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Notes & Queries

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(8020) S. E. D. asks: What would be the proper lengths of the tubes mentioned in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN of November 24 for a full set of chimes of ten notes? Will the tubes give as clear a tone as bells of the same pitch? A. The lengths cannot be given exactly on account of the variation in diameter and thickness of the tubes. They can be cut off a little longer than the length given and turned by filing the ends. We give the lengths of fifteen tubes in inches: G, 11 1/2; A, 11; B, 10 1/4; C, 9 3/8; D, 9 3/8; E, 8 3/4; F, 8 3/8; G, 8 3/8; A, 7 3/8; B, 7 1/4; C, 6 3/4; D, 6 1/2; E, 6 1/8; F, 5 3/4; G, 5 1/2. The tubes are 3/8 in. external diameter and 1-32 in. thick.

(8021) H. S. G. asks: Is water a conductor or a non-conductor? A. Water is a non-conductor of electricity. It has a very high resistance when pure. The addition of a trace of an acid will, however, reduce the resistance so that it will conduct fairly well. When this is done electrolysis takes place.

(8022) H. H. G. asks: Can you tell me if I should shellac the plates of a Wimshurst machine which I am constructing? I am making the plates of hard rubber and they are eight inches in diameter. A. It is well to shellac the plates of a Wimshurst machine, even if of hard rubber, since the shellac prevents the deposit of moisture from the air upon the plates.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Issued for the Week Ending DECEMBER 25, 1900,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

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

Table listing inventions with names and dates. Includes: Abdominal support, H. S. Gates, 664,398; Accumulator, L. Renaud, 664,679; Advertising device, electric, P. Dawson, 664,807; Aging apparatus, wine or liquor, A. B. C. Dowdell, 664,538; Air-compressors, unloading means for, G. de Laval and G. P. Aborn, 664,562, 664,563; Air cooling and agitating apparatus, E. F. Porter, 664,776; Alarm, See cord-tension alarm. Low-water alarm, 664,712; Amalgamator, grading, A. Z. Baldebre, 664,738; Anchor-rope attachment, boat, C. C. Freer, 664,708; Ash-pan, W. S. Anderson, 664,741; Auger, earth, W. B. Gibson, 664,373; Automobiles, combined condenser and dashboard for, L. F. N. Baldwin, 664,447; Axle, J. H. Taylor, 664,611; Axle and box, vehicle, J. G. Anderson, 664,729; Axle for automobiles, steering, J. B. Decker, 664,749; Back-pedaling brake, P. P. Hinckley, 664,749; Bag, See washbag; Bag-holder, Hicks and P. L. Hoffman, 664,400; Balance, See L. Erickson, 664,734; Baling-press, 664,423; Baling-press, 664,701; Barrel-carrier, S. L. Lusk, 664,623; Barrels when steaming, 664,635; Basting, E. E. Jewell, 664,556; Basket, W. T. and J. I. Lusk, 664,654; Bearing, antifriction roller, J. A. B. 664,922; Bearing for colter or other shafts, 664,729; Lubricating and dust-proof, E. W. Coombs and L. A. Brooks, 664,729; Bearing roller, J. A. Perkins, 664,820; Bearings, closing-up device for axle, F. S. Surth, 664,477; Bed-bottom, spring, W. D. Hunt, 664,756; Bed, folding, D. Eisner, 664,539; Bedclothes-holder, M. S. Parsons, 664,496; Beer, etc., cold-air-pressure apparatus for, G. Schmidt, 664,824; Best-topping-machine, J. H. Luchs, 664,420; Bench, See washbench; Bicycle, H. C. Weeks, 664,826; Bicycle-chain, A. L. Jacobs, 664,481; Bicycle-support, A. McCollom, 664,490; Billiard-cue, J. Braucers, 664,825; Binder, automatic lock, E. A. Trussell, 664,825; Blind, outside window, W. Alford, 664,451;

