

CORRESPONDENTS

J. R., of Ill.—You had better submit your plan to the Secretary of War, and get him to advise you in regard to it. It is worth anything you ought to be encouraged.

The South Western Min. and Manf. Co., located at Nashville, Tenn., wish to obtain the present P.O. address of Jose Johnson, patentee of a brick machine. Can any of our readers furnish it?

J. L. K., of Georgia—Gilt frames must be varnished in order to allow of their being washed. Fine copal varnish is the best to use. With a sponge, soap, and cold water, such frames can be cleaned so as to remove fly specks. Unvarnished gilt frames of looking-glasses and pictures should be covered with white cotton gauze.

W. L. Waters, of Three Forks, Tenn., desires information in regard to an elastic sash cord impervious to the action of the atmosphere, to be attached to each sash around two vertical and one horizontal pulleys. We would inform Mr. W. that we do not know anything about the saw mill of Mr. K.

Observer—The communication of Mr. Miner, to which you refer, was not written by us. He is responsible for his own views. We cannot become so ourselves.

C. C. of Mass.—Ideas are not patentable. The one who first renders practicable an improvement, or puts it into some tangible shape, is considered its first inventor.

J. of Mass.—Air is permanently elastic. A patent could not be obtained for a machine to produce ice, such as you describe, for it could not produce it.

A. A. of Mass.—You will find a good treatise on photography in Dr. Gregory's Chemistry, published by Barnes & Co., John street, this city.

D. B. T. of O.—If you will send us your Letters Patent we will inform you at once the cost of getting up an engraving to illustrate your invention. A model we should prefer, however, to make the sketches from, if you have one.

F. P. of N. Y.—You can see a member of our firm at the office, any time you may choose to call between the hours of 9 o'clock A. M. and 4 P. M.

C. H. H. of N. H.—Your case will meet the attention you solicit for it.

D. N. B. of N. Y.—The idea of constructing safe locks with clock-work attachments, so that the lock cannot be operated with even the key belonging to the lock, except at a certain time or stage of the operation of the mechanism, is not new, but your mode of construction may be. Send us a model.

T. D. of Ct.—We do not know of such a work as you speak of. We think you cannot procure it.

J. C. C. of Cal.—We send you a copy of the Patent Laws, and have entered your name for two copies of the Sci. Am. to the amount of \$5, as we cannot supply you with a work on Pattern Making. There is no such work that we know of. Wheeler, Wilson & Co., I. M. Singer & Co., and Grover, Baker & Co., of this city, are manufacturers of good sewing machinery.

E. B. W. of Ohio—If you write to Prof. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, he will forward you a pamphlet containing instructions for preserving specimens of natural history.

R. H. Moore, of Fultonham, Ohio, wishes to procure the best shingle machine to be had—simple and cheap.

Wm. F. Greeley, of Nashua, N. H., wishes to ascertain about the best wood-burning lime kilns in use.

A. C. of Ill.—Your article is pleasantly written, but it does not furnish any practical suggestions that would be of general benefit to our readers. The publication of your improvements in casting large bodies of iron and brass would not prevent you from taking out a patent afterwards. We do not advise you, however, to make a public exposure of your invention, providing you intend to patent it, as it might occasion you difficulty. We advise you to correspond with the Novelty Iron Works, this city, in regard to it.

D. H. C. of Mass.—We are much obliged for the interest you manifest in the good reputation of our paper.—We do not mean to err on the wrong side, in admitting notices or advertisements into its columns. Undertaking to correct errors in this regard will usually greatly magnify the evil complained of. Wars of personality through the columns of a newspaper are always out of place.

D. B. of D. D.—Yours has been received, and will meet with attention.

A. P. of N. Y.—Do you produce a new and useful result by the use of camphor, as described by you? If so it is patentable; but we cannot conceive how the mixture can be useful.

C. C. H. of Mich.—Within the past year we have published in the list of patent claims three corn husking machines that we now remember, viz.: Oren Stoddard, Busti, N. Y.; W. H. Smith, Newport, R. I.; and H. P. Gerrish, Boscacon, N. H. You can find their claims by referring to the list as it is published in this journal.

W. M., of Cal.—Without an engraving or drawing it will be impossible for us to show you the arrangement of Atkin's raking attachment. It was patented December 21st, 1852, and is fully illustrated and described in No. 6, Vol. 9, Sci. Am. J. S. Wright, of Chicago, Ill., will supply you with any additional particulars you may need. There are several patents on raking attachments besides this. The use of well-known machinery for new purposes could not be patented.

