## 

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dles. Shaping Machine for Woodworking.
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dlees. Shaping Machine for Woodworking. T. R. Balley
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Buy Gear's Improved Car Boring Machine, The Berryman Manuf. Co. make a specialty
of the economy and safety in working steam Boillers. I. . Davis\& © Co. Hartiford, Conn.
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nt Pulley Cover is warranted to do double the work eefore the belt will silp. See sci. Am. June 218t, 1873, Mining, Wrecking, Pumping, Drainage, or,
Irrigating Machinery, torsale or rent. See aiverisement, Machinists-Price List of small Tools free
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ond hand. E. Lyon, 470 Grand Street. New York.


## \%aturux Murriss

A. asks how to make a touchstone for testT. F. asks: What other ingredients mixed
withnyirauliccement and plaster of Taris will make nard and fixed linning for the hollow iron shafts of man J. N. J. N. F. asks: Is there a soft white metal,
Jit wil not rust, as cheap as common gray ron some that will not rust, as cheap as common gray Iron? some.
thing similar to white clothes line metal lis wanted. W. H. M. says: I have a mirror, and the less there sems to be a blur over it, and it looks as
though it were covered with dust. Is there any way to
J.H. F.
J.H. F. wants an instantaneous black walto the stain
J. S. C. asks for information respecting a
plant or fungus known in the south as Calforntia moss or ber moss, used for making molasses beer. Would A. K. asks : Is there a book pablished on E. J. B. asks (1) how to put a polish on
steel or iron,such as there is on a chisel or butcher's knfe.



A. will find recipes for Worcestershire

 lar articles by using the process described on p. 90, vol.
 so frequently as many of our correspondents seem to
desire. -J . W. T. 18 correct ; W. W. J. made an error...
 the instructions given on p. 410 , vol. 28. - A. N. N. Will find
a cement torchina described on $p$. 346 , vol. 24.
Try your you can. -B . W. Jr. will find an aceount of the method
of rasising pearis on p. 005, vol. 26.-A. J. A. and C. T. B.

E. M. G. and others ask us for a rule for
proportioning screw cutting gears.
Answer: Multiply the screw on your lathe and the threadid you wish to cut
by aglven number. If you want 10 threads to the inch and your lathe screw iv t threads to the inch, multiply
by 8,10, or 12 . The result will be 80 and 32,100 and 40,120
J. A. A. \& Bro. ask: What is the decision
of the supreme court referrad to on p. 336 , vol. 28, in re. gard to rights of asignees under extensions of patents?
We do not find it givenin present volume. Answer: The wricle on p . 336 aays: "We published last week." Look
J. E. E., of Pa,., asks: Will some one give
the scientific caune of the light produced from lightinlug
 Wondered what roonuced it. II it electrictity ille the
electrcity produced by troking a cat, more distinctIy sen from a biack cat? Electricty would not seem to

 existed without the sun. Answer: The light produced
from lightnong from lightning bugs and other insects is due to the se.
cretion of phosphorua
in the form of a noctllucIne. It it secreted by a spectal organ, just as bile is produced by the liver. Noctllucine can be ob.
tained from the bugs mentioned, from glow worms.
 sish, fiesh, ilight wood, etc. Thus obta ined.j,ity yield 1 1ight

P. S. A. says, in answer to a great many
queries on cuttrg od files Actis is a good means of
cleaning old files and there it end

 ufactory, have them annealed, , ground out, and then cut
as if the blank were new. If the steel in tre fles is good as if the blank were new. If the eteel in the fles is good
and the blanks heavy, this will give satisfaction. Acid has done more to condemn the recutting of files than al the poor work that has ever been put on file blanks.
T. S. S. says that E. S. canremoveiron rust rom tools by using carbon oil. Apply it, and in a few
hours rub it with inine sand paper ; it will lift it off or re move it immediately.
J. S. C. asks: What is the oil of rhodium?
Answer: No such substance is mentioned in the pharmacopela. A correspondent once informed us that a
quack recommended its use, and then offered to sell the stuff at a very high price.
A. A. N. (1) encloses a sketch of a machine
for measuring the velocty of the wind, and asks: will it work? In it a governor, similiar to that in an engine is attached $\overline{\text { To a a common windmill. A and Ba resleevee }}$
hat revolve around a appnde. B silides up and down


