

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S. G., of Va.—Zinc paint is put on like white lead. For inside work but little oil is used; it is mostly mixed with turpentine and white varnish; the latter is used to give it a glossy surface.

J. N., of N. C.—You wish to know how to connect a run of stones to your steam engine, which drives a saw, the motion of which is irregular, and too fast for grinding; and you propose cone pulleys with belts, to be shipped by the hand. Your engineer may be able to connect the governor of the engine with the shipper of the pulley belt, so as to render it self-acting, and thus a uniform motion may be given to the stones.

O. G., of Me.—The amount of water escaping into Winter's hydrostatic chamber, was stated to be that which passed between the bottom plate and the rim: the quantity given, you admit, is correct. There is a very great difference of opinion among millwrights about every kind of water wheel. You are right respecting the water freezing in the discharge pipe during winter in the Northern States, but we would rather not use the hydrostatic chamber at all than to have it open at the wheel, as you propose, thereby requiring a weighted lever to keep the wheel down.

W. A. E., of Wis.—We cannot furnish you with Mr. W.'s address.

H. H. C., of Pa.—Gates for intercepting railroad crossings during the passage of the trains have been often proposed. Your ideas are not new, but there may be some novelty in carrying them out. If you wish to have our opinion on this point, you have only to send us a sketch and proper description of your plan.

J. N. F., of Pa.—A washing machine having a cylinder armed on its inner surface with pins for handling the clothes is neither new nor patentable. We have seen washing machines constructed in the same manner.

T. S. R., of Geo.—For driving the bed of a cylinder power press, there would be about the same amount of friction in the use of an endless belt or spur gearing. An endless chain, unless very perfectly constructed, would not be as accurate as gearing; nor is it as durable, and if well constructed it would cost more. Cannot answer in regard to the sheet flyer.

Box 21, Wis.—Letters not signed by the writer cannot receive attention. This is an invariable rule.

S. O. V., of Ill.—We presume a dynamometer for testing the draft of plows can be procured at any agricultural warehouse in Chicago.

C. W. B., of N. Y.—The application of clock gearing for operating a churn, does not present any grounds for a patent. The same thing has been applied for, and rejected by the Commissioner of Patents. There is not the slightest chance for you to succeed with your case.

J. H. M., of Tenn.—The original Woodworth Patent was granted Dec. 5th, 1828. It has been extended at various times for a period of 14 years additional, therefore it will not expire until Dec. 4, 1866. See remarks about this case on another page. You will also notice the report of a trial which covers the exact points of your inquiries. You must do all you can to oppose its extension. It is an abominable scheme as was ever hatched in human brains.

A. B., of Me.—We do not think you stand any chance to procure a patent on your alleged improvement in paddle wheels. It is an old device to employ an eccentric for changing the position of the paddles, so as to lift them vertically from the water. See Vol. 5, Ser. Am., History of Propellers and Steam Navigation.

H. G., of Port au Prince—Your draft for \$165 came safe and was duly paid. We will attend to procuring the articles you order. The balance remaining in our hands will, we think, meet the bill of Mr. H. for photographic articles.

R. E. of Ill.—The work of Clark recently published by Blackie & Son, of this city, treats upon the mechanical engineering of railroads. It enters very largely into the exposition of the locomotive. It costs bound \$24. We think it will be useful for you.

H. H., of Va.—The Cornish Engine is single acting. We cannot tell you the exact difference in economy between the Cornish Engine and a double-acting condensing engine, well cared and carefully managed. The difference cannot be much.

E. S., of Ind.—If you are a "devout reader" of the Sci. Am., you will find on page 36, No. 5 of this Volume, the address of the publisher of Francis' work on turbines.

Z. C. C., of Ct.—If you will refer to Vol. 7, Ser. Am., you will find an engraving of an anvil that combines all the desirable qualities you speak of. Your ideas in regard to roofing with paper are neither new nor patentable, they have frequently been suggested to us by correspondents.

T. H. H., of N. C.—The sketch of your alleged improvement in water wheels has been examined. Buckets have been arranged at almost any imaginable angle. We can see no chance for a claim on yours.

P. T. C., of Mass.—There is on Exhibition at the American Institute Fair a machine for knitting stockings which operates on the same general principle as yours. It is a good machine, and does excellent work.

C. W. McC., of N. J.—We discover nothing new or patentable in your marble saw device.

W. W., of Pa.—We regard the preliminary examination of an invention, previous to the issue of a patent, of vital importance; and we do not see that you have adduced a single objection worthy of being seriously considered. Previous to the establishment of the law of 1836, for the period of 50 years, less than one thousand patents were granted; twice that number have since been granted in a single year. Under the care of competent examiners, a patent when issued has a bona-fide character for novelty, and is more certain of being sustained by our courts. To grant a patent for anything and everything would be to destroy this confidence, and deter the real men of genius, who scorn to ask for patents on shadows and vagaries of no real utility.

