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Lard and Strychnine.

A short time since a paragraph was published in a number of our papers, in which it was stated that lard was an antidote for that terrible poison, strychnine. B. Keith, M.D., of this city, in a communication to the *Electrical Medical Journal*, states that he has been experimenting, in order to verify or disprove the correctness of the lard antidote. He operated upon a strong and healthy dog, to which he administered 8 ounces of lard, and five minutes after one grain of strychnine. In six hours after taking this small quantity of strychnine the poor dog breathed his last. This experiment proves conclusively that lard is not an antidote to this frightful poison.

Drying up Rivers.

Turning Rivers from their Courses.—The *Calaveras Chronicle* says:—Great apprehension is being felt by those having river claims, in consequence of the probability that the whole stream of the Mokelumne river will be diverted from its natural channel by the numerous new ditches being projected. That this must be the case at some time or another is inevitable. But few years will pass by ere every mountain stream will be lifted from its natural bed, and made to subserve the purposes of the miner; and should any Rip Van Winkle rouse from his somnolency of twenty years, he would be sorely puzzled to find the original channels in which he used to dig and delve, and dam and flume in search of the glittering ore.

What Circular Saws can do.

The *Wolverine Citizen*, published at Flint, Mich., contains quite an article on the above subject, and presents some astounding statistics of what was done at East Saginaw, at Durfee & Atwater's saw mill, by a large circular saw. In 11 hours and 15 minutes it cut 26,425 feet of inch boards. This throws all the feats of saws, which we have published, entirely into the shade.

Cure for Rattlesnake Bite.

The following is from the last number of the *Wisconsin Farmer*:—"Take the yolk of a good egg, and put it in a teacup; stir in with it as much salt as will make it thick enough not to run off. Spread it as a plaster and apply it to the wound, and we will insure your life for a sixpence." If this is a reliable receipt it is the most simple one we have yet seen for the purpose; but we want evidence of its value.

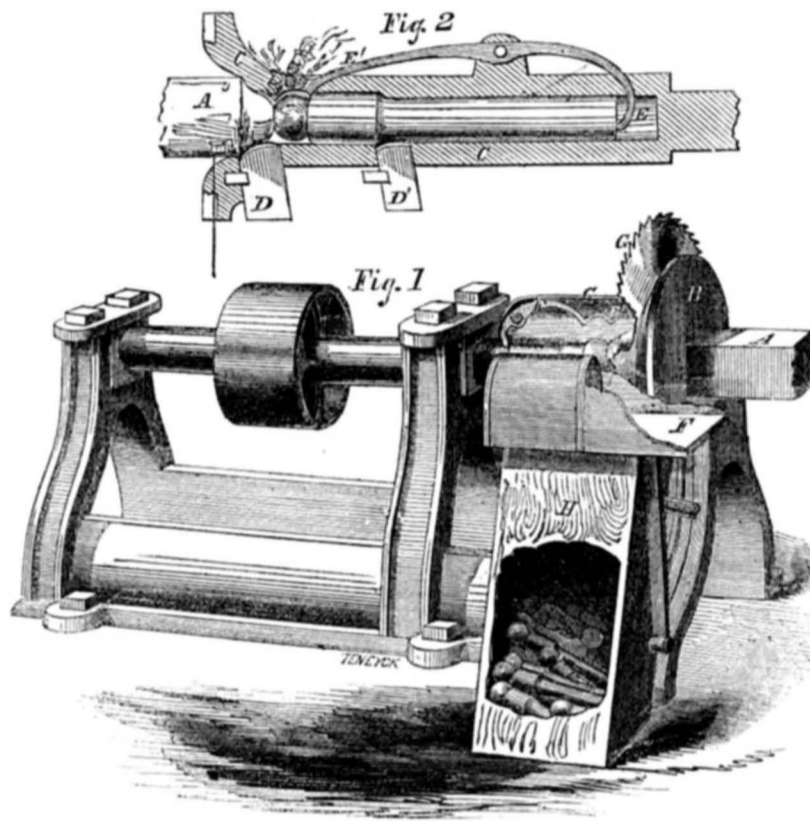
More Gold.

Nearly two million dollars of gold arrived at this port by the "George Law," on the 16th inst. Copious rains had fallen in California, rewarding miners with a harvest of yellow metal.

Electric Clocks.

The city of Marseilles, in France, is about to establish a system of electric clocks throughout all its streets. The dials of these clocks are to be placed in gas lamps, so that the time can be read by night as well as day. This is an excellent idea, and will, we think, yet be adopted in all cities lighted with gas.

MACHINE FOR TURNING CLOTHES PINS.



Clothes Pin Machine.

