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RAILWAY BRIDGE, NEAR YORK, ENGLAND.

We publish herewith a view of a fine railway swing bridge, erected over the river Ouse, near York, England, by the North Eastern Railway. We are indebted to Engineer-ing for the illustration of the structure, which consists of three openings, namely, one fixed span of 107 feet over all, lesser ones, however, continue to levy assessments (Irish and a double swing span of 176 feet over all, leaving a clear dividends); but that must necessarily be the case where no opening for vessels of about 62 feet, the river being navigable for small craft some distance above the bridge.

The swing portion of the bridge is supported on a pier of east iron situated on the north bank of the river, this pier ent dividend-paying mines. They all had to travel the old being composed of one central column 7 feet in diameter, containing a hydraulic accumulator, and eight supporting columns each 4 feet in diameter carrying the roller frame ing for an endless period of time, when we consider the fearand path. The weight of cast iron in the pier, exclusive of ful drain upon it to produce daily from 100 to 500 tuns of the foundation cylinders, is about 280 tuns.

The swing portion is formed of two main girders, 176 feet in length and 14 feet in depth between flanges over the duced, on an average, five hundred tuns daily for several swivel pier, where they are connected together at the top by cross girders, carrying a platform, from which is regulated the working of the bridge. The flooring is composed of 23 dollars in the last four years, and are now down in the bowels transoms, 26 feet long and 1 foot 8 inches in depth, which, over the pier, are covered by # inch plating, the rest of the floor being formed of bars 8 inches by 5 inch, with openings

wrought iron in both swing and fixed spans collectively is

The swing portion is moved by means of hydraulic machinery giving motion to a pinion geared into a circular

The superstructure of the bridge was designed by Mr. J E. Harrison, and erected by Messrs. Pease, Hutchinson & Co. of Darlington, the hydraulic machinery being devised and applied by Sir William Armstrong & Co., of Newcastle on relied only upon mining; but the two interests together are

California's Growing Industries.

A correspondent of the New York Times, writing from California, states that the mining interests continue prosperous, and most of the leading mines are doing well, taking out a good quality of ore, and paying dividends. Many of the working capital is set aside for the purpose of carrying on the five years, and you will see its product doubled. Another work of development. "It takes a mind to work a mine" is evidence of our prosperity is the constantly increasing manuamply illustrated; but it is the history of nearly all the presbeaten tract, and occasionally relapse into their former condition. It is expecting a good deal of a mine to continue pay ore. It cannot be expected, you know. Take the Crown Point and Belcher, for instance. These two mines have proyears. A tun of ore is six cubic feet, and a hundred tuns makes a big hole. They have taken out forty-six millions of of the earth some sixteen hundred feet. If anything were wanted to prove the theory that the center of the earth is a required. The Watch Company will employ about 150 men, mass of seething molten matter, the intense heat in the lower levels of some of our deep mines would be conclusive evidence. In the lower galleries of the Ophir, for instance, be-The girders and flooring of the fixed span are of the same dence. In the lower galleries of the Ophir, for instance, beform as those of the swing portion. The total weight of fore the recent air shafts were completed, the heat was so intense that the shifts of men had to be changed every two hours. (When I say "shifts," I speak in mining parlance.) Occasionally they got a gush of hot water that made things lively for them. After all the fuss about the great value of our agricultural products being superior to the mining interests, the grain production has only exceeded that of mining some four millions. In the earlier days we never dreamed purchases a watch. They want to know about what time that California would prove an agricultural country, and we they may expect to be pelted with brickbats and mud balls pretty good. It would be difficult to name a country, with an early age in this entertaining sport.

the same population, producing its equal in value-ninety-six millions in four years, that we have a record of, to say nothing of the large aggregate of the Chinese product, and that of individuals, of which we have no record, at least four millions more-say one hundred millions in total, or an average of two millions a month, and constantly increasing. California is not such a bad country after all. Wait about factures. We shall soon be able to supply nearly everything we require, thereby retaining in the country the money that we have heretofore sent abroad. Conspicuous among the recent enterprises, I can mention the establishing of jute bag factories, more woolen mills, and a watch manufactory. The Cornell Watch Company, of Chicago, has been transferred to this place, and will soon be in operation—the advantages being an even temperature and Chinese labor. The Chinese are probably the most intelligent and skillful people for any such purpose that can be found; quick to learn, always reliable in their work, doing a thing always alike, never striking for higher wages, never going on a spree, quiet and tractable; and they are particularly skillful where nice manipulation is and the advantages of cheap labor will be manifest over Eastern labor in these particulars, to say nothing of the difference in price. The company were paying on an average \$3.25 per day, while they will be able to obtain better operatives here at \$1.25-a saving of \$2 per day, less the difference between gold and currency-not much, either, when we take into consideration that their receipts will be in coin. The company will find a large outlet for their cheap watches in China and Japan, the natives of those countries being much addicted to purchasing timepieces. Every Chinaman by the enterprising young Americans, who are inculcated at



RAILWAY BRIDGE NEAR YORK, ENGLAND

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Contents

THE LARGEST YET.

is week two ditions of the SCIENTIFIC he combined issue of which reaches the of One Hundred and Ninety Thousand

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ANOTHER NEEDED AMENDMENT OF THE PATENT LAW.

By the present law, the grantee of any interest in a patent has ninety days within which to file his conveyance for record. If he complies with that rule, his rights are determined by the date of his deed. This furnishes abundant and unnecessary innocent and careful purchasers.

just been filed in the Office, and has rendered his title worthless. This ought not so to b

In some of the States of the Union, the registry laws relative to the conveyance of real estate have had a like provision, but to the conveyance of real estate have had a like provision, but Thacks, it, is supported to the control of such a rule. Pri. ing the telegraph under government control, the whole country of right is now separably given to the purchaser who country would be manifestly benefited, not many would be ority of right is now generally given to the purchaser who country would be manifestly benefited, not many would be first files his deed for record. This is a wise regulation; for found to oppose any legal means, if such could be reached, if some one must suffer wrong, good policy as well as justice dictates that it should be the negligent rather than the vigi. an array of considerations and facts which demonstrate the lant. Is not this an equally sound maxim as applied to the sale of a patent ?

At all events, the ninety days now allowed to the purchaser of a patent is much too great. No great mischief would result from allowing such a purchaser hardly time enough to send his deed to the Patent Office. If he failed to do this, his rights should be postponed to those of any other bona fide purchaser whose deed was first on record. A rule of vigilance similar to that which is observed in order to charge the in. tures are found to have exceeded them by \$1,075,510. As dorser of a protested promissory note might best protect the for England, the London Railway News, of late date, admits just rights of both purchasers, and would furnish little room for injury of the kind above referred to.

But there is a still more crying evil of a similar character. A license under our present law need not be recorded at all. A bona fide purchaser, who has waited ninety days before paying the purchase money or doing any other irrevocable act, may afterwards find, to his dismay, that there are licenses in existence, running the entire lifetime of his patent and covering the whole scope of his conveyance, which is thus rendered wholly valueless. Opportunities for successful wrong are here presented, for which there is no excuse. They are unworthy of the intelligence of the age and country. hand of reform should be applied here without delay

HOM GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY OF THE TELEGRAPH LINES.

The argument of Mr. G. P. Lowery, before the Congressional Committee, in opposition to the Hubbard Postal Telegraph bill, contains much forcible reasoning. Whether or not Congress has the right to make telegraphic intercommunication a government monopoly is clearly a constitutional question, based upon the interpretation of the sections which confer upon the national legislature the power to ments will probably, as is the case now in other political establish post offices and post roads, and to regulate commerce. The advocates of the scheme hold that, under these provisions, Congress has the necessary power, and urge that also objectionable. The telegraph is not employed by a great the telegraph must be regarded in similar light as the mails; if the government has the right to monopolize the dissemination of information through the carriage of missives in the latter case, it has the same right through the transmission of signals in the former. The opponents of the bill, including all the present private telegraphic corporations, deny the above premises, and draw a wide margin of difference between the establishment of the post offices and roads and that of the telegraph. They maintain that the post office is simply the medium through which the government tenders itself to carry parcels of a limited weight for a limited price, and this entirely regardless as to the contents of the parcels, whether the same be a means of transferring ideas from one person to another, or a mere mass of material substance. The telegraph, on the other hand, is per sea medium for transmitting information, and nothing else.

Mr. Lowery elaborates these views with much ingenuity and cogency in his argument. He points out that the post office is an agency, the original design or motive of which was, doubtless, to favor the transmission of intelligence, public or private, between the people: its function is the sults thus far obtained. Professor E. Hall, telegraphing public or private, between the people: its function is the carrying of packages which may contain information. Because this possibility exists, and Congress controls the means of conveyance, therefore it is urged by the advocates of the curacy; but owing to the drifting of haze and clouds between, plan that Congress should control another medium which it was impossible to obtain good photographs of the contacts conveys nothing, but merely transmits information as such-

a clearly illogical sequence

To borrow Mr. Lowery's illustration: Suppose A and B are talking together a couple of feet apart. A crosses the street, and the conversation is still maintained by raising the voices or one person may go to the garret and the other to the cellar of a house, and yet converse through a speaking tube. They may separate by a wider interval and talk by pre-arranged signals made with their arms; or lastly, they may place an interval of a thousand miles between them, and still continue their remarks by the aid of the telegraphic wire. A's mind meets that of B just as instantly through the telegraphic signals as through the medium of oral words. In the one se a conducting wire, through which a current pass the means; in the other, sound-conducting air, through which certain viorations are transmitted, serves the same purpose. Shanghai, China, are discouraging, and announce complete The extension of the telegraph, then, from between A and B failure of all attempts, owing to the cloudy weather. The to between every individual in the United States. to between every individual in the United States and every- Indian observations seem to have been the mo each other's voices. If such were literally possible, then—if the sun's disk being secured. The details of the micrometric the government has the right to control batteries and wires | measurements and of the instants of contact, it is also stated, in the one case-it has equally power to control the vocal cords and air in the other: in other words, to prevent people talking to each other save on the payment of tax-a reductio ces bad weather, but good results, in the shape of one hundred ad absurdum too palpable to need further demonstration. Of and thirteen photographs. course the power once in the hands of any government to control interchange of information between the people converts that government into a despotism very different from that contemplated by the Constitution. That instrument, opportunity for fraud, and often imposes great hardships on however, is a rigid one; and as it distinctly says "establish post offices and post roads" and "regulate commerce," and He who after full examination finds the title of a patent does not say anything about controlling information (however complete and unencumbered often feels safe in paying his transmitted), it may be taken as reasonably certain that no judimoney therefor, and in making extensive arrangements for cial interpretation would discover in the plain provisions above the manufacture thereof. Ninety days thereafter quoted the degree of elasticity necessary to extend them to an plate on which the photograph of the sun is taken, in lieu of

he may learn that an assignment one day older than his has authorization to Congress to assume the ownership of the telegraph lines

There are many, however, who would be willing to yield a point of right, if the expediency of the change were great. That is, if, by suppressing the private corporations and placfor accomplishing the object. But here again we are met by project to be plainly inexpedient. The latest reports of European government telegraphs show clearly that, instead of being a source of revenue to the countries where the system has been adopted, they are a source of expense. Statistics for 1873 show for the German Empire a deficit of \$661,727 France has a very slight surplus; but taking the aggregate receipts of seven countries-Germany, Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, and Switzerland-the expendia deficiency of \$5,000 a week, and this increasing.

In adverting to this subject before, we pointed out that a comparison of the British tariff with our own, taking into consideration the enormous distances between points in this country, shows in the end that our rates could gain little in cheapness supposing our government to run the telegraph at once as efficiently as that of England now does. Again, the English post office carries letters for a penny, and makes five million dollars a year; ours charges three cents, and, according to Postmaster Jewell's report, there is a deficit of eight million dollars. The Postmaster General may well assert his intention to try and make the receipts and expenditures of the Department bear some proper relation to each other; and we may justly doubt even the accomplishment of this task for some time to come. It is absurd, however, to suppose that, beside this, a postal telegraph could be made into a paying enterprise, and not an additional burden on the taxpayers. There are other objections to the postal telegraph which we have not space here to detail. A government censorship of news is not to be desired in these days of high party feeling; nor is the saddling of the country with an immense host of new officials an inviting prospect-particularly when appointpositions, be governed by every other consideration save that of fitness for the work. The imposition of another tax is mass of the population. As it is now, it costs this class nothing; as it would be, they would be obliged to contribute to its

Postmaster Jewell's report, to all appearances, gives the postal telegraph scheme its practical quietus for this session but as the project is nevertheless likely to be brought up and discussed, it is, perhaps, well that the public sheald under-stand wherein it fails both in law and in expediency. If the government chooses to erect or acquire telegraph lines for its own use and benefit, it certainly has the right to do so; but that it should compel the people to employ only those lines, by legislating the great telegraphic corporations out of existence and securing to itself the monopoly, we decidedly disbelieve.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

Cable despatches from three of the American expeditions for the observation of the transit of Venus, respectively stationed in Japan, Siberia, and Tasmania, and from the from Vladivostock, reports that, as the planet advanced and touched the sun's limb, the moment was signaled with ac-After Venus had crept half way across the sun's disk, how ever, thirteen good negatives were secured, so that it will be possible to map the planet's track on the photographic image of the sun after the observers return home. Professor Davidson, at Nagasaki, was also troubled with cloudy weather. The first contact could not be recorded, but the time of the second one was obtained excellently. A large number of accurate measurements were secured, however, and sixty clear photographs. The astronomers of this party were remarkably fortunate, as almost immediately after the occurrence of the phenomenon the sky became thickly clouded.

Messages from the British parties to the Astronomer Royal state that at Thebes, Egypt, numerous fine photographs were taken; and at Cairo and Suez, the closing stages of the transit were viewed under favorable auspices. The reports from where else, virtually places all the people within the sound of upwards of one hundred negatives of the planet's position on were obtained with precision

Professor Harkness, from Hobart Town, Tasmania, announ-

Altogether the reports are encouraging, and point to generally fair success. The despatches of Professors Harkness and Hall are the most important, owing to their stations being far north and far south of the Equator, and hence giving the most trustworthy data.

In this connection we notice a letter, from Mr. Lewis M. Rutherford, to the Times, in which he recommends the use of a short telescope and enlargement of the image by the intervention of an enlarging lens between the objective and the a long telescope, some forty feet in length. Mr. Rutherford's then called Cornell aside, and told him that operations must open. The most important information, however, communigreat success in solar photography, as well as in the photobe stopped, but in such a manner that the public would not cated in Dr. Petermann's letter, lies in the extracts from re graphical record of the positions and aspect of other heavenly suppose that they had failed. Cornell at once grasped the ports by Captain Gray, of Peterhead. From observations had a specific point of the highest that they had failed. bodies, entitle his opinions to the highest consideration; and handles of his machine and started the eight mules by which made in 1868, this navigator concluded that no difficulty since his suggestion to the above effect has not been adopted it was drawn ahead at a lively pace. By an adroit turn of by our observers, the details of the results obtained by using the wrist when unobserved, he ran his plow point against a long telescopes will be looked for with interest. If there be any error or difficulties due to the latter cause, it would be a means by which the pipe laying could be continued. Subsematter of grave public regret that Mr. Rutherford's advice quent experimenting resulted in the success of the wire ele-

has published an interesting communication detailing telescopic observations of Venus, made from the observatory of the above institution just before the period of transit. When the planet arrived at a distance of only half the sun's diameter from the sun's limb, its appearance became no longer that of a crescent but of an entire ring of light, beautifully delicate, and brightest on the side toward the sun. It is only when the conjunction occurs very near the node that the his going dinnerless, planet can approach near enough to the sun to have the horizontal refraction of the planet's atmosphere, on the side tance of the invention, Mr. Cornell began to reap the returns opposite to the sun as seen from the earth, deflect the solar rays so as to bring them to the observer.

It is to be hoped that other astronomers have watched this interesting phenomenon; for beside its beauty and novelty, it affords, with proper measurements, the means of determining the refractive power of Venus' atmosphere, which would appear to be about one sixth greater than that of the earth.

THE PATENT OFFICE CLERKS.

We are informed by a Washington newspaper that the Commissioner of Patents is proposing to have the force in his office increased without increasing its expenses, by diminishing the pay of some of the old employees sufficiently to provide salaries for the new ones. We hope this statement untrue. That the present rate of compensation in the Patent Office is not too great is proved by the fact that it is insufficient to secure the desired permanency in official station therein. When a clerk has acquired the experience and skill that qualify him for the effectual discharge of his duties, he soon finds some more lucrative employment elsewhere. These situations are thus often regarded as stepping stones to the real business of life, and are vacated as soon as the in-cumbents have fitted themselves for usefulness therein. This state of things will grow worse the more the rate of compensation is diminished. As the higher grades of these clerkships require the highest order of talent and skill, they should be made the object of ultimate ambition and desire to those holding subordinate positions. These should not, therefore, be induced to seek more inviting situations elsewhere, in consequence of inadequacy of compensation here.

If, therefore, a larger number of employees is needed, let them be displayed and fully paid; if they are not needed, they ought not to be employed at any price. It is a false economy to fix the scale of official salaries so low that they will not command proper qualifications in their incumbents, and it is almost an equal mistake to cumber the rooms and halls of the Patent Office with those whose services are not needed. Let all be diligently employed and fully paid.

If we are not misinformed, there are already nearly or quite five hundred persons now on duty in the Patent Office. With proper regulations, and under a well arranged system of labor, we believe that this number is fully sufficient for all the business that will be brought before the Office for many years to come. The funds of the Patent Office have been contributed by the inventors of the world, and should be devoted to their benefit. It is due to them that this fund should not be wasted or needlessly expended. If it is now more than sufficient to meet the annual expenses of the Office, a diminution of the office fees would be a proper corrective; but it ought never to be squandered on a multitude of officials who are willing to serve on half pay.

EZRA CORNELL.

Just as the reports of the astronomers scattered over the remotest portions of the globe, telling of the observations of a great natural phenomenon, are flashing over the wires, the sad intelligence reaches us of the death of the man to whom, next to Morse, the world is indebted for the introduction of that grandest of modern inventions, the electric telegraph. The immediate associate and co-worker with the inventor, his firm adherent through all the dark hours preceding the triumphant success of the derided project, the name of Ezra Cornell will pass to posterity as indissolubly linked to the telegraph as to the noble university which remains a monument to his benevolence and philanthropy.

on January 11, 1807. His youth was spent working at the graphical Society, which is of timely interest in view of the by the New York Central for potter's trade with his father, but little opportunity being af- present fitting out of another English expedition to that unforded him to acquire more than the rudiments of a common known quarter of the globe. Dr. Petermann believes, from decrease of \$397,972.59 in earnings on freight. This looks school education. On attaining his majority and for fifteen the results already arrived at, that with appropriate steam more like practical cheap transportation than any project beyears thereafter, he was at times a workman in machine vessels, making use of the extensive experience gained, the fore the public, while it disposes of the charges of illiberality shops and at times engaged in agriculture, earning but a slender income. In 1843, he became acquainted with Morse, any other points. He also states that the disputed question the address to which we refer in our initial paragraph, goes and at once deeply interested himself in the plans of that inventor. At that period Morse was seeking a practicable way of laying his wires through underground pipes, and called in for accomplishing the work, which was successfully used details of the explorations conducted have not been made earnings to improve the read and carrying the balance over until it was decided to abandon the underground system in favor of the poles. It is related that this decision was not arrived at until two thirds of the Congressional appropriation, ninety degrees of longitude has been surveyed. Besides this, for constructing the experimental line between Baltimore it is now known that the Norwegians, in frail fishing smacks, and Washington, had been expended, and it was evident have circumnavigated Nova Zembia, and have proved that that the balance could not complete the undertaking. Morse the Kara and Siberian seas are for five months in the year lacings.

Professor C. S. Lyman, of the Sheffield Scientific School, and of his faithful friend to raise funds to extend their projects vated on poles, as is well known, but the labors of the inventor were none the less unremitting. So hard-pushed were they at one time that they opened a show of their instruments in a store on Broadway, asking a small admission fee; but the public failed to appreciate the chimerical scheme, and the revenue of the partners was very small. Cornell was almost, ice in 80° must have been broken up, by a swell from the penniless, entirely so at one period, as he afterwards stated north; beyond the pack to the north (which I could see over), that the lucky finding of a shilling in the street prevented

With the general recognition of the magnitude and imporfor his zeal in its behalf. He was employed in the construcion of many telegraph lines, through which means, together much question but that one or the other would ultimately with the increase in value of the shares of stock which he reach this open water near the pole, the existence of which owned in the Western Union line, he speedily amassed a large

The early part of his life is a lesson of frugality and perserverance; his closing days furnish a shining example of as pioneers, they lacked the completeness in organization and liberality and benevolence. He struggled until he attained wealth; but riches once gained, he abnegated self, and devoted them to the welfare of mankind. His first public act of philanthropy was the endowment of a public library in Ithaca, New York, on which he expended some fifty thousand dollars. Then followed the magnificent gift, first of \$500,000, then of two hundred acres of land with the necessary build ings, and finally smaller donations amounting to \$11,000, to found Cornell University, one of the few great educational institutions which aim to teach men to keep themselves, to send out skilled mechanics, graduates capable of earning their bread at once by their own work, not mere book-worms, as ignorant of the world as of how to make it support them.

Mr. Cornell for many years took an active part in politics, filling with honor several State legislative offices. He was also President of the State Agricultural Society, and was largely interested in many railroad, banking, and manufacturing companies. His fatal illness, which terminated on the 9th of December, was induced by overwork in business affairs.

WILL DO IT AFTER A FUNERAL.

It is now considered settled by the most eminent medical authorities that a large percentage of the sickness which pre-vails in cities, like New York, is due to the backing up of foul gases through sewer pipes into the apartments of dwell-Against these dreadful odors, the pipe traps commonly used offer but little protection.

There is a very sure and simple remedy, which at a slight cost might be applied in every house in New York; but which, we are sorry to say, is rarely put into use until after there has been a funeral in the family. In the case of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, in this city, it required several funerals before the parties could be induced to look to the sewers connected with the establishment.

The remedy we allude to is the connection of the house sewer pipes with the kitchen chimney, so that all gases that back up from the sewers will be carried up chimney and not into the house.

We have repeatedly called attention to the excellence of this remedy, have given engravings illustrative of the method of application, have cited instances of its application in other countries, have urged our architects to take special care in drawing up the specifications of new buildings to provide for these escape pipes. We now renew these reminders. Furthermore, we would respectfully ask the eminent and accomplished scientific gentleman who presides over the Board of Health in this city, whether, in his opinion, the introduction of escape pipes as suggested is not a desirable thing to accomplish, regarded from a sanitary point of view? If it is, are there any weighty reasons why the Board should not issue an order forthwith, requiring all landlords to put the pipes in? The Board, we believe, does not lack authority in the matter. It has only to speak the word, and it will be

THE LATEST POLAR EXPEDITION.

explorations of the arctic regions, to the British Royal Geo- Illinois lines. Finally the comparison of the business done as to the proper route is clearly settled in favor of passage into facts, figures, and an elaborate argument to prove that through Smith's Sound.

since 1865, seven small expeditions have been sent out. The public; but generally, from the interior of Greenland, in 30° W. longitude to 59° E, east of Spitzbergen, a width of about unfortunate for Mr. Thurber that actual figures demonstrate

would be found in carrying a vessel to the Pole by taking the ice at about the latitude of 75° (where generally exists a deep bight), sometimes running in a northwest direction upwards of 100 miles toward Shannon Island, thence following the continent of Greenland as long as it is found to sound in the desired direction, and afterward pushing northwards through the loose fields of ice which will be encountered. Captain Gray penetrated northward again during the past summer as far as 79° 45'. At that latitude, in August, the ice was broken up, whereas "down to 77°," he states, "the floes were lying whole in the sea, clearly showing that the there was a dark water sky, reaching north until lost in the distance, without a particle of ice to be seen in it.