Money received at the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office, on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 15, 1856.—

G. B. McC. of Me., \$30; J. P. G. of Ky., \$30; E. & J. B. of Pa., \$25; V. N. M. of N. C., \$25; S. E. P. of Tenn., \$30; G. W. F. & Co. of Ind., \$30; J. P. of N. J., \$100; L. Van H. of Conn., \$25; B. & D. of N. Y., \$10; W. F. F. of Ill., \$25; P. F. E. of Ill., \$25; F. F. H. of O., \$25; J. A. T. of Pa., \$25; A. S. B. of Mass., \$25; J. S. of Mass., \$50; S. W. R. of Mass., \$25; A. F. W. of L. I., \$30; A. M. of N. Y., \$30; E. S. S. of Conn., \$55; D. W. of N. J., \$5; J. S. of O., \$12; J. H. of N. Y., \$30; T. F. T. of N. Y., \$30; G. D. of Cal., \$20; T. G. of R. I., \$30; L. M. P. of Wis., \$55.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, Nov. 15.—

E. & J. B. of Pa.; L. Van H. of Conn.; P. F. E. of Ill.; J. A. T. of Pa.; J. F. H. of O.; V. N. M. of N. C.; S. W. R. of Mass.; J. S. of O.; A. S. B. of Mass.

Important Items.

Subscribers to the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN who fail to get their papers regularly will oblige the publishers by stating their complaints in writing. Those who may have missed certain numbers can usually have them supplied by addressing a note to the office of publication.

INVENTORS SENDING MODELS to our address should always enclose the express receipt, showing that the transit expenses have been prepaid. By observing this rule we are able, in a great majority of cases, to prevent the collection of double charges. Express companies, either through carelessness or design, often neglect to mark their paid packages, and thus, without the receipt to confront them, they mulct their customers at each end of the route. Look out for them.

PATENT LAWS AND GUIDE TO INVENTORS.—This pamphlet contains not only the laws but all information touching the rules and regulations of the Patent Office. Price 12 1/2 cents per copy. A Circular, giving instructions to inventors in regard to the size and proper construction of their models with other useful information to an applicant for a patent, is furnished gratis at this office upon application by mail.

RECEIPTS.—When money is paid at the office for subscription, a receipt for it will always be given; but when subscribers remit their money by mail, they may consider the arrival of the first paper a bona fide acknowledgment of the receipt of their funds.

PATENT CLAIMS.—Persons desiring the claim of any invention which has been patented within fourteen years can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office stating the name of the patentee, and date of patent when known, and enclosing \$1 as fees for copying.

GIVE INTELLIGIBLE DIRECTIONS.—We often receive letters with money enclosed, requesting the paper sent for the amount of the enclosure but no name of State given, and often with the name of the post office also omitted. Persons should be careful to write their names plainly when they address publishers, and to name the post office at which they wish to receive their paper, and the State in which the post office is located.

Literary Notices.

IRVING'S LIFE OF WASHINGTON.—Messrs. G. P. Putnam & Co., 31 Broadway, have now published three editions of the great national work. The library edition, octavo, for \$2 per volume; a popular 13mo. edition, \$1.50 per volume, and an illustrated edition, which is now issuing in semi-monthly parts at 25 cts. per number. This last edition will form one of the most magnificently illustrated works ever published. The engravings have an historical value, from the fact that the portraits are bona fide portraits under different pieces, true so far as the topography of the countries and the likenesses of the individuals represented are concerned. Every American mechanic should put this work in one form or the other, on his book-shelf, side by side with his Bible. Let your children read it, and learn by the example of the great Washington, the lessons of patriotism, moral courage, perseverance, and industry. It is a history of his life so especially affords. We know of no American book which we had rather own than this; it is worth a thousand of the trashy publications which the press is daily sending forth. Messrs. G. P. Putnam & Co. will send their volumes complete, free of postage, on receipt of the prices above named.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—"Old Ebony" is a good number for this month. The story of "The Athelings" is continued; "Mayside Songs" are a rich literary treat; "Family History" is a review of a work on the persecuted family of Baillie, of Jarviswood; "African Travel," is a review of Burton's Travels in East Africa. All the articles are well written, and in that sparkling style for which Blackwood is famous. Published by Leonard Scott & Co., Gold street, this city.

