

on the ground that it requires more dressing of stones, and they have ample reason for making this their standpoint. In very dry and cold weather, when there is trouble in keeping up the grade of flour, steaming serves instead of rain or thaw. We can do better milling when the weather is moist and damp.

(57) W. T. B. says, in reply to H. D., who asks how to get rid of red spiders: The minute insect known to florists as red spider is usually of a bright red color, though some are brown and others almost green. They seem to increase most rapidly in a dry, hot atmosphere, and upon plants that are not growing well, or that have been allowed to suffer for lack of water at the roots. They infest the under side of the leaves, and apparently shun the light; but when very numerous, they may be found upon all parts of the leaves and stem. The upper part of the leaf, opposite where the insects are at work, becomes light colored and dusty looking. In greenhouses, they are most troublesome in the warmest part of the house; but I have seen them in a house where the temperature was allowed to fall to 40° at night, and also on plants growing in the garden. I would suggest the following treatment: Syringe the plants freely with water once or twice a day, taking care to wet the under side of the leaves. Keep the air of the room moist, by setting pans of water on the flues, heating pipes, or register; give all the light possible, and ventilate freely whenever the weather will permit. When the soil is dry, give sufficient water to moisten all the soil in the pot; and water no more until the surface is dry again. If plants seem stunted or sickly, re-pot them in fresh, rich soil, or use some other means to induce a healthy growth. The red spider is anything but an aquatic insect, and will yield to the hydropathic treatment, if it is persisted in.

(58) A. H. says: E. S. S. can season his croquet balls after they are turned by brushing them over with linseed oil, then baking them in the oven (slowly at first) to get the oil into the pores of the wood, repeating the oil coating three or four times, and then storing them away for the oil to dry. This will not only keep them from checking, but will make them waterproof and keep them from rotting. Last winter I made some plane handles out of a piece of a plum tree, 5 inches in diameter, those treated with oil stood the sun's rays without the least check; the others, not oiled, checked so as to make them useless.

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

H. D. P.—Having subjected your sample of paper to the usual tests, we failed to discover the presence of arsenic.—J. T.—Your box contained but one specimen, a piece of basaltic rock, the only value of which would be in building.—W. M. L.—It is a fossil coral.—A. B. H.—It is galena, containing 85 per cent of lead and 15 of sulphur.—S. M.—It is quartz grains, yellow mica, black mica, and fragments of augite, which is a silicate of lime, magnesia, iron, and alumina, but is of no value in the arts.—P. B.—It is a superior red oxide of iron. We have known several specimens to contain as high as 70 per cent of iron. It will make red paint and, if in sufficient quantities, will be a valuable ore of iron.—H. P. E.—No. 1 is quartz grains, colored red with oxide of iron, and mixed with small crystals of black mica. No. 2 is the same as No. 1, but with yellowish mica also. No. 3 is quartz rock with yellow mica. No. 4 is the same as No. 2, with more quartz. No. 5 is similar to No. 3.—R. E. M.—It is asphalt. You have already a knowledge of its valuable qualities. It is a highly bituminous asphalt, capable of yielding illuminating gases and oils, and of being used as a paint. You have only to develop the deposit.—E. T. D.—It is garnet in mica schist.—N. S. S.—It is garnet. The crystalline form is the rhombic dodecahedron, and belongs to the variety of garnet called the iron-alumina garnet, which is common.—A. J. R.—It is difficult to determine the value of stones from such small specimens. If you will send us a stone of the proper dimensions (3 inches thick), and finished on one surface, we will give it a practical trial.—H. L. H.—No. 1 is a quartz rock containing scales of yellow mica, of no value. No. 2 is quartz rock with some iron, but too little to be worth working. No. 3 is a crystal of aragonite, which is carbonate of lime.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

On Canal Towage. By R. B. C., and by W. H. W.
On Filling Teeth. By A. H. B., and by J. C. C.
On Springs as Motors. By M. W. P.
On the Patent Office. By O. P. S.
On Furnaces and Flues. By H. M. S.
On Anointing in Cases of Fever. By R. P.
On a New Lamp. By D. D. N.
On a New Bridge. By J. A. P.
On Spiritualism. By H. M., and by F. S.
On Lacing Belts. By R. G.