If two thoroughly equipped steamers be despatched, one up the west coast of Greenland, by way of Smith Sound, and the other up the east coast of the same continent, there is not so many have credited. It has been the misfortune of late arctic expeditions that all have been projected on too small a scale; and although they have performed excellent service equipments necessary for the endurance of so long and arduous a voyage.

The preparations for the British expeditions, we understand, are already under way, and the command has been given to Captain George S. Nares, late of the Challenger. We may conclude, therefore, that the long-sought problem of reaching the pole is at length to be met by all the resources of engineering skill and scientific knowledge, in presence of which the solution cannot be far distant.

CHEAP FREIGHTS.

The American Cheap Transportation Association recently met at Richmond, Va., under the presidency of the Hon. Jo-siah Quincy, of Boston, Mass. Mr. F. B. Thurber read a report on railroads, in which he pointed out various abuses incident to the general management of lines in this country. Among these he mentioned watering stock, fast freight lines run by concerns outside the companies, the present palace, sleeping, and express car systems, and the fact of employees being pecuniarily interested in the use of certain materials The conclusions were that the most effectual and permanent remedy for the evils is competition, and that the most effective competition will be found in railroads when they are owned by the people. The improvement of water courses and the construction of small canals to connect large bodies of water is also necessary. An exclusive freight road, it is believed, from the grain-growing sections of the West to the seaboard, would demonstrate how cheap freight can be carried by rail; and as soon as this is ascertained, public opinion would soon compel existing roads to abolish the abuses which are absorbing the revenues of the present system.

It strikes us that any candid reader who peruses the columns of the daily journals and endeavors to master the intricacies of the strategic movements of the Pacific roads against the trunk lines, the Baltimore and Ohio against the New York Central, the Pacific Mail muddle, and the question of the Saratoga agreement, will arrive at no other conclusion but that there is plenty of competition, though the chances of cheaper freights are by no means so generally apparent. The recent completion of the Baltimore and Ohio direct road to Chicago is, it is said, destined to have considerable significance, in that negotiations are pending between its managers and those of the Eric line for a joint use, by the latter, of a portion of the former route, which would render Erie independent of Lake Shore. It appears, however, that, in spite of the pronounced benefits to be gained by the Baltimore and Ohio completion, the published rates of the New York Central are far less already han those of the first mentioned road. Mr. Vanderbilt's table of local freight tariffs, compared with that of the Baltimore road, shows rates averaging in the neighborhood of 40 per cent less for similar distances. For example : From South Branch to Baltimore, 162 miles, is charged 62 cents; from Schenectady to New York, 161 miles, the winter tariff is 50 and the summer 30 cents, all first class. Flour, per barrel, from Parkersburgh to Baltimore is \$1.30, 383 miles; from Buffalo to New York, 440 miles, 50 and 70 cents.

The Central besides gives special rates to any one. Dr. Augustus Petermann, the celebrated German geogra- comparison to the above shows that the tariffs on that road pher, has recently addressed a letter, on the subject of past are actually less than those asked by the Grangers on the the New York Central ought to and must charge a much Through the individual labors of Dr. Petermann, continued higher rate of freight, because it invests its earnings and issues stock representing the same, instead of using the exactly the reverse of his theoretic conclusions.

Eelskins dried and cut in strips make very strong bals

THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

NUMBER VI.

Continued from page 287.

Division number two of the work commences at 79th street, ends at 102d street, and is under the charge of Mr. Sverre 80th street, a distance of about 173 feet, is a piece of beam feet. The ventilation is by means of cylindrical shafts, in and abut against the ledge, hammered off to receive them.

inside of each of the side tunnels with brickwork I foot 4 large tapering tunnel. It consists of a brick segmental arch inches thick, thus giving to each abutment a thickness, inclusive of linings, of 15 feet 6 inches. Through each of these inner abutments are cut two man holes, 7 feet in width and 75 feet apart.

Lee, C.E. In this division is embraced a specimen of almost the central arch with a rise of 12 feet 6 inches and a span of ever possible. Throughout its entire length, it is lined up to every description of construction upon the road. From 79th 25 feet, and that of each of the side tunnels with a span of springing line with rubble masonry 5 feet thick. Wherever street to a point 27 feet 7½ inches south of the south side of 16 feet and rise of 8 feet, each with a uniform thickness of 2 it springs from the ledge, the skewbacks consist of two courses,

with rubble masonry 3 feet 6 inches in thickness, and on the the three tunnels. At the end of these tunnels begins the with a span of 68 feet in the clear, and rise of 15 feet 8 inches at the south end, and thence tapering off to a span of 50 feet in the clear and rise of 12 feet 9 inches at its north end, 165 feet further north. The springing lines of the arch are 12 The roofs of the tunnels are semi-circular arches: that of feet above railroad grade, and start from the solid ledge wher-



Fig. 15.-THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY IN NEW YORK.-THE GREAT ARCH NEAR 95th STREET.

tunnelling; from this latter point to 92d street extends a section of brick tuaneling, 3,237; feet in length; from 92d street to the north side of 94th street is the rock tunnel, 550 feet in length; from the north side of 94th street to a point 31 feet 6 inches north of the north side of 95th street is the partly rock and partly brick tunnel, 2874 feet long; from this latter point to the north side of 96th street is the tunnel known as the large tapering tunnel, whose length is 250 feet; from 96th street to the north side of 98th street, there occurs an open cut, 5371 feet in length; and finally from this point commences the stone viaduct.

We have in previous impressions described in detail sec-

tions of the beam and brick tupnel and open cut, and shall not, therefore, repeat the description in connection with similar work on this section, but merely point out in what respects, if in any, these tunnels differ from the one already described. The beam tunnel at the south end of the division is precisely similar to that on the first division. In the beam tunnel, however, which extends from south of 80th street to 92d street, several noticeable changes have been made. Thus from 80th to the center of 85th street, the roof of the large central tunnel is changed from a semi-circular to an elliptical arch, with a rise of 8 feet 10 inches, as is shown in Fig. 12, page 371. The reason for this change will be apparent by a glance at the profile of the road on page 208, which shows the difference of grades to be too small to admit of an arch of 12 feet 6 inches rise. Again, from the center of 85th street to the south side of 88th street, six rubble masonry abutments are built, so that each of the three arches rests upon two separate abutments of its own; the space between the two inside abutments, east and west (that is, between the abutment of the central arch and the inner abutment of the side arch), is filled in with dry rubble masonry up to the springing lines, and the spandrels above the springing lines with rubble cement ma sonry. The central arch is also elliptical. From 88th to 92d street, the tunnel is the same as that from 80th street to the center of 85th street. Omitting, for the present, the description of the rock tunnel from 92d to 94th street, we will take up that of the partly rock and partly brick tunnels.

These tunnels begin at the north side of 94th street, where the rock was not of sufficient strength and depth to allow of a rock tunnel, and consist of three brick arches supported upon four abutments of rock formed by three parallel cuttings through the rock. The two outside abutments are chipped off smooth, and lined with 16 inches of brick, car

grade. The two inner abutments are composed of rock, car-ried up above the springing lines, of an average thickness of shaped, tapering off from a thickness of 15 feet 6 inches at details being reproduced with rare perfection. The attempt

general character the same as those already described, but only 6 feet in diameter in the clear, and of a depth depending on the difference of grades.

From a point 101 feet 10 inches north of the end of the rock tunnel, the two side tunnels begin to curve in gradually toward the central tunnel, which they intersect 191 feet further north. The radius of this curve is, for the center of the tracks in each of the side tunnels, 1432.7 feet, and for the center of the tunnels themselves, 1772.7 feet. From the point where this curvature starts, the inner and outer abutments at the springing line and 2 feet 4 inches at the crown. It are lined, each of them, with rubble masonry 3 feet thick, coursed; the courses being not less than 16 inches, and the at the skewbacks between the two ends. This is of course

Fig. 16.-THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY IN NEW YORK. JUNCTION OF THE TUNNELS NEAR 95th STREET,

ried up to the springing lines, which are 8 feet 6 inches above | joints cut to lay 4 inch. Owing to the curving of the side All the lines of the pictures are of remarkable excellence, the 10 feet 8 inches, and lined on the inside of the central tunnel | the point of curvature to one of 5 feet at the intersection of is being made to secure pictures even larger than this.

The thickness of the arch varies at the springing line and at the crown, and these dimensions of the feet and rise 15. Thus at the south end where the span is 68 feet and rise 15. the crown, and these dimensions again vary with de span feet 8 inches, the thickness of the arch is 4 feet 4 inches at the springing lines; a little further up the arch, it is 4 feet; still further up, 3 feet 8 inches, and at the crown, 3 feet 4 inches, thus losing 1 foot in thickness from springing line to crown. At the north end, where the span is 50 feet and the rise 12 feet 9 inches, the arch is 3 feet 4 inches in thickness will be observed that the arch also loses I foot in thickness

> accomplished by a series of three offsets of 4 inches each, passing around the arch, all of which occur at the ventilating shafts. For instance, between the south end and the first ventilator, the arch at the crown is 3 feet 4 inches ; from the first to the second ventilator, 3 feet; from second to third 2 feet 8 inches, and from the third to the end of the tunnel, 2 feet 4 inches. The details of this tapering tunnel will perhaps be best understood by a glance at Fig. 15, which represents a cross section of the tapering tunnel taken at the junction of the two side tunnels with the central tunnel, and shows the three tunnels in question, as also the segmental arch with its varying thickness. It will be remembered that the tunnel preceding the tapering tunnel has a total hight from railroad grade to the crown of the arch of 21 feet, and that this tapering tunnel has a total hight in the clear of 27 feet 2 inches. The manner of joining these two tunnels is illustrated in Fig. 16. The roof of the central tunnel, which has elsewhere a thickness of 2 feet, is increased to 2 feet 8 inches for a distance of 5 feet around the face, and on the back of the arch at this point is built a rubble retaining wall, 7 feet 4 inches high, 3 feet at the bottom by 1 foot on a level with the back of the tapering tunnel. The back of the retaining wall is lined with concrete. The joining at the face of the two small tunnels is made in a precisely analogous way,

As this arch is one of unusual span, we shall take occasion in our next article to describe the centering on which it was surned.

Immense Photographs.

Photographs have been made of the new Opera House, Paris, 4 feet 3 inches in length, and 3 feet 4 inches in hight. They were obtained in one single piece, by well known processes, and with the aid of a large and specially constructed camera.

This is a new form of nail, the peculiar features in which are its screw, shank, and the head concave underneath and drew from his pocket one of these books, and began to make room, to be used as a laboratory and dressing room. provided with teeth. In using it, a hole is first bored in the marks to represent letters and figures to be produced by the room will thus have a total length of eighteen meters, or good as for an ordinary screw; the nail is then driven in by a hammer, when the teeth about the head will readily catch



in the surface of the adjacent wood. The nail thus secured can neither be turned nor withdrawn without destroying in various difficulties. But Mr. Morse was ready with a soluwhole or in part the fibers of the wood.

The invention will doubtless be of advantage in fastening packing cases for shipping, as, in addition to forming a strong connection, its removal, in case of any tampering with the contents, can be at once evidenced by the condition of the

Patented March 17, 1874, by Mr. Joseph Lowensohn, of Berlin, Prussia.

CONCEPTION OF THE TELEGRAPH.

The packet ship Sully, Captain Pell, sailed from Havre on the 1st day of October, 1832, for New York. Among the cabin passengers were the Hon. William C. Rives, of Virginia, returning with his family from Paris, where he had been as Minister of the United States; Mr. J. F. Fisher, of Philadelphia; Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston; Mr. S. F. B. Morse, of New York; Mrs. T. Palmer, Miss E. Palmer, Mr. C. Palmer, Mr. F. Palmer, Mr. W. Palmer, Mr. J. Haslett, Charleston, S. C.; Mr. Lewis Rogers, Virginia; Mr. W. Post, New York; Mr. Constable, New York; Mons. de la Cande, Mons. J. P. Chazel, Charleston; Mr. A. Scheidler, FACSIMILE OF THE ORIGINAL SKETCH, MADE BY MORSE, OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH—TAKEN FROM HIS NOTE BOOK.

In the early part of the voyage, conversation at the dinner table turned upon the recent discoveries in electro-magnetism, and the experiments of Ampère with the electro-magnet, Dr. Jackson spoke of the length of wire in the coil of a magnet, and the question was asked, by some one of the company, if the velocity of electricity was retarded by the length of the wire?" Dr. Jackson replied that electricity passes instantaneously over any known length of wire. He referred to experiments made by Dr. Franklin with several miles of wire in circuit, to ascertain the velocity of electricity the result the wire?" Dr. Jackson replied that electricity passes inin circuit, to ascertain the velocity of electricity, the result being that he could observe no difference of time between the touch at one extremity and the spark at the other. At this point Mr. Morse interposed the remarks. "If the presence of electricity can be made visible in any part of the circuit, I see no reason why intelligence may not be transmitted instanta-est respectability and intelligence, that on shipboard Mr. Morse had actually drawn out and recorded a system of signs, one new idea had taken complete possession of the mind of Mr. Morse. It was as sudden and pervading as if he had received at that moment an electric shock. He withdrew from the table and went on deck. He was in mid-ocean, undique valum, undique pontus. As the lightning cometh out of the had invented. The INVENTION was accomplished and an-East and shineth unto the West, so swift and far was the instrument to work that was taking shape in his creative

The purpose instantly formed absorbed his mind, and to its perfection his life from that moment was devoted. He therefore," says Mr. Wilson, in the Philadelphia Photograwas the man to do the work. His mind was eminently inven- pher, "the construction of the skylight has had even more tive and mechanical. In his early youth and riper manhood, he had sought out many inventions. His name had long been enrolled among inventors in the Patent Office of the United States. Patience, perseverance, and faith were hereditary traits of his character. He was now forty-one years and dust and rain on the outside. I have known of several

immortal, and conferred enduring benefit upon mankind, no

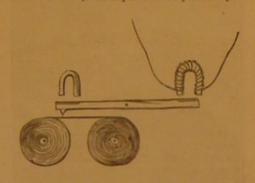
Magnet Lifting 40 lbs

Tubes for Wires. Telegraph ORIGINAL SKETCHES FROM MORSE'S NOTE-BOOK.

one was so completely grasped at its inception as this. His little note or scratch book was always at hand, in which he light, since it strikes the sitter at precisely an angle of 45°. made sketches of objects which met his eye, or of images The other part of the roof may be sloping both ways, the ships of all nations to be 5,244,888, of which 3,015,773 tuns formed in his mind. Scores of these books are now in exis proportions of the atelier and the glass sash remaining as belong to England.

As he sat upon the deck after the conversation at dinner, he set off of about ten feet in length on the whole width of the agency of electricity at a distance from the place of action. about twenty-three feet. First, he arranged ten dots and lines so as to represent figures referring to words. Next, he drew the wires in tubes. Then accommodate the sitter who cannot come to his atilier, the came the magnets, and by and by cog rules, to be used in regulating the power. In the course of a few days his book presented several pages of the first marks ever made in the invention of the Telegraph. [All of these drawings and marks are given in facsimile in the volume.]

He wrought incessantly that day, and sleep forsook him in his berth that night. His mind was on fire. In a few days he submitted these rough drafts to Mr. Rives, who suggested tion. Mr. Fisher states that Mr. Morse illustrated to him his signs for letters, to be indicated by a quick succession of strokes or shocks of the galvanic current, to be carried along the breakfast table, and explained the process by which he



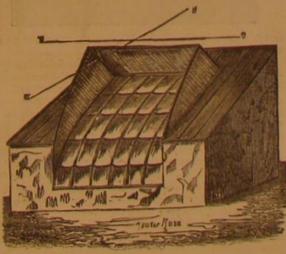
proposed to accomplish it. He then exhibited the drawing The professional photographer and the amateur will be henceof the instrument, by which he would do the work, and so forth able to work with advantage in the open air, and obtain completely had he mastered all the details that five years very fine negatives of portraits and landscapes, with a bagafterward, when a model of this instrument was constructed, age relatively light and easy of transportation. it was instantly recognized by Captain Pell and others, as the one he had devised and drawn in his sketch book, and exhib-

you hear of the telegraph, one of these days, as the wonder of the world, remember the discovery was made on board the good ship Sully.'

composed of a combination of dots and spaces, to indicate letters, figures, and words, and a mode of applying the electric or galvanic current so as to make these signs permanent upon paper, to be passed along in the instrument which he nounced ere the inventor set foot on his native shore.

FRENCH PHOTO SKYLIGHTS.

'In France they do not have as much sunshine as we; attention there than we give it. Every device is employed for securing a proper light, and a proper quantity of it, and for avoiding anything that may obstruct it. We all know cases where photographers have complained that their lights Of all the great inventions that have made their authors continued to work slower and slower, when, had they looked upon the outside, the guilty cause would have been very apparent. But, in a measure, to avoid that labor, the French use the plan made plain by the figure annexed. It is not without several advantages.



FRENCH PHOTO SKYLIGHT.

" It is similar to the ordinary construction, differing, however, in form. The sash is curved. The advantage of this arrangement is alluded to above, and to do away with the beam which absorbs the freest and is most actinic part of the

tence, in which his earlier and later pencilings are preserved ordinarily. At each end of the glass atolier a space may be

For the portrait photographer who is sometimes obliged to



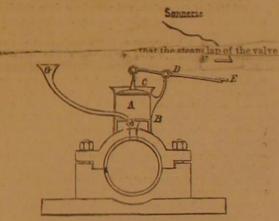
FRENCH PHOTO TENT.

annexed engraving of a tent, forming a posing room, will be found useful. The front faces the north in northern latitudes, and is turned, on the contrary, to the south in southern latitudes. Use a gray blue cloth background, which is about six feet wide by seven feet high. In travelling, it is rolled around the supporting pole; the top and the sides, forming curtains, are made of thin stuff, and held by rings to the rods of the framework, which are taken apart with great ease, to be packed into a very small compass

In this portable atčlier, excellent portraits may be obtained, and the time of posing is one half less than in a glass house.

A Hot Bearing Alarm.

This device, the diagram of which we extract from the



Revue Industrielle, consists in a cylindrical box, A, provided with a perforated bottom, B, and placed directly over the journal. The box is filled with a prepared grease which melts at a certain temperature, to which it must be raised by the shaft becoming hot. As the compound liquifies and escapes through the perforations, a disk, C, which rests thereon, descends, thereby tilting the lever, D, and so making contact between the plates, E and F. The latter are connected by an electric circuit with a bell which sounds when the current is established. The pipe, G, serves for the ordinary lubrication of the journal. It is suggested that this device might be profitably used upon journals not readily accessible.

The Shipping of the World.

The Repertorio Generale della Marina for 1874-75, recently published, gives some interesting statistics respecting the number of sailing ships belonging to the different nations in the world, with their tunnage. It may be remarked, how-ever, that the following only relate to seagoing ships, vessels ration not being included:

Nationality, N	o, of ships.	Tunnage.
British	20,538	5,383,763
American	6,869	2,181,659
Norwegian	4,464	1,349,138
Italian,	4,343	1,227,816
French	3,780	736,326
German	3,483	852,789
Spanish	2,674	509,767
Greek	2,063	406,937
Swedish	1,905	360,368
Russian,	1,498	330,350
Dutch	1,418	385,301
Danish	1,239	173,480
Austrian	955	827,742
Portuguese	410	92,808
Turkish	277	43,360
South American	219	89,761
Central American	138	46,580
Belgian	51	17,158
Asiatic		18,527
Watel	58 980	14 598 680

The same publication gives the total tunnage of the steam-

(International Review.) THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SUN,

> BY PROPESSOR C. A. YOUNG. Number II.

THE PHOTOSPHERE.

As to the nature of the photosphere, or visible surface of the sun, all the observable phenomena, with hardly an ex ception, concur in representing it as a sheet of luminous cloud: its peculiar granulated structure, the swift mobility of its constituent filaments, and the remarkable appearances, presented by the spots and faculæ, are all consistent with this idea and readily explained by it. And if, as is most likely, according to what has been said, the main body of the sun is in fact a huge globe of mingled vapors and gases at such a temperature that even the enormous force of solar gravity can only reduce them to a density a little greater than that of water, it is perfectly easy to account for the existence of such a cloud sheet: it is simply a necessary consequence of the cooling of these vapors at the outer surface of the globe, where they come in contact with the cold of space. Under such circumstances condensation must result, for just the same reasons and in the same manner as that which produces the water and snow clouds of our own atmosphere: minute drops or flakes must be formed, not of water and ice indeed, but of the materials which we know to exist upon the sun, and must descend in fiery rain and hail into the central depths to be again reëvaporated. And as the descending matter is continually replaced by fresh supplies from below, there must result a vertical circulation of ascending streams and jets of vapor contesting the supremacy with down-pouring cataracts and sheets of the products of condensation; and in consequence the upper surface of the cloud layer must be in a state of continual and intense disturbance, as observation

For it is found that the solar surface, when examined with a powerful telescope, is by no means uniformly bright, but mottled with a peculiar texture which has been very variously described, but may well enough be accounted for by supposing it to be formed of columnar clouds, floating vertically in the atmosphere of vapors out of which they are formed. Here and there the surface is marked by brilliant streaks known as the faculæ, most conspicuous near the edge of the sun's disk, which on account of the absorption of the solar atmosphere is much less brilliant than the center. They are simply photospheric clouds, whose summits rise above the general level of the surface, and sometimes form visible projections on the limb. But the most singular objects, and the most interesting, are the spots, whose origin and phenomena failed to receive any completely satis-

irregular form, and consist essentially of two parts, a central 'umbra," as it is called, surrounded by a lighter fringe known as the "penumbra." The umbra contains usually one or more rounded spots much darker than the rest, and known as "nuclei;" even the darkest nucleus, however, is dark only by contrast with the intenser light around; for when, by means of a peculiar eyepiece, invented by Mr. Dawes, who first discovered these nuclei, we examine the umbra, excluding all light from the surrounding regions, it is found that even the darkest points are far too bright for the unprotected eye; and by the help of Professor Langley's polarizing eyepiece the color is seen to be a purple tint, closely matching that portion of the spectrum near the fixed line, H.

That the spots are hollows, having a depth varying in different cases from two to ten thousand miles, may be considered as an established fact, admitted now almost without dissent. The spectrum of the umbra of a spot is found to differ from that of the neighboring portions of the solar surface, first, in a general darkening of the whole; second, in a widening and deepening of many of the dark lines, with, on the other hand, a thinning and sometimes even an actual reversal of others; and third, in the presence of certain dark bands, sharply terminated on one edge, but shading gradually on the other. Now all these phenomena are just what might be expected in a cavity filled to a great depth by the nearly transparent gases which elsewhere form a thin layer over the sun's surface

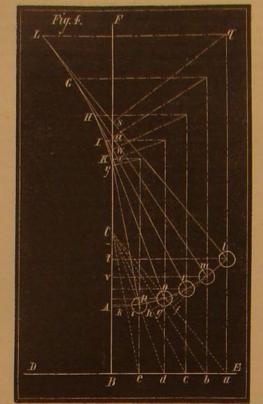
Spectroscopic observations on the chromosphere also show that around the spot there is an unusual and violent up-rush of hydrogen and other materials from the central depths.

There is a well marked periodicity in the frequency and violence of our magnetic storms and their accompanying au roras, which exactly corresponds to that of the solar spots.