THE GAME OF BILLIARDS.—This is the title of a work on this game, by Michael Phelan, of this city, the distinguished player and inventor of the patent Billiard Tables and Cushions illustrated on page 116, Vol. 11, Sci. Am. The book contains a history of the game, explains its scientific principles, gives full instructions how to play, also the laws which regulate the game. It is written in a clear and lively style, showing Mr. Phelan can write with the same skill he invents and plays. It is illustrated with numerous wood cuts; and, we are informed, that since the publication referred to above, his tables have found a favorable introduction into use. Published by D. Appleton & Co., this city.

Terms of Advertising.

Twenty-five cents a line each insertion. We respectfully request that our patrons will make their advertisements as short as possible. Engravings cannot be admitted into the advertising columns. All advertisements must be paid for before inserting.

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.

THE UNDERSIGNED having had TEN years' practical experience in soliciting PATENTS in this and foreign countries, he solicits that they continue to offer their services to all who may desire to secure Patents at home or abroad.

Over three thousand Letters Patent have been issued, whose papers were prepared at this Office, and on an average fifteen, or one-third of all the Patents issued each week, are cases which are prepared at our Agency. A large corps of Engineers, Draftsmen, Draughtsmen, and Specification writers are in constant employment, which renders us able to prepare applications on the shortest notice, while the experience of a long practice, and facilities which few others possess, we are able to give the most correct counsels to inventors in regard to the patentability of inventions placed before us for examination.

Private consultations respecting the patentability of inventions are held free of charge, with inventors, at our office, from 9 A. M., until 4 P. M. Parties residing at a distance are informed that it is generally unnecessary for them to incur the expense of attending in person, as all the steps necessary to secure a patent can be arranged by letter. A rough sketch and description of the improvement should be first forwarded, which we will examine and give an opinion as to patentability, without charge. Models and fees can be sent with safety from any part of the country by express. In this respect New York is more accessible than any other city in our country.

Circulars of information will be sent free of postage to any one wishing to learn the preliminary steps towards making an application. In addition to the advantages which the long experience and great success of our firm in obtaining patents present to inventors, they are informed that all inventions patented through our establishment, are noticed, at the proper time, in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. This paper is read by not less than 100,000 persons every week, and enjoys a very wide spread and substantial influence. Most of the patents obtained by Americans in foreign countries are secured through us; while it is well known that a very large proportion of all the patents applied for in the U. S., go through our agency.

MUNN & CO.

American and Foreign Patent Attorneys, Principal Office 123 Fulton street, New York.

GUEST'S SOUNDING GUARD.—Described in Sci. Am., Vol. 12, No. 9. Rights for rivers, lakes, or ports, for sale, or the whole patent, except the right for U. S. Government vessels. Address J. N. GUEST, Lieut. U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C.

CRIDGE & WADSWORTH'S IMPROVED

Oscillating Steam Engine. Patented December 12th, 1856. After a thorough practical test for two years of the above improvement, our success warrants us in inviting the closest examination into its reputation in our own locality, and the great popularity of our engines in the midst of the most active and intelligent competition. To engine builders and capitalists we present the following considerations: An engine unsurpassed for durability, compactness, and simplicity, cutting off the steam close to each end of the cylinder by means of a side pipe adjustable by set screws, securing a perfectly steam tight valve with little or no friction or pressure, combining all the advantages of a double slide valve engine and at the same time dispensing with all cams, cam-rods, cross-heads, rock-shafts, slide-valves, etc., saving their cost of construction and necessary waste of power in running. The above improvements are applicable to all cylinder engines which enables the manufacturer to construct them at one half the cost of any other engine of the same value. This last consideration commends it to the immediate and earnest attention of all persons interested or engaged in manufacturing engines. Believing that the improvement is destined to revolutionize this branch of practical mechanics, we have introduced into general use, and at the same time secure the persons purchasing against too much competition with each other, and on such terms as will bring it within the reach of all in moderate circumstances. Letters of inquiry in regard to terms addressed to the undersigned will meet with prompt attention. For explanations see No. 11, Vol. 12, Sci. Am. CRIDGE, WADSWORTH & CO., Pittsburg, Pa.

COTTON AND FLAX SEED OIL.—WILLIAM WILBER has just put into successful operation his newly patented Machinery for Hulling Cotton Seed, and the steam process in extracting oils from oleaginous seeds. The press is upon an entirely new principle, making a great saving in labor and materials. For information respecting the use of the patents or purchase of State rights, apply to the General Agent for the United States and Europe, CHALMERS VAN WYCK, 103 Fulton st., N. Y.

