



[Reported Officially for the Scientific American.]

LIST OF PATENT CLAIMS
Issued from the United States Patent Office.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 14, 1855.

SASH FASTENER—Wm. C. Arnold, of Rochester, N. Y. : I claim the arrangement of the bolt, B, traversing in guides, the slide, S, and the tumbler, T, in relation to the case and the notches, h, thereon, as set forth.

BOTTLE STOPPER FASTENINGS—T. A. Ashburner, of Philadelphia, Pa. : I am aware that many devices have been essayed for securing corks in bottles, but all of them involve expense, intricacy, or difficulties in placing or removing them from the bottle, and I do not claim any such contrivances, meaning to limit myself to what I have described and represented, relying mainly upon the hinging of the stirrups to the button, which greatly facilitates the placing or removing of the button from the cork, and securing the stirrups on one side to the neck of the bottle.

POLISHING APPARATUS FOR WATCHMAKERS' LATHES—J. M. Botum, of New York City : I claim the application of the polishing spindle to the lathe in such a manner that it has a universal movement, substantially as described, for the purpose of adjusting the polishing wheel to surfaces of various forms.

MACHINES FOR TURNING, BORING, AND SLOTTING METALS—Alanson Brown, of Rochester, N. Y. : I am aware that single column machines for boring and drilling small work, have been used, in which operative parts project forward of said column, this I do not claim, as the support is not thin enough for accurate work of the kind which my machine is devised for, and these I do not claim.

SELF-LOADING CARTS—Ze Butt, of Lincolnton, N. C. : I claim the manner described, or any other essentially the same, of constructing, arranging, combining, and operating cart bodies, so that they can be dropped to or upon the ground to receive the load, be loaded, as the cart moves forward, and then elevated and dumped or unloaded, the same as an ordinary cart, substantially as and for the purpose described.

EXCLUDING DIRT FROM GROOVED RAILROAD RAILS—C. M. Eakin, of West Philadelphia, Pa. : I claim the application of an elastic filling to the groove, which is formed in the track to receive the flanges of the wheels, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

HOOP JACKS FOR SAILING VESSELS—Elmer Foster, of Fairton, N. J. : I claim the arrangement of the hoop jack with the lower halyard block, the brace line, clevis, and gaff hook, clevis and hoop line extending down to the foot of the mast and connected to each sail loop, as set forth.

CUT-OFF VALVES FOR STEAM ENGINES—Noble T. Greene, of Bridgeport, Conn. : I claim combining with the rocking levers, or their equivalents, for operating the valves, the spring tappets on the sliding bars, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

SEED PLANTERS—H. Ludington & S. R. Lupton, of Addison, Pa. : We claim the construction of an expanding sectional hopper, E, E, hung by hinges or otherwise pendant, and formed with concaves on the inner sides, which concaves have formed thereon diagonally arranged ridges or sloping irregularities, a a a a, substantially as described.

GAS REGULATORS—J. W. Hoard, of Providence, R. I. : I am aware that the inverted cup has been and is employed by Kidder, and others, and therefore I disclaim it, irrespectively of the peculiar arrangement and combination described.

SAFETY FERRY BRIDGE—Henry Lawrence, of New York City : I claim the employment of the reciprocating carriage, G, the suspended central gate, B, and side gates, C, C, the whole being arranged essentially as shown, and operated by the boat and weights, substantially, as and for the purposes set forth.

SEWING MACHINES—Joseph Hyde, of New York City : I claim the auxiliary jaw or gripper, E, applied to or inserted within either the stationary or movable jaw of a hand or screw wrench, said jaw or gripper being constructed and arranged as shown, or in an equivalent way, so as to bind or press the article between it and the stationary jaw, with a force proportionate to that exerted in turning the wrench, as set forth.

MAKING PAPER BOXES—Louis Koch, of New York City : I claim, first, the application of a series of rollers connected together, and worked by an arrangement of levers and toes or cams, for the purpose of bringing paper from an endless roll and of a required length, into the machine, and pieces of paper previously shaped and pasted by the machine, to the plates required, substantially as described.