----PENDULUM GOVERNORS.

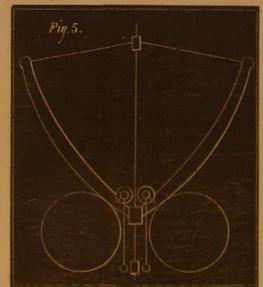
same, whatever their position, is said to be isochronous. In such a governor, the balls can only maintain the middle position, corresponding to the ordinary load on the engine, when the latter is at its proper speed, any change of speed causing to their points of attachment with the controlling mechanism. the governor to act upon the regulator in such a manner as to correct the variation at once, if sufficiently powerful. In order to fulfil this condition, the centers of the balls, as they these quantities together, and divide them by 2. change their positions, must describe arcs of parabolas, as illustrated in Fig. 4, the curve, $l m n o p \Lambda$, being a parabola. It will be seen that, as the ball changes its position, so does the point at which the center of the ball rod cuts the center of the spindle, so that the vertical hights from center of ball to these points are always the same. In this form of parabolic governor, the end of the governor rod is made of flexi- two governor balls. ble steel, and is hung to the end of a curved check, L G H I K, which is called the evolute of the parabola. The con- applying it to an example,

struction of the parabola and its evolute are shown in Fig. 4. The weight of balls, length of arms, and resistance to be overcome are first ascertained; and from these, the hight of the balls can be calculated when the engine is at speed. Then draw two lines, B F, D E, at right angles to each other.



Make B C equal to the calculated hights. From C, draw any number of lines, C e, C d, etc., to D E, and, at each point of intersection, erect a perpendicular to D E. From the middle point, k, of C c, draw a perpendicular to C c; the point, p, in which it meets the perpendicular through e, is one point of the parabola. Bisect each of the other lines, C d, c, etc., by perpendiculars, and the points in which these perpendiculars cut the perpendiculars drawn through d, c, etc., will be other points of the parabola. From each point so determined, as from l, draw a line, as l s, parallel to the line drawn through C, to determine the given point. From each point, as s, in which this line cuts BF, erect a perpendicular, as s q, and from the point in which it cuts the permits prective, as c q, through the given point of the parabola, draw a line, as L q, parallel to D E, till it meets the line, as l s, first drawn. In this way, points L, G, H, I, K, of the evolute of the parabola, are determined.

Another manner of making the balls move in parabolic



arcs is shown in Fig. 5, the balls sliding up along para bolic guides, as they change their position

It has been shown that the weight of the balls does not affect their position, if the governor has no resistance to overcome beyond the weight of its own parts. In practice, however, a governor acts upon the controlling mechanism, and should have its balls proportioned so as to exert the requisite force. The necessary weight is thus calculated: Measure the distance of the point of suspension of each ball from its center. If there is a sliding weight, measure also the distance A governor in which the hight of the balls is always the from its center to each point from which it is suspended. Ascertain the resistance of the controlling mechanism in pounds, and measure the length of the connections by which the governor overcomes this resistance, from their points of suspension

1. Multiply each weight or resistance by the length of its connection, and divide by the length of the ball rod; add

2. Assume the greatest speed of governor that will occur under variation of load on the engine, subtract the proper speed of governor from this number, and divide by proper 3. Divide the quantity obtained by the first part of the rule

This rule is somewhat complex, and it may be simplified by

The ball rods of a governor are each 12 inches in length; there is a weight of 30 pounds connected to the spindle by a lever 9 inches in length; the resistance of the controlling me chanism is 20 pounds, and the rods connecting this mechanism with the governor are each 11 inches long. The governor is connected with the engine so as to make 300 revolutions per minute when the engine is at speed, and the greatest number of revolutions per minute under variations of speed is to be 350. What is the proper weight for each ball?

1. Multiplying the weight on the spindle of 30 pounds by 9 and dividing by 12, we obtain 22.5 pounds as the equivalent weight, if its connection were of the same length as those of the balls. Similarly, the equivalent resistance of the controlling mechanism is 15 multiplied by 11 and divided by 12, or 2.5 pounds. The sum of these weights is 25 pounds; and dividing by 2, we obtain 12.5.

2. The difference between the greatest number of revolutions of the governor per minute and the proper number is 50, and this, divided by 300, is 0.167, nearly

3. Dividing 12.5 by 0.167, we obtain 74.85 + pounds, so that the weight of each ball should be about 37.5 pounds.

It will be evident, from what has preceded, that a pendulum governor which is very sensitive cannot be very powerful, nor one which is very powerful be very sensitive; and that, in order to obtain great power, it will be necessary to use very heavy balls. Our readers have, doubtless, observed that those governors which give the best satisfaction are arranged with a view to sensitiveness, the controlling mechanism being actuated by the application of a very slight force. It is probable that governors of any design will be subject to similar conditions, since a great resistance in general requires considerable force to overcome it.

We have been at great pains to simplify the rules contained in this article, and we think our readers, by applying them to a few examples, will readily understand them. The principles stated are of interest and value to all who are engaged in the construction of governors.

Correspondence.

The Patent Office Tea Set.

To the Editor of the Scientific American

In answer to your inquiry as to what has been done in reference to the illegal presentation to Commissioner Leggett, would say that it was stated on good authority that the Assistant Secretary submitted the question to the Attorney General for his opinion, and that it was finally concluded to drop the matter, and do nothing about it.

That it was a plain, open violation of the law is clear, and is admitted by the more honest of those who participated in it. The leading ones—those who headed the subscription and gave the most, some of whom are soon to come before the Senate for confirmation-fearing the effect of their illegal act, now seek to evade it by denying that they gave any thing. The ground on which they do this is that, although they subscribed, they did not pay their subscriptions until after the 1st of November, which was some time after the plate was purchased and presented. Possibly, in order to avoid the effect, they may not have paid it yet; but that the present Commissioner headed the list with \$50, and the Assistant Commissioner followed with \$25, or more, is not de nied, and cannot be, truthfully. This, to say the least, is a most cowardly and mean attempt to crawl out and leave blame to fall on the subordinates, nearly all of whom subscribed under compulsion: merely to retain the goodwill of those in authority, or to come in, and thereby to retain their places or secure promotion.

Again, they urge that they did not violate the law, because the subscription, although made early in October, was dated November 1, so as to have it appear that it took place after the Commissioner was out of office. This only makes the matter worse, because it shows on its face a knowledge of the law, and a deliberate attempt to evade its plain provisions.

Again: they urge that it was at best but a technical viola tion, because, although legally Leggett's resignation did not take effect until the 1st of November, still practically he was already out of office. The trouble with this is that it is not true, for not only did he remain until after the presentation (October 19, I think it was), but the Office records show that he acted as Commissioner and made decisions after that-at least so I am informed and believe. It has also been stated that this matter of the presentation originated with the lady employees. This is not true, and it is all the more unmanly for these parties to seek to shift the responsibility from their own shoulders to those of the women. A certain woman did at least carry out, the plan of presenting the cane; but the tea set presentation originated with, and was carried out by, the male employees. A certain examiner, who hoped and expected to be made Assistant Commissioner, was the main mover in the matter, and personally circulated the subscription paper.

Not only was the whole proceeding a palpable and wilful violation of the law, but they were so told at the time, by some who refused to subscribe, for that among other reasons. The whole matter, both in the transaction itself and in the neglect to enforce the penalty of the law by the Secretary, is but a fair illustration of the contempt for the law manifested of late by the Patent Office officials.

GREAT BRITAIN has formally accepted the invitation of by the second quantity. The result will be the weight of the United States to contribute to the Centennial.

> THERE is no mode so effectual to impress ideas on the mind as that of experiment aided by reflection

PRACTICAL MECHANISM.

BY JOSHUA BORE

In the experiment referred to in our last, the valve had (in the first instance, when it had no lap) one sixteenth inch of lead so as to give that amount of exhaust opening when the piston was at the end of the stroke. In the second instance, however, when the valve had $\frac{5}{16}$ of steam lap added to it, it was set so as to have not more than $\frac{1}{64}$ of lead, the author being convinced that, when a valve has sufficient lap to give a moderately free exhaust, there is more to be lost by back pressure from excessive lead than to be gained by the small amount of assistance it lends towards making the exhaust more free. If a valve has no lap at all, it may with advantage be given an amount of lead that would otherwise be decidedly detrimental. It would appear that, in the early days of steam engineering, one of the advantages due to adding lap to the valve (a free exhaust) was largely attributed of the average pressure of the steam upon the piston throughto the lead of the valve, since sufficient lap to cut off the steam supply when the piston has traveled three quarters or even more of its stroke will give a sufficiently free exhaust, even supposing that the valve has no lead at all.

Referring again to the advantage in economy due to using (or, as it is commonly called, working) the steam expansively, it is self-evident that, if we have steam at a gage pressure of 50 lbs. per inch, (that is, above the pressure of the atmosphere) and permit its escape at any pressure above that of the atmosphere, we shall not have extracted from it all the power it contains, because it may be used at the initial pressure of 50 lbs, per inch during a certain portion of the stroke, and, by then being permitted to expand itself before being exhausted, may be employed to perform duty as steam of 49. 48, 47, etc. lbs. per inch, and so on down to that point at which the indicating needle or hand of the steam gage will stand at zero, denoting that there is no longer any pressure in the steam. This last, however, is not actually the case, since the pressures marked on the gage are in each case 15 lbs. per inch less than the actual pressure of the steam when the needle stands at that point, which 15 lbs. serves in a high pressure engine to overcome the atmospheric pressure: which, in consequence of the exhaust port being open to the atmosphere, acts upon the exhaust side of the piston as back pressure, and therefore has to be overcome by an equal pressure of steam on the opposite side of the piston; so that, when a high pressure engine uses its steam expansively, so that it exhausts at the gage pressure of zero, it has extracted from the steam all the useful effect possible in such an engine, but at the same time not all the useful effect or power which the steam contains, as will be hereafter explained. This leads us naturally to another consideration, which is that, if steam be used expansively in a high pressure engine to an excessive extent, the result is an actual loss of power, because, if the steam on the one side of the piston is at a pressure less than the atmospheric pressure on the other, the latter acts of course as a retarding force to the advancing piston.

The steam passages between the valve seat and the cylinder bore, and the clearance between the piston (when it is at the end of its stroke) and the cylinder cover, are spaces which have each to be filled, during each revolution of the engine, with live steam; and if the engine is not worked expansively, this live steam escapes without giving any of its power to the engine, and is lost, except in so far as it was necessary to fill those spaces. If, however, the engine is worked expansively, the expansive force of such live steam is extracted from it and applied as useful effect upon the piston, the result being an appreciable gain in the economy of steam, especially in those engines which, by reason of having the valve seat in the center of the cylinder, have very long steam passages, not merely because of the length of such passages, but also because in such cases the steam port serves alternately as the exhaust port, and has therefore to be made of larger proportions than it would need to be if employed as a steam port only, since an exhaust port always requires to have a larger area than a steam port. Hence the content of such passages, together with the clearance before referred to, bears a large proportion to the whole contents of the cylinder; and to extract power from the steam contained in them, by utilizing its expansive force, is a considerable gain to the en-

From what has been already said, it will be perceived that a high pressure engine, to work to the greatest possible advantage and economy, should work its steam expansively to such a degree that it will be exhausted at zero of the pressure gage, or in other words at a pressure of 15 lbs. per inch, that being equal to the pressure of the atmosphere on the exhaust side of the piston. The point in the stroke at which it may be necessary to cut off the supply of steam to the cylinder, in order to effect such an amount of expansion, will vary according to the pressure of the initial steam and the length of the stroke of the engine, and must hence be determined according to those conditions.

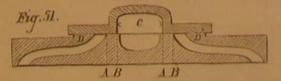
An approximate calculation, as to what extent the steam in a cylinder is working expansively and its pressure at the termination of each inch of piston stroke, may be made by making the whole distance the piston has moved (under both live and expansive steam) the denominator and the distance it has moved under expansive steam the numerator of a fraction, and then multiplying the initial pressure by the numerator and dividing by the denominator of the fraction; then subtract the quotient from the initial pressure, the last product being the pressure of the steam. Thus: Supposing the initial pressure of the steam admitted to a cylinder to be 60 lbs. per square inch, the length of the piston stroke to be 20 inches, and the of the steam lap; a slow running engine may have ex- scription bee," such as we remember in our early days, when supply of steam to the cylinder to be cut off by the valve haust lap to nearly three quarters of the amount of the all turned out, with oxen, horses, plows, and shovels to do up when the piston has traveled 5 inches of its stroke, what pres- steam lap. The reason of the difference is that, as the some good work with dispatch.

sure of steam will there be in the cylinder when the piston is exhaust lap retains the steam in the cylinder longer, it, to at the end of the tenth and twentieth inches of its stroke, re- that extent, cramps the exhaust; and as a quick running enspectively: Here the tenth inch of stroke —whole distance moved by the piston = 10, distance moved by the piston under expansive steam = 5, hence the fraction $\frac{5}{18}$; then the lap when the piston is at the end of its stroke. The objection to a valve having clearance is the open comparing the contraction of the c the tenth inch of its stroke.

moved by the piston under expansive steam 15 inches, hence tieth inch of the stroke or piston movement.

A review of the above calculations discloses that, as before too early exhaust, stated, the pressure of the steam has decreased in precise ratio to the increase of the space it occupied, that is to say, when the piston was at the end of its fifth inch of stroke (the steam | the two nearest together edges of the steam ports, so that (re supply being cut off) there was five inches of the length of the cylinder filled with steam at a pressure of 60 lbs. per inch; and when the piston was at the tenth inch of its stroke and while such a calculation is absolutely correct as applied to lap, the exhaust steam cannot freely escap any one definite point of the stroke (making no allowance for the steam in passages and clearance) it is not entirely correct in its results if we take a number of such points to obtain two thirds to three quarters of the stroke than at any other therefrom the actual average pressure of steam throughout point, because of the comparatively long stroke of the valve the stroke, for the following reason: Suppose we calculate (by the whole distance moved by piston = 6 inches, distance moved of the pressure of the steam on the back of the valve. There under expansion = 1 inch, therefore the fraction is \frac{1}{2}; then the initial pressure $=60 \times 1 = 60 \div 6 = 10$, then again initial pressure 60 -10=50= pressure of steam per inch upon the piston at the termination of its sixth inch of stroke. Now while 50 lbs. per inch accurately represents the pressure of steam upon the piston at the termination of its sixth inch of movement, it in nowise represents the average pressure of steam per inch during the whole inch of movement, because the piston commenced that inch of its movement or stroke under 60 lbs, pressure of steam per inch, and not until it had concluded that inch of movement was the pressure reduced to 50 lbs. per inch. Nor will it avail us to take the mean between the two, that is 55 lbs. per iuch, as the average pressure for that inch of movement; because, so long as we calculate the pressure at every inch of the stroke, we shall have the same discrepancy between the pressure at the beginning and at the end of the inch of movement, whether it be at the quarter inch of the piston movement; the more points taken, the more nearly correct will be the result obtained. It is, however, generally considered as sufficiently correct for practical purposes to take as many points as there are inches in the piston stroke.

With a common slide valve, it is not practicable to cut off. the steam supply to the cylinder sufficiently early in the stroke to effect so large a degree of expansion; because, in the hence the supply and exhaust of the steam to the cylinder first place, it would require the valve to have an excessive amount of steam lap, and the exhaust would take place too early in the stroke, thus causing the piston to travel a large proportion of the latter part of the stroke without having any pressure of steam behind it; and because in the second place, when there is the large amount of steam lap on the valve necessary to cut off earlier in the stroke than at two thirds (that is, carrying full steam two thirds of the stroke) the admission, expansion, and exhaust of the steam to, in, and from the cylinder becomes very irregular in the forward as compared to the backward stroke of the engine, which irregularity will be shown and treated upon in connection with the piston movement, steam supply, etc. To obviate the defect (above referred to) of a too early exhaust, the valve may have lap added to its exhaust side, that is to say, the exhaust port of the valve may be made narrower than the width be- ter) is double that required for the other; while if the port tween the two nearest together edges of the steam ports of area is larger than necessary, it causes a serious loss of steam



port of the valve and from A to B being the lap on the exhaust side. Such lap is, however, only possible when there is a good deal of lap on the steam side of the valve.

The amount of exhaust lap is at all times to be governed by the speed at which the engine is to run. A fast running engine, cutting off its steam supply at about one half stroke slide valve), may have exhaust lap to half the amount appeal to our friends to lend us a hand. Let us have a "sub-

lbs. pressure on the piston when it had arrived at the end of munication permitted between the steam and exhaust ports, the tenth inch of its stroke.

Again: Whole distance moved by piston = 20 inches, distance cant space of time, is a radical defect, especially when it is borne in mind that, as we have already shown, a slide valve should the fraction $\frac{1}{4}$; then the initial pressure of the steam 60×15 = 900 + 20 = 45; then initial pressure 60 - 45 = 15 = the pressure of the steam in pounds per inch at the end of the twengiven to it by the lead of the valve. Clearance, then, is an expedient which should never be resorted to, it being a By making such a calculation for every inch of the piston blunder applied merely to remedy a blunder. Clearance to movement and setting the figures in a column and adding a valve having much lap on its steam side is altogether inthem together, and dividing their sum total by the number of admissible, since it is not requisite to give a more free exinches in the stroke, we arrive at a tolerably accurate estimate haust, while it assists in letting the exhaust steam escape inherent in slide valves having much steam lap, which is a

A slide valve is sometimes given what is called clearance, that is to say, it is made wider in its exhaust port than are ferring to Fig. 51) the port, C, of the valve would overlap the steam ports to the amount of the clearance, giving to them both an open communication with the port, C, and the steam had expanded so as to occupy ten inches of the therefore with each other during the instant of time at which length of the cylinder, the pressure was reduced to 30 lbs. per the valve is in the center of its travel. Clearance on the exinch; and the same rule applies to the twentieth inch of haust side is therefore the very opposite of lap on the exstroke, for the steam then occupied four times the space it haust side of a valve. The object of clearance is to give did as live steam, and had therefore fallen to one fourth of the valve a more free exhaust, and it is therefore only reits original or initial pressure. It is to be noted, however, that sorted to in cases where, the valve having little or no steam

Common slide valves, however, work to better advantage when the lap is so proportioned as to cut off the steam at from (and hence large eccentric) necessary when much steam lap is the given rule) the pressure of the steam per inch upon the brought into requisition, and because of the large amount of piston when it had concluded its sixth inch of stroke. Here friction between the valve and cylinder faces in consequence are of course many devices for balancing such valves and some for reducing the pressure to a minimum, but none have as yet appeared whose benefits have proved such as to cause their general adoption for locomotives or small stationary engines, to which the application of the common slide valve is now almost universally confined.

To reduce the friction to a minimum, that part of the cylinder face upon which the face of the slide valve works may be raised above the general face upon which the steam chest beds, as is shown in Fig. 51, so that the steam lap of the valve may have the steam on the under as well as the outer side. and be to that extent relieved of the outer pressure. In such case, the width of the projecting faces (marked D in Fig. 51) should not be any wider than is the bridge (of the cylinder face) between the steam and exhaust ports; otherwise the wear of the face of the bridge will be the greatest and the valve seat of the cylinder face will wear hollow, the valve springing fifth, sixth, or seventh inch, or at 54, 64, or 74 inches of the (to fit such face) from the steam pressure on its back. Espestroke. To get a more nearly correct result, we must take a cially is this the case where a high pressure of steam is emgreater number of points in the stroke such as every half or ployed. It is not uncommon to cut away these faces leaving them full only around the edges of the ports, which cutting is performed by a slotting drill.

It is advantageous to make the steam ports long and narrow rather than short and wide, so that, when the valve commences to open, whether it be on the steam or exhaust side, a small amount of opening will present a comparatively large will be larger in proportion to the valve movement, and therefore more instantaneous. A long port will of course entail a broader valve surface, and hence increased pressure of the valve to its seat; but this is compensated for by the decrease in the stroke of the valve (and hence in the diameter and stroke of the eccentric) permissible with the long port.

The rule sometimes given by which to calculate the required area of a steam port is, say, for a fast running engine One eighth the area of the piston is the proper area of the steam port; the employment of such a rule, however, gives a result bearing no definite relation to the piston speed, and leaves a wide margin of difference, since either 300 or 600 feet of piston travel per minute is a fast running engine; whereas the amount of steam required to pass through the port for the one speed (supposing both pistons to be of equal diamethe cylinder face, as shown in Fig. 51, C being the exhaust whereas if it is too small, it wiredraws the steam and falls to supply steam at full pressure to the cylind ing rule, given by Mr. Bourne, appears to meet the exigencies of the case, by giving the port an area proportionate to the quantity of steam required to pass through it. The rule is; Multiply the area of the cylinder in square inches by the speed of the piston in feet per minute, and divide the product by 4,000; the quotient is the area of each steam port in square inches.

EVERY subscriber of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN ought to be an agent for the increase of its circulation. Whoever reads the paper can aid in this matter very materially by recom-(which is the extreme limit of expansion permissible with a mending it to his neighbors. In the absence of agents, we

TRYING-UP AND FOUR-CUTTER PLANING AND MOLDING MACHINE.

We illustrate herewith a new wood planing and molding machine introduced by Messrs. Wm. Furness & Co., of Liverpool, Eng., for the combined purposes of dimension planing, or trying-up, and planing on all four sides timber of any length, and up to a given width and thickness. The machine is shown adapted for trying-up or planing perfectly level and out of wind a piece or pieces of timber up to 20 feet long, 20 inches wide, and 16 inches thick. This is done in the orditimber traveling under the cutters at the desired rates of feed, | made, so as to render it suitable for the tools of over fifty

a quick return motion being provided for bringing back the table. The novel part of the machine consists in the feed works, which are here shown to be behind the table. These feed works are formed of four calender rollers powerfully geared, between which works the bottom cutter head driven from a countershaft fixed to the framing of the machine. The side cutter heads are in advance of the second pair of feed rollers, and are also part of the feed works. One side cutter head is a fixture, and the other is worked in or out on slides by means of a screw. It will thus be seen that the feed works comprise the feed rollers and necessary driving gear, bottom and side cutter heads, and pressure rollers, etc. The whole is carried by four grooved friction rollers, running on two turned rods supported by the framework of the machine and a bracket at the

When it is desired to use the feed works for tonguing and grooving, molding, or planing all four sides of the timber at once (says The Engineer, from which we select the engraving), the table of the machine is run forward till the end is almost under the

across the framework of the machine. It fixes itself in V slides; and the bands for bottom and side cutter heads having been placed on their respective pulleys-which are fixed on the ends of the spindles, so that no lacing or fastening is required-the machine is ready for work. It will work any size of timber up to 4 inches thick and 12 inches wide. By the removal of the side cutter heads, which is a very simple operation, surfacing or panel planing can be done by the top cutter head alone up to 20 inches wide. A very important feature of the machine is the rapidity with which the feed works can be removed when the machine is required for trying-up purposes, about five minutes being required. A great advantage, and worthy of attention, in this combination of two efficient machines is that they only occupy the same space as one machine, and only require one pulley upon the shaft of the mill to drive them.

NEW MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION FOR COMPOUND TOOLS.

construction for scissors, pliers, shears, and other tools of similar nature, which is an invention of considerable utility and merit, and which will doubtless commend itself as a valuable addition to the kit of every mechanic. In using implements with pivoted jaws, a large percentage of the power is wasted in useless strain on the pivot. In the present device, the pivot is abolished, and the jaws are so arranged as to be forced together by a powerful cam lever. To add to the utility of the tool, these jaws are made interchangeable, so that a single stock may answer for saw gummers, pliers, shears, saw set, pincers, and a multiplicity of other implements.

