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**Remedy for the Yellow Fever.**

A correspondent of the New York *Herald* sends the editor the following:

"A few years ago I fell in company with a very intelligent captain of a merchant ship who had made many voyages to the West Indies, and also to the coast of Africa, and he informed me that as an antidote to the fevers prevailing in these climates, he always took with him a large bottle of pulverized charcoal, of which he gave his crew a teaspoonful three times a day, in a glass of water, and he never lost a man by the yellow fever, though other ships were daily losing their men. Should any one have faith to try this, with good effects, I hope it may be published to the world"

[As the yellow fever has lately appeared in a few localities in this country, the above will be interesting. We have little faith, however in its utility.]

**The Inventor and his Fly Trap.**

The following good story is told by the New Haven *Register*: "Bishop went down to New York with one of his patent fly trap machines, which makes the fly catch himself by a revolving cylinder. A butcher was very desirous he should set it agoing in his shop, and in the course of half an hour something less than a peck of flies had been 'hived.' The butcher was pleased, but concluded, as his flies were 'all trapped,' he 'didn't want the machine.' 'Very well,' said Bishop, 'I'm a Yankee, and I won't take any advantage of you by carrying off your flies,' and drawing the slide, he liberated the whole swarm about the butcher's ears, and beat a retreat under cover of a little the loudest buzzing ever heard in that vicinity."

**Cattle at the Paris Agricultural Exhibition.**

The finest cattle exhibited at the above named exhibition, recently held in Paris, were what are called the "Angus breed." They surpassed the Durhams and Herefords, and were the objects of general admiration. They have no horns, and are mostly spotted—black and white. They are raised in the counties of Forfar and Kincardine, in the north Great Britain.

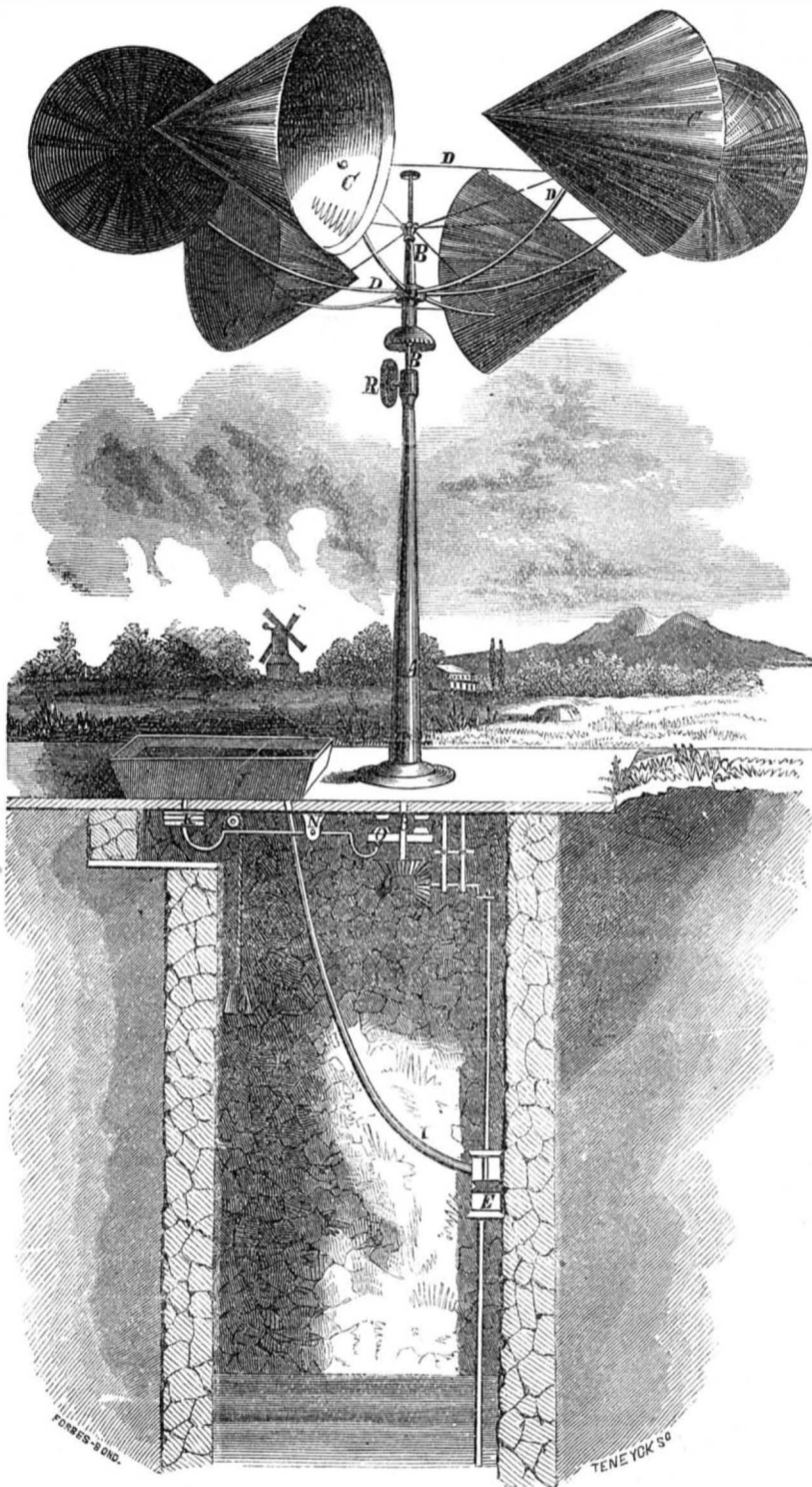
**Yankee Washing Machines Abroad.**

A late number of the London *Times* contains a long notice of Hollingsworth's Washing Machine, which, it appears, has found its way across the Atlantic. In this machine a number of buoyant balls made of wood, are employed as rubbers. The inventor, Mr. Christopher Hollingsworth, is a farmer of Indiana. The Dutchess of Sutherland and others of the nobility appear to have taken quite a fancy to the contrivance.

**Steam Music.**

The steamboat *Glen Cove*, running between this city and Albany, regales its passengers with music from a steam organ. It is heard at the distance of some miles before reaching the wharf playing "The Campbell's are Coming." The patent for this ingenious invention was secured through the Scientific American Agency for this country, and noticed on page 245 of the present volume. Patents have also been taken out in most European countries.

**IMPROVED HORIZONTAL WINDMILL.**



**New Horizontal Windmill.**

Our engraving illustrates an improvement for which letters patent were granted to Messrs. Jacob W. Goodwin and Moses C. Hawkins, of Edinburg, Pa., April 8, 1856.

The principal features of novelty consist in the employment of hollow cones to catch the wind, instead of flat vanes or sails; also in a peculiar method of regulation when applied to the pumping of water.

Referring to the cut, A is a hollow stand which supports the apparatus, B the revolving spindle to which the hollow wind cones, C, are connected and supported by means of rods, D. E is a force pump, operated by means of its piston rod, F; the latter is operated by the crank shaft of the pinion, G. H is a pinion on the lower end of revolving spindle B. Pinion H gears with G, and thus the motion of spindle, B, and cones, C, is transmitted to the pump.

The regulation is done in the following manner:—The water rises from the pump, E, through pipe I, into tank J. K is a small hydrostatic bellows, connected by an opening with the bottom of the tank. L is a curved

rod, extending from the bottom of bellows K to the end of brake lever, M. The latter is pivoted at N, and its forward end terminates just below the brake pulley, O, which is attached to spindle B. When the water rises in tank J to a given line, its weight expands the bellows, K, which, being connected with the end of lever L, the latter draws down the back end of M, while its front end rises and lifts pulley O, raising with it the spindle, B, and its pinion, H. The two, pinions, G, H, are thus disconnected, and the pump stops, so that tank J cannot overflow. When pulley O is raised, the rubbing surfaces, P, come in contact with similar surfaces immediately above, and the friction of the two, being equivalent to the power just previously consumed on the pump, the speed of the wind mill will continue the same as it was before the pump was disconnected. Q is a weight, attached by cord and pulley to the back end of lever M. When lever M is pressed down, weight Q rises. Therefore the bellows, K, will not operate until the weight of the water in the tape overbalances that of weight Q. R is an adjusting screw, by means of which

the rotation of the spindle, B, and of the whole apparatus, can be instantly shifted when desirable. The mouths of the cones being always presented to receive the wind, while the points move against the same, an effective power is obtained, no matter in what direction the wind is moving.

The windmill requires no vane or attention to bring it properly before the wind. It is self-acting in all respects, simple, durable, noiseless in operation, economical in manufacture. On the prairies, at railroad stations, and at all localities where power is needed for the raising of water or other purposes, it will be found highly useful. For further information address the patentees.

**Recent Foreign Inventions.**

**Singeing Fabrics by Superheated Steam.**—J. L. A. Hulliard, of Paris, patentee.—In order to impart to cotton and linen cloth a beautiful smooth surface, it has to be singed to remove the long wool. This is commonly done by passing the cloth, in pieces, over jets of gas light—a very delicate operation—requiring the nice adjustment and running of the rollers which guide the cloth. The invention of Hulliard consists in heating a metal plate with highly superheated steam, then passing the cloth over this plate. The improvement appears to be a good one. Wood can be completely charred with superheated steam, consequently its heat imparted to a metal plate may be expected to singe textile fabrics in a superior manner to jets of gas light.

Instead of employing starch and gum as a dressing for cotton and linen cloth, he uses the cyanides of zinc and tin, then passes the cloth over a cylinder in which superheated steam circulates, and the high heat of which oxydizes the metallic dressing, and gives to the surface of the cloth, when callendered a fine appearance.

**Annealing Wire.**—J. Cocker, of Liverpool, Eng.—This improvement consists in first heating the wire in an oven, then passing it into a closed chamber to cool so as to anneal it perfectly.

**Varnish for Exposed Iron.**—J. E. Cook, of Greenock, N. B., patentee.—This varnish consists of six pounds of gum shellac dissolved in a gallon of methylated spirit, or common wood spirit. This is stated to be an improved varnish for iron work exposed to a moist atmosphere where it is liable to rust.

(Methyle C.<sup>2</sup> H.<sup>3</sup>) is a hypothetical base not yet obtained separate, but its oxyd is easily obtained by distilling common wood spirit with alcohol. Wood spirit is formed by the destructive distillation of wood. The varnish is claimed to be of a superior quality for coating, plaster, and brick work, and silvered glasses, to prevent the action of moisture in the atmosphere.

**Manufacturing Iron.**—H. Bessemer, of London, Eng., patentee.—This inventor claims the application of heated currents of air or steam in eight different methods, to iron and steel, in a molten state, in furnaces and crucibles, in order to free it from impurities and improve its quality. The injection of jets of steam into molten iron improves it, but the use of steam for this purpose is not new—only the method.

**Washing Textile Fabrics.**—A. & J. Wallace, of Renfrew, N. B., patentees.—The claim of these inventors embraces the injecting of currents of hot air into the common dash wheels employed in bleach works for washing pieces of cotton cloth. A pipe passes into the dash wheel through a stuffing-box, and the hot air is driven through it into the apartments of the wheel.

The French Academy of Sciences have appropriated 2,000 francs to make experiments with balloons, by M. Poitevin.

## New Inventions.

American Association for the Advancement of Science.—No. 2.

*Gar Pikes.—Old-Fashioned Fish.*—John E. Gavitt, Esq., of Albany, exhibited a vase of young gar pikes, when Agassiz said:—

"If it were announced that some of the old Egyptians were outside, he should not be able to keep his hearers inside. This apparition of the oldest fashioned fish alive was hardly less striking. There were very few types of this kind to be found among living fishes, but there were many among fossils. It had what other fish had not, a ball and socket joint in the neck, so that they could bow; this was common to them with reptiles. Their pectoral fins were small, and continually in a vibratory motion, like the cilia of anamalcules. In the Old Red Sandstone he had found a fish which he called Glypticus, with the same sort of a tail. This went with so many other things to show that the order of succession in past times was exemplified now in the development of individuals. Here were also two features observed in genuine reptiles, the power of moving the head on the back bone, and the quasi tail. He noticed also that while these gar pikes had something approaching the reptile's apparatus for breathing they had gills as fully developed as those fishes which breathed only through gills.

Col. Foster stated that in the Ohio strata corresponding with the Onondaga limestone of New York, fossil gar pikes were found, and they were evidently a deep water fish, as this limestone must have been deposited in deep water.

Prof. Dana, from appearances on coral islands, argued that a very solid limestone, without ripple marks, might be deposited in water not deeper than 40 or 50 fathoms.

Prof. Hall said that the occurrence or absence of ripple marks was not an infallible mark of deep or shallow water. It was only when earthy deposits were made upon them that they were preserved.

Prof. Dawson, of Nova Scotia, inquired whether there was any particular adaptation of the gar pikes to their haunts, which are among the rushes?

Prof. Agassiz said that they bore some resemblance to alligators both in shape and habits, and that they haunted the same class of places.

*Comets.*—Dr. Peters, of Cambridge, Mass., read a paper on a comet discovered by himself at Naples in 1846. He has computed its expected places to 1860, and indicated upon a chart the limits of space within which it is to be sought at any specified time. He then spoke of the peculiar value of the periodic comets, as showing the nature of the interplanetary spaces, and of the real service which amateurs can render to astronomy by searching for comets. This work cannot be undertaken by those who are occupied in regular observations, and the comet medal of the King of Denmark was of great value in stimulating research by amateurs. As interest in science appears to be decreasing in Europe and increasing in America, Dr. Peters hoped that a similar medal might be proposed here.

Dr. Gould wished to express his sense of the gratitude due from astronomers to Dr. Peters for his services in these eleven years of labor upon the comet, and especially for the extreme beauty of the method of search proposed by Dr. Peters—the restricting of the probable field of the appearance of the comet at any day to a narrow line. He thought that the non-appearance of certain comets of short periods might arise from variations in the luminosity of the comet.