GRAIN CLEANER—George Leach, of Owego, N. Y. : I claim dressing or furrowing the stones by having the furrows or grooves, e, f, cut in the face of the bed stone, B, and the furrows or grooves, g, h, in the face of the runner, A, said furrows or grooves being of the form or shape, as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

SLAUGHTERING MACHINE—R. C. Manck, of Harrisburg, Va. : I claim the described mode of regulating the operation of the cutter or plow, by means of the swinging frame, F, connected with the body of the machine, substantially as specified in connection with the chuck plates, operating as and for the purposes set forth.

VALVES FOR GAS BURNERS—Andrew Mayer, of Philadelphia, Pa. : I claim fitting the valve cups, b, b, to a valve, C, which forms a valve box in which the cups and valves can be properly fitted without difficulty, and inserted conveniently in their place in the burner or into any chamber prepared to receive them, as fully described.

EVAPORATING APPARATUS—James McCracken, of Bloomfield, N. J. : I claim the arrangement and use of a set of metallic cylinders containing vertical tubes, as described, in connection with the mode of conveying the escape steam from the pans to the condenser in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

OPERATING PUMPS BY WIND—Hiram Moore, of Charles ton, Mich. : I claim the combination of a compensating cam and spring, or the equivalent thereof for operating a pump driven by windmill, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

WASHING MACHINES—Elijah Morgan, of Morgantown, Va. : I claim suspending a reciprocating rubber, C, between the yielding and yielding two barrels, B, in such a manner that said washboard and bar may both have a vertical motion during the action of the rubber, and at the same time an expansive action or motion due to an over accumulation of the clothes between the rubber and washboard, as described.

FIRE EXTINGUISHING COMPOSITIONS—E. F. Overdeer, of Chattanooga, Tenn. : I am aware that peatshash and other salts, either alone or mixed with other substances have been used to saturate or cover combustible articles to render them fire-proof. Therefore I do not claim the use of peatshash or saleratus for the purpose of preventing ignition, or rendering combustible articles fire-proof.

LAMPS—F. C. Rider, of Providence, R. I. : I claim the use of the regulator tube, H, arranged and operated as set forth, in combination with the wick and wick holder, as applied to the inner surface of the wick to regulate and control the flame of light, substantially as set forth.

BRICK KILNS—Jesse Russell, of Elkton, Ky. : I claim the arrangement of the fire chambers outside of the kiln and introducing the products of combustion to the brick to be burnt through avenues or passages extending from the fire chambers, entirely across the kiln, when said fires are placed and used on one side of the kiln only, substantially as described.

ORDNANCE—Christopher Wolter, of Bridgeport, Conn. : First, though I do not claim of itself the mounting of a gun barrel or piece of ordnance upon a universal joint or pivot, I claim the connection of two barrels, B, placed and mounted, in such a manner that they may be adjusted and held at any desirable angle relatively to each other, substantially as and for the purposes described.

SEWING MACHINES—Joseph Hyde, of New York City : I claim the auxiliary jaw or gripper, E, applied to or inserted within either the stationary or movable jaw of a hand or screw wrench, said jaw or gripper being constructed and arranged as shown, or in an equivalent way, so as to bind or press the article between it and the stationary jaw, with a force proportionate to that exerted in turning the wrench, as set forth.

MACHINES FOR TURNING, BORING, AND SLOTTING METALS—Alanson Brown, of Rochester, N. Y. : I am aware that single column machines for boring and drilling small work, have been used, in which operative parts project forward of said column, this I do not claim, as the support is not thin enough for accurate work of the kind which my machine is devised for, and these I do not claim.

SELF-LOADING CARTS—Ze Butt, of Lincolnton, N. C. : I claim the manner described, or any other essentially the same, of constructing, arranging, combining, and operating cart bodies, so that they can be dropped to or upon the ground to receive the load, be loaded, as the cart moves forward, and then elevated and dumped or unloaded, the same as an ordinary cart, substantially as and for the purpose described.

EXCLUDING DIRT FROM GROOVED RAILROAD RAILS—C. M. Eakin, of West Philadelphia, Pa. : I claim the application of an elastic filling to the groove, which is formed in the track to receive the flanges of the wheels, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

HOOP JACKS FOR SAILING VESSELS—Elmer Foster, of Fairton, N. J. : I claim the arrangement of the hoop jack with the lower halyard block, the brace line, clevis, and gaff hook, clevis and hoop line extending down to the foot of the mast and connected to each sail loop, as set forth.