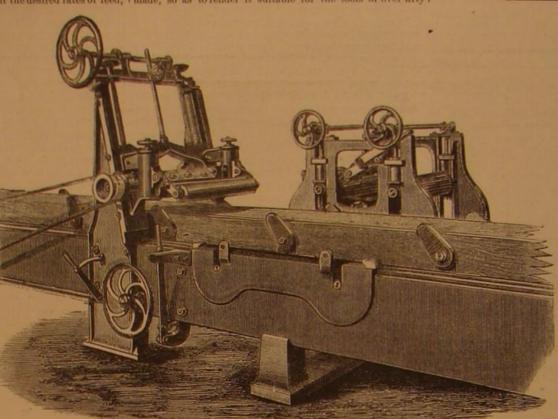
Referring to the engraving, Fig. 1, A isthe stock, B B' the handles, C C' the operating jaws, and D, a spring for opening the latter. The stock is recessed to form two side pieces shanks of the jaws are pl voted at c and b. The upper jaw, C', Fig. 4, has a long shank which is recessed near its head to receive the cam, B', which is formed on the handle, B'. The end of the shank of the under jaw, C, which is pivoted, as stated, at c, impinges against the shank of the upper jaw. The cam lever handle, B', is pivoted at a.

When the handle, B', is brought toward the stock handle, the cam on the former presses against the shank of the upper jaw. From this last, motion is communicated to the un-

versing the handle, B', a more powerful leverage may be brought to bear on the jaws. The cutting edges are thus Further particulars and descrip the material apart, as is frequently the case in pivoted cutting tools. There is therefore less strain on the jaws, and [N. Y]

they are consequently more durable. A recess is provided through the jaw, C, through which bolts or wires to be cut may extend, so that a bar of any length may be divided squarely at any desired point. Each jaw is tempered separately, thereby giving to both an improved temper, unattainable in the ordinarily constructed implement. Finally, the jaws are easily adjustable, so that in case of injury they may be readily removed and others substituted, or, as above stated, tools for a different purpose may be inserted.

nary way by revolving horizontal cutters, driven by two invention, by Peter Broadbooks, of Batavia, N. Y., Novem- variety of valuable archæological relics were found in the new bands, one on each side of the machine, the table with the ber 18, 1873, important adaptations of the system have been



TRYING-UP AND FOUR-CUTTER PLANING AND MOLDING MACHINE.

top cutter head, when the feed works can be easily drawn classes of m echanics, including, among others, tongs, presses, bolt cutters, pruning shears, punches, pipe wrenches, and horse shoe nail clinchers. The construction of the implement last mentioned is shown in Fig. 2. The arrange ment of parts is the same as in Fig. 1, except that the jaws are shaped differently and are provided with serrated faces. The jaw operated by the cam lever goes under the hoof, and the angle of the latter enters the curved portion between the jaws. The corrugated face of the upper jaw, therefore, takes against the incline of the hoof, and, as it is rubbed down the same by forcing the handles together, the corrugations catch against and clinch the nails. This is done quickly and without injury to the hoof, thus saving to the animal a large amount of the suffering often caused by the usual mode of clinching.

We have tested various sizes of pliers constructed after the plan described, and find that they cut nails and spikes with great facility, one little instrument, no larger than a conductor's punch, biting off shingle nails as easily as if they were We have lately had brought to our notice an entirely novel pins. The device is excellently suited for saw gummers.

New Discoveries in the Mammoth Cave,

Professor F. W. Putnam, of the Peabody Academy of Sci ces, Salem, Mass., has recently explored the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky, and has visited several caverns never be fore entered. His investigations have resulted in finding colored fish without eyes, thus exploding the theory hither. to held that all eyeless fish are colorless. White fish with eyes, and crayfish both with and without those organs, were obtained, presenting many new features of great interest to We are informed that, since the date of the patent of the naturalists. Skeletons of human beings, mounds, and a large chambers.

Cheap Telegraphy.

President Orton's report the affairs of the Western Union Telegraph Company is not calculated to inspire much hope in those who believe that the government can run the lines at cheaper rates to the public. On the 1st of January, 1873, a reduction of more than fifty per cent was made in the maximum tariff between the most remote points on the company's lines. This, though occasioning a temporary loss of revenue, has resulted, during the last few months, in a large increase. The reduction was from \$7.50 and \$5 to \$2.50. President Orton now adds that, owing to Messrs. Edison's and Prescott's quadruplex apparatus, which is, at the present time, working successfully between Chicago and New York. and by which two messages are sent in the same direction and two more in the opposite direction simultaneously on a single wire, he believes it practicable before long to cut rates down still lower, and ultimately to establish but four rates for day messages, namely, twenty-five, fifty, seventy-five cents, and one dollar, with half charges (except for the lowest) for night

Decline of City Trades' Unions.

The repeated strikes, and the suffering caused thereby to the workmen participating, are at last beginning to open the eyes of the latter to the evils of trade union rule. It appears that the unions in this city since 1873, taken as a whole, have lost fully one fifth of their members—aggregating 9,000 men. As a rule, these people have found employment, and doubtless now perceive the advantage of steady work, even at lower wages, over starving in idleness in the hope of getting ultimately a few dollars more. Some societies have suffered in a remarkable degree, notably the painters and coopers, which have lost respectively fifty and forty per cent of their members. The building trades show a decline of twenty-five per cent; the shoemakers, twenty per cent, and the cigar makers, thirty per cent. The horseshoers, tailors, hatters and 'longshoremen maintain their strength, though the numbers of the latter bid fair to be much depleted through the recent difficulties with the shipowners

The Highest Lake in the United States.

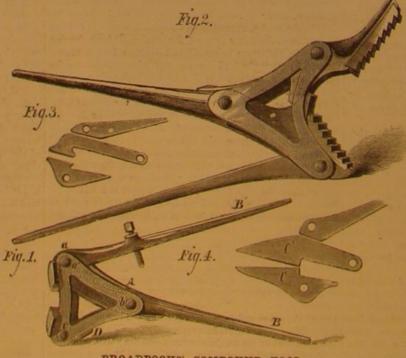
Dr. Harkness has discovered, in Plumas county, California, a body of water, probably the most elevated in the United States, the barometer registering a hight of 7,380 feet above the sea level.

The lake is of triangular shape, having its longest diameter about one mile and three quarters in length. The water during last August was intensely cold and of a deep blue color. The outlet is into Warner Valley, over a declivity of some 2,000 feet. The California Academy of Sciences has named the lake, after its discoverer, Lake Harkness.

Ignorance and Crime.

We doubt if more striking evidence of the necessity of compulsory education laws and the provision of means for their rigi ment could be found than appears in a suggestive fact in the pages of a recent report of the National Prison Association. This volume, which is filled with copious statistics of prisons and convicts in this country, deals incidentally with the causes of crime, making its deduc tions from the various prison reports of the mental and social condition of the incarcerated Ignorance is proved to be the worst evil with which a community must struggle. Fortyeight per cent of all the convicts in the United

the aggregate have acquired a superior education. We trust that the enforcement of the compulsory laws already en forced together square and true, not overlapping so as to tear tained by addressing Messrs. S. P. Allen & Co., care of acted in some of the States, will soon justify the wisdom Pollock, Weaver & Co., 17 West Main street, Rochester, that prompted them, and lead to an improvement in the average education of the lower classes.



BROADBOOKS' COMPOUND TOOL

der jaw, so that each is made to approach the other. By re- | The adaptation of the invention as a hand vise is shown in | States can neither read nor write, and only one per cent of

Further particulars and descriptive circulars may be ob-

IRON-FRAMED THRASHING MACHINES.

We illustrate herewith an iron-framed thrashing machine, the manufacture of which has been made a specialty by Messrs. Marshall, Sons & Co., of Gainsborough, England, who have turned out, according to Engineering, a large num-ber of these machines. Fig. 1 is a side elevation, which shows the framing, stiffened around the edges, and at intervals in the length by plates. It also shows the arrangement of the pulleys for driving the drum, shakers, fan, etc. The other view is of a longitudinal section through the center of the machine, and shows clearly the arrangement of drum, shakers, shoes, barley awners, and fan. The engravings ex-

and use more metal in the construction of frames for thresh- obtained. If the surface is very large in proportion to the ing and similar machines.

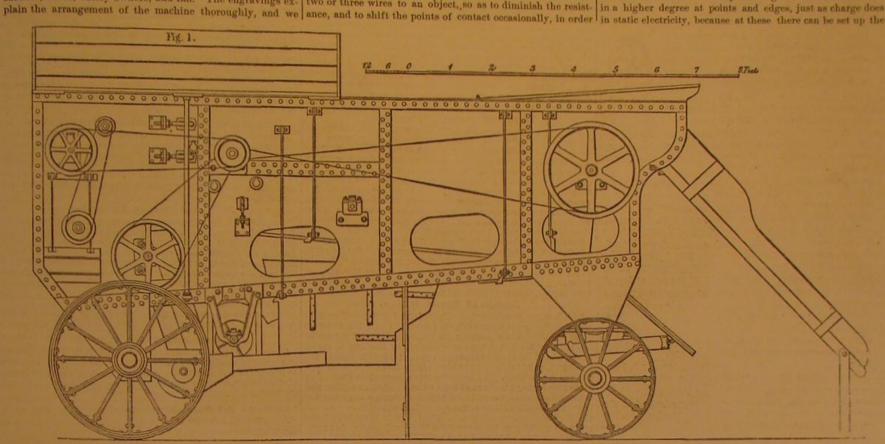
[The Telegraphic Journal.] ELECTRO-DEPOSITION OF METALS,

BY J. T. SPRAGUE.

[Concluded from page 303,]

The connecting wires should be secured to the objects while under water, unless, which is much better, they can be soldered on before cleaning; it is usually better to have two or three wires to an object, so as to diminish the resist-

current, the deposit will form in separate crystaline granules, chiefly on the edges and corners, and a deposit formed under these circumstances will develop into a series of nodules capable of easy separation from each other. If the surface is small compared to the current, the deposit will be of a brown color, and have no coherence; this state, also, will begin to show itself first at edges and corners; there the deposit may be quite friable, while a good metal is forming at the middle of the plate. The principles of liquid conduction account for these effects by showing that the current acts

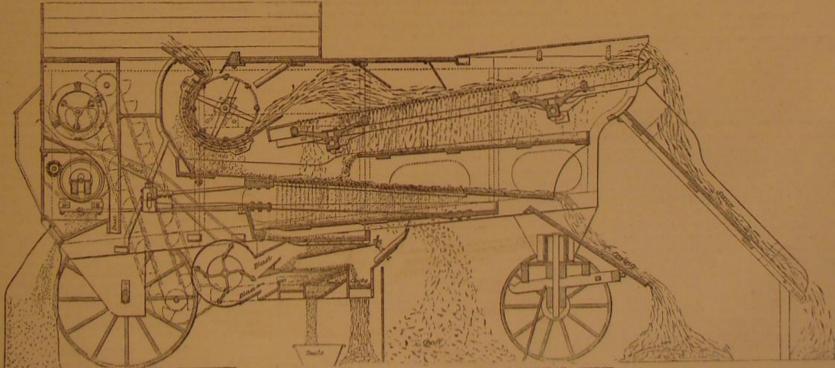


MARSHALL & CO.'S IRON-FRAMED THRASHING MACHINE.

confine ourselves to the special features of this machine, actual contact by short pieces of fine wire attached to a larger other than the iron framework mentioned above. The drum conductor not in contact with the object. The general prin-spindle is of steel, and the rings placed upon it are slotted ciple to be kept in view is to make the resistance of these out, as shown in our second engraving, to receive a number connecting arrangements as small as possible, and yet to of iron bars, to which the beater plates are attached, this avoid anything which shall interfere with the contact of the arrangement being found preferable to introducing wood be- liquid and its free circulation over every part of the surface neath the beaters. The concave at the back of the drum is to be coated.

need not, therefore, attempt any detailed description, but to avoid furrows upon the face; it is better also to make the most numerous lines of polarisation towards the opposing surface. We learn, in fact, that there are two sets of conditions to be attended to.

The first point is the strength of solution. If we pass a strong current in a weak solution we get the brown powder; if, without altering any other condition, we add saturated solution of the metal, the deposit may become good. In every solution there are several different ions present at the elec-



IRON-FRAMED THRASHING MACHINE-SECTIONAL VIEW

entirely of wrought iron. The shakers consist of four boxes, the straw platforms being arranged as shown. They are actuated by two crankshafts, one at each end, connected with the shakers by brackets. The cranks are provided with to which the deposit is exposed. Color also depends, in tact with the hydrogen of the water or acid; the conditions long bearings, and a collar at each end, over which the top great degree, upon the molecular condition of the surface; bearing block overlaps, to keep out the dirt. The reciprocat- for instance, gold in very thin films has a greenish tint, owing ing dressing shoes are hung on spring rods, as shown, and are worked by a crankshaft similar to those for the shakers. The whole of the blast employed in the machine is taken from one fan, shown in the second engraving, one part being taken under the riddle of the main dressing shoe, and the other thrown upwards to act on the corn as it passes from the cleaner to the screen. The elevators are entirely within up the conditions upon which good deposit depends. the machine, and lift the grain from the reservoir. We may add that a thrashing machine of this type was exhibited by Messrs. Marshall & Co., at Vienna. And we would also state would do well to take the hint from the English builders ually diminished area, a series of instructive results will be has been reached, sufficient to supply the requisite specific

According to the conditions we set up will be the nature of | trodes; thus, in the case in point, with a weak solution, only the metal deposited: that is to say, its molecular condition as to cohesion, etc., will depend upon the relations of force to the light reflected through it; in a very finely divided state, as when chemically precipitated, it is a dark brown; in its ordinary condition, also, the presence of very small quantities of copper and silver greatly modifies the color. To secure deposits of good quality and appearance, therefore, it equivalent to, of course H2 is set free, and this will reduce a is desirable to ascertain those relations of energy which set

If we pass a strong current into a weak solution of copper, the metal deposited will be pulverulent, if, by means of reinto a solution, but effect the deposit upon a surface of grad-

a small part of the cathode can have copper turned towards it; by far the greater portion of its surface must be in con-

HO CuSO, H,O H,SO

Now, if the current (or quantity) is larger than the Cu is neighboring atom of copper, but not in contact with the electrode; that is to say, the deposit will consist of detached molecules, and most likely of a compound of copper and hydrogen. This would not occur if the current also were weak, eistances and varying battery power, we pass a fixed current because a weak current means a low tension at the electrode, and hydrogen can be set free only when a certain tension energy; besides, the alow current would be able to find sufflcopper in even a very dilute solution

It is obvious, therefore, that solutions should be sufficiently supplied with metal for all likely requirements, and the stronger they are the more rapidly they are to be worked.

The other point to be studied is the relation of the current to the solution and to the work, and this the most important, different objects. We have seen that there is a point so near balance that the extra strength of current concentrated on the edges destroys the coherence of the deposit. Now, if we arrange several vessels in series, all alike except in the difference in the area of the cathode in each, and connect them to a battery, we can produce such a condition of things that, by the same current and from the same solution, and with the same size of anode, we shall obtain every gradation of deposit, from brown loose powder to single hard crystals. Here, then, we find a relation between the quantity, or current, and the area over which it is distributed—a relation which is rarely pointed out with the definiteness required, for this is the fundamental condition of good working. Of course this is because it is under control and is constantly varying with different objects. We have seen that there is a point so near fundamental condition of good working. Of course this is practically known, or there could be no success in depositing, but the principle can only be understood by a distinct conception of measurement and of the molecular relations of

This relation we may examine under the name of density of current, for which also we require a unit; this is conveniently furnished by the chemic unit of current and square inch of surface. We must therefore ascertain, by experiment, for any given solution, the range of density of cur-rent which gives good work. Such an experiment is made by using a cathode of a fixed area, so that by varying the battery power we can examine the different quality of deposit produced. Having thus ascertained the rate of deposit idapted to the solution, the density of current can be controlled by similar means in actual working, so as to secure the conditions of good working and the rate and quality of deposit we desire

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United States Circuit Court .-- Northern District of Ohio.

LOVER SEED MACHINE PATENT, —JOHN C. BIRDSRLL 58. A. NCDONALD of JOHN C. BIRDSRLL 68. THE ABILLAND MACHINE COMPANY of al.

[April term, 1974.]

s agree as to the state of the art down to the period of the alleged

can only be impeached for fraud by a bill in equity brought

George Willey and George His, for defendants.)

Becent American and Foreign Latents.

Improved Sash Balance.

Rewlon J. Staggs, Talladega, Ala.—By suitable construction a cord is pressed and clamped against the side bar of the sash by the downward movement of the block into the cavity of a plate. The block is raised to release the cord by means of a knob, the stem of which passes in through a vertical slot in the angle of the plate, and is

Improved Holding Jack for Wagon Bodies,

William R. Crane, Stony Creek, Mich.—This invention consists of a couple of rests for the support of a wagon body, mounted on a horizontal support, one being jointed and the other attached to it. Said support is mounted on the top of a standard, in which it is capable of turning on its axis. The standard turns on its axis, so that the box may be turned and shifted about, and presented and held in various positions for the convenience of the workmen in dressing, and painting it.

Improved Gate Hinge.

Stephen G. Peabody, Champaign, Ill., assignor to himself and Lyman D., Chaddon, same place.—This is a hinge for gates, heavy doors, etc., so constructed as to prevent water from entering about the pintle, and also self-closing. Concentric cups are formed upon the adjacent which causes the hinge. In one cup is placed a colled spring, and painting it.

Improved Adjustable Dead Pulley.

Improved Rotary Evaporator.

Improved Rotary Evaporator.

Adrien Queru, Marlborough, N. Y.—The tubular arms of a revolving carrier support heating pipes, which are arranged parallel with the shaft, so that the water will flow back to the hollow hub. They are arranged also in clusters, by connecting them at each end to a hollow ring. Partitions in the hubs and hollow axle prevent the water of condensation from running back into the lower portions of the hubs; they also separate the steam on entering the pipes. The water will in this arrangement escape directly from the heating pipes by gravity, and thus offer no obstruction to the entrance of the steam; but it will not escape until the pipes rise above the horizontal plane of the axis, so that the partitions will keep it from falling to the bottom of the bubs, and will cause it to flow out at the escape side through the hollow shaft. By the separation of the hub into which the steam enters, the steam is divided and applied equally to all parts of the evaporator. The steam enters at one side, and the water escapes at the other. This apparatus is applicable to use in vacuum pans, both as a heater and agitator.

Improved Truss Bridge.

Improved Truss Bridge.

Improved Truss Bridge.

John L. Miner, Brenham, Tex.—The object of this invention is to provide a strong and cheap bridge of improved form. The stringers which are bolted to the pier caps are formed by bolting two parallel beams to each other. They are connected by two sets of zigzag braces, placed the one set at the upper part, and the other set at the lower part, of said stringers, the braces of the two sets crossing each other at their centers. The two stringers are secured to each other by tie rods having a washer and head at one end and a washer and nut at the other end, the said tie rods passing through the space between the two sets of braces. The side walls of the bridge are formed of wall plates, braces, and tie rods. The cap plate is made in three parts, the central part being parallel with the stringers, and at a distance above them of fifteen feet or more. The end parts of the cap plates are inclined, and extend to the ends of and are bolted to the said stringers. The tie rods are vertical, pass through the stringers and through the cap plates, near the upper ends of the braces, and have washers and heads upon their lower ends, and washers and nuts upon their upper ends. The girders are attached to the stringers, and, in connection with the joists, support the planks that form the road bed.

Improved Illuminating Roof Plate.

Improved Illuminating Roof Plate.

News Agents will be supplied with the Special Edition by the American News Company at the same price as the regular issue; and, in ordering, they should be careful to state Special Edition.

DECISIONS OF THE COURTS.

William L. Smith, Jr., P. O. Box 81, Brooklyn, N. Y.—This illuminating tile is made of malleable metal, so as to make it lighter and less liable to break than when made of cast iron. Holes are formed in a metal sheet with collars in it of a size to suit the glass. Another sheet is added, in which holes are made of a size to prevent the glass from falling through, thus forming scats for the glass to rest upon. The holes in the two sheets are punched, so as to correspond with each other in position, and the two sheets are fastened together.

Improved Hoe.

William Moore Faunt Le Roy, Fredericksburg, Va.—This invention consists in making the handle adjustable with regard to the blade to suit the various purposes for which hoes of various kinds, as well as

Improved Wagon Jack.

Frank Judson, Des Arc, Ark.—For operating the jack, a lever is raised as far as it will allow, and a catch is placed as far out on the rack of the lever as possible. The lever is then pressed downward to raise the center post. A pin is placed through the lowest visible hole above the upper part of the standard for sustaining the weight thereon, and the operation of raising the center post is then repeated until the wagon or other object to be hoisted is at the required hight.

Cutting Block Holder for Leather Workers.

Elias P. Newton and Hiram A. Titus, Gloversville, N. Y.—This cut-ting block holder has adjustable ends provided with pendent exten-sions and connected by screw rods at top and bottom to provide for longitudinal adjustment.

Improved Weighing Scales.

Henry M. Weaver, Mansfield, O.—These weighing scales may be so adjusted that the net weight of any article placed on the platform may be directly read off at the dial plate. By the position of the weight, a portion of the same is thrown above a horizontal line drawn to connect the pivoted points or edges of swinging bars, so that, by rising above the line, it proportionally loses its power as a counter weight, and causes a pointer to describe equal distances, on a dial plate, when equally increased weights are placed upon the plat-

Improved Grate.

Jonathan Moore, Jr., Brooklyn, N.Y., assignor to himself and Lorenzo D. Longhi, same place.—The bottom portion of the grate is made in two parts, one being a door to which the other part is a frame. A button on the under side of the frame swings under the without the aid of a lever, the button being readily turned by th ch have been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not be not been abandoned after being experimented upon do not be not be

Improved Horse Detacher.

Anatole Ehret, Telegraph City, Cal.—The traces have loops by which they are hitched to hinged bolts at the ends of the singletrees. A spring catch is thrown by a spring in front of the hinged bolt, to hold the bolt in position for confining the trace. The spring catches are connected with sway bars by chains. When a lever is pushed outward, the effect is to draw back the spring catches, which detaches

Improved Soldering Machine.

Improved Soldering Machine.

William D. Brooks, Baltimore, Md.—This invention relates to that class of soldering machines which inject a flame upon can joints, so as to melt the solder and allow it to be uniformly disseminated along the seam, whether it be in soldering the cap, top, or side seam. The invention consists in connecting the reach to the front running gear by means of a tube through which the king bolt passes. The tube is secured to the axie independently, and thus relieves the king bolt of strain.

Improved Soldering Machine.

William D. Brooks, Baltimore, Md.—This invention relates to that class of soldering machines which inject a flame upon can joints, so as to melt the solder and allow it to be uniformly disseminated along the seam, whether it be in soldering the cap, top, or side seam. The invention consists in providing, on a burner end or gas outlet of the compound blowpipe, a continuous slot or opening, so that all parts of trucks which are intended for narrow gage roads, and which are through which the king bolt of strain.

Charles Bilimeyer, York, Pa.—This invention relates to that class of the seam may simultaneously receive the same quantum of heat in the cloth below the same.

Improved Car Axle Box Support.

Charles Bilimeyer, York, Pa.—This invention relates to that class of trucks which are intended for narrow gage roads, and which are independently, and thus relieves the king bolt of strain.

Improved Gate Hinge.

Improved Apparatus for Making Extracts,

Improved Apparatus for Making Extracts.