E. A., of Wis.—If you would manufacture a machine for dressing the furs it would be much better than to take out the coarse hairs by means of a knife held in the hand. By stretching the skin upon a rotary cylinder: capable of a reverse motion, and with two blades covered with india rubber, working across each other, it would dress the furs complete, and render them more even and saleable. Put your wits to work and get up a machine for the purpose.

R. T., of Mass.—The system of adulteration is practiced in this country to a great extent, but no legislative bodies make any attempt to expose it, as has been done by the English Parliament. Peas arused in this country to a great extent with coffee; and as for sperm oil, it is said upon good authority, that a pure article cannot be had.

A. C., Jr., of Texas.—The description you give of a marble saw suggests no novelty. Several applications are now pending for eventually the same device.

E. F., of Ct.—The Mason testimonial is not abandoned, but, on the contrary, a liberal amount has been contributed. For certain reasons, a postponement in the time originally suggested for awarding the gift has been made, but the project is far from being abandoned. A number of contributions have been made since the last announcement of names were published, and subscriptions to the fund are still being received by the treasurer—Mr. Shugert. If your neighbor has but fifty cents for the object tell him to send it to us, and it will be faithfully applied. It is only small subscriptions from each that is wanted to swell the amount.

J. P., of Arkansas—Brass and copper wire are rendered elastic by drawing through a plate. Gold is rendered elastic by rolling and hammering.

D. S. K., of N. Y.—We have examined Mr. K.'s invention, and so far as the steam engine is concerned, find nothing patentable. The use of three cylinders with their pistons connecting with cranks, arranged as he describes, on the same shaft, is not new, having been applied both to marine engines and locomotives. Robert Stephenson, the English engineer, obtained a patent in England in 1846, for a three cylinder locomotive. In his engine the cylinders were arranged horizontally, two out side and one under the boiler, but the use of upright cylinders placed above the boiler is not new, as the first locomotives ever built were on that plan. The suspension of the boiler below the driving axle is not new. We believe that the principal obstacles which have presented themselves in experiments with locomotives for common roads, have been the ascent of inclined planes, and the concussion to which the machinery is subject in going over rough roads. The locomotive for common roads is now an almost forgotten invention. We have an English work which contains a great number of drawings and descriptions of them patented from 1802 to 1833, about which time, or shortly after, they appear to have been abandoned. If you can obtain Hebert's Cyclopaedia of Mechanics in any library, you will find a good account of experiments. There appears to be something new in the pump.

A. T., of C. W.—We are not acquainted with the "Heelealight;" don't think we ever heard of it. Nothing specially new has come up lately in this department.

Money received at the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, Oct. 27, 1855.—

J. O. M., of Mass., \$30; A. & C., of O., \$100; J. G., of N. Y., \$25; P. A. of N. J., \$30; C. & H., of Ind., \$30; H. C. G., of Wis., \$25; C. & P., of N. Y., \$150; E. D. L., Jr., of Mass., \$25; J. A. K., of N. Y., \$175; W. B., of L. I., \$10; G. H. C., of R. I., \$150; O. B. J., of N. Y., \$30; J. F. H., of Pa., \$30; D. & K., of Pa., \$30; E. B., of Cal., \$60; G. L., of N. Y., \$30; H. L., of N. C., \$25; A. G., of N. Y., \$30; T. C. H., of N. Y., \$30; J. P. R., of N. Y., \$30; A. M. G., of N. Y., \$30; E. W., of N. C., \$30; W. & K., of Iowa, \$30; N. H. F., of N. Y., \$25; J. T. J., of Ill., \$5; G. W. S., of Pa., \$20; F. V. D., of Mich., \$30; R. U., of Mich., \$20; J. B., of Conn., \$10; H. W. A., of N. Y., \$55; S. E. T., of N. Y., \$25; C. J. C., of Pa., \$55; T. & H., of O., \$25; W. & C., of N. Y., \$55.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, Oct. 27.—

J. B., of N. Y.; T. & H., of J. P. H., of Va.; J. G., of N. Y.; H. L., of N. C.; C. D. W., of Wis.; H. C. G., of Wis.; E. D. L., Jr., of Mass.; J. B., of N. Y. (2 cases); J. T. J., of Ill.; H. R. S., of N. Y.; N. H. F., of N. Y.; W. H. F., of Ky.; J. S. S., of Mich.; G. W. S., of Pa.; S. E. T., of N. Y.; B. B. T., of N. Y.

Important Items.

MODELS.—We shall esteem it a great favor if inventor will always attach their names to such models as they send us. It will save us much trouble, and prevent the liability of their being mislaid.

PATENT LAWS AND GUIDE TO INVENTORS.—This pamphlet contains not only the laws but all information touching the rules and regulations of the Patent Office. Price 12 1/2 cents per copy. A Circular, giving instructions to inventors in regard to the size and proper construction of their models with other useful information to an applicant for a patent, is furnished gratis at this office upon application by mail.