CUT-OFF VALVES FOR STEAM ENGINES—Noble T. Greene, of Bridgeport, Conn. : I claim combining with the rocking levers, or their equivalents, for operating the valves, the spring tappets on the sliding bars, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

SEED PLANTERS—H. Ludington & S. R. Lupton, of Addison, Pa. : We claim the construction of an expanding sectional hopper, E, E, hung by hinges or otherwise pendant, and formed with concaves on the inner sides, which concaves have formed thereon diagonally arranged ridges or sloping irregularities, a a a a, substantially as described.

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Thirdly, the application and construction of the pasting frame, with paste boxes situated between the rollers, and arranged in such a manner as to paste the already slipped paper, in the required places, as set forth.

Fourth, the construction and application of a wheel with arms, having at their extremity the molds attached around which the boxes are to be made said wheel with mold being moved by an arrangement of a rod and lever actuated by a cam in the manner described.

Fifth, the application and use of a series of slides for the purpose of folding the ends of the papers round the mold, said slides being worked by a combination of levers, &c., actuated by toes in the manner set forth.

Sixth, the application and use of a pair of pliers, for the purpose of pulling the finished paper box off the mold, constructed and worked in the manner set forth.

Seventh, the construction of the outer mold formed by two sections attached to the frames, and a hinge valve, and the operation and manner of working said valve; the various parts of the whole machine being combined and arranged for the purposes described.

GRAIN CLEANER—George Leach, of Owego, N. Y. : I claim dressing or furrowing the stones by having the furrows or grooves, e, f, cut in the face of the bed stone, B, and the furrows or grooves, g, h, in the face of the runner, A, said furrows or grooves being of the form or shape, as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

[In next week's Sci. American a further description of this improvement in Grain Cleaners will be published.]

SLAUGHTERING MACHINE—R. C. Manck, of Harrisburg, Va. : I claim the combination of the sliding bolsters, M, M, and friction rollers, H, H, with the axle tree, C, and fixed bolsters, M, in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

I also claim the slots, R, in cross bar, V, which permit the movement of the forward runners, without any wrenching.

[See a description of this invention on another page.]

DITCHING MACHINE—R. C. Manck, of Harrisburg, Va. : I claim the described mode of regulating the operation of the cutter or plow, by means of the swinging frame, F, connected with the body of the machine, substantially as specified in connection with the chuck plates, operating as and for the purposes set forth.

VALVES FOR GAS BURNERS—Andrew Mayer, of Philadelphia, Pa. : I claim fitting the valve cups, b, b, to a valve, C, which forms a valve box in which the cups and valves can be properly fitted without difficulty, and inserted conveniently in their place in the burner or into any chamber prepared to receive them, as fully described.

[A description of this improvement in gas burners may be found on page 350, Vol. 9, Sci. Am.]

EVAPORATING APPARATUS—James McCracken, of Bloomfield, N. J. : I claim the arrangement and use of a set of metallic cylinders containing vertical tubes, as described, in connection with the mode of conveying the escape steam from the pans to the condenser in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

OPERATING PUMPS BY WIND—Hiram Moore, of Charles ton, Mich. : I claim the combination of a compensating cam and spring, or the equivalent thereof for operating a pump driven by windmill, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

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[See notice of this invention on another page.]

FIRE EXTINGUISHING COMPOSITIONS—E. F. Overdeer, of Chattanooga, Tenn. : I am aware that peatshash and other salts, either alone or mixed with other substances have been used to saturate or cover combustible articles to render them fire-proof. Therefore I do not claim the use of peatshash or saleratus for the purpose of preventing ignition, or rendering combustible articles fire-proof.

But I claim a solution of a solution of pearl ash in water in the proportion of 16 pounds of pearl ash, or thereabout, to 100 gallons of water, as a substitute for water in extinguishing fires.

LAMPS—F. C. Rider, of Providence, R. I. : I claim the use of the regulator tube, H, arranged and operated as set forth, in combination with the wick and wick holder, as applied to the inner surface of the wick to regulate and control the flame of light, substantially as set forth.

BRICK KILNS—Jesse Russell, of Elkton, Ky. : I claim the arrangement of the fire chambers outside of the kiln and introducing the products of combustion to the brick to be burnt through avenues or passages extending from the fire chambers, entirely across the kiln, when said fires are placed and used on one side of the kiln only, substantially as described.

