

TO CORRESPONDENTS

P. S., of N. Y.—You will perceive that the same object you propose to accomplish is obtained in the Irving Boiler without the use of a pump. Avoid pumps as much as possible, they are troublesome and absorb the power of the engine.

"Michael Urlocker" will please to inform us how he will have the Lathe shipped. We do not remember his address. \$25 received.

W. A. S., of N. Y.—There is one question which must arise, when it is stated that wheels run faster than the water, viz., "how is this?" There is certainly much obscurity thrown around the action of such wheels; we shall soon publish something on the subject again.

A. J. D., of Pa.—James Hamilton formerly lived in this city; we have known nothing of him lately.

J. C., of Vt.—Wm. Kumbel, No. 33 Ferry street, is the manufacturer of leather belting of good quality.

J. McN. of Iowa—Friction rollers have been successfully applied to shafting of all kinds—they are not much used. Your proposed improvement in drilling is desirable.

A. C. C., of Ky.—We positively do not see how your Stave Dresser can accomplish the proposed object; as it is described it will not operate well.

E. C., of Ark.—Gunpowder is composed of five parts of nitre, one of sulphur, and one of charcoal, finely powdered, and very accurately blended.

S. W. H., of Mass.—Mr. Ketchum's plan of increasing adhesion of locomotives on inclined planes, was by means of small driving wheels fixed on the axles outside of the large wheels, and adapted to an angular or wedge-shaped rail laid on the steep grades, and raised above the ordinary rail. You will perceive that it is like yours—it is as old as 1838.

C. W. H., of Pa.—Mr. Bigelow's Loom for weaving coach lace was patented in 1837—it would be impossible to describe it without the specification and drawings.

R. E., of Vt.—Miner's Safety Fuse is an old English invention; there is no patent for it in this country, therefore you can make and sell as much of it as you please.

C. C. A., of Pa.—It is easier to disparage the efforts of inventors than to invent; you should recollect this.

A. R. E., of Ct.—We have carefully examined your sketches and description, the machine is ingenious, but we fear altogether too complex in its contrivance; it is almost up to Caleb Tompkin's patent, which consisted of "a new and useful application of principles consisting of cross bars, levers, and ends, and cross and single levers, bars, shafts, pieces, tumbling bars, balances, action horizontal, perpendicular, rotary, reciprocating, surface, and central action of lever powers, simplicity, and economy in its useful principles, which has not heretofore been used or heard of." We think you would not succeed with so many items under one combination.

S. A. O., of Pa.—We do not think your press contains any new feature: it is the same as Brown's Progressive Power Press.

T. F., of N. Y.—We do not think your alleged improvement in hand wrenches contains anything new or patentable, and you are advised not to make application.

G. V. A., of N. Y.—We think your case will soon come up, although it is impossible to tell when.

R. W., of N. Y.—We think your reaper possesses decidedly novel features, and we can see no objection to a patent being secured on it.

J. B. A., of Va.—We shall be glad to publish engravings of your machine, as it will very much interest all of our southern readers. We can supply you with Vols. 6, 7, and 8, bound, at \$275 each.

J. J. S., of St. Louis—Citizens and those who have declared their intention to become such are entitled to the privilege of filing caveats. The order of Judge Mason does not cut off "aliens" who have resided in this country one year next preceding the application, and have made oath of their intention to become citizens thereof.

H. H., of Pa.—Winter-strained sperm oil is the best in our opinion, for lubricating all machinery, fanning mills, as well as steam engines. There is much poor oil sold for the genuine.

A. L., of Conn.—A season ticket to the World's Fair is only for 1853. It has been announced to close in December. It may last for some years; we cannot tell yet.

J. G. B., of —Liebig is still living, but is now in the capitol of Austria (Vienna) having been invited by the Emperor to take up his abode there; he receives a very high salary.

W. J. C. M. D., of Ohio.—We really do not know what advice to give about Mr. B. There is no institution in our country for remunerating the authors of such discoveries. He should present it to the Smithsonian Institution first, as it is a national institution.

K. E., of N. Y.—It would be of service to ourselves if we knew how to keep sperm oil from gumming, and to maintain all its original qualities.

