

Attachment for Ventilating Bed-clothes.

It is well known among civilized people that there is no part of housekeeping that requires more attention than bedding. For comfort this is desirable, but for sanitary reasons it is very important that the clothes should be thoroughly aired and ventilated for an hour or more daily. This is very often done by placing the bed linen on chairs or over the foot-board; in so doing, however, it gets dragged on the floor and more or less soiled, besides entailing considerable labor. With this attachment the clothes are buttoned to the tapes, A, on the cords, B, which, in turn, are rove through the arms, C. The arms are attached to uprights, D, and are jointed at E, so that the apparatus can be turned down horizontally when not in use. When in use it is erected as shown, and the clothes are all drawn up or extended by pulling the cord, F. This insures thorough exposure with but little labor. The legs at one end permit the attachment to be rolled one side against the wall when necessary for making or taking down the bedstead.

The inventor says that one of these fixtures has been in use for some time, and has been highly praised by housekeepers for its utility. It is not liable to get out of order and is easily and cheaply constructed.

The invention was patented through the Scientific American Patent Agency on the 16th of August, 1864, by J. H. Martin, of Hartford, Washington county, N. Y., who can be addressed for further information. [See advertisement on another page.]

A SEED-BAG.

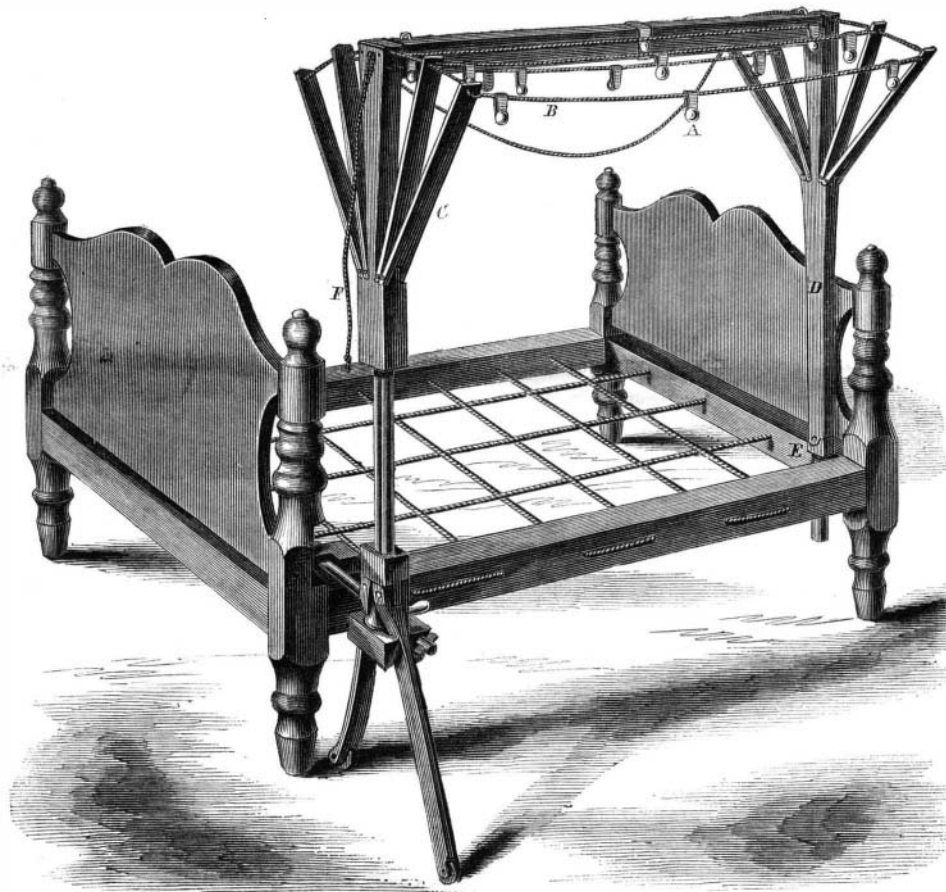
Mr. Overton, in explaining at the Polytechnic Association the mode of raising petroleum in the oil region of Pennsylvania, stated that after the holes are bored through the earth and rock down to the cavities containing the oil, a pipe is inserted through which the oil is pumped up. As, in sinking the holes from 100 to 600 feet, several springs and streams of water are usually encountered, this water, if allowed to fall down to the bottom of the hole, would require to be raised by the pump, and would thus add materially to the expense of procuring the oil. To prevent the water from falling to the bottom of the hole the annular space around the pipe is closed water-tight near the lower end of the pipe. This is effected by surrounding the pipe with a bag some two feet in length filled with dry flax-seed. After the bag is in place the seed absorb water, and swell so as to close the space perfectly water tight.

ROSS'S LUBRICATOR.

