

C. E. H. asks: Is there any way of removing coal tar from the bottom of a sail boat...

P. asks: What is the best cheap preparation for preserving pine shingle roofs...

J. B. S. E. asks: Is amorphous phosphorus soluble in any of the ethers? If so, what is the process?

E. L. says: Suppose four canals, each one mile long and thirty feet wide...

J. D. W. asks: Does the term steam engine include a boiler, or can an engine be complete without a boiler?

P. D. W. asks: What is magilp composed of? Answer: Magilp is a mixture of pale linseed oil and mastic varnish...

C. M. L. asks: What can I put over silver leaf to keep its color? Answer: Try a varnish composed of pale shellac 8 ozs., rectified spirit, i quart; dissolve.

J. W. H. asks: Is it true that the warmer water is, the more gas it will absorb? I mean any gas that can be absorbed by water.

H. H. M. asks: What is the name of some book that treats of the manufacture of carbolic acid, or how is that article manufactured?

H. C. L. asks: Will a register placed in a wall six feet from the floor heat a room as quickly and as cheaply as one placed fifteen inches or less from the floor...

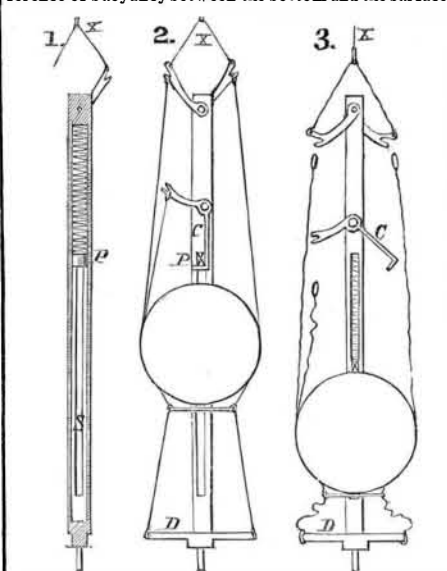
C. A. H. asks: By connecting a 2 inch hose to a 2 1/2 inch, is there anything gained? Is it better than all 2 inch? Answer: The friction of the water will be decreased...

K. asks: Is a mining lamp as safe if enclosed in finely perforated brass as in wire cloth? Answer: Yes.

E. C. G. asks: 1. Is there any way of replacing the gilt on a frame, and what is it? 2. How can I galvanize wrought iron?

R. A. P. asks: What is the formula for ascertaining the proper height and diameter of a marine engine smoke pipe, as used by successful engine builders?

J. S. says, in reply to T. H., who asked if a spar of white pine could be used as a float for deep sea soundings: At the depth he mentions, namely, 5,000 fathoms...



would be very minute. As the deposit at the bottom of the sea is in some places, I believe, of a tenacious nature, T. H.'s sounding rod might possibly stick there...

A. T. A. says, in reply to G., who is troubled with red ants in his sugar: My sugar bucket contains about twenty-five pounds of sugar, and I am frequently troubled with these same red ants...

R. S. H. says, in reply to C. F. B., who says that filing hand saws towards the point leaves more bevel on the front or cutting side of the tooth than on the back side: This is correct. He further says that the difference in the bevel is caused by the taper of the file.

S. S. says, in reply to F. A. S., who asked for directions for constructing a stove to dry fruit, etc., without changing the color: He should have the dryer made of brick, or if it is made of iron, have it fitted with a porous lining...

A. H. says, in reply to J. C. S., who asked about the dimensions of a belt per horse power: A 1 inch belt at a velocity of 750 feet per minute is a perfectly safe rule to calculate for one horse power.

T. M. G. says, in answer to a querist who asked if broken files can be mended: I have to say that my father once imported a lot of files, many of which arrived broken.

D. R. says, in reply to a correspondent who asked how to harden jewellers' rollers: Put them in a cast iron box with carbon made from ivory chips...

A. S. G. replies to R. B.'s query as to passing trains as follows: Engine A can run onto the siding with eight cars, leaving the other eight on main track. Engine B then runs past, pushing the eight cars before it...

B. B. says, in reply to R. B.'s query as to trains passing each other: Two trains cannot pass each other under the circumstances described.