While A does not. At A is a bevel wheelthrough whic the motion 18 communicated from the windmill. Disan
arm or polinter plivoted at $C$, and aliso to the theeve at $B$ while the other end moves over the graduated part of a
dial, E. As the balls rise or fall, by the force of gravity dill, E. As the balls rise or fall, by the force of gravity
overcome by centrifugal force, the sleeve $B$ ribes and overcome by centrifuga force, the sieve B rises and
falls also, and with it the end of the polnter, D. If it
wwil work, how can I traduate it? How can I find the position of the polnter when the wind blows at the rate of 10 milles an hour? 2. How can I whiten blocks for engraving , so that pencll marks will show? I have used
the white off carde $u$ until my carde are all gone. An. semers: 1. The contrivance deecribed by our correspond.
ent ts not novel. It will work if the scale can be graduent 18 not novel. It will work, if the ecale can be gradu-
atedi ; and this can only be done by exjeriment. There ated ; and this can only be done by experiment. There
are many anemometers, or instruments for measuring the velocity of the wind; but we do not know of any that record it with perfect accuracy. 2. Use Chnese
white, in the form of fine powder, and apply it to the block with the finger
A. C. S. asks: Which is the most economical style of binters to use, say to the amount of 100 horse
power? Answer: Your chotce would probably He between the locomotive or tubular, and some form of the
seetional boller. We could not tive you anydefinte ad. vice, without knowing more of the circumstances of the case. We would also say, in this connection, that these
columns are for matter of general interest to all our columns. Spectal suggestions as to what particular ma-
readerse
chinesto use intindividual cases cannot be given here. In. formation of this kind should be obtained from some re liable consulting engineere. Your other query, as to bevel
gears, was answered on page 11 of our current volume.
J. H. K. says: A friend says that the cross-
head connected with the piston rod of a locomotive moves forward in the guides and remains stationary
until the guidesslip the length of the stroke, then forward again. My idea is that the crosshead moves back-
ward and forward in the guides. He also says that the piston rod moves forward twice as quick as the guides
slip up the length of the stroke. It is understood that the wheels do not slip. Answer: Probably you and your opponent are looking at the matter from different
standpoints. If the driving wheels do not slip, the whole locomotive, and consequently all the moving parts, go forward at a greater speed than the piston travels in
its reciprocating motion in the cylinder. Consequently the cross head and piston rod are constantly moving
forward with reference to a fixed station, such as a tel. Wraph post, on the line.
W. A. P. says: We have a 40 horse engine
fedwo 50 horse tubular bollers, and we burn about fed by two 50 horse tubular boilers, and we burn about
eight tuns of coal per week, besides all the fuel made by run most run most engines with the same amount of powe
that weuse). The following will illustrate the situa-