TAKE NOTICE.—All persons having secured space and those wishing to secure admittance for their patented inventions and valuable works of art, in the halls of free exhibition connected with the New York Arcade, are requested to deposit their goods without delay, in time for classification before the grand opening in December. To avoid delay, and for the benefit of those in distant States, Terms of admittance for all articles occupying a space 1 foot in length 1 1/2, or 3 wide, or less, \$1 per year; every additional foot long or wide, \$5 per year, or for 3 or six months at the same rate. All monies, or goods, and communications must be addressed to E. D. GOODWIN, Superintendent of the New York Arcade, 594 Broadway, N. Y. All further information freely given by pre-paying letters.

MATHEMATICAL Drawing Instruments, Microscopes, Spy Glasses, Surveyor's Compasses, Surveying Chains, Magic Lanterns, Camera Obscuras, Galvanic Batteries, Philosophical Apparatus, etc., etc., etc. ALLEN, SPUR & BROTHER, (Established in 1793) 194 Chestnut st., Phila. Our priced and descriptive Catalogue (84 pages, 150 illustrations) furnished gratis and sent by mail, free of charge, to all parts of the U. S. and Canada.

1000 MECHANICAL FACTS.—Free by mail for four letter stamps. JOHN PHIN, Rochester, N. Y.

ATTENTION.—A Rare Chance for Mechanics and Others.—A new, neat, and respectable business, affording 500 per cent profit, but small means necessary. For particulars address (enclosing a stamp to pay postage) Wm. HART, Mayville, Dodge Co., Wis. 10 2\*

30 HORSE STEAM ENGINE.—At the Crystal Palace, called the "Endeavor," the best engine ever exhibited by the American Institute; will be sold low if applied for immediately. S. C. HILLS, 10 1/2 Platt street, N. Y.

MATTEAWAN MACHINERY DEPOT.—No. 62 Cortlandt street, New York.—Woodworth's Planing Machine Patent expires Dec. 27, 1856. Stationary and small Marine Steam Engines; Water Wheels, Mill gearing, Shafting, Flour, Cement, Saw, and Sugar Mills, Cotton and Woolen Machinery, Railroad and Machine Shop Tools of every description. A very extensive assortment of Gears and Pulleys. Orders executed at short notice. SAM. B. SCHENCK, Agent. 10 1m

WRIGHT'S PATENT SECTIONAL SPRING BED BOTTOM.—The cheapest and most perfect article in use. LIPPINCOTT & CO., Manufacturers, No. 1180 Broadway, N. Y. 10 3m\*

MACHINISTS' TRY SQUARES.—An entirely new and unequalled article; cast-steel Rules, with straight-edges; cast-steel beveled Straight-edges for machinists; cast-steel Yard Sticks for carriage trimmers; combined Gauge and Callipers, and a superior drafting scale for Architects and Engineers—may be had by addressing DARLING & SCHWARTZ Bangor, Maine. The Scales are warranted the exact U. S. standard, and graduated practically perfect. And all the above tools are warranted far superior to any thing of the kind in use and to give entire satisfaction. Sold by Tool Dealers in general. For further particulars address the manufacturers. Orders executed with dispatch. The above tools are used and recommended by the Mechanical Department at Washington. 10 4\*

TWO FANING MILL MAKERS.—Lewis & King, Seneca Falls, N. Y., manufacturers of a superior article of Faning Mill Irons, are now prepared to make arrangements for supplying castings on the most reasonable terms for the year 1857. 9 9\*

AGENTS WANTED TO SELL RECIPES for making honey as good as that made by bees, and does not cost over six cents per pound, sent for one dollar in gold. N. R. GARDINER, Peace Dale, R. I. 9 3\*

LINEN AND TOW MACHINERY FOR SALE.—A large lot of preparing, wet and dry spinning, twisting, and finishing. For particulars apply to A. E. POWELL, Lansingburgh, Rensselaer Co., N. Y. 9 4\*

SHOE TOOLS.—Best of all kinds at the lowest prices manufactured by GEO. WILLIS, Worcester, Mass. 8 13\*

PATENT ORNAMENTAL LATHE for bedstead teapoy and null turning, with great perfection, without a pattern. Rights and lathes for sale by P. C. Cambridge, patentee, North Enfield, N. H. LEONARD & WILSON, 60 Beaver st., N. Y., Agents. 8 10\*

