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#### THE BELGIAN SYSTEM OF CANAL TOWING.

There are now navigating the canals of this State over five thousand boats, which are kept in motion by either steam or animal power; by far the greater proportion are propelled by animals. Whether the power is economically applied or not is a matter of great importance, as the quantity of freight that is moved on these artificial waters is immense.

The reward offered by the State in 1871, for an economical system of canal propulsion, has been the means of directing the attention of inventors to this subject, and improvements of more or less merit have been developed; but the hoped-for new system, if we may judge from the continued employment of animals, has not been adopted if it really exists.

The Belgian system itself is not new, it having been employed in Europe for more than 18 years, and long before that, boats were hauled by means of submerged chains. The

for the ponderous and more expensive chain, and a clip drum or driving wheel for the ordinary indented windlass. This system has been adopted by the New York Steam Cable Towing Company, who have for several years towed boats on this plan from Buffalo, N. Y, to Lockport, proving not only the economy of the system, but its perfect adaptability to canals, and especially to the Erie Canal. Meantime they have perfected the mechanism of their boats. The State has granted to them 50 years' exclusive privilege of laying cables in the Eric Canal between Buffalo and Albany for this purpose, and the cables will be laid as far as Rochester this season.

Two cables will be laid, one for the up boats and the other for the down. The cables, which are one inch in diameter, are made of steel wire, and have a hemp core. They weigh 4 tons to the mile, and have no slack.

The tow boat, which is shown in Fig. 2, is 78 feet 6 inches long, 16 feet broad, and draws, when loaded with coal, 5 feet modern improvements, which render the system and ma- of water. It has a rudder at each end, the one at the bow chinery complete, consist in the substitution of wire rope | being always locked, as in the case of our New York ferry

boats. The boat carries a screw at one end, 4 feet in diameter and 7 feet pitch, which is used merely to propel the boat through the locks. Upon one side of the boat are three wheels, each 6 feet in diameter, the center one, as shown in Fig. 3, carrying around its periphery clips, which grasp the cable tightly as it passes over the top of the wheel. This wheel is secured to a 6 inch shaft, which is about on a level with the deck; the shaft receives its power from the engine shaft through a train of gearing which causes it to make about one revolution to eight of the engine. The wheels at the sides of the clip wheel are simply tighteners, to hold the cable down to the clip wheel. supported on study projecting from blocks which slide in the inclined ways, and are moved by screws passing through the blocks. The cable is taken up by two sheaves, like that shown in Fig. 4, placed one near each end, as shown in

The engine is an inverted vertical of the plain, substantial style usually built at the Pound Mfg. Co.'s Works in Lock-[Continued on page 146.]



THE BELGIAN SYSTEM OF CABLE TOWING.-THE LOCKS AT LOCKPORT, N. Y.

# Scientific American.

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#### Contents.

(Illustrated articles are n	narked with an asterisk.)
Acids, antiseptic action of 152	Miller, American vs. British
Adirondack survey, the 152	Mowing machine, canal
Adirondack survey, the	Notes and queries
American industries See'y Evarts 149	Olives in California
American Institute Exhibition 154	Ozokerite or mineral wax
Antidote to poison 147	Paper collars, arsenic in
Babbitt metal [13] 155	Petroleum, July product of
Blushing and blanching 152	Polson, antidote to
Bodie mining district, the 143	Powdered substances
Canal towing, Belgium system"., 143	Professor Archibald Gelkie
Coffee pest, specific for the 152	Pump, boller feed improved
Composition for ornament [16] 155	Railroads of the United States
Co-operation, practical 152	Rat and mice exterminator
Cotton bales, covering for 145	Reading at 756 miles
Cutch, use of in boilers [22] 155	Rheostat, improved
Cutting packing company 148	Sawmills wanted in Brazil
Devil's darning needle, the 148	Sewerage, useful hints on
Eddystone lighthouse, new 145	Ship railways.
Fan, Ince" 153	Snowballing in July
Farm wages and the cost of living 152	Starch, explosion of
Fence post, iron, new* 149	Steel, to blue [1]
Ferry boat, big, California 145	Sugar stom corn (10)
Filters [20]	Sulphides as fuel in metallurgy
Flour mixed with mineral subst. 154	Swelled trunk palm, the
Fluorescent body, new 145	Sydney Exhibition
Four hours in the dark 145	Tornado of Apr. 14, '79, Missouri.
Gear dressing machine' 150	Tubular piles
Hydrophobia successfullytreated 144	Turbo shells and sea beans
instrument for ringing swine' 147	Uralium, a new metal
Intelligent workmen needed 144	Varnish, retouching
International dairy fair 154	Vegetable curiosity, a
inventions, engineering 153	Vines, American in France
inventions, mechanical 151	Wages and prices in Belgium
inventions, miscellaneous 146	Wages and prices in France
Lightning rods [22] 155	Weather theory, new
Memory, a singular 145	Wood stains
Metals, transparency of 149	Yellow fever

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS OF

#### THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT

#### No. 192,

For the Week ending September 6, 1879.

Price 10 cents. For sale by all newsdealers,

ension Bridge between New York and Brooklyn. e Thickness of Cast Iron Water Pice under Heavy H. M. Blake, C.E. Comparison of English, French,

sater Apparatus, 2 figures. Invention of S. G.

tralian Breakwater. Description of the great granite arbor.

lis. Results of an investigation of the combrands of steel rails.

Rubemann & Jacobie's mechanical sad iron.

OLOGY AND CHEMISTRY. A New Developer for Dry Important communication to the London Photographers'

sition of Mineral Coal. An examination of the s by which veretable matter is converted into

III. METALLURGY.—Aluminum. By CLEMENS WINKLER. History of the art of working aluminum.—Progressive use of aluminum.—Alumi-

osition of Nickel. Watson's improvement. on of Molten Iron. Chernoff's experiment IV. HLECTRICITY, LIGHT, HEAT, ETC.—Test of the Eyes by Electric Light. Vision made more acute by electric light. Value of electric

nion Cup. From the design of A. Ortwein, by Stutttration. 16th century design, with hand wrought tapestry

MEDICINE, HYGIENE, ETC.,—The Care of Young Children. Rules of the Massachusetts State Board of Health.—Food.—Weaning.—Bath-

g and clothing.

Local American by Congelation. Experience of Dr. James Arnott.

ETHNOLOGY —The Affinity of Languages. The Semitte origin of atth American Tongues.

The Spiritual in Man. The religious instinct as an essential part of

CULTURE, ETC -- The Prize Animals of the International on of the Royal Agricultural Society, Kilburn, Eng. 6 ngures. Baspberry, History, Species Soil. Planting protection Selection of varieties, Varieties for

1X. ASTRONOMY, GEOLOGY, ETC.—The Wnoder of the Worlds. By CAMILLE FLAMMARION. Saturn and his system. The Geology of Gibralter. The geological history of the key to the Stories of canine intelligence, sagacity, and depravity.

#### INTELLIGENT WORKMEN NEEDED

steady work. The advertisement brought one application.

keeper, and the next day's mail brought three hundred and no such progress. At that time the rail-car in use was but a forty-seven noswers.

Detroit paper, brought one hundred and thirty applications ity, yet the gain in no way approaches that made in ship the first day, and a greater number of letters and personal ping applications the next day.

a good carpenter, brought only four replies.

the land, an advertisement for a book-keeper or retail clerk another river or ocean? Is it not pitiful that the swift and will bring fifty times as many replies as an advertisement magnificent vehicles which convey our citizens and our comfor a fair workman in any trade.

It is also probable that in any and every city the average earnings of clerks are nowhere near so large as the earnings of our continent, should be checked in their proud career by of workmen of average skill in the various trades.

industry, and thrift, the young man who learns any trade will mechanical contrivance, to turn a driving-wheel on a rail? achieve a reasonable competence sooner than the young man who sticks to clerking; while the chances for materially than on the water, from the fact that friction on a rail is improving one's condition are more numerous in the trades much less than on the water at the same speed, especially at than behind the counter or at the desk.

is it that intelligent parents encourage them in looking for a suitable running gear. If the track be made wide enough, chance to "get into business," and in looking down on me- cars may be converted into rolling hotels, two or more chanical employments—as though there could be any calling stories high, and may contain the chambers, parlors, diningmore wretchedly mechanical than average clerking? Why rooms, and other conveniences of steamships, if not of stais it that teachers almost invariably train their pupils to tionary public houses. The great law of economy, in regard "look above" mechanical pursuits?

What the country wants now is workmen-intelligent, industrious, thrifty workmen; men who can do skillfully the cars on the principal thoroughfares, say, on the isthmus work that waits for the doing-who can invent new means routes of Panama, Tehuantepec, and Nicaragua, and on the and better processes for developing the crude resources of trunk, if not on the branches of the great road which must the land, and for converting brute matter into life sustaining connect the Atlantic with the Pacific, across the center of and life-enriching wealth. Mere clerks and record keepers our continent. So the Isthmus of Suez may be overcome are at a discount. There are too many of them. And the by a ship railroad. Unless unusual physical obstacles interprofessions, so called, are almost equally crowded with men vene, ship railroads may connect the Black Sea and the who have nothing to do. There never was a time when Caspian, and perhaps even the Aral, and this with the river ability to do something real and practical was worth so Yang Tse Kiang. There would be as much comparative much as now. Yet our young men swarm after clerkships. saving of time and power and labor by the employment of Why is it?

case of hydrophobia successfully treated with curare, by the Atlantic ports, either going east or west overland, and Dr. Ad. Offenberg, of Wickrath, Rhenish Prussia.

bit in the heel by a rabid Spitz dog, July 28, 1874. Two serve as switches and depots." days after the wound was cauterized by means of a concentrated solution of caustic potash, and shortly after the girl ing the military and naval advantages of ship railways, or to underwent a course of treatment for hydrophobia. Subse- criticise his sweeping indifference to geographical obstrucquently, for three months or more, the wound was kept sup- tions. Practical railway men will probably laugh now, as purating under the direction of a local physician. Seeing they did a quarter of a century ago, at the idea of increasing that the case was not receiving proper treatment, the pastor of the place brought about the transfer of the patient to a the size of cars; yet it is quite possible that for short porthospital, where she was received October 8. At that time ages, to avoid long voyages, ship railways may be more the wound, on the outside of the left foot, extending from the easily constructed and more economically than ship canals; tendo Achillis over the dorsum, presented a reddish granula- in which case Mr. Friese is obviously entitled to his share ting surface about the size of the palm of the hand. Under of credit for early appreciating their advantages. That the RING AND MECHANICS -Anderson's Gas Washer and a simple dressing the granulating surface became much idea of such a means of transportation was original with a lilustration. A new apparatus for purifying gas.

The same may be smaller, and until October 16 no change was observed in him is not for a moment to be supposed. The same may be the patient's health and temper. Symptoms of rabies appeared that evening, and by 10:45 P.M. were pronounced and invention, though he first suggested it in 1854, some ten decided. Curare was then injected under the skin, and the years after the project had been illustrated in the Scientific dose was repeated several times during the night, with favor- AMERICAN. Mr. Charles W. S. Heaton, who also puts in a able effects. The last convulsion occurred at twenty-three claim, is fully twenty years behind, his proposition having minutes past four in the morning.

The details of the case would be out of place here; suffice it to say that the patient slowly recovered health and strength, isolated convulsive movements of slight severity occurring at intervals until the 24th, while impaired vision and oversensitiveness of the eyes to light continued still longer. On Dec. 3, the wound on the foot being completely cicatrized, and the patient's general health being good, she was allowed to return to her home. By January, 1875, she was able to resume her duties as servant, though her original health and strength were not restored for more than a year.

The case seems to have been one of genuine hydrophobia, however, that the patient attended a hydrophobic neighbor (who was bit by a rabid dog a few days before she was, and died of the disease), witnessing his convulsions and other symptoms, makes her case possibly one of simulation.

#### EARLY ADVOCATES OF SHIP RAILWAYS.

Since prominence has been given to Capt. Eads' suggestion for a ship railway across the Isthmus of Panama, there proposing this solution to the great problem. Thus far we destroying progress. have seen none antedating the plan illustrated in the first in this connection.

ships by railways had been enthusiastically advocated by feet of that department has taken steps to establish there a Mr. Philip C. Friese, in "An Essay on Party," published in monster nursery of American grapes (notably the Jacquez

this city as early as 1856, and copyrighted the year before Notice was taken in a recent issue of this paper of the While discussing the competence of the general government experience of a large shoe manufacturer of this State, who to undertake investigations and experiments of a scientific advertised in Boston and New York for twenty-five shoe and useful character, for the furtherance of national prosfitters to work in his factory, offering full current rates and perity, Mr. Friese observed that water conveyances had been increased in size, through many increments, from the slight About the same time a Boston firm advertised for a book- canoe to the vast steam ship, while land carriages had made small remove from the common road wagon. The American During the same month an advertisement for a clerk, in a rail-car now shows a considerable increase in carrying capac-

From this point of view Mr. Friese asked: "Why do we An advertisement for a week in the same city, calling for not construct rail-cars as broad and capacious as steamships? Why do we not dip up steamships from a river or It is altogether probable that in any considerable city in ocean, place them in a rail-car, and whirl them overland to merce over the stormy deep, and which bear within them the power to scale the lofty mountains and skim the wide plains a narrow isthmus? Why shall not the same power which Further, it is fairly certain that, with equal capacity, turns a paddle-wheel through the water be made, by an easy The same power will be immensely more efficient on a rail a high rate of speed. Steamships themselves might form Why is it, then, that the boys all want to be clerks? Why the bodies of cars, when placed in a frame, or cradle, over to time and power, and fuel and labor, demands the establishment of broad roads, suitable for ships, and for large large cars instead of small ones, as there is in the employment of ships instead of canoes. Large cars could be driven HYDROPHOBIA SUCCESSFULLY TREATED WITH CURARE. with safety at a rate of speed not attainable by small The Medical Record of Aug. 9 gives a detailed report of a ones. If the cars be adapted to steamships, these can leave arrive in the East Indies in a few days, without breaking The subject was a servant girl, 24 years of age, who was bulk. For such a road, rivers, lakes, and inland seas would

It is needless to follow Mr. Friese in his remarks concernthe economy of ordinary transportation by largely increasing idea of such a means of transportation was original with said of Mr. N. W. Evans, who also claims priority in the been made as late as "1864, or early in 1865."

#### AMERICAN VINES IN FRANCE.

A notable illustration of the balance between animal and vegetable life under natural conditions is furnished by the power of American vines to withstand the attacks of phylloxera. For unnumbered ages the conflict between the plant and the insect has been going on in this country, the result being the survival of those species of the grape capa ble of enduring the attacks of the parasite. This power of resistance has been found to reside in the rapid lignifying of the roots of the American grapes, so that the punctures of the phylloxera are comparatively harmless. They affe the outer bark only, causing little excrescences which fall off like warts. European vines, on the other hand, have not been subject to such invasions (until recently), and are entirely unable to cope with the pest. When pierced by the insect the tender roots decay, and the entire plant perishes. The consequence is that having once been introduced in Europe, as it was about twenty years ago, the phylloxera meets with no resistance, and the indications are that nothing have arisen quite a number of claimants to the credit of first short of the extermination of all European vines will stay its

Our readers are familiar with the decision of the French volume of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN; and no one seems to Commissioners in favor of the substitution of the native have taken the matter more to heart than the late Horace grape stocks by those of American origin, as set forth in Day, for he went so far as to take out patents for his devices their official report, translated for the issue of the SCIEN-TIFIC AMERICAN, dated August 2. Our American Consul at Before that time, however, the project of transporting La Rochelle, Mr. George L. Catlin, now writes that the pretunity to re-establish them with resisting stocks. Already Syracuse on business, He heard an engine coming out of demand for American vines throughout France.

#### READING AT SEVEN AND A HALF MILES DISTANCE FROM THE CANDLE.

On the evening of July 12, the Maxim electric light was put in operation on the tower of the Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga Springs, N. Y., with a view to test the extent of its illuminating powers. An open parabolic reflector was used-no lenses-and care was taken by Mr. Maxim to set the points of the carbons a little at one side of each other, and to adjust them to the exact focus of the reflector. When this was fairly accomplished the light was turned toward a spot in Ballston Spa, New York, 71/2 miles distant, where, by previous arrangement, a group of several hundred persons were assembled to witness the experiment. So powerful was the light, so accurate the focusing and alignment, that the designated place in Ballston was instantly illuminated, so that ordinary print could be read, the time seen on watches, etc. The night was clear, still, and dark. The experiment was made at 91/2 o'clock P. M. This is believed to be the greatest distance at which illumination of equal degree has been accomplished. We are indebted to Mr. H. S. Maxim for the above particulars.

#### A COVERING WANTED FOR COTTON BALES.

Among the matters of general interest brought forward at the recent convention of the National Cotton Exchange in this city, one ought to be of special interest to inventors. Speaking of the proposed reform in selling cotton, namely by net weight, President Lafitte said that it would be to the interest of planters not to have any allowance made for bagthe cotton, and would soon be superseded under the new weight, some inventive genius would, in a few years, ining the bales, thus saving much waste, damage, extra of the programme. freightage, and so on. The problem does not appear to The disadvantages attending the use of unrotted flax ing the cotton to deteriorate in value, while the expenses surance Company, said that his company had sustained swirl of the deep about them. heavy losses from the use of such bagging, and had been

5,250,000 bales. If they were placed together in one long from New Orleans to New York, and thence across the ordinary spring tide. Atlantic Ocean. Every linear foot would represent 100 lb. of cotton. With regard to the prospects of the future, Mr. Trenholm said that now but one bale of cotton was probale to every acre. He believed that ultimately our crop would be 12,500,000 bales.

In view of these figures it is needless to urge the importance of the invention called for. Our wide awake inventors should see that the want is met promptly.

#### A SINGULAR MEMORY.

Marvelous stories are told of the curious memory of D. P. Hicks, a Rochester youth, associated with a not less curious faculty for distinguishing sounds. He spent his earlier years in Buffalo, N. Y., where he became known to railway men for his singular knowledge of locomotive bells and numbers.

A short time ago he removed to Rochester, where he is employed at a distance from the railway so great that he rarely hears a passing train. Yet he is able to give the numbers of nearly three hundred locomotives on hearing their bells. The engines that run in the night he names with unerring accuracy, as his house is situated near the track and the bells are heard very plainly. Railroad men state that only case of the kind they ever knew. Old and experienced engineers, switchmen, and those whose work bring them within the hearing of a large number of engine bells, say that at the most they can learn to know only a very few compared to the great number Mr. Hicks can name readily, almost without thought. He can not only give the numbers of several hundred, but in cases where locomotives have been remodeled and renumbered, he can give the old number as well as the new one. He says there are six locomotives familiar to him, the bells of which are keyed in Convention was held in Saratoga, August 12. The attentute. knowledge, in the old class, which have the same key. The new locomotives, that is, those the numbers of which are above 500, are all keyed nearly alike.

The Rochester Democrat and Uhronicle relates that not long ago an old switch engine, used in the yard at Buffalo, was sent to Rochester for some special purpose. As it passed Dean street Mr. Hicks heard the bell and remarked not heard its bell for six years. A boarder in the house, History, Paris, on June 10.

and Herbemont) to afford the French vine growers, whose vineyards have been ravaged by the phylloxera, an opporengine came into view the number given was found to be correct.

This faculty, it is said, has been tested hundreds of times, and a mistake is rarely made.

#### FOUR HOURS IN THE DARK.

daylight. To our Fenian citizens this may be another and

istence in the United States remains endurable, though we do titute of fluorescent properties. not (geographically speaking) make quite so great a spread as we thought.