*Cyclones, or Typhoons on the North Pacific.*—Mr. W. C. Redfield, of New York, read a paper on this interesting subject. It comprised notices of about thirty cyclones of violent character in the trade-wind latitudes of the North Pacific. As regards the several months of the year, their occurrence was as follows: In February, one; April, one; May, two; June, two; July, three; August, four; September, four; October, six; November, four; December, one. At the Marian Islands, about lati-

tude 13° N., they are looked for in December and January, as well as in the summer months.

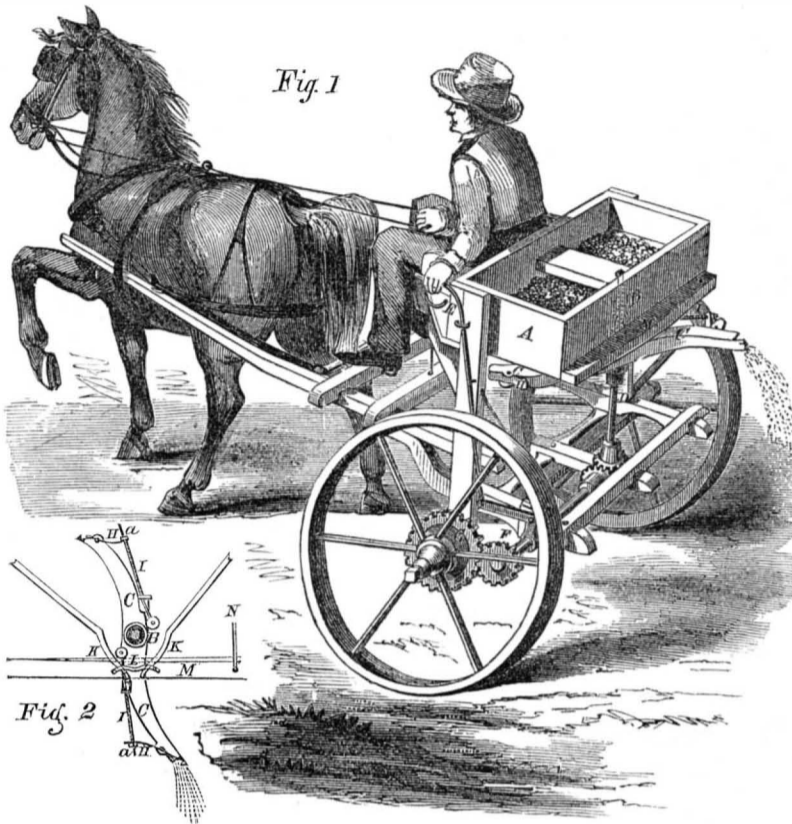
Immediately at the close of the paper, Dr. Hare asked Mr. Redfield what he meant by a cyclone. Mr. Redfield answered, a wind which moved in a curved line. The Dr. objected, in quite a long speech, to the theory and views

set forth in the paper.

When he had concluded, Mr. Vaughan made the remark that an upward current of air would infallibly produce a whirlwind.

Dr. Hare replied: When you have read my book, sir, you will be better qualified to form a judgment upon the question, and to take part in the discussion.

## IMPROVED SEED PLANTING MACHINE.



## New Broadcast Sower.

In this improvement the seed is deposited in a box, A, and flows down through a tube, B, into the curved hollow arm, C, by whose centrifugal motion the seed is scattered broadcast. The arm, C, is attached to the upright spindle, D, which is rotated with great rapidity, by means of pinions and gear wheels which derive power from the axle of the vehicle. The connections for this purpose will be readily apparent by reference to the cut. E is a lever by moving which the pinion, F, is instantly disconnected from the driving gear wheel, G, and the seed sowing apparatus brought to a stop.

The extremities of the arms, C, are furnished with valves, H, each of which is connected by means of rod and spring, I, and rollers, with a cam arrangement, K L, attached to the under side of the bottom board of box A. (See fig. 2.) The object of the valves and adjuncts is to regulate the quantity of seed sown per acre, and also to prevent the scattering of seed except from that end of hollow arm C which sweeps out at the rear of the machine. Were the seed allowed to escape indiscriminately from both ends of C, portions of it would strike the vehicle, or animal, and be improperly scattered.

The tendency of the springs, I, is to keep the valves, H, constantly closed, and they never open except when the arm, C, revolves and brings friction rollers J against the cam surfaces, K L. The duration of contact between the rollers, J, and cam surfaces is equivalent to the time occupied by the arm, C, in sweeping around the rear of the machine. The valves, H, are therefore open, and the seed escapes, when the extremity of arm C begins to emerge from beneath the seed box, A, but the valves instantly shut, when the extremity of C has finished its rear sweep and begins to go under box A again. The quantity of seed sown per acre is regulated by adjusting the nut, a, (fig. 2) which releases or tightens the pressure of springs, I, on the valves, H.

The cam surfaces, K, it will be seen, are formed by bending the ends of the rods of which they are composed. Cam surface L is attached to a movable cross bar, M, one end of which is hinged to box A. A rod, N, extends from M to a point near the driver's seat within his reach. When he wishes to stop the discharge of grain he pushes rod N, and

throws M out a little (fig. 2.) This carries the yoke, L, towards the outer ends of K, and they open so that rollers, J, when they come around, cannot touch the cam surfaces; consequently the valves, H, remain closed, and no discharge of seed takes place.

This machine will sow all kinds of grain or grass seeds at the rate of from four to six acres per hour, doing the work in the most even and perfect manner. The patentee states that its cost is not much more than a common gig, for which the vehicle may also be used if desired, the seeding arrangement being so fixed as to be easily removed. Or the wheels of a common wagon may be conveniently applied during the seeding operation, thus saving a portion of the cost. Invented by Enos Stimson, North Craftney, Vt., of whom, or of A. Stimson, Chicago, Ill., further information can be had. Patented May 6, 1856.

## The Scientific American.

We cannot sufficiently draw attention to the advertisement of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, published weekly at New York, the name of which indicates its character. It is the only paper of its kind in the United States, and we hardly think that its value is duly appreciated by mechanics and manufacturers of all degrees, for it touches fully every appliance with which they are associated. It records all new inventions and discusses their character, and every amateur and practical mechanic in the country should have the paper at his hand.—[Boston Courier, Aug. 28th, 1856.]

[The above is only one out of hundreds of complimentary notices from the newspaper press which we might insert did our space permit.—Eds.]

## Yellow Fever.

A few cases of this dangerous disease originating from foreign vessels, have occurred at the New York Quarantine, and vicinity, eight miles from the city, giving rise to the most exaggerated statements. In some of the country districts it is rumored and believed that a most fearful epidemic is raging in this city, that the people are dying off like rotten sheep, and that sure death awaits all strangers who venture into our limits.

It is proper to say that all this is foolish nonsense. No yellow fever exists here at all, and the city was never in a more healthy or

salubrious a condition than it is at the present moment.

## The Boiling Springs of Utah.

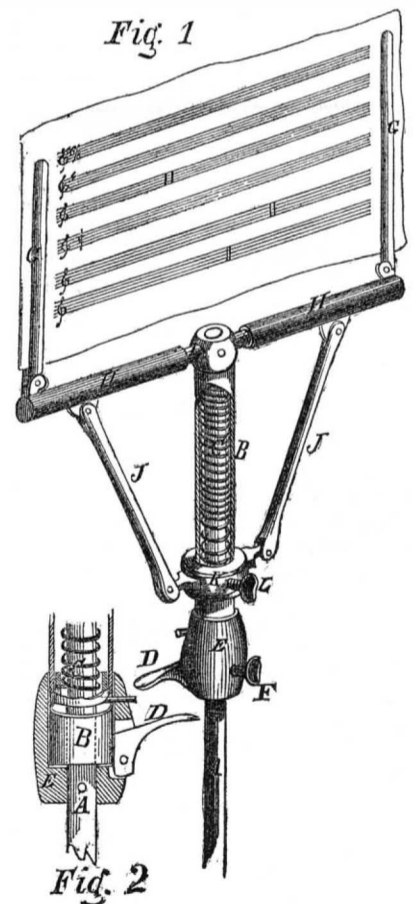
In Washhotah Valley, Utah, there are ten boiling springs, which are great natural curiosities. They are situated on the banks of a stream and pour out their waters seething hot, with a great noise. The waters hiss and dash over jagged rocks, and jets of steam hot enough to scald the hand are also forced out. Deposits of sulphur and alum are found in their neighborhood, and the whole appearance of the region evince a powerful volcanic action.

Notices of cases sent to the Patent Office and of moneys received on account of patent business for the week ending August 30th, are necessarily deferred until next week.

## Improved Music Holder.

By Thomas Ward, Birmingham, Hunting-ton Co., Pa.—The object of this contrivance is to promote the convenience of band musicians. It is intended to be attached to some suitable part of the instrument carried by the performer. The chief novelty consists in the combination of a spring or trigger with the spindle of the holder in such a manner that when the performer touches the trigger the spindle will instantly revolve and present the opposite side of the sheet of music to his eye, thus preventing any interruption.

In our engraving, A is the spindle, covered at its upper part by a case, B. C is the spring, which is spiral in form and encircles spindle A. D is the trigger, pivoted to an adjustable hub or boss, E. F is the screw for adjusting E. The lower part of case B fits into hub E. The manner in which trigger D detains the case B, is shown in fig. 2. When the trigger is pressed down, B is released and revolves half around. The spring, C, is attached by one end to A and by the other to B, thus causing the revolution. The music is



supported between the slotted holders, G, which are hinged to the sliding tubes, H. The latter are supported on the cross piece, I, which passes through the head of spindle A. The tubes, A, are connected by means of rods, J, with collar, K. When it is desired to spread the holders, G, further apart, so as to accommodate wider pieces of music, the tubes, H, are drawn out laterally, the rods, J, spread, and the collar, K, rises. L is a screw in the collar, K, which holds the latter, and its adjuncts in any desired position.

This is a very simple, cheap, and useful improvement. In full size it is hardly twice the dimensions shown in our cut. For further information address the inventor as above.

Scientific American.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 6, 1856.

The Past and the Future.

With this number of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN the labors of another year are added to those of the past, and we close the well-filled leaves of Volume Eleven to open the virgin pages of Volume Twelve.

Our record for the years 1855-56 exhibits a most gratifying increase in the stock of useful knowledge, and a highly satisfactory state of progress in the arts and sciences throughout the globe. In our own country this progress has been more apparent and extensive than, perhaps, elsewhere; for we have enjoyed the blessings of peace and a full measure of material prosperity. Europe, however, has been convulsed with bloody wars—calamities whose influence upon the intellectual affairs of mankind is always baneful.

We return our heartfelt thanks to the noble host of patrons who have honored us with their attention and patronage during the year now brought to a close. They have our warmest wishes for their individual prosperity and success in all that can contribute to their happiness. We have honestly endeavored to benefit them and thus to merit their approbation. We have good reasons to believe that, in some respects, at least, we have been successful. It is under this belief that we propose to commence another new volume, determined to labor with increased ardor, and, if possible, render ourselves and our journal more and more useful in the world.

We cordially invite all our old friends to lend us their co-operation. We hope that each of them will endeavor to bring over some new recruits into the ranks of those who love knowledge and believe in its elevating power.

Route of the Monopolists.

The utter defeat of the Woodworth Patent Bill at the late session of Congress is regarded with great satisfaction by mechanics, inventors, manufacturers, and all classes of people throughout the country.

Those who labored against that iniquitous scheme may congratulate themselves upon the entire success of their work. The victory was most complete. Notwithstanding the vast sums of money which had been pledged to procure its passage, and the almost superhuman efforts that were put forth by its myriads, the Bill came far short of a success. No committee reported in its favor, and it did not even reach a second reading, much less a discussion, in either branch of the National Legislature. Had it reached the latter stage, it would, beyond doubt, as circumstances now show, have been rejected. Resolutions from many of the States instructing their representatives not to vote for it, denouncing the monopoly, and requesting Congress to refuse its extension, had been sent in, besides petitions and letters from individuals, villages, towns, and cities in large numbers, all aided by the thunder voice of the public press. These had their proper effect, and the general feeling of the Members of Congress became adverse to the schemers.

The resulting consequences will be of the highest importance. On the 6th of December, 1856—just three months from to-day—the Great Monopoly which for a whole generation has been a terror and a scourge to inventors, and a cruel extortioner among the hard-working masses, will fall to the ground. A new and broad field for genius and industry will then be thrown wide open to all.

We derive great satisfaction in feeling that we have contributed, in some degree, to this noble result. All the means in our power have been long and faithfully employed towards its achievement, as the readers of our columns well know.

All inventors having improvements in planing machines who have been driven to the caves by the Woodworth Monopoly, may now come forth from their hiding places.

All mechanics who desire to enter into the lumber-planing business may now make the necessary arrangements.

All machinists may now prepare to take or-

ders for the construction of Woodworth Planing Machines.

All improvements hitherto locked up, because of alleged infringement, may now be put into operation.

The demand for lumber-working machinery will be very large in December next. Those who are earliest prepared to take advantage of the great opening will be likely to reap the richest harvest.

In addition to the Woodworth Patent extension, several other attempts to revive and extend odious monopolies were strangled by Congress. Among these were *McCormick's* application for a renewal of his Grain Cutting Machine patent, which expired in 1848; *Hayward's* Rubber patent, expired 1853; *Harley's* Iron Casting patent, expired 1849; *Nock's* Padlock patent, expired 1853. Whatever shortcomings may be laid to the charge of the late Congress, it is certainly entitled to the thanks and gratitude of the people for having refused to breathe the breath of life into the above batch of monstrosities.

