

Correspondents

G. W. J., of Miss.—The non-conducting material generally used for covering steam pipes, to retain their heat, is felted hair cloth wrapped spirally around them.

J. B., of La.—The first mention that can be found of anybody being moved by the force of steam is recorded in a work called "Spiritulus sac Pneumatica," where the invention of Hero of Alexandria, in 120, B. C., is noticed.

J. P., of Wis.—The method you describe of elevating water by means of buckets attached to an endless chain, is very old, and not patentable.

S. E., of N. H.—The difference in the temperature of water in the day and night is so small that it could not affect its weight sufficiently to account for the phenomenon of its doing more work at night than day.

G. H., of N. C.—One cubic foot of gas, such as is used for filling balloons, will elevate into the air about one ounce weight.

W. T. B., of Ill.—The plan you propose for propelling canal boats is substantially the same as that adopted on some rivers as a means of ferriage.

B. S. O., of —A human body, when it sinks in the water, is so nearly of the same specific gravity as the water, that it requires but a small disturbing force to bring it to the surface.

N. C. T., of Ill.—Wilder's patent filling for safes is composed of plaster of Paris and mica. The base of most fireproof compositions used in safes is plaster of Paris.

A. C. M., of Mass.—An assignee of an invention has no right to improvements made upon the same, without the assignment contains a covenant to that effect.

C. F., of N. J.—India rubber and other soft materials have been attached to the bottoms and corners of trunks and chests, for the purpose of relieving the shock and injury consequent upon these parts being brought into violent contact with other objects.

L. W., of Del.—Young ladies are at all times interesting, but doubly must be the lovely fair one whom you describe as having a mustache of "dark color, soft and silky in the extreme."

L. B. P., of Ohio.—The idea of a machine for raking and binding grain from the swath is not new. But perhaps in the details of your construction some novelty exists.

J. G. C., of Va.—The idea of employing a balloon or hydrogen gas to lift the body of a vessel above the surface of the sea, while the paddle wheels project down, and act as propellers upon the water, is very old.

H. L. A., of Wis., \$30; E. L. L., of N. Y., \$30; P. M., of Mich., \$30; C. & B., of Ill., \$30; J. P. H., of Ill., \$25; E. L., of Conn., \$25; J. H., of N. Y., \$55; F. B., of Conn., \$25; S. S. T., of Ind., \$30; E. M., of N. Y., \$25; X. & D., of N. Y., \$10; J. H. C., of N. Y., \$155; A. F. B., of Wis., \$25; W. W. L., of Ohio, \$400; R. & Bro's., of Conn., \$25; A. D. B., of N. Y., \$55; T. & B., of N. Y., \$100; W. A. H., of N. Y., \$25; T. S. B., of N. Y., \$20; J. C. DeW., of N. J., \$27; E. C., of Mass., \$30; J. B., of N. Y., \$30; C. H. R., of Me., \$15; S. Y., of Mass., \$30; J. S., of Ohio, \$25; I. D., of Conn., \$130; D. W. T., of Ill., \$30; T. C. A., of Ohio, \$30; P. & H., of N. Y., \$25; W. C., of Mass., \$250; W. S., of Mo., \$25; A. F. & J. H. A., of Conn., \$25; J. H. T., of N. Y., \$55; W. P., of Del., \$30; T. H. K., of Ga., \$30.

Money received at the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business, for the week ending Saturday, July 31, 1858:—

H. L. A., of Wis., \$30; E. L. L., of N. Y., \$30; P. M., of Mich., \$30; C. & B., of Ill., \$30; J. P. H., of Ill., \$25; E. L., of Conn., \$25; J. H., of N. Y., \$55; F. B., of Conn., \$25; S. S. T., of Ind., \$30; E. M., of N. Y., \$25; X. & D., of N. Y., \$10; J. H. C., of N. Y., \$155; A. F. B., of Wis., \$25; W. W. L., of Ohio, \$400; R. & Bro's., of Conn., \$25; A. D. B., of N. Y., \$55; T. & B., of N. Y., \$100; W. A. H., of N. Y., \$25; T. S. B., of N. Y., \$20; J. C. DeW., of N. J., \$27; E. C., of Mass., \$30; J. B., of N. Y., \$30; C. H. R., of Me., \$15; S. Y., of Mass., \$30; J. S., of Ohio, \$25; I. D., of Conn., \$130; D. W. T., of Ill., \$30; T. C. A., of Ohio, \$30; P. & H., of N. Y., \$25; W. C., of Mass., \$250; W. S., of Mo., \$25; A. F. & J. H. A., of Conn., \$25; J. H. T., of N. Y., \$55; W. P., of Del., \$30; T. H. K., of Ga., \$30.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, July 31, 1858:—

G. M. P., of Mass.; H. L. A., of Wis.; R. & Bro's., of Conn.; J. P. H., of Ill.; R. J. M., of N. Y.; E. L.,

of Conn.; J. H. C., of N. Y.; E. M., of N. Y.; J. S., of Ohio; J. M. S., of Cal.; F. B., of Conn.; P. & H., of N. Y.; J. C. DeW., of N. J.; W. H. Van G., of N. J.; A. F. B., of Wis.; C. H. R., of Me.; A. F. & J. H. A., of Conn.; W. S., of Mo.; K. & D., of N. Y.

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Our extensive experience in mechanical and chemical improvements enables us to decide adversely to nearly one half of the cases presented to us for our opinion.

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