#### The New Eddystone Lighthouse,

The foundation stone of the new Eddystone Lighthouse

be a very difficult one, and its solution would pay well. 14 miles southwest of the port of Plymouth and 1214 from new line having been opened during the year. Rame Head. They are almost in the line which joins the

obliged to make large deductions from claims by way of tower on the South Reef, a rock which the House Rock pro- earnings. The decline in earnings has been due to very tects from the southwest, but which has the disadvantage of Mr. Trenholm estimated the cotton crop of this year at being much lower, its highest part being never uncovered last decade the tonnage traffic of our railroads longest in string they would measure about 4,500 miles, and stretch foundation rests, are 4 feet beneath the low water level of an an inconsiderable increase in earnings from this source,

water, and owing to the force of the waves the work could equaled 50 per cent, although the period has been one of be carried on only at brief and specially favorable intervals, unexampled business depression. At the very time at which duced to 2 4-10 acres of land, but it was possible, by proper It is expected that the high water level will be reached early management, as experience had demonstrated, to raise one next year, when the work will proceed more rapidly, as the movement of merchandise has steadily and largely increased. courses of stone are all accurately fitted together on shore. one, though it will differ from it slightly in form and considerably in size. To a height of 251/2 feet above high water mark the tower will be solid, with the exception of a space for a water tank. The side walls beginning at this level will be 81/2 feet thick, diminishing to 21/4 feet at the top. Noth- at this office represents, by a number of well executed wood ing but granite will be used, and the blocks will be large engravings, the progress of the Sydney Exhibition, showing enough to form the entire thickness of the hollow portion of the arrival and placing of exhibits from all countries, and the tower. Under the cornice, to the top of which it is 138 exhibiting that same degree of hurly-burly activity which feet; it will contain nine rooms, besides the lantern, each show, and which prevailed just before the opening of the being 10 feet high and the seven uppermost ones 14 feet in French Exhibition last year. diameter. The focal plane of the new lighthouse will be 130 From these illustrations and the statements of the newsfeet above high water, as compared with 72 feet in the pres- papers of that far-away colony, the success of the Exhibition ent building, and the actual useful range of the light will would seem to be secured. Now for the New York World's thus be extended from 14 to 171/2 nautical miles. About Fair in 1883. Are we to have it? If so, it is time steps were 5,100 tons of granite will be employed in the construction, taken to select a site, and some announcement made of bell, erected in 1872, will be replaced by a powerful siren and the electric light probably be used. The estimated cost of the entire work is between \$300,000 and \$350,000. A large engraving of the Old Light house, with a view of the foundation of the new structure, is given in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, for August 23.

#### American Dental Convention.

dance was small. The relative merits of gold, amalgam, and other plastic fillings for teeth, were discussed, the prevailing opinion being in favor of the first named, and against the "new departure," so called, in the direction of substitutes for gold fillings.

#### The Oldest Scientific Lecturer.

that the engine was of a certain number, and that he had of lectures on organic chemistry at the Museum of Natural Carquinez, between the railway station of that name and

#### A New Fluorescent Body.

According to the Journal of the Chemical Society, C. O. Harz has discovered a new fluorescent body in spergulin, the prefect has had planted in a vineyard of his own 42,000 the round house, and remarked to a friend that he knew the This product occurs in the seed-coverings of the caryophyl-American shoots; and Mr. Catlin anticipates a very large bell, although he had not heard it in five years. When the laceous plants, Spergula vulgaris and S. maxima (Anglice 'Spurrey"). It is produced at the time when the seeds blacken and are nearly ripe. Spergulin is very soluble in absolute and aqueous alcohol. Viewed by transmitted light the solution appears nearly colorless, with a shade of olivegreen; by reflected light it exhibits a dark-blue fluorescence. It has not yet been obtained in the form of crystals. It is It is a humiliating confession to make-but geography is very soluble in methylic alcohol, less so in amylic alcohol, pitiless, and our national vainglory must bow to its decrees and scarcely soluble in ether or petroleum. Concentrated that for four hours in every twenty-four the entire territory sulphuric acid dissolves it, forming a dark-blue liquid. The of the United States is deprived of sunshine. As the sun fluorescence of an alcoholic solution of spergulin is maingoes down on our farthest Aleutian island its morning rays tained for more than a year if the liquid be kept in darkare just lighting up the hill tops of the western coast of Ire- ness, but is rapidly destroyed by the action of direct sunland, and the breadth of the Atlantic lies between us and light, and more slowly by that of diffused light. Small quantities of caustic alkalies, or alkaline carbonates, added cogent reason for annexing the dear little isle of the harp and to an alcoholic solution of spergulin, transform it into an the shamrock; but until it is done the exultant cry of the emerald-green fluorescent body; and basic lead acetate pro-Rocky Mountain Presbyterian, that the sun never sets on the duces a precipitate. The new compound contains 61.85 per United States, must be admitted to be a trifle exaggerated. cent of carbon, 7.05 of hydrogen, and 31.8 of oxygen. It It does set every day, and, paradoxically, four hours before appears to be related to chlorophyl, and is probably closely allied to phyllocyanin. An alcoholic solution of the pro-In the depth of our humiliation we may possibly console duct showed strong absorption, almost entirely in the violet; ourselves with the reflection that-though our British cousins and in this respect differs considerably from chlorophyl, can say with truth what we cannot—the sun really shines on phyllocyanin, and phylloxanthin. Mr. Harz is disposed to the United States when it is up. We have to submit to four regard spergulin as a feeble acid, the acid salts of which, as hours of sunlessness a day: England is lucky to get four well as the acid itself, exhibit blue fluorescence, the neutral hours of sunshine. So life has its compensations, and ex- salts exhibit green fluorescence, and the basic salts are des-

#### The Railroads of the United States.

The twelfth annual number of Poor's Manual of Railroads of the United States is unprecedentedly full of informaging. The cheap bagging now used is a poor protection to was laid, August 19, by the Duke of Edinburgh. The formal tion, owing to the more detailed statements furnished by commencement of the structure on the 21st of June, as first the companies and the reports of State departments for the rule. In his own words: "If cotton were sold by net proposed, was prevented by the roughness of the sea. On general oversight of railroads. For the first time for several the day of the final celebration the weather was rainy, but years the introductory article is able to record a very detroduce good non-inflammable light material," for cover the water was sufficiently smooth to permit the carrying out cided recovery of the railway interests of the country from their recent depressed condition. The total mileage in opera-The Eddystone rocks are situated in the English Channel, tion at the close of the year was 81,841 miles, 2,694 miles of

The construction of railways has been entered upon with bagging was particularly noted. The texture is rough Start and Lizard points, and in the fair way of all vessels renewed energy and activity, and it is predicted that conand open, affording an insufficient covering, and allow- coasting the southern shore of England. So exposed are they struction will proceed rapidly until the mileage is more than to the ocean swell from the south and west that even in double what it is now. In the five years since 1873 there for mending the bales were considerably increased. Mr. comparatively calm weather the waves go raging and thunder- have been constructed in the United States 11.563 miles of John G. Dale, agent of the British and Foreign Marine In ing over their ledges, and their name indicates the incessant railway. A remarkable feature in the railroad operations of the country for several years past has been the enor-The new lighthouse will stand 127 feet from the present mously increased tonnage in the face of a large falling off of great reductions in charges for transportation. Within the before half tide, while the lowest parts, on which most of the operation has been fully doubled, while there has been only Since 1873, the year in which the earnings of our railroads Most of the work done thus far has had to be done under reached their maximum, the increase of their tonnage has there has been the greatest complaint of hard times, the

> The gross earnings of all the roads whose operations have It is thought that it will take five years to complete the light-been reported, have equaled \$490,103,361, against \$472,house, which is to follow generally the lines of the present 909,272 for 1877, \$497,257,959 for 1876, and \$503,065,505 for

#### Sydney Exhibition.

The last number of the Illustrated Sydney News received feet from the rock, the diameter of the tower will be 181/2 was witnessed just before the opening of our Centennial

#### Professor Archibald Gelkic.

Professor Geikie, the accomplished chief of the Geological Survey of Scotland, recently passed through this city on his way to the West. His purpose was to go first to Ogden, then, after visiting Salt Lake, to study the Wahsatch and Uintah mountains and the ancient lake basins of that region. On his return to the East, Prof. Geikle will deliver a course of lectures on "Geographical Evolution" at the Lowell Insti-

#### The California Big Ferry Boat.

We are indebted to Dr. Edward Gray, M.D., for some additional particulars concerning this vessel, the Solano, recently noticed in our paper. Her length is 425 feet; breadth, 115 feet; built at Oakland, where she is now receiving her M. Chevreul, now in his 93d year, began his usual course finishing touches. The vessel is to ply on the Stralts of Benicia, and not on San Francisco bay as stated.

#### THE BELGIAN SYSTEM OF CANAL TOWING.

[Continued from first page.] port. It is 14 inch bore and 16 inch stroke. The boiler-of

The screw receives its motion through clutch gearing, shown in Fig. 5. The miter wheels on the engine shaft are opened. loose. The clutch slides on a feather, so that when it is brought into engagement with either wheel it will carry it, mode of gearing is found to answer the purpose as the screw

The boats are calculated for towing from four to five canal by Mr. Edward M. Whyler, of Hays City, Kan. boats at a speed of three miles per hour. The method of the Pound Manufacturing Co., of Lockport, N. Y. The rection, and may be raised to clear obstructions.

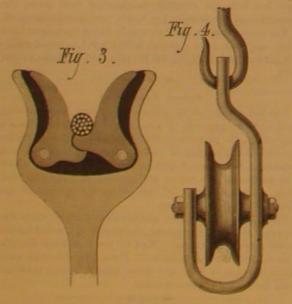
boats are built by H. Benedict & Co., of Lockport. Ten of these boats have already been built; fifteen more are to be completed next winter The company intend to build eighty in all.

Our large engraving not only gives an excellent idea of the Belgian system of towing, but it also shows the locks of Lockport, where the boats are raised and lowered 60 feet The difference in the two water levels affords the city of Lockport one of the finest water privileges in the world. Clustered around the locks and along the course of a race on the left bank are factories which are driven by water from the upper canal level. Beyond the bank on the left and in the hollow just out of sight in our view are the Pound Works. The large buildings on the

with water for extinguishing fires and all other purposes,

except cooking and drinking.

There is another matter of engineering interest connected with the spot shown in the engraving, namely, the transmission of power by means of wire cables. There is probably not another place in the country where this method of transmitting power is employed to such an extent as within the area covered by our engraving. A 30 inch turbine at the Pound Works distributes power through five cables to manufacturers of various kinds upon and beyond the embankment. The Richmond Works, on the extreme right of the engraving, supply power through two cables that run across the gully, one being 2,100 feet long, the other 1,600 feet;



CLIP IN DRIVE WHEEL.

foot head supplies the power. One of these cables, 1,100

#### MISCELLANEOUS INVENTIONS.

ed an improvement in jump-seats for vehicles, which consists mixed together in about equal quantities, with sufficient improvements on the butter worker for which letters patent of a stop or locking device for supporting the pivoted or water to reduce the mixture to a plastic state, has been No. 179,053 were granted to him June 20, 1876. In that shifting seats of vehicles and holding them firmly when ele- patented by Mr. Jean B. Ader, Ainé, of New Orleans, La. apparatus a frame, provided with a trough or gutter, supvated, so that they will have no swaying or lateral move-

ary structures, have been patented by Mr. John T. Kilham, of and may be readily adjusted to the height of the water at dif-Harper's Ferry, W. Va. It is so constructed that when the ferent seasons of the year, has been patented by Mr. William the brine, and for insuring the proper operation of the apseal or plate containing the seal proper is duly attached it B. Akers, of Little River, Va.

prevents the lock bolt which secures the hasp from being withdrawn, and hence the door cannot be opened. When the seal plate is broken the lock bolt is released, and by a knot formed by dipping the loose butts of the bristles into the locomotive style-has a 5 foot shell, and is 14 feet long. proper manipulation can be withdrawn from the lock, thus melted pitch, glue, or cement, and inserting them in a form, in turn releasing the hasp and allowing the door to be

An improved fire extinguishing attachment for buildings, which is so constructed that water may be thrown over all It consists in a connecting device of peculiar form for holdand consequently drive the wheel on the screw shaft. This parts of the buildings, inside and outside, to prevent them ing the traces and preventing their detachment. from taking fire from a contiguous burning building, and to extinguish the fire if it has already started, has been patented posed of two plates or thin boards hinged together, so that

An improvement in gates, patented by Mr. Moses Derby, making up and towing a train of boats is shown in the front of Pepin, Wis., consists in certain novel features of construcpage engraving. The machinery for these boats is built by tion, whereby the gate is adapted for swinging in either di-

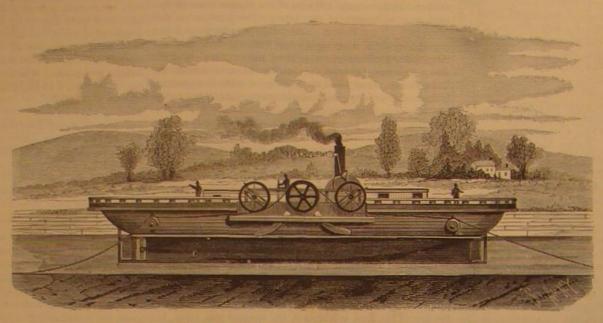


Fig. 2.—SIDE ELEVATION OF CABLE TOW BOAT.

right of the locks are the Holly Works, of which we have Mr. Marshall McDonald, of Lexington, Va., has patented rent. The white heat of this wire is taken up and made several times made mention. At the foot of the locks is a an improved fishway, in which is utilized the velocity or harmless by means of a cold water current flowing along the small building containing the pumps that supply Lockport pressure of the head of water at the dam by directing the circuit wire. head of water through a series of openings on an incline, the openings being arranged to discharge upwardly, so that an ters, numbers, or other characters may be represented thereon initial upward current on the incline is produced, which enables the fish to ascend the incline.

> A lamp top or burner, having a socket in its upper portion structed that the punches may be readily replaced when and a detachable mouthpiece or tip provided with a tenon or they are worn, and they may be grouped in the prisms so as reduced portion which fits therein, has been patented by Mr. to change the characters to be reproduced in perforations. William C. McCormack, of Stanford, Ky.

An improved check for oil wells has been patented by Mr. Jasper Neath, of Shamburg, Pa. It consists in an external packing device applied in connection with the usual packing | which has sharp teeth on its upper face, while the shank of devices, or at one of the lower joints in the tubing, to prevent the other is provided with square teeth on its upper face, any flow of oil through the tubing, so that when sufficient which are held in the shank by the dogs that are pivoted also through other cables to five other establishments upon pressure has accumulated to cause a flow the oil will pass out- within the body of the fastener, and made to engage with and beyond the right bank. A 40 inch turbine under a 65 side the tubing by the casing to the tanks.

Mr. Griffith B. Thomas, of Point Pleasant, West Va., has invented an improvement in iron roofing, which consists in forming the joints between the sheets by crimping the edge of one over the turned up edge of the adjoining sheet the whole length, and then fastening them by clips of tin.

Mr. Benjamin F. Wood, of New Haven, Conn., has invented an improved frame for drying lace curtains under tension. It is simple in construction, and will hold the curtains under a uniform tension while drying. When not re quired for use it can be folded into compact form for storage

Mr. Paul H. Seager, of Manteno, Ill., has patented an improvement in stovepipes, which consists of a section of pipe unriveted at the lower end so that its diameter at this end can be increased and diminished at pleasure by means of a lever pivoted to the pipe on one side and connected by a strap with the other side. By moving the lever back and forth the pipe is contracted and expanded, and secured in any desired position by a pawl engaging a ratchet guard over the lever.

An improvement in flour bolts has been patented by Mr. Josiah J. Zinn, of Union City, Pa. The object of this invention is to construct the reels so that a smoother surface will be given to the bolting cloth, for the purpose of permitting a sliding motion of the meal when it is in operation, and thu enable the flour to be bolted more evenly and cleanly than is

Mr. Rienza A. Goldsmith, of Washingtonville, N. Y., has feet long, runs around corners and is supported upon poles, invented an improvement in thill couplings, which consists | Zohar Doyle, of Ogden, Ill. It consists of two semi conical About 29,000 feet of cable are kept in motion by these two in forming upon the head of a coupling bolt a plate with a pressers, with air tubes to prevent suction, mounted in a hole through which the cam bolt passes, so that the coupling head held upon a frame operated by a lever and springs, and bolt may be secured by the nut that holds the cam bolt.

A composition for water filters, formed of clay, sand, wood surface of all the clothing. Mr. George H. Hutton, of Boonsborough Md., has patent- sawdust, pulverized pumice stone, and English calcimine,

A seal and a lock for doors of freight cars, and also station- falls, which will prevent trash from lodging about its hinges, arrangement of various parts of the apparatus, whereby pro-

Mr. John Ames, Jr., of New York city, has patented an improvement in making brushes. The invention consists in where they are allowed to cool or harden.

Mr. Louis A. Bringier, of Ascension Parish, La., has patented an improvement in back-bands for plow harnesses.

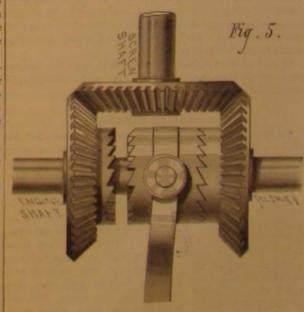
An improvement in the class of foot-rests which are comwhen the device is in use one of the plates will be at right angles to the other, but when not in use one plate may be folded flat upon the other, is the invention of Mr. Henry Jungmann, of Madison, Wis.

Mr. Maximilian C. F. Nitze, of Dresden, Saxony, has pat-

ented an improvement in application of electric light to a speculum. The object of the invention is to provide a means for direct illumination and examination of internal parts or cavities of the body. as the urethra, the bladder, the larynx, the esophagus, the stomach, the uterus, the outer auditory passage. This method, and the instruments constructed according to this method, afford the possibility of introducing the source of light into the internal parts or cavities themselves for examining the part directly, or its reflected image. Lenses or lens systems for enlarging the field of view may be employed in combination with his instruments. The source of light employed in these instruments consists in a platinum wire made incandescent by an electric cur-

An improved machine for perforating papers, so that letby a series of perforations, has been patented by M. Henri L. Poirier, of Paris, France. The punch holder is so con-

Mr. Albion B. Parkman, of St. Albans, Me., has invented an improved hame fastener, which consists of the hollow shank or body containing snap hooks, the shank of one of the teeth of the snap hooks by a curved spring



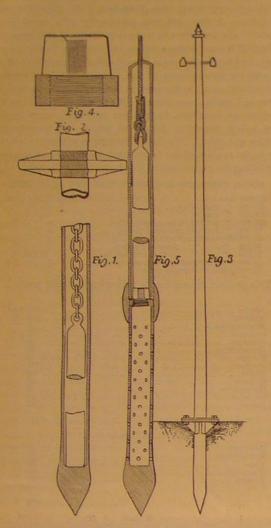
SCREW DRIVING GEAR

An improved washing machine has been patented by Mr. adapted to be shifted about, so as to be directed upon the

Mr. Emery M. Pike, of McDonough, N. Y., has patented An improved flood gate, which is so constructed as to ported a reciprocating tank provided with an eduction pipe. swing open as the water rises and swing shut as the water. The present invention consists in details of construction and paratus

#### TUBULAR PILES.

A novel and ingenious system of constructing and driving Grand & Sutcliff, of London, artesian well engineers. It War. involves a considerable departure from ordinary practice, in-



TUBULAR PILES.

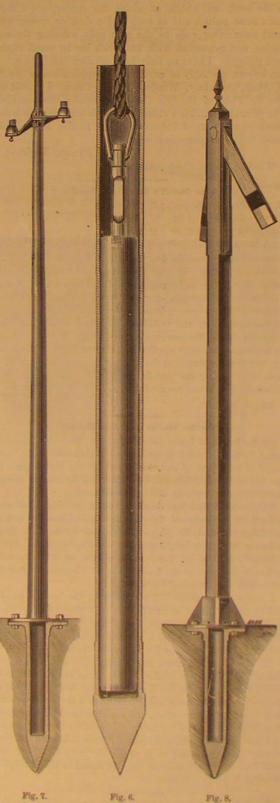
be made of either wrought or cast iron, and the thickness of the metal can be proportioned to suit the varying circumstances of construction. The lower end of the pile, as shown in Figs. 1 and 6 of our engravings, is made solid and pointed, and is generally of wrought iron and steel tipped. The piles are made in sections, which are screwed together by strong steel sockets or joint covers, which are barrel shaped on the outside in order to diminish friction when being driven.

