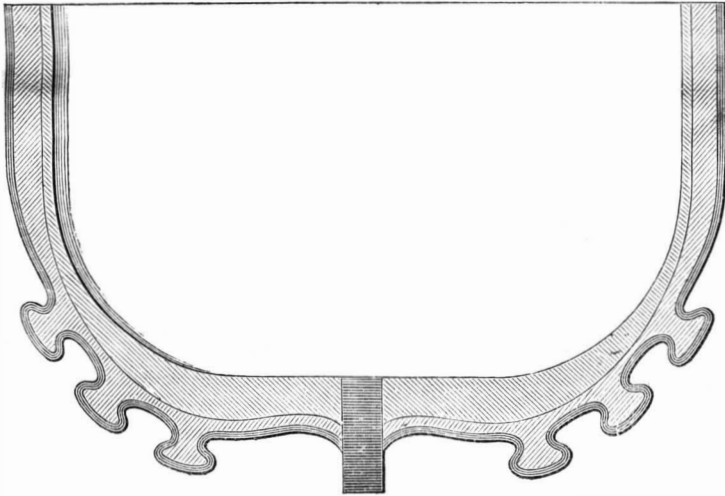


Improved "Rorqual Fold" for Ships.

Many narrow-beam ships are much benefited by attaching long "shelves," running fore and aft, projecting downward, at an angle from the sides, a foot or more. These "shelves" take hold of the water, confine it, and thus prevent the heavy roll and lurch that crank ships are liable to. This invention is designed to effect the same object, and it is called by the inventor the "rorqual fold," from the whale of that species, which is the largest known to naturalists, and for the peculiar faculty of creating similar folds in its skin.

Regarding the uses to which it may be applied, and the advantages resulting from it, the inventor says:—

"Our vessels, as now constructed, sit on the water



BOWDLEAR'S "RORQUAL FOLD" FOR SHIPS.

regardless of the laws of hydraulics, and entirely at the mercy of the waves. There is no affinity between the vessel and its element. It rises and falls, rolls and pitches, without the least control over the waters around. My theory is, when my attachment is placed on a vessel's bottom that the tendency to roll is counteracted by the resistance these folds offer. They clench the water like so many fingers, and keep the vessel from rising above its true center of gravity, as the water and vessel retain their mutual hold of each other. Thus when a vessel is lifted by the powerful action of the sea, the momentum given exceeds that of the wave itself, and consequently she plunges at random, or rolls by her momentum beyond the requirement of the element by which she is surrounded; in fact she does not roll on a safe center of gravity.

"Practical men who have examined it, among them Admiral Stringham, are desirous to see it at once applied."

This invention was patented Oct. 14th, 1863, by John Bowdlear, of Roxbury, Mass. For further information address him at that place, Box No. 419.

Butter at Sixteen Cents.

Canada must be a very desirable place to live in at the present time. The prices of provisions in the London (C. W.) markets make us long for a corresponding reduction in the enormous prices for food which are obtained here. We quote from the Canada Farmer:—

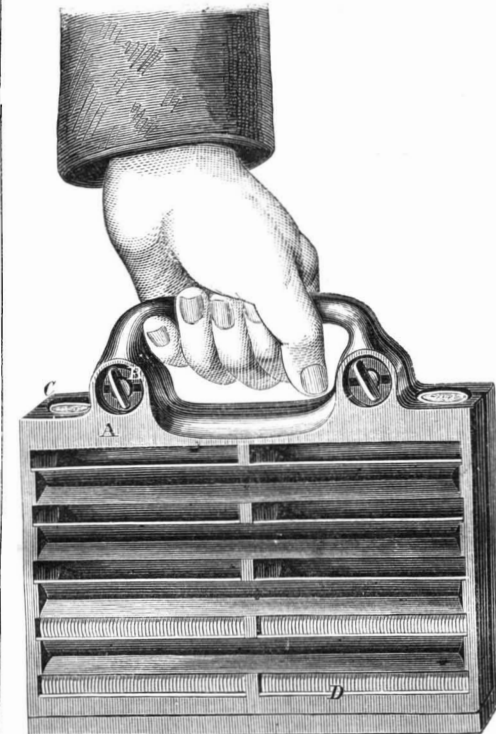
"Meat, from farmers' wagons, in large supply, and by the quarter very cheap. Beef \$2 to \$3 50 per 100 lbs. Mutton and lamb, 2c. to 4c. per lb. Poultry—dressed turkeys, 50c. to 75c.; geese, 25c. to 37½c. each; fowls, 37½c. to 50c.; ducks, 32c. to 40c. per pair. Butter, fresh in rolls, 16c. to 18c. Eggs, 10c. to 12½c. per dozen. Fruit—apples plentiful, at 25c. to 62½c. per bushel. Vegetables abundant; potatoes, 40c. to 50c. per bushel; turnips, 37½c.; onions, \$1 to \$1 25."

Beef here costs ten times as much. Butter three times and poultry six times as much. Potatoes nine times as much.

