

ENGINEERING INVENTIONS.

A car coupling has been patented by Mr. Edward B. Oakley, of Madison, Wis. This invention covers a special construction and arrangement of parts by which cars may be coupled automatically by two hook links, which strike against coupling pins as the cars come together, and on which they catch and are pressed by springs.

An anti-friction material and journal or other bearing has been patented by Mr. Ferdinand E. Canda, of New York city. It is composed of one or more metals or alloys, all solid at ordinary atmospheric temperatures, and ground, granulated, or pulverized, and mixed together with lubricants, such as graphite, mica, soapstone, asbestos, etc., not liable to fuse with the melting of the metals, which mixture may be put up in barrels for use as desired.

A lubricator for steam cylinders has been patented by Mr. Fortunatus G. Kellogg, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The body of the lubricator is a tube with ends bent downward, and made with a boss at mid-length on which the cup is screwed, the steam valves acting upon the stems of the lubricant feeding valves, which extend into the steam chamber, to effect a regular and uniform supply of lubricant.

AGRICULTURAL INVENTIONS.

A plow has been patented by Mr. Ole K. Hamre, of Pennington, Dakota Ter. The essential feature of this invention consists in connections whereby the draught clevis may be swung to either side of a line drawn through the longitudinal center of the plow beam by operating a lever attached to or near the handles or rear end of the plow for shifting the clevis laterally to cause the plowshare to take or leave land or cut a wider or narrower furrow.

A plow point has been patented by Mr. Garland W. Mullin, of Washington, Ga. The purpose of this invention is to obviate the necessity of sharpening the plow point, while making one that is light, inexpensive, and effective; it pertains to that class of plows called "sweeps," used where shallow plowing is required, and the three plates used may be bolted together to make a stiffer plow than one of the same weight would be if made of one thicker plate.

MISCELLANEOUS INVENTIONS.

A suspended scaffold has been patented by Mr. John Worsley, of Chester, Pa. The object of this invention is to promote convenience and safety in painting the cornices and upper windows of buildings, and it relates to a suspended scaffold made with a ladder having end hooks, and with brackets carrying platform boards, so the scaffold can be readily suspended from the cornice of a building, the horizontal bars of the brackets having sliding bars so the scaffold can be readily widened.

A transparent sign has been patented by Mr. George H. Kitchen, of New York city. This invention relates to signs where glass "bull's eyes" are used for letters placed over a light, and consists in forming the "bull's eye" with a lip or flange of greater diameter than its visible outline, so a shallow cavity can be made therein, and no portion of the ornamental outline of the bull's eye will be obscured by the body portion of the sign, and no dust can collect and remain within the bull's eye.

A thill coupling bolt has been patented by Mr. Ira M. Richardson, of Littleton, N. H., and No. 334 West Seventeenth Street, New York city. This invention consists in the combination, with a bolt, of a spring strip pivoted to one end of the bolt, and having its free end bent up and provided with an aperture for receiving the free end of the bolt, thus locking the bolt in place, the device being such as to prevent the bolt dropping out accidentally, while facilitating its insertion and removal.

A feeding trough has been patented by Mr. James S. Moody, of Fillmore, Ill. The invention covers a swinging hopper, with openings, and a shallow pan or trough, both so arranged as to allow of the feed passing out in limited quantities as the stock by pushing on the hopper cause it to swing, so the stock will get only just as much food as they will eat clean, and the amount of total discharge or time of discharge from the hopper may be regulated.

A folding table has been patented by Mr. John W. Stowell, of Putney, Vt. This invention covers a special construction and combination of parts for the making of a table which, when open for use, will be firm and secure, and will be very compact when folded for storage or transportation.

A wind engine has been patented by Mr. David H. Bausman, of Lancaster, Pa. This invention relates to a former patented invention of the same inventor, and has for its object to provide a machine simple in construction, which regulates itself automatically, and adjusts itself according to the direction from which the wind blows.

