

in print at an office here within an hour or two after its delivery." Such a result is now so constantly realized, that it has ceased to excite any special attention, and the civilized world are now confidently anticipating the time as near at hand when these marvellous wires shall encircle the globe, and two or three hours suffice to bring intelligence from the antipodes.

What we may reasonably anticipate from the extraordinary developments of photography, it is difficult to say. It would not be very strange, however, if by combining galvanism with photography, the same picture, which is sketched by the sun's chemical rays, should be engraved by electricity. Indeed, an approximation to such a result has already been attained.

Since chemists can ascertain the elements of the most useful substances, the prospect seems fair that they will be able to unite these elements yet more extensively than they have done, so as to form the substances. And, indeed, within a few years they have ascertained that linen rags, by the action of a cheap acid, will produce more than their weight of sugar, and that a coarse but palatable bread can be made of saw dust. Who can tell how soon the time may come when the poor man will only need to purchase a cord of wood to supply his family with bread during the winter? *

The fear has often been indulged that many of the colder countries of the globe must ultimately become nearly uninhabitable, from a failure of fuel. An application of a geological discovery in Germany has, it seems to me, thrown a gleam of light on this point. The rapid increase of heat as we descend into the earth, and the ease with which Artesian wells are formed to a great depth, led a manufacturer to bore

* Herschel's Discourse, &c., p. 48.