The only patent extension granted during the session was to Isaac Adams, Boston, Mass., for his printing press. This patent had already been extended seven years by the Commissioner of Patents, and would have expired in 1857. Its present extension, although a matter of little public importance, should never have been allowed. Congress has already made general laws for the government and protection of inventors. It ought not to disregard those laws for the special benefit of single individuals. In the cases of poor inventors who appeal for relief, let a sum of money be donated, if need be. But let us have no suspension of time-honored laws, bringing ruin and injustice upon others, in order to bestow charities upon single individuals.

The Claims of Inventors.—Henry Cort, the Inventor of Puddled Iron.

The iron manufactures of England far surpass those of any other nation—they command the wonder and admiration of the world. The yearly make of rolled and puddled iron of that country now amounts to 200,000 tons—50,000 tons of which are exported. Eighty years ago, instead of exporting wrought iron Britain was a large importer from Russia and Sweden, paying out annually about \$7,500,000; now it exports iron to these very countries.

What has produced such a great change, and given England such sources of wealth and power? Not the policy of the government, but the inventive genius of Henry Cort, who was deeply wronged by government officials, and his family reduced to comparative poverty.

We have already noticed this case in our columns, and our remarks on it have been copied with approbation into several British journals. The *London Times*, in a strong article, has advocated the claims of Cort's heirs, and there are some prospects of their being prosecuted to a successful issue.

Henry Cort was the inventor of puddling iron, and rolling it by grooved rollers; these were the greatest improvements ever made in the manufacture of wrought iron. The idea is too often held up by those who are not deeply versed in the progress of manufactures, that government favor is the great cause of their development, in nations. This is a great mistake; inventors are the great improvers of manufactures; governments more often throw impediments in their path than afford them assistance. In England, men are knighted, made Peers, granted pensions and high titles, whose claims to such distinctions are but very barren—so far as they relate to the welfare of the country—in comparison with those of her inventors. Great warriors and orators, generally, are the recipients of government favors, not inventors and men of solid genius. There are some honorable exceptions, to be sure; but the rule and custom has been to heap honor upon the descendants and relatives of the land Barons, and to overlook the claims and worth of the industrious classes.

Henry Cort did more to advance the real greatness of England than Wellington, yet the heirs of the former are living in comparative indigence, while those of the latter are swathed with honors and revel in donated riches. This

is not just, nor honorable. England can afford to be just and generous to her sons of genius and industry; and the recent elevation of Mr. Strutt, a manufacturer, gives evidence of a forward step in the right direction. But the throne and the peers must elevate their policy higher still, if they would act wisely for themselves; they should admit the manufacturing and mercantile classes to a full communion of association founded on worth.

Every nation that is governed by a wise and just policy, will encourage and reward its inventors generously, but no nation on the face of the earth has yet done so; we include our great Republic among the number. We have hopes of better things for the future; and we hope that England and the United States, who have been so largely benefitted, will do justice to the heirs of Henry Cort. Why cannot our iron manufacturers start a subscription for the benefit of Cort's heirs, and thus show to the world that genius is appreciated, no matter upon what soil it flourishes?

Recent American Patents.

*Improved Potato Digger*—By Silas Woolson, Moodna, N. Y.—This implement consists of two large bars or levers, pivoted together in the center, somewhat like a pair of scissors. One of the bars is furnished with prongs like a fork, at one end, by which the potatoes are raised. The other bar is used as a fulcrum for the fork. The forked bar is slotted at its center, so that it may be drawn up or thrust down, and also hinged on the pivot. In use the operator thrusts the fulcrum bar into the earth, and holds it erect with one hand, while with the other he pushes the end of the forked bar under the hill and then bears down. The potatoes are in this manner all lifted out, and the dirt falls through the prongs. This apparatus renders the labor of potato digging comparatively easy.

*Contrivance for Milking Cows*—By William H. Whitman, of Bailey Hollow, Luzerne Co., Pa.—Consists of a square box the top of which is perforated with four holes, placed at the proper distance apart, to receive the teats of the cow. The insides of the holes are lined with a series of spring fingers connected with a cam, in such a way that when a small crank is turned the fingers will press the teats and cause the milk to exude. The operation resembles the ordinary process of hand milking. The milk falls to the bottom of the box and flows thence through a flexible tube to a pail or other receptacle.

*Safety Gas Burner*—By Augustus R. Marshall, of Stratford, Conn.—This improvement consists of a safety attachment for gas burners, whereby, whenever the gas is blown out by a current of air or otherwise, its escape will be immediately arrested, and waste or other bad consequences prevented. Without drawings it would be difficult to explain the parts. It will be sufficient to say that there is an air chamber so connected with a valve, that when the gas is burning, the air chamber is expanded by the heat, and the valve thus kept open. But when the gas is extinguished, the air chamber contracts, the valve falls and the gas is shut off.

*Condenser for Steam Engines*—By John T. Denniston, of Lyons, N. Y.—The object of this invention is to complete condensation and obtain the vacuum at an earlier point in the stroke of the engine; also to expel the water and air from the condenser, (the condenser used being the wet condenser,) through separate channels and at a less expense of the power of the engine. The invention is adapted for river boat engines, in which the vacuum apparatus is above the water line, as well as for stationary engines, whose condensing apparatus is at a higher elevation than the source from whence the water for condensation is derived.

*Instrument for Measuring Distances and Altitudes*—By E. A. Crandall, of Friendship, N. Y.—This instrument consists of two telescopes, sight tubes, or other sighting devices, placed at certain fixed distances apart, on a suitable table. One of the telescopes is stationary, relatively to the table, and the other movable on a fixed pivot, in a line that forms a right angle to the stationary one, so as to be capable of being brought to bear upon the

same point or object. The movable telescope has attached to it an index, moving over a graduated scale of distances on the table, by which, when brought to bear on the same point or object as the stationary one, it indicates on the said scale the distance of the point. The operation of the instrument is based upon the well-known principle in trigonometry, that when the length of the base of a right angled triangle is given, the adjacent angle formed by the hypotenuse serves to determine the length of the perpendicular.

*Contrivance to Prevent Liquids Boiling Over*—By John Leiblong, of Waterbury, Conn., (assigned to Edward Brown and J. R. Case.)—Consists in placing a conical shaped cap within the vessel, said cap having an opening at its apex, over which a deflecting plate is placed. The whole is so arranged that the boiling liquid will pass up through the opening in the apex of the cap and striking against the deflecting plate, will run down again into the vessel. The liquid is thus effectually prevented from passing over the sides of the vessel.

*Improved Fountain Pen and Indelible Pencil*—By Nelson B. Slayton, of Madison, Ind.—Office 290 Broadway, New York City.—This improvement consists of a hollow tube tapering to a point like a common ever-pointed pencil. The point is slitted from its apex, for a short distance, up two or more sides. The tube is filled with ink, which, when at rest, remains confined, and cannot escape. But when the point is moved in contact with a sheet of paper, as in writing, the ink flows freely as fast as wanted, but no faster.

This contrivance moves over the paper with all the ease and smoothness of a lead pencil, yet the inscription made is with veritable ink. There are no nibs to catch in the paper, no spattering or blotting, no ink-stand to be continually dipped into, and no valves to be regulated. The instrument may be carried in the pocket like a common pencil. It is, in fact, a complete pen, inkstand, and pencil, all combined. By turning a nut at the cap the mark produced will be fine or coarse. The inventor informs us that he was led to attempt the invention of an improvement of this kind from an article published in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN setting forth the need and advantages of such an improvement.

Patented in the United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium, etc., through the Scientific American Patent Agency.

*Machine for Sorting out Ivory Combs*—By William Fosket and Benjamin S. Stedman, of Meriden, Conn., (assignors to Julius Pratt & Co.)—In the manufacture of ivory combs the blanks are generally cut of as great length as the width of the elephant's tusks, out of which they are made, admits. Therefore there is always a great variety of lengths, and many of them are so nearly of the same size that it is difficult to detect any difference without comparing them closely, side by side.

It is desirable in putting the combs up in packages of dozens, more or less, to have all the combs in one package of the same size exactly. The only way of sorting them heretofore employed, has been to pick them out by hand, which is a slow and tedious operation, requiring great practice to acquire any considerable degree of skill. The machine now patented is intended to perform this operation of "sizing," as it is termed, with great exactness and dispatch.

It consists of a round table with a slot or groove cut through around its edge. Said slot is made in flaring form, being wider at one end than the other. The blanks are placed one at a time, across the head or movement part of the slot; there is a pointer in the center of the table, which then comes around and sweeps the blank along the surface of the slot until a point is reached where the slot is wider than the blank, when it falls through. Boxes are arranged beneath the slot, into which the different sizes fall, and thus are separated.

Missing Numbers.

Such numbers as we have on hand, subscribers can have furnished them gratuitously, to complete their sets for binding, by addressing a note to this office.



[Reported Officially for the Scientific American.]

LIST OF PATENT CLAIMS

Issued from the United States Patent Office FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 1856.

**EVAPORATING SALT**—Wm. G. Clough, of Newark, N. J.: I do not claim the individual parts of the above described apparatus, but, I claim the apron H, chamber B, and escape flues F F', arranged and combined with the pan A A', in the manner and for the purpose specified.

**WINDMILL**—Wm. C. Chambers & Thos. S. Hargraves, of Brooklyn, N. Y.: I claim, first, the combination of the windmill with the rudder plate E, which supports the wheel, in such a manner as to allow it a vibrating rotary motion, whereby the mill is rendered self-regulating, substantially as described.

Second, We claim the combination and arrangement of the segment gear O, pinion P, drum Q, and weights M and N, (or any equivalent mechanism,) for retaining and holding the wind-wheel always in proper position, substantially as set forth.

**HAND SEED PLANTER**—J. Herva Jones, of Rockton, Ill.: I claim, the use of a hinge or joint B B, or its equivalent for connecting two single hand-planters at their tops, for the purpose of allowing them like a pair of compasses to contract and expand in their operation, as set forth.

**PREVENTING LIQUIDS FROM BOILING OVER THE SIDES OF VESSELS**—John Leiblong, (assignor to Edward Brown and James R. Case,) of Waterbury, Conn.: I claim the cap, B, placed within the vessel, A, and constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

**SIZING COMB BLANKS**—Wm. Fosket and Benjamin J. Siedman, (assignors to Julius Pratt & Co.) of Meriden, Conn.: We claim the gradually receding edge, a, arranged within or around, and inclining toward a rebate, f, so as to form a tapering opening, b, between them, with a resting place, c, at the narrow end of the opening when combined with a set of arms, G G, rotating or otherwise moving over the opening, and with boxes, compartments, or other receptacles below, to operate substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

**SEWING MACHINES**—A. F. Johnson, (assignor to himself and F. A. Houghton,) of Boston, Mass.: I do not claim the feed motion described, and that although eccentric shuttle throwers have been used before I cannot find that the pivoted swinging ellipse or a thrower has been so combined with a cam which operates it as to get a quicker motion of the shuttle when the cam operates near the point and discharging the shuttle forward through the loop than when it is drawing it back.

I claim the combination of a swinging ellipse as a shuttle thrower hung on a pivot, with a cam on the driving or other rotating shaft, so operating with said swinging ellipse as that when the cam is bearing upon it near its pivot it shall move the shuttle faster or through a larger space in the same time than when it is bearing upon the other parts, for the several purposes set forth.

Second, I claim the combination of the rocker shaft and its arm, K K, and connecting rod with the grooved cam, operating together for giving the required motions to the feeding plate, substantially as described.

Third, I claim the means employed for varying the length of the feed motion, and consequently the length of the stitch at pleasure, the same consisting of a screw shaft working in the vertical hollow shaft that moves the rocker shaft, and raising or lowering a loose collar to which the connecting rod, p p, is attached.

**FELTING HAT BODIES**—Jos. Thomas, of Brooklyn, N. Y.: I claim in hat sizing machines the employment of a discharging sizer wheel, when arranged as described, for feeding the rods into and through the machine, essentially as set forth.

**POTATO DIGGER**—Silas Woolson, of Moodna, N. Y.: I claim the employment of an open concave digger, arranged and combined with a movable standard, as and for the purpose set forth.

**MILKING COWS**—Wm. H. Whitman, of Bailey Hollow, Pa.: I claim placing the fingers, F, within a case, A, and at the sides of holes, b, in the case, the fingers being vibrated by means of the eccentric rollers, D D, and the elastic bars, G G, the whole being arranged substantially as shown for the purpose specified.

**GRAIN CLEANER AND SEPARATOR**—Richard Ward of Edinburgh, Ind.: I claim the combination and arrangement of the curved board, q, with the slide, R R, the chaff conductor, S, and the slide, T T, substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

**FARM GATE**—Caleb Winegar, of Union Springs, N. Y.: I claim my method of opening and closing gates by means of the ratchet drum, E, the weight, K, or an equivalent spring to draw back the said ratchet drum through an intervention of the chains and rods, B B, in the manner substantially as described.

Second, I claim my arrangement of wood and chain, N, connected with the spring catch for the purpose of detaching the latch, in the manner substantially as described.

**BRACE**—Daniel M. Baird, of Warrensville, N. Y. (assignor to Nathaniel Potter, Eric County, N. Y.): I claim, first, inserting the mandrel, B, in the chamber in the shank of the brace, this I claim in combination with the washer, F, set screw, G, and thumb piece, D, arranged in the manner described and for the purpose set forth.

Second, I claim the manner of attaching the head of the brace to the spindle, L, by means of the thumb nut O, and collar, N; this I claim in combination with the chamber that receives the collar and screw of the thumb nut, O, in the manner substantially as subscribed for the purpose specified.

**BEDSTEAD**—Elias Howe, Jr., of Brooklyn, N. Y.: I am aware that spring beds of various descriptions have heretofore been made, and I do not claim the use of springs for such a purpose; but I claim, a spring-bed constructed of a series of springs which overlie each other, all combined together and arranged in an inclined position upon a bed bottom, substantially as set forth.