Table listing inventions with names and dates. Includes: Boat, life, E. A. Manny, 664,769; Boiler, See water-tube boiler, 664,534; Boiler, T. P. Connelly, 664,473; Boiler furnace, steam, C. W. Fleischmann and K. Fischer, 664,687; Bookcase, sectional, C. Snyder, 664,384; Book, manufacturing order, S. S. Cooke, 664,417; Book or copy holder, E. T. Montgomery, 664,664; Book or music rack attachment, W. A. Luby, 664,419; Book, separable, F. H. Gilson, 664,544; Bottle, W. A. Fries, Sr., 664,739; Bottle, non-refillable, J. H. Barnes, 664,376; Bottle, non-refillable, H. J. Bloomer, 664,605; Bottle, water, W. E. Fenn, 664,472; Box, See butter-box, Mail-box, Match-box, Paper box, Ticket-box; Box-corner binding-strip, W. J. Pierpont, 664,676; Box-fastener, H. C. Knox, 664,415; Boxes, construction for fancy, H. J. Erkenswick, 664,471; Brake, See back-pedaling vehicle-brake; Brick loading or unloading apparatus, T. E. Ayotte and A. A. Charbonneau, 664,711; Broaching-press, J. A. Baker, 664,615; Bucket, minnow, J. R. Brinck, 664,719; Burner, See gas-burner; Butter-box, J. K. C. Hobbs, 664,549; Buttonhole marker and spacer, G. A. Joy, 664,759; Cabinet, buffet, T. G. Walpuski, 664,697; Call-box, electric, E. E. Salisbury, 664,681; Camera, roll-holding photographic, J. P. Meyer, 664,770; Can, See oil-can, Sliver-can; Canceled machine, letter, S. E. Pettee, 664,429; Capsules for bottles, etc., machine for manufacturing, E. Watzke, 664,516; Car construction, railway, J. H. Horne, 664,552; Car-coupling, S. P. Bush, 664,608; Car, double-hopper-bottom, G. I. King, 664,760; Car, flat, G. I. King, 664,646; Car grain-door, A. T. Brammer, 664,716; Car or wagon stake, G. H. Wall, 664,793; Car-roof, H. W. Bennett, Jr., 664,602; Car-seater, J. F. Bennett, 664,437; Carcasses, apparatus for handling animal, W. C. Jarvis, 664,410; Card-holder, J. D. Kelly, 664,558; Card-holder lock-rod, D. E. Hunter, 664,753; Carpet-cleaner, W. and J. Bowie, 664,606; Carrier, See barrel-carrier; Cart, J. J. McNulty, 664,666; Case, See bookcase, Jewel-case; Casket-lowering device, A. C. Richardson, 664,581; Casting, composite metal, W. D. Sargent, 664,438; Castor-bean-popping house, C. Saxton, 664,586; Chairs, playing-board and guard for infants, E. Pirnhaber, 664,542; Chart, adjustable dress, H. C. Wilson, 664,700; Chuck, planer, J. Sness, 664,688; Church or altar safety apparatus, D. G. Finnerty, 664,541; Clamp, See saw-clamp, Umbrella-rod clamp; Clamp or bracket, B. F. Durham, 664,390; Clasp for garment-supporters, etc., C. M. Simpson, 664,685; Clasp for shoes, etc., S. Cohen, 664,467; Cleaner, See carpet-cleaner; Clip, See hair-clip; Clip or card-holder, F. S. Webb, 664,517; Clock striking mechanism, J. Gutekunst, 664,604; Clothes-line reel, H. Huebner, 664,640; Clutch, E. Prouty, 664,431; Cock, lock, J. B. Campbell, 664,462; Cock, stop and waste, J. B. Campbell, 664,463; Coin-controlled mechanism, R. E. Monger, 664,569; Collar-pad fastener, J. E. Chautler, 664,464; Collar-spring, S. A. Koltonski, 664,648; Collector-ring, H. G. Roist, 664,503; Compass, adjusting, S. D. Patrick, 664,427; Conveying apparatus, S. B. Peck, 664,427; Cop-tube mandrel, D. Jackson, 664,643; Copper, extracting, J. Doublas, 664,537; Cord-tension alarm, C. Bransgrove, 664,717; Corn-cutter, C. O. Eberlein, 664,627; Corn