

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE

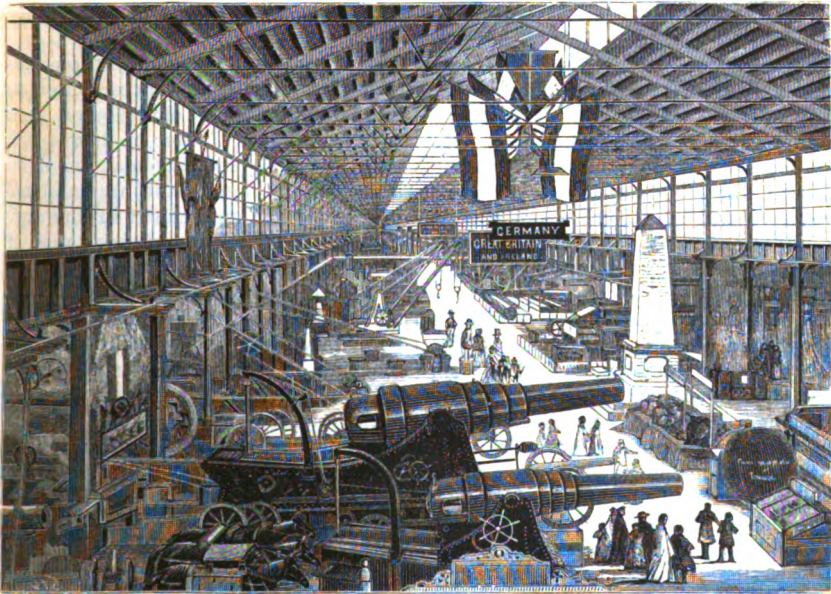
OF

POPULAR LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

SEPTEMBER, 1876.

THE CENTURY—ITS FRUITS AND ITS FESTIVAL.

IX.—THE HOUSE OF THE IRON HAND.



GENERAL VIEW OF INTERIOR OF MACHINERY HALL, FROM GALLERY NEAR KRUPP'S GUNS.

WE are confronted on the left of the principal entrance to the grounds by a shapely structure covering four times the space of St. Peter's, and ticketed, like a satchel or a Saratoga trunk, "50." This label of Machinery Hall is hardly distinct-

ive. It might be clapped on all lookers-on and on everything looked at, artificial or natural, since all are machinery, built up on system and working to fixed ends by fixed laws. The human machine, impelled by an internal motor that rests

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ing. In the latter part of August the young birds begin to flock, seeking the stubble-fields, the threshing-ground and the sandy old fields where the *Centaurea*, or "blue-bottle," flourishes. Here they are "walked up" by the gunner, and shot as they rise, their flight under these circumstances being almost precisely that of the trap-pigeon at a shooting-match. As they cut by with extreme velocity on a cross-shot, it takes a skillful aim and a good allowance for headway to bring them down. Another method is to find a pond or ditch where some water lies during a very dry spell. The doves are very thirsty, and will fly for miles to drink before roosting, sometimes dipping in rapid flight for a billful from some broad stream. The gunner hides himself under some convenient cover, and shoots as fast as he can load. Dogs are useless, and only frighten the game. The best way of all, though perhaps the least sportsmanlike, is to find a dead tree on their feeding-ground, and make a "blind" near it of grass and bushes. The bird has an invariable habit of alighting for a moment on such a perch to survey the ground before beginning to feed, and

the moment to shoot is when it settles, or a wing-shot is in order when it leaves the tree. Very large bags are often made, though the birds are quite uncertain, and will often abandon their haunts for others at a great distance with no apparent reason. The dove is a choice table delicacy, superior, in my judgment, to the partridge, and fully equal to the woodcock. Indeed, I have seen a very large and select party of *bons vivants* served to their complete satisfaction with "woodcocks on toast," when not a solitary woodcock had been in the market for weeks. Cut off the head and feet, and few could discover the imposition.

In regard to other birds it is scarcely necessary to speak particularly. Under the influence of judicious legislation the various species of hawk and falcon have been greatly thinned out, and a corresponding increase effected in the numbers of insectivorous birds. This is a matter in which the farmer here, as elsewhere, has yet very much to learn, and it is in this direction that he must look at last for the remedy against the moths and larvæ which are now the most dreaded enemies to his success.

ROBERT WILSON.

TO —, WITH A ROSE.

I ASKED my heart to say
Some word whose worth my love's devoir might pay
Upon my Lady's natal day.

Then said my heart to me:
"Learn from the rhyme that now shall come to thee
What fits thy Love most lovingly."

This gift that learning shows;
For, as a rhyme unto its rhyme-twin goes,
I send a rose unto a Rose.

SIDNEY LANIER.