The method of driving these piles is as simple as it is novel. Instead of the blows being delivered on the head of the pile, the driving force is expended just where it is wanted, namely, at the point. This result is attained by using an elongated cylindrical driving weight, which travels easily inside the tube. The weight is raised by means of rope or rods, and is allowed to fall on the flat head of the solid point, the pile thus forming its own guide for the driving weight. The effect of each blow is to drag rather than to drive the pile down. It will be seen that the point is swelled, and is of sufficient diameter to effect a clearance for the joint covers which have to follow it down. The form of the joint cover is seen in Fig. 5. A considerable experience in driving tubes into the ground has shown the inventors that, thus made, the point does all the real work, and that a very slight strain is brought on the joints above. An increase of stability is given to these piles in cases where the depth to which they have to be driven is previously known by the use of a flange which is proportioned to suit the nature of the soil into which the pile has to be driven. This flange is shown at Fig. 2, and is so placed that at the final driving it just embeds itself on the river or sea bottom. The tubes forming the pile are screwed into the flange, which in this case takes the place of he usual steel socket, and unites the two lengths of the pile together. It thus in no way diminishes the strength of the pile as it would if screwed on to the tube below an ordinary

With this system of piles it is not necessary to test the ground previously to driving them, inasmuch as lengths can always be added until a firm foundation is reached, failing which the pile can be withdrawn. In prospecting for a site small tubes can very rapidly be driven to ascertain the nature of the soil. Another advantage the system possesses is that piles can be driven in deep water with great facility, and they can be of extreme length. Their strength, moreover, can be increased by filling them in with concrete after they have been driven, if desired. When meeting with obstructions, jection, as it will fracture and pass through minor obstrucdriven into the ground, the earth firmly surrounds it. These itself,

piles are applicable to all classes of engineering work, and they are now being tried by the Royal Engineer Committee, piles has of late been introduced into practice by Messrs. Le under instructions from the Under Secretary of State for

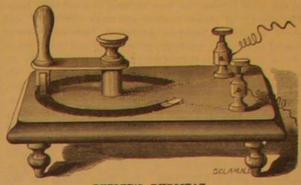
> arises for keeping out of the tube the water, which in the ter of the circular groove. The key is provided with a roller ordinary way flows in through the perforations. In this case the first socket above the perforated end is made sufficiently long to admit of a stout iron ring or washer being placed in the center of it in such a way that the two lengths of tube when screwed tightly together butt against it, one on the under and one on the upper surface. The interior of this ring is of sufficient size to allow the water to pass freely through it, but it has a screw thread cut throughout its whole length. During the operation of driving, the opening in this ring is closed by a steel plug, which is screwed down into it until the upper part butts on the ring, as seen at Fig. 4, where the ring is shown in section. The upper part of the plug forms an anvil, upon which the driving weight falls, the blow being thus delivered a short distance above the point of the tube instead of directly upon it, as in the case of the piles. In the center of a plug a hole is bored and tapped, into which a rod can be screwed for removing the plug when the driving has been completed. The male thread on the exterior of the plug is cut left handed, so that ordinary boring rods can be used in removing the plug without incurring the physicians and experimenters. risk of unscrewing them.



TUBULAR PILES. wells is shown at Fig. 5. It will be seen that the water can-

#### IMPROVED RHEOSTAT.

The rheostat shown in the engraving is the invention of Mr. John Butler, of this city. It is designed for introducing more or less resistance into an electrical circuit. The bed The principle of internal driving has been applied by plate is made of non-conducting material, and in an annular asmuch as the piles are driven internally and at the bottom, Messrs. Le Grand & Sutcliff to the sinking of tube wells, groove in its upper surface there is a film or plate of material instead of externally and at the top. The invention originated with the senior member of the firm, whilst the credit of some with the senior member of the firm, whilst the credit of some Figs 3, 7, and 8), flagstaffs, and the like. When used in conof the applications of the principle is due to the junior mem- nection with tube wells a slightly modified arrangement has of the resistant is connected with a battery, and the current is ber. The piles, says Engineering, are tubular, and can to be employed in consequence of the necessity which then completed through a movable key whose pivot is at the cen-



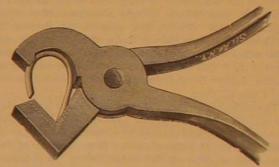
BUTLER'S RHEOSTAT.

which rests upon the plumbago and moves over its surface without abrading it.

This rheostat seems especially adapted to the use of

#### IMPROVED INSTRUMENT FOR RINGING SWINE,

The instrument shown in the engraving is used for forcing through the flesh and gristle of a hog's nose one end of a piece of wire, while the other end remains at rest. The main object is to close the ends of the wire together outside of the flesh, so that the joint cannot enter and irritate the wound. The invention consists of a pair of pincers baving



INSTRUMENT FOR RINGING SWINE

one curved and one V shaped jaw, each jaw having a guide groove for receiving the pointed wire which forms the ring. The wire, slightly curved at one end, is inserted between the jaws, when, by closing the handle, the end of the wire will be forced through the hog's nose and bent up into a ring.

This device is the invention of Mr. W. D. Brown, of Indianapolis, Ind.

#### Wood Stains.

To turn oak black so as to cause it to resemble ebony, the wood should be immersed for forty-eight hours in a hot saturated solution of alum, and then brushed over several times with a logwood decoction, prepared as follows: Boil one part of best logwood with ten parts of water, filter through linen, and evaporate at a gentle heat until the volume is reduced one half. To every quart of this add from ten to fifteen drops of a saturated solution of indigo, completely neutral. After applying this dye to the wood, rub the latter with a saturated and filtered solution of verdigris in hot concentrated acetic acid, and repeat the operation until a black of the desired intensity is obtained. To imitate rosewood a concentrated solution of hypermanganate of potassa is spread on the surface of the wood, and allowed to act until the desired shade is obtained. Five minutes suffice ordinarily to give a deep color. . A few trials will indicate the proper proportions. The hypermanganate of potassa is decomposed by the vegetable fibers with the precipitation of brown peroxide of manganese, which the influence of the potassa, at the same time set free, fixes in a durable manner on the fibers. When the action is terminated, the wood is carefully washed with water, dried, and then olled and polished in the usual manner. The effect produced by this process on several woods is remarkable. On the cherry, especially, it gives a beautiful red color.

#### Antidote to Poison,

If a person swallows any poison whatever, or has fallen into convulsions from having overloaded the stomach, an instantaneous remedy, most efficient and applicable in a large number of cases, is a heaping teaspoonful of common salt, and as much ground mustard, stirred rapidly in a tea-The general arrangement of this system of driving tube cupful of water, warm or cold, and swallowed instantly. It is scarcely down before it begins to come up, bringing with screw piles have a tendency to become diverted from their not rise in the tube above the underside of the steel plug, and it the remaining contents of the stomach; and lest there be position, and are liable to loosen the ground around them. in practice no difficulty has been experienced in any other any remnant of the poison, however small, let the white of The tubular pile, on the other hand, is not open to this ob- respect. Altogether the system is one which commends itself an egg or a teaspoonful of strong coffee be swallowed as for its simplicity, and for the facility it offers for carrying soon as the stomach is quiet, because these very common artions until it reaches a solid foundation, and being forcibly out that class of works to which the invention addresses ticles nullify a large number of virulent poisons.—Medical

#### Correspondence.

#### The Bodie Mining District.

To the Editor of the Scientific American

The most promising field for mining enterprise on the Pacific Coast at the present time is undoubtedly the Bodie District. The Comstock Lode has ceased any longer to at tract that universal attention which for so many years it has monopolized. The dividends of its mines have stopped, and investors are looking to the Bodie and other fields for opportunities that the Comstock no longer furnishes. Here on the coast mining has been reduced to a scientific basis The element of chance is more and more eliminated; and sound hypotheses based on geological facts and years of careful experiment, guide the prospecting and development of new mines. The Bodie District, which I purpose to describe, is located in Mono county, California, near the Nevada line. It is about 36 hours' ride from San Francisco, almost due west. It is reached, however, by way of Carson, from which place you stage it over the country 110 miles. The first individual who discovered valuable mineral deposits in this district was W. S. Bodie, of Poughkeepsie, New York. This was as long ago as 1859, and from this enterprising prospector the district has taken its name, being orworked, but not systematically; and in 1861, what was then known as Bunker Hill (since famous as the Standard) was discovered. A company, with a nominal capital of \$1,110,000, was incorporated in 1863, but failed in any practical results, although such names as Leland Stanford and F. K. Bechtel It will be run a part or the whole of the coming week, were at its head. In the following year the Empire Company of New York was incorporated, combining four or for development purposes. The effort as a whole, however, was incorporated with large privileges, this was refitted, and followed the astonishing developments in the Bunker Hill (Standard) mine which brought abundance of working McClinton, Belvidere, Bulwer, Bodie, Mono, Tioga-Con., and other mines were opened up; followed, since the establishment of the "Veta Madre" theory (or mother vein), by the Dudley, Jupiter, South Bulwer, Chieftain, Noonday, Richer, and a host of others.

The geological character of the entire district is volcanic-"a volcano within a volcano; a chemical caldron subsequent to a widespread upheaval by subterranean fires," as one writer puts it. "Bodie mountain," in the language of Pro fessor Silliman, who reported on the district, "is an isolated mass of trachytic porphyry, having white crystals of a feldspathic mineral implanted in a lavender colored paste; it is an island of irruptive rocks. The whole surface of the surrounding region is covered with decomposed porphyry, in which are seams, abundantly supplied with fragments of quartz, jasper, chalcedony, and other vein stones derived from the breaking up of the crests of the mineral lodes. The eye experienced in gold bearing drifts recognizes at once, in the aspects of the sides of this mountain, the probability of the existence there of profitable deposits of gold." Silliman thoroughly believed in the existence of one great mother lode. Subsequent discoveries tend to substantiate this. A transverse section of Bodie Bluff shows the many veins of ore, spread out like the sticks of an open fan; that is, they all tend to a common center, where they are supposed to meet and unite with the mother vein. This formation extends through the entire district, but no cross cuts have yet been made. A theory entertained by many is that the whole geological formation was riven asunder, and P. Blake, of the Sheffield School of Mining, believes that the structure of the rock indicates that "the veins were deposited gradually in fissures, by thermal springs." Both theories would favor the great depth of the veins. On the surface the veins are hard and sterile of metal; at sufficient depth they become soft, friable, and rich; and deeper still more rich, and so decomposed as to even yield to the shovel. The extent of the mineral ledge is between two and three veins was in a southwesterly direction, but recent developments prove conclusively that they run easterly, and the of the ridge, have the same rich ore bodies that maintains in the Syndicate, Standard, and Bodie. In all these leading mines the farther they prospect the more ample and richer become the mineral deposits, tending more and more to prove the "rela madre" or mother vein theory. They are down over 400 feet in the ard, but in the latter are temporarily drowned out with Moseley, Notes by a Naturalist, water. The Bruce drift in the Bodie has proved immensely rich and increases as it goes southward. In the Standard Noonday on the extremest south, with the certainty that the through the east side of Mono. There is every probability that the next bonanza will be opened in Jupiter and Dudley, Good ore is already being taken out, but they are waiting fashionable drinks.

to the lower levels below the barren cap rock which covers the district. When this is accomplished these mines will likely prove a dividend proposition. A large amount of ma- it celebrity throughout the world. The size, quality, and chinery is being brought into the whole district. The Noon- abundance of these products render them especially suitable day is creeting a 20 stamp mill. The Standard and Bulwer for foreign markets, where they are largely shipped in the Companies are jointly putting up a 30 stamp mill; and shape of canned goods, prepared so as to retain their natural pumping and hoisting machinery has been ordered for a flavor, and cheapen their comparative cost to the consumer, umber of other mines.

The gold and silver mineral is not found in pockets, but is worthy of description. The house was established in 1853, disseminated with average yield throughout the length and on Commercial Street, San Francisco, Cal., under the name breadth of all the veins. Resembling the Comstock in of Cutting & Co., and was necessarily very small in its many striking particulars, the Bodie bids fair to outrival capacity and imperfect in its appointments at that time, that veteran district, which has so long dominated the stock market of the Pacific Coast. H. S. W.

San Francisco, August 1, 1879.

#### A Canal Mowing Machine.

To the Editor of the Scientific American

I notice in your paper for August 16 an article with the following heading, "A Canal Mowing Machine Wanted," and wish to say that such a machine, and one which is as much superior to the one described in that article as a land exhibiting the magnitude of this important industry; ganized as such in July, 1860. The Mono section was first mowing machine is to a scythe, has already been invented, and has been in operation every summer for r number of years on the canal of the Connecticut River Company, at Windsor Locks, Conn It is driven by belting from the en gine of a steamer built especially for it, and works well.

The machine consists of a frame of as near as I can guess 12x8 or 10 feet, with a shaft at the end to be attached five other mines, with \$10,000,000 capital. Trenor W Park to the boat, on which, at about the center, are a tight succeeded in raising \$300,000 actual money on stock sales and a loose pulley, and at each end a disk or crank, with short connecting rods to the side rods running through proved entirely theatrical. A very good mill had been guides, and connected with the knife bar by small chains erected, and ten years later, when the Syndicate Company over pulleys. I have no time for a detailed description. It can be seen probably at any time, on application to Mr. S. with a sufficient capital work began in earnest. Then H. Allen, Secretary, Windsor Locks, Conn. I would advise Mr. Fish, of the Eric Canal, to examine this machine. The Windsor Canal is 6 miles long, and is the largest water capital into the district, and speedily the Bechtel, the power in the State of Connecticut. It is also a navigable canal, for which purpose it was built.

J. S. ALLEN, Engineer. Windsor Locks, Conn., August 16.

#### "The Devil's Darning Needle."

To the Editor of the Scientific American :

The statement of Mr. W. M. McGee, in your issue of August 16, to the effect that the thick legged walking-stick (Diapheromera femorata), which I recently treated of in your columns, may sometimes survive the winter, is founded on mistaken identity. It dies with the first severe frost, and passes the winter, as I have shown, in the egg state. Not so with the water boatmen-certain elongate long-legged heteropterous insects (genus Ranatra)-which bear a very general resemblance to the walking-sticks, and which were, beyond any doubt, the insects observed by Mr. McGee. Popular terms are variously applied in different parts of the country, but that employed at the head of this communication is are all manufactured by the concern, and it requires 1,750,000 most associated in the popular mind with the dragon flies of these, averaging 21/2 lb. each. For their construction (Libellulida). Yours respectfully, C. V. RILEY.

August 16, 1879.

#### Turbo Shells and Sea Beans.

being formed a reddish sandstone conglomerate rock com- sale principle, yet the most scrupulous regard is paid to the posed of the debris of the rock of which the higher parts of minutize of the business, and each department works in perthe island consist, cemented together by calcareous matter fect harmony with the others toward the advancement of the derived from the corals and calcareous sand.

This rock, which was hard and compact, contained emthe chasm filled by sedimentary action. Professor William bedded in it plenty of the various corals from the beach, Nos. 17 to 41, just off from Market Street, the principal street and large turbo shells (7. pica) with their nacre quite fresh of the city. The extent of the premises is 180 feet on Main in luster, and their bright greenish color unimpaired.

inches in diameter at the base, are in St. Thomas, carried up is 90x137 feet, and four stories high. far inland by terrestrial hermit crabs.

vation of 1,000 feet, some of them with the crabs in them, to the utmost to dispose of the fine harvest of this abundant many empty. These large, heavy sea shells occurring in product of the State. Stepping on the elevator with one of miles. It was supposed at first that the general dip of the abundance at great heights puzzled geologists, until it was the proprietors of the house, we were taken up to the fourth found that they were carried up by the crabs.

On the shore at Little Saba Island grow a number of engaged at long tables in peeling, pitting, and canning the probabilities amount almost to a certainty that the Dudley plants of Guilandina bonduc. This plant bears a pod cov- luscious fruit. The most admirable system prevails here for ered with prickles, which contains nearly spherical beans of the dispatch of business, and it requires but a few minu about the size of a hazel nut, which have a perfectly smooth, for fruit that had been harvested the same day in the neighas it were, enameled surface, and are flinty hard. These seeds borhood of San Francisco, to be put in proper shape for the float, and are carried by ocean currents to distant shores, consumer in some far off market. An elevated railway runs and are in Tristan da Cunha and Bermuda known as "sea the length of the room between two rows of tables; this fabeans," and supposed to grow at the bottom of the sea. cilitates the transportation of the filled cans to the siruping Bodie, 520 feet in the Tioga, and over 700 feet in the Stand- Don Jose de Canto showed me one found in the Azores. - room, where boiled sirup is poured among the peaches, filling

WE have it on the authority of Dr. Bock, of Leipsic, that there is a thousand feet of rich ore laid bare. All these the nervousness and peevishness of our times are chiefly "A" crushed sugar. They are strained twice to exclude all veins are mingled with carbonate of lime, a good indication attributable to tea and coffee; the digestive organs of confor permanency. This formation extends clear through to firmed coffee drinkers are in a state of chronic derangement, which reacts on the brain, producing fretful and lachrymose bottoms of the cans, upon which the concern has a patent. rich veins of the Standard and Bodie bear off to the east, moods. Ladies addicted to strong coffee have a characteris tie temper, which might be described as a mania for acting the persecuted saint. Chocolate, he adds, is neutral in its After the wire has been properly dropped into position, the which are just to the south and east of Bodie and Mono. psychic effects, and is really the most harmless of our can is placed with the top or bottom, as the case may be, in

for their pumping machinery, so that they may penetrate CUTTING PACKING COMPANY, ONE OF THE LARGEST ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE KIND IN THE COUNTRY.

Next to mining, the fruit products of the Pacific coast give

As illustrating this large and growing industry, the Cutting There is unquestionably a big future before them all. Packing Company, both by merit and reputation, is well

In 1875 it was incorporated as the Cutting Packing Company, and by careful management and a proper spirit of enterprise the development of the business has been constant and reliable, until at the present time its magnitude is enormous and really a monument to the energy that developed it. Besides canning fruits, the concern now can meats, vegetables, honey, preserves, jams, and jellies, and manufacture pickles and cider. The following figures will prove interesting to the readers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, as concisely

doored a succession a day bettering The	THE THAT TOTO.	
900,000 cans fruit	veraging 214 lb, each.	
475,000 " vegetables	17 016 11 11	
110,000 " meats	11 " 212 " 11	
285,000 " preserves, jams, and jellies	0 0 0 0	
76,000 " strained and comb honey	11 2 11 11	
24,000 glass packages honey	11 0 11 11	
18,000 " jams and jellies	11 0 11 11	
15,000 " " pickles and sauces	11 16 ml. 11	
16,000 wood packages pickles and sauces	" 25 16 gal. "	
12,000 quarts champagne cider.	-	

	FRUITS.
American	
Appres	190 tons
Apricots	110 "
Blackberries	
Currants	45 "
Cherries	
Goomeberries	************ *******************
Grapes	
Peaches	******** * *************************
Onlynn	Annual Contract Contr
Dambondan	******** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Caspornes	12
Danes	
rears	
Total	1012 11
Total	
	VEGETABLES.
Asparagus	15 tons
String-beans	45 3
Pens	
Tomatoes	
	Shorter machine a market
Total	670 "
	MEATS.
Beef, boned	2000 0000 Th.
White and the same	220,000 lb.
** *	
total	12,000 "
Total	
	MISCELLANEOUS.

The tin cans for putting up this immense quantity of goods 7,500 boxes of tin plate are used, 15 tons of pig lead, and 15 tons of pig tin. The plate tin is imported from England, the pig tin from Australia, and the pig lead is mined on the coast. Sugar is purchased by the car load, and salt by the On the beach of Little Saba Island (St. Thomas) there was schooner load. In fact everything is conducted on a wholewhole.

The warehouses and factory are located on Main Street, Street, and 275 feet deep; stables, cooper and machine shops Large examples of these turbo shells, as much as two are attached; the main building for general manufacturing

When I visited this large factory the peach season was at I saw a large number of them among the bush at an ele- its height, and the capacity of the establishment was taxed floor, where between five and six hundred women were busily every crevice. They are then soldered up and cooked the necessary time which experience has suggested as best.

The concern manufacture their own sirups from the best

I was shown a very neat device for soldering the tops and It consists of a simple piece of solder wire, which is cut and bent so as to just fit nicely around the edges of the can. a close fitting aperture on a hot oven; the wire speedily melts into the crevices, forming a thoroughly tight joint all to push us safely and profitably is of so much importance as

All the jellies, jams, and preserves that the concern manufacture are made from the pure juice of the fruit with the very best sugars. A hydraulic press is used to extract the juice, which is boiled in copper kettles until thoroughly

The meat used is bought slaughtered. In the boning department, on the second floor, expert hands cut out every particle of bone. It is then taken to the third floor and cooked in large meat vats, and afterward nicely canned.

The champagne cider is manufactured after approved to this department.