husker and shredder, F. M. Teegarden and J. B. Himes, 664,448; Cornet, F. J. Richmond, 664,434; Corset-shield, P. M. Matthew, 664,659; Coupling, See car-coupling, Thill-coupling; Cows from kicking, device for preventing, J. F. Wallace, 664,794; Crate, ax-handle, H. G. Graves, 664,475; Cuff-holder, P. O'Donnell, 664,577; Cultivator and harrow, M. Smith, 664,696; Cultivator, hand, J. H. Anderson, 664,601; Cultivator replanter attachment, M. G. Mitchell, 664,663; Cultivator-shovel, F. W. French, 664,397; Curtain, adjustable storm, F. P. Stukey, 664,702; Curtain fixture, J. B. Bernier, 664,618; Cut-off, down-spout, G. A. Higgins, 664,548; Cutter, See corn-cutter; Cylinder-tooth, P. Swenson, 664,446; Delivery mechanism, O. Roosen, 664,585; Distilling and refining oils, T. Macalpine, 664,813; Dock, sectional floating construction, W. Jamieson, 664,758; Door, grain, J. E. Brown and H. H. Winters, 664,621; Drafting and measuring tool, combined, W. C. Day, 664,727; Dredging apparatus, F. Ecaubert, 664,628; Driving mechanism, H. P. Richards, 664,505; Dye and making same, triphenylmethane, H. R. Vidal, 664,450; Edging device, P. Brown, 664,530; Egg beater and mixer, combined, R. G. and E. H. Rabiger, 664,779; Electric currents into effective mechanical energy, converting the energy of alternating, R. Eickmeyer, 664,433; Electric cut-out, J. H. and H. Trumbull, 664,511; Electric heater and circuit-controller therefor, J. I. Ayer, 664,371; Electric-machine brush-holder, dynamo, C. W. Krash, 664,649; Electric machine, dynamo, I. Fisher, 664,286; Electromagnet-coil, S. D. Sprong, 664,442; Elliptic spring, O. Morrill and H. P. Wells, 664,571; End-gate fastening, J. Pearson, 664,498; Engine, See internal-combustion engine, Rotary engine, Steam-engine; Engine cylinder-head, R. L. Ambrose, 664,453; Engine fly-wheels, starting-jack for, J. F. Trumble, 664,510; Engine speed-regulator, explosive, H. Sutton, 664,389; Engine tender, traction, F. J. Weir, 664,599; Engines, incandescent igniting device for explosion, G. Miari and P. Giusti, 664,661; Envelop, I. F. Long, 664,566; Envelop, J. A. Ullman, 664,493; Exhibiting device, B. Tropp, 664,692; Faucet and overflow, combined, W. G. Vulchet, 664,803; Feather quills, machine for grinding, S. Levy, 664,564; Feed-water-purifying apparatus, I. S. McDougall, 664,572; Feeder, boiler, J. Barry and M. L. Shaughnessy, 664,456; Feeder, steam-boiler, W. Vidlund, 664,636; Feeding and watering poultry, device for, D. E. Southwick, 664,591; Fender, See fence-fender; Fertilizer-distributor, J. C. Holtzclaw, 664,477; File, L. C. McNeal, 664,573; File, prescription, H. I. Jeffers, 664,482; File suspension device, document, D. E. Hunter, 664,735; Filter, J. C. Henderson, 664,408; Filtering material, R. Rittershausen, 664,782; Flange bowl, S. 664,802; Flange, See washbasin; Floor, See wall floor; Floor, J. 664,658; Floor, J. 664,639; Floor, J. 664,702; Floor, G. C. and H. E. Setchell, 664,786; Floor, G. W. Turton, 664,787; Floor, G. W. Turton, 664,449; Floor and delivery mechanism, W. Scott, 664,889; Floor mechanism, O. Roosen, 664,583; Floor, O. Roosen, 664,584; Floor, See water-fountain; Floor, automatic, C. E. Perry, 664,499; Floor, See boiler-furnace, Regenerative furnace, Smokeless furnace, auxiliary furnace, L. Pestin, 664,674;