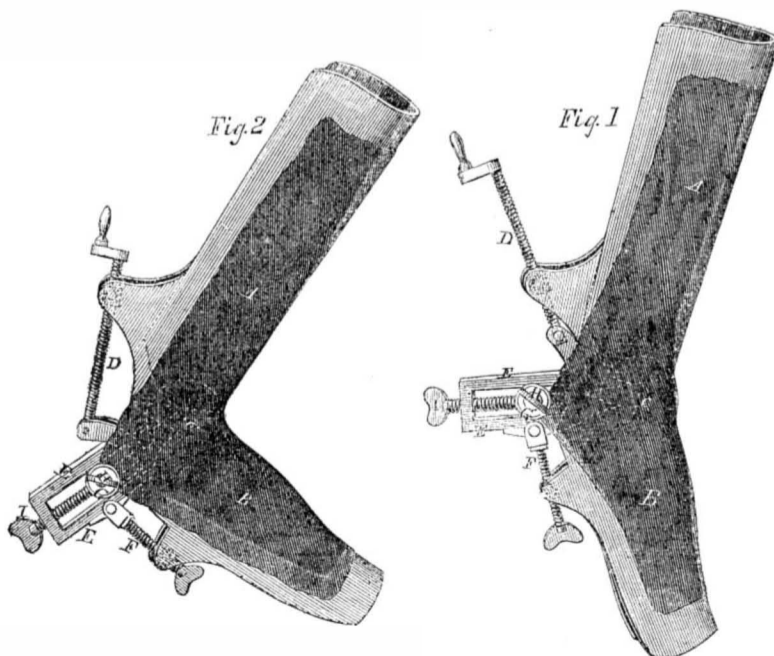
In this improvement the rough stick of wood, A, out of which pins are turned, is shoved through an aperture in the face of the machine, B, where it enters a revolving hollow mandrel, C (fig. 2.) At the entrance to the mandrel the stuff meets the cutter, D, which reduces it to a uniform rotundity, and admits it to the interior of the mandrel. Cutter D' reduces the stuff still more, so as to form the shoulder of the pin. When the end of the stick reaches the further extremity of the mandrel it comes in contact with the pivoted lever cutter, E, and throws it up, bringing down the other end upon the stuff; this end, E', is furnished with a peculiar-shaped cutter, which cuts the head of the pin. In figure 1 the cutting end E' is thrown up away from the stuff; in fig. 2 it is seen in the act of cutting the pin head.

The stick having had a pin thus turned upon it is withdrawn from the mandrel, the end placed on the table, F, and moved against saw G, which severs the pin, and it drops into the box, H, below, ready for the slitting saw. The stick is then shoved into the mandrel again, a new pin turned, &c. The saw, G, is placed upon and revolves with mandrel, G; this saves extra gearing. Centrifugal force keeps the lever cutter in the position seen in fig. 1, except when it is pressed into cutting position by the end of the stick as in fig. 2.

This machine is applicable to the cutting of bedstead pins, and other forms. One man, we are told, can turn out from thirty to forty pins per minute. It is strong, simple, and effective. Mr. Curtis Goddard, of Edinburgh, Portage Co., Ohio, is the inventor, who will give further information.

Patented May 2, 1854.

IMPROVED BOOT CRIMPING APPARATUS.



New Boot Crimp.

The invention herewith illustrated is composed of two pieces, A B, a leg and foot, resembling an ordinary crimping board when

placed together, but jointed at C, the point which represents the instep. By means of this joint, and the employment of a screw, D, the leg and foot are made to assume different po-

sitions in respect to each other, namely, from a position in which both are stretched out comparatively straight, as in fig. 1, to one in which they are bent together in a form similar to that of a human foot and leg, as in fig. 2; this latter is the shape to which it is necessary permanently to reduce to leather in crimping. On pin C, which connects the leg and foot together, a guide, E, is hung, which is caused by a swivel thumb-screw, F, in connection with the foot, to radiate and assume different positions. This guide, E, is furnished with a slide, G, on the sides of which are circular washers, tightened by screws, H; these washers serve as pincers to grasp the edges of the leather at the instep. The slide, G, with its pincers, is caused to traverse the guide, E, by means of a thumb screw, F. When the leg and foot have been bent to their straightest position, figure 1, the leather is applied over their front edges, in such a manner that each corner is held by the pincers, G. The latter are moved out by means of screw, I, so as to stretch the leather comparatively tight at the instep. By means of the regulating screw, D, the foot of the apparatus is then bent over until it assumes the desired position in respect to the leg, stopping at intervals during the operation, in order to rub down, with the pane of a hammer or other hard and smooth instrument, the creases which collect at the instep, and occasionally stretching the leather tighter over the latter by means of the screw, or varying the direction of the stretch by turning screw, F. The whole is so arranged and constructed that the condensation of one part of the leather and the stretching of other parts (necessarily involved in crimping) is accomplished with such regularity and precision, that no wounding, cracking, or other deterioration of the leather takes place, as in ordinary crimping machines; thus permitting the successful crimping of upper leathers of boots of the finest quality, which have been hitherto required the hand process. The leg and foot parts are made of metal, hollow.

This invention appears to be one of a very valuable character. It greatly diminishes the labor required in boot crimping, while the work it produces is of a superior kind. We learn that it gives the highest satisfaction among all who have had it in use. The inventor is Mr. George Fetter. Further information can be had by addressing Messrs. Fetter and Sowerby, Holmesburg, Philadelphia, Pa. Patented March 4, 1856.

An American Printing Press for London.

One of Hoe's celebrated six-cylinder printing presses—with experienced workmen to superintend it—was sent from this city by the *Ericsson*, on the 10th inst. It is to be used for printing *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, in London. This is a large first class weekly journal, having a circulation of 140,000 copies. The time was when we used to import our printing presses from London, but the tables have turned in our favor, and we are paying back our debt with compound interest.

Terrible Railroad Accident.

On the 6th inst. a train on the Panama railroad was precipitated through a bridge, the timbers of which gave way, and nine cars filled with passengers, were crushed to pieces, and no less than 50 persons killed. It was a heartrending scene. The passengers were mostly from New-York, on their way to San Francisco.

A most terrible explosion of a steam boiler took place in the city of Albany, on the 15th ult. We shall review the evidence given by engineers on the Coroner's inquest, in our next number.

The City of Cincinnati has seven steam fire-engines, that do all the work of the Fire Department.