**AIR-HEATING FURNACES**—John Liddle, of New-York City: I claim, first, the construction of the main body of the furnace, substantially as described—forming, by plates attached to the internal surface, a series of tubes around its circumference—so as to form the smoke flues without any vertical joints between the interior and exterior, and without the employment of cores in casting, as set forth.

**AUTOMATIC ATTACHMENT TO GAS BURNERS**—A. R. Marshall, of Stratford, Conn.: I claim, first, the combination with the thermostat p, and valve D, of the catch n, on the bar n', and the system of levers h h, for the locking and unlocking of the valve, in the manner and for the purposes specified.

Second, Combining with the locking-catch n, or its equivalent, which is acted upon the thermostat p, and the catch j, so arranged as to lock the valve open, until the catch n is set in operation by the action of the thermostat, and then to be moved out of the way by the catch n, substantially as described.

**CURTAIN FIXTURES**—Purches Miles, of Hartford, Conn.: I claim, the levers E E actuated by the coiled springs F F, in the manner and for the purpose substantially as set forth and described.

**HAND CORN PLANTERS**—Cornelius Marteaill, of Albany, N. Y.: I claim, the combination of the staff A C, collar g, and spade A B, with reservoir a a b b; the whole being arranged and operated in the manner and for the purpose described.

**CONDENSER FOR STEAM ENGINE**—John T. Denniston, of Lyons, N. Y.: I claim, first, forming a partial vacuum before the commencement of the eduction of the steam from the engine to the condenser, by first filling the condenser with water, and then partially withdrawing the water to form steam space, substantially as set forth.

Second, Suspending the water in the condenser, in a number of cups or cells v v, with perforated bottoms and passages w w, between them, thus causing the steam to circulate among and over and under the water, in the cups and through the shower of water falling through the condenser.

**SELF-ADJUSTING FOG-BELL**—Henry L. De Zeng, of Geneva, N. Y.: I claim, the attaching a float to a lever or arm that is connected at or near the other end to a fixed vertical shaft or axis in such a manner that said float shall be allowed to swing around said vertical shaft or axis, and accommodate itself in the direction in which the swell or current or both are moving—so that said float is not subjected to any sideways concussion or strain from either the tide or swell, but is free to oscillate or vibrate with the swell, and communicate motion to any suitable bell or other alarm, substantially as specified.

Second I claim, attaching the ends of a chain or its equivalent, on opposite sides of a lever that receives a vibrating or oscillating motion from a swell, when said chain is passed over a cam wheel or other similar article to communicate the motion imparted to the lever and chain to the hammer of a bell or other signal of alarm, as described.

Third, I claim the arrangement of the cam g, and catch h, rotatively with the heel of the hammer and with the chain, substantially as specified, whereby the vibrating motion of the chain works the said hammer, as set forth.

**CULTIVATOR**—Harvey D. Gause, of Freehold, N. Y.: I claim, so constructing and arranging my cultivator, by means of the clevis x, the beams M and brace n, substantially as described, that, in combination with the seat W, the plows may be guided by the feet of the driver, in the manner set forth.

**SEAMLESS HOSIERY**—William Goddard, of New-York City: I claim, the process or method of manufacturing seamless hosiery of the form required for what is known as seamless tubular knitted fabrics, such as are knitted on machines that knit the tubes of a uniform diameter, and adding thereto the ribbed top, the heel, and the toe, by hand knitting, or any equivalent thereof, as described.

**APPLYING ONE STREAM OF WATER TO RAISE ANOTHER**—Chas. P. Aerial, of Roxbury, Conn.: I claim, the arrangement of raising water of two concentric annular channels, to which are affixed self-acting, rotating valves, such as to one channel a syphon, through the suction of which and pressure of water following, the rotating valves are operated, constructed and arranged substantially as described.

**LAYING OUT RAFTERS**—Legend Crofoot, of Syracuse, N. Y.: I claim, the combination of the adjustable expanding measure A B, with the adjustable bevels D and E, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

Also, in combination with the above, the fixed square plates sliding on the bevels D and E, substantially as specified and for the purpose set forth.

**HAY RAKE**—Charles B. Carpenter, of St. Johnsbury, Vt.: I am aware that a rake has been constructed with a fixed head, (similar to the one which I employ,) into which spring steel teeth are inserted, and drawn by power applied to such fixed head; therefore, I do not claim such a rake-head, nor such spring teeth.

Neither do I claim such a rake-head, nor such spring teeth; neither do I claim the wheels or the handles by which said rake is guided, nor the arms K K, neither do I claim the tug (attached to such a fixed head,) of itself alone; but I claim, the slotted bed-plank A, the movable head B, the guide-rods C C, the catch F, and the connecting of the tugs D D, to the brackets E E, by the links n n, or their equivalent device or devices, arranged as described and for the purposes set forth.

**MEASURING DISTANCES**—Enoch A. Crandall, of Friendship, N. Y.: I claim, the combination of the stationary telescope B, the movable telescope C, with its index bar D, and index E, and the multiplying levers I J K, with their indexes i j k, and springs M and their respective scales e e' o' p' q' q', all arranged as described and for the purpose set forth.

**APPLE PARER**—Charles B. Carter, of Ware, Mass.: I claim the disk H, with its cover L, and slicing knife c, operating in the manner and for the purpose substantially as set forth, viz., the purpose of the said disk being to regulate the motion of the apple, as described by the pressure of the hand, without the necessity of any other screw; it being understood that I do not claim merely the use of a slicing knife for slicing the apple into a spiral, as that is not new.

**GAUGE FOR STEAM BOILERS**—Lucius Paige, of Cavendish, Vt.: I do not claim combining with the gauge A, a separate receiving chamber B, arranged between it and the boiler, and connected to both by pipes; but I claim, applying the said chamber B, or arranging it with respect to the gauge, so that it shall partially surround the same, and form a niche or recess H, to receive such gauge, and radiate heat upon it towards its axis, for the purpose specified; the said recess H being provided or not, as the case may require, with the curved cover or slider I, made to operate therewith, substantially as set forth.

I also claim, constructing the gauge in tubular sections of glass or other suitable transparent material, in combination with providing the same with a clamp frame or apparatus, and connection rings and cups, substantially as described.

**BRICK MACHINES**—Henry B. Ramsay, Indianapolis, Ind.: I claim, first, the wheel A, cranks G G, and catches m m, in combination with the springs s s, for the purpose of regulating the stroke of the knives K K, for cutting the clay at the top of the molds J, as described.

Second, I claim, the sliding mold-table T, for the purpose of raising the mold to the grate under the clay box, when the same is constructed, arranged and operated in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

**AMALGAMATOR**—Alva M. Stetson, of San Francisco, Cal.: I claim, the employment of the boxes a a, placed in vertical succession, when said boxes are fitted with tubes or pipes b b, as described, for containing the quicksilver and distributing the water, as set forth.

**MANUFACTURE OF LEAD PIPE**—John Robertson, of Brooklyn, N. Y.: I do not claim any invention in any part of the cylinder, nor of the dies, nor of the arrangement thereof in the cylinder, nor of the manner of adapting these to the hydraulic press, nor the mode of operation generally; all of which have been substantially described in the specifications of the patents of Thomas Burr, heretofore referred to.

But I claim, the construction and arrangement of the core i, with the guide h, in combination with the piston c, for the purpose set forth.

**BEDSTEADS**—Jacob J. Smith & Jona. H. Pugh, of Philadelphia, Pa.: We claim, first, supporting the four main posts B B, of a bedstead, by screwing or otherwise inserting them into said posts some distance up two or more sides; said tube being connected with an ink-reservoir, which is closed except at its connection with said tube, and from which the ink is caused to flow through the said tube and down the slits thereof, and issue from the point thereof; when the said point is moved in contact with a surface of suitable character to receive an inscription in ink, substantially as described.

I also claim regulating the degree of firmness of the writing or marks produced, by means of a screw thread a, and cone b, on the exterior of the tube, and a nut d, carrying a conical cup d', fitted to the said screw thread and cone and acting in opposition to the elasticity of the nibs, g g of the tube—substantially as described.

Second, We also claim, adjusting the said platform or its equivalent, to any required inclination—as described by means of the left and right screw shaft g, blocks F F, inclined planes e e, disk h, and plates K K, or their equivalents, as described.

**FOUNTAIN PEN**—Nelson B. Slayton, of Madison, Ind.: I claim, the fountain-pen, consisting of a tube tapering from the point, said tube being provided with two or more sides; said tube being connected with an ink-reservoir, which is closed except at its connection with said tube, and from which the ink is caused to flow through the said tube and down the slits thereof, and issue from the point thereof; when the said point is moved in contact with a surface of suitable character to receive an inscription in ink, substantially as described.

I also claim regulating the degree of firmness of the writing or marks produced, by means of a screw thread a, and cone b, on the exterior of the tube, and a nut d, carrying a conical cup d', fitted to the said screw thread and cone and acting in opposition to the elasticity of the nibs, g g of the tube—substantially as described.

**MACHINERY FOR FILLING SEINE NEEDLES**—Simon F. Stanchester, N. H., (assignor to I. M. Stanton, of same place): I claim, giving the needles a vibrating motion by devices such as described or their equivalents, in combination with the arm which delivers the twine, vibrated perpendicularly and traversed horizontally, by devices such as described or their equivalents, so as to deliver the twine across the score and around the tongue of the needle, substantially as described.

**BILGE AND LEAKAGE WATER INDICATORS FOR VESSELS**—Reuben Shaler, of Madison, Conn.: I claim, (in bilge and leakage indicators,) the sectional diaphragm spring C, as arranged in relation to the chamber A, and the standard D, for the purpose described.

**APPLE PARERS**—Marvin Smith, of New Haven, Conn.: I do not claim the combination in the same machine, as such, of knives of different kinds, and operating in different ways, for the purpose of paring and slicing apples; it having been done many years since.

But I claim, first, the construction of a machine for paring and slicing apples, in such a manner that a vibratory or oscillating motion may be given to the fork carrying the apple, simultaneously with the axial or rotating motion of the same, whereby I am enabled to use a paring knife that shall be automatic or self-acting in its operation, yet equally adapted to paring apples large or small.

Second, I claim the knife m, and handle G, hinged and operating in such a manner that the adjustment of the cutting edge of the knife to the entire surface of the apple, shall be coincident with the vibratory or oscillating motion of the fork carrying the apple.

Third, I claim the pawl H, or its equivalent, hinged at such a point with respect to the oscillating centre of the fork c, that as the said fork is moved in the direction of the hinge of said pawl, the point of contact between the fork c, and the pawl H, shall recede from the oscillating centre of said fork c.

**DYNAMOMETER**—George & J. W. Gibbs, of Canton, O.: We claim, the register or pointed P P, which shows the average or mean draft, in combination with the slot R, and pin S, or its equivalent, which overcomes the vibrating motion of the pointer L, shown on the dial, substantially as set forth.

**CUPPING**—Loyal Gillotson, of Thompson, Ohio: I wish to be distinctly understood as not claiming the use of a cupping instrument, nor the employment of electricity for the reduction of disease in the human body, separately considered—the use of both, singly, having been long known to the medical profession.

But I claim, the within described apparatus, viz., the spiral wire G, disk H, and loop I, combined and attached to a cupping instrument for the purpose of employing electricity in conjunction with cupping, as an adjunct for diseased parts of the human body, as set forth.

**BALL CASTOR FOR TRUNKS AND FURNITURE**—Judson Knight, of Newark, N. J.: I do not claim the separate parts of the castor as my invention. But I claim, the combination of the points a a', and the ball b, working in an open socket c, in the manner and for the purpose substantially as described.

**LAMP**—Peter C. Guion and Paul K. Wombaugh, (assignors to Paul K. Wombaugh,) of Cincinnati, O.: We claim the elastic bulb or receiver, f, surrounding and communicating at bottom with a hollow stem, b c, which supports and opens into the bowl, in the described combination with the air duct, g, having an inwardly opening valve, h, affording the described means of communication from the external atmosphere to the upper part of the bulb, or equivalent devices, for the purposes explained.

**BOMB LANCE FOR KILLING WHALES**—Christopher C. Beard, of Norwich, Conn. Patented June 22d, 1852: I claim the mode of sustaining the fuse rope in the fuse tube, and preventing the fire of the charge of the fuse from passing by the fuse rope and into the bomb, viz, by metal or metallic plugs, or the equivalents thereof, cast around or made to closely encompass the fuse rope after it has been inserted in the fuse tube, as specified.

I do not claim the application of wings or feathers to a shaft or rod to direct its passage through the air.

But I claim so making or applying them to the shaft shank or to the body of the bomb, that not only may they be folded or moved down, so as to be capable of entering with the shaft the bore of the gun, but each have an elastic property or spring, such as will cause it to unfold or be thrown outwards, immediately after the projectile may be discharged from the gun, such wings being made of vulcanized india rubber, or any substance or substances which may be deemed an equivalent thereto, inasmuch as such may possess the requisites above specified.

**RAISING AND LOWERING CARRIAGE TOPS**—Anson Quigley, of Shelldrake, N. Y. Patent dated April 22d, 1856: I claim the bore, B, pawl or catch, D, in combination.

