

FOREIGN SUMMARY—METALS AND MARKETS.

The West India Royal Mail Steamship Company has a fleet of twenty steamships, the capacity of which amounts to 44,058 tons; with engines of 10,630 horse-power in the aggregate. They are also building two new iron-steamers of 3,092 tons burden each, and said to be as large as the Persia, which is the premier vessel of the Cunard line.

Quite a number of the British steamers are now using super-heated steam (steam heated apart from the water in the boiler), and with an economy, it is said, of about 33 per cent. in fuel. The Peninsular & Oriental Company had applied it to one of their steamships, the Vedetta, the engines of which were furnished by Messrs. Penn & Son, of London, and the results were so favorable that it is expected their whole large and powerful fleet will be supplied with similar apparatus.

An experiment was lately made at one of the iron-works at South Wales, for testing the effects of hydrogen gas in the puddling-furnace for removing impurities from the iron. This gas was generated from water by decomposing zinc in it, and it was admitted in small streams among the metal in the furnace. It is stated that the iron produced was of a superior quality, and the results obtained were secured in about one-half the time required by the ordinary process. Hydrogen gas has been employed for purifying iron in the laboratory, but it has not been applied prior to this on a large scale, because it was thought too expensive.

A steel steamer, called the Windsor Castle, one hundred and ninety feet long, twenty feet broad, and seven feet depth of hold, has been built by Messrs. Caird, of Greenock, Scotland, and it is so light that it only draws three feet of water. The hull, boiler, paddle-wheels, and considerable portions of the engines are all made of steel. She has run at the rate of twenty statute miles per hour. This is certainly a curiosity of a steamer. Her two engines have cylinders of forty inches in diameter, stroke sixty inches, and the steam is cut off at twelve inches. The wheels have feathering-paddles; the boiler is a tubular upright, and the steam used is super-heated.

Quite a controversy has been going on in the London Engineer, between H. Hyde and several anonymous correspondents in regard to the merits of the Hughes Telegraph, and the other kinds now in use in England. Mr. Hyde is the champion of the former, and he dares all those who oppose him to a practical test of the several telegraphs. It seems that Mr. Hughes has experienced much opposition to the fair testing of this telegraph by those who have patents on the instruments that are now in use.

PRICES OF FOREIGN METALS, JUNE 17.

Table with 4 columns: Item, £ s. d., Swedish steel, £ s. d. Includes items like Staff-bar-iron, Single sheet, Double sheet, Round nail rod, Square nail rod, Hoop iron, Welsh iron rails, Staffordshire pig-iron, Scotch pig-iron, Swedish iron, Swedish steel.

The prices are about the same as last week. There has been a very limited demand for Scotch pig-iron, in comparison with that experienced at the same season last year.

American common resin was selling at four shillings per barrel.

For these commercial statistics we are indebted to the London Engineer and Mechanics' Magazine.

New York Markets.

COAL.—Liverpool cannel, \$8.96 per ton; Newcastle gas, \$7.25, delivered at the gas-works; Anthracite, from \$4.50, \$4.75, to \$5.

COTTON.—The market has been quiet, with a fall of one-fourth of a cent from last week's price. Good ordinary Upland, Florida and Mobile, 10 1/2c; Texas, 10 3/4c. There is not much disposition to buy or sell.

COPPER.—Lake Superior ingots at 21c. per lb. for cash. Copper bolts, 30c. A slight fall from last week.

HEMP.—In St. Louis—our American hemp depot—the prices have been ranging from \$95 to \$103 per ton for lower qualities. Some choice brands have been sold for \$160.

LEAD.—American rails, \$51.50; bars, \$60; same as last week, with very moderate sales. Anthracite pig at \$21, \$22 and \$23 per ton, according to the brands.

LEAD.—Pig is quiet, and we have only to note sales of 1,000 pigs Galena at \$5.70; 55 tons Spanish, \$5.62 1/2, cash, and \$5.70, four months interest; and 100 tons refined German, \$5.63 1/2, cash.

LEATHER.—Oak tanned sole, light, 31c. a 34c. per lb.; Philadelphia and Baltimore (made from slaughtered hides), 32c. a 35c.; Hemlock, tanned, 23c. a 25c.; Oak tanned dry hides, 29c. a 45c.; Hemlock tanned dry hides, 22 1/2c. a 30c.; Upper leather calf-skins, 89c. a 65c.;

Hemlock, 42c. a 65c. Hemlock sole continues at good request, and with a moderate stock, prices are maintained. The demand for Oak sole continues to exceed the supply, and prices are without change. Enamelled, light, 16c. per foot; Enamelled, heavy, 17c.; Sheepskins, 25c. a 28c. per lb.; English sumac sheepskins, 20c. a 22c.

LUMBER.—Eastern pine and spruce at \$12 and \$15 per M., according to qualities.

NAILS.—Cut are quiet but steady at 3 1/2c. a 3 3/4c. per lb. American clinch sell in lots, as wanted, at 5c. a 6c. (according to the kind, &c.), six months.