ORDNANCE—Christopher Wolter, of Bridgeport, Conn. : First, though I do not claim of itself the mounting of a gun barrel or piece of ordnance upon a universal joint or pivot, I claim the connection of two barrels, B, placed and mounted, in such a manner that they may be adjusted and held at any desirable angle relatively to each other, substantially as and for the purposes described.

Second, I claim the connection of the barrels by means of the toggle joints, J, and the central slider, F, working in a suitable guide supported by the carriage, substantially as described, for the purpose of adjusting the barrels at the desired angle.

Third, supporting the breeches for the purpose of varying the elevation of the barrels by means of a frame composed of sectors, D, D, D, and slotted heads, C, C, attach to them, as described, whereby the necessary changes of elevation and of the angle of the two barrels are provided for by dependently of each other; this I claim, irrespective of any mechanical devices that may be employed to raise and lower the frame.

Fourth, the connection of the two hammers or the triggers or their equivalents by means of two links with sliding pieces, R, operated upon by a cord or chain connected with a rod, r, which passes through the side of the carriage and has a spring, s, applied substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Fifth, connecting the cord or chain with the rod, r, or its equivalent, by merely passing it through an eye at the end thereof, and attaching it to a wick, w, conveniently situated to keep it always wound up to the proper degree to give it the required length, as fully set forth.

[This invention is recommended to Lord Raglan for the use of the Allies in the Crimea. A description of it will be published next week.]

SAFETY FERRY BRIDGE—Henry Lawrence, of New York City : I claim the employment of the reciprocating carriage, G, the suspended central gate, B, and side gates, C, C, the whole being arranged essentially as shown, and operated by the boat and weights, substantially, as and for the purposes set forth.

I also claim making the side gates of a circular form instead of flat so that in case drunken or thoughtless men lay hold of them or get in a position to interfere with their being opened freely, they shall, as they open have a tendency to throw them off instead of forcing them up against the railings, and crushing them, substantially, as set forth.

[This is a life-saving apparatus, and a description of it will be published in the same number of the Sci. Am. in which the "Killer" improved ordnance above, appears.]

CURTAIN ROLLERS—F. W. Urban, of Saxonville, Mass. : I do not claim the insertion of the end or journal of the curtain roller in a chamber or bearing in the socket that supports it.

But I claim extending the pulley head into the bracket substantially in manner, as described, and for the purpose of protecting the cord of the pulley from getting between the said head, and the bracket during the process of rolling up or unrolling the curtain.

SEWING MACHINES—Edward Vaughn, of Alliance, O. : I claim the arch beams, d, d, the brace posts, l, l, in combination with the incline braces, c, c, c, and horizontal beams, a, making a new and useful, firm, and compact frame, as set forth.

Also the combination of a half sphere, e, and groove, i, forming a new half spherical washer, &c.

Also the combination of the groove, k, opening, j, with a square recess, m, for the purpose as set forth.

Also for the purpose of attaching and detaching the trucks, H, H, to and from sails, c, by the combination of levers, h, h, fulcrums, r, r, joints, q, q, posts, t, dogs, v, and levers, I, as set forth.

Also the securing of the bar, K, to the hounds, J, J, as set forth.

I do not claim any one separate thing in the above mentioned invention; but I claim the combination as set forth.

[See description of this invention in No. 10 present volume Sci. Am.]

DOOR LOCKS—Wm. Warwick, of Birmingham, Pa. : I claim so forming the tumbler with beveled edges for the key to operate it, and so arranging it in relation to the bolt and the stud, z, that when locked, the bolt is held firm against pressure, by the tumbler fitting over the stud, z, as set forth.

RAVES CUTTERS OF HOUSES—O. W. Wheatly, of Harrodsburgh, Ky. : I claim the application of a bead or molding, together with the hoop or girdle of the description above, giving strength to the gutter without the aid of a plank or other substance.

BREECH-LOADING FIRE ARMS—Rollin White, of Hartford, Conn. : I claim the connection of the breech with the hammer, in such a manner that it may be withdrawn to open the chamber to receive the charge by the act of cocking the hammer, and replaced to close the chamber by the falling of the hammer when the latter is set free to explode the charge, substantially as set forth.

BREECH-LOADING FIRE ARMS—Rollin White, of Hartford, Conn. : I claim, first the connection of the breech or breech piece, with the hammer in such a manner that the latter may be cocked by the act of moving the former into its place to close the chamber, substantially as set forth.