J. S. B. & Co. say, in answer to H. H. who asked for a cement for a leaky cast iron furnace: Clean borings or turnings of cast iron 1 lb., sal ammoniac, 2 ozs., flowers of sulphur, 1 oz. Mix them well together and keep dry.

A. D. N. replies to A. P., who is troubled with water in his boiler: I guess you have no drain cocks to your cylinder or steam pipes...

D. B. says (in answer to A. B. F. who asks: 1. Does sulphur when burned for bleaching purposes do equally well whether the flame is blue or red with a sparkling blaze? 2. Does the burning in the two different ways produce same kind of gas? 3. What will prevent cotton or linen fabrics from becoming mildewed?)

G. W. W. says, in reply to E., who asked how to utilize several hundred horse power running to waste at a distance of 3 miles: Put a water wheel at the fall, and attach air pumps, lay a pipe from the pumps to the factory...

J. H. W. says, in reply to A. K., who asked for a recipe for invisible ink: The following recipe is a good one: No. 1. 1 dram sulphate of copper or of iron, 1 oz. water; put into a bottle.

J. H. W. says, in answer to W. B., who asked how to remove ink spots: Use cyanuret of potash or oxalic acid. After the removal of the spots, wash well with water...

C. H. A. says, in answer to G., who asked how to get ants out of sugar: Every ant in it will, sooner or later, go home with a load, and then return for more. Hence, if the vessel containing sugar or other substance infested by ants be removed from the place where it stood to another, the ants in it will take their loads and depart.

G. W. F. says: E., in a recent question, says: "I have several hundred horse power running to waste," etc. It seems to me to be a problem, well worthy of the most serious consideration...

MINERALS, ETC.—Specimens have been received from the following correspondents, and examined with the results stated:

R. J. says: 1. I send a specimen which completely puzzles me. Recently I had given to me several very rich specimens of gold ore. I extracted the gold by pouring on it 1 1/2 parts of hydrochloric acid to one part of nitric.

played a minor part. The solution finally contained sulphate of iron, free sulphur, free hydrochloric acid, and perhaps some chloride of iron. The white heat, to which the solution (evaporated to dryness) was finally submitted, decomposed the sulphate of iron, driving off the acids or decomposing them, and there was finally left the red oxide of iron.

E. B. G.—The stone you send is a hard fine grained limestone, and looks as if it might be available for lithographic purposes, but the specimen is too small for us to judge accurately of its value.

E. L. W.—Your specimen is rich in lead, and is probably a lead ore; but it is too small for complete analysis.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

- On Crank Pins. By W. A. S.
On a Balloon Experiment. By D.
On Pressure and Space. By J. A.
On Air and Steam Engines. By F. A. W.
On Perpetual Motion. By J. W. S.
On Traction Engines. By H. M. S.
On the Art of Inventing. By J. E. E.
On Street Pavements. By W. H. B.

Also enquiries from the following: E. G. de W. & Co.—J. S. B.—D. M.—C. W.—J. J. H.—C. & N.—G. C. F. S.

Correspondents who write to ask the address of certain manufacturers, or where specified articles are to be had, also those having goods for sale, or who want to find partners, should send with their communications an amount sufficient to cover the cost of publication under the head of "Business and Personal," which is specially devoted to such enquiries.

Correspondents in different parts of the country ask: Where can I obtain pipe clay for making lead pencils? Who owns the patent rights for the various artificial stones? Who makes the best candle machine? Does the vapor stove, using crude petroleum, work well practically? Who recently invented a process for tempering and preserving the elasticity of steel and brass springs?

[OFFICIAL.]

Index of Inventions

FOR WHICH

Letters Patent of the United States

WERE GRANTED FOR THE WEEK ENDING

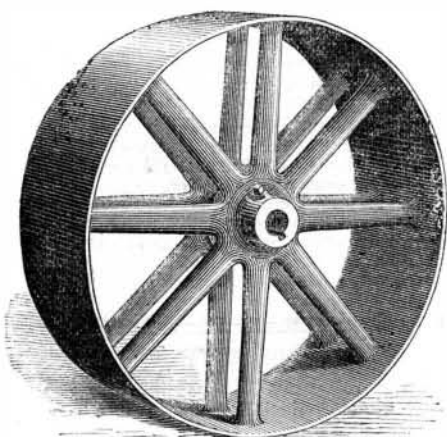
September 9, 1873,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE

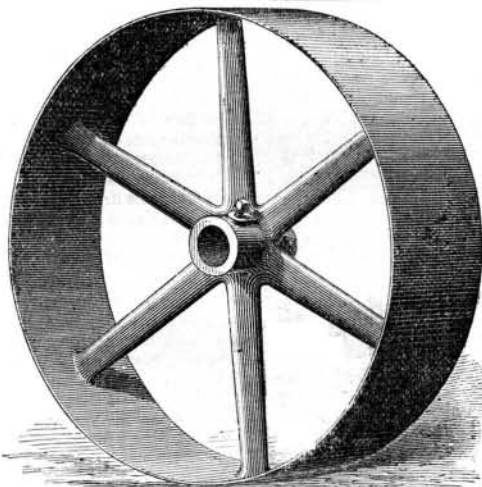
[Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

Table listing various inventions and their patent numbers, such as Alarm, burglar, H. P. Hood, 142,630; Alarm, till, C. & W. H. Tucker (r), 5,566; Axle box, W. A. Clark, 142,556; Bed bottom, P. Anderson, 142,549; Bee hive, A. J. Sternberg, 142,748; Blinds lat fastener, G. W. Brooks, 142,674; Blind stiles, etc., boring, L. Worcester (r), 5,568; Boiler and condenser, B. T. Babbitt, 142,663; Boiler and condenser, B. T. Babbitt, 142,664; Boiler feed heater, etc., J. Armstrong (r), 5,569; Boot and shoe stretcher, J. Lyons, 142,710; Boots, machinery for lasting, Trask & Wheeler, 142,657; Bottle casing, J. Dugan, 142,685; Bracelet, J. S. Palmer (r), 5,571; Buckle, W. Parsons, 142,721; Button, J. Durand, 142,686; Can for holding paint, etc., G. H. Chincock, 142,612; Can for oils, etc., G. H. Chincock, 142,613; Car axle box, W. W. Whitaker, 142,752; Car brake, W. Wariner, 142,658; Car brake, railway, W. D. Pope, 142,649; Car brake, railway, G. Westinghouse, Jr., 142,680; Car brake, self-acting coal, J. D. Leonard, 142,572; Car coupling, R. H. Dowling, 142,682; Car coupling, P. Kendrick, 142,634; Car coupling, T. & J. W. Melkle, 142,713; Car coupling, C. L. Miller, 142,715; Car coupling, J. Waite, 142,750; Car heater, railroad, Scripture & Stackman, 142,737; Car, pneumatic railway, H. G. Yates, 142,685; Car truck, changeable gage, W. W. Whitaker, 142,751; Car wheel, Sax & Kear, 142,587; Carpet, J. Dorman, 142,681; Carriage spring, G. W. Harlan, 142,627; Caster, salt and pepper, J. Bird, 142,670; Casting, core apple for, J. B. Aston, 142,662; Casting, core barrel for, W. Smith, 142,746; Chair frame, G. Gardner, 142,625; Chair seat or back, G. Gardner, 142,624; Chair, connecting cradle, J. Reeves, 142,583; Chuck, centering, G. H. Miller, 142,642; Cigar mold, N. DuBrul, 142,683; Cisterns, cut off for, G. W. Howell, 142,599; Clamp, F. M. Holmes, 142,667; Clothes dryer, A. S. Miller, 142,714; Clothes reel, D. L. Huff, 142,651; Clutch, friction, J. J. Grant, 142,564; Coal delivering sack, W. S. Shackleton, 142,741; Coal hod, H. B. Safford, 142,734; Coal mining machine, F. M. W. Price, 142,582; Composition mastic, A. Thiele, 142,595; Condenser, marine, B. T. Babbitt, 142,665.

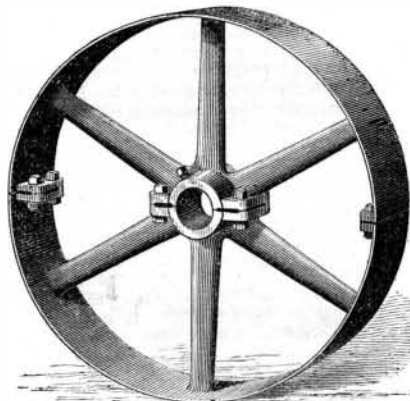
Table with 3 columns: Item name, Price, and Item name. Includes items like 'Crusher and harrow clod, Young & Worthan', 'Sewing machine caster, E. R. Clark', and 'Applications for Extensions'.



