

NEW INVENTIONS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SKATES.—Asa Wheeler, of Brattleboro', Windham county, Vt., has invented an improvement in fastening the skate to the boot or shoe, and tightening the same thereto after the skate has been strapped to the foot. The invention consists in making the heel part of the stock longitudinally adjustable by a thumb-screw, which passes through the heel and into the fore part of the stock, so that, after the ankle-strap and instep-strap have been buckled tightly on the foot, the skate is further tightened by the set-screw.

IMPROVED MACHINE FOR PICKING MILL-STONES.—This invention relates to an improved machine for picking mill-stones, and is of that class which are operated automatically by the rotation of the spindle of the stone, or by the rotation of any shaft or arbor placed concentrically therewith. The object of the invention is to obtain a machine by which the force of the blow of the pick may be graduated, as occasion may require, with the greatest facility, and the spring which actuates the pick, or gives it its blow, prevented from re-acting on the machine. The invention also has for its object a ready adaptation to stones of varying sizes. The inventor is J. R. D. Nesmith, of Franklin, Merrimac county, N. H.

MACHINE FOR MANUFACTURING HAT BODIES.—The object of this invention is to obtain a machine by which hat bodies may be manufactured at one operation, and with one and the same machine; or, in other words, to combine the processes of "forming" and "hardening" the bodies so that both will be performed simultaneously, thereby greatly expediting the manufacture of hat bodies, and materially reducing the expense attending the same. The invention consists, in using in connection with the ordinary perforated cone or former, suction blast and any suitable fur-distributing contrivance; a "hardening" device, formed of a suitable cloth, so arranged as to act upon the fur during the "forming" process, with a compound movement, and subject the same to the necessary friction or rubbing, and, in connection with the suction blast, to a requisite degree of pressure, whereby the desired object is attained. The inventor is Seth Boyden, of Newark, N. J.

IMPROVED SHINGLE MACHINE.—This invention relates to an improvement in that class of shingle machines in which a circular saw is used for sawing the shingles from the bolts, and tilting beds employed for adjusting the bolts relatively with the saw, so that the latter may cut the shingles from the bolts in proper taper form. The invention consists in the employment or use of a reciprocating bolt-carriage, in connection with sliding jaws, arranged relatively with a circular saw and tilting beds, whereby the bolts are properly adjusted and fed automatically to the saw. The invention also consists in the employment or use of a bolt-elevating device placed in the reciprocating bolt-carriage, and so arranged as to elevate the bolts during their return movement over the saw. The invention further consists in the peculiar means employed for conveying the shingles from underneath the saw and bolt-carriage, and discharging them from the machine. Nathaniel Waterbury, of Fond du Lac, Wis., is the inventor.

CORDING-ATTACHMENT FOR SEWING-MACHINES.—This useful contrivance is the best we have seen for the purpose, serving to insert a cord either close to or at any distance from the edge of a piece of work, and to perform the cording in any number of parallel rows, as close together as may be desired, and in the most even manner possible. It consists simply of a plate, arranged flat upon the cloth-plate of the sewing-machine, and provided with a grooved edge and guiding-eyes for the cord to pass through from a spool. The inventor is A. Golay, of Mobile, Ala.

FOREIGN SUMMARY—METALS AND MARKETS.

A large locomotive for one of the Canadian railroads has just been built by Messrs. Walter Neilson & Co., of Glasgow, and it is in every respect a faithful copy of the wood-burning engines built by Baldwin, of Philadelphia. It has the cow-catcher, spark-arrester and engineer's house, which are left out of ordinary British engines. The English "engine-drivers," as they are improperly called, stand out upon a platform uncovered, and thus exposed to all the changes of the weather, and a gale of wind equal to the speed of the train continually in their

faces. For years past, they have solicited to be sheltered like the American engineers; but thus far no railway company has responded to the reasonable requests of these noble fellows.

The London builders are still out on strike, and some of the operatives and their employers have had a sharp newspaper controversy. It was charged against the workmen that they were opposed to the use of machinery by the master-builders. This they have denied in a letter signed by the officers of their con-associations. They say: "We seek an equivalent in the diminution of the hours of labor, because machinery, by its rapid growth, and the facility with which it can be applied to every species of productive labor, is fast destroying the necessity for manual labor. To attempt to arrest the onward march of machinery, we know, would be madness, and productive of no good results." The shoe-makers of Stafford, who struck against sewing-machines, have gone back to work. They have received a little advance in wages, but no voice is now raised against the machines.

