

DECISIONS OF THE COURTS.

United States Circuit Court--District of Massachusetts.

UNION PAPER COLLAR COMPANY vs. EMERSON LELAND.—PATENT EMBOSSED COLLARS.

[In equity.—Before CLIFFORD and LOWELL, Judges.—October, 1874.]  
 LOWELL, J.:  
 This suit is brought to restrain the infringement of the second reissue of W. E. Lockwood's patent of 1859, the reissue being granted in 1873. The specification declares the invention to consist of a collar or cuff having a paper surface imitative of the textile surface of a collar or cuff of textile fabric; that in carrying out his invention Lockwood uses a fabric composed of paper and muslin, or equivalent fabric, having a smooth, white, polished, or enameled paper surface to represent that of starched linen. It then describes one mode of making the imitation of a linen or muslin surface, by dies, but does not claim nor limit the invention to any particular appliances or machinery for embossing the fabric. The claim is for a collar having a paper surface imitative of the textile face and fiber of a dressed linen collar, as set forth.  
 The case turns on the question of novelty. \* There is the English patent of De La Rue, taken out in 1834, for embossing paper in parallel lines; and one granted to John Evans, in 1854, for ornamenting paper with an imitation of the patterns of textile fabrics. \* Samples are produced from papers actually made before 1859, which are of this character. \* The claim is for a collar and similar articles made of paper were patented to Walter Hunt in 1854 as a new manufacture; and Lockwood was the owner of this patent when he made the improvement now in controversy.  
 In this state of the art, collars and cuffs made of paper being known, and paper embossed in various modes, some of which were imitations of the surface of textile fabrics, being known, we are of opinion that there was in 1859 no patentable novelty in the application of paper embossed in imitation of linen to the making of collars and cuffs.  
 The evidence in the record goes even beyond what we have already mentioned, and renders it probable that paper embossed in imitation of a linen surface was used for collars and cuffs long before the date of the alleged invention, and that such articles were offered for sale in New York and known to several persons. It is true that they were not found to be acceptable to the trade, and they had very probably been forgotten; but they were imitations of linen, and the reasons which operated to prevent their general use were of a commercial and economical character.  
 Bill dismissed with costs.  
 [W. G. Russell, for complainant.  
 A. J. Robinson, for defendant.]

United States Circuit Court--District of Connecticut.

SAMUEL G. MONCE and ROLLIN J. IVES vs. BENJAMIN F. ADAMS.—PATENT GLASS CUTTER.

[In equity.—Before SHIPMAN, Judge.—April, 1874.]  
 The invention covered by letters patent to Samuel G. Monce, June 8, 1869, for an "Improved tool for cutting glass," consists, so far as the revolving steel cutter is concerned, in the fact that the sides, which are parallel at the axis, are beveled toward each other, at the periphery, at an angle of about forty-five degrees to the axis, thus meeting about midway and forming a cutting edge, which is approximately a right angle.  
 Such an instrument embodies the conditions that give efficiency to the glazier's diamond, viz.: the cutting edge is *curvilinear*; it is formed by two surfaces meeting at *right angles*; these surfaces are *equally inclined* to the axis of the cutter; and when the cutter is properly mounted in its frame, the inclination of the cut will naturally be at *right angles to the surface of the glass*.  
 It is a fact worthy of mention that this small and inexpensive tool has proved to be of great utility and has achieved success, having confessedly superseded all other inventions as a substitute for the glazier's diamond.  
 Monce's invention is not anticipated by revolving cutters designed and used for other purposes (as for dressing the surface of grindstones, the cutting of gas pipes, or the cutting of paper or of pasteboard, or of leather), in which the distinctive feature of the invention—the double bevel forming the right-angled edge—is present, at all, by accident, and which, although capable in exceptional cases of being used to cut glass, will not practically perform the office of a successful glass cutter for glaziers' purposes.  
 The cutter of the patent, which makes a cut at right angles to the surface of the glass, is not anticipated by the Pike cutter, which is run upon the glass in a slanting direction.  
 The patentee having disclaimed a revolving cutter, his claim to "The cutter, A," constructed substantially as shown and described, and for the purposes set forth, is a claim to the particular form, shape, and angles of the cutter, which adapted it to the purposes of a glass cutter, and is as exact and accurate as the nature of the subject will permit.  
 The patent is not void for ambiguity, because the specification merely says that the cutter is to be "hardened," without specifying what degree of hardness is to be given to it.  
 [Charles E. Mitchell, for complainants.  
 W. Edgar Simonds, for defendant.]

