

NEW HOT-AIR BATH CHAMBER.

The engraving shows a portable bath chamber suitable for all kinds of baths, but especially designed for hot air in the treatment of disease. The inventor claims that during many years of medical practice in the most unhealthy portions of the South he has used heat as a remedy with such success that he now considers it far more valuable than all other curative agents combined.

Steam being objectionable, he proposes to make the general use of the hot-air bath, among physicians and families, practicable and cheap.

The portable chamber consists of a detachable top in three parts or sections, and the walls are made up of four corner sections, with the doors hung to the free edge of each one of the wings, which, hinged together in pairs, make the corner sections. When required, the chamber sets upon a base frame containing the heating apparatus; however, the chamber may be used independently of the base frame and furnace, when a parlor, office, or cook stove already in use is available.

There is a space or recess cut in the top of one of the doors, and also in one of the roof or top sections, the former to fit over the stovepipe if horizontal, the latter if vertical, and are both provided with square shutters fitted to the stovepipe. By means of this ingenious arrangement the chamber can be readily set up about a hot stove without touching the pipe, and where families have even a cookstove in daily use they can avail themselves of the chamber alone without the expense of base frame, furnace, and extra fuel; and when done bathing, the chamber may be removed from the cookstove and set up elsewhere and for other purposes if desired.

This chamber can be taken down in detached parts without the aid of tools; is easily carried from place to place; and may be set up in any room, or, if necessary, around the bed upon which the patient is lying, without creating any disturbance.

The plan of construction is so simple and perfect that each part, whether door, corner, or top section, is interchangeable with all other similar parts, and the door containing the window may be readily changed from one side of the chamber to the other, when desirable. The same is true of the door containing the square shutters for the pipe opening.

It is adaptable to any place or circumstance, and will render the hot-air and Turkish baths practicable with both physicians and families.

Full information in regard to this novel chamber may be obtained by addressing Dr. Andrew Walker, Natchitoches, La.

NEW ROAD CAR.

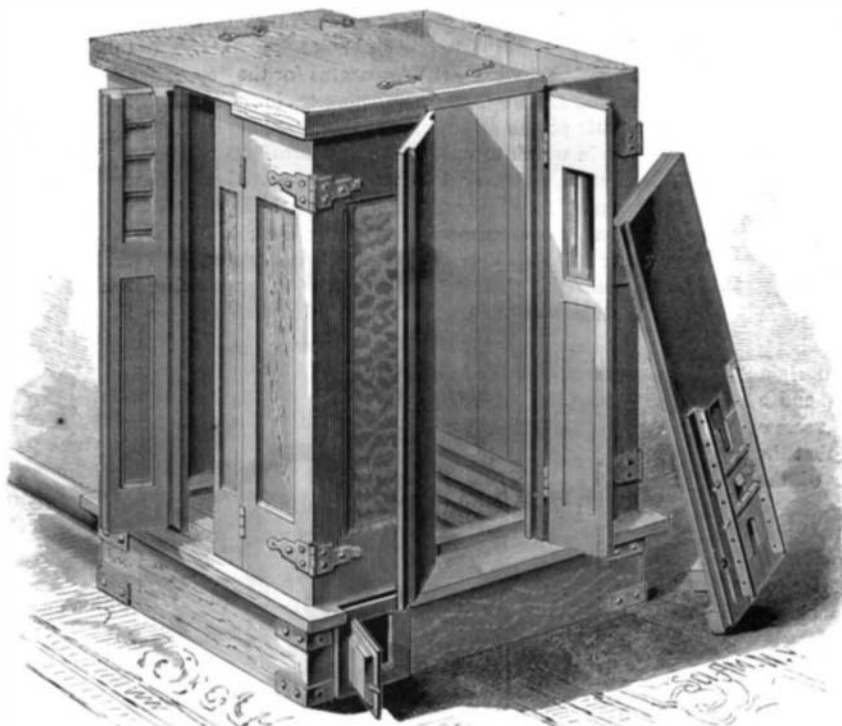
The road car shown in our engraving will shortly commence running on various routes in different parts of London, the London and District Omnibus Company (Limited) having entered into arrangements for the purpose with the inventor, Captain Molesworth, R.N. The chief difference between the old and the new vehicles is that the latter are principally supported on the two large wheels, which arrangement not only gives greater facility in running, but by means of the crank axle also brings the car much nearer the ground, passengers being thus able to step easily from the pavement on to the platform in front, which is no higher than an ordinary curbstone. An additional, and perhaps a more acceptable advantage gained in adopting this principle, is that, however rough the ground or however the load may be distributed, the car glides forward with an undulating, easy motion, most enjoyable compared with the rather "rough and tumble" jolting of the old omnibus. The two small wheels in front act rather as a foundation for the driver's seat than as an additional support to the car. This new arrangement affords great facilities for rapidly turning and changing the vehicle's course in crowded thoroughfares, and also enables the driver to have

proper command of his horses, to be free from interference from passengers, and also to be in close communication with the conductor, who stands on the platform in front, where, in contrast to the old style, is the door. We have seen and traveled in one of the new vehicles, were much pleased with its comfort, roominess, and brightness, and especially with the novel arrangement of the seats on the top; the "knife board" being abolished for a double row of comfortable garden chairs, so placed as to allow of every one sitting with

his or her face to the horses. These chairs are not shown in the illustration, but the majority of the cars are fitted with them.—*London Graphic*.

