

ENGINEERING INVENTIONS.

A feed water regulator has been patented by Mr. Frederick E. Smith, of South Boston, Mass. This invention covers a novel construction and arrangement of parts, designed to provide a single apparatus of simple and inexpensive construction, which will act automatically to maintain the water in the boiler at a given height.

A wheel fastening device for car axles has been patented by Mr. Andrew J. Spicer, of Portland, Oregon. This invention provides a means of attaching car wheels to their axles in such manner that the two wheels carried by an axle will be able to revolve independently, and if necessary in opposite directions, thus avoiding undue wear and tear upon the tread of the wheel when the vehicle is passing about a curve.

AGRICULTURAL INVENTION.

A corn crib rat trap has been patented by Mr. William R. Parker, of Muddy Creek Forks, Pa. This invention covers a novel construction and combination of parts in a trap especially designed for use in connection with corn cribs, the trap being also adapted for use in the house or barn.

MISCELLANEOUS INVENTIONS.

A holdback has been patented by Mr. William Corcoran, of Copenhagen, N. Y. This invention provides a means of detachably securing the holdback strap in connection with the shafts, whereby, should the traces become loose on the whiffletree, the shafts will not become entangled with the harness.

A corn husker has been patented by Mr. Herbert S. Blair, of Bucyrus, Ohio. This invention relates to hand huskers or husking pins, in which the implement is held on the hand by a strap, and consists in combining with the husking pin or tool a flexible loop-like strap of novel construction.

A thill coupling has been patented by Mr. William M. Spicer, of Wellsville, N. Y. Combined with a pin having a stud projecting from one side, is a spring attached to the axle and having an eye for receiving the stud of the pin, making a coupling which will remain in place in the thill irons without rattling.

A suspender buckle has been patented by Mr. Charles F. Walters, of Prospect, N. Y. It consists of a single piece of wire bent upon itself, forming front and back members, making a buckle easily adjusted up and down on the web of the suspender, while connecting very firmly and securely the straps to the web.

A fountain pen has been patented by Fred A. Robinson and Amy I. Smith, of New York City. This invention relates to that class of fountain pens which employ a nib pen, and consists principally in such construction of the pen that it is adapted to have a longitudinal movement which is utilized for feeding the ink to the pen.

A spring hinge has been patented by Mr. Henry F. Keil, of New York City. This invention relates to a spring butt, and provides a construction whereby the tension of the spring may be regulated by the manipulation of one tip, the spring being completely concealed and the device having the outward appearance of an ordinary butt.

A composition for sidewalks has been patented by Mr. Louis N. Beauchemin, of Hancock, Mich. It is made of coal tar, black pitch, resin, slab tar, pulverized limestone, copper moulding stamp sand, and other ingredients, mixed in specified proportions to a mortar-like mass, and laid on a proper foundation with the aid of a heated roller.

A game counter has been patented by Mr. Ferdinand King, of New York City. It consists of a disk upon which hands are pivoted to move independently of each other in the segment of a circle, making a simple device, capable of being carried upon the person, upon which the tally of points made in any game by two or more persons may be kept separately.

A gate latch has been patented by Mr. George W. Charleville, of McKinney, Texas. A ring or rings are loosely suspended in a case, with a lever or levers for operating the rings, while the case has side plates formed to constitute guides for the rings and prevent them from sidewise rocking or play, making a latch especially designed for use on gates, barns, and the like.

A wire joint has been patented by Mr. William A. Reddick, of Niles, Mich. It is formed by cutting away one side of the end of the wire, bending the reduced portion around another section, with the flat face of the cut part next to the wire grasped, and connecting the parts by tinning, such joint being especially serviceable in making skeleton frames for various purposes.

A hydraulic lift has been patented by Mr. Thomas P. Ford, of London, England. This invention relates to the valve gear for controlling the admission of water to the main cylinder, and its circulation from one end of the cylinder to the other, enabling plug or slide valves to be used, while preventing leakage from grit interfering with the proper seating of the valves.

A sea-quieting apparatus has been patented by Mr. Jens F. O. Larsen, of Copenhagen, Denmark. It is a compressible oil distributor made of a flexible pervious bag open at both ends, with rigid apertured covers and devices for closing the openings, an oil absorbent material filling the bag, out of which the oil is forced by the compression of the bag by the force of the waves.

