

regulated with ease by the operator, and the motion continued for hours—thus doing away with the wearing exertion imposed by impelling it with the feet.

The invention of the telephone is now claimed in England for Sir Charles Whitstone, who, over twenty years ago, transmitted various sounds with and without electricity to a considerable distance, and even called his instrument the telephone. It does not appear, however, that Sir Charles ever attempted to transmit the human voice, and the present agitation is doubtless set on foot to overthrow the patent.

An application of electricity to prevent railway-collisions is being tried at the station at Marseilles. It consists of an electric mirror, in which all the movements on a line 100 kilometers in length are brought vividly before the eye, enabling the station-master to follow exactly the progress of every train. It is hoped that, by this means, accidents resulting from delays or too rapid runs may be avoided.

It is a singular fact that ammonia is produced on the surface of some steels broken under the hammer. This has been observed in the breaking of steel rails, the presence of the gas being revealed distinctly by its well-known odor. In the case of one hard steel, as reported by M. Barré, the French steel manufacturer, this could be perceived several paces off; red litmus paper, and yellow turmeric paper, applied to the moistened fracture, changed color immediately, the former becoming blue, the latter brown, and bubbles of gas rose for about a quarter of an hour. These observations were upon steel manufactured in a gas furnace by the Siemen process, but the softest Bessemer steel has also been known to yield a pronounced odor of ammonia. The presence of nitrogen in steels, and the liberation of ammonia, have also been noticed in them when cold, in the presence of water vapor.

LOCAL NEWS.

THE map peddlars are all short—of funds.

THEY all do it—look in their books on examination day.

THE STUDENT office dishes up butcher-shop fragrance. Three whiffs free.

THE local columns are mostly filled with commencement news this issue.

ONE thousand extra copies of this number of the Student have been ordered.

THE commencement this year was the best the University has ever witnessed.

WE are indebted to Mr. Sturdevant for his services to the local department in our absence.

THE women want them, the children cry for them and the hired girls must have them—Maps.

THE map-selling fever, excited by Mr. Haskell, has carried away no less than thirty of our brightest youth.

AS the editors and local were compelled to leave soon after commencement the associate editor and typos have some extra work.

A NOTED Soph remarked, that thought was bounded by reason to which a verbose Fresh. replied "it must be the reason you leave no thought."

THE people in different parts of the state take great interest in the welfare of the University as was manifest by their attendance at commencement.

HERE, you senior fellows, down east, how much will you give us to write your commencement orations? Liberal discount to clubs. Send stamp for price list and full particulars.

A LADY friend pertinently asks which is worse to slide down the banisters, or to help in putting that cannon on the campus? Really, dearest, we are not prepared to say, for we never slid down the banisters.