Julius Robert, Gross Sclowitz, Austria, assignor to Otto Kratz and R. Sieg, New Orleans, La.—This is an improved arrangement of extractors in a single battery, together with conducting and connecting pipes and heaters, for making extracts of juice from plants, by the process of diffusion, as described in the patent granted to the same inventor, October 30, 1896. The plants are first cut into this slices and piaced in extractors, together with water, and allowed to stand for a short time, when the juice is replaced by other juices of less strength than the remaining juice in the cells of the plants, and so on, until all the juice is extracted. The thick juice is drawn off to the factory, for the subsequent treatment; while the thin juices are passed through the heaters for being warmed, to be used for other diffusions, until made thick enough to be conducted away. By suitable arrangement of pipes and connections, the operation is carried on continuously and in succession in all the different stages without interference of one with another. terference of one with another.

Improved Guide Wheel for Car Trucks.

Nathan M. Hale, Cleburne, Texas.—This invention consists in supporting horizontal wheels that run under the flanges of a central T rail on springs, the elasticity of which allows the wheels to rise and pass any obstacle without stopping the car or injuring the track. This allows the wheels to be fastened to the cow catcher, and renders unnecessary the elevation of the main rails to an equality with the

Improved Double Cultivator.

Improved Bouble Cultivator.

James M. Holladay, Twyman's Store, Va.—This invention relairs to certain improvements in double cultivators. It consists in the peculiar construction of devices for adjusting the tongue or pole from the rear for the purpose of adapting the implement to hillside cutivation, and also in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the parts of a traction frame, so jointed and attached to the carriage as to admit of the cultivator proper being lifted from the ground and suspended about the axle for the purpose of transportation. It consists, further, in the manner of pivoting the traction frames so as to adjust the cultivator laterally to the irregularities of the row, and to deep or shallow cultivation. deep or shallow cultivation.

Improved Paint Brush.

Etienne X. Thiercelin, Shark River, N. J.—This invention consists of a tapering handle with metallic socket, connected by guide strips or prongs of the same with the top and side part of the outer bristic binding socket, after the handle has been carried centrally through the bristles to strengthen it and make it more durable

Machine for Smoothing and Cornering Panels.

Machine for Smoothing and Cornering Panels.

Jacob P. Beck and John H. Weaver, Lock Haven, Pa., assignors of one third their right to A. N. Raub, same place.—This is an improved machine for smoothing and cornering panels, so that the sandpapering of the raised part at one side thereof may be obtained, at the same time with the broad level portion at the other side, by mechanical means in place of by hand work. There are vertically rotating heads, with detachably inserted pads, covered with sand paper for smoothing both sides of the panel, and adjustable detachable hits for cornering the same. The revolving heads work on separate mandrels, one being laterally adjustable to the thickness of the panel, and the other being capable of vertical adjustment on an arc-shaped guide support.

Improved Machine for Driving Brush Handles,

Improved Machine for Driving Brush Handles.

John Ames, Jr., Lansingburgh, N. Y.—In this machine devices are provided for driving all the brush handles of the same lot to exactly the same point. The ferrule of the brush is held and supported while the handle is being driven. By means of weighted cords a tube is forced up through the brush head. Within the tube is placed a rod, the upper end of which is pointed so as to open a way for the said tube through the brush head. The rod is supported in the tube by a colled spring. The tube and rod moves upward through the brush head, and strikes against a stop. This leaves the upper end of the cavity of the tube empty to receive the point of the brush handle, the other end of which rests against the lower end of the driver. The driver is then forced downward by operating a hand wheel, which forces the brush handle through the brush head. As the point of the brush handle passes down through the brush head and through the table, it is received in the concaved upper end of a short tube, through which the other tube passes, and all the parts are carried down together by the continued descent of the bandle. By suitable arrangement, when the brush has been removed and another brush head arranged in the thimble, a slight pressure with the operator's foot upon the end of a bent lever will release the tube, and allow it and the pointed red to be forced up through the brush head by the weights.

Improved Knob Spindle Fastener.

Improved Knob Spindle Fastener.

Eugene F. Lincoln, Boston, Mass., assignor to himself and John C. Hancock, same place.—This invention consists of a little slide boit inside of the rose plate, to lock the knob spindle by sliding into a notch in the edge of a disk on the spindle. The said slide has a pawl with a handle pivoted to it, so as to drop into the slot of the escutcheon plate, through which it projects, to lock the bolt when shoved forward. There is also a spring for throwing it back when the pawl is pulled out of the slot to release the slide bolt. The object is to provide a simple inside lock for fastening the door of water and other closets, sleeping rooms, etc., temperarily, without having to change the key from one side of the door to the other.

Improved Seedlings Puller.

John S. Swaney, Marengo, Iowa.—As the machine is drawn forward, the jaws are opened to allow the plants to pass between them, and to grasp the said plants and draw their roots from the ground. tendant and bound. As the plants pass up at the rear side of a wheel, they are struck by a horizontal rod which has a rapid up and down movement. By this device all the soil is knocked off the roots

Charles Rommel and William H. Crane, Elizabeth, N. J., assignors to themselves and Wisner H. Townsend.—This invention consists of a reciprocating rubber, to which simultaneous revolving motion is imparted by its connection with a shaft with cranks arranged in op-posite direction. The rubber frame supports the pumicestone blocks on a sliding interior frame, which is hung to a roller with handle, to be readily raised with the pumicestones, for admitting

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H. K. will find a recipe for cement for grindstones on p. 2M, vol. 3L—J. H. B. will find a recipe for bard cement on p. 2, vol. 359, and a description of porcelain on p. 3, vol. 30.—F. W. D. will find an explanation of the shirt polish mystery on p. 203, vol. 31.—F. H. M. will find a recipe for a silver platting solution on p. 299, vol. 3L.—J. F. will find that a process of tempering mill picks is detailed on p. 202, vol. 3L.—G. R. L. C. will find directions for mounting chromos on p. 91, vol. 3L.—C. H. F. will find directions for preserving iron from rust on p. 290, vol. 31; for painting brick walls on p. 346, vol. 3L.—W. H. M. can clean chamots skins by the process detailed on p. 91, vol. 3L.—W. H. K. will find a description of the cultivation of the castor bean on p. 335, vol. 31.

(1) J. S. S. says: I contend that if two casks are put on an equal level, and a one inch pipe is fastened sirtight in the head of one end, and a 12 inch pipe similarly in the other, each pipe being 50 feet high and filled with water, the pressure will be as much in one disk as the other. Is this so? A. The pressure on equal and similar areas in the two casks will be the same.

(2) J.C.asks; Can you tell what to put on all bumenized paper to remove the gloss, so that water colors can remain on the surface? A. Try gentle

(3) G. V. says; I intend to pump water for irrigation. I have to carry the water 600 feet in an open tank or trough, the amount of water to be pumped being 1,000 gallons per minute. I can af-ford to give it a fall of 3 inches in the whole. What should be the dimensions of the trunk? A. Give the trunk from 1½ to 2 times the cross section of the discharge pipe of the pump. 2. Would pine lumber I inch thick be heavy enough? A. Yes.

lumber I inch thick be heavy enough? A. Yes.

(4) D. J. T. asks: 1. What percentage of boiler pressure is the mean effective pressure on piston in an ordinary slide valve engine with throttle valve wide open? A. From 75 to 80 percent. 2. I have been running for eighteen months an engine with 10x16 inches cylinder, and I notice that some of the bolts that hold the face plate to steam chest, also to cylinder head and piston head cap, are being cut away as if by acid; some of them are reduced to about one half their original size. The part affected is that which passes through the steam chest plate, the piston head cap, and the cylinder head. It is not rust, for the parts have been kept perfectly well lubricated. Can you tell me the cause and a remedy? A. Probably caused by water carried over with the steam, in which case the use of dry steam will be a preventive.

right. See p. 364, vol. 29.

(5) E. P. asks: What process is used in casting steel or iron into lagots, so as to prevent blow holes on the outer surface? The process I have used is casting through a sprue into bottom of mold, causing metal to flow upward. This process is not satisfactory, and I wish to know how it can be remedied. A. Make your mold with a long neck, into which the air may rise and leave the blowholes in the top part of the casting, which is to be cut off.

(6) J. A. T. pake.

to be cut off.

(6) J. A. T. asks: I desire to construct a reflector telescope. I. Can ground specula be procured in this country, 4½ or 6½ inches in diameter? A. Yes. 2. What would be the probable cost of a 4½ or 6½ inch speculum? A. For slivered glass mirrors, parabolized, \$40 for each square decimeter (4 inches) of surface. The focus is six times the diameter, and the highest power equals twice the aperture expressed in millimeters (fifty per inch). 3. Could you give me a full explanation of the construction of small sized reflectors? A. The English have devoted much talent and money to the construction of reflectors without adequate results. The diagonal plane of the Newtonian obstructs the best part of the mirror, and its supports add diffraction wings to the image of a star. Still the silvered mirror costs but one fifth, and its power is nearly five sixths, of that of the achromatic of like aperture. of like aperture.

(7) C. asks: Does a fence over a hill contain Peck's Patent Drop Press. For circulars, address exactly as many pickets as a fence on level ground, between the same points, the pickets being the Small Tools and Gear Wheels for Models. List same distance apart? A. Yes.

(8) M. asks: What do onticions mean by

after the mixture got cold and hard, that I could not get it out of the mold; it adhered to the wood. Please to tell me how to construct a mold so that the substance will readily come out when cold and not adhere to the mold. A. Try coating the mold with passing.

with parallia,

(11) M. H. P. says: We use in our kerosene lamps a powder which prevents breaking of chimneys. It is said to destroy the naphtha. Can you inform me of any ingredients that will answer the above purpose? A. You do not state the mode of applying the powder in question. If you will send us a sample of the powder and a description of the mede of application, we will endeavor to answer your question.

Is there a cement for mending cracks in iron pots? A. Try glycerin and litharge.

(12) E. C. H. asks; What ingredient in soap is it that, when coming in contact with the eyes or an abrusion of the skin, causes it to smart? A. The alkali it contains. 2. Can there be manufactured an effective article of soap that will not cause such

an effective article of soap that will not can pain? A. No.

Which would be the most serviceable application for ordinary New Jersey yellow pine weather boarding, lime, whitewash, or coal tar, and which would be the coolest in hot weather? A. The whitewash.

(13) S. H. T. asks; What is the mode of etching engravings, etc., on glass? A. See our answer to P. M., No. 4, p. 298, vol. 31. The printing ink protects the glass with which it is in contact from the corroding action of the acid. Mr. Napier, the patentee, prefers to have the glass ground enameled or venecred beforehand, when strough denameled or venecred beforehand, when seem the corrolling action of the acid. Mr. Napier, the patentee, prefers to have the glass ground enameled or venecred beforehand, when seem the corrolling action of the acid. Mr. Napier, the patentee, prefers to have the glass ground enameled or venecred beforehand, when seem the corrolling action of the acid. Mr. Napier, the patentee, prefers to have the glass ground enameled or venecred beforehand, when the lead is cooling, does it reabsorb these vapors from the air? A. No. 2. Fluorbydrie acid corrodes glass. Is the glass converted into a vapor or into silicie acid? A. It attacks the silicie acid in the glass to obtained by evaporating the fluorbydrie acid? A. No. wintowasi.

(13) S. H. T. aaks: What is the mode of etching engravings, etc., on glass? A. See our answer to P. M., No. 4, p. 228, vol. 31. The printing ink protects the glass with which it is in contact from the corroding action of the acid. Mr. Napier, the patentee, prefers to have the glass ground enameled or vencered beforehand, when the objects stand out in relief. If the vencer or enamel is colored, of course the picture remains colored, while the body of the glass is white. This also answers J. G. G.

(14) J. H. asks: How much more power, if any, will be required to turn a wheel one foot in diameter four times around than to turn a wheel 4 feet in diameter once round in the same time? A. Multiply the resistance by the distance through which it is overcome in each case, which will give you measures of the power exerted in turning the two wheels.

(15) J. C. D. says: I wish to run my sewing machine by water power, and propose the follow-ing plan: A water wheel 15 inches in diameter, ining plan: A water wheel 15 inches in diameter, inclosed in a watertight case, to be adjusted under the table of the machine, with a tank, resting 25 feet above the floor and 30 feet on a horizontal line. The tank to hold about 200 gallons, with a pipe leading to the wheel 1½ inches in diameter. The jet from this pipe to be 34 inch in diameter. The jet from this pipe to be 34 inch in diameter, and strike the water wheel at about 45° below the line of the shaft; a discharge pipe to be adjusted at the bottom of the wheel case. Will this run the machine for ordinary domestic sewing? A. This plan will doubtless answer well.

(16) W. H. G. asks; If a loaded ship,afloat, were elevated one half the number of feet which it draws, would it capsize? A. Generally it would; but the load might be so disposed that the ship

you to any work especially devoted to this subject.

(18) J. N. & S. say: We want to drive a shaft at a right angle to our line shaft, and wish to know if we can do it with friction pulleys. The speed of line shaft is 300 per minute. Of what material and how should the pulleys be constructed?

A. You can do it with friction pulleys, made of cast fron, if you have sufficient surface.

(19) M. F. D. asks: 1 How at 19.

ings. Divide the difference by the whole number of readings.

A. You can do it with friction pulleys, made of cast fron, if you have sufficient surface.

(19) M. F. D. asks: 1. How shall I make a dry rose madder suitable for painting on wax for flowers? A. Inclose 2 cos. troy of the finest Dutch madder in a bag of fine and strong calleo, large enough to hold three or four times as much. Put it into a marble or porcelain mortar, and pour on to it a pint of clear soft cold water. Press the bag in every direction, and pound and rub it about with the pestle, as much as can be done without tearing it, and when the water is loaded with color pour it off. Repeat the process until the water comes off but slightly tinged, for which about 5 pints will be sufficient. Heat all the liquor in an earthen vessel till it is near boiling, and then pour it into a large basin, into which place 1 oz. of pulverized alum; sir the mixture for a short time, and while stirring pour is gently about 1½ cos. of a saturated solution of subcarbonate of potash; let it stand till cold, to settle; pour off the clear yellow liquor, add to the precipitate a quart of boiling water, stirring it well; and when cold separate by ilitration the lake, which should weigh ½ an oz. Fresh madder root is superior to the dry. 2. How shall I make a dry rose madder in a bag of fine and strong calleo, large into an anong which is boiled linesed off. This latter may be possibly the oil in question; but no unen tion can be found, in scientific works, of any cit specifically named oxygenized.

(27) R. S. asks: What is the gas or smell proceeding from newly baked bread? My dwelling is connected with a bake house, and the smell from a large quantity is penetrating, and very disagree-able. Is it unhealthy? A. The smell is due to the escape of the gases and volatile compounds generated from the breadstuff during the process of formentation, and expelled by the heat. We know of no case where it has proved unwholesome to a marked degree.

How can I determine by the whole rior to the dry. 2. How shall I make cadmium yel-

pyrites (sulphide of copper). This solution is commonly called blue vitriol. 2. If the residue is the copper precipitated from the water, what becomes of the iron? A. The iron takes the place of the copper in solution. 3. What is the proper name of the water after the copper is taken out? A. The solution of sulphate of iron is called green vitriol. In certain parts of the country adjacent to the mines, there prevails among the cattle a disease which the natives call milk sickness; they say the cattle never have it unless they have been feeding in dark caves or places in the mountains where the sun seldom shines. To what is it attributable? A. Probably to some poisonous substance contained in the water, which could be determined by an analy-

(21) W. S. B. aaks; 1. Has science ever given a decided answer as to the cause of the Gulf Stream? A. It is due to the flow of the heated waters of the torrid zone towards the poles, the direction of the flow being influenced by the earth's rotation and the forms of the continents. 2. How swiftly does it flow, and how wide is its current? A. The maximum velocity of the Gulf Stream is five miles an hour, and the average less than one and their

Do potassium and magnesium combine together k. No.

If four grains of arsenic and two grains of potas-sium were combined together, would the combina-tion be green? A. No.

tion be green? A. No.

(23) P. E. V., of Paris, France, asks: 1. Will you please give more precise details for preparing the waterproof paper described on p. 195, vol. 31? I have tried the process, but failed. A. A concentrated solution of borax in warm water should be made, to which is added the shellac in a fine powder. The paper, after saturation in the solution, may be pressed between rubber rollers and dried.

2. What is aqueous solution of shellac in borax? A. Shellac is the purified resin which exudes from the branches of several trees in tropical climates, and in particular from the ficus indice, fews religions, and rhamnus fujuba. It is soluble in an aqueous solution of borax, by which it may be distinguished from most common resins.

(24) C. B. F. asks: What is the thickness.

(24) C. B. F. asks: What is the thickness of the earth's outer crust? A. Nothing is definitely known as to this. Some philosophers fix 90 miles as the thickness of the earth's crust, and others imagine it to be 125.

Should cream be allowed to sour before churn-

ing? A. No.

1. Is silver better than bruss or German silver for a cornet? A. There is some difference of opinion on this subject, but the general belief is that there is no particular advantage in employing silver. 2. What is German silver composed of? A. Copper,

zinc, and nickel.

Is gold the heaviest metal? A. No.

Is the centennial tower progressing? A. You should apply to the projectors for information.

We have heard nothing of of it, late.

immersion lenses? A. An immersion lens is a microscopic objective which has its front and back combinations so adjusted that a film of water, joining the front surface and the thin glass cover of the object, completes the correction for spherical aberration, which correction depends in a dry objective upon the thickness of the front lens. Objectives of I-10 inch and shorter focus are made to work either dey or with immersion by a screw collar adjustment.

(9) Z. T. K. asks: What is the horse power of an undershot or current water which 30 feet in diameter, of 15 feet face and 3 feet deep, running in a current which moves 3 miles an hour? A Multiply 0384 times the square of the velocity of the water in feet per second, and divide by 35,(25). As to your other query, see article on friction of water in pipes, p. 48, vol. 26.

(10) T. C. W says: I melted 1 lb. resin and 11b. pitch together, in an iron vessel; then, while hot, I poured the contents of the vessel into a wooden mold, in the shape of a brick. But I found.

and the water flows into the air chamber in steady stream. J. M. may not be able to run a 200, but I think he can go over that. I think the supply pipe is large enough. I hope J. M. will tell through your paper how he succeeds. A. You into are practical, and will be of great value to some readers. The air chamber in the supply pipe however, is not the universal panacea for sulky numps that you seem to consider it. Still, no one who puts in such an air chamber will have cause to reaget it.

(29) E. L. F. says, in reply to F. S. M. & Co's query as to sesquioxide of manganese: The sesquioxide of manganese is found in its anhydrous state as braunite, and in an hydrated state as manganite. It may be obtained by passing chloring through manganous carbonate, placed in water, and afterwards applying diluted nitrie acid to remove the excess of the carbonate.

the excess of the carbonate.

(20) E. L. F. says, in reply to W. H. R. who asked how to make the muriatic salts of nickel: Pure nickel has a great similarity to from both in its external appearance and its combinations, and is regarded as a tetrad, although it forms but one chloride, in which it is bivalent. Nickel chloride (Ni Cl₂) may be prepared by dissolving the oxide or carbonate of nickel in hydrochloric acid. By a simple process, the nickel carbonate may be prepared from the crude speiss. Any good work on chemistry explains the method.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Editor of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN acknowledges, with much pleasure, the receipt of original papers and contributions upon the following

On Vegetable Fibers. By J. W.
On Hydrocarbons on Iron and Steel. By L. P.
On Sellds Floating on Liquids. By A. R.
On Popular Dental Science. By C. S. S.
On a Flying Machine. By C. H. C.
On Boller Explosions. By R. B.
On Oyster Culture. By O. C.
On Suet Butter. By J. L.
On a New Projectile. By W. L. A.

Also enquiries and answers from the following: J. G. G.-8, W. R.-E. W. H.-C. A. P.-X. Y. Z. L. N. K.-W. J. R.-J. W. D.-W. D. D.-F. R. D.-M. L. W.

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents whose inquiries fall to appear should repeat them. If not then published, they may conclude that, for good reasons, the Editor de-cines them. The address of the writer should al-

Enquiries relating to patents, or to the patenta-Enquiries relating to patents, or to the patenta-bility of inventions, assignments, etc., will not be published here. All such questions, when initials only are given, are thrown into the waste basket, as it would fill half of our paper to print them all but we generally take pleasure in answering briefly by mail, if the writer's address is given. Hundreds of enquiries analogous to the following

Hundreds of enquiries analogous to the following are sent: "Who erects wire transways? Who buys broken window glass? Who builds engines and boilers for small boats? Where can spectroscopic apparatus be bought? Who sells photographic chemicals that can be relied on for quick work?" All such personal enquiries are printed, as will be observed, in the column of "Business and Personal," which is specially set apart for that purpose, subject to the charge mentioned at the head of that column. Almost any desired information can in this way be expeditiously obtained.

[OFFICIAL.]

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

Letters Patent of the United States were Granted in the Week ending November 24, 1874.

