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REMOVAL.

The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office is now located at 361 Broadway, cor. Franklin St.

Contents.

(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)

Table listing various articles such as 'Animal remains in coal', 'Bees, how to handle', 'Blindness, color suggestion', etc., with corresponding page numbers.

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THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT

No. 487,

For the Week ending May 17, 1884.

Price 10 cents. For sale by all newsdealers.

Table listing sections I through VI, including 'ENGINEERING AND MECHANICS', 'TECHNOLOGY', 'ELECTRICITY', 'ASTRONOMY', 'PHYSIOLOGY', and 'MISCELLANEOUS'.

ELEVATED CITY RAILWAYS CAUSE EYE TROUBLES.

The introduction of the elevated railways in this city has also brought in a peculiar class of optical troubles, due to the lodgment of iron dust in the eyes of pedestrians and others who have occasion to travel or pass under the railway structures.

The trains have a high speed between stations, and are quickly brought to a stop. This requires strong braking, which grinds off the iron from the shoes in fine showers, and the iron particles fly in all directions.

A magnet applied by us to the tops of the cross-ties attracted a large quantity of very fine iron dust. Each passing train deposits its quota of iron, not only on the cross-ties, but upon the street below.

These particles varied in size from one-sixteenth of an inch to dust so fine as hardly to be distinguished by the naked eye, and were frequently entirely invisible, requiring the aid of the microscope to reveal them.

In order to determine whether iron particles could be attracted while floating in the air, a magnet exposing about one square foot of surface was suspended in mid air under one of the railroad tracks, and although the magnet was by no means a strong one, it attracted to itself iron particles in spite of a strong wind which blew at the time.

Further, the awnings of shopkeepers along the lines of the elevated railroad are discolored by iron rust in a very short time, and require frequent renewals, since washing fails to remove the stains which the rust produces.

The evil above described being manifest, the question of its prevention naturally suggests itself. The subject is worthy the attention of inventors.

THE LITTLE SHOP.

It is time that notice should be taken of the work done as well as of the place taken by our small shops. The "big concerns" do not monopolize all the skill and mechanical capability in the country.

The proprietor of a large manufacturing establishment, building fine tools of a particular character, claims that his best men come from small shops where makeshifts and contrivances are the rule.

It is very convenient to have a shop full of adapted tools, but it is also convenient to have in the shop graduates from "the little shop" who can contrive as well as tend a machine.

The Blanchard Lathe.

The "last lathe" of Thomas Blanchard is an invention that proves itself worthy the name in perpetuity instead of being confined to the turning of wooden lasts. This invention was made public more than sixty-three years ago—January, 1820—and was afterward adapted to wheel spokes, hat blocks, wig blocks, and a large number of other irregular forms.

A few changes have been made in the Blanchard lathe within the last twenty years, but these were mainly adaptations of well known mechanical movements for the special work to which the particular lathe was assigned.

radical change. Yet he would be surprised to see one of his machines turning out from 600 to 700 carriage wheel spokes every ten hours, made from the toughest hickory, and not only that, but changing its feed automatically to suit the work. This change is quite ingenious.

Disinfection of Egyptian Rags.

In relation to the proper disinfection of rags imported into the United States from Egypt, the State Department has, upon careful and mature consideration of the subject commensurate with the interests involved, decided upon the following methods of disinfection, either of which will be satisfactory to the health authorities of New York city, New Haven, and Boston, who have been consulted in respect to the matter, viz.:

- 1. Boiling in water for two hours under a pressure of 50 pounds per square inch;
2. Boiling in water for four hours without pressure; and
3. Subjection to the action of confined sulphurous acid gas for six hours, burning 1 1/2 to 2 pounds of roll brimstone in each 1,000 cubic feet of space, with the rags well scattered upon racks.

Full and explicit instructions have accordingly been given to Mr. George P. Pomeroy, Agent and Consul-General at Cairo, and Mr. Francis McNally, a citizen of the United States, has been designated as the Inspector. He will have immediate supervision, under the Consul-General, of the process of disinfection, will be required to give the subject his earnest personal attention, and furnish a proper certificate.

After that the Consul-General is to authenticate the certificate given by the Inspector. This process is to be observed in the case of every bale of rags, which is to be also marked "Thoroughly inspected," with the name of the inspector.

The Parasites of Money.

The Frankfurter Zeitung states that Dr. Reinsch has found, as the result of a long series of minute investigations, that the surfaces of 50-pfennig pieces (sixpences) which have been long in circulation are the home and feeding ground of a minute kind of bacteria and vegetable fungus.

A Cough Remedy.

One of our English contemporaries, in reply to an inquirer, recommends a sirup made of the following ingredients for colds and coughs: Take 18 ounces of perfectly sound onions, and after removing rind make several incisions, but not too deep.

ORANGE J D D, who has ably managed and edited the American Agriculturist for thirty years, has retired from the latter paper and removed to Chicago, where he is employed as editor of the Prairie Farmer.