The department for preparing pickles is just across the alley from the main building. Gherkins, peppers, limes, beans, cauliflower, and a variety of others are manufactured. There are six large pickle tanks, with a capacity of 8,000 gallons each. These are filled solid with pickles, which are prepared every fall, and are allowed to stand in the brine from four to six weeks until wanted. In the pickle packing room they are treated with spices and vinegar, and kept in large quantities to be drawn upon. The concern manufacture their own brine and all their wooden packages. The company make a specialty of manufacturing all pickles for to both laborer and capitalist, for it must revolutionize all family use in pure malt vinegar.

The first floor, or basement, of the main building is largely devoted to the storage of fruit juices, which are hermetically sealed in large cans and placed on racks, to be drawn upon for jellying during the winter. The floor of this basement is thoroughly "scowed," so as to keep out the tide, which in this part of the city rises several feet.

The labeling department occupies a portion of the third floor. All the cans are lacquered to prevent sea damp and moulding. They are then handsomely labeled and packed in boxes, containing one or more dozen, for shipment.

In the rear of this department the glassing of pickles and sauces is done. Each bottle or glass is corked, bladdered, waxed, and capped with foil to be properly hermetically sealed for shipment. The honey used by the concern is the finest the bee ranches of California can furnish. It is simply run into cans and jars, either with or without the comb. Some kinds of sauces and catchups are put up in barrels. There is manufactured however, a very fine Worcestershire sauce which is handsomely bottled. Olives are prepared in the factory both from native growths and imported. Some very fine stuffed peppers are manufactured, besides a variety of other small articles. The premises have ample water privileges, are perfectly neat and clean, and devoid of any

The concern owns and operates three large salmon canneries: one is located at Eagle Cliff on the Columbia, one on Eel River, California, and one in Alaska. Besides manufacturing eleven different kinds of preserved meats, eight different kinds of sauces, eleven kinds of jellies, and nine kinds of jams, the concern are agents for many of the best Eastern preparations, as well as all of Burnett's extracts.

During the busy season, from May till November, the business requires the employment of 500 hands on the average, and 150 hands from November till April. The weekly payroll averages from \$2,500 to \$3,000. Goods are shipped to the East Indies, to China, to Australia, and the coast is supplied. It is an industry as diversified as it is extensive, and it utilizes the products of nature in a semi-tropical climate for the benefit of mankind everywhere.

#### Secretary Evarts on American Industries.

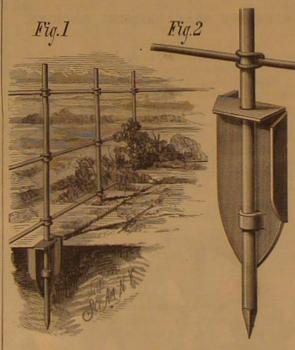
In concluding an official review of the information furnished by American consular agents abroad, with respect to the conditions of trade, wages paid, cost of living, commercial prospects, and so on, in foreign countries, Secretary

"For the first time our manufactures are now assuming international proportions. At a time of universal depression we have met those nations which held a monopoly of the world's markets, met them in their strongholds, and established the fact that American manufactures are second to the manufactures of no other nation, and that, with a proper and patriotic understanding between capitalist and laborer, we can command a fair share of the buying world's patronage, and command that patronage with larger profits to the ich gives an individuality to the people of the Our inventive genius in mechanical appliances is original, innovation, are prepared for it by anticipation; Europeans the immigrant from Europe attains this progressive spirit have no oppressed and stupid peasantry, little more intelligood tomatoes on the tops.—Springfield (Mass.) Union. gent than the tools they handle. All are self-thinking, selfacting, and self-supporting. Within the last 15 years we have demonstrated our ability, by the brilliant development soon become so great that it will push us outward anyway; grains of arsenic from a single collar. - Science News.

o almost overtop all other public questions of the hour. This question appeals equally to the selfishness and patriotcan extend the markets for our manufactures he cannot expect steady work, and unless our manufacturers can under- | bbls. sell foreign manufacturers we cannot enlarge our foreign facturers and workingmen is that the days of sudden for- ing points, were 1,625,035 barrels tunes and double wages are gone. We must realize the fact that ocean steam communication has annihilated distance methods; portions of the second and third floors are devoted and brought the nations face to face. This drawing together of the nations means equalization in trade, profits, wages, etc., the advantage being with those who soonest accept the situation, and show the most sensible continuity in the new paths of success. The Consul at Newcastle-upon-Type shows that that city is commercially nearer to New York than to London. If steam communication can thus bring one of the leading cities of a small island like England equal wonders with the leading seaport cities of all Europe in their commercial intercourse with the scaport cities of the United States. This is a question of great importance national equalization. In the near future, the workingman companies, tankers, and operators. of New York cannot expect twice or thrice the wages of his fellow worker in Europe, while all other things-food, rent, clothing, etc.—are on an equality; nor can the coal miner of Pennsylvania expect twice the wages of the Northumberland miner, while coal from the Northumberland mines can be landed in New York at less than the price of Pennsylvania coal."

#### NEW IRON FENCE POST.

The engraving shows a novel iron fence post recently patented by Mr. James Carpenter, of New Hope, N. Y. The invention consists in an iron bar forming the post, and a flanged pointed blade that slides over the bar and is driven into the ground to prevent the post from swaying. By look-



#### CARPENTER'S IMPROVED FENCE POST.

ing at Fig. 1 the construction of the post will be readily understood; and Fig. 2 shows a fence built with these posts.

It is claimed by the inventor that two men can put up and finish 100 rods of this fence in a day, the posts being one rod apart, and three strands of barbed fence wire being used.

#### A Vegetable Curiosity.

A remarkable freak of vegetation has appeared in the grounds of R. B. Tatman, at Worcester, in the shape of a potato vine which bears tomatoes. It appears to be a mixthe same hill with the potatoes, and the pollen of effected if careful and scientific cultivation should produce medy. by a few years' association with American workmen. We a plant which should bear good potatoes at the roots and

#### Arsenie in Paper Collars.

Attention having been called by the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN of our own resources, to exclude, by honest competition, for- to the poisonous character of the starch used for some laun-We cannot stand still, for the momentum of increase will poisoning. The doctor reports that he has extracted 10.4

#### The July Product of Petroleum,

According to Stowell's Petroleum Reporter, the number of producing wells at the close of July was 11,468, being an ism of all our citizens, but to the laborer it appeals with ten- increase in July of 245. Total production in July, 1,714,517 fold force, for without work he cannot live, and unless we bbls. Daily average for the month, 55,307 bbls. The average daily production of each well for the month was 49

The total shipments of crude, and refined reduced to market. The first great truth to be learned by the manu- crude equivalent, by railroad, river, and pipes to the follow-

New York t	ook706,135 t	obls.
Pittsburg	"	11.
Cleveland	"	**
Philadelphia	"	11
Boston	" 85,696	10
Baltimore	" 57,187	11
Ohio River r	efiners took 20,336	11
	points " 44,759	**

nearer to New York than to its own capital, it can work Included in the above shipment there were 212,213 barrels of refined from Titusville and Oil City, which is equal to 318,320 barrels of crude.

The stock in the producing regions has been increased during the month, 89,482 barrels, making the total stock at past theories of trade and commerce, by establishing inter- the close of the month, 7,330,132 barrels, and is held by pipe

#### Retouching Varnish.

A good retouching varnish is a boon to all retouchers, and those who are unfortunate enough to be plagued by too thin films will gladly hail a formula which promises this desideratum. In his recent work on retouching, M. Janssen, the Photo. Correspondenz says, recommends the following

Alcohol (s	p,	g	r.	0	.8	33	0)	).									K	60	parts
Sandarae.																			
Camphor.												 -						2	10
Venetian t																			
Oil of lave																			

This varnish may also be used for paper pictures. The retoucher should not set to work as soon as the negative has been varnished, as the film will not then be hard enough to bear the touch of a lead pencil. The varnished film is in the best condition for retouching when a day old.

#### GLOSS FOR PHOTOS.

The same gentleman also gives a formula (said to be used by Salomon, of Paris) for a cerate for giving a high gloss to albumenized pictures. The components are

White wax800	grammes.
Elemi resin 10	
Oil of lavender300	
Benzoin resin	- 66
Oil of spikenard	**

#### Olives in California.

Recently Mr. Elwood Cooper, of Santa Barbara, California, shipped to San Francisco 1,000 gallons of well clarified olive oil, the product of his orchard at Saota Barbara. According to the San Francisco Alta, Mr. Cooper has 6,000 trees, some of them 7 years old, and these produce 20 gallons of berries each on an average in a good year, and one gallon of oil is obtained from seven of berries. Trees 10 years old in a good soil will average 50 gallons of berries in a good year, but sometimes will yield 150 gallons. After a good crop the tree usually takes a year's rest, so that its good years alternate. The whole yield from a mature orchard may be set down at 200 gallons of oil to the acre, and of this 50 gallous may be deducted to pay for gathering the berries and making and marketing the oil.

The Alta believes that the olive should receive more attention in California, since it will bear good crops, on poor soil, with less care than any other plant. The hillsides, now The cost of this fence, compared with other kinds, is said to worthless, should be covered with olives. The olive requires no irrigation, grows on clayey or rocky soil without much cultivation, and begins to bear in five years, coming to full bearing in ten years.

#### Rat and Mice Exterminator.

A German newspaper gives the following simple method capitalist and higher wages to the laborer than can be made ture of the two vegetables, and is accounted for by the fact for exterminating rats and mice, which, it states, has been or paid in any other country. There is something in the Re-United States possessed by no other people to such a degree. plants became mixed. Unfortunately the vines were pulled common squills and three parts of finely chopped bacon is up before the peculiarity of the growth was noticed. Some made into a stiff mass, with as much meal as may be required, and at least 25 years ahead of Europe. Our people accept of our agriculturists may derive a valuable suggestion from and then baked into small cakes, which are put around for this. As both the potato and the tomato are of the solanaceæ the rats to eat." Several correspondents of the paper write do not. One workman in the United States does as much family, it is not impossible that one should be fertilized by to confirm the experience of the noble baron and his neighas two workmen in most of the countries of Europe; even the other, and a remarkable economy of labor might be bors in the extirpation of rats and mice by this simple re-

#### Transparency of Metals.

With the aid of electricity films of several metals of such minute thickness as to allow the light to pass through them can be produced. An electric current is passed into a wire of one of the metals, that extends into a glass tube containeign manufactures, to a large extent, from our shores. The dry purposes, the paragraph was reproduced and attracted ing rarefied air or gases. The particles of metal that the question which now peremptorily challenges all thinking attention in the English papers. The result has been an electric current loosens from the wire are deposited on the minds is how to create a foreign demand for those manu- analysis of certain paper collars and cuffs, by a doctor, at sides of the tube and form a transparent film. The light factures which are left after supplying our home demands. the instance of a patient who showed symptoms of arsenical that passed through gold was a very handsome green, silver produced blue, copper light green, platina bluish gray, zinc dark bluish gray, and iron brown.-Chemiker Zeitung.

#### IRON AND WOOD GEAR-DRESSING MACHINE.

We give berewith an engraving of a novel machine recently patented by Mr. William Gleason, of Rochester, N. Y., for dressing the teeth of iron wheels and for shaping the cogs of wooden gears. The machine may be changed

The gear to be dressed is chucked on the overhanging end of the spindle, the dividing wheel being on the opposite end. The tool holding the slide moves on a bar which may be swung to any required angle for bevels, and power is imparted to the gear-dressing tool by a belt from a drum on an overhead shaft that swings to accommodate the position of the bar that supports the tool slide.

The tool may also be readily adjusted to move parallel with the wheel supporting spindle for dressing spur gears. The bar is jointed both horizontally and vertically, so that it may follow a template or form at or near the outer end of the bar having the shape of the tooth to be dressed. By means of this arrangement the perfect shape of tooth for beveled wheels is secured. For spur gears the form is placed directly under the tool holder.

The movements of the slide carrying the tool are similar to those of a crank planer having a quick return movement. In dressing wooden gears both reciprocating and rotary motions are used, and in place of the ordi nary tool, a bracket supporting a spindle and circular saw is carried by the tool holder. A quick rotary motion is communicated to the saw spindle from the overhead shaft by a belt, and the tool holder is reciprocated in the same manner as in dressing iron teeth. The machine does its work perfectly and very rapidly, as the saw cuts on the back stroke as well as on the forward stroke. The face and ends of the teeth may be dressed without rechucking the wheel.

It will be noticed that this machine shapes both wood and iron teeth without the use of expensive rotary cutters, and it has the advantage of making perfect teeth on bevel

We understand that this machine is in use in some of every case.

#### IMPROVED BOILER FEED PUMP.

The accompanying cut represents an improved boiler feed pump patented by I. B. Davis, Hartford, Conn., May 29,

methods of supplying steam boilers with feed water is by the use of a pump driven by a belt, the economy being much greater than is generally supposed. The "Economic" boiler feed pump, as the inventor calls it, is designed to supply a want for a cheap, durable pump, economical in its workings, and not liable to get out of repair. As will be seen by the cut, it is a double pump driven by a single set of gears. All the parts are made very heavy and well finished. The valves, the only part that can wear or get out of order, are made separate and distinct from the pump, and are attached to it by bolts. They can be got at by unscrewing a brass cap, and in case of any accident a duplicate can be put in its place without disturbing any other part of the pump, as they are made interchangeable in all its parts. It is completed ready to run by attaching a water pipe to and from it, and putting on a driving belt. The gear being made from cut iron pattern, and the pump being double acting, make its action much smoother and quieter than other geared pumps. It is especially valuable in sandy water, as the valve can, if worn by the action of the sand, be ground tight in a few minutes by any one. We are informed that its cost is below other pumps of equal capacity. It is made by I. B. Davis, Hartford, Conn., who has offices at 93 and 94 Liberty Street, N. Y., and 43 South 4th street, Philadelphia, managed by H. T. Brewster; and at Boston, 36 and 38 Oliver Street, managed by R. B. Lincoln, Jr.

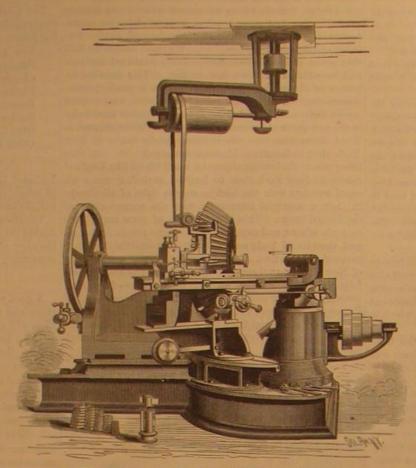
#### The American vs. the British Miller.

A correspondent in the Miller (English) berates his countrymen for not being more fully alive to the causes which give the American miller pre eminence over the English miller.

While British millers, he says, are wondering at the ever-increasing importations of American flour, wasting both time and money in discussing various systems, with minds not always open to conviction, Jonathan has discovered a market for his flour

under the very nose of the British miller, and has even converted the latter into his salesman.

The writer also refers to our worthy contemporary, the structive reading for old-style English millers who will hug us alive to the fact that we have lost ground, and increase from iron to wood without any delay or change of parts. their hesitation, deplore foreign competition, and seek for our pace, he takes another jump ahead-not so thoughtless-



GLEASON'S GEAR DRESSING MACHINE.

wheels, a thing impossible with rotary cutters used in the deliverance in every possible way but that of a genuine ties of North American timber, only a single sawmill existeffort on their part.

"While admitting the serious nature of foreign competithe largest shops in the country, giving good satisfaction in tion, with strange inconsistency too many British millers cling tenaciously to old methods and machinery, and are wilfully blind to the more improved methods at their command. The equipment of British mills, as a rule, is much inferior hazard construction, is simply little better than to waste the to American mills, if we except a few of the largest mills in ratepayers' money. Comfort and means for health are only this country, which are a stride in advance of the latter. to be secured by the best house drainage, and the best house The interest in improved machinery here is superficial and drainage will not be accomplished by builders working

paper to which I refer, remodels his mill, improves his flour both in quality and quantity, and no doubt "calculates" on the indecision of the millers here, for some time at least, American Miller, where, he acknowledges, may be found in- enabling him to make a small fortune. Ultimately finding

> ly as may be supposed; on the contrary, his mind is more open to new ideas, and he is ever seeking the way to go ahead, while we pine for a corner in which we can lie down and feel snug. The relative advantages of new over older systems of milling are discussed in a very half-hearted and skeptical spirit by old-style millers; indeed there seems little hope that, without resorting to a surgical operation, some will ever be convinced. Unfortunately there is no recognized system of grading or testing flour, in this country, made under various systems and from certain wheats, both as to quality and quantity. There must, therefore, always be indecision, controversy, and little result, until some test of these systems that can be relied upon is made."

#### Sawmills Wanted in Brazil,

Mr. Maurice Mauris, the explorer of the Amazon, says that sawmills are much needed in Brazil, and that their establishment could scarcely fail to prove extremely profitable. In many cases, more especially on the Madeira, the current conveys the largest logs of excellent woods, which the sawyer would only have to capture and land. At Serpa, near the mouth of the Madeira, a Portuguese speculator built a sawmill, and the cedar carried down the river supplied his concern in five months with sufficient timber for a whole year's work. So well did his work prosper that this speculator was enabled to retire after a few years independently wealthy, although he had been assisted only by the rudest machinery and unskilled, intractable workmen. Though situated on the confines of a vast forest, Para consumes large quanti-

ing in the city. A dozen boards of red cedar (a very common wood) cost about \$30 at Santarem.

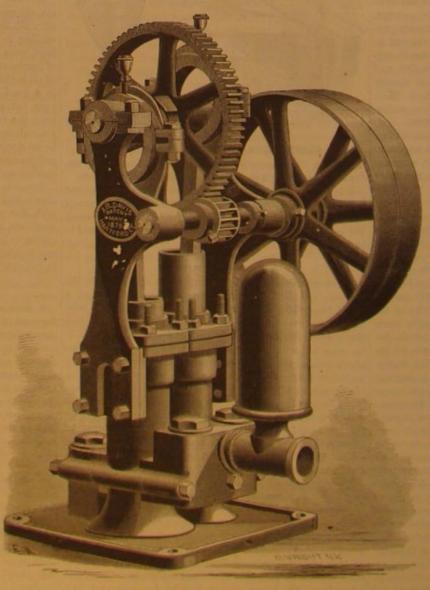
#### Useful Hints on Sewerage.

To sewer a town, and then leave house drains to hap-It is an established fact that the most economical of all its adoption slow, while the adversary, judging from the under no responsibility. The sewerage of a town or village

will consist of waste water and excreta from the houses, and the volume, in round figures, may range from 100 to 250 gallons per day from each house. This volume will probably flow off in about eight hours, so that the sewers must provide for not less than three times this volume, if every drop of roof and surface water can be excluded. As this cannot in all cases be accomplished, the sewers should provide for not less than 1,000 gallons from each house, or, for a town of 1,000 houses (5,500 population), have a delivering capacity of about 1,000,000 gallons. An outlet sewer of two feet diameter, laid with a fall of five feet per mile, will deliver upward of 2,000,000 gallons, flowing a little more than half full; and, as provision should be made for an increase of population, a sewer of two feet diameter may be provided for each 5,500 persons, where no better fall than one in one thousand can be obtained. Lesser diameters will answer where there are no greater falls.

Towns situated on land rising considerably will best be sewered in zones; that is, by intercepting lines of sewers contouring the site, as such sewers will prevent gorging the lowlevel districts, and also prevent the rush of sewage down steep gradients at high velocities, which, in times of he the low-level sewers at the steep gradient junctions. Sewers with steep gradients, if the flow of sewage is unbroken, get up a velocity in the sewage, which is liable to be very injurious in its wearing action on the sewers. Sewage should not be allowed (except when flushing is in operation) to acquire a greater velocity at any state or time of more than six feet per second, as any higher velocity will take grit or other solids along the sewer invert with a cutting and disintegrating action rapidly destructive to the material of the sewer.—Rawlinson's Suggestions.