## (0)

from the engine to main shatt, A , is about 100 feet. ransmitted? 2 . Does it take more power to drive intermediate counter, $\mathbf{B}$, by the same belt than it would more power by moving the enginenearer the work, and
carrying the steam through pipes? 4. How much would carrying the steam through pipes? 4. How much woula
be lost by condensation if the pipe were well protected? 5. Do you think wire rope could be applied to advantage?
Answers: 1. Yes. 2 . Yes, if you could drive the counAnswers: 1. Yes. 2. Yes, if you could itve the con-
tershaft with amaller belt. 3. Yes, if the pipes were
properly protected. 4. Probably not more than 3 per properly protected. 4. Probably not more than 3 per
cent, if the connection were stralght. 5 . We would advise you to correspond with the manufacturers.
M. A. G. asks: What is bay rum? How is it prepared, and what are 1ts uses? Answer: It is a
alcohoicic spirit distilled from the leaves of a species of laurel termed "bay tree"; extensively used on account
of its peculiar and pleasant flavor by apothecaries. S. A. asks: What is the best metal to use
on the bottom of a small steamer in a southern or tropical climate? She is to carry about 33 tuns, and to draw at times. We have a boat of iron; but the bottom has to be painted every 7 or 14 days, as the paint is rubbed
off in crossing a sand bar from 2 to 6 times every day. We have thought of ustig heavy zhc plates below wate Ine and sheet iron above; would they be curable?
What would be the best kind of tubes for an uprig't bsiler, fron, brass, or copper, when salt water is used as feed for boiler and wood as fuel? Answers: 1. A light
sheathing of wood, covered with copper, would answer sheathing of wood, covered with copper, would answer
very well. The wooden sheathing should be double. 2. Composition tubes wonld probably be the most durable
for your boller
G. G. asks why lithographic pictures can
not be transferreal by the willis' proces, deecribed on .369, vol. 28. Answer: The Willis process refers to
"A.M. asks for an explanation of the word ny, tenpenny, etc. Answer: It tis corcrupt on. "Four pound," " " tenpound,", etc., 1 ,
welght per 1,000 of the nalls.
A. R. asks what are the number and dimen
sions of the tunnels and brides on the Erie canal. An. sions or the tunnels and bridiges on the erie canal. An-
swer: The bridges are all 11 feet or more from the water
Then
C. E. H. says : I am building a small loco-
 length,not tincludingsmoke arch, is 20 inches ana dlamis one fue $2 \%$ inches in in dameter. The boller is of in 16
 Answer: You can reduce the diameter of cylinder by
buanhng it, or shorten the stroke by making the headis finto the cylinder for some distance. By either meth od, you can get engines proportioned to the size of the
boller, without changlingmany of the parts.
G. P. S. Says: I I am a fireman on one of the
dreaded brassengines, and all that $I$ can do will not kreap the hot brases rom murning blue. I have used actid


A correspondent encloseses a specimen of a
grass grown ing largely in Misesisesipl, and asks: 1. Has it grase growing largely in M1ssisisippl, and asks: 1. Has it
any commercial value? 2. The yellow pine tree of this country was never known to bud or sprout out from the stump after the tree was cuat down, thestumpdying and
decay ing very nearly as fast as the log but there is a decaying very nearly as fast as the log; but there is a
spot of land, in this place, of about five acres, that is thickly ocvered with pline, ceedar, oak, and sevect gum
trees, where about ten years since there were about a trees, where about ten years sinee there were about a
diozen of the plines cut down. The stu nps have remained perfectly green, and the sap has continued to rise and
 silly be used in he manufacture of paper. Yts commer.
cial value would depend upon thecostof itspreparation ior the market. 2. If it is really sap that rises and falls In the pline stumps, we cannot account for it. But 11 ually wet, that would account for ther J. W. asks. Is there any simple and inex-
pensive method of forcing water througha small tube
 bore, after the manner of a
 how can I force the water
through the tube 6 inches in the tank? By placing the in the tank? By placing the
tank a foot above the top of the tube, I can get pressure
enough, but that will not an swer; I want t torce it
through the tube from below and have presaure enough to
cav.se it to tow through a pin hole in the nozzle to the hight of an inch. Answer
You can $\mathbf{d o}$ it by employing compresesed air in your res.
ervoririor you can easily
make "Herot fountan," as
representer in the ald The operation of thils foun.
talin is as follows : The A, is first filled with water up to the top of the plpe, Then, by pouring witer into the basin,, , the arirln
he vessel, B, is compressei, and the water in the vessel A, will be forced out through the jet, F , to shight cor
responding to the length of the tube, D , less
the friction esponding to the ength of the 1
G. K. asks: 1. Can steel be cast, as cheaply,
as forgei, and of as good quality? 2 . Is there a llquit, oll or spirit, that will not freeze, congeal, expand, or
contract between $0 \circ$ and $112{ }^{\circ}$ Fahr.? Ansers: 1. . $e$ es. . There is no liquilid known to us that will not expand
T. C. W. says. Covington, Ky, has as fine
water orksaas can be found in the United States. They are on the
out of a wel
 People cannot wash with it, even after it has been
bofled. What shall we put in the water in orderto make
 enoughmill of ilime to ta te up the exceess of carbonic
aclid when the insoluble carbonate will be precipitated B. S. asks. What is the hest method of fountain head is about 15 or 20 feet higher than the resment. or pottery tublong would be the best., Anserer.
Wooden pipes would be the cheapest. They are well
S. H. N. asks if aluminum can be soldered
or brazed to thelf or any otber metal, in such a that it will stand a twisting or bending pressure as well solder tit but not so as to stand the required strain." Answer: A goodsolderfor aluminum has net yet been
Iovented. Gold can be employed we suppose but can
 ancy to make them orittle.
W. P. asks: Is there any difference in the
araft of a tug boat draw ing a vessel or not, the tow line So horizontal? Answer: We have an idea that the
Iraftwill ine tncreased, up to a certain speed, when the tuyls towing veesel. Per happe some of our readers
who have made observations on tnis matter, wril favor 8 with communications.
S. A. asks: Has vacuum any immediate
action on the piston of an engine? Answer: Vacuum produced on one side of the piston of an aner: angine, has
prectisely the same effect as an equal applied to the other side of the piston.
J. G. R. asks: How long does a current of
dectricity tase to cross the ocean on the cable? An make an intelligibie signal on the cable.