An automatic temperature regulator has been patented by Mr. James W. Brook, of Lynchburg, Va. It is designed to automatically stop the flow of water, or open or close a window or ventilator, the device covering a novel construction and combination of parts in an apparatus having a longitudinally contractible and expandible rod, according to the variations of the temperature.

A screw driver has been patented by Messrs. George E. Gay and John H. Parsons, of Augusta, Me. It is an improved form of round-bladed screw drivers, in which the blade is secured in the handle by having its upper end driven into the wood, the upper end of the blade being so formed that by simply forcing it into the handle the screw driver is completed, without any other device to connect the blade and handle.

A wagon pole attachment has been patented by Mr. George F. Colby, of Shelby, Iowa. It is for preventing the neck yoke from coming off the pole, and consists of a longitudinally slotted and apertured tube provided with downwardly projecting lugs at each end, a spring being secured to the tube and provided with a pin engaging the aperture, the attachment being easily put on and taken off, and adapted to fit different sized poles.

A gear power for presses has been patented by Mr. Peter D. Roquemore, of De Berry, Texas. This invention covers improvements in mechanism for operating baling presses, the driving gear comprising shafts geared together at one end, with loose pinions at or near the other ends, and an intermediate fixed pinion upon a third power transmitting shaft, admitting of running either right or left, packing the bale up or down, and running at any rate of speed.

An electric regulator forms the subject of two patents issued to Messrs. Joseph A. Vansant and Frank S. Anderson, of Easton, Md. The construction is such that the normal circuit may be broken at will and the current caused to diverge and pass through a powdered material whose low conductivity is increased or diminished by compressing it more or less, thereby increasing or diminishing the strength of the current, the powdered substance employed being preferably mineral wool and carbon, one or more cells or receptacles containing the powder, and the invention providing means for compressing the powder as required.

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AUGUST NUMBER.—(No. 34.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- 1. Elegant plate in colors of a dwelling at Gren Edge, N. J., with floor plans, sheet of details, etc. Cost, eight thousand five hundred dollars.
2. Plate in colors of a fire engine house of moderate cost. Details and floor plans.
3. Perspective view and floor plans of a residence at Black Rock, Conn. Cost, six thousand dollars.
4. Sketch of an uptown block of attractive residences, New York City.
5. Floor plans and perspective elevation of two Queen Anne cottages, lately completed at Bath Beach, Long Island. Cost, four thousand dollars each.
6. Design and floor plans for a two thousand dollar house lately built at Bridgeport, Conn.
7. Perspective and floor plans of an attractive residence lately built at Bridgeport, Conn. Cost, two thousand eight hundred dollars.
8. A six hundred dollar cottage built lately at Bridgeport, Conn. Perspective and floor plans.
9. Plans and perspective view of a seaside cottage lately erected at Bath Beach, Long Island. Cost, three thousand five hundred dollars.
10. Engraving and floor plans of a neat little double house lately erected at Bridgeport, Conn., costing one thousand eight hundred dollars.
11. A country residence in France. Perspective and plans.
12. Engraving of the palatial stables of Mr. D. Edgar Crouse, Syracuse, N. Y.
13. Plans and perspective for a carriage house, barn, etc. Cost, two thousand two hundred dollars.
14. Elevation and floor plans for a double house costing complete four thousand two hundred dollars.
15. New Congregational Church at Beckenham, Kent, England.
16. Page of designs of New England residences.

Miscellaneous contents: Vegetable glue.—Fourth of July fires.—The slag water closet.—Rust in water pipes.—Laying out the joints of an elliptical vault, illustrated.—The tulip and other trees.—Architectural school houses.—Hanging baskets.—To estimate the power of a stream.—Manufacturing progress in the South.—How to grow quinces.—Mixed wheats.—New ceiling for the Assembly chamber of the New York State Capitol.—Transplanting large pines.—Galveston artesian wells.—Poisonous wall paper and carpets.—The testing of Portland cement.—The humming bird.—Manila hemp in plaster.—A perfect hen house.—Examination questions for plumbers.—Road improvements.—The "Patten" metallic shingles and siding plates, illustrated.—The pool of Bethesda.—Carl Pfeiffer.—Creosote wood preserving stains.—House heating by hot water circulation, illustrated.—Ohio's largest poplar.—Mortar.—Irrigating wheels.—Liquid fish glue.