THE largest tree in the Southern States, a tulip bearing poplar tree near Augusta, Ga., is 155 feet high and 9 feet in diameter, its lowest branches being 55 feet from the ground,



DAVIS' BOILER FEED PUMP.

tary of the St. Louis Academy of Science, have made and of dry and hot summers. published a careful study of the tornado which wrecked a portion of Collinsville, Mo., last April. The storm reached past twenty-seven years, and finding fact to conform to theory, miles cast, at 2:35; Lebanon, 21 miles cast, at 3; and High- periods have (if any) to the recognized cycles of sun spots he that the necessary elementary conditions for the development of the tornado were found over the American Bottom, and that this development was purely local and did not extend much over ten miles, and had no apparent influence teral vortices, of much less power, that seemed to possess support it without aid from the main root, which finally dis-

more than an incidental relationship to the principal; and a second principal vortex apparently independent in time and direction. The direction of the principal vortex was 15" north of east, and, while there was a probable swaying to the one side or the other, the paths of the vortices were in straight lines. The first four collateral vortices were convergent upon the path of the principal vortex, and the two last were divergent. The principal vortex was in contact with the surface while it was receiving the first four, and had left the surface before it gave off the last two collateral vortices. The height of the principal vortex was about 500 feet; the heights of the collaterals were comparatively small. The rotary spiral motion was in the direction opposed to the movement of the hands of a watch and of great velocity. The progressive motion was about one mile a minute. It had also a vertical or lifting motion, which was often quite abrupt. The path was narrow on the approach to Collinsville-about 100 feet, gradually widening-the vortex at the same time exhibiting less force. At the zinc works it was 600 feet wide. Its hfting power was sufficient to carry large roofs at least 600 feet high; this, with a power equal to the momentum of a body moving sixty miles an hour, would carry heavy débris some distance. The effect of these motions was to break up every object the whirl carried up with it; even lumber, taken up free from all contact with anything else, would come down, in many instances, in kindling wood.

In about half an hour after the vortex passed there was a return current from the north, accompanied with severe rain and hail and terrific electrical discharges. There was no thunder and lightning with the vortex, and very little if any rain.

The difficulty in obtaining exact and comprehensive information, from eyewitnesses, of what goes on in a storm of this nature is aptly illustrated by the following incident: A clear-headed and observant citizen of Collinsville, perceiving the approach of the storm, although some blocks distant, ran from a very dangerous position, and found him. self only across the street, holding

in, a bystander called attention to a large tree which had copied from La Vie Vigitale. sped falling upon him. Looking at it for a moment, he quaintly remarked, "I never knew that tree fell there."

#### A New Weather Theory.

The Rev. Henry Roe, F.R.A.S. (Eng.), sends to the London Times a new theory of the weather. He claims to have determined by careful observations, covering nearly thirty years, that dry and wet periods succeed one another in alternate waves of nearly equal length. Not that this equality of duration is quite absolute, or that the wave of one period is exactly the same facsimile of that of a corresponding period at an earlier or a later time; but there is enough of regularity and uniformity about the waves to make the family likeness clearly discernible to any eye that looks for it.

These periods extend over three whole years for each, and the following simple rules will enable any one to work out the several cycles of years for himself:

1. When the number representing any given year is even three cold and wet summers.

confirm the alleged harmony of theory with fact.

#### THE SWELLED TRUNK PALM.

The lower part of the trunk of this peculiar palm tree is fatally burned. upon the general storm that was passing at a higher altitude swelled and supported from seven to nine feet above the to the eastward. The tornado consisted of a principal vor- ground by a number of radiating and inclined roots. These tex, of very considerable power, accompanied by six colla- roots shoot out from the tree during the rainy season, and

THE SWELLED TRUNK PALM,-Iriartea Ventricosa Mart.

on to a loose stump, when the tornado passed over him. appears. The leaves are from 10 to 14 feet long. This tree one sheet at a time or continuously. It may readily be

#### An Explosion of Starch.

Nearly two years ago a violent explosion occurred in a The cause of the explosion was never clearly known, though the evidence pointed strongly to the starch room as starch dust was the explosive material.

drying rooms are 5 feet by 6 and 6 feet by 8 respectively, and are 12 feet high. In each is a furnace kept constantly ing been washed. red hot. The walls are built strongly of brick incased in and exactly divisible by three, that year is the middle one of large room slides for 3,000. Four men were at work in the power and durability of the wheel and simplify its condrying room taking the candies from the racks. One was on struction.

2. When the number representing the year is odd and di- a step-ladder to hand down the trays to the others, who stood Dr. J. L. R. Wadsworth and Francis E. Nipher, Secre- visible by three, then that year is the middle one of a triad around the furnace. He had five trays in his hands, and was about to hand them down when his foot slipped on the step-After testing by these rules the successive seasons of the ladder, the trays fell, and in falling turned over so that a heavy cloud of heated starch dust was thrown against the red hot St. Louis at 2 P. M. From this point it pursued an even Mr. Roe predicts that 1881 will be the middle one in a triad furnace. The sharp explosion that followed shook the buildcourse with the same velocity, reaching Collinsville, 10% of hot and dry summers. What relations these dry and wet ing and filled the room with a sudden flame. The intensely dried woodwork of the drying room caught fire instantly, and land, 29 miles east, at 3:30 (St. Louis time). It would seem has not made out; nor does an examination of recent seasons the apartment was swept by flames which threatened the entire building. The hands of the factory, however, attacked the flames and extinguished them before any serious damage had been done. The four workmen were severely but not

#### MECHANICAL INVENTIONS.

An improvement on what is known as the "slow" or bark

of Washington, D. C. Its chief feature consists in alternately subjecting the skins or hides to the action of fresh tanning liquor, then raising them out of it and allowing the liquor to drip or drain off, and, lastly, conducting that portion of the drained liquor which was last in contact with the bides back into the leach to be again passed through the bark, and thus strengthened by taking up an additional quantity of the astringent principle or tanning agent. The apparatus consists of a rotating drum, in whose several compartments the hides are placed, and into which the tanning liquor is constantly fed, and from which it is being constantly withdrawn when its strength has become partly exhausted.

Mr. William H. Watson, of Cheshire, Ohio, has patented an improvement in hay presses which embodies several novel features that cannot be clearly described without an engraving.

Mr. James A. Webster, of South Boston, Va., has patented improved attachments for sawing machines, for converting a sawing machine into a planing machine at a small expense, so that the timber may be sawed or resawed and dressed upon the same machine.

An improvement in the class of wooden axle-skeins provided with a tapering extension for receiving the ends of the axle, has been patented by Mr. Philip Neder, of Stockton, Utah Ter. The improvement consists in hooks, by which the skein is secured to the axle, so as to prevent its endwise movement thereon.

Mr. Joseph V. Morton, of Winchester, Ky., has patented a door fastener that is adjustable to doors of different thicknesses. The invention consists of two handles pivoted to a common connection that extends through the door and connected at the top with a wedge piece that operates the latch. The handle on one side of the door is pushed to open the door; the handle on the other side is pulled.

An improved device for feeding paper to ruling machines has been patented by Mr. John S. Young. of Philadelphia, Pa. It is simple and reliable, and is capable of feeding the paper to the machines

Afterward, while detailing the predicament he was found is found on the banks of the Amazon. The illustration is adjusted to feed thicker or thinner paper, as may be required.

> An improved machine for forming dovetailed veneer boxes, so constructed as to form the boxes out of seasoned vencer, has been patented by Mr. David F. Noves, of Lewandy factory in this city, causing the death of thirteen per. iston, Me. The machine, although very simple, cannot be explained without an engraving.

> Mr. Harvey Smoot, of Maurertown, Va., has patented a the source of the disaster. A similar, but fortunately less washing machine that is an improvement upon the washing fatal, accident occurred in another candy factory in Elm machine constituting the subject of letters patent No. 127,075. street, August 7, under conditions which leave no doubt that In that machine a reciprocating dasher or plunger alternately exerts mechanical pressure on the clothes, and changes their The explosion took place in a drying room on the second position by the force of the reactive flow of water. The floor, where the temperature ranges from 140° to 180°. The improvement pertains to a trough-like support, receptacle, or holder for the clothes while being soaped, and after hav-

> Improvements in the buckets of turbine water wheels and wood. In the rooms are arranged slides for starch boxes, in the devices for operating the gate ring and governing its which the candies enveloped in powdered starch are placed movement, have been patented by Mr. Isaac Mallery, of Dryto dry. The small room has slides for 2,000 boxes, and the den, N. Y. The object of the invention is to increase the

#### Farm Wages and the Cost of Living.

The Department of Agriculture has been gathering inforthe wages paid to farm laborers and the average cost of living, for a chapter in the forthcoming report of the Commis-

The returns disclose the fact that in all quarters of the Union (with the exception of Minnesota, California, Colorado, Oregon, New Mexico, and Washington Territory) the average monthly rate of pay for farm laborers declined during the year ending last April from 3 to 15 per cent. At the same time, the expense of living in the majority of States declined in equal or greater proportion, so that the relative condition of the laborer really improved during the year.

The average rate of pay in New England for farm labor ers on yearly engagements, without board, averages \$20.31 per month, against \$22.60 at the beginning of the year, a decline of 10 per cent. The average cost of living has fallen from \$9.13 to \$8.02 per month, a decline of more than 13 per cent. In the Middle States the conditions were reversed, the ruling monthly pay of the farm laborer being \$19.69, a decline of 7 per cent, while the average cost of living had declined only 4 per cent In New York alone farm laborers receive 8% per cent less than they did a year follows: earlier, and pay 10 per cent less for their living. The South Atlantic States reduced labor 15 per cent and subsistence 16 per cent, and in the Gulf States labor fell 5 per cent and subsistence only 3 per cent, the average pay in the former being \$11 19, and in the latter \$14.80 per month. In the nine inland States east of the Mississippi, the monthly pay varies from \$15.50 per month south of the Ohio, to \$20.90 in the north, the rate of decline in wages being a fraction less than that of the cost of hving; while in the six States west of the Mississippi the present average pay for farm labor is \$23.81 per month, a slight increase over that of a year earher, and the price of subsistence falls off about 2 per cent.

is chiefly due to the extension of mining operations. In this region a large number of artisans have appropriated public lands and seek to pay for their claims by working a part of the time at their trades. Quite a number of farm laborers have done likewise, and they work part of the time for wages on the farms of others. The large immigration has enlarged the stock of labor, but it is to a great extent somewhat inefficient in character. All who desire work can get it. No surplus is reported from any county in Colorado. In the two Pacific States the average monthly pay of farm laborers is \$38.22 against \$36.62 one year earlier. an increase of 41% per cent, while the cost of living has increased fully 18 per cent. In New Mexico, Dakota, and Washington Territory there is a demand for skilled and unskilled American labor at remunerative wages. In Utah laborers receive \$28.87 per month, a decline of 7 per cent during the year, and a surplus of labor is reported.

In the New England and Middle States there seems to be a surplus of labor in certain localities and a deficiency in others, which should render the average demand about equal to the supply. The general rate of pay for skilled laborshoemakers, blacksmiths, carpenters, etc.-is slowly rising, and is believed to mark the return of better times for the

A statement of the average rate of wages paid to agricultural labor in several countries in Europe will be of interest as affording a basis of comparison between the condition of the American and the European farm laborer From the tables prepared for the report of Secretary Evarts upon this subject the following information is gathered, the figures referring to the year 1878: Agricultural laborers in England receive, without board or lodging, an average per month of \$15.60; in Ireland, \$14.73; in Scotland, \$19.42; in Normandy, \$12.44; in Italy, \$15.19, in Spain, \$14.95; in France, \$13.65.

#### Wages and Prices in France.

In an official review of the consular reports from France, Secretary Evarts says that "the French working people have, more truly than any other working people, illustrated that commendable phase of political economy-getting the greatest possible result out of the most limited means. They look squarely and sensibly at their capital, and then limit their requirements within that capital; make the most and best of their lot, and fling a halo of sentiment about their lives of toil. For these reasons the work-people of France, with as little remuneration and as scanty fare as those of almost any other country-much less than many of their neighbors-are the happiest and most contented labor population in Europe." Agriculture is the greatest industry of France. There are 10,000,000 land-owners, and 18,000,000 persons are engaged in that pursuit. The weekly wages paid to agricultural laborers throughout the republic are set down as follows: Men, without board or lodging, \$3.15; with board and lodging, \$1.36; women, without board or lodging, \$1.10. Notwithstanding these low wages, it is stated that the French farm laborer not only supports himself and family upon them, but in many cases saves enough to become a landed proprietor. The Consul at Bordeaux writes that "farm laborers are frequently economical to cultural laborers are from 17 to 20 cents per day to men, and avariciousness, and many of them, in the course of time, from 15 to 17 cents per day to women, and their food, become quite wealthy proprietors." The Consul at La Ro-When hired as servants, with food and lodging, they are chelle, where the French peasant still preserves his primitive manners and rural virtues, says: "Upon these wages attention to the fact that during the years 1874 and 1875 lain, china, or glass, containing as much silica as shall be the agricultural laborer not only supports himself and family, over 12,992,611 francs value of United States gold coin was requisite to obtain the necessary degree of hardness for the

work, at once starts out, with his loaf of bread under his into Belgian money previous to 1874 the consul had no mation in every county in the United States, with regard to arm and his gourd of sour wine swung over his shoulder, means of knowing; how much, if any, has been so converted confident of finding employment promptly." The Consul at since 1875 the consul does not say. Lyons writes "I regard the condition of the agricultural classes of the United States as much superior to that of those in France, yet from the systematic and economic habits of the farmers of France, as a general rule, the French far- bloodvessels, which form a fine network beneath the skin, mer, small as well as large, is better off than his brother and when they admit an increased volume of red blood cause agriculturist in the United States." In many districts in the surface to appear suffused with color. Blanching is the France the laborers supplement their agricultural earnings by secondary employment, such as weaving, wood-cutting, their blood, so that the skin is seen of its bloodless hue. The sawing, wooden shoe-making, etc. The Consul at Lyons change effected in the size of the vessels is brought about by cays that from 8 to 10 per cent of the agricultural laborers an instantaneous action of the nervous system. This action in his district are engaged in these secondary employments, may be induced by a thought, or, unconsciously, by the opewhich yield to each laborer about \$40 per annum. Not only ration of impressions producing the phenomenon habitually. must the husband labor for the support of his family, but In a word, blushing may become a habit, and it is then bethe wife and children must also labor for the general fund youd the control of the will, except in so far as the will can in order to make ends meet. The married farm laborer, who supports and lodges himself, may earn in the Lyons district \$150 per annum, divided as follows: husband's to cure a habit of this class directly. wages, \$80; wife's wages, \$30; children's wages, \$40. The cost of living to such a family, per annum, is calculated as

Vegetables.	and	cider.	8 25	Fuel
Meat		*****	10 00	Groceries

In view of the facts shown by the foregoing figures, viz., that the French farm laborer, when assisted by his wife and children, can earn only \$150 per year, while the cost of his living expenses is \$141, the Consul at Lyons makes a large demand upon American credulity in asking Americans to believe that "the French farmer, small as well as large, West of the Mississippi the increase in the rate of wages is better off than his brother agriculturist in the United States.'

#### Wages and Prices in Belgium.

The review, by Secretary Evarts, of the consular reports received from Belgium, shows that the working people of that country are happy and contented, notwithstanding their lives are continual struggles for a meager subsistence; that they are frugal and industrious, and live within their means; and that a feeling of reciprocity exists between the employer and the employed. It is thought that this reciprocity of feeling is made necessary in order to enable Belgium to compete with English, French, and German manufacturers in foreign markets, and thus secure employment for their own working men. A few years of misunderstandings between capitalists and laborers, such as periodically convulse England, would paralyze Belgium and ruin both employers and employes. Such is the reciprocity of feeling between capitalist and labor, that manufactories or workshops are scarcely ever closed; the employers, in the dullest of times, preferring to run them even at a loss rather than throw their employes out of work, and the latter, under such circumstances, cheerfully complying with a reduction in hours and wages, cutting down their already bare necessaries of life to tide over the dark hour, confident that when better times return the full time and wages will be again restored. Were it not for this reciprocal feeling which unites labor and capital, Belgium would be scarcely known as a commercial or manufacturing country. The following table will show the weekly wages paid in Belgium, compared with those paid in

E	Brussels.	Nev	v Yo	rk.	
Bricklayers	\$6.00	\$12	to s	\$15	
Masons	6.00	12	to	18	
Carpenters and joiners	5.40	9	to	12	
Gas-fitters	5.40	10	to	14	
Painters	4.20	10	to	16	
Plasterers	5.40	10	to	15	
Plumbers	6.00	12	to	18	
Blacksmiths	4.40	10	to	14	
Bakers	4.40	5	to	8	
Cabinet-makers	4.80	9	to	13	
Saddlers and harness-makers	4.80	12	to	15	
Tinsmiths	4.80	10	to	14	
Laborers	3.00	6	to	9	
Dallandar of the state of the	Marine Co.		-		

	Brussels. Per pound. Cents.	
Bread	. 4 to 5	436
Beef	.16 to 20	8 to 16
Veal		8 to 24
Mutton		9 to 16
Pork	.16 to 20	8 to 16
Lard	20	10 to 12
Butter		25 to 32
Cheese		12 to 15
Coffee		20 to 30
Sugar		8 to 10

The consul at Ghent says the rates of wages paid to agripaid \$1.75 to \$2.00 per month. The consulat Brussels calls but saves money. The country is free from tramps. The demonstized and converted at the Mint at Brussels into Bel- process of grinding."

laborer thrown out of employment, yet always willing to gian coin. How much of our money was thus converted

#### Blushing and Blanching.

Blushing is occasioned by sudden dilatation of the small opposite state, in which the vessels contract and squeeze out generally, if not always, conquer any habit. It is almost always useless, and certainly seldom worth while, to strive

The most promising course is to try to establish a new habit, which shall destroy the one it is desired to remedy. For example, if blushing is, as generally happens, associated with self-consciousness, we must establish the sway of the will over that part of the nervous system which controls the size of the vessels, by calling up a feeling opposed to selfconsciousness. It is through the mind these nerves are influenced. Then influence them in a contrary direction by antagonizing the emotion associated with blanching. Thus, if the feeling which causes the blushing be expressible by the thought, "Here am I in a false and humiliating position," oppose, or still better, anticipate and prevent, that thought by thinking, "There are you daring to pity or feel contempt for another." Avoid going on to think who that "other" is, because the aim must be to eliminate self. Constitute yourself the champion of some one, any one, and everybody, who may be pitied, and the ever-zealous and indignant foe of those who presume to pity. Most persons who blush with self-consciousness blanch with anger, and this artificial state of mock anger will soon blanch the face enough to prevent the blush. It only requires practice in the control of the emotions and the production of particular states at will-the sort of expertness acquired by actors and actresses—to secure control of these surface phenomena. Blushing and-blanching are antagonistic states, and may be employed to counteract each other, control of the physical state of the bloodyessels being obtained through the emotions with which they are associated .- Lancet.

#### Practical Co-operation.

A Swiss colony settled on Cumberland Mountain, Tennessee, in 1873. This colony of 115 families, about 700 people, purchased 10,000 acres of mountain land at \$1 per acre, and now, after four years each bead of a family has a comfortable home, an orchard, and garden with a profusion of mountain flowers. There is a large store that is managed for the colony, members of which get goods at wholesale cost; the colony has its own school, church, doctors, etc., and their own candidates govern. The colonists already have dairies and cheese factories in successful operation, and their products find ready sale at fancy prices. They have splendid herds of cattle, and their barns are built as carefully as their houses. There is also a colony of Swiss near Greenville, S. C., about as large as the Tennessee colony, and it is prospering finely.

#### A Specific for the Coffee Pest.

A correspondent of the London Times, writing from Colombo, Ceylon, announces the discovery of a certain cure for that most destructive pest, Hemeleia vastatrix. The discovery was made by the assistant director of the botanical gardens at Colombo, Mr. Morris, and consists in a mixture of sulphur and lime applied in a state of powder to the leaves and branches of the trees. One application suffices to destroy the filaments and spores in a few hours, and it now only remains for planters to resort to this most effectual remedy on an extensive scale, as the materials are to be had in abundance and the cost of application is trifling.

#### The Adirondack Survey.

Mr. Verplanck Colvin, Superintendent of the Adirondack Survey, began the survey of the Raquette River district at Potsdam, St. Lawrence Co., early in August. Arrangements had been made to occupy an astronomical station at that place, and to set up a substantial monument there recording the exact geographical position. It was proposed also to locate accurately all the important land lines, township corners, etc., in the Raquette River district, and mark them by stone monuments carrying nickel plated copper bolts.

#### Antiseptic Action of Acids.

According to Sieber a relatively small proportion of acid, 0.5 per cent, prevents putrefaction. This property is conspicuous in the mineral acid, and in acetic acid. Lactic and boric acids are much less effective. - Journ. Prakt. Chemie.

