore. In old times, in Philadelphia, the barbers were the only tooth-drawers, and extraction used to be the sovereign remedy for evils which are now frequently remedied by means of filling. The extraction was done with very clumsy instruments, and the hands of the operators were generally about as clumsy as the tools they worked with. Full sets of false teeth were very rare in Philadelphia in the early part of the present century, and an old lady has narrated to us an anecdote which illustrates the condition of the dentist's profession in this city fifty years ago. The mother of the narrator lost a tooth by some mishap, and she immediately repaired, accompanied by her daughter, to the only dentist in the city. The dentist had an elephant's tusk in his office. He sawed a piece off of this ivory, filed it in shape and fitted it, and after securing the new incisor in its place, the lady went away rejoicing. Rather a contrast this with the present era of Dental Colleges, porcelain teeth factories, and Dentists by the hundred.

— March 3, 58.

Feb 21-58.

JABEZ.—Philadelphia has at least twenty manufacturing of textile fabrics where New York has one; while her superiority in the fabrication of metals, though less decided, is undeniable. Philadelphia has about twenty-five per cent. the advantage of New York in fuel, and, perhaps, ten per cent. on the average cost of provisions. This is the great part of American manufactures, unequalled on this continent in the extent and variety of its products.



Philadelphia, Wednesday, Sept 29, 1858.

THE COMET.—The comet blazes in the evening sky with a lustre which is nightly increasing. It is now the most brilliant and attractive object in the heavens, and nightly there are thousands of eyes turned towards it, watching the progress it has made. It will be nearest the earth on the 9th of October, when it will be fifty-two millions of miles distant. It will then have nearly twice its present brilliancy. According to Mr. Hall's computation, the tail of this comet, on the 23d instant, extended to the length of fifteen millions of miles. This comet is known as that of Donati, being discovered by him June 2d. It was first supposed to have an elliptic orbit, and hence it was inferred that it is the same comet which appeared in 1827. But more accurate observations lead to the opinion that a parabolic orbit will better represent the motion of the comet than an elliptic. If so, this conspicuous visitor does not belong to our solar system, is now within it probably for the first time, and will soon leave it to visit some other. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made in astronomy, as little is known about comets now as when astronomy was in its infancy. The most that has been done is to determine the periodicity of some of them, but regarding their character and the causes of the singular appearances they present, science is as much at fault as when they were first observed. Over twenty of them are known to be periodical, or belonging to our solar system with various periods of revolution. At this time there are three visible, only one, however, Donati's, without the aid of the telescope. One of the telescopic comets is Encke's, which revolves around the sun in the short period of 3½ years (forty months) with nearly the regularity of a planet, and which, when most distant, or in aphelion, is not beyond the orbit of Jupiter. The third is a new comet, and is said by astronomers to have no resemblance to that of 1595, or the famous "comet of Charles the 5th," with which it was first thought to be identical. It is now in the circle of perpetual apparition in our latitude, or revolves around the Pole without setting. There have been recorded by astronomers about seven hundred comets in all, of which the orbits of about one hundred and eighty have been calculated. The periodic revolutions vary from three years to several thousand years. Some approach in their perihelion so near to the sun as to be heated to a white heat, as some suppose, though possibly, like a great many other suppositions, this may be very erroneous. Although the number of comets is so large, there are comparatively few which appear to the naked eye; only about fourteen in a century. But, to the telescope, hardly a year passes without the observation of one or more. In 1810 four were seen, in 1818 there were eight.

Sept. 28 58—

Laying of a Corner Stone.—Yesterday afternoon the corner stone of the building for the Moyamensing Soup Society was laid at the N. W. corner of Eighth and Marriott streets. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Anderson and Durbow, and Wm. J. Mullen, who gave a short history of the Society, which was started twenty-five years ago by James and Richard Ronaldson, in Shippen street, above Ninth. Copies of the daily papers, coins of the United States, &c., were deposited in the corner stone. The edifice will be eighteen feet front by forty feet deep, two stories high. The cellar will contain the boiler and heating apparatus; the first floor will be used for the delivery of bread and soup, and the second story will be occupied by the family of the Superintendent. The building and fitting up will cost over \$2,000, and will be finished in time for the next soup season.