M. E., of Ind.—Neither glass nor porcelain coffins are patentable.

M. C. H., of Ga.—Yours has been received and will meet with attention.

P. B., of Pa.—If you look into any arithmetic, with a section devoted to "gauging," you will find a rule to measure the contents of casks.

W. M. M., of Ill.—The water of the earth is classed with other matter in respect to its gravity.

E. J. M., of Ala.—The proof which you mention would be sufficient to establish your claim against all subsequent inventors.

R. O. D., of Miss.—We are not in a position to accept of your proposition in regard to the balloon scheme.

C. M. E., of Phila.—We do not know of any such person as you allude to.

R. C., of Ohio.—Painting window blinds, see page 236, Vol. 7.

C. J. D., of Mass.—We do not remember any late patent for purifying animal fats and oils. You had better examine the back numbers of the Scientific American.

J. McM., of Ky.—We have carefully examined the sketch of your alleged improvement in paddle wheels. In plain language, it is an old, bungling, and inefficient contrivance, and was condemned long ago.

J. Y. T., of Ill.—We thank you for the friendly greeting. The raker of Atkins is unquestionably a good invention—we shall publish it soon.

J. S., of N. Y.—You had better submit your plan of a safety passenger car to some practical railroad man, and take advice. We still think it objectionable in point of weight.

E. S. G., of S. C.—The application of a weight to machinery for operating a churn dash, or anything else, is not patentable.

A. E. K., of C. W.—Your plan of steam boiler is new, but we think you would not find it an object to patent here. The self-setting dogs for saw-mills we think well of, but cannot vouch for its novelty—you would have to pay \$500 fee. \$5 received.

J. M., of Ark.—Evan's Mill Wright is an old work, but good; Treagold, Scott Russell, or Lardner on the Steam Engine are good works. The American House Carpenter and Treagold's Carpenter are good works, but we do not know the prices; Appleton & Co., 200 Broadway, sell them for us.

J. S., of S. C.—The best packing for steam pistons is spring metallic. Use gaskin if you have nothing else; some use vulcanized india rubber.

L. G. B., of —A loadstone will attract a piece of iron and make a ball roll on glass when kept at the proper distance from it.

J. C. M., of Pa.—We cannot give you the information you desire about the Aamzon Steamer.

J. S. E., of Md.—Gillespie's work on "Road making" is the one we referred to. We do not know who has it, but presume any prominent bookseller would keep it.

D. B., of Mass.—We simply require a brief description of the operation of your machine, with a statement of the advantages you claim for it over other machines for the same purpose.

M. A., of Miss.—We caution you against purchasing any right in an invention until you know what it is. We presume there is no patent.

L. C., of Miss.—Your specification has been forwarded to the Patent Office, as you will see by referring to the initials under the head of "specifications and drawings forwarded to the Patent Office." There is nothing to prevent your putting your invention into use immediately, as we are aware of; certainly you will in no wise invalidate your patent by so doing, should one issue.

E. E. H., of Vt.—We cannot give the information you desire about the mill until we are furnished with the patentee's name; we do not know to whom you refer.

J. R., of Ill.—We will attend to the examination of the record and ascertain, if possible, the nature of Maloney's Patent.

C. R., of Pa.—We can prepare engravings of your invention and publish them within a few days after receipt of your Letters Patent. It will benefit you very essentially, as the Scientific American circulates 20,000 copies in the various parts of the country. Inventors ought always to publish their inventions if they are useful and worth the expense, which is very trifling.

H. A., of N. Y.—You are right; having since examined the model referred to by you, we have found that Dunn's is not different from plans well known and used in the United States.

B. M. W., of Tenn.—Yours has been received and will receive attention.

C. A. C., of Md.—You can easily tell what per cent. of fuel is saved by working steam expansively, by making the calculation of your gain by so working it.

W. E. G., of Phil.—You will have an answer soon.

L. W., of N. C.—We would not recommend you to get an engine of less than twelve horse-power for your saw mill. We know an eight horse-power engine will do the work of the ording machines and the saw mill also, but it is best to have plenty of power, and never strain the engine.