Proposed Electric Postal Railway.

Models of a proposed electric railway and letter post delivery were recently exhibited before a scientific club in Vienna. A Siemens electro-dynamic machine was used to furnish the motive power. The chief advantage claimed for the system was that the power was generated at the stations and not carried along the line by locomotive engines. The letter post was intended to supply for long distances the want now filled for short distances by pneumatic tubes. Miniature lines

**PORTABLE HOT-AIR BATH CHAMBER.**

of railway were to be built along the passenger lines, and on them, at an exceedingly high rate of speed, would be run small electric engines and cars to take up letters. It would have the advantage of being entirely independent of the regular passenger road, and could be used at any time.

The National Academy.

The closing session of the National Academy was held Friday, April 22. The following papers were read: "Additions to our Knowledge of the Currents and Temperature of the Ocean in the Vicinity of Behring Straits," W. H. Dall; "Results Obtained with Regard to the Molecular Weight of Hydrofluoric Acid," J. W. Mallet; "A Method of Finding the Proximities of the Orbits of Minor Planets," C. H. F. Peters; "Incandescent Lighting," G. F. Barker; "The Auriferous Gravels of California," T. Sterry Hunt. At the conclusion of the last named paper, President Rogers said that before announcing the adjournment of the Academy he wished to express his gratification at the variety and excellence of the communications presented during the session. The brilliancy of some of the results, the large beneficence that will attend their practical application, as well as the

RECENT INVENTIONS.

Mr. Henry S. Norse, of 2238 Third avenue, New York city, has patented an improved duplicating press. The object of this invention is to furnish a foot or power press for use in printing from stencil plates, particularly stencils prepared with the Edison electric pen, so that the labor and time heretofore required in such work shall be reduced. The invention consists in a hinged frame carrying the stencil plate, and a vibrating lever carrying the ink roller, combined together and with a fixed platen or bed, and operated by mechanism of novel construction, by which the hinged frame is raised for insertion of the paper, dropped upon the paper, the ink roller brought over the stencil plate with the required pressure, and then withdrawn while the frame is again raised.

An improved barrel hoop making machine has been patented by Mr. Edward E. Thresher, of Reed City, Mich. This machine is designed especially for cutting hoops from boards or planks, and is so constructed as to cut the timber into oval strips and cut each strip into two beveled hoops. The machine can be readily adjusted for sawing lath and making mouldings.

An improved horse power has been patented by Mr. Benjamin F. McCarty and Richard E. Lindsay, of Seale, Ala. The object of this invention is to furnish horse powers designed especially for driving cotton gins, but which can be used with advantage for various other purposes. They are so constructed that they can be built upon the drive wheels of ordinary horse powers.

An improved crate for the transportation of fish, meats, and other like perishable articles, so as to protect them from decomposition during transportation or storage, has been patented by Mr. William S. Braman, of Key West, Fla. It consists of a crate made of a network of galvanized iron, and provided with a series of knees or projections, which keep the sides of the crate from coming in contact with the sides of the box.

Mr. John Flanagan, of Newburg, N. Y., has patented an improvement in hydrant valves. The invention consists in combining with a hydrant case having a side aperture and an

apertured extension a cross slotted cylinder provided with annular exterior packing grooves and a valve sustained at the center by arms and carrying at the lower end a packing disk.

Mr. Albert Rousseaux, of Brussels, Belgium, has patented an inhaler by means of which air impregnated with tar or other medical odors can be inhaled for penetration to the bronchial tubes and lungs. The invention consists in a cigar holder or mouth piece fitted with a cigar-shaped portion containing tar or other materials formed with air conduits, and provided with a cover perforated for admission of air, so that by being held in the mouth the user can inhale the exterior air, which, on passing through the cigar and holder, becomes impregnated with the tar, medicine, or other material used.

An improved curtain fixture has been patented by Mr. Benjamin Landon, of Canton, Pa. The object of this invention is to improve the construction of the window shade fixtures for which Letters Patent No. 132, 726 were granted to the same inventor under the date of November 5, 1872, in such a manner as to simplify the construction and promote convenience in operating them.

An improved engraving machine has been patented by Mr. Allan E. Francis, of Garrettsville, Ohio. The improvement relates generally to engraving, machines employing a pantograph to which are connected the tracer and the graving tool, and particularly to the means for facing the tool properly and the lever for operating the tool to the construction of the pantograph; to the construction of the tracer arm and the means for adjusting the tracer; to the bed and supports of the machine, and the means for adjusting the pantograph and the work. This invention cannot be described without engravings.

An improvement in wagon gear has been patented by Mr. Horace L. Kingsley, of Racine, Wis. The object of this invention is to provide a cheaper and more durable oscillating gear for platform spring wagons, whereby greater elasticity and freedom of movement is given to the wagon bed. The invention consists of the combination, with the bed piece, of horizontal rocking bars having their inner ends supported in a revolving king bolt plate, and their outer ends in segments that travel over the fifth wheel on the platform.

**MOLESWORTH'S ROAD CAR.**

harmony and fraternal feeling that had characterized their deliberations, were matters for congratulation. The members of the Academy, he said, as indeed all scientific men, constitute a republic; and its government is necessarily attended with some of the inconvenience that attends such a form of government, which encourages the development of strong individuality. The history of the Academy is one of progress, and there lies a grand and brilliant future before it.