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Baker, 664,435; Grinding machine, ball, H. M. Putnam, 664,823; Grinding machine, chaser, J. Wallace, 664,512; Guaiaculated serum and making same, F. Berlioz, 664,377; Gum or gum wastes, regenerating old, C. Brimmer, 664,529; Gun-mount, W. H. Driggs, 664,732; Gutter-hanger, W. Heib, 664,637; Hame-clip, W. C. Johnson, 664,411; Hammer, blacksmith's, J. Wade, 664,693; Hammock, I. E. Palmer, 664,674; Hammock-support, I. E. Palmer, 664,672; Handles of brooms, scrubbing-brushes, etc., device for securing, W. Knieper, 664,413; Hanger, See gutter-hanger; Harvesters, mowers, etc., knife for, H. Oldham, 664,670; Harvesting machine, potato, H. Harms and H. Seegler, 664,406; Headlight, F. B. Lash, 664,418; Heater, See electric heater, Portable heater, Water-heater; Heating and ventilating systems for buildings, D. W. Anderson, 664,706; Heating apparatus, low-pressure steam, J. Kelling, 664,644; Hides, treating, F. Wayland, 664,598; Hinge, spring, W. K. Sanstrom, 664,682; Hoisting and carrying device, overhead, N. E. Brown, 664,622; Hook, See Fish-hook, Snap-hook; Horseshoeing-stall, J. A. Gray, 664,402; Incubator, J. L. Macy, 664,657; Inkstand, A. L. Newton, 664,423; Insulator, E. Renault, 664,432; Internal-combustion engine, W. K. Freeman, 664,632; Iron, See electrolytic treatment of, H. L. Hollis, 664,550; Irrigator and insufflator, rectal, R. E. Warner, 664,796; Jewel case or box, M. Winderl, 664,520; Joint, See pipe-joint, Rail-joint, Vehicle-frame joint; Knife-blade, R. H. Dickinson, 664,536; Knitting-machine needle, A. D. Dodge, 664,808; Labeling machine, bottle, T. A. Weber, 664,737; Ladder, C. Coplantz, 664,385; Ladder, break-away, F. M. Z. Knight, 664,414; Lamp, acetylene-gas bicycle, W. A. Penfield, 664,775; Lamp-burner, J. Gregory, 664,742; Lamp, carriage, E. M. Rosenbluth, 664,783; Lamp, electric-arc, R. E. Ball, 664,713; Lamps, regulating-socket for multifilament incandescent electric, C. A. Hussey, 664,554; Lawn-sprinkler, R. H. Dengler, 664,730; Lawn-sprinkler, A. G. W. Peterson and J. F. Haslam, 664,428; Lead, treating white, T. C. Sanderson, 664,437; Let-off, friction, T. Brindle and M. O. Steere, 664,380; Life-preserver, H. J. Ennis, 664,395; Lime-slaking apparatus, W. Schulthess, 664,440; Liquid with compressed gas, apparatus for actuating, R. Conrad, 664,723; Liquids in fixed quantities, apparatus for drawing off, E. Franc, T. and W. L. Cole, 664,629; Lock, W. B. Moore, 664,422; Lock, A. Petersen, 664,674; Lock, J. Rikard, 664,582; Lock-rod, rotary, D. E. Hunter, 664,754; Loom filling-replenishing mechanism, E. S. Simpson, 664,790; Loom picker-staff buffer, F. A. Mills, 664,817; Loom picking mechanism, M. M. Lahue, 664,560; Looms, pneumatic shuttle and picker-staff buffer for, F. A. Mills, 664,816; Low-water alarm, M. R. Schaffer, 664,785; Lubricating device for piston-rods, R. E. McCuen and P. J. Gormley, 664,491; Mail-box, package, A. C. Chase, 664,531; Match-box, L. C. Day, 664,625; Match-box, E. R. Odor, 664,576; Match-machine, W. F. Hutchinson, 664,642; Match, safety, C. Haslwanter, Jr., 664,609; Matrix or die setting machines, distributing apparatus for, E. Wenscher, 664,698; Medical use, serum preparation for, F. Berlioz, 664,378; Metal, machine for making expanded, E. S. Bradford, 664,379; Metal tank, F. P. Manning, 664,421; Mill, See rolling-mill; Mirror attachment, W. H. H. Wright, 664,522; Molding-machine, G. W. Pacler, 664,426; Motion, device for converting vibratory into rotary, E. Chapman, 664,382; Motion to distant points, means for transmitting, D. P. Thompson, 664,594; Motor, See fluid-pressure motor, Rotary motor, Wind-motor; Music-sheets, automatic device for engaging ends of traveling, R. J. Bennett, 664,604; Muzzle, T. E. White, 664,800; Nitro bases stable, rendering, A. Ammelburg, 664,709; Nozzle for oil or other bottles, L. M. Cabana, 664,461; Oil-can, O. Nordhaugen, 664,669; Ore friable, bath for rendering, K. Miller, 664,438; Ore-separator, A. C. Hartung, 664,635; Ore-separator, A. R. MacDonald, Jr., 664,768; Ore-separator, electromagnet, E. Kreuzer, 664,650; Packing, C. H. Miller, 664,487; Painting apparatus, N. Stow, 664,791; Pan, See ash-pan, Vacuum-pan; Paper and producing same, P. Hake, 664,743; Paper box, E. M. Scott, 664,588; Paper boxes, machine for making, C. H. Brooks, 664,458; Paper tubes, machine for making, C. A. Bailey, 664,414; Pendulum-locking device, H. Groom, 664,403; Pessary, H. M. Paine, 664,495; Photoengraver's printing-frame, S. McLaughlin, 664,665; Piano-action, J. J. Healy, 664,407; Pipe-joint, flexible, G. F. Hughson, 664,479; Pipe-wrench, E. Comber, 664,625; Pipe-wrench, H. H. Hunter, 664,491; Pipe-wrench, N. Nilsson, 664,425; Piston for single-acting engines, O. F. Good, 664,401; Plating apparatus, T. W. Castleman, 664,721; Planing machine for curved work, W. B. D. Whitney, 664,519; Planter, corn, W. Lincoln, 664,767; Plate-holder, magazine, C. G. Warnecke and W. H. Heath, 664,795; Plow, R. L. Morrison, 664,570; Plow attachment, W. E. Bracewell, 664,527; Pneumatic-despatch-carrier system, J. M. Hecator, 664,547; Pneumatic spring or cushion, S. H. Stubbs, 664,444; Portable heater, J. L. Hollingsworth, 664,751; Precious metals from river-beds, machine for collecting, J. R. Drake, 664,626; Pressure-gage-testing apparatus, C. B. Bosworth, 664,805; Printing-machine, T. M. North, 664,574; Printing-machine, W. Spalckhaver, 664,592; Printing-machine, pencil, C. W. Cutler, 664,726; Printing-press, G. E. Pancoast, 664,478; Printing-press, cylinder, F. J. Harbridge, 664,744;

(Continued on page 14)