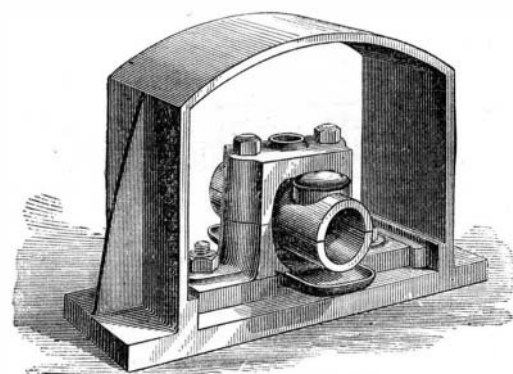
DOUBLE ARM PULLEY.



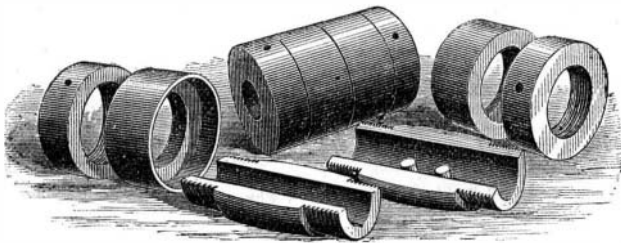
PLAIN PULLEY.



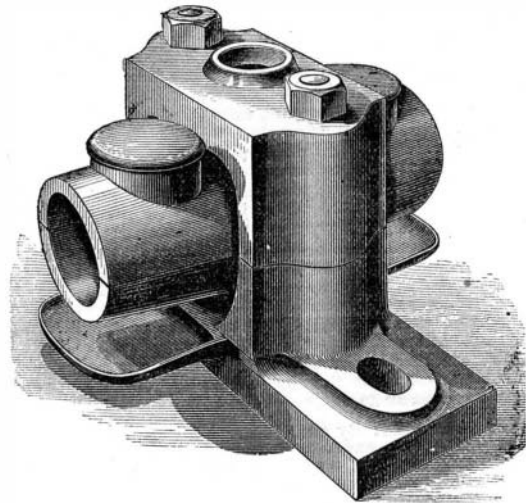
SPLIT PULLEY.



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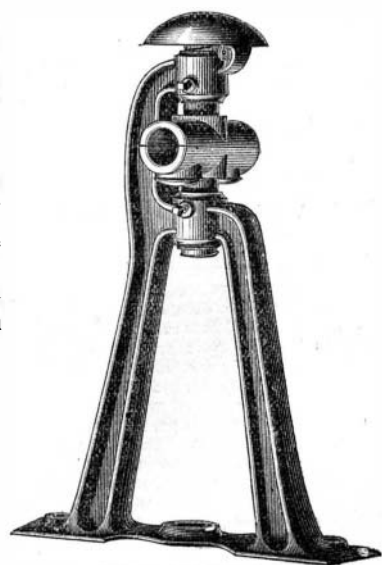
To a line of Cold Rolled Shafting, fitted up by us with our Couplings, Pulleys and Hangers, was awarded the PREMIUM MEDAL at the VIENNA EXPOSITION, for its Superiority over any other kind, in point of strength, perfect finish and accuracy. This is but a confirmation of the universal opinion of the Public, everywhere.

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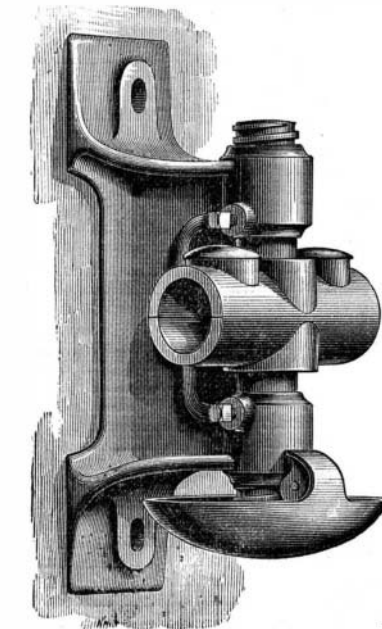
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