F．D．H．asks：1．How many Grove＇s cup Does it require quantity，or intensity of electricity to
accomplish this result？Answers： 1 ．The electricity accomplish this result？Answers：1．The electricity
from a No． 1 cell of Grove＇s battery，if passed directly
through a piece of platinum wire one quarter of an inch ong and one four－thousandth of an inch in diameter will heat it to redness．2．Quantity．
J．M．W．asks：If gunpowder be enclosed then exploded，would（provided the tube did not burst）
all the powder explode？If it did，would the resulting gases remain as such，or would they be changed into a
solid？In short，what would be the result of the explo－
sion？Answer：We think this experiment has never been tried．If there were no waste space and no air in
the tube，no explosion would take place，for although gunpowder contains in itself a quantity of oxygen suf－
ticient for its combustion，the gases thereby produced nust have room for expansion in order to produce an explosion．A patent was once taken in England for
transporting gunpowder safely by placing it in airtight
vessels filled with some neutral gas like carbonic acid， Which does not support combustion．But this was a
useless device．To ；scertain the resultants from the explosion of a giver quantity of gunpowder，the latter Unes larger than the charge，and the air is then exhaust－
ed．The powder is now fired by electricity，and the chemist ascertains the nat：re and quantity of the gase－
ous and solid products．The solids are mainly carbon－ ate and sulphate of notash；the gases，nitrogen and
carbonic acti．The suddenheatingand expansion of the ther
J．K．asks（1）how to straighten a circular
aw when it gets sprung． naw when it gets sprung．2．Is there a chemical prepu－
ration to sharpen worn out flles？Answers ：．No in．
structions for straightening saws that will tructions for straightening saws that will assist any
one can be given．It is an art only attainable by prac－ tice．2．There are various processes of using acidis for
sharpening tiles．I tave tested three of them，but my The cheapest way，all things considered，is to sell the worn out flles and buy new ones．It will not pay even
to get them recut，for filing tempered steel．－J．E．E．， to get $t$
of Pa ．
J．B．asks：What factory turns out the great－
est number of locomotives？Answer：The Baldwin est number of locomoti
works，Philadelphia．Pa．
C．G．D．asks： 1 ．Does the law offering the
reward for the improved canal boat for use on the Erie canal require the wheels and apparatus to be so con－
structed that the banks shall not be washed？2．What does structed that the banks hall not be washed？ 2 ．What does
a boat cost，exclusive of engine and neeessarymachiners？ 3．Is it probable that this season will decide the ques－
tion？Answers：1．A device that would injure the banks of the canal would not be likely to take the State
reward of $\$ 100,000$ ． 2 ．A common canal boat costs，we belleve，about $\$ 1,000$ ．3．This season will probably de－ E．McD．asks：Is there such a blessing as a
clockwork fanning inachine，for reeping a body cool？ clockwork fanning nachine，for keeping a body cool？
Answer：Yes，any quantity of them．Makers will do
weli to advertise them in the Screntiric American．
．H．asks：If I make the cores of a com－ mon sized electro－magnet extend $3 / 2$ inch beyond the end
of the spools in front，will the magnetism be as strong at the poles，when a current excites the cores，as though
the cores were not extended？Answer：No，the mag－ hetic force will be a triffe les．
C．H H．asks ior a method of covering pul－ f glue should be used？Answer：Ordinary belt leather ley with small belt rivets．For information as to the process lately described in the Scientific American，
address the patentee．
J．O．E．says： 1 ．An engine pumpis 6 inches
ind pipes，asif it was going to break everything to pieces． old copper pipes and to tin？Answers： 1 ．We cannot newwer this，as we do not know what our correspondent
means by the air being shut off．2．For soldering copper pipes，use sal ammoniac or chloride of $z$ inc．For tin，
resin or chloride of $z$ inc． Wey）wood dally．Price ${ }_{\text {\＄3：}}$ use 8 Nut hard schuylkill coal can be deliveres at $\$ .25$ a ton．Which is cheaper？An－
swer：The wood is probably the cheaperfuelof the two．
If your furnsce is wood or coal without change，you might try the experi ment．General results sometimes failt to be realized in $\underset{\text { regaring the relative power of the Bame machine with }}{\text { J．}}$ ． either a 20 inch or 10 inch driving pulley at the same sur－
face speed，did you not lose sight of the extra friction face speed，did you not lose sight of the extra friction
produced in the journals by the necessarily closer hug produced in the journals by the necessarily closer hug
of the belt to the smaller pulley in order to transmit the same power？Answer：In each case the belt is
transmitting the same amount of power，and conse－

