

## CORRESPONDENTS

J. R. H., of Pa.—To enable us to get up suitable engravings of your water wheel, for publication, it would be necessary for you to send us a working model or the Letters Patent. We should like both model and patent, but can dispense with the latter better than the former, unless the drawing attached to the patent should contain a perspective view. The expense of the engravings would probably be about \$15, and that amount would cover the publication also, as we make no charge for inserting engravings of meritorious and new inventions; such as do not possess either of these virtues we cannot lumber our columns with, under any consideration.

C. C., of N. Y.—We would recommend you to have a preliminary examination made of your invention at the Patent Office before applying for a patent. We can have this done through our Branch Office in Washington, and will send you a carefully prepared report in regard to the probable success of an application. This examination will cost only \$5, and may be the means of saving you the expense of an application. We recommend inventors generally, who intend to apply for patents, to adopt this course. We have the best facilities for prosecuting these examinations, as you will perceive from our circular of information sent you. The circular will be freely sent to all who may wish for a copy. It contains useful instructions to inventors and patentees.

S. C. H., of Wis.—Wortz's pump was a simple spiral or volute curved pipe, which, being moderately rotated, dipped up the water at its periphery and discharged it at its center. A small coil only some four feet in diameter, may, by this means, be able to force the water to the height of 50, or even 100 feet. A syphon cannot raise water higher than 3½ feet. The gentleman you refer to, who states he saw a syphon carry water over a hill 100 feet high must be mistaken; probably he means a hydraulic ram.

J. S. C., of Baltimore.—The pressure of water is just in proportion to its perpendicular height. A column of four feet exerts four times the amount of pressure on its foot as a column of one foot high. Regnault's Chemistry will give you information on the expansion of gases. We have a branch office in Washington.

J. E. M., of Ga.—Sand is employed in welding iron, to prevent oxyd forming, which would render the metal incapable of welding. Felspar may answer the same purpose, as it contains 68 parts of silica.

C. W. J., of Wis.—The steam pumps so well known and in such general use in this region, are direct-acting steam engines having no cranks. See the engravings of Guild & Garrison, page 105, this Vol. Scientific American. Send a model of your device, or a drawing and accurate description, and we will inform you of its patentability.

M. H., of Pa.—Get a treatise on dialing, and it will impart to you all the information required respecting the shadows cast by the sun from perpendiculars.

H. H., of N. Y.—The fine polish on steel instruments to which you refer, is given by burnishing them with agate stones manufactured for the very purpose.

H. H. T., of Mass.—Heated and compressed air in a tight vessel will burst it—like steam—whenever the pressure becomes greater than the cohesive strength of the vessel.

J. H., Jr., of Ohio.—Many farmers now unload their hay and grain from wagons in their barns, by machinery, consequently a machine embracing this object merely is not patentable. We advise you and all our farmers to adopt this plan.

"Gas."—Wm. G. Ross, of St. Nicholas Mills, above Quebec, Canada, has in use an apparatus for lighting his mills, made from iron. It does not operate with satisfaction; he is, therefore, desirous of getting something more simple and economical.

J. W. Terry, of Wallhalla, S. C., wishes to purchase the best mill for grinding oak bark, to be operated by water power. He also wants the best machine for riving and shaving shingles.

B. D. Berry, of Edwardsville, and John Milner, of Greenfield, will please inform us in what State they reside, as we wish to address to them a communication.

H. H., of Boston.—The pianoforte patent to which you refer, has we understand, been recently sold in England for \$10,000. Your improvement being apparently a good one, there is no reason why you should neglect to secure an English patent for it. The patent above referred to was not secured by the inventor in England. Some one took it without his consent; therefore he has lost the benefit arising from the sale of his own improvement.—The English law grants patents to the introducer as well as to the inventor.

J. M. W., of N. Y.—The Ambrotype Manual is published by J. M. Fairchild & Co., this city.

W. W., of N. J.—A circular saw made in sections is stated to be less liable to buckle than a saw of a single plate, and if a section be broken it can easily be replaced. The saws made of single plate are generally preferred, however.

P. M., of Ill.—We sometimes, at the request of correspondents, direct the attention of inventors to "new inventions wanted." Those, therefore, who have machines for supplying such wants should take proper measures for bringing them before the public by having them illustrated, that their merits may be made known to all, and that the public may judge for themselves.

J. J. C., of Md.—In the latest edition of "Brewster's Optics" the stereoscope and the magic lantern are described.

T. J. C., of Ga.—You should try and perfect your saw governor so as to make it self-acting. Give the matter your attention, and you may yet produce the valuable improvement you desire.

J. J. B., of Ky.—The claim of G. W. Fulton for hydraulic propulsion is limited to a combination of pipes for discharging the water, and for an arrangement to reverse the current. Without drawings you could not understand the nature of the invention.

Money received at the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, April 25, 1857:—

J. D. M., of Conn., \$25; A. W., of Pa., \$65; W. E. Jr., of Ill., \$55; G. & Co., of Ill., \$25; C. W. & Co., of Pa.,

\$250; S. & T., of Conn., \$25; R. W. B., of Pa., \$25; H. & G., of Mich., \$30; C. M. Y., of N. Y., \$25; A. P., of N. J., \$25; W. H. McN., of N. Y., \$250; S. L., of L. I., \$30; D. S. McN., of N. Y., \$55; P. E. H., of N. Y., \$25; W. A. J., of La., \$45; W. G. C., of N. Y., \$250; C. A. P., of N. Y., \$63; T. S. W., of N. Y., \$50; J. A. D., of N. Y., \$10; C. H. T., of L. I., \$30; I. A. R., of Mass., \$30; L. F., of Mass., \$27; E. T. L., of N. Y., \$30; N. T., of Me., \$30; A. C. R., of Conn., \$50; T. P., of N. Y., \$70; G. & L., of Va., \$10; E. F., of Ill., \$27; W. E., of Ill., \$25; J. L. S., of N. C., \$30; S. R. H., of N. Y., \$100; A. C. C., of Mich., \$30; C. D., of N. J., \$20; E. B. B., of N. Y., \$30; C. S., of N. Y., \$25; B. I. L., of Mass., \$25.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, April 25, 1857: J. D. M., of Conn.; W. Y. G., of Ky.; T. B., of Mass. (2 cases); R. W. B., of Pa.; E. B. B., of N. Y.; C. S., of N. Y.; C. M. Y., of N. Y.; A. P., of N. J.; J. N. W., of Ill.; B. I. L., of Mass.; G. I. M., of Conn.; T. S. W., of N. Y.; P. E. H., of N. Y.; D. S. D., of N. Y.; A. C. R., of Conn.; L. F., of Mass.; J. W., of Ky.; W. E., of Ill.

## Important Items

COMPLETE SETS OF VOLUME XII EXHAUSTED.—We regret that we are no longer able to furnish complete sets of the present volume. All the back numbers previous to January 1st (No. 17) are entirely exhausted.

GIVE INTELLIGIBLE DIRECTIONS.—When we 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.

FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS.—Our Canada and Nova Scotia patrons are solicited to compete with our citizens for the valuable prizes offered on the next volume. [It is important that all who reside out of the States should remember to send 25 cents additional to the published rates for each yearly subscriber—that amount we are obliged to pre-pay on postage.]

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, 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 fee for copying.

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.

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.

## 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 ELEVEN years' practical experience in soliciting PATENTS in this and foreign countries, beg to give notice 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 on cases which are prepared at our Agency.

Any corps of Engineers, Draftsmen, 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 and complete information 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 *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.

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