Mr. Friedrich Wegmann, of Zurich, has recently patented in Germany the "application in roller mills of rollers whose coating shall consist of a homogeneous mass of porce-

#### Snowballing in July.

in J. & L. F. Kuntz's brewery.

the ammoniacal gas is all driven off into the condenser, something new, There, by the compressing pump, it is liquefied, at a pressure feet square; this chamber is the freezing box for the whole ness and desires to develop the country. brewery. The refrigerator itself is a voluminous machine, consisting of eight colls, each 300 feet in length of continuous welded pipe, the whole forming a large cylinder 91/2 feet in diameter. In these coils of pipe the gas, liquefied under pressure, reassumes its gaseous form, and in so doing takes up all heat about it. The cylinder is kept whirling swiftly, partly to promote the spread and expansion of the liquid, but more to enable a lot of huge brushes to sweep off conmosphere upon these pipes. A cart load of snow is thus snow. The air driven down to replace that thus drawn up | valve rod.

is not only freezingly cold, but is dry and pure, so that through all the vaults the atmosphere seems like that of the country on a winter's morning. After going through this great mass of tubing, the gas returns to the outer chamber, bearing with it all the heat it has taken up; and to get rid of this it is sent through 1,200 feet of piping, upon which water falls in a spray, and a great fan keeps up a constant cooling current of air. After that it is fit to pass into the condenser, and so around again. None is wasted; none escapes. Yet it maintains a temperature of 3° Reaumur (say about 38° Fah.) throughout three vaults, each 80 by 50 feet, with an average height of 11 feet, and even greater cold could readily be obtained were it desirable. The use of this apparatus enables the actual storage at one time of 50,000 barrels of

It is claimed for the invention that it will save brewers a vast sum by diminishing the consumption of ice, and doing away with the

mensions. - Manufacturer and Builder.

The fan shown on this page is of French manufacture. The face is made of the finest lace, the pattern being designed capricious beauty demand anything more exquisite.

#### Ozokerite, or Mine al Wax.

We make the following extracts from a letter, which ap-

tion. This earth wax, or ozokerite, as it is called, is neither the steam is shut off. more nor less than oil that has been evaporated, leaving the It is very valuable, being worth from 7 to 8 cents a pound.

is found at Boryslaw, containing not over fifty acres, there are 10,000 shafts.

The walls of these shafts are curbed with timbers, but at scarcely a day passes but the walls cave in, breaking the timbers like pipe stems, and burying several human beings beneath the great mass of earth. This thing occurs so frethis manner.

Great fortunes have been accumulated by a few of the cut off steam at any desired point of the stroke. Jews who owned the land where the wax was found. The

A very novel spectacle was witnessed in New York city, holiday occurring nearly every other day, candles are in last month, at Morrisania, where people were snowballing great demand. Our party, consisting of Jas. H. Clark, John half-frozen fingers on their thighs to restore circulation to Polish gentleman at Boboka, and the conversation turning technical account given in Mr. Hollway's paper read before the benumbed members. It was, of course, artificial snow, on earth wax, Mr. Lay said that there was a mountain of it in the Society of Arts, February 12, 1879. and made by the working of an ice machine just set going Utah, at which the old Polish gentleman exclaimed, "My The machinery, as usual in all ice machines of this class, sixteen inches of earth wax, but He gave America a whole stances, which have not hitherto been used as sources of heat consists of three parts—a compressing pump, a condenser, mountain." They all like America and Americans, most of for smelting operations. The heat thus obtained is employed and a refrigerator. Aqua ammonia of the highest procurable strength, is poured into a small still and heated until developed and nearly exhausted, unless they should find

In Hungary there is no oil of any account being produced, of six and a half atmospheres in a temperature of 50° Fah. but there are surface shows all along the range of mountains developed, rendering the process of smelting a self-support-The liquid gas is passed thence, through small tubing, into on the Hungarian side, and some day it will be developed. ing operation; therefore no extraneous fuel is required, exthe refrigerator, which is a separate close chamber about 14 The government will assist any one who really means busi-

#### ENGINEERING INVENTIONS.

Mr. Cyrus B. Cook, of Cynthiana, Ky., has invented an improved combined governor and self-adjusting cut-off, which as wood does to coal in the lighting of an ordinary fire. combines the governor and slide valve of an engine so as to cause the governor to automatically adjust the range of stantly the snow which is continually forming from the at- the valve and the governor by a hollow rock shaft, having a enough for snowballs, but there its use stops, for the air able crank mechanism and a trip mechanism, operated difrom which it has been formed has been sucked up by a rectly by the governor, so that the governor sets in opera



EXQUISITE LACE FAN.

An improvement in water works has been patented by Mr. diture of coal or coke necessary say, to melt a given quanother purposes in cities and towns, and at the same time to 1. Only part of the oxygen of the air passing into a furfurnish the requisite quantity of water under any desired nace, acts on the material to be burnt. pressure for extinguishing fires wherever the distribution | 2. The oxygen is not brought in contact with the combusand worked expressly for this purpose. Nothing more deli- machinery discharging the water from its supply source into temperature for the operation. cate and fairy-like could be imagined, nor could the most and through an air tight compression storage reservoir that 3. Gases pass off hot and unburnt. These are now, howis provided with the necessary pipes, valves, and fire hy- ever, frequently utilized. drants, all connected with the town or city mains.

vised an improved balance valve, the object of which is to blowing air through molten crude iron a very high temperapeared in the Foxburg Gazette, written by Mr. E. M. Grant, relieve the balancing device from contact with the top of the ture is attained by the combustion of small quantities of carwho has recently returned from a visit to the various oil- steam chest as soon as the steam is shut off, and to prevent bon and silicon contained in the crude iron; this is, however, The production of oil in the Eastern Galicia oil fields is disk placed on top of the slide valve, and encircled by a is spread over a considerable period of time, although the very limited at present in amount. The wells are mostly ring, which, by the pressure of the steam underneath it, is same constituents are frequently burnt in similar proportions. situated near Boryslaw, though there is one well south of forced up against the under side of the top of the steam But even in the Bessemer process the carbon is only half Boryslaw about 45 miles, that is doing 8 to 10 barrels per day chest, so as to shut off from the pressure of the steam the burned, and a large amount of heat escapes with the carbonic area on the upper side of the valve inclosed by it, but which oxide and nitrogen. The wax fields of Eastern Galicia attract the most atten- is adapted to fall back from contact with the top as soon as When, however, thin streams of air are forced through

water course.

An improved oil well packing, having tapering split clamps land, how, nobody knows. The wax is refined and made Isaac La Foy and Jesse Siglin, of Bradford, Pa.

into candles. This being a great Catholic country, and a Hollway's Process. The Use of Sulphides as Fuel in Metallurgy.

Mr. John Hollway has prepared the following summarized each other with genuine fresh snow, pressing it into big Huntington, James Carrigan, and Worthy Clark, of Cleve- account of his process for the benefit of those who might not round balls, pelting each other with it, and slapping their land, and Wm. L. Lay, of Oil City, took breakfast with a have had time or inclination to read the longer and more

This process has for its object the utilization of the heat God! the Lord is with America again! He gives Poland generated by the rapid oxidation of certain mineral subrent of air is forced through molten sulphides, by which means they are very rapidly oxidized. Great beat is thus cepting that employed in raising steam for the blowing en gines; where, however, water power is available steam can be dispensed with, in which case all the carbonaceous fuel necessary for the operation is a little coke to start the furnaces, which stands in the same relative position to the ores

It is well known that pyritous minerals are readily com bustible, but the best means of utilizing the best producing movement of the valve, and thus shorten or lengthen the property of metallic sulphides is not so apparent as would at cut-off automatically. The invention consists in connecting first sight appear. Of these sulphides only iron pyrites is sufficiently combustible at a low temperature to burn in the second central shaft within. The two shafts are coupled for open air, the mass being raised to the temperature at which swept off every day. But it is not nice snow. It is good independent movement, and are combined with an adjustiron with atmospheric oxygen. In Spain there are numerous deposits of poor cuprous pyrites, and the Rio Tinto and powerful draught from the depths of the lowest cellars, and ation the trip mechanism, and allows the engine to act Tharsis Companies annually treat, at their mines, about one every sour smell or taint in the atmosphere is transferred to this through the independent shafts to alter the throw of the million tons for the extraction of copper only, which does not average 2 per cent. The process employed consists es-

sentially in roasting the pyrites in heaps in the open air, dissolving out the copper from the roasted material, and precipitating it from the solution by means of iron. These operations extend over several months, any gold or silver contained in the ore is lost, and the iron and sulphur are also wasted. The sulphur passes into the air as an obnoxious and annoying gas, desolating the country for miles around the works.

From the earliest ages carbon has been considered a necessity in all metallurgical operations. The first reduction of metal by means of carbon forms a connecting link between the age of stone and the commencement of civilized art. It is well known that carbon burns at widely varying temperatures, as, for example, in our bodies, in a common coal fire, or in a furnace. A great deal of thought has been devoted to the subject of economizing carbonaceous fuel, and great advances have been made in this direction, yet the expen-

necessity of constructing underground vaults of large di- Paul B. Perkins, of Geneseo, Ill. The object of this inventity of metal still far exceeds the theoretical limit. The main tion is to supply water for domestic, manufacturing, and causes of this discrepancy may be accounted for as follows:

pipes may be extended, by means of stationary pumping tible matter with sufficient rapidity to obtain the necessary

There is one metallurgical operation in which the first two Mr. McWilliam F. Margach, of Meadville, Pa., has desources of loss are avoided, viz., "Bessemer's," where, by the formation of a vacuum in the cylinder. It consists of a not the case in the process of puddling, where the oxidation

molten sulphide of iron lying on a tuyere hearth, a high tem-Messrs. Adam Moessinger and William Heathcote, of Glen | perature is produced by the perfect combustion which ensues residuum in a solid state, so that it is dug out with picks Rock, Pa., have patented an improved gate for turbine in the midst of the sulphides, and no unburnt gases, exceptand shovels, and is about the consistency of common clay. water wheels. The invention consists in an arrangement of ing nitrogen and sulphur vapor, escape from the surface of a circular or conical cap with slotted flanges operated by a the molten mass. The hot nitrogen and sulphurous acid may The shafts are from 350 to 600 feet deep and very close rack and pinion, the flange covering the upper openings of be caused to act upon iron pyrites and other mineral matter, together, so close that, on the piece of land where this wax the water course, and of a slotted cylindrical ring operated and when pyrites are thus heated an atom of suiphur held in by an eccentric, which covers the lower openings of the feeble combination is in great part expelled, and thus is obtained molten protosulphide of iron, which is subsequently An improved rotary valve and seat has been patented by burnt by the oxygen of the air driven in at the lower part of the depth to which they go they are very thin, so that Mr. Edward L. Watkins, of San Antonio, Texas. The invention consists in combining, with a valve seat having four tinuing the operation. The process may be defined as a sysports, a rotary valve having a curved opening and recess. tem of fractional oxidation, in which the numerous constitu-When the valve is driven at a uniform speed, the steam will ents of a complex furnace charge can be separated from each quently, that from four to six persons per week are killed in be cut off at about half stroke, but, if desired, it may be so other and concentrated in different parts of the apparatus, geared as to be driven at a variable speed, and arranged to the heat necessary for the operation being obtained by the combustion of a portion of the less valuable constituents.

The principal ores of all our ordinary heavy metals, except vein is about 16 inches thick, and the wax is carried out in and sleeves or thimbles fitting over them, for the purpose of manganese and tin, are sulphides. Iron, although largely buckets. Twelve thousand men live on that fifty acres of holding an elastic packing, has been patented by Messrs occurring in an oxidized form, is abundantly found in combination with sulphur; and bi-sulphide of iron, or Iron

rals. Associated with the iron and sulphur in iron pyrites cobalt, nickel, copper, silver, gold, lead, zinc, and arsenic. Of these, zinc is almost as combustible as iron itself, while lead and arsenic readily volatilize as sulphides, and cobalt, nickel, and copper are distinctly less readily oxidizable than iron, while silver and gold do not oxidize under these conditions; hence, in supplying air to such material, the iron is the first of the elements to suffer oxidation, so that if the oxidation be arrested before the whole of the iron has been burnt, the cobalt, nickel, copper, silver, and gold present manufacture of steel, where a current of air is caused to first oxidized, and is closely followed and to a great extent have been burnt out of the molten material.

Penistone, in a Bessemer converter, have proved that by blast. blowing air through molten sulphide of iron, the iron and a portion of the sulphur are oxidized, and if the oxidation is arrested before the combustion of the iron is complete, a proportion of the iron of the ore, but practically the whole or the greater part of the copper and other less oxidizable metals. In one of these experiments the molten sulphides were run into the converter from a cupola, in which they had been previously melted, and the temperature was kept up until in the ore and the fluxes added, the operation was discontinued, viz., for a period of ten hours, without the use of any carbonaceous fuel, the heat being entirely derived from the oxidation of the iron and a portion of the sulphur of the lumps of pyrites, which were continuously thrown into the mouth of the converter. A gaseous products, the latter experiments have been made in a possibility of obtaining a valuable regulus, a slag nearly free from copper, and a considerable quantity of crude sulphur. M. Pourcel, the well known chemist of the Terrenoire Company, has also made some very interesting experiments, having treated by this method a cupriferous sulphide of antimony containing lead and zinc, using heavy spar and silica as fluxes; he obtained a regulus containing the whole of the copper in the form of sulphide, a slag of light specific gravity, and the lead, zinc, and antimony as two separate sublimates, which were condensed in different parts of the apparatus, owing to the superior volatility of sulphide of lead over the oxides of antimony and zinc. In the experiments at Penistone and at Sheffield a cold blast of air was employed, and the gases which passed from the converter or furnace into the open air, carried away with them a large amount of heat. In practice, however, it would be economical to employ a hot blast, which could be heated by the waste heat from the escaping gases. It is remarkable that the least val uable metals, viz., iron and zinc, generate by their combustion the largest quantities of heat.

The process may be employed for the reduction of even the more volatile metals, for example, Mr A. H. Allen, of Sheffield, has thus obtained metallic antimony simply by the oxidation of sulphide of antimony. It is well known that sible to reduce them while in a molten state. sulphide of lead reacts upon oxide of lead with the production of metallic lead and sulphurous acid. If, therefore, a limited amount of air is blown into molten sulphide of lead, the oxide thus formed in the lower part of the furnace will, in passing upward, come in contact with the hot sulphide of lead, and metallic lead will result with the evolution of sulphurous acid. The furnace having a quiescent hearth below the tuyeres, the metallic lead will collect there, and can be be employed, because if it is driven in too quickly the sulphide of lead would rapidly distill off. In thus treating argentiferous lead ores the silver (and gold if present) would treating galena the furnace should have a basic lining.

The process is peculiarly suitable:

1. For the treatment of metalliferous substances which sulphurous acid. cannot be advantageously treated by other processes. For

- antimonial copper ores, such as those experimented upon by contain thirteen or fourteen heavy metals, including silver sulphides. and lead, for which latter alone they have been worked for large quantity of lead with which it is associated renders the the localities in which smelting operations may be advantage. zinc obtained from it worthless.
- 3. For the treatment of auriferous and argentiferous pyof the silver and gold present is obtained.
- 4. For the treatment of pyrites containing even only small of the Society of Arts.

pyrites, is an example of sulpharous and combustible mine- percentages of cobalt, nickel, and copper, which are thus concentrated into a rich regulus, whereas this result is now are invariably found small quantities of other metals, notably only obtained by very tedious processes of alternate roasting and reduction. Such ores containing 10 per cent and even 12 per cent of copper exist in South America and many other parts of the world, but are not at present capable of economic treatment, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient it." He claims that the first authenticated epidemic ocsupply of cheap fuel. The process can also be advantageously applied to the treatment of richer ores of copper such as are at present smelted at Swansea.

5. For the treatment of poor lead ores. If such ores are added to a furnace charge of cuprous pyrites, the silica they conwill be found in the unburnt portion. This principle finds a tain will be utilized and combine with the resulting oxide of parallel in the Bessemer process of treating pig Iron for the Iron to form a slag, the galena will be volatilized and be recovered as a sublimate, while any silver present will enrich bubble up through a bath of molten crude iron; the silicon is the regulus. At present, by a costly process of crushing and trip, about September, 1876, and has had cases on board every washing these ores, the galena is concentrated, although a accompanied by the carbon, and no large amount of iron large proportion is left with the dibris, and passes with the captain, and are attributed by him and Dr. Burgess to faulty suffers oxidation, until the whole of the silicon and carbon water into the streams, rendering the existence of fish in such structure and continued infection, which both gentlemen waters impossible. The water power now used for washing deem remediable. The result of this faulty structure is that The experiments made at Messrs. Cammell's works, at the ore could, in many cases, be employed for producing the some two inches of bilge water cannot be pumped out. Dr.

When thus treating cupriferous iron pyrites, four products

1. A matte or regulus containing from 30 to 50 per cent of heavy matte or regulus is obtained, which contains but a small copper, any trace of cobalt, nickel, silver, or gold the ore may contain, the rest of it being iron and sulphur, it has a specific gravity of 41/2 to 5.

2. A slag consisting of silicate of iron from the resulting oxide of iron combined with the silicious matters contained

compounds of lead, zinc, and arsenic.

and nitrogen.

The regulus closely resembles, and will replace, the coarse Bessemer converter being unsuited for the collection of the metal of the Swansea copper process, which is now only obtained at considerable cost of labor, time, and carbonaceous series of cupola furnaces belonging to Messrs. John Brown fuel. When, however, sulphides of iron and copper present & Company, Limited. These experiments have proved the in the bath are treated continuously by a blast of air a point is at length arrived at when the whole of the iron is oxidized, and the regulus in the bath consists of sub-sulphide of copper. If, now, a limited supply of air is introduced, the copper is reduced to the metallic state with the evolution of sul phurous acid.

The slag obtained in the Penistone experiments was essen tially silicate of iron containing about 50 per cent of iron and 29 per cent of silica. It had density of about 3.8 to 4, and was in composition somewhat allied to the copper-smelter's ore furnace slag and to the tap-cinder of the iron puddler. By the addition of the calcareous materials, the specific gravity of the slag is so reduced as to cause it to separate readily from the regulus which collects below it. In one of the later experiments, when lime was used, the proportion of copper lost in the slag was very small. This is, of course, a most important point, for when dealing with ores containing but little copper, the presence of even a small percentage in the slag means the loss of a considerable proportion of the copper present. These slags can be utilized for the manufacture of steel, being practically silicious iron ores free from phosphorus, and their reduction in a blast furnace can be profitably effected, as the proportion of iron present is high as compared with the weight of the material, indeed, it may be pos-

By resubliming the crude sulphur it can be freed from all impurities except arsenic, and at the works of Messrs. John Hutchinson & Co., Widnes, this is eliminated by means of polysulphide of calcium.

As a certain proportion of the sulphur of the minerals suffers combustion, the resulting sulphurous gases contain from 14 to 15 per cent of sulphurous acid, and hence the proportion of sulphurous acid to nitrogen is nearly identical with from time to time withdrawn. A limited amount of air must that of the gases produced by roasting pyrites in the kilns a block of much greater hardness than that possessed by the employed by vitriol manufacturers, and can therefore, be wood itself. The specific weight of the powder was 0-389, used with equal advantage for the production of vitriol in leaden chambers. This appears to be the simplest solution stone was transformed into a new stone of the same hardness be found with the first metallic lead reduced. When thus of the great problem how to smelt copper without causing a as the original one. The same was the case with chalk. nuisance to the surrounding neighborhood, although a similar result might be obtained by collecting and liquefying the

the extraction of sulphur by distillation, and simultaneously to employ without too great a loss of temperature, the wider silver it is the whitest metal known; its malleability is as for the concentration and separation of cobalt, nickel, copper, silver, and gold from minerals in the form of metallic many ores, including silicates and carbonates, containing greater, and it is almost as soft as lead. Its melting point regulus; while lead, zinc, antimony, arsenic, etc., accrue in metals in the form of oxides, which might be conveniently liegnear to that of platinum, and it is not volatile. Its sp 2. For the treatment of complex ores, for example, gray ritous ores to effect their reduction; in fact, one of the chief osmium, platinum, and palladium, is 6:25. Its atomic practical questions connected with this process is how far it M. Pourcel. Ores similar to those worked at the well known may be trusted to effect the smelting of ores or furnace it is difficult to distinguish from platinum. - A. Guyard. Bottino Mines, Seravezza, in the Italian Apennines, which charges containing comparatively moderate proportions of

It is evident that it will almost entirely obviate the necenturies. The blende of lead mines, in Derbyshire termed cessity for using carbonaceous fuel, at least as far as Dairy Fair, August 12, it was resolved to hold the fair during the control of the contr "muck," usually thrown away by the miners, because the the production of a regulus is concerned, and consequently ing the second and third weeks of December next, at the ously carried on are thus greatly multiplied. One of its about to sail for Europe, and was empowered by the asso chief merits is that it is equally applicable, with comparative- ciation to invite all the agricultural societies of England and rites. It is well known that in practice it is not possible to ly little extra cost in the working, to very poor and very rich obtain the whole of the gold from pyrites by amalgamation ores, for however small the resulting regulus, it will contain bition and competition with American products. Letters with quicksilver, because the presence of sulphur and arsenic nearly the whole of the cobalt, nickel, copper, silver, and from cattle raisers in various parts of the country encourage sickens and flours the mercury, whereas by fusion the whole gold present in the furnace charge, while any lead, zinc, antimony, and arsenic will be obtained as sublimates. - Journal larger number of blooded bulls and cows on exhibition this

Yellow Fever,

Dr. Stanford E. Chaillé, chairman of the Havana Commission, has investigated the facts relative to the prevalence of the disease upon the island of Cuba, and finds that " more than twenty years ago out of thirty-six towns only two insignificant ones were free from it; every seaport town had curred in 1761, instead of 1762, and that it has continued endemic in Havana ever since the former period.