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

=		_
n	Bale tie, J. L. Reese	157,22
t	Bee hive, P. O. Peterson	157,100
11	Beer with gas, charging, J. C. Kennedy	157,181
r	Bitstock, J. S. Milchell	157,911
0	Buind, folding, A. Le Roy. Boiler, J. R. Lamb.	157,078
ş	Boller steam S. Bickerstaff	157,114
8	Bollers, injector for steam, W. Randall, Boller water circulator, N. Wiard,	157,100
o.	Bolting machine, Martin & Lytle.	157,250
	Brick mold, J. Treadway	157,047
ĕ	Broom hanger, G. Yinger	157,988
0	Brush, A. Thomson. Brush, shoe, C. O. & I. N. Kelly	157,180
۹	Brush trimming machine, J. Pickering	157,104
9	Bullet, patched, F. O. Scholze.	157,141
1	Bung and faucet, closing, Darozir et al	157,000
3	Butter salting scales, A. A. Skinner	157,233
	Can, sprinkling, J. W. Gesaman	157,170
2	Car coupling, H. C. Chapman	157,193
ij	Car coupling, D. W. Deal	157,000
	Car coupling, L. Dill. Car coupling, B. R. Webber.	157,006
1	Car, safety, H. B. Myer	157,077
ł	Chair adjustable residence A. Pares	157,151
	Chair, adjustable reclining, A. Rapp Chopper, meat, Edwards & Morian	157,081
ı	Chopper, meat, A. Nittinger, Jr	157,218
1	Clock keys, manufacture of, G. D. Clark,	157,064
ı	Clothes mangle, W. Tinsley	157,245
ı	Clothes wringing machine, M. & F. Way	157,252
ı	Clutch, friction, Burwell & Bates	6,144
i	Cooler, milk, R. Smith	157,188
ı		157,161
ı	Corset, J. Bowers (r)	157,196 6,143
ı	Cradle, L. H. Stellmann	157,141
ı		157,158
ı		157, 136
ı	Dental amalgam, S. S. Southworth	157,140
ı		157,207
ı	Door, sash, L. W. Tatum	157,085
ı	Doors, rall for sliding, J. D. Skeer	157,205
ı	Draw frame stop, D. W. Hayden (r)	6,147
	Dredging machine, R. R. Osgood	157,101
		157,099
	Elevator, H. H. Blake	157,183
ı	Elevator, bucket, H. Port	57,185
		57,126 57,147
Ē		57,167
B		57,143
		57,139
Б	Fence, portable, J. M. Overneck	57,214
		57,124
E	Fire extinguisher, T. D. Pennington	57,217
Į	Fire extinguisher, chemical, Holzner & Lauer 1	57,177
	Fork, hook, shovet, and hoe, G. H. Perkins 1	57,107
8	Fruit protector, A. S. Dykman	57,199
	Game apparatus, W. C. Wingfield 1	57,086
ĸ	Glassware, stemmed, J. Oesterling (r)	6,151
		57,072
ŧ		57,091 57,122
	Harness, A. W. Lawton	57,074
	and the same of th	57,248
	Harvester, A. Grav	57,208 57,127
	Harvester cutter, G. Sweet 1	57,243
		57,079
E	Heel shave, M. A. Tyler 1	57,216 57,110
		57,096
		57,084 57,179
	Indexing wheel, H. H. Edwards 1	57,163
		57,118
ŧ	Jack, lifting, D. T. Welch 1	57,342 57,254
	Kiln, brick, W. S. Colwell 1	57,000
		57,188
	Lamp lighting apparatus, M. A. Lynch	57,183 57,098
	Latch, locking, J. W. Williamson.	AT 967
	Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branaugh 1 Lines, taking up slack of, H. Douglas	57,149
	Lines, taking up slack of, H. Douglas	57,223

o run a	Bee bive, P. O. Peterson	Lubricating cup, J. E. Lonergan 157,0
the sup		9 Lubricator, spindle, Stauts & Rigby 157,20
	The state of the s	Mills, conductor for rolling, J. Gearing (r) 6,1
will tel	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	Nozzle, exhaust, G. Sewell 157,2
	THE PERSON AS TO THE PERSON AND THE	S Sangle for steam cylinders, G. Sewell 151,22
value to	Dellas T T Tamb	Packing of condenser tube, etc., W. A. Lighthall., 157,0
ply pipe	Dollar storm & Dickerstaff 157.11	Podlock permutation, J. L. Willbur, 157,20
or sulky	Bollers, Infector for steam, W. Randall	Paint deencoof J. C. Smith
, no one	Boller water circulator, N. Wlard 157,25	Paper pulp, filling fiber in, H. Duemling 157, P.
enune to	Bolting machine, Martin & Lytle	Paper with emery, etc., coating, R. J. Edwards, 157,00
	Brick mold, J. Treadway 157,34	Pawl and ratchet, J. Corbett (r) 6,1
3 3F E	Designation for the same of th	
S. M. &	Brook A Thomson 187 94	
se: The	Brush, shoe, C. O. & I. N. Kelly 157,18	Philosophical estimator, F. M. Stapif 157,2
s anhy-	Brush trimming machine, J. Pickering 157, 10	
state as	Buggy seat, J. B. Wells	Pipe, water, J. A. Calantarients 157,19
chlorine	Bullet, patched, F. O. Scholze 157,22	
ater, and	Bung and fancet, closing, Darozir et al 157,000	The state of the s
remove	Butter salting scales, A. A. Skinner 157,23	Pianter, corn, S. Wright
	Can, sprinkling, J. W. Gesaman. 157,17	
	Car brake, hydraulic, W. M. Henderson 187,172	
H. R.,	Car coupling, H. C. Chapman	Plow, side hill, M. Eills
of nick-	Car coupling, D. W. Deal	100 10
m, both	Car coupling, L. Dill	
nations,	Car coupling, B. R. Webber	The state of the s
ms but	Car, safety, H. B. Myer. 157,077	1 m 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
d chlor-	Carriage top support, Z. C. Brown. 157,151	
the ox-	Chair, adjustable reclining, A. Rapp. 157,081	Press, cotton, W. Kochl
cid. By	Chopper, meat, Edwards & Morian	
STATE OF THE PARTY	Chapter ment A Nitthmer Te 187 00	
be pre-	Chopper, meat, A. Nittinger, Jr	The state of the s
ork on	Clocks, spring barrel for, G. H. Blakesley 157,083	
	Clothes mangle, W. Tinsley	
	Clothes wringing machine, M. & F. Way 157,252	
AN HO-	Clutch, friction, Burwell & Bates. 157,003	Raft, life, C. Parker
of or-	Confee, cooling, J. Burns (r) 6,144	Railroad crossing gate, O. Gassett
lowing	Cooler, milk, R. Smith	Railroad, cievated, J. M. Hannahs (r) 6,15
ALCOY ALLES	Copies, producing facsimile, E. De Zuccato 157,161 Corn coverer and cultivator, J. Copeland 157,196	Railroad gage, J. T. Ketchledge
	Corset, J. Bowers (r) 6,143	Rake, horse hay, J. D. Jones 6,15
a.P.	Cradle, L. H. Stellmann	Regulator, exhaust, C. C. Gregory
	Cranberry picker, W. Crowell	Retort cap cover, P. Munzinger. 157,10
	Cross head gib, W. A. Rideout	
	Cultivator, Graham & Wallace	Rivet, M. Bray
	Dental amalgam, S. S. Southworth	
	Derrick, C. Lidren	Roof truss, U. G. Spofford
	Dividers, W. Smith	Roofs, metallic cap for, P. B. Laidlaw 157,13
	Door, sash, L. W. Tatum	Sash dovetalling machine, Pennell & Zimmer 157,13
	Doors, rall for sliding, J. D. Skeer 157,205	Sash fastener, W. C. Alden 157,18
Mr:	Draw frame stop, D. W. Hayden (r) 6,147	Saw mill dog, G. W. Baker
Y. Z	Draw frame stop, A. A. Sweet 157,142	Saw mill dog, J. A. Fordon
R. D	Dredging machine, R. R. Osgood 157,101	Saw mill dog, L. P. Gilbert 157,17
110000	Drill for drilling metal, hand, D. D. Mackay 157,099	Saw mill dog, N. Hunt
	Drill, rock, C. S. Pattison 157,183	Saw tooth swage, A. G. Rouse
	Elevator, H. H. Blake	Seaffold clamp, W. Smith 157,29
	Elevator, bucket, H. Port 157,185	Screw driver, I. Allard 157,08
ippear	Elevator, hydraulic, A. Granville 157,126	Screw driver, W. F. Patterson 157,100
, they	Engine crank, W. M. Boggs 157,147	Seeder, plaster sower, and harrow, L. Dague 157,159
tor de-	Envelope, A. C. Fletcher 157,167	Seeding machine, A. C. Evans 157,160
nld al-	Explosive compound, C. W. Volney 157,143	Separator, ore, Campfield & Hornbeck 157,199
	Faucet, tool for finishing, H. Soffe 157,139	Sewing machine attachment holder, J.H. Bean 157,059
tenta-	Feather renovator, J. C. West 157,255	Sewing machine ruffler, L. Schultz 157,228
not be	Fence, portable, J. M. Overpeck 157,214	Sewing machine table, E. R. Adams 157,183
nitials	Fence, wire, J. F. Glidden 157,124	Sheep shearing devices, E. Chaquette 157,156, 157,157
ket, ns	Fire escape, J. B. De Boucherville 157,065	Shutter and window fastener, J. C. Ryckman 157,23
m all	Fire extinguisher, T. D. Pennington 157,217	Sieve, metallic, C. B. Porter
	Fire extinguisher, chemical, Holzner & Lauer 157,177	Sleeve adjuster, A. Perego
brieffy	Food, preserving, D. Snedeker 157,107	Snow plow, hand, C. A. and G. R. Parker 157,078
Carried St.	Fork, hook, shovel, and hoe, G. H. Perkins 157,219	Soap frame, J. H. Keller 157,30
lowing	Fruit protector, A. S. Dykman 157,199	Soda water cooler, M. S. Andrews 157,068
Who	Fulling machine, C. Ackerman 157,096	Spittoon lifter and holder, N. K. Ellsworth 157,160
ls en-	Game apparatus, W. C. Wingfield 157,259	Stove, base heating, V. Vermilye 157,240
e can	Glassware, stemmed, J. Oesterling (r) 6,131	Stove, heating, J. W. Elliot 157,121
sells	Grain drill, W. Henigst 157,072	Stove, reservoir cooking, J. F. Quimby (r) 6,155
on for	Grate bar, A. F. Crowell 157,091	Stoves, oven door for cooking, E. W. Harvey 157,128
print-	Halter, pastern, J. C. Ford	Street sweeping machine, R. A. Smith (r) 6,133
" Bu-	Harness, A. W. Lawion	Stripping, peeling, and splitting, S. Kuh 157,073
art for	Harness attachment, J. D. Truss 157,248	Switch, J. A. Duggau 157,120
	Harness saddle, F. W. Maldels 157,208	Table for undertakers, C. B. Simmons 157,283
ned at	Harvester, A. Gray	Thimble skeins, setting, E. F. Edwards 157,004
red in-	Harvester cutter, G. Sweet 157,243	Tinner's machine clamp, W. H. Burnett 157,180
y ob-	Harvester knives, grinding, E. W. Phelps 157,079	Tobacco cutter, S. Rodgers
	Harvester rake, Peckenpaugh & Miller 157,216	Toy, G. W. Hawk 187,090
	Heel shave, M. A. Tyler 157,110	Toy pistol, S. Tomlinson
	Hemp brake, T. Jones	Toy pistol, J. T. Trowbridge
	Hook, detaching, Stone and Mansfield 157,084	Trace fastener, R. Whiting
Marine St.	Horseshoe, J. Jorey	Umbrella, A. and I. Herzberg
NS	Indexing wheel, H. H. Edwards 157,163	Umbrella and parasol, W. M. Henderson 157,071
-	Indicator, low water, R. R. Carpenter. 157 118	Valve, globe, J. Arthur
	Ironing board, A. H. Swain	Valve, globe, J. Broughton
were	Jack, lifting, D. T. Welch	Vehicle wheel, W. Beers
	Kiln, brick, W. S. Colwell 157 000	Vehicle wheel, H. C. Hubbell
	Ladder, step, Brown & Sweet	Velocipede, J. F. McCiure
		The state of the s
	Ludder, step, T. F. Kiff	
192	Ludder, step, T. F. Kiff	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher 157,148
E.	Ladder, step, T. F. Kiff	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher
E.	Ladder, step, T. F. Kiff	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher
	Lamp lighting spparatus, M. A. Lynch. 157,183 Latch, locking, J. W. Williamson. 157,098 Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branauch 157, 139 Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branauch 157, 139	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher
157,174	Ladder, step, T. F. Kiff 137,133 Lamp lighting spparatus, M. A. Lynch 157,098 Latch, locking, J. W. Williamson 157,237 Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branaugh 157,149 Lines, taking up slack of, H. Douglas 137,137 Liquid measure, S. C. Redraws 157,197	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher
	Lamp lighting spparatus, M. A. Lynch. 157,183 Latch, locking, J. W. Williamson. 157,098 Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branauch 157, 139 Leather, scrubbing and cleaning, S. Branauch 157, 139	Ventilator, T. W. Bracher

Watch balance, E. Chapin	157, 154
Watch barrel, E. Chapin	157.466
Watch guard attachment, A. S. Potter	157,000
Watch plate, E. Chapin	157,150
Water closet apparatus, A. McGllehrist	107,211
Water wheel, M. E. Washburn	157,200
Whip socket, W. W. Bichardson (r)	107,070
Windmill, H. J. Wolcott	9,148
Window blind, screen, J. P. Clark, Jr.	157 101
Window casing, W. J. Ross	187,994
Wrench, H. D. Rouse	187 /60
Wrench ratchet, J. Bowers	157,115

APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSION.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSION,
Applications have been duly filed and are now pending
for the extension of the following letters patent. Hearings upon the respective applications are appointed for
the days hereinafter mentioned:
51,445.—Line Kils.—R. Donaldson, Feb. 3.
41,445.—Line Kils.—R. Donaldson, Feb. 3.
41,503.—Coal Beraken.—R. A. Wilder, Feb. 3.
31,503.—Weighing Apparatus.—A. B. Davis, Feb. 10.
51,504.—Scale Beam.—A. B. Davis, Feb. 10.
51,509.—Davino Tunnels.—F. H. Smith, Feb. 10.
51,509.—Corn Planter.—F. B. Preston, Feb. 10.

EXTENSIONS GRANTED.

20,631,-FIRE ESCAPE.-E. B. Larcher.
20,631,-Harvester.-S. W. Tyler.
30,635,-SEED DRILL.-H. Moore.
30,691,-Casting Plowshares.-F. F. Smith.
30,719,-Paper Folder.-C. Chambers, Jr. 20,745.—CULTIVATOR.—N. Messenger.

DISCLAIMERS FILED.

102,462,-Cook Stove,-J. B. Wilkinson, Troy, N. Y. 155,584,-Drgss Protecton,-H.M. Macdonald, Lowell, Ms.

DESIGNS PATENTED.

DESIGNS PATENTED.

7.855 to 7.853.—CARPETS.—R. Allan, Yonkers, N. Y.

7.859 to 7.862.—CUTLERY.—J.D. Frary. New Britain, Conn.

7.863.—COOKING STOVE.—G. G. Richmond, Providence, R. I.

7.864.—BOTTLE.—S. C. Upham, Philadelphia, Pa.

7.865 to 7.869.—SILVER WARE.—G. Wilkinson, Pridence, B. I.

7.870.—WINDOW SCREEN.—G. Shatswell, Wankegan, Ill.

7.871.—INSATAND COVER.—H. C. WILCOX, W. Meriden, Ct.

7.872.—MONUMENT.—H. C. Borgner, Lebanson, Pa.

7.873.—ORGAN CASE.—G. E. Carhart et al, Washington, D. C.

7.874 to 7.876.—CARPETS.—F. W. Green, Orange, N. J.

7.875.—TO, SSA.—CARPETS.—H. Horan, East Orange, N. J.

7.885.—PARLOR HEATER.—A. T. Jones, Stamford, Conn.

7.886.—HOT CLOSET RANGE.—A. T. Jones, Stamford, Ct.

7.887.—CARPET.—H. Nordmann, New York city.

7.889.—CARPET.—H. Nordmann, New York city.

7.880.—CARPET.—H. Nordmann, New York city.

7.882 to 7.901.—Embroidery.—E. Crisand, New Haven, Ct.

7.902.—FORK HANDLE.—C. Osborne, N. Attleborough, Ms.

7.903.—STATUETTE.—T. J. Palrpoint, Providence, R. I.

7.904.—OLIGLOTH.—C. T. & V. E. Meyer, Bergen, N. J.

TRADE MARKS REGISTERED.

TRADE MARKS REGISTERED.

672.—CHEWING TORACCO,—Allan et al., Cinctusati, O.

673.—STOVE POLISH.—H.A. Bartlett & Co., Philis, Ps.

674.—STOVE POLISH.—H.A. Bartlett & Co., Philis, Ps.

674.—STOVE DELESSING.—B.F. Brown & Co., Baston, Ms.

675.—GLOVES.—Harris Bros., New York city.

676.—SHIRTINGS.—Naumkeag Steam Co., Salem, Mass.

677.—COOK STOVE, ETC.—G.G., Bichmond, Pridence, R.I.

678.—HEALING SALVE.—Stapleton & Co., Springfield, Ms.

679.—MEDICINE.—G. Steioff, Cinctusati, O.

698. & 2.082.—Cobsetts.—L. Coleman & Co., Boston, Mass.

683.—Cobsett.—Ottenheimer & Co., New York city.

694.—SOAP.—Reed & Co., Pittsburgh, Ps.

695. to 2.088.—SALT.—Union Pacific Salt Co., S.F'cisco, Cal.

699.—Toracco.—Frishmuth & Co., Philadelphia, Ps.

690.—PLE REMEDY.—C. Mayne, New York city.

691.—MEDICINE.—Dr., J. Simms & Son, Wilmington, Del.

692.—Prokles, ETC.—C. G. Summers & Co., Baltimore, Md.

696.—SALERATUS.—J. M. Taylor, New York city.

694.—SUGAR, ETC.—DeCastro & Donner Co., N. Y. city.

695. to 2.07.—Woolen Goods.—wash Mills, Lawrence, Ms.

696.—Grockeres.—N. W. Burchell, Washington, D. C.

SCHEDULE OF PATENT FEES.
On each Caveat
On each Trade mark
On filing each application for a Patent (17 years) 815
On issuing each original Patent \$20
On appeal to Examiners-in-Chief
On appeal to Commissioner of Patents
On application for Reissue830
On filing a Disclaimer
On an application for Design (3) years)
On application for Design (7 years)
On application for Design (14 years)



ILLUSTRATIONS.

Air ship, Rhone's
Air, the effects of compressed,
Ricry's apparason
Aquarium at continent, England
Arrow heads, teathering
Axies, machine for turning carriage, Aram's

Baird, James, Gartaberrie, bcot-land.

Bailoon, bot air, Mégaer's.

Bailoon, sectional, Hartness'.

Bairow in Furness from shipbuild-ing works.

Battery, thermo-electric, Cla-

C

Blood, the transfusion of . 155, 147
Blood, the transfusion of . 155, 147
Blood, the transfusion of . 155, 147
Blookers Mr. H. W. and Claytoller explosion at Dubuque, Lowa 27
Boiler explosion at Bubuque, Lowa 27
Boiler explosion at Gedden, N. Y. 5
Boiler, vertical, Hill's . 5
Bouquet of grasses and Sowers, a 2
June . 155
Brake, friction . 155
Brake, friction . 155
Brake, the Westinghouse . 156
Brake, the Westinghouse . 157
Brake, the Westinghouse . 157
Brake, the Westinghouse . 158
Brake, the Westinghouse . 1

Dough kneader and cutter, Mock-211 Drill, hand crank, New York Engine Co. s. 114 Ear trumpet, a simple.

Encephalartus altensteinii, the ... D Fountain Cave, Va., views in ... Friction brake, Gill's ... Prinace, Fairbair S. Engine, compound, Davenport's ... 18 Eugine, borizontal compound, Hattheries ... Purnace of melting brass. Bush's Furnace, safety, Shand and Mason's ...

					THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE
Harchet, Wisner's, 842	U	Battery power, relative	Cement for Iron vessels (11) 409	E	Fruit trees, cuttings of
Hatchet, Wisner's Reel trimming machine, Jones', 200 Roisting machine, Mason's, 47 Hot springs, the Mammoth, Yel-	iderground raffway, New York	Battery, thermosphetzle 541	Cement for milistones(45) 251 Cement, hydraulic	Earth, action of, on organic matter 102	Fuel, the economy or post-
Hot springs, the Mammoth, Yel-	My Map of New York 307	Battery, thermo-electric		Earth, action of, on organic matter 102	Fulgarites, more,
Hub, Davis' 102 Hymenocalyx undulata, the 191	eltyThe beam tunnel open-	Battery, the stevens fronclad 87		Earth analysis of	Fulminate, a new
Hymenocalyx undulata, the	logs and ventilators 288, 229 aderground rallway, New York city.—The beams, joints, and countries.	Bear pits at Fairmount Park	Centennial, Great Britain and the 47 Centennial, prepare for the	changes	Fulnduating mercury
	city. The beams, joints, and	Heech blight 256 Heehive, politics in the 65	Contributed forces	Paring concerns in 272	Funeral, will do it after a
Ice and freezing house, Newsham U.	couplings	Heer, clarifying	Centrifugal force	Ebony, artificial. Eccentrics, turning. Eccentric, to find the throw of	Furnace for melting brass
tee erceper, Earle's 04 U	elty.—The first bridge	Bees and honey 213 Beeswax, bleaching (44) 290	Chameleons. 55 Chamois leather, washing. 51 Charcoal, animal. (9) 202 Charcoal, lune. 202	Eccentric, to find the throw of	Furnaces, their construction and
Independencia, launch of the fri-	The great arch near 56th st 491 nderground railway, New York city.—The masonry tunnels and ventilating sharts	Bell Highal	Charcoal animal (20 202	Eclipse of April 16, solar,	Fors, artificial
gate	city The masonry tunnels and	Hells, mending cracked 244	Chargoal avedtring power of 333	Education, a good	a
Iron castings, weak points in 277 Utronciad battery, the Stevens 87	nderground rallway, New York	Helt facings 401 Belts, facing 755	Charcoal, bone 85 Charcoal, oxydizing power of 221 Chasers 21 Chasepot rifle, as altered 136	Education, the science of 247	Galvantzed Iron, frosted (66) 347
Ironciad battery, the Stevens W	city.—The profile	Belts, rawhide	Chemical centennial, the	Effort, a first	Galvantzed fron, frested (65) 347 Gardenia, the lemon-scented 220
3	rea, instrument for estimating, Russell & West's 258	Belt water, for transmitting mo-	Chickens, predatory 185	Elbows in proce, making	Gas burner, self-lighting 248
Jack, hydraulic, Biddle's		tion 90 Bending glass tubes 21 Bending timber 36	Chickens, predatory 185 Chilian exposition, the 103 Chiming machine, new 105 Chim and glasses 105	Electrical countries	Gases, expansion of
		Bending tubes. 156 Bending tubes. 156 Benefactor, a public 5 Hengole acid. 85 licascener, iaunch of the 279 Bessemer saloon, predicted failure	China and glass ware	Electrical countries 390 Electrical gas lighting 1111 Electrical machine 650 280 Electrical Society, the American 335	blood. 227 Gas for fuel, natural. 227 Gas for puddling, natural. 27 Gas light, prices of. 185
T. V	acuum, procuring a	Benzole acid	China, the population of 200	Electric amalgam 11 Electric condition of flame 13	Gas for puddling, natural
Lacing helts. McCov's method	enus, the transit of Sower-	Bessemer saloon, predicted failure	Chinese, the, and the sewing ma-	Electric discharges, character of 311	Gas mains, sheet fron
Latch, locking, Folsom's 150	butt's 215	of the 201	chine	Electricity, battery and coll(11) 200 Electricity, battery and frictional	
Laird, John, the late 843 V Latch, locking, Folsom's 150 Lanteru, Lordon's 198 V Lather, combination, the Strange	butt's ictoria regia water lily, the 263	Bicycle, the 256 Billion, a 138 Birds, educated 351	Chipping endacted 123 Chipping endacted 113 Chioral for beadache 123 Chioral hydrate 154 Chiorates, pulverizing the 151 Chiorates of copper (2) 201 Chioroform dangers 205 Chocolate as a beverage 361	Floatelette ha markentent action 2	
	W	Birds, educated	Chlorates, pulverizing the 81	Electricity by mechanical action. Electricity, generating positive 31. Electricity in a boiler 33. 25. Electricity in a boiler 33. 25. Electricity, toolhache cured by 12. Electricity, vaporizing metal by 13. Electric fight, cost of a. 5. (22) 57. Electric light, effects of	Gas retorts, improvement in 339
Lifeboats. 195 Life, geological records of 225 W Lighter, non-explosive self, Mul-	Fagon, dumping, Smith's	Black for gun barrels	Chloroform dangers (2) 251	Electricity in a boller	Gastric juice, acid in the 7002
	tion, Robertson's 99	Blacking boot (45) 263	Chalers and its treatment 64	Electricity, toothache cured by 12	1 Gas well, a wonderful
Lock, Most's	ater wheel, current, McCarty's, 223 ater wheel governor, standard,	Blackleading of fron 41	Chord, the length of a, to find 139 Chromic acid on textile materials. 257	Electricity, wood cutting by	Gese and ganders
Lock, Moat's 294 W. Locomotive, double bogie, Mason's 215 Locusts destroying a grain field 119 W.	Snow's the Blackstone and	Blackleading of Iron. 41 Black on German allver (63) 243 Black paint for botlers. (19) 370	Chromic acid on textile materials, 257	Electric light, effects of	Gelatin in coffee (W) 303
	Elmer hitworth, Sir Joseph 1383	Hades, forging sword	Cincinnati industrial exposition 33	Electric rallway whistles	0 Gelatin, making (9) 187 7 Gern stones, manufacture of 49
	fre tramway at Aalsund, Norway,	Blasting accidents, causes of 264	Cistern, building a	Electro-chemical paper.	Gerstin, manufacture of 48 Geographical congress, international congress, international congress, international congress, international confermation conferma
Market at Florence, Italy	Carrington's 870	Blood coloring matter free from	Cisterns, water in	Electro-magnetic station indicator 13	Geotogical discovery, new 115
Milk can, Gaines' niz Milk cooling can, Fluke's 273	Y	lilood coloring matter free from	Cities, dead	Electro magnets. 5, (14) 2; Electro-magnets. 5, (14) 2; Electro-motograph, the	22 German silver for casting 360
Milling machine, the ramite Co. a cit Y	acht, steam, Khédive of Egypt's 201	Bloodless surgery*	City, a model. 247 City built by one man, a 128 Clamp, adjustable 194	Electro-motograph, the	et cite a rabable 226
Eames & Co. S	neess, a group of 201	licon surgery	Clamp, adjustable	Electro-motor, the Camaeho S Electro-plating with iron(3) 3 Elm trees, dangers of	M Coding on anelter 27
Moss, long		Blotne, washing (69) 21	City built by one man, a 128 Clamp, adjustable 794 Clamp, improved floor 214 Clay in water, suspension of 162 Clay, porceiain 21) 267	Emery paperi	3 Gilt frames, cleaning 3
N	MICCELLAND	Boller covering, new. 23 Boller experiments at Sandy Hook 2	Clay in water, suspension of	Employers, the true course for 1	Gilt frames, cleaning 27 27 28 29 29 29 29 29 29 29
Nail, Lowensohn's 400	MISCELLANY.		Coal and from products of the world 360	I Enamel of the teeth	29 Glass for walls, etc
Needle, Gaillard's	igures preceded by a star (*) refer to illustrated articles.	Boiler explosion near Geddes, N.Y.	1 Coal bricks	a Engine and botter, novel	Glass, manufacture of plate 175
0	to manufacture accounts	Boller feed, automatic5	6 Coal daron stron	Engineers' and pilots' licenses (28)	75 Glass, marking
Orohid the annetechiles	and the same of th	Holler Improved storm (43) 26	Coal in California no	Engineers, convention of	
- A	cousties of public buildings (63) 251 dulterations, undetectable 180	Boiler incrustation, zine for 36	6 Coal in California, no. 26 9 Coal, Pictou. 27 4 Coal, price of, and shipbuilding. 24	Engine horizontal compound spin	Glazing for pottery, new
1	dvertisement, magic of an 41	Bollers	Ocal, Pictou. Coal, price of, and shipbuilding. Coal, structure of. Coal, structure of	3 Engineers, education of Figure 7 Engineers, schools for 11 Engine, horizontal compound *210, 9 Engine, portable *228 * 3 Engine question, the small	335 Glue, marine 106, (28) 282
Padlock, self-locking, Miller's 278 A	erial screw, the	Bollers, novel improvements in	Cockroaches, to get rid of	B Engine question, the small	196 Glue, strong. 32 248 Glue, waterproof. 91 113 Guing veneers. (20) 373 277 Glycerin, animal. 9) 232
Paint the index specialities	gricultural life in Missouri, 121 Air, compressed, as a motor 80	Bollers, unequal pressure in 13	Cold applications to the neck 4	Engines at the Fair	377 Glycerin, animal. (9) 202
Pance burelshing machine, Alnu-	Air, fresh, value of	Boiler trials, improvised apparatus	Colored races, skins of(62) W	il Engines at the Fair Engines, compound Engines, compound vs. oscillating	
Parabola, to draw a 213 A	tir machine, ventilating 55 tir, motive power by compressed 177 tir pressure and animal life 51 tir pressure in wind instruments 34	Boller, vertical.	Combustion of charcoal, sponta-	Engine, small boat	
Parachute, Degroof's	Air pressure in wind instruments 34	Bone black 13	8 Combustien of powder 1	Engine, small printing press, Engines, performance of small	228 Governor, cut-off
Pekin, the steamship	Air, weight of 1	Hone black, artificial	Cometary retrospect, a	Engines, portable and stationary.	273 Grain, unloading, machine for *111
Petroleum motor, a	Clarm, hot bearing 400	Bolier trials, improvised apparatus	Comet, Coggia's. 25 Comets, new theory of 1 Comet, spectrum of the.	or Programme wetative by retary	112 Granary at Bristol, England* 79 340 Grannel, a new*214
Ville's method	Alarm, railway or sea. 2 Alaska and the Icelanders. 18	Boots, cork soled	Comet, spectrum of the		
Photograph frame, enameling. 242 Photo skylights, French 403	Albumen	Boots, wet	05 Compass, the gravitation	21 Engines, steam, gain by use of condensers. Engine, the Myers rotary.	
Phylloxera, the grape	Mechol casks, Hning(30) 36	Bouquets from field and garden*1	5 Compressed air as a street car mo-	Engine, the Myers rotary,	(25) 340
Pitcher, water, Cox	Alcohol, effects of	Brain wounds, curious effects of 3	72 Compressed air machinery 2	Engraving on copper	234 Greenhouses, ugnis for
dustries	Mechol in wine	! Brakes, car	3 Concrete as a building material 1	86 Entomological notes	356 Grinding swords 135 81 Grindstone spindles 238
Planing and molding machine, Fur- ness & Co.'s	Alcohol in wine. Alcohol in wines, estimating 24 Alcohol, its relation to physical	Brake, the Henderson	20 Condensor, Korting s	39 Equine mechanics	de tribustones, wear observers and
		Brake, the Westinghouse	22 Conservatory at Sundridge, Eng	71 Erysipelas, treatment of	. 54 Gulf stream, the (21) 225
Plants, curious. Platinum, melting, Deville's me-	Alcohols into nitric ethers	Bread, gases from (27)	90 Cooling air, methods of	314 Ether. 208 Fther, preparation of	
thod	Aldehyde ammonia	Brake, the Westinghouse. Brake, the Westinghouse. Bread, gases from (27) Breathing through the mouth	04 Cooperation in Great Britain	149 Etna, eruption of	Mar. Gun cotton, a slow (6) 223 175 Gun cotton, compressed 50 50 175 Guns, new Prussian 194 175 Gun, the new French army 256 257 258
Plows, steam, new 241 Potato coverer, Whitford's 201 Press, balanced screw revolving, Woolfolk's 15 Press, hay and cotton, Mickleson, 28 Priming in boilers, preventing, Johnson's device, preventing, 170	Aleutian islands, the 25 Alkaline metals and water 28 Alloy a new white 33	Bricks, manufacture of mortar*	99 Coparba in croup. 151 Copper, a preventive of cholera. 151 Copper by precipitation. (20) 150 Copper facts about. 151 Copper facts about. 151 Copper seating.	115 Etna, cruption of 119 Exhibitions, international 49 Expansion and contraction. 234 Experiments, new lecture.	* 225 Gun, the new French army*258
Woolfolk's	Alloy, a new white	Bridge and tunnel, St. Louis, open		234 Experiments, new lecture	. Il Gyroscope, theory of the 21
Priming To boilers, preventing,	Amazon, water of the	1 Frage an ew Nisgara. 5 Bridge, a new Nisgara. 8 Bridge, a skew brick	200 Coppering iron rollers 13	578 Experiments, two typical	III III
Printing machine, fabric, Blalon's 131	American Association for the Ad- vancement of Science, 129, 152, 16 American Institute, the Fair of 5 the 193, 231, 244, 218, 296, 3 American Institute Fair, the en-	Bridge at Mezzana-Cortf, Italy	66 Copyrights for labels, new law	13 Exploring expedition, the Wheele 17 Explosions, firedamp, produced b	T Haffetonia coda 959
Propeller of the Britannic	American Institute, the Fair of the 193, 221, 244, 248, 296, 81	Bridge at St. Malo, rolling	67 Cornis, Ivory, etc., artificial	196 sound. 219 Explosion, spontaneous	313 Hallstorm, a remarkable
		Bridge on the Mont Cenis rallway	351 Cotton waste, cleansing(7)	20 Explosives, recent experiments of	
fastener, Newell's 21	American Institute Fair, the next	Bridge, railway, near York, Eng., Bridge, the East river, 9, Bridge, the New York and Brook-	Crames in the tomach. (2) Cotton worm, the Cow milker, the automatic. Cramps in the stomach. (2) Cranes, safety catch for Crater of Maul, the	168 Expositions, great	120 Hallstorm, a remarkable 20 341 Hallstorm, a remarkable 20 357 153 Hallstorm 240 250 251 25
Pump mechanism, Worswick's, 242 Pump, steam, Valley Machine Co.'s 78	American inventive genius	Bridge, the New York and Brook-	Cramps in the stomach(69)	263 Evaporation instead of ice *577 Eye, surgical treatment of the	230 Hammer, a large trip
	Ammonia for cooling air	lyn. Bridge, the St. Louis. Bridge, the St. Louis, spening of	co Cranks, turning	230	Hammers, steam
R	Ammonia fumes on flowers	the St. Louis, epening of the Bridge, the St. Louis, testing	17 Crayfish, the	202 F	
Dhodotypus kerrioides, the	Ancient vace, relics of as	Bridge, the St. Louis, testing		20 Pace plate, a sliding	* 257 St. 100, 116, 121, 148, 165, 183, *213, 276 ** 143 Hardening a watch spring. 125 ** 292 Hardening brass wire. 125
Railroad depot at Bryn Mawr. 227 Railway, portable, Corbin's. 130 Ramsden, Sir James, statue of 311 Ram, siphon water, Frese's. 357	Anæsthesia by subcutaneous injec-	Bridle, horse	358 Criminals, the scientific treatment	Fair barrn, Sir William.	201 Hardening brass wire 125
Ramsden, Sir James, statue of 311	tion 3 Anemometer, su 1 Aniline black dyes 3	Britannia metal, a good(21)	262 Croton and chioral	200 Fallacies, popular	271 Matchet Improved 100
Ram, the hydraulic	Aniline black dyes	British Association for the Ad-	Croup, copalbs in	149 Fall sickness. 149 Falling bodies, rule for force of	25 Hatching, heat for
	Aniline colors	Bridge, tile 137 Bridge, horse, 138 Bridge, horse, 139 Bridge, horse, 139 British Association for the Advancement of Science, 216, 139 Bryant, William Cullen, 148 Bryant, William Cullen, 148 Bryant, William Cullen, 149 Bridge, tile 139 Bridge, horse, 149 Bridge, horse, 1	Croup, copalba in. Crow and tamping bar 223 Crucibles Crystalization, water of.	398 Fare register, street rallroad Farkin, the ruins of	160 Hay fever
Rifle contest, international-The	Anineals are automata 1	34 Browne (31)	263 Cupressus cornuta, cones of	*38 Fat in forage plants	lit Hay fever, remedy tor
	Animals as motor powers	Bronze on steel and fron (65)	263 Curculio on peaches, the(63) 283 Curculio an peaches, the(63)	30 Faucet, improved. 130 Fauna of the Middle States,	the Head wash
8	Annatto for coloring butter (3)	po Brouze on orass, ecca. (6) Brouze on steel and from (6) Brouze on tin and white metal. Brouzes of copper and tin. Brouzing on steel (6) Browning bamboo, etc. (82) Browning sun barrels.	285 Curiosity, a natural. 27 Currents, deep sea. 294 Cutting and punching machine 283 Cutting out clothes, machine for.	217 Feed water heaters, gain by us	ing 28 Heat and its relation to construc-
Sash boring and grooving machine,	Answers to correspondents 11, 16,	Bronzing on steel (62)	363 Cutting out clothes, machine for.	- 203 Fermentation of wine	(77) 219 Heating houses, possible improve-
Blaisdell's	*171, *187, 202, 218, 235, *280, 266,	Browning bamboo, etc (82)	204 Cutting speed and feed	Ferns, whitening	(1) Wil High! In.
Saws, gang, Arbrey's. 50 Scorpion, the venomous. 178	282, 298, 314, 2331, 516, 362, 379, 386, 4	Bude light, the		Ferrotype plates. Ferrule and hook for whiffletre	cs* 194 Heat radiation and colors (2) 828
Screw, aerial, De Fonvielle's 280 Sezaroch, the	Annealto for coloring outer	Bugs, etc., destroying.	178 Cyprus, explorations in	- Fever nears and their remody.	240 Heat, registering the chemical ac-
	Ant's instinct, the	49 Bullets Impacted in the air	170 D	Files, classification of Files, machine cut Files, resharpening	(80) 230 Heal, the development of subterra-
thod	Ants, raiding	68 Bulls on the track. 13 Bunions 54 Business king, characteristics of a	234 Daguerreotyping, early days of	. 311 Filing	133 Heel tritoming machine 233
Shoemaker's combined tool, Ob- er's242	Ants, the leaf-cotting.	54 Business king, characteristics of a	353 Dam disaster, another	155 Filtering water	41 Herb cultivation
er's 242 Singeing cioth, machine for, Blanché's 286 Siphon for drawing liquids 228	Apples, American	Business outlook, the	OF \$150 Commenced States and Applications of the Commenced States and Co	. 123 Fillration of water	
Siphon for drawing liquids 225	Ants, white Apples, American Apples, curious 324, 307, Apples, keeping	Bust at Rome. Bust, silver, at Hercolaneum. Butter, coloring	147 Death, Hving	210 Pingal cave, the	250 Hoisting machine Is
Siphon for poisons and acids, Weinhold's 274 Siphon of the Spring Valley Min-	Apples pot 2 what makes	71 Butter, keeping. 177 Butter, making Butter, the detection of suct	124 Debt of the United States.	347 Firearms, American 342 Fire commissioners of Boston,	dass.321 Honey, strained or in the comm 185
Siphon of the Spring Valley Min- ing Co	Aquarium and winter garden, Southport, England	Butter, the detection of suct	124 Debt of the United States	Fire engines, railroad	THE PROPERTY OF STREET, STREET
Soen emitching machine, Lehr-	Aduarium at Manchester, Edgiana	- Hotter, Hb-canbed	313	Pire engines, railroad. 224 Fire engines, self-propelling at 273 Fire, fighting with explosives.	eam 214 Horseshoe, detachable
mann's	Archeological explorations	80 83 C	Dental Insoratory, the	The Fire governor for him works	
Spiders' webs and spinnerets 276	Architects and builders, hints to Arctic exploration, the Austrian	DM Callipers	*133 Dentistry in the United States	245 Fire grates, open	
Splaner's webs and spinnerers	Arrowheads, beveled	169 California's growing industries.	201 Depot, the Grand Central	El Fireless Jocomotive accident	the 68 Hydraulic lack
Fuligraff's 168 Stapella hirsuta minor, the 39	Arrowheads, feathering	5 Camera, a field	28 Details, studying.	97 Fireless locomotive, explosion	of a 5 Regiventic mining.
	Arsenic in agricultural and techni- cal products	SI Camera glasses. (18 Camera lucida for drawing. 245 Camera oscura, an accidental. (18	286 Diabetes 3 263 Diamond drill, the		be 130 Hydrogen by zime and supplierte
Steam trap, Bonser's 4				247 Fire lighter, a	(42) 547 acid
Steam generator, the Ecupee Steam trap, Bouser's Stevens, Edwin A. Stone sawing machine, diamond, Emerson's 159, 163 Stove, cooking, Iredale's 3	Artillery, modern German	115 Canal, a new Russian	. 337 Diamond, the largest	ii) an Fireproof construction, pren	nium Hydrogen generator accidents 115
Stove, cooking, Iredale's 38	Asparagos and colory would	288 Camphor, powdering 115 Canal, a new Russian 290 Canal improvements, the Welland Canals, steam on the	. 131 Diastase as a digestive agent	and the state of t	3 Hydronhobia.
Stove open ventilating Open Stove Ventilating Co.'s	value of	229 Canal Improvements, the Welland Canal, steam on the 41 Canal, the Fort 84 Philip. 235 Candie frames and streaks of clou 236 Canding fish. (3 236 Canning fish. (3 236 Canning green corn. 23 Cans, cheap fruit 238 Caraxie journals. (4 241 Caraxies, wear of 241 Caraxies, wear of 241 Caraxies of the control of the corn.	d 208 Dies, hand stock	101 Fires, usual causes of	of 226 Hydrophobia, death from 15
Stove plate dressing machine,	Astronomical notes 30, 30	256 Candolles, M. F. de	72 Dinner service, the King of Sian 52 Diphtheria, local remedy in	n's 4 Fish bones as fertilizers	214 Hydrophobia, hot weather 2
Northampton Emery Co.'s 191 Stump sawing machine, Elston's 294 Submarine building, Wenmae-	Assyria, explorations in	24 Canning fish(3	5) 299 Diphtheria, local remedy in 107 Discoverer, an unfortunate	274 Fish, freezing 24 Fishing by means of explosive	
Submarine building, Wenmae-	Astor library, the	3 Cans, cheap fruit	97 Discovery, an interesting	* 168 Flame important of the	144 Hypenocalvy undulate the
ker's system. 206 Sun, measuring the distance of the,	Asymptote curve, the	91 Car axies, wear of	5) 25) Diseases of the throat and nose. 22 Disinfectant, a new	180 Flame, recent researches on.	101 Hypodermic medication 82
Lillard's method	Atmospheric pressure, changes in	341 Carbon cells and plates	22 Disintegrator, Improved	7 Files, to kill	154 Hygrometer 157 158 159
T	ALAIC BICKETTON	Carbonic acid as a motor	. 135 Distances, Instrument for mean		31 I
	В	Carbons, battery(30) 184, (3	S Std Tilstances measuring by sound.	255 Flower market at Florence,	Italy 83
Tapping machine, water main, Young's	2112	Car couplers, drawbars, and buffe	rs 37 Distilling sea water	19 Flume, pressure in a	(13) 266 Ice and freezing house
Young's. 118 Taps, making. 187 Telegraph, Morse's conception of	Baird, James, of Gartsherrie, Scot-	* 95 Car, nacillating railway	247 Dock at Portsmouth, England, n	ew*354 Fly-catching plant, the	lee cream machine 296
	Ball dropped through the earth 188	* 16 Car, oscillating railway. , 250 Carpenter's bench, to makea (3 * 90 Carriage axles, machine for turnin	4) 283 Dock system, New York city 1g*207 Dog dentistry	s Flying machine, a.	
Telegraph, the Pacific ocean	Balloon ascent, a novel.	* 55 - Carriage cleaning machine, a. , ,	4) 283 Dock system, New York city	23 Fly wheel lawriting of a	572 Dustion 138 138 138 139
In, Winter's,	Balloon, hot air	256 Carrots	30 Dog on the witness stand, a	39 Fly wheel, bursting of a 361 Food adulteration, English.	
Telescopes, constructing mam-	Balloon steering device,a	*167 Cars, check chains on	31 Doing much	262 Fork swallowing	213 fee lenses of unlimited size 276
moth, Skey's plan for	Balloon voyage, a. (4)	68 Cars, steam and locomotives	Dough knessder and cutter 212 Draining cellars 2 23 Drains into chimneys, turning 2 1 Drawing as an educator 3 16 Dredging process a new 65 20 Drift, hand crank ang 138 Drop press, a large 129 Dust, atmospheric 129 Dust, atmospheric 130 Own seld in 30 Dyeing feathers (4) 187 Dyeing feathers (4) 187 Dyeing feathers	Foundery charcoal	130 Jee, the coldest (15) 187
Thermometer, solar, Negretti &	Balloon, 400 miles in a	102 Cars, street, propelled by spring	s. 33 Drains into chimneys, turning	357 Fossils of the departed	49 Immersion lenses St. 150
Thermometer, sour, Acgrett & 211 Thermo-motor, Bernardi's 120 Thysching machine, iron framed, Marshall & Co.'s 47 Threader, cutter, etc., pipe and boit, Empire Manufacturing	Bamboo, the	162 Car ventilation	or, 165 Dredging process, a new	Fountain cave, va., views in	'33, 35 Incline, tractile power on an 139
Threshing machine, tron framed.	Barometers, living	178 Casks tasteless solution for line	ng 138 Dren press, a large	Four-footed motion	16 India rubber in Columbia
Threader cultur are ples and	Barrels, straightening gun 107, (26)	187 Casting, blow holes in	(5) 409 Dust, atmospheric	29 Fox, the late Sir Charles	larring 97 Induction by the Ruhmkorff coll., 163
boit, Empire Manufacturing	Barrow in Furness shipbuilding	*211 Casting, cleansing	135 Dyeling, Epsom salts and sulph	34 Franklin Institute e hibition	o 312, 328 Injections, hypothermic. (31) 30
Tool, compound, lirouthook's av	Barytes green or manganate of	Castor beans in California	385 Dyeing feathers	(25) 231 Freights, cheap	on Ad Ink, burnishing, for boots (3D 54)
Torpedo, pneumatic, Ericsson's, 220	Bastlan's experiments, Dr.	. 384 Catalogue, a specimen	Dyeing Ivory blue	vancement of Science	215 Ink, copperplate
Transplanter, Coppen's	Batteries, carbons for (19)	382 Catarrh, vapor of ammonta for (16) 26 Dyeing muslins, callcoes, etc.	(n) sal French colonies, industri	213 Ice lenses of unlimited size 778 252 Ice making process 53 353 Ice, the coldest (12 187 353 Ignorance and crime 3
Transplanting trees	Batteries, new galvanic	2307 Cement for caustic ley tanks.	Dysentery, new remedy for	8 Friction pulleys	(18) 500 lnk, sympathetic (56) 219
ATOL TOTAL OF PARTICULARY 201	Battery, a cheap galvanic	Cement for glass	(9) 377 Dyspepsia and the use of pepsi	120 Fruit packing room, a	Insects Professor Piley on
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER, THE OW	Buttary culvania	100 County out True Leaves and the			
Tool, compound, firoadbook's 48 Torpode, paeumatie, Fricason's 20 Transplanter, Coppen's 20 Transplanter, Coppen's 20 Transplanter, Coppen's 20 Transplanting trees 31 Troy, the ruins of Earthenware 20 James 20 Tunnellog, new art of, Haskin's 20	Battery, galvanic,	. 125 Cement for Iron pipes	25 1/3 albeitatta testiculeuren		The same of the sa

