

very many patents are suffered to expire without any effort at extension, owing to want of proper information on the part of the patentees, their relatives or assigns, as to the law and the mode of procedure in order to obtain a renewed grant.

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The assignment of patents, and agreements between patentees and manufacturers, carefully prepared and placed upon the records at the Patent Office. Address MUNN & CO., at the Scientific American Patent Agency, No. 37 Park Row, New York.

It would require many columns to detail all the ways in which the Inventor or Patentee may be served at our offices. We cordially invite all who have anything to do with patent property or inventions to call at our extensive offices, No. 37 Park Row, New York, where any questions regarding the Rights of Patentees, will be cheerfully answered.

Communications and remittances by mail, and models by express (prepaid) should be addressed to MUNN & CO. No. 37 Park Row, New York.



[A great many correspondents write to us about matters of no importance to any one but themselves, and request answers "by return mail." The Post-office could not carry all the correspondence of this kind if we had time to write it; and for replies to all such letters our friends and readers must look in "Notes and Queries."]

E. L., of N. J.—Flax cotton is manufactured to some extent; there is a factory, we are told, in Toledo, Ohio, using it. Tow is used for making coarser kinds of paper. We cannot give you definite directions for the strength of the chloride solution for bleaching. You had better address H. C. Baird, 406 Walnut street, Philadelphia, for a work on dyeing.

D. W. G., of N. Y.—You ask us to inform you "if a perpetual motion has ever been invented by man." We answer no, and it never can be until man can actually create something out of nothing. The idea of a perpetual motion, as men ordinarily regard it, is now regarded as a ridiculous absurdity by all who understand the laws of dynamics.

F. S., of Ohio.—Many persons have proposed to provide spiral surfaces on the exterior of an elongated projectile, for the purpose of obtaining a rotatory motion by the resistance of the atmosphere when the projectile is fired from a smooth-bore gun and many experiments have been made with differently formed surfaces; but all that we have any knowledge of have been failures. We cannot tell you the comparative cost of rifled and smooth-bore ordnance. We do not consider it practicable to magnetize driving wheels to operate as you propose. The idea of doing so is not new.

G. D., of N. J.—Your mode of signalling the various stations on the railway, so that travellers may know when to get out is old and well known—there are models of the same thing now in the Patent Office.

G. W. P., of Pa.—You will find a process for blackening brass described on page 22, present volume. The cheapest and quickest way to do it is to coat the material with black shellac varnish. This will wear off in time, but it is less trouble for a small job than bothering with acids, &c.

L. W. D., of Conn.—Fuller's earth is first baked and then mixed with pure water. Silver and platinum are used for tipping the points of lightening-rods, but there is no necessity for using any other metal than the iron or copper of which the rod is made.

H. Mc. R., of N. Y.—Of all the formations that which has most puzzled geologists is the "drift." Any man bringing forward a new theory in relation to it, would be obliged, in order to secure attention, to show perfect familiarity with the facts of the case. The proper discussion of the subject would require a book, or, at least a pamphlet, and would be too voluminous for our pages.

J. H., of Ill.—To exclude dampness from brick-work, varnish it with a coating made in the proportion of mixing 8 lbs. of linseed oil with 1 lb. of sulphur, and heating to 275°. We know of no better paint than that made of red lead and linseed oil.

C. B. & Co., of Vt.—The term "new article of manufacture" is very comprehensive. It includes almost everything that is improved. Such patents are the same as if the term "new article" were not used. He who holds the right for a patent may introduce it to the public or not, as he chooses. The statement in the circular is incorrect. If there is a "general smash-up" at the close of the war, the condition of the country will be somewhat jumbled; and if money becomes scarce, people will have less to spend.

J. W. H., of Iowa.—You will find it very difficult to remove the scale from the inside of your steam pipes. A strong solution of soda is used in England with some success, but we cannot speak positively of its virtues.

G. S., of Penn.—You cannot cut off at any point of the stroke with a link motion with economy. When you cut off past a certain point which varies with the construction of the valve, you experience a dead loss, for the steam is not only cut off from the cylinder but shut up in it. In other words the exhaust is closed too soon and back pressure results. Take off your expansion valve which you say is fixed, and put in one with a right-and-left screw, so that by turning the screw you can draw the valves nearer to or further from the center. This will vary the cut without affecting the lead, as does the link.

A. M. R., of Mo.—A great many patents have been granted in this country and in England for water-meters; but thus far they have not been brought much into use.

Money Received.