From Dr. D. M. Burgess the following facts were obtained by Dr. Chaillé relative to the steamer Niagara:

"The steamer Niagara, of the line of Ward & Co., is a first-class iron passenger steamer, and made her first trip June, 1876. Notwithstanding due cleanliness, etc., she went into New York with yellow fever on board on her fourth season since that time. These facts were obtained from the Vanderpoel, of New York, has been notified of the chief facts. Two cases developed upon her last trip from New York prior to her entering the harbor of Havana."

#### Plour Mixed with Mineral Substances.

The author's method for detecting the tenth of a milligramme of alum, magnesia, chalk, gypsum, arsenious acid, etc., added to 10 grammes of flour, depends on the insolubility of the flour of wheat, rye, barley, etc., in chloroform; on their specific gravity, which is less than that of chloro-3. Sublimed sulphur, more or less mixed with volatile form, and on the specific gravity of the mineral matters, which exceeds that of chloroform. He takes a 4. Sulphurous gases, consisting mainly of sulphurous acid perfectly dry glass tube 20 centimeters in height, and 2 to 3 in diameter; 10 grammes of the flour are introduced, the tube is nearly filled with chloroform, corked, and shaken for a minute. It is then let stand in an upright position, and in a cool place for some time. The flour which floats on the surface is removed, the chloroform is decanted off and may serve for new operations, and the deposit is treated with cold distilled water, which dissolves alum. The substances insoluble in water are collected on a filter, dried, weighed, and examined physically and chemically. Mineral salts existing naturally in the flour are not deposited, but remain in the floating layer .- C. Cailletet.

#### American Institute Exhibition.

It will not be the fault of this paper if the coming Exhibition of this Institute should prove to be a chaotic mass of half arranged merchandise on the opening day, September 17, for we have so often given notice of the fact that an exhibition is to be held, and have as repeatedly given notice of the time; nor will it be the fault of the officers of the Institute, for the building is always ready in time, but will, we presume, be the fault of the exhibitor, who, as a general rule, procrastinates and is often many days behind. We should think that an exhibitor would desire that his exhibit should be arranged upon the opening day, and not a week or ten days later. For information address General Superintendent, Room 22, Cooper Union Building, New York.

#### The Effect of Great Pressure upon Powdered Substances.

Mr. Spring, a member of the Belgian Academy of Science, has made several very interesting experiments on the above subject with the following results, as reported in the Chemiker Zeitung:

In a hollow steel bar, the sides of which were 188 of an inch thick, he subjected several powdered substances to a pressure of 20,000 atmospheres (133 tons per square inch). Molten and powdered saltpeter was pressed into a solid hard mass like porcelain. Powdered poplar wood was pressed into and that of the compressed block, 1.328. A powdered grind-

#### Uralium, a New Metal.

As far back as 1869 the author discovered this metal in The more incombustible materials it is found practicable commercial platinum obtained from Russian ores. Next to smelted by mixing them with a sufficient proportion of py. cific gravity =20 25, and its molecular volume, like those of weight has been found 187.25. In its chemical properties

### The International Dairy Fair.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the International American Institute Rink. The president, Mr. Thurber, was the Continent to send butter and cheese to the fair for exhithe managers of the fair to believe that they will have a much year than they did last.

#### Business and Lersonal.

The Charge for Insertion under this head is One Dollar a line for each insertion; about eight words to a line. Advertisements must be received at publication office as early as Thursday morning to appear in next issue.

The best results are obtained by the Imp, Eureka Tur bine Wheel and Barber's Pat.Pulverizing Mills. Send for descriptive pamphlets to Barber & Son, Allentown. Pa.

Steam Tug Machinery, Engines, Bollers, Sugar Machinery, Atlantic Steam Engine Works, Brooklyn, N.Y. Golden Healing Ointment. See adv., page 157.

The Baker Blower runs the largest sand blast in the orld. Wilbraham Bros., 2518 Frankford Ave., Phila., Pa. Patent Reports for sale.—1855 to 1871, 46 vols., 1874 to 1877, 8 vols.; perfect. J. S. Moody, Saco, Me.

For Steam Launches, Engines, Bollers, and Propeller Wheels, address W. J. Sanderson, 21 Church St., Syra-

Cut Gears for Models, etc. (list free). Models, work ing machinery, experimental work, tools, etc., to order. D. Gilbert & Son, 212 Chester St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Steam Yacht for sale. G. F. Shedd, Waltham, Mass.

Wanted .- A first-class Machinist or Millwright familwanted.—A irst-class Machinist of Milwright tamil-iar with hard wood working machinery; one who has had charge of men preferred. Give age, nativity, and experience. Address, with reference, Cincinnati Cooper-age Company, Cincinnati, O.

Notice—To Builders of Stationary and Portable Steam Engines, Machinists' Tools, Sugar Plantation Machinery, Pumps, etc., etc., a situation as superintendent or fore-man. Address, for two weeks, P. O. Box 340, Beverly,

Patent for sale of the easiest, most convenient, useful Monkey Wrench ever invented. W. D., Box St, Rockland, Mass.

The Improved Hydraulic Jacks, Punches, and Tube R. Dudgeon, 24 Columbia St., New York Magnets, Insulated Wire, etc. Catalogue free. Good-now & Wightman, 176 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

Inexhaustible Beds of Kaolin or Clay,—Wanted ex-perienced pottery men to take an interest in the white, pink, and yellow kaolin beds. Digging and shipping on cars will cost 30 cents per ton. M. J. Dobschutz, Belle-ville, III., Agent.

Forsaith & Co., Manchester, N. H., & 213 Center St., N. Y. Bolt Forging Machines, Power Hammers, Comb'd Hand Fire Eng. & Hose Carriages, New & 2d hand Machin-ery. Send stamp for Illus. cat. State just what you want.

Wright's Patent Steam Engine, with automatic cut-off. The best engine made. For prices, address William Wright, Manufacturer, Newburgh, N. Y.

For Solid Wrought Iron Beams, etc., see advertise Address Union Iron Mills, Pittsburgh, Pa., for lithograph, etc.

H. Prentiss & Co., 74 Dey St., New York, Manufs, Taps, Dies, Screw Plates, Reamers, etc. Send for list.

The Horton Lathe Chucks; prices reduced 30 per cent.
Address The E. Horton & Son Co., Windsor Locks, Conn. Presses, Dies, and Tools for working Sheet Metal, etc.

Fruit & other can tools. Bliss & Williams, B'klyn, N. Y. Linen Hose.—Sizes: 136 in., 20c.; 2 in., 25c; 236 in., 20c. per foot, subject to large discount. For price lists of all sizes, also rubber lined linen hose, address Eureka Fire Hose Company, No. 13 Barclay St., New York.

Nickel Plating.—A white deposit guaranteed by using our material. Condit, Hanson & Van Winkle, Newark, N.J. Hydraulic Presses and Jacks, new and second hand. Lathes and Machinery for Polishing and Buring Metals, E. Lyon & Co., 470 Grand St., N. Y.

Eclipse Portable Engine. See illustrated adv., p. 157. Bradley's cushioned helve hammers. See illus. ad. p. 142. Shoet Metal Presses, Ferracute Co., Bridgeton, N. J. Diamond Saws. J. Dickinson, 64 Nassau St., N. Y. Yacht Engines. F. C. & A. E. Rowland, N. Haven, Ct.

Split Palleys at low prices, and of same strength and appearance as Whole Pulleys. Yocom & Son's Shafting Works, Drinker St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Noise-Quieting Nozzles for Locomotives and Steam boats. 50 different varieties, adapted to every class of engine. T. Shaw, 915 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. Stave, Barrel, Keg, and Hogshead Machinery a specialty, by E. & B. Rolmes, Buffalo, N. Y.

Solid Emery Vulcanite Wheels-The Solid Original Solid Emery Vulcantle Wheels—The Solid Original Emery Wheel—other kinds imitations and inferior. Caution.—Our name is stamped in full on all our best Standard Belting, Packing, and Hose. Buy that only. The best is the cheapest. New York Belting and Packing Company, 37 and 38 Park Row, N. Y.

New 814 foot Boring and Turning Mill for sale cheap. A first class tool. Hilles & Jones, Wilmington, Del.

Wanted.—Responsible party to build and introduce Thomas' Patent Steam Wheel. Monopoly to right party, Write for description and particulars, to J. C. Thomas,

ators, Freight and Passenger, Shafting, Pulleys. and Hangers. L. S. Graves & Son. Rochester, N. Y.

Rubber Belting, Packing, Hose, and all kinds of manuacturers' supplies. Greene, Tweed & Co., 18 Park Pt., N.Y. Holly System of Water Supply and Fire Protection

Solid and Opening Die Bolt Cutters, Screw Plates, and Taps. The Pratt & Whitney Co., Hartford, Conn Electro-Bronzing on Iron. Philadelphia Smelting

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each, we are prepared to make castings of 4 tons weight. Pittsburgh Steel Casting Co., Pittsburgh, Pa. The New Economizer, the only Agricultural Eng with return flue boiler in use. See adv. of Porter Mfg.

Steam and Gas Fitters' Tools a specialty. Send for circulars. D. Saunders' Sons, Yonkers, N. Y.

For Shafts, Pulleys, or Hangers, call and see

Wm. Sellers & Co., Phila., have introduced Injector, worked by a single motion of a lever.

Walrus Leather, Solid Walrus Wheels; Wood Wheels covered with walrus leather for polishing Green Tweed & Co. 18 Park Place, New York.

#### NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

THEORY OF SHIPBUILDING (Theorie des Schiffes). By Victor Lutschaunig. Trieste, Austria: F. H. Schimpff. 1879.

The author of this work is the professor of ship The author of this work is the plottes of ship-building at the Royal Commercial and Nautica Academy in Trieste, and has arranged the same to con-form with the course of lectures he delivers at the above institution. All the formulas and results are computed by means of differential and integral calculus and analytical geometry, and only the theoretical part of shipbuilding has been regarded. The first chapter treats of the formulas, with their derivation, for the calcolation of the center of displacement, the immersed section, and the entire displacement of a ship in or out of equilibrium. The second chapter treats of the meta center and the dynamical stability. The succeeding four chapters treat of the waves and their action upon the ship, the oscillations of ships in still water, and the resistance produced by the waves. The seventh and last chapter treats of the strength of the ship and the forces that tend to destroy the same. Formulas for obtaining the moment of inertia for different sections are annexed, and will be found of great use to every scien tific shipbuilder.



HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No attention will be paid to communications unless ecompanied with the full name and address of the

mes and addresses of correspondents will not be ven to inquirers,
where the transport of the transport of the paper and the page, or the number and the page and

of the question.

Correspondents whose inquiries do not appear after a reasonable time should repeat them.

Persons desiring special information which is purely of a personal character, and not of general interest, should remit from \$1\$ to \$5\$, according to the subject, as we cannot be expected to spend time and labor to obtain such information without renumeration.

Any numbers of the SCHENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT referred to in these columns may be had at this office. Price 10 cents each.

(1) J. H. asks for the process of bluing steel without heat. A. Mix finely powdered Prussian blue with rather thin shellac varnish; gently heat the steel, and apply the varnish.

(2) D. H. asks: What chemical difference there between red and white arsenic? We use considerable red arsenie; the color makes no difference to us; would prefer white, on the score of economy, if the properties were the same as in the red. A. The red ar senic you refer to is probably realgar or orpiment—sul-phides of arsenic. White arsenic is arsenious acid and contains no sulphur. They are both poisonous, but in other respects are quite different.

(3) J. P. L. asks how fast it is safe to run a 14 inch power punch punching iron 3-32 inch thick, or how many holes ought it to punch per minute. A. It will be determined by the rapidity with which you an move and set the plate and clear the punch. Probably 18 to 20 per minute

(4) J. L. P. asks: How many pounds of Band Saws a specialty. F. H. Clement, Rochester, N.Y. resisting air pressure would there be to the square foot. going at the rate of 20 miles an hour, at 30, at 40? A. At 20 miles per hour, 21b. per square foot; at 30 miles per hour, 4% lb. per square foot; at 40 miles per hour, 8 lb. per square foot.

> (5) B. G. V. writes: 1. We have a Bell telephone here which we sometimes use in connection with an Edison some eighteen miles distant nection with an Edison some eighteen miles distant. There is a continual crackling noise during the whole time they are connected. What is the cause and remedy for it? A. If your telephone line runs parallel with and near a telegraph line the crackling noise is probably due to currents induced by the telegraph line. The remedy will be to use an induction balance, or to shift your line to another set of poles. 2. In the quartz mill at this place there is a large rubber belt running on wooden palleys, on which there is a belt running on wooden pulleys, on which there is a large amount of electricity generated. Can it be used to run an electric pen such as described in the Scien-TIFIC AMERICAN? A. No; frictional electricity is not adapted to the propulsion of machinery, 3. Will it answer the purpose of a battery and induction coil? A. It might possibly be used with a voltaic pencil, but it would not replace a battery and induction coli.

inch pipe. 2. Will the additional weight or increasin the size of the column of water make any different in the working of the pump, provided that it is operated In both cases at the same rate of speed? A. No. 3 Would it be preferable to locate the cylinder in the to 18 feet of the water. 4. In case the larger pipe is used it is necessary to lift a larger amount of water, and consequently an additional amount of power would necesarily have to be expended in operating the pump? A.

(7) T. L. M. asks: How many pounds weight can be raised with a line 154 inches in diameter rove through a double and triple block and a snatch? A. For working strain, 1,800 lb. safely; maximum breaking

(8) L. F. B. asks if an upright engine

(9) D. M. S. writes: 1. I think of building all steamboat, length 60 feet, 10 feet wide

West in it; and supposing we went up the Missouri River us far as Montana, which would be best; side wheels. stern wheel, or a screw? What size screw propeller should it have? What horse power engine will I need? A. A stern wheel boat, 60 feet by 12 to 14 feet beam, and 3½ feet deep, 2 engines, 8 inch cylinder by 2½ feet stroke. 2. Would it be safe to undertake such a trip with such sized boat as this? A. We think, if properly ouilt, she would be safe for the trip proposed

(10) W. H. P. writes: I am thinking of building a canoe such as is described by "Paddlefast" in Supplement, No. 39, page 618. There are some things about it that I do not understand. 1. Ought the stern post to be perpendicular to the keel (like Fig. 26, page 471, No. 30), or curved like the stern (same fig.)? A. Yes, perpendicular, or nearly so. 2. Would it not be just as well to plank it with 14 inch cedar as 14 inch? A. 14 inch thick would spring under every strain and be likely to leak, and it will not hold fastenings so well as 1/4 inch. Could you beat to windward with full sail (2 sails) and a leeboard? A. Yes, if properly modeled. 4.
 How fast would the boat probably sail before a fair wind? A. Depends upon spread of sail and force of

(11) W. F. asks which part of a wheel (that f one portion travels through a greater space than anplease state why. A. On the periphery all points

(12) G. M. A. writes: Here, in latitude 40° orth, in summer, about June 21, the sun apparently ises in the extreme northeast and sets in extreme northvest, while at noon it is south of us. Please explain. A. The effect is due mainly to the curvature of the earth.

(13) F. J. N. asks how to make a cheap grade of Babbitt metal. A Melt separately 4 lb, cop-per, 12 lb, tin, 8 lb, regulus of antimony. Pour the an-timony into the tin, then mix with the copper, away from the fire, in a separate pot, and add 12 lb, more tin.

(14) F. C. asks how to bleach straw; the ocess by sulphur, that by chloride of lime and sulphuric acid, also any other processes with which you may be acquainted. Does the straw require any preparation for the before named processes; and if so, what? Among straw bleachers, what is the cheapest and most speedy method of obtaining a satisfactory result? A. Straw goods are bleached by submitting them to the action of the vapor of burning sulphur—or better, to the vapor of burning bisulphide of carbon. The straw, which must be perfectly clean, must be well moistened with pure soft water before submitting to the sulphuric oxide. The bleaching is carried on in tight wooden sheds. Straw may be bleached by chlorinated lime, but the fiber is liable to be somewhat injured thereby. Moisten the goods thoroughly in a strong aque tion of the bleaching powder (defecated), and then pass them through a bath of sulphuric acid diluted with about 20 parts of soft water. Repeat if necessary, and finally rinse thoroughly in water containing a small quantity of sulphur or hyposulphite of soda.

(15) J. M. W. asks (1) how sugar is made from corn. A. The starch is separated from the mashed meal by a process of washing. Good corn yields about 25 lb, of starch per bushel of corn. The starch is boiled with dilute sulphuric acid, which gradually converts it into glucose or starch sugar. When the con version is completed a sufficient quantity of chalk of marble dust is added to neutralize and precipitate the ackl, and after defecation and filtration the saccharine liquid is boiled down and crystallized, 2. How much will one hundred lb. of corn make? A. About 45 lb. dry sugar. 3. What is the expense per Ib.? cost of manufacture depends somewhat upon the scal on which the business is conducted. Starch sugar roduced at a cost much below that of cane sugar.

(16) Z. C. M. writes: I wish to make mposition for making the ornaments on stove pa terns. I have tried camphor, whiting, and sulphate o potash, but did not succeed. I have seen the kind the use, and it smells very strongly of campbor; to use they simply steam it, and press it into the mould. A The following composition is commonly used: Softer 12 lb, of good glue in water enough to cover it, the heat until the glue is dissolved. Melt 7 lb, of resin, 3 lb. of pitch, and 2½ pints of linseed oil together. Sti the hot glue solution into this and add enough whitin to thicken. It should be mixed in small quantities an used at once; otherwise it will require steaming befor

(17) R. M. writes: I would like a book or poisons and their antidotes; can you recommend one A. You may consult "Horsely on Poisons," 2. Wha can I put in my water barrels to purify the water? It ha to stand a few days stagmant until it is used. I carry
it from the hydrant some distance off, and it gets ba-Cooper Manufacturing Company, Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Manuf's of Stationary, Portable, and Traction Engines.

Saw Mills, Grist Mills, Mill Machinery, etc. Engineers and Contractors. Circular free.

(6) W. R. writes: 1. I am to put a pump (the cylinder 2 inches in diameter) into a well 100 feet deep. Which should be explained by the colditional points of the color of the pump of the cylinder 2 inches in diameter) into a well 100 feet deep. Which should be explained by the colditional points of the cylinder and contractors. Circular free. h food? A. Yes

(18) H. R. L. asks: 1. Can you recommend standard work on butter and chees breeding and selection of profitable stock? A. Willard's "Practical Butter Book," Willard's "Practical Dair; Husbandry," and "Youatt and Martin on Cattle," Can you give an antiseptic to prevent milk from sou family use? A. The double borate of potassium and

(19) C. H. G. asks: What preparation of var nish or shellac will do to put on a celluloid comb an brush which I have painted in water colors? I wan not injure the celluloid, at the same time to make th painting durable and handsome, as the set is a very fit should be balanced by the drive wheat so that it will stop with the piston crank in any position. A. Yes, es-

(20) G. W asks: 1. What form of carbon ther than simple powdered charcoal is best for a of hull, height of cabin about 7 feet at sides. She is to water filter? A. Crushed willow charcoal, well and re- Carriage wrench, H. C. Miller.

be of sharp build in front. Wish to take several families cently burned, is preferable, 2, Can a carbon filter be cleaned or renewed without taking apart, that is, by reversing the current of water through it? A. Yes, in a measure, but it is better to renew the charge. 3. How long can iron scraps be used in a filter before requiring renewal? A. The iron should be replaced when it becomes badly oxidized. 4. Does the carbon (animal or vegetable) remove organic matter from water? A. The carbon alone cannot be depended on to remove all of the organic matters, especially if the filtration is per-mitted to proceed rapidly.