Insects, replacement of Injurious, 182 Inventor, honors to an	Mechanical engineering and indus- trial operations. 308 Mechanical movement, novel. 6	Fire extinguisher 104 Fruit Jar 255 Hair net 200	Quicksilver in California	Slugs, rose, to destroy 207	Tempering cast steel (82) 2.0 Tempering steel for cutting burrs,
Inventors and capitalists, bints to . 24 Inventor, and fate of an	Mechanic of the future, the 233, 534 Medical notes, 21, 40, 80, 12, 20, 233 Medical notes, 21, 40, 80, 12, 20, 233 Medicines, mistakes in giving 111	Safety valve 16 shawl strap 185 Spring, rubber and nictal 185	R Stail, fast travel by	NOAN APROPERS	Teredo, the
lodide of potassium	Mental conditions, morbid 48	Stone breaker 216 Time detector 72 Tray 286	Itali, fast travel by	Soap water on incandescent metals 244	Testing colors for their fastness, 146 Testing governors
iron and seed, supparrie acta on 60 iron, case hardening 60 iron castings, cleansing 107 iron castings, weak points in 277	Mercury, new method of detecting 56 Metachloral. LSO Metal floating on metted metal. 342 Metal floating on meter metal. 342	Patent dummy, a 201 Patentee, a Chinese. 201 Patenting initations 200 Patent law, another amendment 400	Ratiroads, early opinion of 207 Ratiroad train, fast 207 Ratiroad train timer 169	Solar heat, differences in	Testing oxide of zine (26) 267 Testing urins 51 Tests for oils 256
Iron, cast-Interesting investiga-	Metallurgical researches, recent. 144 Metal ornamentation. 86	of the 800 Patent Office again, the 800 Patent Office again, the 800 Patent Office, a panic at the 877	Haliroad, wooden, in Michigan SS Haliroad, wooden,	Solder for brass	Thermometer, mean of a. (25) 400 Thermometer, separation of mer- cury in a. (32) 230 Thermometer, solar radiation 211 Thermometers, rather
Ironciad, new and powerful. 244 Fron, coating with copper 117 Fron dams. 117 Fron, haglish channel for. 274	Metals, coloring. 41 Metals, softening. 42 Metals, the precious. 42 Metals, the precious. 184 Metals, the transmutation of. 184	Patent Office deras, the	Railway, an 18 Inch	Somiding the Pactorition	Plane while or tree white a large with the control of the control
lron, otching. 20 Iron, fatty matters in. 20 Iron for filtering water. (60) al7 Iron for rinsing bottles. 153	Metal surfaces, ornamental	Patent Office tea set, the	Railway, 40 miles by 65 Italiway gage, change of 77 Italiway rails, rusting of 352 Italiway regulations, Pennsylvania 378	tion of	Thunderstorm, the safest place in 114 Tides in the Gulf of Mexico. 97 Tides of lakes and lakelets. 219 Tiles, companies. (29) 269
Fron floating on molten fron. 183 170n, galvaniaing. (12) 546 170n ball	Meter, casting the standard	Patent Office, the 368 Patent Office yearly report 360 Patents, Canadian, official list of	Railway Review, the Chicago 72 Railway rolling stock, U. 8 120 Railways and wheeled vehicles 264, 279	Specific heat	Timber, the growth of
tron in a battery	Microscopical. 88	361, 390, 391, 600, 311, 380, 396, 410	Railways, English and American 98,215 Railways, German. 128 Railway signals,the block system of 216	Spectroscopic art in England and America	Tin, crystalization of 301 Tin cup, scale on a 377 201 Tin form, (60) 202 Tinoling gray from, (14) 302 Tin property from, (14) 302
Iron in Stone, fixing 199 Iron, nodern cast 199 Iron, occlusion of gases by 200 Iron ore in New York city 194	Mildew in cotton 90 Miles and feet, German, Dantsh, and English (24) 346 Milk can, a novel 342	Patents, English, by American 9, 24, 42, 88, 121, 136, 169, 200, 233 248, 280, 320, 361	Railways of the United States 16	Spider, ingenuity of a	Tin, precipitated
Iron, peasage of gas through heat- ed 196 Iron piles, water in 388	Mill, a great flour. 121 Milling machine, the Tanite Com-	Patente, official that of 12, 77, 44,	duct. 130 Italiway statistics 180 Italiway track lifter 191 Italiway track lifter 191 Italiway tracking conduct 230 Italiway traveling conduct 230	ena, the	Tobacco and the brain 198 Tool, compound, new 408 Tools, forging
Iron parifies water	pany's 20 Mind reading 20 Mind reading 20 Mindrals, New Jersey 24 Mindrals 24	59, 75, 92, 108, 131, 130, 166, 172, 188, 204, 200, 236, 257, 267, 284, 269, 315, 262, 188, 264, 300, 316, 500, 500, 410 Patents, recent American and for-	Railway up Mount Vesuvius 71 Rain at New Haven, Corn 135	Sponge divers, the Syrian 60 Spontaneous combustion 159 Spontaneous combustion in hay 310	Tools, machine, at the Fair
iron rails at Columbus, Ohio	Mines and minerals of India, the	efgn 9, 24, 42,07, 73, 88, 105, 121, 136, 158, 170, 185, 301, 717, 334, 249, 264, 281, 297, 318, 330, 344,	Hainbow, a lunar	Spring, horse power of a	Tools, scraping. 168 Torpedoes, effects of 115 Torpedoes, range of 25
Iron, the passivity of	Mining, the vicisalitades of	Patents, the Commissionership of 2ti Pavement, new concrete	Ramsden, Sir James 311 Ram, the hydraulic 259 Rapid transit in New York 229, 229, 304	Squirrel's leap. a	Torpedo practice at Newport 144 Torpedo, the Ericsson pneumatic 200 Trades' unions, decline of 406 Transferring engravings to glass (4) 298
Iron works, the Degerfors	Mississippi river, the Similar devetalling machine Similar Molding castings, machine for Similar Simil	Peach brandy (30) 219 Peach, yellows in the 167 Peas three thousand years old 220 Peat fuel manufacture in Canada	Rarefled air, breathing	Star catastropie (79) 315 Stareh, potato (79) 315 Stare, numbers of the fixed 152 Stay, can we 169 Steam and pressure (16) 326	Transplanter, Improved
Itch, styrax in	Moiding castings, macaine to . (10) 425 Molds for casting resin, etc (10) 425 Moles. 20, 117, (7) 85 Monument at Saratoga 22 Moon and the tides, the	Peat, leaf mold, etc. 200, 100 Peat paper 300	Heason why, the	Steam and pressure (16) 285 Steamboat, new French river 121 Steam cars 116 Steam, cutting wheat by 383	Trees, transplanting 51 Trepanning, cocoanut 49 Trotting, fast 136
Java agricultural and industrial and exhibition.	Moon's atmosphere, the	Pendulum governors. 241 Pendulum governors. 289, 401 Pendulum, length of a 27, 150	Refrigerating car, ranway street	Steam, cutting wheat by	Troy, explorations in Troy, jars found in the ruins of 201 Trannel, a new Thomes
Journal boxes, boring 75	Mortar, the requisites for good 10 Mosquitoes, wash to keep off 7 Moss, long 428	Pendulum, the cone	physiological effects 17 Refrigerating process, new, 88 Regatta, the annual college, 65	Steamer City of Pekin, trial trip. *161	Tunnels, ventilation of rallway 169 Tunnel, the French and English 221
Kaleldoscope, to make a	Motor, a new 1128 Motor, a petroleum 44 Mounds in Iowa, 46 Mounting maps, etc. 9	Percussion powder for cartridges (59) 811 Peru, engineering in	Reservoir, fall of a 20	Steamer, new 241 Steamer, fast Atlantic (21) 3fl Steamer, the Hessemer saloon 56 Steamer, the Tokio 360	Tunnel, the St. Gothard
Kettles, rushy 53 Kite navigation 20	Muscarin 177, 34 Muscarin 177, 34	Petrifaction vs. putrefaction. 8 Petroieum barrels, cleansing 12 Petroieum benzin for oleoresins. 4 Petroieum, boiling point of (17) 26	Rheumatism, guarana in chronic. 149 Rhodoum, metallic, new property of 120 Rhodotypus kerrioides. 359 Rib, laying out a curved. 171	Steam for heating purposes, ex-	Tyndall, Prof. and the Buddhist. 208 Tyndall's address at Belfast, Prof. 208 Tyndall's address, Professor. 176, 192 Tyndall on typhoid
Laboratory at Oxford, the new 388 Labor prospects for the winter 331	Musical glasses (4) 250, (78) 288, (72) 34 Music by telegraph	Petroleum products Pharmaceutical conference, British Phips, Dodge & Co., case of 2 Phosphate of lime (12) 33 Phosphor bronze axle bearings 15	I tito, my mit our a controller and	Steam trap *4	Tyres, contraction of
Labor, rest, and recreation. 277 Lake or sea in Africa, new. 151 Lake, the highest. 46 Lakes, African, the proposed arti- feial 287	N N	Phosphor bronze axie bearings 15: Phosphor bronzes, new 23: Phosphorescence, insect, 23:	Rock drill, a compound engine 113	Steel chrome	Underground railway in Constant- inople
ficial. 337 Lampblack, manufacture of. 18 Landing stare, the Liverpool. 161 Language of insects and animals. 30	Nall, a new. 40 Nalls and shoe pins 5 Nalls, brittle finger. 15 National Academy of Science 34	Phosphoreacence of animal matter 22 Phosphoretted hydrogen 1 Phosphoric acid, etc., estimation of Phosphorus and phosphates in pu-	Rocks, the disintegration of 152 Roman remains 551 Rome, explorations in 85 Root beer 128	Steel, restoring burnt	Underground railway, the N. Y. city '307, '323, '338, '339, '331, 351' 602 Undulation valueity of recession 199
Language of insects and animals. 50 Lantern, improved. 108 Latch, improved locking. 150 Latch of the control of	Naval architects, the institution of 32 Navy, machinists in the	Phosphorus and phosphates in putrefaction 22 Phosphorus bronze 6	1 Rostn off (18) 266	Steel, what is	Unionidæ, the North American 129 United States, machinery in the 85 Urea, instrument for estimating. 125
Lathe, the combination foot. 117 Lathe work. 261, 325 Latitude and longitude. 75	Needle, a novel. 2 Nest egg, to make a. 5 New books and publications 9, 24, 42, 88, 121, 136, 153, 169, 230, 248,	Photographing lace on silk	Rowers, the training of 57 Rubber insulators, substitutes for 349 Rubber, solvents for 369 Rubber stamps 126	Steel, what is 22 Steel, what is 22 Steel, Whitworth 22, 103 Stevens Institute of Technology 20 Stevens, Messrs , and their iron- clads 25 Stings, remedy for insect 118 St. Joseph exposition, the 169 Stones awing machine, diamond 159 Stones cutting .	Urine, new compound from 34
Laudahuro 43 Lawn and pleasure grounds 183 Lawyer's advice, a 296	New Hampshire,physical history of 15 Newport conglomerate	Photographs, immense	Rudder, improved	Stone sawing machine, diamond. *159 Stones, cutting	Valve for gases and corrusive ii-
Lead poisoning. 197 Leaf and flower impressions 163, 244 Leather pulp. 296	New York State Agricultural fair. 9 Nickel mines in Australia	9 Photograph, the glace or enameled 35 8 Photography on tin	Rust on iron and steel (32) 29	Stove, an open	Valves, setting locomotive 124
Leg supporter 156 Lenses, grinding and pollshing(43) 263	Nickel muriatic satts of, 700 239 30 4 Nickel platts, cast 30 Nickel platting solutions (11) 3 Nickel platting solutions (11) 3 Nickel satts (63) 3 Nickel satts (63) 3 Nickel satts (83) 3	Phylloxera, chemical effect of the 36 Phylloxera, the 231, 37 Phylloxera, the eucalyptus and the 29		Stove polish (69) 219	Vanilline. ast Van, the lake and city of 184 Vapors and the solar rays. 175 Varnish, paraffin. 91
Levee, building a. (2) 26 Levee, building a. (2) 26 Levees on the Mississippi 20 Level glass, adjusting a. (25) 215 Leyden jar, to make a. (16) 218 Leys, utilizing waste. 184 Libyan desert, exploration of the 36 Lieles amountment to	Nickel saits	Phylloxera, the grape 10 Pickets in a fence (7) 4 Pickets	Safety valves, formulæ for	Stunco, improved. 583 Stump sawing machine. 594 Stump sawing machine. 792 Stump sawing machine.	Varnish, waterproof Vase for flowering bulbs Vegetatios, mose cartons ts Vehicles, wheeled and railways, \$4, 779
Leys, utilizing waste	Nitric acid, neutralizing. (2) 3 Nitrogen of the soil. L	Pickles. Picture frames, composition for 2: 6 Piles in sait water, preserving. It is 1 Pipe among chickens It is 1 Pipe and bolt threader and cutter 2: 1 Pipe and bolt threader and cutter 3: 1 Pipe and bolt threader 3: 1 Pipe and bol	Salt raising bread	Tuture 329 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Ventilation and cooling air 25 Ventilation, simple plan of 224 Venus, transit of .53, '114, 155, (52) 283, 400
Life, James 5 Lifeboats, ship. 100 Lifeboats, ship. 155 Life, geological records of 22 Life-asting taxtention, a 24	Nile exploring expedition. Nitrate of animonia for guipow- der (12) Mitric acid, neutralizing (2) it Nitrogen of the soil. It Nitrogen of the soil. It Nitrous acid in plants. It Noon mark, making s. (13) it Normal college, the New York cit; 13 Notes from Washington, D. C. 26, 148, 26	Pipe and bolt threader and cutter 2 Pipe cutting and threading machine 2 Pipes and plates, non-corrosive	Sand, sonorous	Spetion 352	Vertebrates, nower of thought in, 241
Life-saving invention a 34 Lighthouses, new 36 Lighthouses, our 38 Lighthouses, our 38 Lighthouses, our 38	Notes from Washington, D.C. 20, 148, 20	Pipes and plates, non-corrosive. 2 Pipes, protecting cast from 280, 5 Pistons and rods, turning 280, 5 Pistons and rods, turning 280, 5	sandstone to marble, transforma- tion of sandwheel, to make a 2 2 Sarcyphagus, an Italian 12 Sargasso sea, the 3 Sand boring and grooving machine 3 Sand transformation of the sand grooving machine 3 Sand tra	Sugar making, improvements in. 151 Sulphate of copper optics	led, the
Lightning and glass casters (65) 200 Lightning, are feather beds a pro- tion	Oak apples or galls	Pitcher, water. Pittsburgh and her industries	Sash boring and grooving machine 33 Saw contest at Cincinnati 29 Saw improvements, gang	Sulphuric acid on lead	Violin tones, softening. 123 Vise work 164
Lightning, oil fired by	Ontreal, manufacture of	Plane froms, grinding Planer, surface, the Hamilton Planetary motions, the relations of	Saw Improvements, gang. (4) Sawing lumber (41) Sawing lumber (5) Saw making, French 19 Saw premium at Cincinnati, the 20 Cincinnati	Sulphur in lead poisoning Si Sulphur in Sicily, and its reduction from the ore	Vivisection
Lightning rods,	Cornell, Ezra 4 Curtis, Benjamin R 2	Planing and molding machine	Saw, scroll 30 3. Saws, speed of (30) 3. Saws, speed of teeth of (5) 24	Sumac	W
Lightning rods, are more than one useful?	Fisher, S. S	82 Pittsburgh manufacturers for 1873 i 9 Pittsburgh, the subterranean fire a 23 Pianer froms, grinding 24 Pianer, surface, the Hamilton. 25 Pianetary motions, the relations of 26 Pianing and modding machine. 26 Pianing and modding machine. 27 Pianing machine, vertical 28 Piater bandage, a new 28 Piate, cleaning and burnishing (18) 2 29 Piating with platinum. 30 Piatinum, furnace for melting.	5 Saw seroll 3 Saws, speed of teeth of 5 2 Saws, need of teeth of 5 2 Saws, need of teeth of 5 3 Sax on, Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on, Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on Sax on Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on Sax on Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on Sax on Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on Sax on Joseph and his labors 3 Sax on Sax on Joseph and Joseph	in the sun's declination, the (7) 365 Sun, shotosphere of the 43 Sun, spectrum analysis of the 90 Sun, spectrum analysis of the 90 Sun, stroke, quick remedy for 13 Sun, the constitution of the 388, 40	Wagon, dumping '115 Wagon jack, improved '298 Walking feats, recent 299 Wall paper, red, dangers of 341 Washington, D. C., notes from 28, 168, 269
Lightning rods, metal roofs, gut- ters, etc. 145	Johnson, T. M. Keller, Charles M. Laird, John.	Plating with platinum Plating with platinum Plating with platinum Platinum Plows, new steam Plumber's derfence, the Plumber's defence, the Plumber's defenc	Science and metalluray Science as a tree Science, recent advances in 18 Science, the National Academy of 3 SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN IN GET-	Sunstroke, quick remedy for 131	Wall paper, red, dangers of
Lightning rods, proper size and material for. 155	Hennie, Sir John	Poisoning by shot	SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN IN Ger- many, the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, special	Cumpled freezeing 22	Watch key, refitting a 128 Water impurities, rain 54
Lightning rods, straw 501, and Lightning rods, etramnals of 16 Lightning rods, why should they be pointed 16 Light of coming days, the 17 Light of coming days, t			edition 288, 3 SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, to sub- scribers.	Swelling of cattle	Waste in manufactures, prevention of 106 to
Light of coming days, the 12 Lights of the heavens		65 Postal cards, incendiary	SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, Value of the	80 Switch accident, a	Water in the spherodark water. 222 Water power sewing machine (15) 460 Water pipes. lime in
Light of coming days, the 12- Lights of the heavens 121 Light, solar, chemical action of 19- Lify, the Victoria Begts 28- Link motions, fitting 19- Lithographic stone, French 28- Lithography 121-	Olls, essential, distilling (64) Olls, extracting essential Oll spots on paper (15)	y Postal system, the	149, 177, 257, 289, 331, 237, 380, 3 Scientific industry, society for the promotion of	Sword manufacture is Birming- ham 138 Sydney exhibition, New South Wales 350	Waterproof glue
Lithography (1) 28 Lock, improved 28 Lockjaw and quints 8 Locomotive, double borde tank 21 Locomotives and steam cars 22	officer of the control of the contro	Sil with	Scientific industry, society for the proposition of	T Tallow, bleaching	Waterproof paper 146 Waterproof paper (23) 499 Waterproof alle paper 23
South 12	Ophir, the rains of Optical delusion, an Optical delusion, an Optical of Optical delusion, an Optical Optical of Optical optic	84 Potato coverer, improved* 85 Power for cotton machinery 82 Power for turning wheels(14)	48 Screen, coal Screw cutting tools.	Tailow, bleaching. 2 84 Tan on the face and hands. 18 87 Tape worm, kousso for. 22 92 Tapping machine, water main. 11 140 Tapping screw threads. (14) 29	Water, purifying 155 Water, sanitary condition of 151 Wateriroughs, size of 151 Wateriroughs, size of 151
Locomotive, the largest 17, 10 Locust in Minnesota, the 17, 10 Locusta destroving a grain field 11	Ordnénce experiments, Sandy Hook Organs, making hand	55 Power in cotton mills	22) Screw propeller, measuring a		Water wheel current *181
Locusts, the piague of 11 Locust, the seventeen year 12 Log, the Hotchiciss marine 12 Longitude and latitude 12	organs, making hand. Outside, a human Outs of roses. Owen, samuel, centenary of. Oxygen, discovery of. Oxygen, discovery of. Oxygen, can	251 Power-supplying company, a	the 344 Sczaroch, the 30, 196 Sea sickness and vomiting 30, 196 Sea sickne	728 Tape, V-threaded 226 900 Tar roofing (25) 34 727 Taxing power of the legislature 226 728 Taxing power of the legislature 226	Water motion
Louse and the compass, the	Oxyhodrogen flame, spectra with	225 Prooffeel man and marchanical man	Sea weeds Self-lighter, non-explosive* Sensitized paper	Tea, Indian and Chinese St. Teeth, chemical and galvanic action on IV	Well water intermedial examina-
Laterine or Paris metal	Oxyhydrogen light, the Oyster culture, American	321 thetics. 328 Precious metals, the Premium for carriage lamp. Prescription, a queer looking. '51, Press. balanced screw cotton.	Scaland explorations in Section description of the second exploration	tion on	tion (5) 28 Wheel question, the (5) 28 White metal (5) 28 White not a color (5) 27 White not a color (5) 279 Whitworth industrial scholarships
Machine-department at the Falr.	Padiock, self-locking	Press, balanced screw cotton Press, hay and cotton Press, they and cotton	Sewage, utilization of	Teeth, value of the 10	IBO appear to anytherese the same
Machines, the utility of 252, 2 Madder, rose (19) 4 Magnetic condensation	15 Pate to the Lorenz and the control	Pressures, experiments at high	809 Shad, American, in Germany 409 Shad shipped to Persia. 216 Shaft and cranks, water works 104 Shafting, how to line	ist and treland.	Wire tramways 120 Wind, pressure and velocity of 120 Wind, printing the direction of the 133
Manual Capacition	Painting on albumon paper (2)	232 Priesticy centendial, the 400 Priming, device for preventing. 357 Printers' roller composition(56) 256 Printing ink	50 Ship, a new double	7 Telegraphic crows	Wood a costly building material. 183 362 Wood, dyeing black (18) 362 Wood, filling for (61) 347
Magnetic metals, the dispersion of Magnetic ore in New Jerrey, Magnetic variation, Magnetic variation, above esperiment in Jagretization, misored esperiment in degretization, misored esperiment in degretization, misored	tion of. Lion o	238 Printing machine, fabric	shoemaker's combination tool	81 nopoly of the 40 100 Telegraph paper, chemical (37) 292, 242 Telegraph paper, chemical (37) 398,	S Wiredrawn steam, loss from
of Magnetization of steel, Magnetization of steel, Magnetizing a compass needle (7) Magneto-mechanical separator		7 Cent 6 Printing without a press	The cittle major williaghton of	120	Worker's friend. Use Workmen, cheap, and dear work and Workmen, cheap, and dear work and Workmen, dealing with
Magneto-mechanical separator Magnets	213 Parabola, to draw a	183 Prizes for essays 215 Prizes for essays on steel. 225 Prizes for hand turning	Silvering glass . (30) Silvering glass . Draper's method of . (31)	267 Telegraph, the builder of the first B	36 1018
Manganese, sesquioride of(20) Manmoth cave of Mexico, the	49) Parallel motion	23) Prizes for hand turning 23) Prizes for hand turning 17: Propeller of the Britannie 25 Propeller shafts, lining 26 Propellers, sersw	56 Silvering glass, Blemena' pro- 107 cess (19) 86 Silvering mirrors (19)	Telegraph, the Pacific ocean* 2 Telegraph wire, four messages on 200 one Telegraph wires	of Name on the Whollies of Egypt, "281
Man, Huxley's theory of, (72)	234 Parian marble	251 Pulley, loose 18 Pulley, taper sleave, and whee	silver plating (15) 187, (26) Silver plating fluid (35) Singelng cloth machine for	200 Telegraph wires, kite tails and I 200 Telegraphy, American I 200 Telegraphy, an improvement in	Yacht, the royal 31 13 Yarn congress, the 32 14 Years old, a lundred and twenty 14 15 Years old, a lundred and twenty 15 16 Teast 61
Marking cotton piece goods. (60) Mary Powell, speed of the	With with 196 Pasigraphy 196 Patest declaions of the Court	18 Pulley, taper sleeve, and whee fastening 201 Pump difficulty, a. 69 Pumping engine, automatic 18: Pump mechanism, improved 18: Pump, improved stram 18: Pump, text of 19: Pump, the Sprengel 19: Pump, the	56 Silvering glass, Slemena' pro- cess	725 Telegraphy, cable 202, 324, 57 224 Telegraphy, cheap	Years old, a hundred and twenty Teast Years Yellow fever, protection from 60 Yellow fover, protection from 60 Yellowstone hot springs, the 70 Yuccas, the 70 Yuccas, the 70
Matches, phosphorus	Alphabet blocks Alphabet plocks Boller furnace Brucklet	88 Pumps, test of	200 Strus, making starch, (27) 107 Strup, making starch, (27)	Il Telegraphy, new discovery in— The electro-motograph	7 Peast Vellow fever, protection from 18 Yellowstone hot springs, the 19 Yellowstone hot springs, the 19 Yeccas, the Z 25 Zinc by water, precipitation of 194 Zinc white, to restore 194 Zodiscal light, the 195 Sa
Measuring a tree. Measuring width of a stream Meast preserving process	Corn planter	280 Pyrometers	Tis Skeleionizing leaves	155 Telescopic lenses, Improved 2	16 Zodiscal light, the

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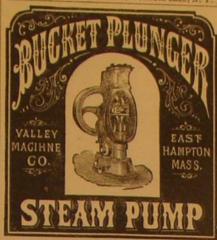
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