**SIX PLATE STOVES**—N. S. Vedder and Ezra Ripley, of Troy, N. Y., (assignors to Sweetland & Little, of Crescent, N. Y.)

**COOKING STOVES**—N. S. Vedder & Wm. L. Sanderson of Troy, N. Y., (assignors to Sweetland & Little, of Crescent, N. Y.)

**COOKING STOVES**—N. S. Vedder & Wm. L. Sanderson of Troy, N. Y., (assignors to Sweetland & Little, of Crescent, N. Y.)

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<p><b>A</b> Acetate of Lead 168 Acids 295 Agricultural Machine, Davis, 1 fig. Aid Society, Children's 267 Air Spring for R. R. Cars 20 Alcohol from Tomatoes 83 Alloy, Metallic 339 Alumina Perpetual 318 Alumina in Soapstone 104 Aluminum 13 Aluminum, How to obtain 333 Aluminum, American 305 Alum Mine 346 Ammonia, To make in Iron Works 40 American Prizes at the Paris Exhibition 51, 103 Anesthetic Agent 220 Anchor, Ruston's, 1 fig. 403 Apparatus Milking 411 Apparatus for Replacing Cars upon the Track, 3 figs. 156</p>	<p>Apple Parer and Slicer, Maxam's, 1 fig. 217 Apple Parer, Carter's, 1 fig. 276, 286, 333 Arctic Exhibition, Return of 43 Arms, Manufacture of Government 337 Artesian Wells 1 fig. 91 Assay Office 86 Attaching Horses to Vehicles 230 Augers 333 Award of Prizes by the American Institute 93 Axles, Wagon 214 Axles, Attaching Wagon Wheels to 214</p>	<p><b>B</b> Baggage Wagon, 1 fig. 166 Baldness, Curing 328 Ballooning 368 Barrel Head Machine 286, 309 Barometers, Bad 404 Basket, Cake 333 Baths, Electro-Chemical 299, 339, 363 Bed, Alarm, House's, 5 figs. 32 Bed Spring, Wording's, 1 fig. 340 Bedstead, Cording 319 Beer, Ginger 312 Bell, Pressure 253 Belting for Driving Machinery 14 Bench Hook 221, 1 fig. 280 Bench Retort 318 Billiard Tables and Cushions, Phenix's, 6 figs. 116 Blacking for Foundries 104 Blasting Apparatus 156 Blinding Compound 319 Blind Opener 326, 2 figs. 389, Collins', Bluing White Paper 155 Boat, Flexible, Stephenson's, 2 figs. 68 Boiler Incrustations, Preventing 286 Boiler Explosions, Preventing 234</p>	<p><b>C</b> Boilers, Experiments with 371 Bookbinders Machine 357 Boot and Shoe Soles, Cutting out 3 figs. 221 Boring and Mortising Machine, Allen's, 3 figs. 264 Boring Fence Posts, Ward's, 1 fig. 280 Box Opener, Taft's, 1 fig. 112 Brake, Car, Barnes', 1 fig. 281 Bricks, Conkling's, 3 figs. 160 Brick Mold, Jones', 1 fig. 204 Brick Machine, Buck's, 1 fig. 265, 301, 309, 357, 374 Bridle Rein, Goddard's, 1 fig. 48 Brine a Poison 97 Bristles, Separating 405 Bronchitis, Cure for 374 Buckles, Polishing 253 Burner Gas 411 Butter, Restoring Rancid 147 Butter Worker 233</p>	<p><b>C</b> Cabbages, Heading for Winter 96 Canal across the Isthmus of Suez 252 Candles, Lard and Tallow 145 Candle Machine 214 Candles, Manufacture of 357 Cannon and Shot, 3 figs. 400 Cars Preserve 309 Car Brake 117 Car Wheel, Mann's, 2 figs. 388 Carriage 2 figs. 376 Carriage Bench, Wilson's, 2 figs. 105 Carriages, Attaching Shafts to 357 Carriage, Three-wheeled, Saladee's, 2 figs. 385 Carmine, To make 246 Carving 373 Carving Machine 381 Caster, Gleason's, 1 fig. 177 Castings, Weight of by Patterns 19 Castings, Scouring and Coating with Zinc 57</p>	<p>Cellar Walls, Filling around 209, 233 Cements 366 Cement for Cast-Iron Joints 233 Cement, Stone 238 Center Vent Wheel, Rich's, 1 fig. 41 Centrifugal Action 1 fig. 200 Chair, Cabin 294 Chalk Experiment 337 Chart of Chemistry 156 Chimney Cap, Camp's, 1 fig. 36 Chloroform 371 Cholera and its Remedy 3 figs. 184 Chuck, Universal, Neckerman's, 1 fig. 404 Churn, Lamb's, 1 fig. 382 Chuck, Carpenter's, Oliver's, 261, fig. 333 Clamp, Hub 326 Clamp, Clothes, Towers', 1 fig. 339 Clapboards, Jointing, Baker's, 2 figs. 16 Clasp for Leading Cattle, Welton's, 2 figs. 85</p>
--	--	--	---	--	---

Clip, Carriage, Flowers', 341, 2 figs. 381
Clocks, Calendar 261
Clock Cases 357
Cloth, To Extract Grease from 153
Cloth Stretcher 262
Cloth Folding Machine, Elliot's, 1 fig. 350
Clothing, Water-Proof 336
Clothes Pin Machine, Goddard's, 1 fig. 289
Coach Window, Silver's, 1 fig. 354
Coal Mining in Illinois 1 fig. 144
Cochineal 144
Coffee, Cost and Culture of 170
Coke, Manufacture of 108
Coke for Smelting Iron 382
Cold, To Break up 67
Colic 144
Colors, Bronze for Paper 314
Combs, Sorting out 411
Compass, Time 168
Compass, Ship's, Prime, 1 fig. 273
Condensers for Steam Engines 411
Cooking Apparatus, Albn's, 214 1 fig. 281
Cooking Apparatus, Demorest's, 2 figs. 341
Cooler for Beer Casks 342
Copper and its Uses 173, 181, 193
Corks, Securing in Bottles 230
Corn Planter, Stoddard's, 2 figs. 76
Corn Planter, Hughes', 1 fig. 238 333
Corn Planter, Boeklen & Fenwick's, 1 fig. 318
Corn Planter, Denny's, 1 fig. 396
Cotton Gin, Fultz's, 2 figs. 61, 270
Crowder, 2 figs. 109
Crane, Burnett's, 1 fig. 321
Crimping Apparatus, Pette's, 1 fig. 289
Currants, Culture of 240
Cut-Off 309

Hat Felting Machine 246, 294 (2), 357
Hay Cart, Self-Loading 238
Head Shade, Campbell's, 2 figs. 1
Head Block for Saw Mills 302, 310, 26, 365
Heat, Artificial 155
Hemp, Sisal 211, 219
Hemp and Flax Culture 235
Hoisting Blocks, Merrill's, 5 figs. 164
Hominy Machine, Fahrney's, 2 figs. 124
Horse Shoes, Towers', 3 figs. 148
Horse Shoes, Steel Corked 171
Hose Coupling, Waterhouse's, 2 figs. 12
Houses, French Method of Building 1 fig. 216
Hubs, Wagon, Nycum's, 2 figs. 294
Hub Mortising Machine 389
Husking Thimble, Gould's, 1 fig. 302
Husking Machine 317
Hydrant 286, 315
Hydrophobia, Cure for 152, 209

Ointment for Chapped Hands 176
Ovens, Baker's 286
Oxyd of Tin as a Polishing Powder 144
Oxygen 312

Scales, Weighing, Kelley's, 213, 1 fig. 264
Scales, Weighing, Mills & Bissell's, 2 fig. 249
Scales, Platform, Strong & Ross', 2 figs. 369
Scarlet Fever, Treatment of 211
Screw Fastening, London & Ahlstrom's, 15 figs. 44
Scuttle, Coal 381
Seed Sowers 229, 270, 286, 294
Seed Planters 286, 326 (2), 319
Seed Planter, Gebby's, 1 fig. 272
Seed Planter, Willard's, 1 fig. 361
Seed Planter, Stewart's, 1 fig. 380
Seed Planter, Stimson's, 2 figs. 410
Seeding Machine, Smith's, 3 figs. 140
Separator, Gold, Addison's, 1 fig. 209
Separator, Gold, Gardiners', 3 figs. 296
Separator, Grain, Belchambers', 1 fig. 328
Sewing Machine, Cowperthwaite's, 2 figs. 349
Shading, Straightening 186
Sheet Iron, Glazing 51
Shingle Machine 278, 286, 326
Shingle Machine, Leavitt's, 2 figs. 6
Shingle Machine, Palmiter's, 2 figs. 372
Ship, Jointed 2 figs. 360
Ship's Knees, Testing 373
Shirred India Rubber Goods 229
Shoing Stool for Blacksmiths 339
Shot Tower, Cast-Iron 77
Shot, Discovery of Making 102
Shutter, Iron, Fagan's, 390
Shutter, Iron, Smith's, 1 fig. 192
Signals, Drawbridge 229
Signal and Color Blindness 272
Silk, How to Wash 152
Silk, Manufacture of Sewing 294
Silver, Extracting from Lead 1 fig. 88
Silver, Chlorated 241
Silver and its Uses 245, 254
Slate Frames 253
Slate, Writing, Artificial 363
Slate Roofing 395
Sleigh Bells 373
Smut Machine 357, 382
Snow Shoes for Wheeled Vehicles 2 figs. 160
Soap, Manufacture of 382, 387
Solvents of India Rubber 91
Sounding Instrument, Brown's, 5 figs. 62
Speed, Varieties of 35
Spherulite 309
Sponges, Cleaning 121
Spring, Door, Westcott's, 1 fig. 213
Spring, Door, Smith's, 1 fig. 261
Spring, Door 405
Spy Glass 2 figs. 224
Square, Universal, Ames', 4 fig. 16
Stalk Cutter, Bogue's 1 fig. 12
Stalk Cutter, 190, 339
Stave Machine, Kennedy's 6 figs. 4
Stave Machine 357, 382
Steam Boiler, Dutcher's 3 figs. 31
Steamship Great Eastern 74 4 figs. 335
Steamship Persia 190
Steamship Adriatic 252
Steamship, Atlantic 266
Steamboats, Speed of 216
Steam Frigate Niagara 193
Steel, Manufacture of 40, 309
Steel Plates, Decarburizing 27
Stereoscopic Book, Mascher's, 1 fig. 225
Stems, Artificial 40, 301
Stone Dressing Machines 117, 365
Stone, Coloring 176
Stones 230, 261
Stoves, Poering's, 1 fig. 270
Stoves, Soldering Iron 90
Stoves, Gas, Starrett's 1 fig. 404
Stoves, Gas, Clinton's, 2 figs. 31
Street Sweeping Machine, St. John & Brown's 1 fig. 225
Striped Bugs, Remedy for 304
Strychnine 370
Strychnine, Antidote for 378
Stump Extractor, Creighton's 286 1 fig. 84
Stump Extractor, Ruggles' 1 fig. 320
Sun, The 322, 331, 335, 363, 305
Surgical Instrument 405

Water Wheel 374, 403
Water Gate, Moore & Hanyon's, 1 fig. 72
Water, Purifying for Steam Boilers, Weissenborn's, 3 figs. 113
Water, Measuring Falling 216, 224
Water Elevator for Cattle 261
Water, Preventing Damage from 307
Water, Softening 324
Waterspouts, Cause of 331
Watch Company 274
Watches, Mumma's, 2 figs. 329
Weather Strip and Lock, Speer's, 2 figs. 96
Weather Strip and Lock 270
Weighing Apparatus for Carts 303
Wells, Boring, 2 figs. 1 fig. 36
Well, Reservoir, Bartlett's, 1 fig. 285
Wheels, Car 326, 365
Wheels, Wagon 349
Whistle, Steam 245
Windmills, Lempecke's, 2 figs. 7, 1 fig. 312
Windmills, Johnson's, 20 figs. 236
Windmills, Mogan's, 2 figs. 48
Windmills, Dickinson & White's, 2 figs. 67
Windmills, Frantz's, 2 figs. 97
Windmills 246
Windmills, Brewster's 1 fig. 324
Windmill, Goodwin & Hawkins', 1 fig. 405
Windlass, Ship's, Emerson's 2 figs. 17
Windlass, Ship's, Holmes', 1 fig. 257
Windlass, Ship's 332
Wind Wheel, Elgar's 1 fig. 40
Wind Wheel 230
Wine of Apples 275
Wire Weaving Machine, Smith's 2 figs. 172
Wire Rope 268
Wire Cutter, Grover's 1 fig. 333
Wire, Covering with Gutta Percha 382
Wood Bending Machine, Updegraff's 1 fig. 297
Wood Bearings for Shafting 330
Wood, Preserving from Decay 95
Wood, Coloring 406
Wooden Ware Machine, Hartwell's 1 fig. 193
Wrench, Graham's 2 figs. 24
Wrench, Lead's 2 figs. 31
Wrench, Dale's 2 figs. 192
Wrench Hammer, McManus' 246 1 fig. 286
Wristbands for Shirts, Chandler's 1 fig. 275

Brake, Car 218, 250, 258, 314
Brake, Wagon 346
Brakes, Hemp 386
Brasses of Connecting Rods 226
Brick Machines 2, 18, 74, 154, 170, 266, 290, 306, 314, 354, 394
Brick Presses 133, 178, 330, 386
Bricks, Building 146
Bricks, Molded 186
Bricks, Machine 282, 411
Bricks, Striking Unburnt 362
Bridges, Arched Trussed 202, 242
Bridges, Lattice 314
Brown Corn Seed 250
Brooms 230
Brushes, Warp Dressing 354
Brushes, Moulded 186
Buckles, Polishing 250
Buggies 170, 274
Bulkward for War Vessels 346
Buoy, Tidal Alarm 338
Butter Cases 43
Butter Worker 231
Butt Hinges, Grinding 346

Hair Dye 230
Hams, Making 90
Harness Cleaners 262
Harness Pads 326
Harvesters 261, 278, 309, 317, 326, 333, 341, 349, 357, 365, 374, 405
Harvesters, Corn Stalk 214
Harvesters, Clover Seed 382
Hatch, Safety, Thompson & Morgan's 3 figs. 393

Ice, Consumption of 350
Incense 152
Incrustations in Steam Boilers 198
Incrustations in Water Pipes 400
India Rubber 215, 334, 339, 350
Indicator and Feeder for Steam Boilers, Clark's, 1 fig. 272
Indigo, Extract of 144
Infernal Machine, Russian 2 figs. 6
Ink, Marking 93
Ink Writing 339, 374
Ink Stains, To Extract for Linens 326
Insects and Pestilence 30
Insects, Destroying 384
Inventions, Ancient and Curious 233, 246 254, 262, 269, 278, 291, 309
Iodine 304
Iron, Restoring Fibrous 31
Iron, Coating with Zinc 57
Iron, Manufacture of 125
Iron, Enameling 248
Iron, Smoothing 286
Iron, Converting into Steel 364
Iron, Improving 408
Iron Steam Battery 123
Ivory Bleaching Apparatus 405