Recent American and Foreign Patents.

Improved Corn Planter.

Jens Elverud, Red Wing, Minn.—By suitable construction, as each hole of a wheel comes beneath a hole in the reservoir and receives the seed, a corresponding arm comes above said hole and serves as a cut-off to prevent any more seed passing out than the amount contained in said hole. The wheels are revolved by tubes, which strike the ground and serve as fulcrum points around which the wheels move, the axle moving up and down in loops. The sleeve of each tube is pushed up to discharge the seed into the soil as the weight of the wheels and axle are thrown upon said tube.

Improved Invalid Bedstead.

Oscar G. Cosby and George W. McGovern, Richmond, Va.—The object is to enhance the ease and quiet of the patient when changing his position. The device consists in the combination of an endless cord, with mechanism for raising the hinged head section, consisting of a lever bracket, a slide, and a band and pulley, for the purpose of giving a positive and easy downward adjustment of the head section.

Improved Double Reversible Hinge.

Edward Halsey, San Jose, Cal.—The invention is an improvement in the class of reversible hinges which are formed of two plates, one having eyes or sockets, and the other pintles, on each side, and the eyes being slotted to receive the pintles, so that the door may swing in either direction without becoming detached. The improvement relates to a construction and arrangement whereby the hinge is strengthened and its operation made as nearly noiseless as practicable.

Improved Tank for Preserving.

John Peter Schmitz, San Francisco, Cal.—This invention relates to certain improvements in preserving apparatus, and it consists in an airtight tank in which the substance to be treated is placed, the said tank having a fire protector and a burner inside, which latter connects through a flexible tube with a lamp upon the outside. The flame of the lamp abstracts oxygen from the air in the tank, and substitutes therefor the preservative products of combustion, the flexible tube being tied, severed, and its tied end enclosed by a screw cap when the process of preserving is complete, and the tank and its contents are to be stored away.

Improved Stair Builder's Rule.

John J. Robinson, Orange C. H., Va.—The object of this invention is to provide an improved rule for stair-building, and it consists in a square rule, inside of which is contained a graduated extensible portion, and at the opposite end an adjustable prick, the said rule being provided with two spirit levels, one for plumbing and the other for ordinary leveling purposes. The inventor claims to be enabled, by means of this improved rule, to rapidly construct and fit the balusters to the hand rails, uniformly and in proper position.

Improved Sewing Machine.

Daniel Williamson, Sunbury, Pa.—This invention consists of an arrangement of cams on the driving shaft and a spring for working an upper feed; also a cam on the shaft and a spring for working the presser, whereby the same shaft shall operate the needle bar, presser bar, and feed bar.

Improved Gymnastic Apparatus.

Horace S. Carley, New York city.—This consists of a grooved wheel with a handle pivoted to each side, mounted on a rope stretched horizontally. The handles hang down each side for the performer to suspend himself by to perform his feats, and at the same time propel himself along the rope. The performer may mount above the wheel, either on the rope or on the ground, turning the handles upward and the stirrups downward, and thus ride on the wheel.

Improved Runner Attachment for Vehicles.

John A. Hyde, Englewood, N. J.—This invention consists of runners which are secured to the lower portions of the wheels by hinged jaws and clamps, the object being to convert the wagon temporarily into a sleigh.

Improved Miter Box.