(21) M. H. T. asks 1. What is the best metal for a pan for galvanizing? A Cast iron is generally employed. 2. Does a cast iron pan make more dross than a wrought? How would cast steel do? A. The difference is slightly in favor of wrought iron.

(22) R. B. R. asks: Would it be wrong in any way or dangerous to run a lightning rod vertically through the center of a chimney smoke flue, and embed the ground end under bottom of chimney in lieu of run-ning it along the angles of roofs and siding outside? Flue is 30 feet high and 20 inches by 8 inches section. Also, would it, if proper, be necessary to connect stove pipes, registers, or other iron or metal attachments? A. The object of arranging the rod on the roof angles is to afford conduction in case the lightning strikes at s, the outside) turns the fastest when the wheel revolves: the roof You can safely run the rod down the chimney as you propose, and also connect stove pipes and iron work therewith. But remember that no lightning rod can be considered as a protection unless its bottom end connects with a large extent of conducting material placed underground. For example, if there is a metallic water pipe or gas pipe, connect the bottom of the rod to it by soldered joint. If there are no such pipes, then extend your rod, say fifty feet, underground, in trench leading away from your house; and carefully embed the rod in coal dust or charcoal, placed in the trench. The deeper you can conveniently make the trench the better. Coal dust, hard or soft, or charcoal, all are good conductors of electricity.

(23) L. K., Jr , writes: The water that we are using to supply the boilers of our engine is very hard and produces a very thick scale of lime which is very hard to remove with a pick. About a day before stopping to clean boilers we have used about one pound of refined catechu by putting it in the heater and pumping it into the boilers with the feed water; it is effectual in loosening all the scale, and there is very little labor in cleaning boilers. Will it be injurious to the iron to continue the use of the same? A. Used in moderation no injury will result. Catechn or cutch is very frequently used for this purpose.

#### COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

What is Light? By Dr. G. Boiler Explosion. By A. O. G. On the Steam Engine. By J. N. W S. D.

[OFFICIAL.]

#### INDEX OF INVENTIONS

Letters Patent of the United States were Granted in the Week Ending July 29, 1879,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE. [Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

Air and ventilating structures, tempering and
purifying, J. Wilkinson
Air compressor, locomotive, W Jackson 218 689
Air compressor, J. B. Waring. 217 905
Alloy for journal bearings, D. Jackson
Animal trap. J M Gleichman TIS 813
Aprons, guide for endless, G. L. Jaeger 718.630
Axle box, car, Terry & Sauer 118.084
Axle lubricator, vehicle, C. A. Leonard 217 SSS
Axle skein, T. Shilling.
Axle skein, vehicle, P Neder 218.053
Bag holder, W. F. Buckmann 217.004
Bag holder, D. Geiser
Bale tier for baling presses, S. D. Purdy (r) 8.239
Barn, D. Jennings
Basket, C. M. Whitehead 217,968
Bed invalid, W S. Groff 218,016
Bedstead, invalid, G. D'Haisne 217 om
Bee bive Weyer & White
Belt fastener, P J Flanagan
Belt fastener, F H. Kane 217,878
Belling, J. Thomson
Dinger, temporary J S. Shannon are use
Billid operator, window, Holhrook & Vocale our and
Botler furnace, T Murphy
Doll and rod griper, S. Gullickson was one
Boot and shoe heel and counter supporter, J G.
Whittier II8.099
Boot and shoe sole and heel plate, S. Z. Willson, 217,999
Bottle, ink, J W Carter 217.236
Bow N R. Streeter. 218,079
Brick kiln, G. A. Carlson
Bronzing machine, A. Steiner
Brushes, making, J. Ames, Jr
Buckle, harness, C. W Saladee (r)
Buckle, suspender, W. F. Osborno
Buckle, trace, D. Schoenthaler 218,068
Building, W. E. Brock
Butter packing, W. White
Butter worker, G A Blanchard. 217,993 Butten and stud fastening, C L Watson 217,996
Car draught apparatus Centre, 5 Victorian 217,850
Car dranght apparatus, Griffith & Patterson 217,809 Car engine frame, street, J. B. Waring 218,092
Carboy, F Nichols
The state of the s

218,290 Safety pln, A. M. Smith ....

Caskot, hotel, O. Sackett.	. 217,900	Rule, bias, F. H. White	218,065	Carriage, child's, J. A. Maloney	215,754	Safety pin, A. M. Smith Saw gauge, J. Leist	218,397
Chisel, extension, B. F. Ough	217,880	Sample case, C. Folsom	217,933	Chain safety attachment, R. Y. Anderson	218,166	Committee and the second of the second	218,339
Cider mill, E. Barton	217,970	Saw not, I. O. Harber.	217,850	Change box and register, J. R. Kenworthy	8,532	Scraper and grader, road, S. S. Morgan	218,131
Clark, apparatus for treating, G. Clark	215,068		BIT DOS	Child's table-chair, H La Belli	218,169	Seal lock, J. T. Kilham	218,136
Clothes line reel and support, 15 wantemover.	916 OLT	Sewing machine, A. Steward	217,910	Choke bore instrument, C. S. Chase.	218,224	Sewing machine, H. F. Schlueter	8,890
Collar C A Coldanith		Sowing machine button holer, W. Carpenter (r)	8,825	Chuck, watchmaker's lathe, R. P. Bell	218,155		
Collar, horse, S. D. Reynolds				Cigar show box, J. Casey	218,112	Shaft coupling, flexible, 11. A. Kimball	218,198
Cotton picker, T. C. Craven	217,990	Skate, roller, J. S. Lash	218,035	Clutch throw-off, W. Lloyd	243,000	Chatter hower & C. Ross	218,897
Cotton press, M. C. Lively  Cows from kicking, preventing, F. A. Walrous	218,006	F. Nitte	218,050	Cock, gauge, C. R. Joyce	010 011	Office done I M Hunter	218,121
Cultivator, wheel, J. Wagner, Jr	218,103	Spur, T. Beck	217,856	Collar pad, horse, F. Benoit	210,211	Roda water fountain I Matthews (r)	. RRM
Damper regulator, W. E. Kelly. Dish, G. Gardner	218,011	Staple puller, R. L. Taylor	218,082	Corset, R. W. Gray	218.270	Soldering machine for scraping tubes before and	
Drilling machine, metal, H. Duosh	217,881	Steam drill, J. Neff	217,952	Crayon holder and watch key, J. Hoffman	218,274	Sower and fertilizer distributer, seed, J. T Jeter.	218,124
Eave trough hanger, L. Smith	215,022	The state of the s	217,002	Dental bracket, Alling & Re Qua	218,239		210,200
Evaporating and calcining alkaline solutions, ap- paratus for, M. Nixon	218,006	Stove, coal oil, C. Truesdale	218,089	Dental plugger, C Schaerff	918,905	Spinning ring holder and clearer, T. Coulthard. Spittoon, W. W. Climenson	218,261
Exercising chair, M. V. B. White Fabric folding device, C. O. Manny	227,887	Street sprinkling apparatus, Hennessy & Quinn	218.004	Distance instrument, J. Boger	218,222	Stamp perforating H L Poirier	218,312
Fence, combined wood and wire, A. F. Pruden Fence post boring machine, I. S. Heddings	218,023	Committee these are consecuted the	218,062	Egg case, J. L. Stevens.	218,328 218,167	Staples, inserting wire, J Shellenberger. Staples, device for inserting and clinching me-	210,143
Fifth wheels for vehicles, device for the manu-		Thill coupling, R. A. Goldsmith	218,014	Elevator, A. C. Ellithorpe	218,119	Steam boller covering, C. Toope	218,340
facture of, W. Groshans	217,5830	Thread, waxed or tarred, J. Kelth	217,948	Faucet, W. D. Doremus	218,165	Steam engine, G. A. Gray, Sr	218,180
Filters, composition for water, J. B. Ader, Aine. Fire extinguisher, E. M. Whyler	215,100	Total plantage of a management	217,975	Fence, R. H. Mong	218,342	Stopper, R. T. Ellifrit.	218,179 218,246
Flange coupling, C. H. Cushing	215,105	103 Outstand Direct Links or and one	217,934	Fence, barb, T. C. Lord	218,172	Stove, cooking, J. F. Allen	218,152
Frying pan, J. Graves	217,938	Tube cleaner, boiler, D. Sullivan	217,911	Pence, iron, Devoe & Walker (r) Pence post, iron, J. Carpenter	8,830	Stove, regenerative hot blast, E. A. Cowper Stoves, cover for cook holes in, C. Caldwell	218,357
operating, S. Goldsmith	218,001	Valve, balance, M. F. Margach	218,040	Filter, L. S. Weed	218,351	Sugar evaporator, J. F. Sargent	218,330 218,212
Glass mould, W. Fox	218,010	Waring	218,003	Fire escape, by D. Pounds Fire escape, hydraulie, A Turnbull Fire extinguisher, automatic, Brown & Foskett (r.	218,341	Tap for barrels, measuring, etc., W. S. Lynn Teaching word analysis, apparatus for, J. McNeill,	218,392
Glucose, manufacturing, H. M. Hartshorn	215,020	Vehicle spring, E. T. Barlow	217,973	Fire extinguisher, automatic, Brown & Fosket C. Fire light, composite, Duffy & Davids	218,244	Telegraph, underground, W. E. Prall.  Telegraphs, key system for quadruplex, F. W.	218,192
Grain bind, O. Johnson	218,003	Wall and floor coverings, applying metallic pow- ders to, Wohlfarth & Gartenfeld		Powerlawn steam W E Loighton	215,256	Jones	218,181
Grain drier, T. Brown	217,987	Wash boiler, M. A. Tinker	218,097	Food from distillery slops, cattle, C L. Campbell.	, 218,159	Anders	, 218,155
Hammock, J. P. Travers	217,964 217,892	Washing machine, J. Myers	218,050	Furnace linings and bricks, manufacture of re- fractory, S. G. Thomas	218,336	Traction mechanism for propelling machinery,	
Harness, back band for plow, L. A. Bringter Hat, E. A. Thompson	217,983 218,086	Washing machine, J. W. Wheat	218,008	Furnace linings, refractory, S. G. Thomas Game table, Macy & Russell.	. 218.294	G. E. Burt	218,845
Hay press, W. H. Watson.  Hay rake, horse, S. B. Nye.	218,655	Water gate, D. T. Perkins	217,954	Gas flames, apparatus for automatically raising and lowering, J. M. Crawford	. 218,237	Truck. car. Kellogg & Seaver	218,219
Heel stiffener, H. G. Farr	218,006	Water works, P. B. Perkins	218,057	Gas regulator, I. Cook	. 218,325	Tug, barness, G. R. Suingley	218,330
Hitching book, R. Hayden	217,942	Weaving tubular fabrics, temple for, G. F. Simon Weed turner, J. Sherrill	218,074	Glove, G. Schilling	. 218,225	J H. Knowles	. 218.279
Horse controller, runaway, L. B. Van Kleeck	217,951	Wells, check for oil, J. Neath	218,052	Grain by cutting action, apparatus for reducing Putnam & Scott	. 218,194	Type writing machine, C. T. Ward	218,243
Hose coupling, A. J. Morse	217,894	Wells, rod adjuster for oil, J. Holly Wheat heater, S. M. Braden	217,923	Grain separator, J. E. Smith (r)	. 8,831	Valve, self-acting scupper, J. Harker	218,263
Hub attaching device, A. Denison Hub, vehicle wheel, W. H. Ward	228,000	Wheelbarrow, T. Delan	217,864	Graves, device for filling, M. Bender	218,218	Vault, burial, J. A. Marsh	218,316
Hydraulic engine, A. D. Coburn Injector, M. D. Strickland	217,991	Whistle, steam, J. B. Barnes. Wick tube, W. O. Lincoln	218,037			Vehicle jump seat, G. H. Hutton	
Jewelry, making wire fastenings for, W. W. Covell Journal box lubricator, Leonard & Hick	217,861	Windmill, L. H. Wheeler (r)				Vehicle, spring perch, C. G. Wilcox	
Labels, applying powdered paste to, S. Crump Lace purling, A. G. & W. P. Jennings	217,994	TRADE MARKS.		Hame fastener, A. B. Parkman			218,365
Lamp, C. Johnston	217,947	Alpaca braid, E. W. Bedell		Harrow and sod cutter, S. Tally Harvester knife grinder, D. Hollinger			218,019 218,042
Lamp burner, W. C. McCormack.  Lamp chimney and reflector, E. Rosenzi	218,043	Fever and ague medicine, J. Mouron	7.	Hat and cap sweat, J. Bigelow Hat bodies faced with fur, manufacture of wool	. 218,220		218,335
Lamp, Christmas tree, F. Sibler Lasting machine, C. W. Glidden	217,908	Fairchild	. 7,006	J. T. Waring.	. 218,202		215,215
Latch, J. V. Morton Latch, gate, W. J. Craycraft	218,045	Middlings purifiers, Straub Mill Company Rubber boots and shoes, National Rubber Company		Hinge, awning blind, E. P. Pierce	. 218,133		218,313
Liquid dispensing apparatus, J. W. Field Lock, F. Neuhoff	217,932	Smoking tobacco oliver & Robinson		for treating. H. Clausen et al	. 218,231		215,331
Lock, A. B. Richmond	217,935	Brothers. Umbrellas and parasols, W. A. Drown & Co		Hose pipe holder, J. Van Arsdale	. 218,146		. 215,221
Locomotive pilot, R. C. Mead Loom, J. E. Gillespie	217,890	Whisky, H. B. Kirk & Co. Wines, C. H. Bucan			. 218,337	Whiffletree, D. B. McClure	. 218,305
Lumber trimming machine, J. G. Emery	218,005	DESIGNS.		Indicator lock, A. G. Gartley	. 218,252	Wind engine, J. Kennedy Jr	. 215,152
Mail and other matter, box for prohibited, H. C.		Bureaus, Feust & Neumann		Laces, etc., show box for, M. H. Pulaski	. 218,134	Wood shaping machine, R. Richardi	218,196
Mail bag fastening, Mertz & Worman	218,045		. 11,305	Latch, reversible, T. Lyon	. 218,293	Wood working tool, J. KingTRADE MARKS.	. 400,000
Measure, rotary, A. Ritchie	218,065	Umbrella tip cup, O. M. Smith		Leather crimping machine, Weber & Wagner	218,350	Cigars, M. Hutchinson.	
Mechanical power, J. Hellman Middlings purifier, J. C. Mecartney	217,891	FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 5, 18		Leather skiving machine, M. M. Clough	, 218,197	bacco, Kerbs & Spiess	7,590
Mineing machine, W. H. Peirce (r)  Mortising doors for locks, machine for, H. A. Holt	218,028	Animal trap. C. H. Hollingshead	218,175	Liquids and acids, vehicle or vessel for transport	-	Fertilizers, H. O Devries Ladies', children's, and infants' underwear and f	ur-
Music holder and leaf turner, E. F. Kennedy	217,890	Anvil, H. Wadsworth	218,235	Locomotive pilot and snow plow, Van Wagener	n	Mustard, C. Gulden	7,559
Necktie or bow of celluloid, W. H. Halsey	218,019	Axle box, car, Morris & McLane	218,275	& Butler Lubricator, C. H. Parshall	. 218,191	Sewing machines, The Florence Machine Compa	any 7,570
Oil tester, electric, G. M. Saybolt	218,066	Bag fastener, C. Taylor Ball and lid holder, pot, Morgan & Neidhart	218,304	Metal rings, making, W. T. Merscreau	. 218,128	Stoves and ranges. The Union Stove and Manuf	tac-
Oil separator, hydrocarbon, J. W. Culmer Oven, drying, E. R. & W. E. Gard	217,935	Bale tie, A. Rand	218,314	Musical instrument, mechanical, R. W Pain	. 218,308	Stuffing for upholstery goods, The American P	ine
Paper bag machine, J. Arkell (r)	8,824	Bale tie, J. L. Sheppard	218,203	Packing, well, La Foy & Siglin	218,282	Leaf Fiber Company	
Paper bag machine, F. W. Leinbach et al Paper box, L. O. Granger	218,036	Bed bottom, E. P. Corwin	218,117	Padlock Bacher & Deming	. 218,213 . 218,300	Whisky, H. W. Smith	7,512
Paper folding machine, L. C. Buffington Paper holder, Smith & Shannon	217,857	Birdcare, A. B. Hendryx	218,298	Paper, leaf turning, I. W. Lamb	218,355	Whiskies, I. Sommers	7,561
Paper, expansible core for rolls of, J. Hartnett  Paper machines, seam for weven wire in, J.Dunbar	218,021	Bird trap, H. Christman	218,161 218,107	Paper pulp and paper from grasses, manufactur of, A. Seyler	e . 218,324	DESIGNS.  Brackets, R. Christesen.	11.331
Peach cutter and stoner, J. W. Lowrance Pegging jack, J. P. Phinney	217,997	Blower, fireplace, J. C. Crosman  Boot and shoe crimping machine S. W. Inmison	215,118	Pegging machine, Woodward & Brock	. 218,354	Carpet, E. Fisher	11,513
Pen, stylographic fountain, D. Mackinnon	217,922	Bosom board, J. F. Schlossatein	218,140	Pendulum, Wade & White	. 218,344	Fountains, A. Werner. Handles for fire irons, R. Christesen.	11,330
Pinchers, R. L. Taylor	217,955	Bow, archery, J. W. Sutton	218,199	Pipe wrench, E. S. Leayeraft	. 218,285	Oil cloth, C. T. & V. E. Meyer	to 11.519
Pianter, corn, J. Hagen	217,927	Brake attachment, automatic, G. Westinghouse, Jr. Brick and furnace linings, manufactory of refrac-	910 150	Planing machine, J. A. Webster.	. 218,349	Scotch suitings, F. T. Chase	11,512
Planter, corn, Stoeffler & Strub	218,078	tory basic, S. G. Thomas	218,834	Plow, F Gautier. Plow, gang. Fletcher & Sursa.	218,253	Towel holder, T. Miner	11,315
Plow point, chilled, J. Oliver	217,898	Broom, wisp, J. H. Flynn	218,251	Potato cutter and dropper, T. Labree	218,300		_
Powder, case for transporting, etc., E. Ritter.	217,959	Butter worker, E. M. Pike	2319 24/3	Drinting photo machinitial III C Docke	218,137	English Patents Issued to Americ From July 25 to July 29, inclusive.	cans.
Printing, photo-mechanical, L. G. Bigelow	218,041	Button and stud, W. H. Blaney	918 157	for H M Pennsh	010 100	Pies sytinguisher A M Granger New Orleans	
beds of, J. D. Lucas	218,039	Can protector, C. W. Mills	218,180	Pulley and worm gear apparatus, hoisting, A. Bo:	x, 218,235	Heat, apparatus for supplying, W.E. Prall et al., 2	N.Y. city.
Pump, L. H. Wheeler (r)	8,827	Car coupling, P. Livengood	218,358	Pump, double-acting lift, W. Loudon	218.291	Photographic plates, covering for, G. Eastman,	
Raflway, clevated, B. Burton	217,925	Car coupling, C. D. Whiting	218,339	Pumping engine, J. Cooke	218,234	Printing press, J. D. Lucas, Baltimore, Md.	
Rattan cutter, C. P. Blavier	217,855	Car wheel, G. F. Godley	218,189	Railway R. & HT Halloran	218,261	Spring beds, W. I Fielding, Hartford, Conn.	
Rocking chair fan attachment, M. R. B. Cowan	217,961	Carding engine feeding mechanism I Abbott	218,250	Harling at married and reference T Thomas have	AND 411	Whiteman harden D Whatem Dichestolia Da	th Phylon
Rocking chair elastic attachment, II. Wichert Hoof, composite, C. M. Warren 217,916	411,000	Lards, labels, and analogous articles from cellu-		Regenerative furnace, rotalive, C. W. Siemens. Relishing machine, Leach & Griffin	218 IEN	field N. J.	The state of
The second second				The second second second second	-	to annual to the same of the s	

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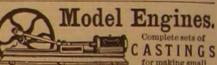
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