Joint Universal, Hinkley's, 2 figs. 236

Plaster and Ammonia 249
Plaster, Lack of 120
Pliers, Combination, Hart's, 1 fig. 401
Plow, Evans', 2 figs. 124
Plow, Gang 214
Plow, Gang, Smith's, 1 fig. 393
Plow, Subsoil 269
Plow 333
Plow, Steam 364
Plow Handles, Bending, Avery's, 1 fig. 288
Plowing by Steam 299
Pocket Book 326
Portfolio for Music 333
Potatoes, How to Plant 273
Potato Digger 336, 411
Potter, Richard 324
Powder, Bronze 406
Power of Falling Water 208
Press, Cotton, Glover's, 2 figs. 28
Press, Drop, Peck's, 1 fig. 137
Press, Power, Davis', 80, 2 figs. 148
Press, Hay and Cotton, Ingersoll's 1 fig. 235
Press, Punching 238
Press, Hay, Fay's, 1 fig. 249
Press, Cotton, Parry's, 1 fig. 337
Press, Printing 381, 389
Preserving Animal and Vegetable Substances 158
Primer for Fire-Arms 406
Propeller, Steam 253
Propeller, Low's, 2 figs. 390
Propulsion of Vessels, Whitaker's, 1 fig. 188
Pump, Clark & Gray's, 2 figs. 1
Pump, Yempert's, 1 fig. 28
Pump, Water, 5 figs. 217
Pump, Force, Joslyn's, 1 fig. 313
Pump, Rotary, Lindsey's, 1 fig. 310
Pump, Rotary, Denison's, 1 fig. 324
Pump, Rotary 374
Pump, Ship's 326
Pumps, Masts, and Tents, Clarkson's, 4 figs. 284
Punching and Shearing Machine, Davis & Stephens', 2 figs. 65
Punching Machine 294

Quadrant 331
Quarrying Machine 353

Rack, Music, Ward's, 302, 1 fig. 344
Raff, Life 34
Railroads, Improvement in 107
Railroads, Steam 212
Railroads, Speed, &c. 254
Rails, Rolling R. R., Brown's, 246, 3 figs. 308
Railway Chair, Tatlock's, 3 figs. 390
Rake Teeth Machine 342
Rakes, Horse, Smith's, 1 fig. 390
Rakes, Horse, Martz's, 1 fig. 392
Raking, Attachment to Reapers 261
Rats, To Expel 193
Rattlesnake Bite, Cure for 289
Reaping Machine, Heath's, 1 fig. 120
Reaping Machine, Dorsey's, 1 fig. 305
Reaping Machines, Trials in France 406
Reaper Case, McCormick's 235
Reel for Fishing Rods 389
Register Car 230
Report of Commissioner of Patents for 1855 187, 195
Rifles 196
Rock Drill, Goulding's, 3 figs. 121 315,
Roofing Materials for Building 364
Rope Machine 364
Ruler, Parallel 222

Needles, How they are Made 206
Nitrate Ammonia 24
Nipper Blocks, Whipple's, 3 figs. 208
Numeration and Measurement 134

Observatory 13
Odometer 397
Oil and Fuel for R. R. 65
Oil Cake and Cotton Seed Oil 120
Oil of Nougay 136
Oil, Paraffin 147
Oil, Cotton Seed 259
Oil, Coal 312
Oil Gas Apparatus 317
Oil Cocks, Crane's, 2 figs. 383
Oil, Cocoa Nut 400
Oil, Clarifying for the Hair 408
Omnibus, English 1 fig. 368

Patent Claims.
Accordeons 394
Accordeons, Valves for 370
Acid, Sulphuric of Lime 42
Acid, Phosphoric 266
Adding numbers 82 402
Air Power Machine 10
Air Coker for Steam Heating Apparatus 202
Alarm for Steam Boilers 138
Alarm, Burglars 66, 102 (2c)
Alamogator 42, 106, 138, 314, 394 412
Anchor Stoppers 98
Annunciator for Hotels 265
Apples, grinding 90
Apple Parer and Slicer 106, 274, 282 330, 394, 411 (2)
Apple Cutter and Corer 346
Artesian Wells, Boring 402
Ash Sifter 293
Ash Leaching Apparatus 298
Augers 242, 265
Augers, Handles for 114, 330
Augers, Crank piece for 122
Aul Haft 255
Awning for Horses 25
Axle Box 218, 235, 242 (2c), 250
Axle Box, Replacing 306
Axle Box, Turning 346
Axles, Car 186, 266
Axles, Attaching Thills to 154, 218
Axles, Attaching Hubs to 122, 210
Axles, Securing Shafts to 82 (2c), 194, 338

Bakers, Coal Heating 330
Bands, Elastic 330
Bank Notes 146
Bank Notes, Blanks for 386
Barrel Head Machine 282
Barrels, Handling 314
Bars, Repairing R. R. 258
Base piece 346
Beams, Corrugated 26
Beams, Metal 322
Bearings, for R R Chairs 314
Beds, Stirring Straw and Husk 242
Bedsteads 37, 114, 253, 322, 346 (2c), 402, 412 (2)
Bedsteads, Fastenings for 66, 258
Bedsteads, Sofa 130
Bedsteads, Wardrobe 234
Bee Hives 146, 170, 378
Bells, Molds for Casting 122
Bells, Pressure 250
Bells, Fog 362, 412
Bellows for Musical Instruments 338
Belt and Band Fastening 170, 178
Belting, India Rubber 218
Bench, Carpenters 234
Bench, Mitering 242
Bit, Extension 130
Bit, Boring Fellies 154
Bit, Fastening for 290
Bits, Bridle 290
Blocks, Hoisting 130
Blow Pipe 218, 290
Boats, Detaching from Tackle 234, 386
Boats, Propelling 274
Boats, Framed for 298
Boats, Ice Breaking 338, 386
Boilers, Steam 34, 74, 218, 226, 234, 242, 265
Boilers, Incrustations of 186
Boilers, for Cooking by Steam 250
Bolt Heading Machine 154, 186, 210
Bolt for Shutters 322
Bolt for Vault and Safe Doors 386
Bolts, Flour 178, 378
Bomb Lance 412
Bonnets, Pressing 402
Books, Rounding and Backing 354
Boot Trees 106, 306
Boots and Shoes 145
Boots and Shoes, Soles of 173, 218
Boots and Shoes, Applying Soles to 210
Boots and Shoes, Cutting out Uppers of 82, 98
Boots and Shoes, Cutting out Soles of 103, 114, 378
Boots and Shoes, Mounting Uppers of 129
Boots and Shoes, Polishing Edges of Soles of 122
Borax, Manufacture of 42
Boring Machines 26, 82, 186, 226, 314
Boring Engine 42
Bottles, Fastenings for 42, 82
Bottles, Perfumery 146
Bottles, Corking 286
Bottling Liquids 210
Bottoms of Ships 146
Box for Carriage Hubs 202
Box Opener 274
Box for Fruit 394
Boxes, Making of Paper Pulp 346
Brace 433, 29, 308
Brace, Carriage 402
Braiding Machine 66
Brake, Steam 130

Brakes, Chain 234
Calcons 186
Calico, Printing Process 114
Callipers 306
Candle Mold Apparatus 130
Candle Dipping Machine 210
Candle Cutting Apparatus 288
Candlesticks 146, 178
Cannon, 95, 141, 130, 378, 351
Cannon, Charging 362
Cans, Double Seaming 43
Cans, Self Sealing 58, 186, 226, 306, 223
Cans, Oil 186, 250
Cans, Fluid 338
Captains, Ships 210, 306 (2c), 330
Carding Machines 235, 314
Cargo Ports for Ships 154
Carpets, Finishing 45
Carpets, Lining for 242
Carpets, Fastenings for 386
Carriages 322 (2c), 362
Carriages, Hold Back for 26
Carriage Bodies, Hanging 82
Carriage Tops 30, 318, 256, 412
Carriage Wheels, Boxing 218
Carts, Dumping 2 (2c)
Carts, Weighing 298
Cartridges 330
Cartridges, Fire Extinguishing 42
Cartridges, Fixed 370
Cartridge Opener 371
Carving Machine 114
Cars, R. R. 226
Cars, Replacing on the Track 170
Car, Extension 154
Car Seats 210, 282
Car Wheels, Casting Cast Iron 18
Casters, Table 10, 266
Casters for Trunks 85, 412
Castings, Metal 154
Castings, Chilled 226
Catch for Backs of Seats 255
Cellars, Constructing 202, 250
Cement, Roofing 371
Centrifugals 385
Chain Locker Pipes 74
Chain Making Machines 114
Chain for Power Press 138
Chairs 370, 394
Chairs, Fan Rocking 234 (2c)
Chairs, Ships Cabin 290
Chairs, Portable 290
Chairs, Invalid 210
Chairs, Bottoms of 314
Chairs, R. R. 304
Chamfering the Edges of Shoe Soles 106
Chandeliers 250
Chasing Wood 250
Cheese Press 146
Chimney Cap 2, 34, 74, 170, 394
Churns 12, 50, 202, 223, 253, 378
Cider, Filtering Sand for 394
Cigar Machine 274
Cisterns 234
Clothes (Clothes 74, 186
Clamp, Bench 218
Clamp, Floor 258
Clamp, Plumbers 378
Clasp for Leading Cattle 42
Clocks, Cutting 114
Clock Escapement 34
Clock Fronts 114, 242, 274 (2), 346 (2), 375
Clocks, Calendar 258
Cloth Folding and Measuring Machine 10, 114
Cloth Stretching Rollers 106
Cloth, Elastic Rubber 226, 282 (2c)
Cloth, Stretching 226, 282 (2c)
Cloth, Coating with Paint 322
Cloth, Rubbing and Polishing Painted 322
Clothes, Wringing 394
Clothes Pin Machine 154, 226
Clover Seed Saver 282
Clutch for Flour Packers 330
Coal 354
Coal Preventer 2
Coal Sifter 58, 90
Coal Depositor 202
Coal Breaker 266
Coaks, Steam 234 (2)
Coaks, Basin 250
Coffee Pots 26, 202, 266
Coin Balance 98
Coin Counting 30
Collodion for Photographs 362
Comb Blanks, Sizing 412
Combs, Curry 354
Compasses, Ships 186, 314
Composition Pre-tanning 338
Composing Stick 362
Concentrating Apparatus 346
Condensers for Steam Engines 66, 186, 298 (2c), 412
Cone Tubes 226
Cooking Apparatus 186, 210, 282
Corks, Manufacture of 66
Corn Shellers 2, 42 (2c), 114 (2c), 130, 210, 266, 274, 306, 322, 394
Corn Planters 82, 234, 250, 274 (2c), 282, 314, 330, 362, 378, 412
Corn Dryer 178
Corn Cutting from the Cob 290
Cotton Cleaners 43, 206
Cotton Gins, 42, 90, 306, 362, 372
Cotton Gins, Feeders for 106, 330
Cotton Pickers 106
Cotton Seed, Preparing for Planting 106
Coupling, Car 106, 186, 362
Coupling Spring 186
Coupling for Axle Joints 202
Coupling, Carriage 226, 250, 298, 306 (2)
Coupling, Harness Trace 322
Coupling, Belt 98
Coupling, Shaft 362
Covers for Jugs 43
Covers for Coal Holes 146, 154, 194, 258
Cowl Chimney 402
Crackers, Preparing Dough for 290
Cranes 130
Creepers, To Prevent Slipping 234
Crimping Machine 10
Crimp, Boot 210
Cues, Billiard 306, 378, 412
Cultivators 36, 378, 412
Cultivator, Teeth 136
Cupping Instrument 412 402
Curing Diseases of the Genital Organs 154
Curtain Fixtures 18, 154, 346
Curtains, Musquito 114
Cushion for Billiard Tables 194
Cut-off for Steam Engines 114, 226, 234, 258, 338
Cutters, Operating 380
Cylinder, Printing 254

Daguerreotype Cases 194
Daguerreotype Cases, Hinge for 178

Daguerreotype Plate Holder 42, 58
Daguerreotype Plates, Coating 154
Daguerreotype Plates, Ornamenting 43
Dampers for Cook Stoves 263
Dampers for Chimneys 378
Dams, Constructing 354
Decoloring Compound 298
Designs on Wood 226
Desk, Writing 178
Dial for Dividing Engines 154
Dies for Stamping Metal 354
Dies for Screw Blanks 394
Dirt Cars, Loading 146
Disinfecting Fecal Matter 146
Ditching Machine 154
Dividers, Proportional 130
Doors of Gallico Printing Machines 158
Doors, Hanging Double 146
Doors for Ovens and Stoves 290
Door Stay 386
Dough Making and Kneading 346
Dovetailing Machine 2, 58, 202, 218, 354
Dovetail Key Cutter 18
Drags, Driving, for 314
Drawbridge, Floating 298
Drawer Pulls 386
Drilling and Boring Machine 74
Drilling and Screw Cutting Machine 98
Drills, Grain 338
Drills for Dividing Engines 154
Drums, Hoisting 258
Dust Deflector 50
Dust Excluding from R. R. Cars 202
Dye Stuff 362
Dynamometer 412