There has been a very great drouth in Great Britain and Ireland, which is something very unusual, as great quantities of rain fall monthly, owing to the country being surrounded with water. Great complaints are being made by the manufacturers who have mills on the streams and rivers, because these have become so low they cannot conduct their business. They also assert that, since the farmers have resorted to draining their lands so extensively, the streams have become much lower during summer, and they give good reasons for this result. The drains carry off the rains so rapidly after they fall that no constant supply is left in the soil for spells of dry weather.

The hardware and cutlery exported during the first six months of the year from England, show a large increase over the exports in the same period of 1858. Their total value this year is £1,839,648; the increase has been £37,409 (\$187,045).

The population of Egypt, according to a recent census, is 5,125,000. Alexandria has a population of 400,000; its inhabitants have doubled in 40 years.

The report of the Commissioners of Patents for the past year has just been published. The number of applications made for provisional protection was 3,007; the number of patents issued, 1,954, or 37 weekly—quite a large list, indeed. This affords very good evidence of the value of patent property in England.

A proposal has been made on behalf of Mr. Lever to charter the *Great Eastern* for a voyage out and home from some safe port in Great Britain to some safe port in North America. The terms offered are £20,000; the vessel to be provided with accommodations for 2,000 passengers, and to steam 14 knots an hour on her trial trip.

PRICES OF FOREIGN METALS, AUGUST 21.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Iron, English Bar and Bolt				Iron, Swedish, bars, per ton	18	0	0
In London, per ton	7	0	0	Russian "C.N.D."	17	0	0
In Wales	6	0	0	Steel, Swedish Keg, nom	30	10	0
In Liverpool	6	10	0	Do. Rolled	20	10	0
Staffordshire Bars	8	0	0	Fagot	21	19	0
Sheet, single	9	10	0	Spelter	21	0	0
Double	11	0	0	Zinc, in sheets	25	10	0
Hoop	9	0	0	Copper, Tile	102	10	0
Rod, round	8	0	0	Tough Cake	102	10	0
Nail Rod, square	9	0	0	Sheeting & Bolts, per lb.			
Iron, Rails, in Wales, cash	6	5	0	Sheet	11½		
Do. 6 months	6	10	0	Bottoms	12		
In Staffordshire	7	0	0	Old	10		
Railway Chairs, in Wales	4	5	0	Yellow Metal	9½		
In Clyde	4	5	0	Lead, British Pig	22	15	0
Pig No. 1, in Clyde	3	12	6	Spanish	22	10	0
3-5ths No. 1 and 2-5ths No. 3	2	12	0	Sheet	23	10	0
Staffordshire Forge Fig, at the works	3	15	0	Tin, English Block, nom	139	0	0
L. W., nom				Bar	139	0	0
Welsh Forge Pig				Refined	145	0	0
Acadian Pig, Charcoal	8	15	0	Foreign Banca	146	0	0
Scotch Pig, No. 1, in London	8	10	0	Straits	143	0	0
				Tin Plates, Charcoal, 1C, per box	1	13	0
				Do. 1X	1	19	0
				Do. 1Y	1	5	6
				Canada, Plates, per tin	1	11	6
				Quicksilver, per bottle	7	0	0

Banca tin is held firm at £47. Copper is in tolerably good demand, and shipments of pig-iron from Glasgow have increased. [The above are prices within three per cent discount, the pound being valued at \$4.85.]

New York Markets.

COAL.—Anthracite, from \$4.50, \$4.75, to \$5.
 CORDAGE.—Manilla, 3½c. a 3¾c. per lb.
 COTTON.—Ordinary Upland, 9½c. per lb.; Texas, 9½c.; Middling, 11½c. to 12¼; Middling fair from 12½c. to 13½c.
 COPPER.—Lake Superior ingots at 23c. per lb for cash; new sheathing, 26c.; no change, but holders are firm.

FLOUR.—The low grades have somewhat receded in price, and the tendency has been downward. Standard superfine State, \$4.20 a \$4.50; standard superfine western, \$4.20 a \$4.45; extra Wisconsin, \$4.50 a \$6; extra Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, \$4.60 a \$6.25; extra Ohio, trade brands, \$5.60 a \$6.50; extra Genesee, \$5.40 a \$7; inferior to choice extra Missouri, \$4.75 a \$7.25; extra Kentucky and Tennessee, \$4.85 a \$7.25. Southern flour continues quite plenty and heavy.

HEMP.—American undressed, \$140 a \$150; dressed from \$190 a \$210. Jute, \$95 a \$90. Italian scarce. Russian clean, \$210 a \$215. Manilla 6¼c. a 6¾c. per lb.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Para, fine, 57½c. a 60c. per lb.; East India, 37c.
 INDIGO.—Bengal, \$1 a \$1.50 per lb.; Manilla, good to prime, 55c. a \$1.10; Guatemala, \$1 a \$1.15.