E. D. R., of Va.—You are right—Virginia possesses an abundance of the finest fuel, and has natural resources of the very best kind for improvements in agriculture, manufactures, railroads, steamships, &c. The spirit of progress is abroad, and great results may be anticipated in a few years. We would counsel you to purchase an engine of the very first quality. Let it be plain, but strong and well made, and of the best of materials.

D. D., of N. Y.—No man of sense would use a wind-mill to elevate water to turn a wheel, unless it were to take advantage of winds for the purpose of supplying a deficiency of water at some period of the year; in such cases it may be useful.

J. H. C., of Pa.—You ask how far a heavy body will sink in the ocean, and state that you have heard that iron, in some places, will not sink to the bottom. This question we discussed three years ago, and against a number of pretenders to science, showed that a heavy body will sink to the bottom in any part of the ocean. The idea that iron will not sink to the bottom is monstrously absurd. Soundings have been obtained in the middle of the ocean.

Money received on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, Sept. 17:—

J. C., of Ohio, \$55; E. M., of N. J., \$20; D. A. H., of N. Y., \$60; J. L., of N. Y., \$58; L. R. F., of Ga., \$10; J. O., of N. Y., \$50; J. L. L. M., of Pa., \$50; I. W. McG., of Pa., \$25; J. W. P., of N. Y., \$55; I. M. H., of R. I., \$65; E. J. M., of Ct., \$50; J. L. G., of Ga., \$55; D. A., of N. Y., \$30; A. E. B., of N. Y., \$25.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, Sept. 17:—

L. R. F., of Ga.; J. J., of N. Y.; I. W. McG., of Pa.; A. F., of Ohio; A. J. J., of N. Y.; L. C., of Miss.; A. E. B., of N. Y.; E. J. M., of Ct.; J. L. L. M., of Pa.

A Chapter of Suggestions, &c.

MISSING NUMBERS—Mail Subscribers who have failed to receive some of the numbers of Vol. 8, are informed that we are able to supply them with any of the numbers, from 1 to 52, EXCEPT the following, and these we are ENTIRELY out of.—Nos. 2, 4, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 48, 49.

READY FOR DELIVERY—We have just received from the Binders 160 copies of Vol. 8, Scientific American, which will be sold to the first applicants at \$2.75 per volume. We also have about 50 complete sets of Volume 8, in sheets, which will be sold at the subscription price—\$2 per set. Those who apply first will stand the best chance to get their orders filled, for after the above number are sold no more can be obtained at any price.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Condense your ideas into as brief space as possible, and write them out legibly, always remembering to add your name to the communication; anonymous letters receive no attention at this office. If you have questions to ask, do it in as few words as possible, and if you have some invention to describe, come right to the business at the commencement of your letter, and not fill up the best part of your sheet in making apologies for having the presumption to address us. We are always willing to impart information if we have the kind solicited.

PATENT LAWS, AND GUIDE TO INVENTORS—We publish, and have for sale, the Patent Laws of the United States—the pamphlet contains not only the laws but all information touching the rules and regulations of the Patent office. Price 12 1/2 cents per copy.

BINDING.—We would suggest to those who desire to have their volumes bound, that they had better send their numbers to this office, and have them executed in a uniform style with their previous volumes. Price of binding 75 cents.

FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS—Our Canada and Nova Scotia patrons are solicited to compete with our citizens for the valuable prizes offered on the present volume. [It is important that all who reside out of the States should remember to send 25 cents additional to the published rates for each yearly subscriber—that amount we are obliged to pre-pay on postage.]

RECEIPTS—When money is paid at the office for subscriptions, a receipt for it will always be given, but when subscribers remit their money by mail, they may consider the arrival of the first paper a bonafide acknowledgment of the receipt of their funds.

BACK NUMBERS AND VOLUMES—In reply to many interrogatories as to what back numbers and volumes of the Scientific American can be furnished, we make the following statement: Of Vols. 1, 2, 3, and 4—none. Of Vol. 5, all but six numbers, price, in sheets, \$1; bound, \$1.75. Of Vol. 6, all; price in sheets, \$2; bound, \$2.75. Of Vol. 7, all; price, in sheets, \$2; bound, \$2.75. Of Vol. 8, all; price, in sheets, \$2; bound, \$2.75.