E

Eave Troughs 138
Electrical Circuit Breakers 138
Electrotyping 2
Electrotype Shells, Molds for Backing 2
Elevator for Puddling Balls 186
Elevator for Cotton, etc. 293
Embossing and Printing 274
Engines, Air 258
Engines, Carding 354
Engines, Electro Magnetic 258
Engines, Fire 154, 322
Engines, Gas 26
Engines, Hydraulic 298
Engines, Hydro-steam 322
Engines, Oscillating 154, 178
Engines, Rotary 10, 74, 82, 274, 354
Engines, Two Beam 74
Engines, Operating Steam 306
Engines, Vertical Steam 370
Envelope Machine 42
Envelopes 90, 250 (3c), 338, 386
Envelopes for Bottles 186
Evaporators, Sugar 266, 378
Evaporators, Salt 232, 378, 412
Evaporating Pans, Inserting Tubes in 90
Excavators 50, 145, 218, 274, 306, 322
Extracts, Making 218

F

Fabrics, Printing 274
Fabrics, Cutting Pile 106
Fabrics, Water Proofing 402
Fabrics, Woollen 122
Fats, Saponifying 330
Fastening, Door 154, 250, 274, 282
Fastening, Blind 106, 282, 298
Fastening, Door Knob 250
Fastening, Sash 43, 250
Faucet 50, 218, 258, 282, 378
Faucet, Weighing Attachment for 82
Faucet, Filter 90, 346
Faucet, Inserting into Fluids under Pressure 378
Feet Warmers 98, 106
Fellies, Planing 122, 250
Fellies, Sawing 282, 306, 346
Felling Trees by Saws 338
Felt Cloth, Ornamenting 178
Fences 98, 170, 234 (2c), 242, 338, 402
Fence, Wire 266
Fenders 362
Ferrules, Soldering 242
Fertilizers, Sowing 266
Files 394
Filter 314
Filter, Thermo-udoric 34
Filter, Sugar 66
Filtering Medium 362
File Cutter 178, 290
File, Blank Roller 290
Fire-Arms 15 (2c), 26, 50, 122, 130 (2c), 138 (2c), 234, 242, 254 (2c), 186, 218 (2c), 238, 242, 258, 266, 274, 282 (2c), 298, 306, 314 (2c), 322 (2c), 330, 338, 346, 354 (2c), 362, 370, 386, 394 (3c)
Fire-Arms, Charges for 10
Fire-Arms, Primer for 162
Fire-Arms, Percussion Locks for 202
Fire-Arms, Magazine Hammer 346
Fire-Arms, Trigger Protector 370
Fire Kindlers 74
Fire-places 226, 354, 362
Fire Pots 226
Fires, Extinguishing 186, 354
Fire, Forge 242
Fish Hook 42
Fishing Leads 242
Flasks for Molding 66
Float for Steam Boilers 306
Flock Cutter 170
Flues and Dampers for Cooking Apparatus 106
Fluids, Drawing from Bottles 306
Fluids, Cooling 338
Forceps, Dental 336
Forks 194
Forks, Bending Hay 330
Forms, Turning Tapering 338
Forms, Turning Ornamental 362
Forms, Ellipsoidal 378
Frames, Musquito Net 258
Frames for Traveling Bags 290
Frames, Window 314
Freezers, Ice Cream 322
Fuel, Burning Wet 146
Furnaces, Heated by Steam 2
Furnaces, Bagasse 282, 336 (2)
Furnaces, Blast 74, 394
Furnaces, Hot Blast for 106
Furnaces for Steam Boilers 130, 378
Furnaces, Soldering 138
Furnaces, Portable 162
Furnaces, Hot Air 178, 412
Furnaces for Heating Slugs 194
Furnaces, Tempering 250
Furnaces, Feeding Fuel to 258
Furnaces, Summer 258
Furnaces for Smelting Iron 282
Furnaces for Heating Soldering Irons 290
Furnaces, Annealing 298, 338
Furnaces, Glass 314, 370
Furnaces, Gas Consuming 314

G

Gas Regulator 58, 290, 314
Gas Brackets 66
Gas Burners 82, 154, 226, 326, 282, 412
Gas Holders 82
Gas Apparatus 114
Gas Illuminating 146
Gas, Heating and Cooking by 202, 218, 226
Gas Consumers 202
Gas Ovens 258
Gas Meter 274
Gas Generators 298
Gas Retort Cleaners 298
Gas Retort Fastening 298
Gas Retort Feeding Apparatus 314
Gas Retort Benches for 314
Gas Purifying 346
Gas Fitting, Reaming and Tapping 346
Gas Stop Cock 370
Gates, Farm 42 (2), 162, 178, 186, 210, 258, 290, 338, 394, 412
Gates for R. R. Crossings 122

H

Hair, Machine for Whipping 130
Hall Penders 182 (2)
Hammers, Trip 26
Hammer Heads, Attaching to Shafts 146
Handles for Forks and Spoons 210
Hands and Arms, Artificial 370
Harness for Shoeing Horses 226
Harnes for Weaving Bags 378
Harrows, Revolving 330
Harp Lock 258
Hatchways, Opening and Closing 34
Hatchways, Safety 338
Hat Bodies, Materials for 34, 242
Hat Bodies, Manufacturing 34, 226, 394
Hat Bodies, Felted 58, 122, 154, 282, 290, 314, 346, 354, 370, 394, 412
Hat Bodies, Forming 378
Hat Bodies, Planking 306
Hat Bodies, Sizing 234, 306, 330
Hats, Manufacturing 146, 210
Hats, Ironing 218
Harvesters (2), 10, 74, 138, 146 (3), 154 (2), 162, 170, 178 (2), 186 (2), 194, 194, 210, 218 (3), 226 (2), 234, 242 (2), 258 (2), 266 (2), 306, 314, 330 (2), 338, 346, 354, 370, 378, 394, 402
Harvesters, Cutters for 162, 218 (2), 262, 234, 274 (2), 322, 338, 362, 378
Harvesters, Grain from 242
Harvesters, Grain Binders for 250
Harvesters, Cradling 274
Harvesters, Fingers for 274, 346
Harvesters, Frames for 314, 362
Harvesters, Track Cleaners of 146
Head Rest for R. R. Cars 402
Heaters for Smoothing Irons 18, 130, 378
Heaters, Hydraulic 178
Heaters, Water 330
Heating Feed Water Apparatus for Steam Boilers 18, 178, 282, 362, 386
Heating Buildings by Steam 42, 170, 210 (4), 218, 222
Heating Apparatus, Steam 98, 178
Hemp and Flax, Preparing 218
Hemp Breakers 338
Hides, Tanning 334
Hiller, Cotton 234
Hinge 170
Hinge Strap 114
Hinge Shutter 210
Hogs, Slaughtering 362
Hoisting Apparatus 258
Hominy Machine 10
Hooks, Bench 50
Hook for Labels 346
Hooks, Hanging 178
Hooks, Chain Cable 274
Hoop Sawing Machine 2, 266, 282, 370
Horometer 10
Horse Collars 122 (2), 322
Horse Powers 122, 234, 266, 354
Horse Hitches 354
Horse Shoe 290, 298, 354
Horses, Preventing from falling 218
Hosiery, Seamless 412
Houses, Portable 210, 306
Hub Borer 306
Hubs, Carriage 114, 194, 218, 258
Huller, Cotton Seed 10
Huller, Rice 66
Hulling Machine 130, 346
Husking Machine 314
Hydrants 154, 242, 250, 282
Hydrants, Waste Device for 266

I

Ice, Raising from Rivers 82
Ice Breaker 356
Index, Lettering 354
India Rubber 258
India Rubber Cleaning 322
India Rubber, Treating 394
Indicator for Vessels 412
Indicators, R. R. Station 90
Inking Apparatus 50
Inkstands 114, 226
Inkstands, Attaching to Desks 394
Instruments for Determining Latitude and Longitude 18
Iron Scraps, Remelting 154
Iron Buildings 178
Iron Puddling 218
Iron Plates, Welding 330
Irons, Smoothing 282, 330, 338
Iron, Swaging 402
Irregular Forms, Cutting 218, 298
Ivory Bleaching 114, 402

J

Jacks, Supporting 82
Jacks, Lifting 90
Jacks, Screw 170
Jockey, Dumb 326
Joint for Connecting Shafts 170

K

Kettles, Making Brass 258, 290, 346
Keys for Connecting Rods 10
Knives, Scouring 106, 274, 402
Knives and Forks 130
Knives for Cutter Heads 290
Knife and Pencil Case 202
Knitting Machines 10, 18, 34, 50, 74, 90, 306, 354, 378, 386 (2)
Knitting Machines, Needles for 314
Knobs, Door 362, 370

L

Ladder, Fire Escape 290
Ladle for Molten Glass 282
Lamp Case for Locomotives 2
Lamps 66, 202, 412
Lamps, Argand 43
Lamps, Lard 43, 282, 362
Lamps, Fluid 98
Lamps, Attaching Extinguishers to 114
Lamps, Extinguishers for 122

Lamps, Rosin Oil 210, 226
Lamps, Carcel 234
Lamps, Vapor 266, 394
Lamps for Water Wheels 338, 338, 354
Lamps for Burning Gas 314
Lamps, Fountain 338
Lanterns, Guards for 10, 130
Lanterns, Locomotive 18
Lanterns, Securing Glasses in 154, 178
Lanterns, Submarine 250
Lanterns, Fastening Lamps to 266
Lap Surface for Sheet Metal 290
Lasts, Securing and Releasing 258
Last Holder 314
Last Machine 66, 74, 138, 154, 234
Lathes 242, 274
Lathes, Chuck for 82, 250
Lathes, Cutter Heads for 290
Lead Pipe 322
Leather, Finishing 26
Leather, Splitting 74, 218
Leather, Preparing 90
Leather, Enameling 90
Leather, Cutting 114
Leather, Embossing 114
Leathers, Parlor 10
Leather, Hammering 162
Leather, Softening 178
Leather, Polishing 250
Leather, Composition for Stuffing 282
Leather, Making 330
Leather, Stuffing 386
Legs, Artificial 26, 282
Legs, Artificial 26, 282
Levels, Spirit Plate for 378
Levers, Car Brake 234
Life Preserving Beds for Ships 10
Life Boats 74, 242
Lime Kilns 218, 402
Lining Metal Pipes 298
Liquids, as a Motive Power 370
Liquids, Preventing from boiling over the sides of vessels 412
Locks 66, 74, 90, 106 (2), 122, 250, 290 (2), 314, 330, 346, 386, 402
Locks, R. R. Car 114
Locks, Sash 138, 362
Locks, Alarm 178, 338
Locks, Door 290, 266, 330
Locks, Face Plate for 378
Lock Joint for R. R. Cars 290
Lock and Key 306
Log and Sounding Line 130
Looms 66, 122, 186 (2), 194, 210, 250, 258, 306, 338, 354 (3)
Looms for Weaving Superfine Webbing 18
Looms for Weaving Wire 130
Looms, Bag 98, 266
Lubricators 74 (2), 186, 210, 242, 282
Lugs for Cast-Iron Shingles 178

M

Macaroni Server 346
Magneto Electric Machine 250, 402
Marble Sawing Machines 10, 74 (2), 82 (6), 90, 106, 114, 194 (2), 210, 226, 234 (2), 258 (4), 266, 282 (2), 314 (3), 330, 346, 362, 370 (2), 378
Mash Machine 226
Mastic for Covering Walls 170
Match Machine 258, 346, 370
Match Safes, Combined 303
Matches, Friction 274
Measure, Self-Counting 290
Measuring Wheel 90
Measuring in Carpentry 202
Measuring Distances 314, 412
Meter, Cutter 298
Meats, Smelting 378
Melodeons 58, 314, 346
Melodeons, Organ 122
Melodeons, Reed Boards for 322
Melodeons, Dampers for 354
Metal, Rolling 94
Meter, Water 82, 234, 258, 298
Meter, Hydrant 402
Milk Concentration of 402
Milking Apparatus 411
Mills, Corn and Cob 18, 66, 130, 346, 386
Mills, Saw 18, 178
Mills, Flour 26, 162, 170, 322
Mills, Cider 66
Mills, Grinding 90, 130, 170 (2), 202
Mills, Winnowing 290
Mills, Feed Gates for 186
Mill Spindles, Steps of 122
Mill Spindles, Lubricating 282
Millstones 352
Millstones, Dressing 130, 154, 290
Mills, Hanging 154
Millstone, Hanging for Feeding 354
Mining Machine 130, 346
Miniature Case 234
Miter Box 314
Modifying Focal Length of the Eye 122
Molds for Earthen Pots 234
Molding Circles 34
Molding and Pressing Building Blocks 370
Moldings, Cutting Ornamental 26
Moldings, Cutting on Marble 170
Monuments, Cast-Iron 18
Mop Head 90, 362
Mosquito Canopy 402
Morocco, Finishing 234, 282
Mortar 250
Mortising Machine 26, 42, 74, 114, 146, 154, 218, 242, 386
Mortising Tool 170, 226
Motion, Converting 242
Moving Machines 2, 18, 74, 146 (2), 162, 218, 226, 290 (2), 306, 330, 346, 362, 394
Mowing Machines, Shoe for 338
Mules, Self-Acting 74, 306
Music by Steam 42
Music, Registering 122
Music Rack 298
Musical Notations 306
Musical Instruments, Reed 306

N

Nails, Horse Shoe 402
Nail Machines 314
Nail Machines, Feeder for 226, 394
Needles, Seine 34, 362, 412
Netting Machine 346
Nocturnal Emissions, Preventing 266
Nozzle for Exhaust Pipes 122
Nut Machine 66, 226 (2), 314 (2)
Nut-Box 138
Nuts, Securing to Axles 306
Nuts, Polishing 314

O

Odometers 330, 394
Oils, Extracting 402
Oil, Vegetable 10
Oil, Cotton Seed 10, 58, 250
Oil, Press 130
Oil, Treating 138
Oil, Ground to receive Photographic Impressions 258, 290
Oil, Lubricating 378
Oil from Bitumen 394
Oil from Camel Coal 394
Oil Box for Axles 186
Optical Instruments 26
Ore, Galena or Lead 122
Ore Washer 178, 218, 394
Organs, Parlor 306
Ovens for Cooking Stoves 18, 282, 290 (2)
Ovens for Baking Bread 98, 376
Ovens, Parlor 354