RESIN.—Brown (for Liverpool), 3,600 bbls., at \$1.82 1/2 per bbl. of 310 lbs.; white, \$2.50 a \$4; very pale, \$5.50 per bbl. of 280 lbs.

SPELTZER.—Silesian, at 5 1/2-16 cents per lb.

TIN.—Plates are in ample stock. The transactions are comparatively limited, though they have been larger than for some time past. The sales are 2,000 boxes 1/2 d X supposed \$9.37 1/2 a \$9.50; 300 I. C. Coke, \$7.31 1/2; 1,000 Charcoal Terme, a shade under \$8.50, six months; and 300 I. C. Charcoal, on private terms. Block is dull. Banca at 31 1/2c., cash. English, 29 1/2c.

TURPENTINE from 45c. to 46c. per gallon in large lots, and 47 1/2 in small lots.

ZINC at 7 1/2c. a 7 3/4c. per lb.; the latter price being from stores.

The foregoing rates indicate the state of the New York markets up to June 29.

LUMBER PRICES AT ALBANY.

The Albany Lumber Market is, next to Chicago, the greatest in our country, and the prices ruling in that city, together with the supply on hand, are of interest to a large portion of our citizens. The assortment on hand is very good at present, the demand is moderate, and the receipts are the same.

The receipts for the week ending June 29 were boards and scantling 3,567,000 feet; shingles, 935 M.; staves, 2,799,700 lbs.

The following is a list of the prices:—

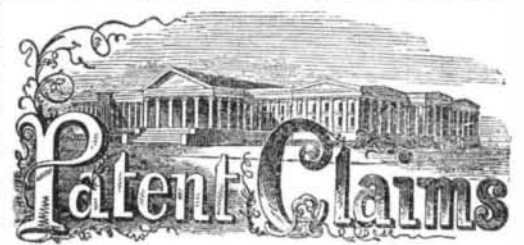
Table with 4 columns: Item, Price, Item, Price. Includes Pine, clear, per M., Pine, 4th quality, Pine, select box, Pine, Chemung box, Pine, box, Pine, clear, 1/2, Pine, 4th quality, 1/2, Pine, select, 1/2, Pine, box, 1/2, Pine floor plank, good, 1/2 inch, each, Pine floor plank, 2d quality, Pine floor plank, culls, Spruce boards, Spruce floor plank, Spruce plank, 2 inch, good, Pine tally boards, good, Pine tally boards, 2d quality, Pine tally boards, culls, Hemlock boards, Hemlock joist, 3 by 4, Hemlock joist, 4 by 6, Hemlock wallstrips, 2 by 4, Clap boards, pine, clear, per M., Clap boards, pine, 2d quality, Ash, good, Ash, 2d rate, Oak, Maple joists, Black walnut, good, Black walnut, 2d quality, Black walnut, 3/4-inch, Sycamore, 1-inch, Sycamore, 1/2-inch, Cherry, good, Cherry, 2d rate, White wood chair plank, White wood chair plank, 1-inch, Shingles, 1st quality, shaved, pine, Shingles, 2d quality, shaved, pine, Shingles, common, shaved, pine, Shingles, 1st quality, sawed, pine, Shingles, 2d quality, sawed, pine, Shingles, common, sawed, pine, Shingles, sawed, hemlock.

The sum of \$3,820,000 was paid in this city on the 1st inst. as interest on the State and city debts for the previous six months, and \$1,373,000 were also paid as city bank dividends.

SHINGLES.—The steamer Michigan took on Wednesday, June 22, from Newbury & Goodell, of Green Bay, Wis., 315,000 shingles, shipped to that place from Oshkosh, for Albany, besides 69,000 from other parties for Michigan. The 315,000 are part of a contract for 2,000,000, from Oshkosh to Albany, to be filled the present season. It is said that Northern Wisconsin is able to supply the Milwaukee and Chicago markets with lumber and shingles.

FROM THE UPPER LAKES.—The schooner Indus, Captain Humphreys, from Milwaukee, via the Welland Canal and St. Lawrence River, arrived here a few days since. The Indus is the first vessel which ever arrived here from the Upper Lakes. She is 250 tons register, and has a cargo of lumber. Her captain speaks rather unsatisfactorily of the way the transit from the canals into the St. Lawrence is conducted, and it is not supposed that our friends on the lakes will find ocean navigation profitable at all.

THE VALUE OF BERRIES—Ocean county, N. J., has long been celebrated for the quantity and quality of her huckleberries and cranberries, and hundreds of thousands of bushels are annually sent to market. The profit on the crop on good land, is from \$100 to \$150 per acre, and the appearance of both, at the present time, is said to be very promising. Over two hundred thousand baskets of strawberries were received in this city, in a single day, brought by the Erie Railroad. This business in its season is an enormous one, and helps to afford subsistence to many a "licensed vender" and poor berry girl.



ISSUED FROM THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 28, 1859.

[Reported Officially for the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.]