Second, the peculiar manner of effecting the cocking and setting force of the hammer by means of the spring tooth, D, attached to the breech or breech piece and the sliding piece, d, working in the tumbler to be acted upon by the trigger for the purpose of disengaging the said tooth, substantially as set forth.

Third, the arrangement of a crank or eccentric, f, arranged and operating substantially as described, for the purpose of disengaging the tooth H, from the tumbler, and thereby disconnecting the hammer from the breech or breech piece, when the immediate repetition of the discharge is not desired.

[The above patents granted to Mr. White are important improvements, but cannot be well described without engravings. Mr. W. has several other inventions in the same line, on which patents will soon issue.]

PROCESSES OF CURING MEATS—J. C. Schooley, of Cincinnati, O. : I claim the process of curing meat and preserving it, in the manner described, by means of a series of rollers, which are applied to the meat, and are so arranged as to produce the results specified, and for the purposes set forth.

MANUFACTURE OF STONE PASTERBOARDS—James Smith, of Mendon, N. Y. : I do not claim the use of bole of any kind, or chalk of any kind, or Spanish white, or glue, or paper pulp, or linseed oil, either separately or he combined, nor do I in any manner use bole, chalk Spanish white, or glue, or a compound of which they form a part.

But I claim sheets for coating, boarding, and other purposes, made or constructed in the manner described, or their equivalent, by combining said stone when pulverized with paper pulp.

I also claim the application of and combining drying oil with said pulverized stone and paper pulp, combined in sheets as above, in the manner described, or in any other equivalent manner, so as to produce the results specified, or others substantially the same.

MACHINERY FOR SPINNING WOOL—F. S. Stoddard, of Litchfield, Conn. : I claim, first, conducting the ovine from the feed of the front drawing rollers, by means of a bridge or rest, with fingers, a, on it arranged between the front and back pairs of drawing rollers, for the purpose of governing the counter twist so as to adapt a smaller portion of it to the part of the thread nearest the back rollers.

Second, impeding the traveling travelers while winding upon the cones or bobbins, by means of a series of brushes, q, q, or their equivalents, operating substantially as set forth, so as to gradually set the traveler free as the winding approaches the mangle or upper ends of the cones, thereby producing a uniform tension on the thread while winding.

[Mr. Stoddard's invention will be described, as well as it can be without engravings, in next week's Sci. Am.]

AIR HEATING PIPES—J. H. Sutton, of Honesdale, Pa. : I claim the arrangement of the burner, A, B, the descending smoke pipes, c, c, and the central smoke pipe, D, with each other and with the single air-heating chamber, D, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

[See notice of this Patent on another page.]

APPARATUS FOR OPERATING VENTILATORS—J. P. Trimble, of Livonia, N. Y. : I do not claim affecting the ventilation of buildings, &c., by operating the valves to the vents or air passages by the force derived from the expansion of metal, as this has been before proposed.

But I claim having the valves or ventilating doors connected to the said metal bands, about midway between their fixed support, so that the varying degrees of flexure shall effect the operation of opening or closing said doors in the manner and for the purpose described and shown.

BENZOLE VAPOR APPARATUS—Charles Cunningham, of Natick, N. H. (assignor to J. C. Pedrick, of Boston, Mass.) : I claim first, the combination of the heater, w, and the swinging gas burner, v, or of the induction air pipe, A, and any one of the members of the apparatus, with the water vessel, u, the receiver, k, or the motor, A, and actually as herein described for the purpose of keeping the contents of the vessel containing the benzole or light-producing liquid at a given temperature.

Second, the combination of the reservoir, k, and the rotary disseminator, n, with an ordinary rotary meter wheel, substantially as described, for forcing air into the hollow shaft, or its equivalent, into the reservoir, k, for the purpose of vaporizing the benzole of the latter vessel.

Third, the particular mode of making the rotary disseminator, n, substantially as described, and for the purposes specified, not meaning to claim the use of the hollow shaft for a rotating section of the disk.

Fourth, the application and use of the meter wheel with its case and cover, in such a manner, operated by weights or otherwise, not meaning to claim the method of using the meter, for measuring gas.