Peter Suydam and William G. Suydam, New Brunswick, N. J.—For the saw guiding and regulating posts there are two rigid rods side by side, with tubes to rise and fall on them. Said tubes carry guides, for the sides of the saw, which are adjustable for saws of any thickness, and for taking up the slack caused by wear. One of said tubes carries a spring presser to hold the guides above the working position when required for adjusting the saw on the work. One of the posts has an adjustable stop collar to regulate the descent of the saw. The adjustable holders for spring miters consist of horizontal bars with a vertical piece at one end arranged to slide forward and backward, across the bottom of the box, and toward and from the back of the box, to hold one edge of the work while the other rests on the top of the back, said bars being provided with set screws for holding them.

Improved Scaffold Bracket.

Samuel Nelson Fisher, Milford, Mass.—This apparatus for supporting scaffolds in the erection of buildings consists of a folding bracket having an adjustable hook for fastening it to the building.

Improved Thill Coupling.

Axel Olsson, Williamsburgh, N. Y., assignor to himself, J. W. Cox, and D. Merritt, of same place.—This thill coupling locks itself when forced into place upon the coupling bolt, and at the same time may be easily unlocked when removed.

Improved Rolling Shutter.

Hector J. Defrenne, Green Bay, Wis.—This is a blind made of slats hooked together, to be raised and lowered by rollers suspended by cords. The latter pass over an upper roller in a chamber above the window, and down to another roller at the bottom of the chamber, on which they wind. The rollers are worked by an endless cord, which is so arranged on pulleys that one part of its course is alongside of one of the sides of the window frame, where it can be worked inside of the house for raising or lowering the blind whether the window is open or not. The invention also consists of a novel mode of connecting the slats together by wire links.

Improved Stays for the Bottoms of Pantaloon.

Stephen D. Mills, Kingston, N. Y.—This is an india rubber stay designed to take the place of the canvas stay now used in the manufacture of pantaloon to keep the bottoms of the legs in shape.

Improved Bridge.

Peter M. Fulton, Rhinebeck, N. Y.—Towers are erected at suitable required distance from each other, and bear arch-supporting cables. The height of the towers may be reduced to a considerable extent, and thereby the great cost of the same, as compared to suspension bridges, lessened. The towers serve also as abutments for the arch-sections, which are stretched and supported across the span between the towers, their symmetrical semi-sections being firmly joined by central key pieces. The arch sections are constructed from both towers toward the center without a supporting scaffolding, by the use of a derrick above and a traveling truck underneath, which forms the platform for the workmen. One arch section after the other is joined to the other and hung to the cables, until the grooved and pointed approaching ends of the arch sections may be connected by the correspondingly perforated key pieces. The roadway is then hung by vertical suspension rods to the lowermost arc.

Improved Plow.

Thomas S. Macomber, Hamilton, N. Y.—The invention consists in devices whereby the mold boards and their attached shares are connected to the beam of the plow, so that, by turning the right hand mold board down against the landside, the other mold board will be raised into a horizontal position, forming a right hand plow, and by turning the left hand mold board down against the landside the right hand mold board will be raised into a horizontal position, forming a left hand plow.

Improved Oscillating Engine.

George W. Heald, Baldwinsville, N. Y., assignor to himself and William F. Morris, of same place.—This improvement in oscillating engines consists of a novel contrivance of tightening bearings and adjusting screws therefor with the crosshead of the piston rod, which is arranged in guides projecting from the cylinder head, to take the strain of oscillating the cylinder from the rod.

Improved Steam Engine Governor.

Frederick M. Brown, Warren, R. I.—This governor is contrived similarly to some governors now in use, the peculiar feature of it being the upward movement of the balls on the arms when the speed diminishes, and the downward movement when the speed increases, and in the levers and rods by means of which these movements are produced.

Improved Map Exhibitor.

John Lichtenberger, Fort Wayne, Ind.—A hanging bracket supports the map rollers, which may be mounted directly in the bracket, one in front of another; or they may be arranged in a hollow cylinder mounted on pivots, so as to revolve upon its axis to bring the maps into position for pulling them down. A slot is formed for each map to drop through, and an endless cord with an idle pulley may be employed for turning the cylinder.