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Tight and Slack Barrel Machinery a specialty. John Greenwood & Co., Rochester, N. Y. See illus. adv., p. 28.

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INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Granted

August 7, 1888,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]

- Alarm, J. F. Stuckert ..... 387,265
Amalgamator, A. H. Eysaman ..... 387,347
Anti-siphoning trap, F. H. Paradise ..... 387,252
Asbestos faced felt, J. L. Reed ..... 387,368
Asphaltum compound and making the same, Higbie & Dougherty ..... 387,367

- Atomizer, A. D. Schlesinger ..... 387,370
Auger, H. W. Richards ..... 387,418
Axles, wheel fastening device for car, A. J. Spicer ..... 387,459
Back band hook, A. J. Dennis ..... 387,583
Bag machine, D. Appel ..... 387,573
Baling press, Blank & Schwarzbach ..... 387,486
Baling press, F. Frey ..... 387,508
Baling press, Hoop & Isaac ..... 387,516
Ballot box, R. G. Wood ..... 387,572
Barrel hoop, G. W. Parrish ..... 387,586
Bearing, roller, R. W. Hent ..... 387,356
Bed lounge, F. B. Hemingway ..... 387,513
Bedclothes holder, H. W. Stetson ..... 387,376
Bee hive, I. C. Doyal ..... 387,217
Bending tool, D. Dingleidine ..... 387,428
Bitumen compound and making the same, Higbie & Dougherty ..... 387,358
Blinds, etc., cord holder for Venetian, J. R. Earnshaw ..... 387,499
Board. See Wash board.
Boiler. See Steam boiler. Wash boiler.
Boiler feeder, steam, G. A. Colby ..... 387,553
Boilers, steam generating attachment for, G. W. Tilton ..... 387,271
Book clip, J. W. Nolan ..... 387,364
Book rack, S. J. Talbot ..... 387,287
Boots or shoes, sock or insole for, T. Barker ..... 387,355
Bottle stopper, Heaton & Akers ..... 387,232
Bottle stopper, T. Terrell ..... 387,379
Bottles, jars, etc., machine for grinding the mouths of glass, J. K. Cummings ..... 387,555
Box. See Ballot box. Letter box.
Box fastener, W. & J. Rush ..... 387,260
Brace. See Eaves trough brace.
Brake. See Car brake.
Brick, pallet for drying, C. T. Fitch ..... 387,405
Broiler, W. Vogel ..... 387,609
Brush and roller, combined, paperhanger's W. H. Jack ..... 387,562
Buckle, suspender, C. F. Walters ..... 387,465
Buckles, spring hook for suspender, C. Voorhis ..... 387,329
Buggy boot, J. A. Mansfield ..... 387,429
Burner. See Oil burner.
Bustle, J. E. Hogsett ..... 387,515
Can. See Oil can.
Cans, restoring old metal, J. W. Geddes ..... 387,587
Cane, combination, D. Crowley ..... 387,213
Cane shredding machine, J. Parker ..... 387,438
Car brake, C. B. Fithian ..... 387,219
Car brake, M. B. Mills ..... 387,434
Car brake, J. West ..... 387,474
Car coupling, N. Barr ..... 387,485
Car coupling, J. M. Clark ..... 387,395
Car coupling, R. H. Dowling ..... 387,584
Car coupling, F. Halbrook ..... 387,352
Car coupling, O. P. Hix ..... 387,416
Car coupling, H. Sommerfeld ..... 387,323
Car, electrically driven, J. Weiss ..... 387,610
Car lock, freight, E. C. Smith ..... 387,371
Car, logging, M. Wilbur ..... 387,477
Car seats, reversible back for, J. P. Doyle ..... 387,404
Car, stock, J. Montgomery ..... 387,246
Car wheel, W. H. Brown ..... 387,209
Car window, W. H. Dawson ..... 387,403
Cars, apparatus for heating, T. H. Bottomley ..... 387,206