PATENT CLAIMS—Persons desiring the claim of any invention which has been patented within fourteen years, can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office, stating the name of the patentee, and enclosing \$1 for fees for copying.

PATENTEE'S—Remember we are always willing to execute and publish engravings of your inventions, providing they are on interesting subjects, and have never appeared in any other publication. No engravings are inserted in our columns that have appeared in any other journal in this country, and we must be permitted to have the engraving executed to suit our own columns in size and style. Barely the expense of the engraving is charged by us, and the wood-cuts may be claimed by the inventor, and subsequently used to advantage in other journals.

GIVE INTELLIGIBLE DIRECTIONS.—We often receive letters with money enclosed, requesting the paper sent for the amount of the enclosure, but no name of State given, and often with the name of the post-office also omitted. Persons should be careful to write their names plainly when they address publishers, and to name the post-office at which they wish to receive their paper, and the State in which the post-office is located.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Opticians and dealers in mathematical instruments, 48 Chesnut st., Philadelphia, Pa. Mathematical instruments separate and in cases, Protractors, Spacing Dividers, Drawing Pens, Ivory Scales, Tape Measures, Salometers, Spirit Glasses, Microscopes, Hydrometers, &c. An illustrated and priced catalogue will be sent by mail free of charge.

A GOOD CHANC FOR MANUFACTURING.—A Water Privilege of ten feet fall, on a never-falling stream, with four acres of choice land, in the town of Cornwall, Orange Co., N. Y., 5 miles from the North River, and three miles from the railroad depot, and on the line of survey of the Albany and Hoboken R.R. For particulars inquire of John J. Vanduzer, 184 Canal St., N. Y., or John Orr, on the premises.

ATKINS' SELF-RAKING REAPER.—The unequalled success of this machine, both in grain and grass, and the information already received from agents, shows the demand another season will be more than I can supply. Every reaper heard from (about 30 in seven different States and Canada) gives good satisfaction with no drawbacks, though others to hear from may have given trouble. Arrangements must be made to supply the demand, and the inventor (Mr. Atkins) would like to realize something from the Patent at once, and part of the States may be offered for sale. If a satisfactory price cannot be got, then arrangements may possibly be made with manufacturers to build and pay a patent fee. A machine can be seen at the Crystal Palace, and others will be at some of the State and County Fairs this autumn. J. S. WRIGHT, Prairie Farmer's Warehouse, Chicago, Ill., August 6, 1853.

PALMER'S PATENT LEG.—Manufactured by Palmer & Co., at No. 6 Burt's Block, Springfield, Mass., for New England and New York States, and 376 Chesnut Street, Philadelphia; in every instance of competition in the Patent of the various Institutes of this country, it has received the highest awards as "the best" in mechanism, usefulness, and economy. At the "World's Fair" London, 1851, in competition with thirty other varieties of artificial legs, (by the best artists in London and Paris,) it received the Prize Medal as the best.

NORRIS WORKS, Norristown, Pa. The subscribers build and send to any part of the United States, Pumping, Hoisting, Stamping, and Portable Engines, and Mining Machinery of every description.

PIG IRON.—The subscriber has always on hand a stock of the best brands of American and Spanish Pig Iron, for sale at the lowest market price. G. O. ROBERTSON, 135 Water st., cor. Pine, N. Y.

AARON KILBORN, No. 4, Howard street, New Haven, Ct., manufacturer of Steam Engines, Boilers, &c. Noiseless Fan Blower, a superior article for smith's work, steam engines, brass and iron foundries, and machinery in general.

WANTED, at Salem, New Jersey, two first-rate Iron Moulders. To good hands constant employment and the highest wages will be given. Address BENNETT & ACTON by letter, or in person, Salem, New Jersey.

IRON FOUNDERS' MATERIALS, viz: Pulverized Sea Coal, Black Lead, Soapstone, Abrasive and Charcoal Finings. Also, best imported Fire Bricks, Fire Clay, Fire Sand, and Moulding Sand, for sale by G. O. ROBERTSON, 135 Water street, corner of Pine.