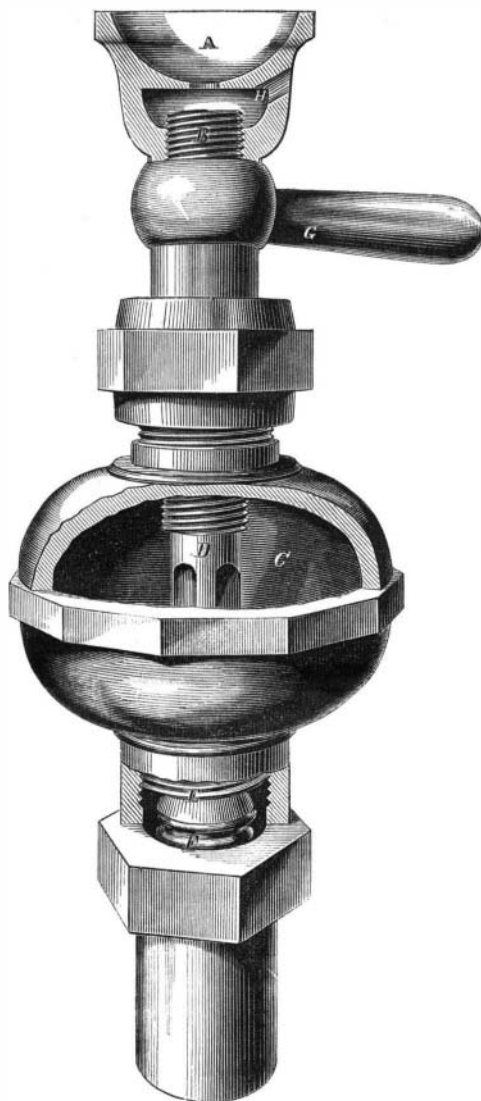
The old-fashioned globe lubricator with its three cocks is a great nuisance. In order to lubricate a cylinder, the lower cock must be first shut, the pet cock opened to blow the steam out of the globe, the pet cock shut again, and the oil poured in, after which the upper cock must be shut and the lower one opened before the oil will flow down to its place. This is a tedious operation, and the lubricator here-with illustrated is a much better one for the purpose. In this cup but one handle has to be turned to lubricate the cylinder. The operation is as follows. Oil is poured into the cup, A, from whence it runs down through the pipe, B, into the reservoir, C. In this there is a three-sided plug, D, which has a valve seat on the pipe, B, and another seat, E, below on the bottom of the reservoir; this one is a little larger than the upper, and the plug is put in from below,

There is also a spiral spring, F, bearing on the end of the plug. The oil is introduced to the reservoir by turning the handle, G, around a few times; this

vents steam from blowing out during the operation. The oil runs into the cylinder from the reservoir when the handle, G, is run down as far as it can go.

**MARTIN'S ATTACHMENT FOR VENTILATING BED-CLOTHES.**

act unscrews the pipe, B, from the plug, D, and the



oil consequently runs down into C; the spiral spring below forces the plug against its lower seat and pre-

This forces the lower end of the plug off its seat and opens the passage to the cylinder. Steam rushes up into the reservoir and makes the pressure equable, so that there is no more in the chest than in the cup. The holes, H, allow the air to escape when oil is poured in. This cup was patented March 1st, 1864, by Robert Ross, of Bethlehem, Pa., and assigned to B. E. Lehman, of the same place. For further particulars address Mr. Lehman as above; or Felix Campbell, 79 John street, New York City.

Street Sweepings.

Dr. Littlejohn says, in a paper on the cleansing operations in Edinburgh, that by an efficient staff of scavengers, fifty thousand tons of solid refuse are annually removed from the streets and placed in depots in the neighborhood of the town. The sale of this refuse brings into the municipal treasury £7,000 per annum. The entire cost of cleansing the city is £13,000 per annum, viz., £6,000 for wages, £6,000 for cost of conveyance of refuse to the depots, and £1,000 for wear and

tear of materials. The Old Town and the poorer districts of the New Town, are visited by the wagons morning and evening; the greater proportion of the New Town only receives a morning visit. Thus all accumulations of refuse for a period longer than a few hours are prevented; the streets are thoroughly cleansed daily; a large number of men are kept in regular employment, many of whom might otherwise burden the rates; the rural districts obtain an excellent manure at a moderate cost, and the police rates are diminished by 3d. in the £1.

A Smoking Automaton.

Many men smoke mechanically, but we never heard of one before smoking by machinery other than that furnished by nature. The *Salem Gazette* says:—

“Mr. Thomas B. Russell, an ingenious machinist of this city, has exhibited to some of his friends a curious piece of mechanism which is now at his residence, No. 354 Essex street. It consists of the figure of a man, seated in a common chair, and holding a cigar in his mouth. By winding up a weight and thus setting in motion an ingenious piece of machinery, the cigar, when lighted, and also the mouth of the figure, are made, at regular intervals, to emit a steady stream of smoke, interspersed with puffs, that a professional smoker could not excel. By this process a cigar will be smoked up as quickly and naturally as a living man could do it. The machinery by which the result is accomplished, consists of a series of wheels not unlike those by which a clock is made to strike. Rubber tubes or pipes are conveyed from the mouth of the figure to bellows, which are slowly worked. Two valves, nicely adjusted, regulate the drawing in and emission of the smoke.

ON THE RESPIRATION OF FLOWERS.—M. Cahours, in a note to the French Academy of Sciences, says, that while the green parts of plants, under the influence of light, absorb carbonic acid, assimilate the carbon, and give out oxygen, the colored parts, on the contrary, under the same circumstances, absorb oxygen, and give out carbonic acid. The amount of carbonic acid evolved seemed to increase as the temperature rose; and a growing flower gave out more than a fully blown one.