Also enquiries and answers from the following:
J. P. W.—N. C. P.—J. H. K.—J. S. B.—W. X. Y.—
H. M.—T. F. M.—J. S. E.—T. W. S.—D. H.—F. G. S.—
—E. A.—S.—J. E. E.—W. C. B.—S. D.

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents whose inquiries fail to appear should repeat them. If not then published, they may conclude that, for good reasons, the Editor declines them. The address of the writer should always be given.

Enquiries relating to patents, or to the patentability of inventions, assignments, etc., will not be published here. All such questions, when initials only are given, are thrown into the waste basket, as it would fill half of our paper to print them all; but we generally take pleasure in answering briefly by mail, if the writer's address is given.

Hundreds of enquiries analogous to the following are sent: "Who makes steam cracker-making machinery? Who deals in old coins? Who makes sample trunks? Who publishes works on the construction of lights for lighthouses? Where are the best carpenter's tools to be obtained?" All such personal enquiries are printed, as will be observed, in the column of "Business and Personal," which is specially set apart for that purpose, subject to the charge mentioned at the head of that column. Almost any desired information can in this way be expeditiously obtained.

[OFFICIAL.]

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

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7,969.—DESK.—W. T. Bromwell, St. Louis, Mo.	
7,970 to 7,976.—CARPETS.—R. R. Campbell, Lowell, Mass.	
7,977 to 7,981.—CARPETS.—J. M. Christie, Kidderminster, England.	
7,982.—SIDE OF CASE.—J. E. Hunter, N. Adams, Mass.	
7,983, 7,984.—CARPETS.—C. S. Lilley, Lowell, Mass.	
7,985.—CARPET.—C. W. Swapp, Lowell, Mass.	
7,986.—CARPET.—R. Allan, Yonkers, N. Y.	
7,987.—SMOKING PIPE.—I. Demuth, New York city.	
7,988.—BOTTLE.—E. R. Durkee, Brooklyn, N. Y.	
7,989 to 7,991.—CARPETS.—E. Petit, Paris, France.	
7,992.—NURSING BOTTLE.—V. H. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.	

TRADE MARKS REGISTERED.

2,150.—YEAST CAKES.—Amer. Y. Co., Fond Du Lac, Wis.	
2,151.—CIGARS.—Freedman & Co., Detroit, Mich.	
2,152.—NECKTIES.—Hellenberg et al., New York city.	
2,153.—OIL.—W. E. Jervey, New Orleans, La.	
2,154.—TOBACCO POWDERS.—Novelty Co., New York city.	
2,155.—CIGARS.—S. Lowenthal & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.	
1,56.—PLAYING CARDS.—V. E. Mauger, New York city	

1,157.—FELON CURE.—W. H. Puffer, Athol, Mass.
1,158.—SHIRTS.—Burlock Man. Co., Bridgeport, Conn.

SCHEDULE OF PATENT FEES.

In each Caveat.....	\$10
In each Trade mark.....	\$25
In filing each application for a Patent (17 years).....	\$15
In issuing each original Patent.....	\$20
In appeal to Examiners-in-Chief.....	\$10
In appeal to Commissioner of Patents.....	\$20
In application for Reissue.....	\$30
In filing a Disclaimer.....	\$10
In an application for Design (3½ years).....	\$10
In application for Design (7 years).....	\$15
In application for Design (14 years).....	\$30

CANADIAN PATENTS.

LIST OF PATENTS GRANTED IN CANADA,
JANUARY 7 to JANUARY 8, 1874.