* * Pamphlets giving full particulars of the mode of applying for patents, size of model required, and much other information useful to inventors, may be had gratis by addressing MUNN & CO., Publishers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, New York.

24,528.—J. N. Allen, of Providence, R. I., for an Improvement in Constructing Rims and Field-pieces for Watch and Locket Cases:

I claim making the rim and field-piece for watch or locket cases from a strip of sheet metal, substantially as described.

24,529.—C. M. Alexander, of New Albany, Ind., for an Improvement in Vapor Lamp Burners:

I claim the combination of a retort having converging sides, and constructed substantially in the manner set forth, with an inlet-pipe, and outlet-pipe, and a burner for the purpose of forming a gas generating apparatus, to be used in connection with fluid lamps, as is fully described.

24,530.—J. C. Bean, of Grayville, Ill., for an Improvement in Seeding Machines:

I claim the arrangement of the hopper, c, and arms, i i', in combination with the inclined equalizer, h, the whole being constructed substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

24,531.—Wm. Beaumont, of Paterson, N. J., for an Improvement in Gas Retorts:

I claim making all that part of a retort which is most subject to expansion and contraction, corrugated to prevent fracture, as described.

24,532.—Edw. Beck, of Allentown, Pa., for an Improved Contrivance by which the Workman operates Scroll Saws:

I claim the oscillating platform, L, connected with the shaft, C, by means of the straps, h h, and pulley, D, or their equivalents, the arm, E, pitman, F, and spring, K, arranged for joint operation, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

[This invention relates to an improvement in that class of sawing-machines which are designed for sawing small work, such as scrolls and curved articles, and are generally known as jig and muley saws. The invention consists in the peculiar means employed for operating the saw, whereby the operator may drive the saw, and at the same time have perfect control over the work, so that it may be readily manipulated and properly presented by him to the saw.]

24,533.—Henry Betts, of Hamilton, C. W., for an Improvement in Railroad Bars or Rails:

I claim the angle rail, in combination with the outside bar, where the space between them is filled in with cement, prepared by heating sand and coal tar, in such proportions as will best resist the action of the elements, cold, heat, and moisture, and the wear of the wheels.

24,534.—M. B. Bigelow and Anson Hardy, of Boston, Mass., for an Improved Fireproof Desk:

We claim the movable table, d, or any device essentially the same, in combination with the fireproof case, a a, said table being constructed and made so as to operate in the manner substantially as and for the purposes specified.

We also claim the slide, f, or any device essentially the same, in combination with the movable table, d, and the fireproof case, a a, for supporting or assisting to support said movable table, whenever said table is drawn out to the position shown in Fig. 2, said slide and table being connected and made so as to operate in the manner and for the purpose substantially as specified and shown.

We also claim the brackets, g g, or any device substantially the same, in combination with the fireproof case, a a, for supporting or assisting to support the movable table, d, and the slide, f, in the manner and for the purpose substantially as specified and shown.

24,535.—Nelson Birdsall, of Port Jervis, N. Y., for an Improved Spring Hinge:

I claim the combination and arrangement of the spring, F, and adjusting piece, G and H, applied to a hinge, as described and specified. I also claim inserting within the spiral spring, E, the tubular spring, I, as described, for assisting the action of the spiral spring, and preventing it from setting or getting out of place with the other parts, as set forth and specified.

24,536.—L. E. Burdin, of Paris, Ky., for an Improvement in Plows:

I claim the arrangement of the beam, M, the handles, N, the standard, K, brace, H, share, B, landside, F, cone, A, spindle or shaft, E, braces, C and G, and lug, o, as described, for the purposes set forth.

24,537.—Alexander, William, and James Campbell, of Harrison, O., for an Improvement in Corn Planters:

We claim the described arrangement of the inclined slides or valves H H', levers, J J', adjustable rods, o o, and cam wheel, k k, for the purpose explained.

24,538.—J. A. Campbell, of New Orleans, La., for a Job and Card Printing Press:

I claim fastening the cylinder permanently on its solid axle, E, and also fastening the ends of this axle securely into the slides, F.

I also claim, in combination with the cylinder, L, the revolving of the roller frame, H, on the solid axle, E, as it is working center, while the axle itself does not revolve, either by eccentric wheels, which are to be used when the cylinder vibrates, or by plain ones when it is stationary.

I also claim the eccentric wheels, G and G', in combination with the cylinder, L, for the purpose specified. I also claim the cranks, K, and connecting rods, D, in combination with the cylinder, L, the inking frame, H, and the eccentric wheels, G and G'.

I also claim the combination of the cranks, S, the connecting rods, T, the slots, Y, the pins, W, and the bottoms, X, with this press, as specified and described.

24,539.—W. J. Cantelo, of Burlington, N. J., for an Improvement in Stoves:

I claim the exterior casing, A, and inner adjustable casing, H, in combination with the fire-pot, F, and cone-shaped grate, G, when the several parts are arranged, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

24,540.—T. F. Christman, of Wilson, N. C., for an Improvement in Machines for Hoisting Bricks:

I claim the combination of the rollers, D D, with the saddle and