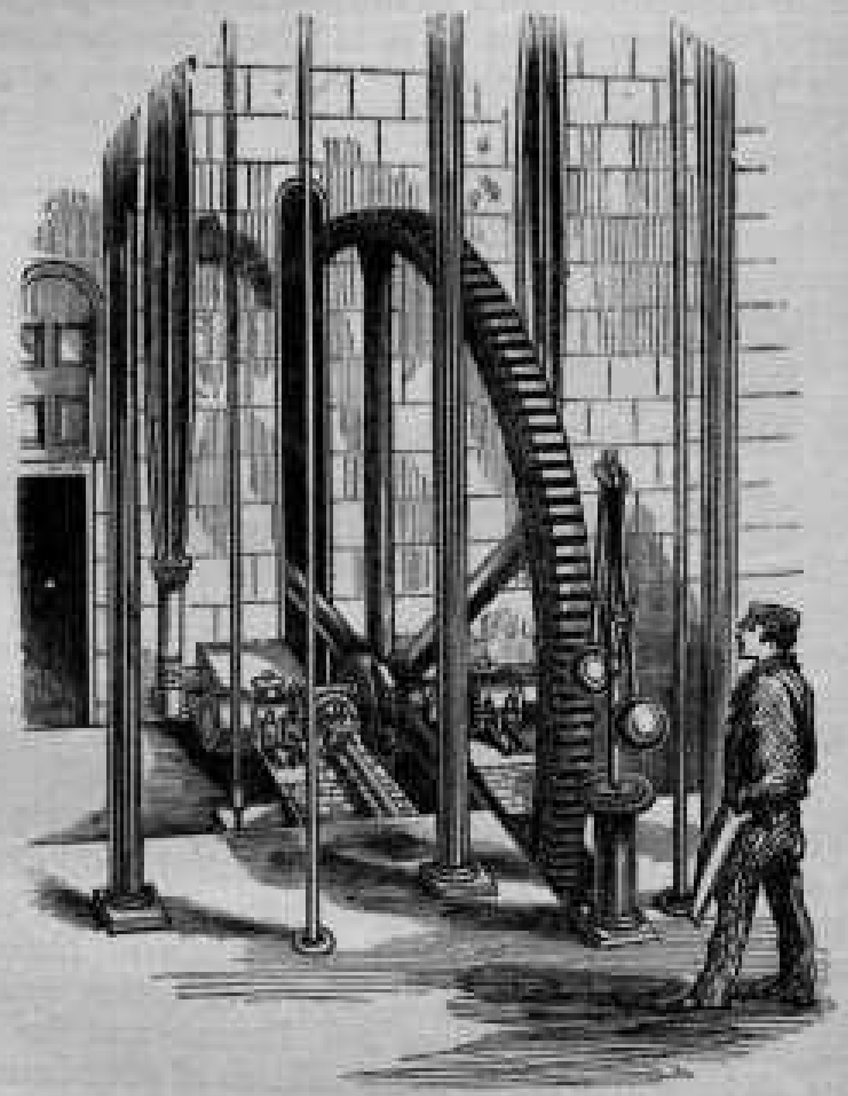
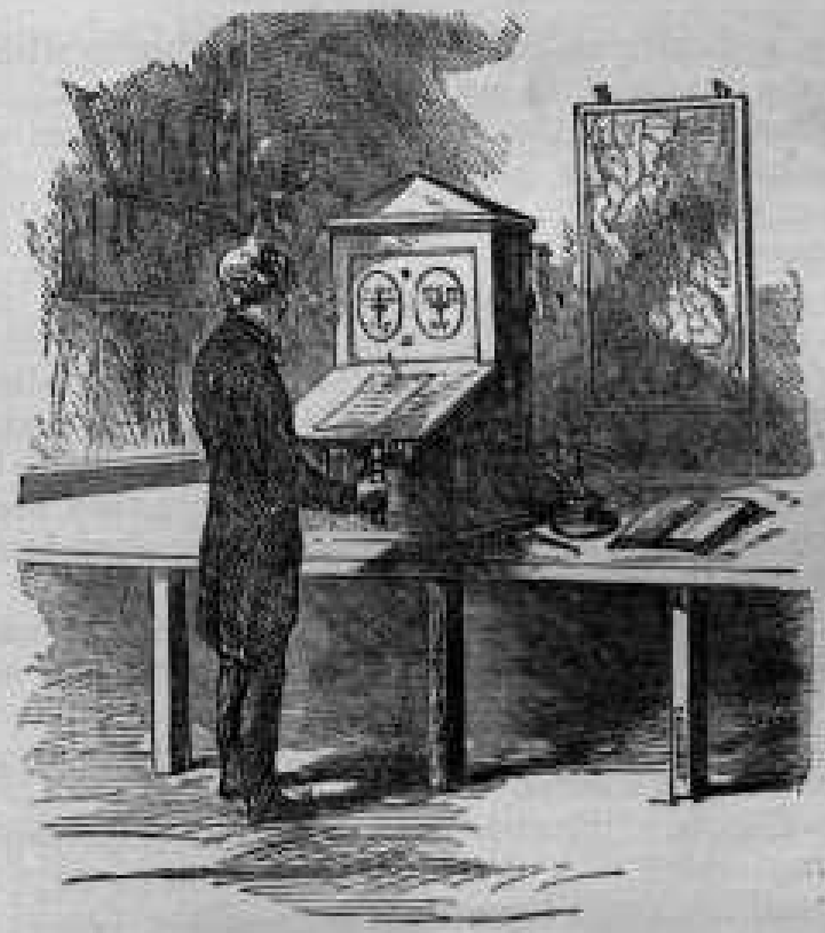
our cotton manufactures, it is supplied in the melancholy result of the American Civil War on our concerns in the North of England. The cotton famine and the distress in Lancashire are significant facts.



FLY-WHEEL OF STEAM-ENGINE.



WORKING THE TELEGRAPH.

CHAPTER IV.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AND ELECTRICITY.

Over our heads, under our feet; across seas and continents, tamed lightning is our bond-servant. We have put a girdle round the earth, and hold converse with our distant friends as though they sat beside us.

Electricity has done all this. The wires that stretch along our railway lines, that are buried in the earth and under the sea, and that are swung from house-top to house-top along our public streets, are the medium of communication. Life, death, fortune, failure, joy, sorrow, a great

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