A trace carrier has been patented by Mr. James H. Philpott, of Rising City, Neb. This invention covers a cheap and practical device of a trace carrier for harness, in which it is easy to insert and remove the cockeye, and there is a shield to prevent the trace carrier from coming in contact with the horse.

A surveying instrument has been patented by Mr. William L. Curtis, of Forest Grove, Ore. It is a level and sight gauge of novel contrivance, together with a variable angle gauge adapted for use as a surveyor's level, and for determining angles in both vertical and horizontal planes, and for measuring heights and distances, the whole being simple and cheap.

A stone sawing machine has been patented by Mr. R. Lester Barney, of Swanton, Vt. This invention provides, in connection with a suitable base for holding the stone, a tank for receiving sand and water, a bucket chain for raising the sand and water, and a gutter for conducting sand and water that has been dumped to the block of stone being sawed, with various other novel details.

An alarm clock has been patented by Mr. Samuel S. Colt, of Orange, N. J. It is made with a cam wheel connected with the clockworks and operating a bent lever, which is held down by a spring to engage with a stop hook attached to the shaft of the alarm escapement, whereby the alarm will be made to sound intermittently at regular intervals.

A music rack for pianos has been patented by Mr. Charles Baumeister, of New York city. The invention consists in the combination with a piano casing of a rack hinged at its top to the front of the casing, and of a slat adapted to swing downward and outward from the front of the casing and form a support for the bottom of the rack, the rack to be held in place by a latch when closed.

A washboard has been patented by Mr. Henry C. Carter, of Montclair, N. J. This invention relates to washboards fitted with protectors that guard against the splashing of suds on the operator, and also form a bearing surface or rest; it covers a spring connection of the protector with the washboard, and the same protector may be used on either side of the board.

A cloth guide for looms has been patented by Mr. Cornelius J. Sullivan, of Fall River, Mass. This invention consists in guides attached to the breast beam of a loom and arranged in connection with a cloth roller to guide the cloth on to the roller, so as to roll straight and true thereon and prevent the shocks and jars of the loom from causing the cloth to run to one end of the roller.

A corn sheller has been patented by Mr. Nicholas Potter, of Troy, Pa. This invention covers novel features for the promotion of convenience and economy in constructing corn shellers; the ears are introduced through a hopper, the shelled corn escapes through apertures in a grate, and the cobs are forced out by the shelling wheel through an aperture in the upper part of the rear end board.

A fireplace has been patented by Mr. Reuben R. Jones, of Sprague, Washington Ter. It has two separate fire boxes, combined with a series of valves for conducting the products of combustion from one fireplace into the flue of the other, or throwing the heat from one fireplace into the fireplace above the firebox of the other, so that two rooms can be heated by one fire, or one room by two fires.

An overflow alarm for water tanks has been patented by Mr. Frank A. Cushing, of New York city. In combination with the telltale pipe of a water tank is an enlarged section with a wheel journaled in it; there is a pin on the journal of the wheel, a lever hammer, and a gong, all designed to make an improved arrangement for giving notice when a tank is full by ringing a bell.

A gang plank for ferryboats has been patented by Mr. Lawrence F. Frazee, of Jersey City, N. J. The gang plank is hinged on a turning platform, the platform and plank having side rails, and levers being pivoted on the platform and connected by rods with the gang plank, which can be raised and lowered very easily and rapidly, and is so constructed as to prevent the passengers from being forced off the plank.

A sailboat has been patented by Mr. Israel Garrard, of Frontenac, Minn. This invention covers a web device of ballast fin, to use in place of the ordinary center board and ballast, the device being held firmly to the hull of the boat, and having at or near its lower edge such an enlargement as will give sufficient weight to draw the boat down to the desired lines of flotation.

A feeder for cotton presses has been patented by Mr. Henry Selz, of Pilot Point, Texas. The receiving box and feed box are separated by a sliding plate attached to a follower secured to the piston rod of a steam cylinder, to adapt the feeder to be interposed between a cotton gin and a baling press, and the inlet and outlet valves of the cylinder are so connected that the movements of the piston can be readily controlled.