MACHINERY.—S. C. HILLS, No. 12 Platt street, N. Y., dealer in Steam Engines, Boilers, Planers, Lathes, Chucks, Drills, Pumps, Mortising, Tenoning, and Sash Machines, Woodworth's and Daniel's Planers; Dick's Fences, Presses, and Shears; Cob and Corn Mills; Harrison's Grist Mills; Johnson's Shingle Mills; Belting, Oil, &c. 2 e3w

ST. CLAIR CAR MANUFACTORY.—St. Clair, Schuylkill Co., Penn. Coal and freight cars of every description. Workmanship and material guaranteed equal to any manufactured in the United States. Bush & Lobell's celebrated wheels used exclusively. CHAS. R. ABBOTT, Proprietor. 9 6\*ew

ENGINEERING.—The undersigned is prepared to furnish specifications, estimates, plans in general or detail of steamships, steamboats, propellers, high and low pressure engines, boilers and machinery of every description. Broker in steam vessel, machinery, boilers, &c. General Agent for Ashcroft's Steam and Vacuum Gauges, Allen & Noyes' Metallic Self-adjusting Conical Packing, Faber's Water Gauge, Sewell's Sainometers, Dudgeon's Hydraulic Lifting Press, Roebling's Patent Wire Rope for hoisting and steering purposes, Machinery Oil of the most approved kind, etc. CHARLES W. COPELAND, Consulting Engineer, 64 Broadway. 1 eowtf

RARE CHANCE FOR BRICKMAKERS.—For sale cheap.—One steam engine and boiler, balance and cog wheel, shafting for 3 pits, 3 pit wheels, 3 cog wheels, 3 upright shafts for the same, 3 moulding machines (6 brick), and one tub machine. Boiler and engine nearly new, and in good order, used only 1 year.—Engine 20-horse power, 3 ft. stroke. Tubular boiler R. R. pattern. Molding machines used for one year. Adams' patent; the best in use and least liable to get out of order. The above will be sold to a cash customer at 100 per cent. below the original cost. For further information address W. H. A., Box 773, P. O., New York City. 9 3\*

ECHOLES' PATENT HYDRAULIC ROCK DRILLING MACHINE, illustrated in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN of April last, and which took the Gold Medal last year, at the great Fair of the American Institute, (Crystal Palace), and was manufactured and for sale by us. Price for the usual size for ordinary drilling \$100. DARLINGTON & CO., Room 17, N. H. Depot, corner of Centre and Franklin streets. 8 4\*

A NEW AND SCIENTIFIC INVENTION.—Dr Cheever's Galvano-Electric Regenerator. Patent issued Jan. 15th, 1856. A circular relating to the use of the instrument, embracing a general treatise of atony of the spermatic organs, the result of which tends to softening the medullary substance of which the brain is composed may be had gratis, and will be sent to any address by mail by their indicating a desire to receive it. All letters should be directed to DR. J. CHEEVER, No. 1 Tremont Temple, Boston. 8 4\*

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50 STEAM ENGINES.—From 3 to 40-horse power also portable engines and boilers; they are first class engines, and will be sold cheap for cash. WM BURDON, 102 Front st., Brooklyn. 41 1f

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NORCROSS ROTARY PLANING MACHINE.—The Supreme Court of the U. S., at the Term of 1853 and 1854, having decided that the patent granted to Nicholas G. Norcross, of date Feb. 12, 1850, for a Rotary Planing Machine for Planing Boards and Planks is not an infringement of the Woodworth Patent. Rights to use the N. G. Norcross' patented machine can be purchased on application to N. G. NORCROSS, Office for sale of rights at 27 State street, Boston, and Lowell, Mass. 45 6m\*

NEW HAVEN MFG. CO.—Machinists' Tools, Iron Planers, Engine and Hand Lathes, Drills, Bolt Cutters, Gear Cutters, Chucks, &c., on hand and finishing. These Tools are of superior quality, and are for sale low for cash or approved paper. For cutting full description and prices, address, New Haven Manufacturing Co., New Haven, Conn. 1 1f

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BOILER INCrustATIONS PREVENTED.—A simple and cheap condenser manufactured by Wm. Burdon, 102 Front st., Brooklyn, will take every particle of lime or salt out of the water, rendering it as pure as Croton, before entering the boiler. Persons in want of such machines will please state what the bore and stroke of the engines are, and what kind of water is to be used. 41 1f