At the Scientific American Office, on account of Patent Office business, from Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1864, to Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1864:—

- W. C. S., of N. Y., \$25; F. N., of N. Y., \$25; J. H. K., of N. Y., \$25; D. M., of N. Y., \$25; G. T., of N. Y., \$25; H. P., of N. Y., \$25; S. Z., of N. Y., \$25; W. H. Mc.M., of N. Y., \$25; C. B., of N. Y., \$25; E. H. D., of N. J., \$56; S. C., of N. Y., \$75; D. & N., of N. Y., \$25; D. A. G., of N. Y., \$22; J. M., of N. Y., \$20; J. S., of N. Y., \$16; I. V. H., of N. Y., \$41; P. S. B., of Mass., \$56; G. W. & H. F., of N. Y., \$16; H. D., of Ohio, \$20; G. A. B., of Mass., \$30; J. Z., of Ill., \$20; L. E., of Conn., \$45; P. C., of N. Y., \$16; L. & P., of Pa., \$20; W. S., of Ohio, \$45; J. S., of N. Y., \$20; Mrs. S. A. M., of N. Y., \$16; J. K., of N. Y., \$20; B. W. L., of Austria, \$43; J. S. W., of Ill., \$42; J. & S., of Mich., \$45; A. E. L., of N. Y., \$20; C. A., of N. Y., \$16; A. B., of N. Y., \$16; W. M. K., of N. Y., \$20; C. C., of N. Y., \$16; E. P., of N. Y., \$20; J. F. C., of N. Y., \$22; C. J. F., of N. J., \$20; A. A., of N. Y., \$16; J. L. J., of N. Y., \$31; J. Van de C., of N. Y., \$16; A. J. V., of Ohio, \$25; J. P., of N. Y., \$41; W. H. F., of Pa., \$44; G. A. B., of Mass., \$30; B. E. M., of Ill., \$16; P. J. C., of Conn., \$22; G. C. W., of Ohio, \$41; W. M. S., of Mich., \$16; J. G. M., of N. Y., \$50; G. F. H., of Minn., \$16; B. L., of Mich., \$159; D. & J. S., of Pa., \$25; H. R. T., of Wis., \$15; W. B. K., of N. H., \$16; H. & L., of Conn., \$16; J. P., of Mass., \$16; H. A. B., of Pa., \$25; T. & R., of Ill., \$25; J. A., of Ill., \$21; J. F., of Conn., \$16; B. & B., of Mass., \$16; J. W. F., of Pa., \$50; A. K., of Ill., \$16; E. J. S., of Md., \$16; J. C., of Ohio, \$10; P. & H., of N. J., \$16; J. S. T., of Pa., \$15; J. S., of Mass., \$25; T. C. L., of Mass., \$16; H. R. B., of Vt., \$16; H. P., of Vt., \$16; H. A., of N. Y., \$16; T. B., of Mass., \$25; G. W. M., of Mass., \$16; C. R. O., of N. Y., \$16; S. P. B., of N. Y., \$16; A. H. W., of Iowa, \$30; V. & L., of Minn., \$25; J. A. H., of Vt., \$25; I. H. F., of Ill., \$45; M. S., of Mo., \$25; H. A. T., of Ill., \$10; A. S. H., of N. Y., \$10; J. B., of Ohio, \$30; H. B., of Conn., \$16; G. L., of N. Y., \$30; S. S. C., of Conn., \$30; G. K. W., of Conn., \$22; W. V., of Mich., \$15; C. H. W., of N. Y., \$16.

Persons having remitted money to this office will please to examine the above list to see that their initials appear in it and if they have not received an acknowledgment by mail, and their initials are not to be found in this list, they will please notify us immediately, stating the amount and how it was sent, whether by mail or express.

Specifications and drawings and models belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office, from Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1864, to Wednesday Feb. 24, 1864:—W. C. S. of N. Y.; F. N. of N. Y.; J. H. K. of N. Y.; D. M. of N. Y.; T. U. of N. Y.; G. T. of N. Y.; H. P. of N. Y.; S. Z. of N. Y.; W. H. Mc. M. of N. Y.; C. B. of N. Y.; E. M. of N. J. (2 cases); S. & C. of N. Y. (2 cases); D. & N. of N. Y.; L. T. L. of Belgium; G. W. R. of Russia; I. V. H. of N. Y.; P. S. B. of Mass; B. W. L. of Austria; J. W. F. of Ill.; J. L. J. of N. Y.; P. J. C. of Conn.; H. A. T. of Ill.; J. S. of Mass.; D. & J. S. of Pa.; J. T. R. of N. J.; T. C. of Conn.; T. & R. of Ill.; H. A. B. of Pa.; T. B. of Minn.; C. M. M. of N. J.; A. H. W. of Iowa; M. S. of Mo.; V. & L. of Mass.; J. A. H. of Vt.; J. H. F. of Ill.

R. of Russia; I. V. H. of N. Y.; P. S. B. of Mass; B. W. L. of Austria; J. W. F. of Ill.; J. L. J. of N. Y.; P. J. C. of Conn.; H. A. T. of Ill.; J. S. of Mass.; D. & J. S. of Pa.; J. T. R. of N. J.; T. C. of Conn.; T. & R. of Ill.; H. A. B. of Pa.; T. B. of Minn.; C. M. M. of N. J.; A. H. W. of Iowa; M. S. of Mo.; V. & L. of Mass.; J. A. H. of Vt.; J. H. F. of Ill.

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