Subscribers or exchanges who are entitled, to the paper and fail to receive it regularly are desired to inform us that any omission may be corrected. Missing numbers are furnished gratuitously where the fault rests with the publishers.

PATENT CLAIMS.—Persons desiring the claim of any invention which has been patented within fourteen years can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office, stating the name of the patentee, and enclosing \$1 as fees for copying.

Literary Notices.

We have received from T. B. Peterson, No. 102 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, three pamphlets, entitled "Caldron the Courtier," by Sir F. L. Bulwer; "The Scotch boy," and the "Seven Poor Travelers," by Charles Dickens. Each story is sold for 12 1/2 cents. If any of our readers wish to please their children they should get the Christmas Stories of Dickens.

THE BIBLIOTHECA SACRA.—This repository of sacred literature, for the present month, contains some very fine articles. The leader is one on the "Philosophy of Grammar," by Prof. Porter, of Yale College. It is long and profound, and should be read with much care by all students. The "Notes on Palestine," by Rev. W. H. M. Thomson, are very interesting. This review of Biblical literature is published quarterly by W. F. Peaper, Andover, Mass. It is edited with great ability, and has a world-wide reputation.

OLD BLACKWOOD.—The October number of this excellent magazine has been promptly republished by its American publishers, Leonard Scott & Co., No. 54 Gold st. It contains "Zaden," a romance, continued, and Part II of the "Story of the Centurion," written by an officer in the Crimea and is a faithful account of all the doings there. Blackwood is now forty years of age, but in point of pith and power it stands unrivalled.

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE.—Published by Carlton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry street, N. Y. This valuable and very entertaining work is full of good things this month. "The Captivity and its Mementos," also "A Meditation on Tobacco," are very excellent articles. The illustrations in this number are fair. Terms \$2 per annum.

LESLIE'S NEW YORK JOURNAL.—The November number of this illustrated monthly magazine contains a great number of excellent engravings of scenes in the Crimea. It also contains a great variety of literary matter, such as stories, history, anecdotes, &c., all illustrated with wood cuts. Frank Leslie, publisher, No. 14 Spruce st., New York.

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Table with 2 columns: Lines, Price. 4 lines, for each insertion, \$1; 8 lines, \$2; 12 lines, \$3; 16 lines, \$4.

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IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.

THE UNDERSIGNED having had Ten years' practical experience in soliciting PATENTS in this and several countries, hereby give notice that they continue to offer their services to all who may desire to secure Patents at home or abroad.

Over three thousand Letters Patent have been issued, whose papers were prepared at this Office, and on an average fifteen, or one-third of all the Patents issued each week, are on cases which are prepared at our Agency. An able corps of Engineers, Examiners, Draughtsmen, and Specification writers are in constant employment, which renders us able to prepare applications on the shortest notice, while the experience of a long practice, and facilities which few others possess, we are able to give the most correct counsels to inventors in regard to the patentability of inventions placed before us for examination.

Private consultations respecting the patentability of inventions are held free of charge, with inventors, at our office, from 9 A. M., until 4 P. M. Parties residing at a distance are informed that it is generally unnecessary for them to incur the expense of attending in person, as all the steps necessary to secure a patent can be arranged by letter. A rough sketch and description of the improvement sought to be patented, which the inventor examines and gives an opinion as to patentability, without charge. Models and fees can be sent with safety from any part of the country by express. In this respect New York is more accessible than any other city in our country.

Circulars of information will be sent free of postage to any one wishing to learn the preliminary steps towards making an application.

In addition to the advantages which the long experience and great success of our firm in obtaining patents present to inventors, they are informed that all inventions patented through our establishment, are noticed, at the proper time, in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. This paper is read by not less than 100,000 persons every week, and enjoys every advantage of circulation. In consequence of the great success of our firm in obtaining patents in foreign countries are secured through us; while it is well known that a very large proportion of all the patents applied for in the U. S., go through our agency.

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"POOR RICHARD FOR 1856," being a complete Almanac for the whole United States, and containing, besides full and ample Calendars for all the States, twenty spirited engravings, illustrating the Mexicans and Sayings of Poor Richard, (Dr. Franklin.) It is a book of 32 pages, elegantly printed, and put up in the delicate Pink Leather Cover, suited to the gentleman. It is no catch-penny affair, but a really pretty and entertaining book of Pictures. As we printed it for our customers, we hereby offer to give it away to anybody who asks for a copy. If you desire a copy to be sent by mail post-paid, please send a 3 cent stamp to prepay the postage—freight stamps will pre-pay postage on a dozen copies, you want so many. If it is unreturned, we will not our pre-paying postage, we will send it for nothing.—Direct your orders to—

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IMPORTANT TO ENGINEERS AND MACHIN-

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Reference—T. D. Stetson, 19 Beekman st., New York.

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