CULTIVATORS—S. A. Knox, (assignor to Ruggles, Nourse, Mason & Co., of Worcester, Mass.) : I do not claim combining a curved and pointed knife with a common hand plow, when said knife is placed against or very near to the nose of the plow, my employment of a trapezoidal tooth or beveled hoe being in addition to said knife, and for a different purpose from its use on a plow.

But what I claim is arranging the curved knife or pointed tooth, K, at or near the rear end of the beam of the horse hoe, while the man or driver, H, G, is disposed at or near the rear end of the beam, and so to enable the said tooth to be used in the manner and for the purposes as stated, it being employed in a common plow, simply for cutting the soil or opening it for the reception of the nose of the plow.

NO ISSUES.

DESIGN FOR METALLIC COFFERS—Martin H. Crane, assignor to Crane, Reed, & Co., of Cambridge, Gt. Britanied Jan. 23, 1855 : We claim the ornamental pyramidal design for a metallic case of pills, substantially as described and represented.

MACHINERY FOR SEPARATING FLOUR FROM BRAN—Isaac F. and Jas. M. Co., of New York (invented Feb. 27, 1849) : We do not mean to entitle to the original inventor of a cylinder, nor of a cylinder covered with punched strips of sheet iron and a pair of rollers, filled with sacks, such as are used in flour machines, nor the gearing by which the machine is propelled.

But we claim, first, the platform, D, (always at right angles with the sides of the hopper when it is used) or close horizontal bottom when used as connection with upright, stationary or revolving roller for flour purposes.

Second, the opening at D, for the admission of a counter current of air through the bottom and into the hopper, and the opening at A, B, C, as described, in combination with the platform, D.

Third, the upright stationary bolt, or bolt and scourer combined with its case, a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, or in combination with the rollers, u, v, second, and fourth, or either of them, or their equivalents, to produce like results in the flouring process.

Fourth, the use of the revolving, distributing scouring, and blowing cylinders of beater and comb, by which the material is distributed, scooped, and the flour blown through the meshes of the bolting cloth.

[No less than sixteen of the patents in the above list were prepared at the Scientific American Office. Advice concerning patent matters is given freely, orally, or by letter, without charge, upon application to this office. Circulars of information mailed upon application addressed to MUNN & CO., SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office, New York City. See advertisement on advertising page.]

The New Postage Law—Important to the Public.

The Post Office Department calls attention of Postmasters and the public, to the new postage law, requiring that all letters between places in the United States shall be pre-paid from and after the 1st of April, 1855, by stamps or otherwise, and that from after the first of January next, Postmasters must place postage stamps upon all pre-paid letters upon which such stamps may not have been placed by the writers, or which may not be enclosed in stamped envelopes. From and after the first of April, 1855, the postage to be charged on each single letter for any distance in the United States not exceeding 3,000 miles, is three cents, and over 3,000 miles, ten cents. The law does not change the existing rates or regulations in regard to letters to or from Canada or other foreign countries, nor does it affect the franking privilege. The provisions in regard to the registration of valuable letters will be carried into effect, and special instructions issued to Postmasters on the subject, as soon as the necessary blanks can be prepared and distributed.

Fall of Black Snow.

Prof. Fairchild, of Oberlin, Ohio, states that on February 7th, they had in that region a fall of dark-colored snow. The crystals were in the form of dense icy pellets, about the twentieth of an inch in diameter. It fell to the depth of nearly an inch, and when melted it yielded about a half inch of water. The snow had a distinct smoky taste, and on filtering it through paper a dark, sooty substance was obtained.

Chalk.

A specimen of this calcareous earth was shown us this week by A. G. Lawrence, Esq., of Campo Seco. It forms the base of a hill in that vicinity, the surface of which is a volcanic drift, containing a very rich gold deposit—which pays from \$3 to \$10 a cart load. The chalk hill has not been penetrated to any considerable depth, but it is likely that underneath this deposit, gold will be found. A curious phenomenon may be observed at this hill—one part of it is composed of chalk, while the other is the usual red clay formation, the line of demarkation being plainly visible.—[California Chronicle.]

Fire-Proof Floors.

If builders filled up the spaces between every wall and flooring with sea sand, no fire could communicate from one apartment to another. The staircases, if constructed of iron, on the geometrical principle, would prove non-conductors, space would be economized, and the chamber enlarged. Balconies running from house to house on every floor, are the most desirable of all fire escapes.

To Kill