An instantaneous shutter for photographic lenses has been patented by Mr. August Loeffler, of Tompkinsville, N. Y. It is made with a plate having an opening to receive the lens tube, a spring roller and a plain roller connected with the plate, and having a connecting cloth with central opening, with handle, ratchet wheel, and spring lever pawl, whereby the rollers can be readily turned and released, constituting together a simple mechanism for instantly uncovering and covering the lenses, so as to obtain an instantaneous exposure.

A automatic shunt for telephone lines has been patented by Messrs. Charles D. Wright and Charles A. Fisher, of Petersburg, Ill. The invention combines with a telephone line a series of signaling magnets and an electro-magnet and spring for each signaling magnet, the electro-magnets automatically cutting out the signaling magnets when the reverse current does not pass through the electro-magnets, and automatically bringing the several signal magnets in circuit when the signaling current passes through the electric magnets.

Special.

TWO WELL KNOWN EDITORS.

One of the busiest religious editors in Philadelphia, as well as one of the most successful, is the Rev. Victor L. Conrad, of the *Lutheran Observer*. He is the office editor, while his brother, the Rev. F. W. Conrad, D.D., is the editor-in-chief. Professor V. L. Conrad gives his whole time and effort to the work of making the *Lutheran Observer* the valuable sheet it is. He was, comparatively, a short time ago, a broken down invalid. Now he is as hearty as anybody need want to be.

In the interest of overworked editors, broken down literary men, and exhausted men of business, one of our writers paid a visit to Professor Conrad a few days ago, and had a pleasant and practical talk with him. Professor Conrad was seated in his editorial chair, "pushing things" for the coming issue of the *Observer*, and thus he informed us:

"There are few people who become as weary and worn as brain workers. By long and unremitting overwork

with the brain, I was badly run down, and brought into a condition of great nervous weakness. My stomach was in poor condition. My digestion was bad. If I ate a hearty meal, I felt heavy and dull. I had a general feeling of good-for-nothingness. I was unable to perform my editorial duties with satisfaction. In this state I realized that something must be done, and that right promptly, or I would become a confirmed invalid. This was six or eight years ago.

"From the experience of others, I knew something of Compound Oxygen. I would have been inclined to be a little skeptical about it, but I knew of the case of Mrs. Kelley, formerly Miss Hornbrook. I knew how prostrated she had been: an apparently hopeless case of spinal injury. I thought that if such a case as hers could be reached by Compound Oxygen, mine was not beyond its power.

"To make a long story short, I took the treatment. I saw at once that it was not one of the class of remedies which do their work in twenty-four hours. For this I liked it all the better, and I gained confidence in it. I began to improve; first a little, then more decidedly, but gaining all the time. Before long that miserable feeling of good-for-nothingness was gone. My nerves were toned up. My stomach improved, and eating was no longer the cause of torment. I was able to do my work. My recovery was a simple and pleasant process. No nauseous medicine to take; no unpleasant operations to endure. I could experience the pleasure of restoration and still attend to my literary duties. I continued the treatment until my health was fully restored, and I could perform my editorial labors as felicitously as ever.

"You ask me if I ever have occasion now to return to the treatment. Yes, I do sometimes. There are times when I am mentally jaded from overwork and consequent fatigue. Then I take a few inhalations of the Compound Oxygen, and it seems to renew my vitality and act with immediate effect."

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"Both my brother's case and my own are of interest to the overworked thousands who cannot take a week's rest or a day's rest from their wearying labor. I think literary men, business men, and overworked clergymen as well, ought to know more about this Compound Oxygen; it is so simple, so efficacious, so easy of application, and so certain in cases of disease which the physicians consider almost beyond hope. Its applicability to a wide range of diseases seems to me to be one of its highest merits. It is entirely free from everything like empiricism, and produces the best results by the natural and direct way in which it acts on the vital organs of the system, repairing waste, and making good the ravages of disease and decay."

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