B．says：A cubic foot of anthracite weighs
about 95 pounds．Will some one state the number of ＂ubic feet per tun of the various sizes in common use， bin，we can then decide whether we have full weight or not．Answer：From the average weights of a great va－ coal of almost any size：Anthracite， 385 ，and bitumin－
ous， 40 ，cubic feet per tun of 2,000 poundis．Probably ous， 40 ，cubic feet per tun of 2,000 pounds．Probably
many of our readers may have made observation on on
weitght and bulk of different kinds of coal，and if they will send us their figures，specify ying kind of coal，size and weight in pounds per cubic foot，we will tabulate
them，and publish them in our columms．If a sufficient number of replies are recefved，we shall be enabled to

E O．W．asks what is the best substitute namite is a good substitute for，orarathera safer means
of using，nitro－glycerin．If you want a powerful and or combined with an equal quantity of saltpeter
M．M，W．asks：How many pounds pre sure does the water，（coming from the reservoir in your
city）exert at the outlet of a hall inch faucet？Answer： clty）exert at the outlet of a hali inch faucet？Answer：
This depends upon the amount of water in the reservoir，
the part of the city，and thenightof faucetfromground It varies every hour in the day．The fact that croton water is often able to rise，in pipes，to the fifth floor of a house will enable you to get some idea of the pressure，
remembering that a column of water 33 feet 9 inches

J．C．asks how many revolutions per min
ate an engine $6 \times 18$ inches power？Answer：The speed at which you can run the
engine，provided you have sufficlent boller power，de pends upon how well the running parts are balanced．
If the engine is well designed in this respect， 100 revolu ions will not be too fast．
J．P．L．asks how to tin small brass articles． Answer：The process employed in tinning small brass lution of one part cream of tartar， 2 parts alum，and 2 placed a suffictent quantity of granulated tin．They ca afterwards be polished with sawdust or bran and tow A．P．asks：1．Is there any cheap substance evaporate more rapidly，at the ordinary temperature han the water would of itself？2．Has any one metal
the property of making water evaporate from its surface nore rapidily than another？Answer：We should advist you to employ vacuum pans or some other method of diminishing the pressure of the atmosphere，if heat can
be used．If not，keep the air in rapid ctrculation．If the quantity issmall，place it under a recelver，and nea it place fusedchloride of calctum or ofll of vitriol．It the quantity is large，try the German met hod with brine，
called graduation．
R．F．says，in reply to R．A．C．，who asked or a remedy for bleeding at the nose： 1 will give one it is a vigorous motion of the jaws，as if in the act of
mastication．He advised us，in the case of a child，to maise a wad of paper，put it in to the child＇s mouth，and
infruct it to chew it hard．Of course an adult does no need the paper．It is the motion of the jawa that stops he fow of blood．This remedy is so sinuple that people
the ometimes laugh when Irecommend it，but thave never known
cases．
Minerals．－Specimens have been received from the following correspondents，and exam ined with the results stated
J．W．s．－The specimen is chlefy mica，with a little
elspar．It has no value．
elspar．It has no value
J．R．－We think it is corundum．
G．S．K．－Iron pyrites．Their only use is in making af vitriol．
C．D．M．－Copper pyrites
D．Van B．－Tourmaline
D．Van B．－Tourmaline．
J．McM．－Quartz；of no especial value．Perhapsagates，
sitable for mounting as ornaments，may be tound in hat locality．
J．J．F．－The rock you send contains some pyrites，
ron，alumina，sillica，etc．An assay will cost $\$ 10$ or $\$ 15$ ． J．D．A．－Limestone．
Delita sends us a specimen of chrome red（American vermilion）and asks how it can be prepared．Answer Lieblg and Wöhler state that it is best prepared by fus assium and sodium nitrates，gradually pouring into the used salt small quantities of chemically pure yellow
chromate of lead．After cooling，the insoluble chrome chromate of lead．After cooling，the insoluble chrome ong prepares chrome red by precipitating a solution of acetate of lead with a solution of chromate or potassa to which caustic potassa has been added．Variousshades
from deepest to palest vermilion red are caused by the difference in size of thecons1 tuentcrystallineparticle
According to Dr．Dufios，its formula is $2 \mathrm{PbO}, \mathrm{CrO}_{3}$ ．

## COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED．

The Editor of the Scientific American acknowledges，with much pleasure，the re－ eipt of original papers and
the following subjects ：
On an Auroral Phenomenon．By J．D．B On Pressure Gages and Safety Valves．By E．D．S．
On the Natural Rights of Inventors．By T．W．
On Iron Steam Yachts．By J．H．
On Retardation of the Earth＇s Rotation By J．H．
On Fresh Water Crayfish．By J．S．
On the Patent Discussion．By E．A．B．，by M．J．and by M．J．D．
On Embryology．By J．L．
On Mechanical Elements．By F．M．McM．
On the Roper Engine．By H．S．W．
Also enquiries from the following
T．R．J．－
－J．P．D．
Correspondents who write to ask the address of certain
manufacturers，or where specifled artucles are to be had，
also those having goods for sale，or who want to find also those having goods for sale，or who want to find
partners，shoula send with their communications an
amount sufficient to cover the cost of publication under the head of＂Business and Personal，＂which is spectally devoted to such enquiries．

## Index of Inventions

For which
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APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSIONS．
Applications have been duly fled and are now pending－
for the extensionof the following Letters Patent．Hear ngs upon the respective applications are appointed for
he day hereinafter mentioned：．Fittz．September 10
25，569．－BEDSTEA SLATS．－T．Howe．September 10.
25，572．－MOLDING WATER TRAP．－J．A．Lowe．Sep． 10 ．
25，586．－Burglar alarm．－A．Q．Ross．September 10.
$2 \pi, 588$. －Steam Punching Machine．－J．Sparrow．Sep． 10.
2，588．－STEAM PUNCHING MACHINE．－J．Sparrow．Sep． 10 ．
25， $540 .-$ STrAM BoIIER．－J．Harrison，Jr．September 10 ．
25，683．－HYDRANT．－C．L．Stacy．September 17．
25，683．－Hydrant．－C．L．Stacy．September 17．
25，796．－JACQVARD MAOHINE．－A．Babbett．October 1 ．
27，539．－GON BARREL．－J．H．Burton．September 10 ．
EXTENSIONS GRANTED．
24，531．－GAS Retort．－W．Beaumont．
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 6，t22．－FURNITURE．－T．W．Moore et al，New York city．
6，723．－LOCE FRoNT．－E．J．Steele，New Haven，Conn． 6，724．－DRAWER PoLL．－L．Widmayer，New Britain，Conn． 6，725．－BARBER＇s Footstool．－F．J．Coates，Cins．innati，O．
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TRADE MARKS REGISTERED． 1，329．－Medicine．－F．W．Barnum \＆Co．，Dankury，Conn．
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## SCHEDULE OF PATENT FEES：

 On each Caveat．．．．．．．On each．Trade－Mark．
 On 1ssuingeach originalpatent．
Ou appeai to Examiners－n．－Chief On appealto Commissicner of Patents． On application for Reissue．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． On application for Extensio
On granting the Extension． On fling a Disclaimer．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．
On an application for Design（7 years）．
On an application for Design（14 years）．