1,217.—H. J. Wattles, Toronto City, Ont. Improvements on a machine for washing vegetables, called "Wattles Vegetable Washer." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,218.—J. R. Smith, Brockville, Leeds and Grenville counties, Ont. Improvements on clothes wringers, called "The Victor Clothes Wringer." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,219.—C. A. Terrey, Southwark, Surrey county, England. Improvements on setting diamonds in drills and cutting tools, called "Terrey's Diamond Cap." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,220.—J. A. Stockwell, Lynn, Essex county, Mass., U. S. Improvements on boots and shoes, called "Stockwell's Combined Toe Guard and Half Sole for Boots and Shoes." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,221.—J. C. and C. J. Sturgeon, Erie, Erie county, Pa., U. S. Improvements in lawn mowers and harvesters, called "Sturgeon's Improved Lawn Mower and Harvester." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,222.—J. Lennerton, Princeport, Colchester county, Nova Scotia. Machine for making tree nail wedges, called "Lennerton's Tree Nail Wedge Machine." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,223.—J. W. Elliott, Toronto City, Ont. Machine for the external application of croton oil, etc., called "Elliott's Counter-Irritant." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,224.—J. Vessot and S. Vessot, Jr., Joliette, Joliette county, P. Q. Améliorations au sémoir et herse combinés, dits "Le sémoir, herse, et rouleau combinés de J. & S. Vessot." Jan. 5, 1875. Improvement in combined harrow and sowing machine.

1,225.—R. B. Anderson and M. Anderson, Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. Improvement on gentleman's scarf, called "Anderson's Improved Scarf or Necktie Holder." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,226.—G. W. McNeil, Akron, Summit county, Ohio, U. S. Improvements on wheat scourers, called "McNeil's Wheat Scourer." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,227.—R. Cobleigh, Chester, Windsor county, Vt., U. S. Improvements in carriages for children, called "Cobleigh's Improved Children's Carriage." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,228.—J. Teifer, Toronto City, Ont. Improvements on lamp-holding attachment to sewing machines, called "Teifer's Lamp Holding Attachment to Sewing Machines." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,229.—E. Mercier, Springfield, Hampden county, Mass., U. S. Improvement on railway switch, called "Mercier's Railway Switch." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,230.—Wm. S. Wooton, J. G. Blake, and H. H. Fulton, all of Indianapolis, Marion county, Ind., U. S. Improvements on secretaries, called "Wooton's Secretary." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,231.—R. M. Wanzer, Hamilton county, assignee of J. Jamison, same place. Improvements in sewing machines, called "The Wanzer B." Jan. 7, 1870.

1,232.—Wm. Cochrane, La Fayette, Tippecanoe county, Ind., U. S. Improvements on harvesting machines, called "Cochrane's Harvester." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,233.—S. Palling, Woodstock, Oxford county, Ont. 1st extension, No. 598, on "The Ontario Balanced Window Blind." Jan. 7, 1875.

1,234.—S. Palling, Woodstock, Oxford county, Ont. 2d extension, No. 598, on "The Ontario Balanced Window Blind." Jan. 9, 1875.

1,235.—H. A. Dierkes, New York city, N. Y., U. S. Improvements in hanging and operating bells, called "Dierkes's Improvements in Hanging and Operating Bells." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,236.—J. M. and C. T. Schramm, Pontotoc, Hancock county, Ill., U. S. Improvements in the shingling of roofs, called "Schramm & Sons' Improvement in the Shingling of Roofs." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,237.—J. L. Massie, Cowansville, Missisquoi county, P. Q. Improvements in heaters, called "Massie's Improved Heater." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,238.—C. H. Miller, Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., U. S. Improvements in wooden pavements, called "Miller's Improved Wooden Pavement." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,239.—J. C. Cody, Windsor, Essex county, Mass., U. S. Improvements in water filters, called "Cody's Excellent Water Filter." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,240.—L. A. Powers, Meriden, New Haven county, Conn., U. S. Improvements on rakes, called "Powers' Rake." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,241.—W. S. Von Essen, Hamburg, Germany. Improvements on apparatus for cleaning boiler tubes by steam, called "W. Von Essen's Steam Boiler Tube Cleaner." Jan. 8, 1875.

1,242.—W. A. Martin, London, England. Improvements on furnaces and furnace doors, called "Martin's Improvements on Furnace and Furnace Doors." Jan. 8, 1875.