Improved Plow.

Albert Hampe, Staunton, Ill.—The greater or lesser depth of the share is regulated by swinging the standard backward or forward on its pivot bolt, and setting a fastening bolt to the position of the same. The lateral position of the plowshare sideways from the beam is adjusted by means of an end clevis and screw bolt, so that the plow can be set as required, increasing thereby the strength of the parts and the efficacy and usefulness of the plow.

Improved Harvester Rules.

David S. Fulton, Paris, Pa.—This invention is a machine for harvesting grain, and consists of a reel, the arms of which act independently of each other. Cam devices throw the arms into the proper position for sweeping the apron.

Improved Wrought Iron Column.

John B. Cornell, New York city.—The invention relates to the employment of a T-shaped bar for forming the joint between the vertical ribbed plates composing the chord, the edges of said plates being riveted to the lateral wings or flanges of the bar. The joint is therefore an element of strength, and a strut cord of minimum size and weight and maximum strength is provided.

Improved Machine for Coiling Metal Rods.

Philander H. Standish, Jefferson City, Mo.—The mandrel consists of a flat bar of steel, wide and thick as the largest coil to be bent, with an oval tapered point, graduated from the size of the largest to that of the smallest coil. The bar is fitted in the hollow shaft of the driving wheel, so as to be shifted along it, to cause the tapered point to project under the bending wheel more or less, and is provided with a collar. There is a set screw at each end of the hollow shaft, for holding it wherever it may be set, to utilize the same machine for coils of all sizes, the bending wheel only being changed. The said wheel for that purpose is fitted detachably in a slotted lever, and the guide is fitted adjustably in the slot of the lever, to adjust to the wheels of different sizes.

Improved Bale Tie.

John B. Arrants, Society Hill, S. C.—This tie consists of a block to which one end of the hoop is riveted at the middle of the side which is outward when applied to the bale, and across the outside of the upper end. The inside of the lower end is a transverse groove, in which a loop is secured of wire, around one bar of which the other end of the hoop is bent. The loop is so adjusted on the aforesaid block that the strain of the hoop keeps it in place, and the loop so binds the part of the hoop bent around it in one of the said grooves in the block as to hold it securely.

Improved Water Closet.

Edwin O. Brinkerhoff, New York city.—By suitable construction, when water is admitted into a ring pipe, it will be discharged on all sides of the basin, so that the entire inner surface of said basin will be thoroughly washed, cleaning it much better and with less water than when the water is admitted at one side of the basin in the usual way.

Improved Rein Holder.

Benjamin R. Hamilton, South Deerfield, Mass.—This invention relates to the construction of rein holders, and consists in a wedge-shaped tube and a cross-grooved wedge confined therein, the reins being passed through the tube and the wedge made to act between them.

Improved Machine for Tapering Leather.

John Settle and George W. Settle, Lebanon, Oregon.—In using the machine, a semicylindrical block is adjusted as required, a knife-carrying frame is turned back, the strap or other leather to be operated upon is inserted between the block and the knife and roller of the frame, and the frame is swung forward, paring off the leather to exactly the desired taper.

Improved Station Indicator.

John W. Bryan, Watertown, Tenn.—This consists of a casing with an upper and lower chamber, provided with sliding frames and spring followers for holding the station-indicating plates, in connection with a sliding key or frame having shoulders for carrying the station plates to the upper front opening and retaining them, by springs at the sides of the opening, exposed to view. A false spring bottom carries the lower spring follower upward for receiving the station plates in regular order after each trip.

Improved Waterproof Liquid Blacking.

Edward Clark, New York city.—This waterproof blacking is made of gum shellac, methylic alcohol, gum camphor, lampblack, sweet oil, mutton tallow, turpentine, and oil of mirbane. It is applied with a soft camel hair brush, and requires no rubbing beyond what is necessary to spread it evenly over the surface to be blacked.

