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THE

NEW YORK

COACH-MAKER'S MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO THE

LITERARY, SOCIAL, AND MECHANICAL INTERESTS OF THE CRAFT.

VOLUME TWELVE.

JUNE, 1870, TO ~~MARCH~~ 1871.

February

NEW YORK:

GEO. W. W. HOUGHTON, Editor,

88 CHAMBERS STREET.

MDCCLXXI.

P R E F A C E .

It is without doubt generally known that ever since we undertook the editorship of the "New York Coachmakers' Magazine," we have been laboring in every way within our power to strengthen its good points, and to make as many additions to its interest and its practical nature as were possible. We have become convinced that the best way to accomplish this is to combine with it "The Hub," which contains some things that the magazine lacks; to add new departments; publish it in new form, and to enter with the thirteenth volume upon a *new series*. Having determined upon this course, we believe that the sooner the change is made the better, and as the next volume of "The Hub" will begin with April next, and will be prefaced by an introductory number in March, we have decided to join hands with it in its introductory number, and as that number will be in the improved form, this February Magazine will be most conveniently bound as the concluding number of the Twelfth Volume. We therefore give a brief preface, begging at the same time that our subscribers will remember that this does not denote the conclusion of the "New York Coachmaker," but only its last appearance under the old cover. This change will not interfere with unexpired subscriptions, as we explain on page 152.

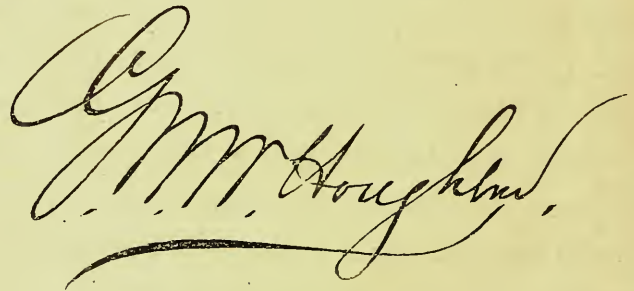
Although this volume of nine numbers is a shorter one than usual, we trust that in practical value it will compare favorably with those that have preceded it. Among the most interesting features which it has contained, we will mention the following:

Our article on the "Golden Rule of Proportion" proved even more acceptable than we looked for. The article contains many novelties, but we have no doubt that behind it lies an important principle which the carriage builders may apply. Not less valuable are the papers on "How to acquire Taste," and "Something about Trimming," and we spent much time and investigation in making up the article on the "Comparison of Iron and Steel." Mr. A. Muller has begun a series of articles for the "Wood-Shop," two of which have appeared already, and they give good promise.

The series of sixteen drafts, of the carriages and sleighs exhibited at the American Institute Fair of 1870, have not failed to excite the interest which we expected. The work of giving a continued supply of fine carriage designs is attended with many difficulties. Some are inclined to complain that the designs are not new, while others will perhaps say of the very same designs that they are too new and theoretical. But by taking accurate drawings of carriages actually exhibited at a prominent fair, and by leading carriage builders of one of the leading carriage centers, the former complaint is rendered less probable, and the latter complaint has been entirely avoided.

In the department of carriage drafts, the fine colored plate which appeared in the January Magazine is worthy of especial notice, being *the first colored draft of a carriage* that has been published by any journal in this country. The design was very carefully selected, and after being lithographed, each plate was colored by hand in seven colors, forming a very handsome picture. In the other departments the Magazine will speak for itself. Thanking our subscribers and correspondents for their interest and good wishes variously expressed, and begging a continuance of their favor to encourage and assist the Magazine in its new and improved form, under which it will hereafter be known as "The Hub and New York Coachmakers' Magazine," we remain,

Yours respectfully,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "C. M. Houghlin". The signature is written in dark ink and features a prominent flourish at the end.

88 CHAMBERS ST., New York,

February 1st, 1871.

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