An English photographer has lately introduced a novelty in the mode of taking carte-de-visite photographs with the signatures of the sitters appended. This gives but little extra trouble. The sitter simply signs his name on a slip of paper, and finds its fac-simile, diminished in size, transferred to the portraits when they come home.

HOWARD'S COIN SAFE.

By transporting specie to a distance in the ordinary canvass bags, boxes, or other packages, where the coins have a chance to rub against each other, a very perceptible loss occurs from abrasion or friction. The rough milled edges scraping against each other, and on the smooth parts, is the cause of this loss; the amount of wear on large lots of gold is really very serious, as our large importers know to their sorrow. This has been provided against, as will be seen by inspecting the accompanying engraving. The case, A, is made of cast-iron, and is japanned handsomely outside and in. The case separates in the middle like a portmanteau, and at the junction



size as desired. The gold packed is shown at D and in this condition is wholly protected from loss by the causes mentioned previously. Money cannot be lost out of this safe as it is from bags, which are often cut or ripped, and it need not be counted, as the contents are known, when the racks are full, by a glance. It is more durable than a bag, for it will last for years, whereas bags are costly and soon wear out. The inventor cites one instance where this safe would have been useful; there are, doubt,

less, many similar ones:—"Last winter when there was about six inches of snow on the ground and it was fast increasing, a gentleman was carrying a bag of gold through Wall street; the bag ripped and a number of pieces fell in the snow, his predicament was peculiar; he could not leave what he had dropped for obvious reasons, he could not count what he had left so as to ascertain how much he had lost, he could not tell how many pieces there were under the snow. So all he could do was to rummage with benumbed fingers in all the snow on that part of the sidewalk, and with an amused audience to witness the performance." This coin safe can be conveniently carried in the hand like a carpet bag, and will, no doubt, become popular with our business firms.

A patent is now pending through the Scientific American Patent Agency by Joseph P. Howard, of Brooklyn, N. Y. For further particulars address Andrews & Co., 29 Cliff street, New York City

Soft soap mixed with a solution of potash or caustic soda, or pearlash and slaked lime, mixed with sufficient water to form a paste, is an excellent solvent for old putty and paint. Either of these laid on with an old brush or rag, and left for some hours, will render the putty or paint easily removable.

THE

Scientific American,

FOR 1864!

VOLUME ELEVEN

NEW SERIES.

The publishers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN respectfully give notice that the Eleventh Volume (New Series) commenced on July 2d, 1864. This journal was established in 1845, and is undoubtedly the most widely circulated and influential publication of the kind in the world. In commencing the new volume the publishers desire to call special attention to its claims as

A JOURNAL OF POPULAR SCIENCE.

In this respect it stands unrivaled. It not only finds its way to all most every workshop in the country, as the earnest friend of the mechanic and artisan, but it is found in the counting-room of the manufacturer and the merchant; also in the library and the household. The publishers feel warranted in saying that no other journal now published contains an equal amount of useful information; while it is their aim to present all subjects in the most popular and attractive manner.

The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN is published once a week, in convenient form for binding, and each number contains sixteen pages of useful reading matter, illustrated with

NUMEROUS SPLENDID ENGRAVINGS

of all the latest and best inventions of the day. This feature of the journal is worthy of special note. Every number contains from five to ten original engravings of mechanical inventions relating to every department of the arts. These engravings are executed by artists specially employed on the paper, and are universally acknowledged to be superior to anything of the kind produced in this country.

The publishers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN promise to present as during preceding years, all the latest improvements in Steam Engineering, War Vessels, Ordnance—military and naval—Fire-arms, Mechanics' Tools, Manufacturing Machinery, Farm Implements, Wood-working Machinery, Water-wheels, Pumps and other Hydraulic Apparatus, Household Utensils, Electric, Chemical and Mathematica Instruments, Flying Machines and other Curious Inventions—beside all the varied articles designed to lighten the labor of mankind, not only in the shop and warehouse, but in every place where the industries of life are pursued.

From its commencement the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN has been the earnest advocate of the rights of American Inventors and the

REPERTORY OF AMERICAN PATENTS.

In this important department, so vitally connected with all the great interests of the country, no other journal can lay any claim whatever, as in its columns there is published a weekly Official list of the "Claims" of all patents granted at the U. S. Patent Office.

THE PRACTICAL RECIPES

alone are oft-times worth more to the subscriber than the amount of a whole year's subscription.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Two volumes of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN are published each year, at \$1 50 each, or \$3 per annum, with correspondingly low terms to Clubs; \$1 will pay for four months' subscription. The numbers for one year, when bound in a volume, constitute a work of 832 pages of useful information, which every one ought to possess. A new volume commenced on the second day of July, 1864.

Specimen copies will be sent gratis to any part of the country. Canadian subscribers will please to remit 25 cents extra on each year's subscription to pre-pay postage.

Munn & Co., Publishers,

37 Park Row, New York.

FROM THE STEAM PRESS OF JOHN A. GRAY & GREEN.