Improved Paper Bag Machine.

Charles H. Kellogg, Leverett, Mass.—The paper is moved along over a table, cut off, and then folded over a former; then the horizontal bottom folders move forward and fold in the sides of a portion of the tube which projects beyond the table, to form the upper part of the bottom; then the upper vertical bottom folder comes down, and the lower vertical folder moves up to fold the remaining portions and stick them to the other portions, paste having been suitably applied for the purpose beforehand.

Improved Water and Steam Indicator for Boilers.

William L. Carman, Belvidere, Neb.—To the upper end of a cylinder is bolted a cover, upon the inner side of which are two projections. Through one projection is formed a steam port, which passes out through the top in such a direction that the steam may strike a whistle. The inner end of the port is covered with a valve attached to a float, which floats upon water in the cylinder, and is kept in place by two guide pins. The cylinder is connected with the boiler by a water pipe and by a steam pipe, so that the pressure of steam may be the same in both boiler and cylinder. By this construction, as the water in the boiler becomes either too high or too low, the port will be uncovered, and the escaping steam will sound the whistle. By other construction, if the steam pressure reaches a point above that which a lever is weighted to resist, another valve will be raised, allowing the steam to escape and sound the whistle. There are also arrangements whereby the escaping steam from the ports may give a different sound, and thus show by the sound whether the alarm has reference to the water or the steam.

Improved Brush.

Charles A. Hussey, New York city.—This invention consists in a brush having a flexible handle for containing the maulage, with a discharging tube through the neck of the handle, and a metallic shield or cover over the brush, which screws tightly to the neck.

Improved Washing Machine.

John F. Bassett, Limestone, N. Y.—In this machine the rollers between which the clothes are passed, are reciprocated longitudinally, so that the clothes are subjected to both a rubbing and rolling pressure. The improvement relates particularly to the means for adjusting the spring pressure on the lower roller.

Improved Pump.

George W. Hooper, Greene, Me.—This invention consists of packing for the piston rod, composed of a metal thimble fitted snugly to the rod, and held so as to accommodate it to the piston by a leather diaphragm, in which the thimble is fixed so as to be movable. The invention further consists in the construction of the end pieces of the cylinder which forms the cylinder heads, ways, or conduits for the water, and seats for the valves, and in the means for fastening the valves to the said seats, by passing the flexible end of the elastic face of the valve through a slot in the top of the said end pieces. The pump handle is arranged in a pivot block to shift forward and backward, to regulate the stroke to the depth of the well.

Improved Boot Leg Turning Machine.

David Bissell, Detroit, Mich.—In this machine a pulling bar is operated inside of a tube on which the leg is drawn, and a pushing bar is operated on the outside, to turn the leg over the end of the tube. The said bars move simultaneously in opposite directions. The invention consists in devices whereby the mechanism may be worked in the way most natural to the operator, also to avoid the shock and strain on the machine caused by the sudden stopping of the crank. The machine may be worked by hand or power, and be readily changed from one condition to the other, and smaller legs can be turned on the machine than it has been possible to turn as it has been heretofore made.

Improved Sheep Shears.

James L. Smith, Tuscola, Ill.—This invention consists in a guard placed on the inside near the point of one of the blades of shears, to shield the skin and guide the shears in the operation of shearing sheep or other animals.

Improved Watch Key.

John S. Birch, New York city.—This is a watch key adjustable to square pivots of different sizes, to enable the key to wind any watch. The key is made in two pieces, the upper ends of them being fastened in a solid handle; the lower ends are bored out to receive the square pivot; and the distance apart of the lower ends is adjusted to any size of pivot by a screw which passes through them and enters a nut on the other side. The head of the screw is concave underneath, and rests on one side in a slot in the jaw of the key. This appears to be an excellent invention in its line, being made of the finest hardened steel to ensure durability, and is the result of eight years' experiments on adjustable watch keys, of which Mr Birch is the original inventor.