STEAM ENGINES AND PUMPS FOR SALE.—Two new high pressure Steam Engines, 10 inch bore of cylinder and 69 inch stroke of piston, 40 horse power, each engine 3 feet diameter and 40 feet long. Also two double acting Force Pumps, 10 inch bore and 4 feet stroke, fitted with gun metal valves, valve seats and packing. The above machinery is constructed of the best material and workmanship. Address BRKIMBINE & TROTTER, Engineers and Machinists, No. 16 Arch street, Philadelphia.

PRACTICAL MACHINIST wants a situation in the draughting room; he speaks Spanish, French, and English, and can produce the best testimonials for production and character. Please address Philadelphia P. O. Box 1093, or for further particulars of Dr. FEUCHTWANGER, 141 Maiden Lane.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Table with 2 columns: Terms of Advertising, and corresponding rates for different lengths of advertisements.

Advertisements exceeding 16 lines cannot be admitted; neither can engravings be inserted in the advertising columns at any price.

American and Foreign Patent Agency.

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.—The undersigned having for several years been extensively engaged in procuring Letters Patent for new mechanical and chemical inventions, offer their services to inventors upon the most reasonable terms. All business entrusted to their charge is strictly confidential. Private consultations are held with inventors at their office from 9 A. M. until 4 P. M. Inventors, however, need not incur the expense of attending in person, as the preliminaries can all be arranged by letter. Models can be sent with safety by express, or any other convenient medium. They should not be over 1 foot square in size, if possible. Having Agents located in the chief cities of Europe, our facilities for obtaining Foreign Patents are unequalled. This branch of our business receives the special attention of one of the members of the firm, who is prepared to advise with inventors and manufacturers at all times, relating to Foreign Patents. MUNN & CO., Scientific American Office, 128 Fulton street, New York.

EUROPEAN PATENTS.—MESSRS. MUNN & CO. pay especial attention to the procuring of Patents in foreign countries, and are prepared to secure patents in all nations where Patent Laws exist. We have our own special agents in the chief European cities; this enables us to communicate directly with Patent Departments, and to save much time and expense to applicants.

A NEW AND VALUABLE IMPROVEMENT In Building has recently been patented by M. B. Dyott of Philadelphia, to which the attention of Builders, Architects, and property holders, is invited. It consists in a new method of facing buildings with iron, whereby either old or new buildings may be made as handsome and far more durable than the richest stone structures, at one-fourth the expense, without disturbing the walls or internal arrangements of the building. Fronts of dwellings, stores, and other edifices, whether constructed of brick or wood, dilapidated or new, are rendered perfectly impenetrable, and are not affected by heat or cold, fire or water. The most beautiful styles of architecture may be adopted at but a very small expense above the plainest fronts. A handsome residence which has been built about 15 months, and three stores which were old and dilapidated buildings have been modernized, and now rank among our finest stores, are referred to as specimens. This invention has received the highest commendation from many distinguished architects, practical builders, and gentlemen from all parts of the country. Parties desiring further information, who may wish to negotiate for rights of States, counties, cities, or buildings, will please address or apply to M. B. DYOTT, No. 74 South 2nd st., Philadelphia.

WINNING MACHINES.—State, County, and Town Rights for sale of the Patent Winning Machines, illustrated in No. 2, Vol. 9, Scientific American. Address SAMUEL CANBY, Patentee, Ellicott's Mills, Md.

ALLEN'S PATENT FAN BLOWER.—Gives a stronger blast with less power than any other. J. B. CHESTER, Agent, 585 Broadway, N. Y.

C. B. HUTCHINSON'S PATENT STAVE Cutting Machines.—The best in use, and applicable alike to thick and thin staves, for barrels, hogheads, &c.; also his Head Cutting and Turning, and Saw Jointing and Crozing Machines. This machinery reduces the expense of manufacturing at least fifty per cent. For machines or territorial rights, apply to C. B. HUTCHINSON & CO., Syracuse, N. Y.