IRON.—Anthracite pig, \$23 a \$24 per ton; Scotch, \$23 to \$24.50; Swedish bar, ordinary sizes, \$35 a \$37.50; English refined, \$38 a \$44.50; English common, \$43 a \$45. Russian sheet, first quality, 11c. a 11½c. per lb.; English, single, double and treble, 3¾c. a 3½c.
 LEAD.—Galena, \$5.80 per 100 lbs.; German and English refined, \$5.70; bar, sheet and pipe, from 6¼c. to 7c.

LEATHER.—Oak slaughter, light, 30c. a 35c. per lb.; Oak, heavy, 32c. a 35c.; Oak, crop, 38c. a 40c.; Hemlock, middle, 24c. a 25c.; Hemlock, light, 23c. a 24c.; Hemlock, heavy, 22c. a 23c. Patent enameled, 16c. a 17c. per foot, light. Sheep, morocco finish, \$7.50 a \$8.50 per dozen. Calf-skins, oak, 62c. a 65c.; Hemlock, 60c. a 65c.; Belting, oak, 32c. a 34c.; Hemlock, 28c. a 31c.

NAILS.—Cut are quiet but steady at 3c. a 3¾c. per lb. American clinch sell in lots, as wanted, at 5c. a 6c.; wrought foreign, 3c. a 3¾c.; American horseshoe, 14¾c.

OLDS.—Lined, city made, 50c. per gallon; whale, bleached spring, 54c. a 56c.; sperm, crude, \$1.22 a \$1.27; sperm, unbleached spring, \$1.35; lard oil, No. 1 winter, 85c. a 90c.; extra refined rosin, 30c. a 40c.; machinery, 50c. a 100c.; camphine, 45c. a 47c.; coal, refined, from \$1.12 a \$1.50.

RESIN.—Common, \$1.77½ per 310 lbs. bbl.; No. 2, &c., \$1.80 a \$2.12½; No. 1, per 280 lbs. bbl., \$2.25 a \$3; white, \$3.25 a \$4.50; pale, \$4.50 a \$6.25.

SPELTER plates, 5½c. a 5¾c. per lb.
 STEEL.—English cast, 14c. a 16c. per lb.; German, 7c. a 10c.; American spring, 5c. a 5½c.; American blister, 4½c. a 5½c.

TALLOW.—American prime, 10½c. to 10¾c. per lb.
 TIN.—Banca, 32½c. a 33c.; Straits, 32c.; plates, \$7.50 a \$9.27½ per box.

TURPENTINE.—Crude, \$3.62½ per 280 lbs.; spirits, turpentine, 44½c. per gallon.

ZINC.—Sheets, 7½c. a 8c. per lb.
 The foregoing rates indicate the state of the New York markets up to Aug. 31.

ALBANY LUMBER MARKET, AUGUST 31.

During the week there has been a fair demand for all descriptions of lumber, and for clear pines the market has ruled in favor of the buyer. The demand has not been confined to any particular locality, but has been scattered throughout the entire manufacturing country along the coast of New England, New York and New Jersey. We notice foreign orders in market for common pines for shipment to Australia. The stock of lumber in market is ample, and the assortment perfect. For the most part holders are anxious to realize, and we are of the belief that if dealers would embrace the present time they could lay in there fall and winter stock to great advantage. Shippers at Buffalo and Oswego have advised their correspondents here that a speedy advance in canal freights can be looked for, and a letter received yesterday morning from the latter place already announces a "strike" and an advance demanded.

The receipts for the week have been moderate, boats being detained by the low stage of water in the canal. The stock to come forward from Canada and Michigan is still large, and the great bulk of the daily receipts are from this section. From the Chemung county the shipments are moderate, and perhaps are scarcely equal to previous seasons.

The figures for boards and scantling show a falling off compared with the corresponding week of last season, but as the canal week this year does not close till this night, the arrivals of this day more than make up the deficiency.

NEW YORK ASSAY OFFICE.

Statement of business at the United States Assay Office at New York, for the month ending Aug. 30, 1859:

DEPOSITS OF GOLD.

Foreign Coins	\$16,000 00
Foreign Bullion	8,000 00
United States Bullion	201,000 00 = \$225,000 00

DEPOSITS AND PURCHASE OF SILVER.

Foreign Coins	\$30,800 00
Foreign Bullion	10,000 00
United States Bullion (contained in Gold)	2,000 00
United States Bullion, (Lake Superior)	1,200 00 = \$44,000 00

TOTAL DEPOSITS.

Payable in Bars	\$165,000 00
Payable in Coins	104,000 00

Total..... \$269,000 00

Gold Bars Stamped	\$180,984 72
Transmitted to U. S. Mint for Coinage	42,474 80