P

Quadrant 330
Quartz Crusher 106

P

Paddle Wheel 122, 130, 234, 402
Paddle Wheels, Feathering 298
Paddock 138, 146, 354
Pads, Attaching to Saddle Trees 322
Paint Compound 394
Paper Feeding Machine 66, 154

Paper Stock, Washing 146
Paper Holding 186
Paper, Edging Wall 202
Paper Folding 268
Paper from Straw 282
Paper Machine, Guide for 250
Paper Clip 346
Pastiles, Disinfecting 346
Paving Machine 146
Pavements, Iron 210, 266, 386
Pearl Ornaments, Securing in Handies 354
Peg Digger 266
Peg Drivers 114, 146
Pegging Machine 138, 186, 210, 322
Pegging Jack 282, 378 (2)
Pens, Fountain 2, 130, 194, 218, 378, 412
Pens, Metallic 178, 258, 346, 370
Pen Holder 194, 386
Pen and Pencil Case 274
Percussion Cap 322
Pessaires, Constructing 194
Photographs, Bath for 106
Photographs, Plate for Vise 178
Photographs on Japanned Surfaces 194
Photographs on Glass 306, 394
Photographs, Tinting and Coloring 362, 386
Phrenology, Teaching 258
Pianofortes 122 (2), 210
Pianofortes, Action of 18, 114, 234, 314
Pianofortes, Legs of 290, 306 (2)
Picking Machine 18
Pickpocket Detector 372
Pills, Packing 114
Pill Machine 170, 298
Pin Sticking Machines 106, 186, 322 (2)
Pins, Separating 82
Pins, Sewing on Paper 370
Pipes, Coupling 402
Pipes of a Vapor Bath 170
Piston, Packing 114
Pitcher, Molasses 330
Pitcher, Refrigerating 346
Pitman 202
Plane Bit 18
Plane, Crozing 34
Plane, Finishing 122
Plane Bench 174, 210, 226
Plane Stool 278
Plane Bits, Securing 306
Plane, Cutter Heads for 74
Plane, Edge 338
Planer, Rotary 186
Planer, Metal 378, 394
Planer, Cutter Heads for 370
Planing Machine 82, 138, 290, 330, 370
Planing Machines, Dog for 2
Planing Machines, Feed Motion for 34, 186
Planing Machines, Cutter Heads for 16, 370
Planing Knives 226
Planing, Cylinder 402
Plates, Metallic 18
Platemors R. R. Car 234
Platforms, Safety 258
Platforms, Supporters for 322
Plotting Instrument 338
Plows 43, 138 (2), 146, 186, 194, 202, 210 (2), 234, 266, 286, 314, 330, 362 (2)
Plows, M'Gill's 402
Plows, Handles of 162
Plows, Draining 194
Plows, Snow 290
Pocket Book 322
Pokers, Fire 178
Polish, Furniture 402
Polishing Machine 370
Port Monnaies 186, 290
Portfolio 330
Post Driver 234
Potato Digger 90, 282, 322, 412
Potato Planter 186, 378
Powder, Blasting 346
Press, Card 18, 42, 58
Press, Seal and Stamping 18
Press, Printing 98, 138, 242, 250, 354, 378 (2), 386
Press for Stamping Letters 186
Press, Copying 314
Presses, Tobacco 82
Presses, Cotton and Hay 90, 138, 146, 154, 258
Presses, Punching 234
Presses, Horse Collar 282
Printing Yarns and Cloth 90
Printing on Engraved Plates 194
Printing Machine 298
Printing Instrument for the Blind 338
Printing, Project 82, 202, 226, 266, 306, 402
Projectiles, Molds for 378
Projectiles, Throwing 394
Propellers 154, 314
Propellers, Shafts in Keels of 250
Propellers for Life Boats 282
Pumping Machine 154
Puddle Ball 328, 258
Punching Machine 170, 290
Pug Mill 338
Pulleys, Spring 394
Pumps 26, 106, 138 (2), 178
Pumps, Force 10
Pumps, Ships 34, 370
Pumps, Vibrating 226
Pumps, Double Acting 90
Pumps, Rotary 114, 130, 250, 322, 338, 346, 354 (2)
Pumps, Suckers for 122
Pumps for Driving Bells 138
Pumps, Diaphragm 186
Pumps, Air Escape for 210
Pumps, Steam Engine 242
Pumps, Regulating 250
Pumps, Cattle 290
Pumps, Steam 322
Pumps, Operating Valves of 346
Pumps, Wind 362

R

Radiators, Steam 42
Railway Bars, Rollup 242
Rail Compound 294
Rake, Hay 412
Rafters, Laying out 412
Rakes for Reaping Machines 26, 346
Rakes, Horse 146, 202
Rakes, Teeth for 338
Rakers, Harvester 114, 138, 178, 210, 258, 274 (2), 282, 354, 378
Rakers, Self 370
Raking and Loading Machine 114, 234, 314, 370
Ranges, Portable 162, 306
Ranges, Cooking 66, 250
Raspine Machine 98
Rattan Machine 34
Rattles, Policemens 90
Reach, Extension 50
Reaper, Rice 258
Reaping Machines 274, 314, 322, 402
Refrigerators 82, 330, 394
Reels for Fishing 386
Register, Telegraphic 170
Register, Ticket 194
Register, Omnibus 226, 258
Register for stoves 298
Registers and Ventilators 322
Regulator, Steam Boiler 58, 250, 266, 346 (2)
Regulator, Valve Connection 106
Reservoirs, Discharging 26
Rifle for Gold Washers 210, 290
Ring Travelers, Cleaning 350
Riveting Machine 162
Riving Machine 370
Road Scrapper 22
Roads, Laying 386
Roofing Composition 66, 186
Rope Machine 178, 298, 362
Rudders, Ships 26
Ruler, Parallel 218

S

Saddles, Riding 370
Safety Apparatus for Steam Boilers 18
Safety Attachment for R. R. Cars 58
Safety Apparatus for Harness 226
Safety Saws 322
Sails, Reefing 154
Salt Making 130
Sand Paper Machine 114
Sand Paper Cutting 186
Sashes, Hanging 74, 82, 106
Sash Window 378, 402
Sash Supporter 386, 402
Sash Fasteners 394
Saws, Hanging 10, 66, 130, 226, 298
Saws, Adjusting Circular 114, 186, 210, 258, 330 -
Saws, Filing 146
Saws, Concaving Circular 186
Saws, Straining 218, 346
Saws, Grinding Circular 306, 354
Saws, Guard for Circular 306
Saws, Self Raking 338
Saws, Driving Circular Saws 379
Saws, Mill 202
Saw-Mills, Regulating Feed of 402
Saws, Hand 290
Saw-Mill Carriages 10
Saw-Mill Dogs 66
Saw-Mill Head Blocks for 258, 298, 306, 322 (2)
Saw-Mill, Feed Motion for 122
Saw-Horse 74
Saw-Set 122 (2), 178, 298, 314, 330
Saw Sharp, Attaching Teeth to 170
Saw Spindles 226
Saw Teeth, Repairing 322
Sawing Machines 34, 42, 202, 234, 274, 314 (2), 378 (2)
Scaffolds 170, 274, 370
Scales, Platform 154
Scales, Weighing 178, 210 (2), 258
Scales, Grain 286
Scissors 186
Scoops, Excavating 298
Scrapers, Cotton 234
Scrapers, Dumping 282
Scrapers, Road 282
Screw Blanks 74
Screw Driver 138, 330
Screw Header 82
Screws 314
Screws, Die Stock for Cutting 322
Scuttle, Coal 378, 394
Seythe Fastening 58, 234, 282
Seythe Rilles 210
Seeds, Carriage 186, 250
Seeding Machines 2, 42, 82, 130, 146, 162 (2), 186 (2), 226, 234, 274, 322 (2), 338, 346, 378, 412
Seed Sowers 106, 194, 282, 362
Seeds, 234, 266, 286, 291, 322, 338
Separator, Brittle 402
Separator, Grain 42, 50, 234
Se arator, Gold 202
Sewing Machines 31, 42 (3), 50, 66, 71, 98, 122, 138, 154, 162 (3), 178, 186, 202 (2), 218 (2), 226, 234, 306, 314, 370, 386 (2)
Shades, Window 130, 226
Shades, Window Stenciling 170
Shafts, Wrought Iron 178
Shears, Sheep 210, 282
Shears, Sheet Metal 322
Sheet Metal, Bending 146, 202
Sheet Metal Working 290, 290, 298
Shells, Positive 186, 234
Shields to protect Breastpins 338
Shingle Machines 10, 122, 154 (2), 210, 274, 282, 298, 306, 322, 354
Shingle Bolt 42
Ships Topmasts, Supporting 2
Ships Yards, Suspending 106, 266
Shirt Exhaust for Engines 42
Shirt Collars 138, 242
Shoes, Lasting 82
Shot Pouches 170
Shot, Patching 378
Shovel and Tongs 266
Shutters, Double Panel 282
Shuts, Operating 322, 354, 378
Sifter, Coal 378
Signals for Vessels 186
Signals, Fog 322
Signals, R. R. 3-8
Silica, Dissolving 162
Silver, Separating from Tin Ore 394
Skins for Axle Arms 210
Slate Frames 50
Sleigh Belts, Attaching to Straps 370
Slide Rest 242
Smoke Houses 138
Smut Machines 351, 378
Snow Cleaner for R. R. 170
Soldering 378
Spark Arrestor 130, 210, 242
Spark Conductor 218
Spike Machines 2, 122, 154, 186, 335
Spinning Frames 66, 394
Spinning Wheels 250
Spindle, Grinding 234
Spoke Machine 66, 166
Spoke Shave 138, 250
Spokes, Driving 266
Spools 378
Spreaders, Lime and Guano 338
Springs, Car 10, 114
Springs, Carriage 178, 330, 346
Springs, Door 4, 202, 242, 258 (2), 402
Springs, Spiral 242
Springs, Surface 250
Spring Bottoms 338
Stalk Cutter 10
Stalls, Cattle 362
Stamp, Hand 402
Stamps, Self-Inking 242
Stamps, Ink 306
Staves, Gauging and Measuring 42
Stave Machine 194, 354, 378 (2)
Steam Cylinder 402
Steam, Economising 42
Steam Tube and Hot Air Covers 98
Steel, Welding 290
Steel, Manufacturing 306
Steel, Working 330
Steering Apparatus 394
Stereoscopic Case 258
Sticks, Dressing 162
Stone Sawing Machines 26, 346, 378
Stone Channelling Machines 106
Stone Dressing Machines 122, 362, 402
Stone Drilling Machine 234
Stone Polishing 186
Stone, Artificial 282, 394
Stone Cutting and Quarrying 354
Stoppers for Chain Cables 26
Stoves 2, 10 (2), 18, 50, 66 (4), 74, 90, 114 (4), 122 (2), 162, 186 (2), 194 (2), 210 (2), 226 (2), 242 (5), 250, 258 (2), 290 (3), 298 (3), 314 (2), 330 (7), 335(4) 354, 362 378 (2), 386(4), 402(3)
Stoves, Gas 146
Stove Plates 50, 66, 186, 266
Stoves, Leather 258
Straps for Saddle Blocks 330
Straps, Cutters 66, 82, 154, 218, 322, 362 (3), 386
Street Sweeping Machines 58, 90, 210, 234, 346
Striker, Blacksmiths 98
Strings, Cutting 322
Studs for Wearing Apparel 266
Stump Extractor 258, 282, 298, 394
Sugar, Cutting Leaf 234
Supporters, Uterine 314
Supporters, Invalid 394
Sweeping Gutters 402
Switch, R. R. 186
Syringe 130
Syringe Bottle 234

T

Tables, Extension 154
Tables, Cent 298
Tables, Folding 378
Tables, Framed 266
Tail Block for Saw Mills 362

Tallow for Candles 218
Tan Vats 162
Tanning Apparatus 10
Tanning Process 218
Tape Primer Percussion 370
Tapping Plug 370
Teapots, Casting Spouts and Handles of 50
Teeth, Artificial 298, 330
Telegraphs 42, 258, 266, 274, 298, 370
Telegraphs, Tide Gauges of 2
Telegraphs, Magnets for 266
Temples for Looms 194
Tenon Machine 66, 402
Tenoning Window Blinds 194
Tent, Conical 266
Thimbles, Forging 194
Thimbles' Husking 290
Thrashing Machine 226, 322, 330, 362
Thread, Trebling Single 10, 290
Thread, Winding 306
Throfile Frames 82
Ticker Holder 90
Tide Wheel 82
Tile Roofing 114
Time Indicator 130
Time-keepers 362
Timing Plug 82, 254
Tonguing and Grooving Machine 178, 186
Tools, Coopers' 98
Tools, Watchmakers' 322
Tools for Cutting Metals 338
Trade Marks 2
Trap, Bench 178
Trap Roach 202
Trap, Rat 234
Trap, Fly 170, 356
Treenail Machine 170
Trees, Felling 18, 226
Trunk Wardrobe 230
Trusses, Hernial 10, 226
Tubes, Seamless Metal 242, 362
Tubing, Gutta Percha 322
Tunneling Rocks, 226, 266
Turning Machine 354
Types, Printers' 26, 186
Type-Setting and Composing 58, 146, 352
Type Rubbing 114
Type Securing on Rotary Beds 386

U

Umbrella Sticks 98, 218

V

Valves for Regulating Steam Boilers 2, 114, 186, 251, 366
Valves for Oscillating Engines 42, 242
Valves, Operating 138, 170, 202, 314, 328, 378
Valves for Lock Gates 154, 218
Valves, Cut-Offs 154, 258, 358
Valves, Steam Stop 154
Valves in Blower Engines 162
Valves, Reducing the Fr