Cars, extension step for railway, J. Solatinow ..... 387,374
Cars, heater for railway, Frisbie & McAuley ..... 387,538
Cars, mail bag receiving and delivery apparatus for railway, E. Keenan ..... 387,420
Carrier. See Railway signal carrier.
Cart, road, C. A. Miller ..... 387,311, 387,312
Cartridge, A. W. Cochran ..... 387,493
Cartridge loader, E. G. Dorchester ..... 387,556
Cartridge loader, H. Gardner ..... 387,223
Cartridge, pneumatic, N. W. Pratt ..... 387,256
Case. See Needle case. Watch case.
Cash register, H. A. Miles ..... 387,438
Cement, manufacturing hydraulic, C. K. Gostling ..... 387,588
Chair. See Railway chair.
Chair, E. S. French ..... 387,586
Check hook, F. D. Clark ..... 387,577
Chop saw, A. J. Thompson ..... 387,270
Chopper. See Cotton chopper.
Cleaner. See Gun cleaner.
Clip. See Book clip.
Clepsydra, J. Cardona ..... 387,514
Clock synchronizer, electric, A. G. Wiseman ..... 387,276
Clocks and watches, making arbors for, W. N. Weeden ..... 387,549
Clocks and watches, making pinions for, W. N. Weeden ..... 387,472
Clocks and watches, means for making pinions for, W. N. Weeden ..... 387,470
Clocks, watches, etc., arbor for, W. N. Weeden ..... 387,469
Clocks, watches, etc., pinion for, W. N. Weeden ..... 387,471
Closet. See Dry closet.
Cloth, finishing, D. Gessner ..... 387,294, 387,295
Cloth pressing machine, D. Gessner, 387,287 to 387,291, 387,293, 387,296, 387,297
Clothes drier, G. Conover ..... 387,340
Clothes drier, D. A. Dickson ..... 387,345
Clothes drier, M. Gindorf ..... 387,225
Clutch mechanism, W. B. Turner ..... 387,272
Coat protector, J. H. Brooke ..... 387,575
Combination lock, C. Henderson ..... 387,300
Compression coupling, J. W. Ramsey ..... 387,538
Condenser, jet, L. Schutte ..... 387,261
Condenser, surface, F. J. Weiss ..... 387,473
Connecting rod, A. Foulson ..... 387,444
Conveyer, G. W. McCaslin ..... 387,241
Cooker, steam feed, Martin & Reinholdt ..... 387,525
Corn husker, H. S. Blair ..... 387,391
Corset, G. A. Close ..... 387,578
Cotton chopper, C. H. Simmons ..... 387,262
Coupling. See Car coupling. Compression coupling. Hose coupling. Pipe coupling. Thill coupling.
Crate, egg, W. R. Greiner ..... 387,227, 387,228
Cues and other articles, holder for, G. W. Graf ..... 387,510
Cultivator, S. L. Allen ..... 387,332, 387,333
Cultivator, cotton, T. Griffin ..... 387,589
Curtain ring, W. L. Braddock ..... 387,392
Dampers, locking device for stove pipe, V. Doane, Jr. .... 387,215
Dentist's polishing disk, L. E. Custer ..... 387,581
Detonating ball, S. Armstrong ..... 387,574
Digger. See Potato digger.
Door check, F. W. Tobey ..... 387,328
Door structure, storm, T. Van Kannel ..... 387,571
Doubletree, spring, J. S. Harkins ..... 387,288
Dress form, W. H. Knapp ..... 387,563
Drier. See Clothes drier.
Drier, W. McPherson ..... 387,248
Drilling tools, securing the fastenings of, J. H. Whaling ..... 387,475
Dry closet, I. D. Smead ..... 387,263
Dumping platform, A. Baker ..... 387,334
Dust collector, B. F. Ortmann ..... 387,437
Dyeing and bleaching apparatus, H. Richmond ..... 387,543
Eaves trough brace, L. J. Sawyer ..... 387,601
Egg beater, J. J. Diell ..... 387,214
Electric current regulator, Vansant & Anderson ..... 387,464