# Suntifi mmana 

THE ADVOCATE OF INDUSTRY, AND JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC, MECHANICAL AND 0THER IMPROVEMENTS.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, At No. 129 Pulton trreat, SWun Ruidin

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 rins.
 Agents emporposect Pus on last pase. No Traveling American-built Russian Steamers.

Two steamers of a partially warlike char acter have just been built in our country for a Russian company, and are designed for trading between the Amoor river in Russian Asia, China and California. One named the Manjoor was built at Boston ; the other, named the Japanese, at New York. The latter is 1,400 tuns burden, the former 1,000 tuns Their engines are strong, plain and compact and designed for effective service, not show They are both propellers, and have made thei trial trips, running at the rate of from eigh to ten knots an hour easily. Their model is good, and under sail alone they have the speed of clipper ships. Their draft of water is comparatively light; as there are many shoals in the Amoor river. A great quantity of ma chinery, such as saw mills, are to be take out in these vessels for the Russian settlements, as it is believed that a considerable trade in lumber can be carried on between those regions and California. The Russians by this movement have exhibited a great amount of enterprise and sagacity. We have no doubt but their trade on the Pacific coast will soon become very lucrative, if well conductet; and the good sense which induced them to come among us to get these steamers built, affords very good grounds for their future success.

## Stalactites.

At a recent meeting of the Boston Natura History Society, Professor Wm. B. Rogers stated that, a number of years since, he had made some experiments in the stalactite carerns of Virginia, for the purpose of obtaining data in regard to the age of these deposits. He placed vessels in an unfrequented part of the cave, beneath drippings of various dimensions, where they remained for a period of from five to seven years. He arrives at the conclusion, as the result of his observations, that the rate of accretion is one-tenth of an inch in five years, or an inch in fifty years. As there are several feet of accumulated deposit in some places, he thinks that the process must have been going on for at least five thousand years.

## Polytechnic School in New York.

The directors of the Mechanics' Institute in the Fourth avenue, New York, having met with such success in their endeavors to provide a means of obtaining a good, sound and practical education for the young mechanics of this city, have now determined to extend their usefulness by founding a school under the above title. In this school will be taught practical truths and usefulfacts; the pedantry of science is to be avoided, and simple knowledge placed before the learner in an interesting and attractive way. Professor Mapes, the agriculturalist, seems to be the life and sou of this scheme, and we wish him success.

## UNDERWOOD'S IMPROVED PUMP.



The great and common nuisance of pumps' packings wearing out, and the consequent stoppage of the pump, is by this invention almost entirely aroided, and that by a most simple and cheap contrivance. A ring of india rubber forms the piston packing, and a this as it wears is almost entirely self-repair ing, it will last for a great length of time; and when it is actually worn out, anothe can be cheaply obtained and fitted in a few minutes.
In our engravings, Fig. 1 represents a side elevation of the pump, Fig. 2 is a section of the same, and Fig. 3 is a view of the packing ring detached.
A is the body of the pump, narrowed at $A^{\prime}$ to admit of the accurate working of the piston B is the induction pipe, and C is the spout or eduction pipe. From the top of $A$ there rises a short standard, $D$, which forms a fulcrum for the handle, E , that is connected by a link, F, with the piston rod, G. This piston rod supports and moves the suction valve, $H$, a the bottom of the hollow piston, I, between the outer edge of which and the inner side of the case, $\mathrm{A}^{\prime}$, the ring, J , works up and down as the piston is elevated or depressed. The outer edge of I being serrated, prevents the ring dropping down, and always keeps it in its proper place. There is also, as is usual, a valve, $b$, at the top of the induction pipe, to prevent the water running back. This method of packing can be attached to any and every kind of pump whose piston has an up and-down or horizontal motion.
This valuable and simple contrivance, which must recommend itself by its cheapness and perfection, is the invention of John Underwood, of Lowell, Mass., and was patented by him December 9, 1856. Any further particu-
lars can be obtained by addressing B. F. Dean \& Co., agents and manufacturers, 208 Broadway, New York.


The accompanying illustration represents an ingenious rotary engine, which we have copied, and translated the description from Dingler's Polytechnic Journal, published at Augsburg, Germany
The cylinder of this engine requires no boring out, there is no piston, no slide or exhaust valve, and, in fact, no sliding friction-the friction of the journals excepted.
On the shaft which carries the fly wheel, A, a pulley, B, with two projecting flanges, is rigidly fastened, and between the two flanges an india rubber tube is placed all round the pulley, B; one end of the tube is closed by a plate, C , while the other end communicates with an opening, E , in the side of the pulley. A roller, F, presses the tube down, so that no steam can escape between the roller and the pulley. If steam is admitted between the
roller, F , and the plate, C , the pulley, B , begins to revolve', and the plate, C, recedes from the roller, F, until the whole tube is filled with steam. As soon as the roller comes on the top of the plate, C , the steam from the tube escapes through the exhaust port, E, and so enables the wheel to keep on rotating. Steam is admitted through an arm, D, and it is hardly necessary to state that the shaft is hollow, except that part on which the pulley, B , is fastentd; and one end connects with the steam pipe, while the other serves to exhaust. In order to lessen the friction, the roller, F, can be made to press from below.
We illustrated a pump which worked on this same principle on page 324, Volume XI, Scientific American.

## Yellow Metal Ship Fastenings.

R. Armstrong, directs the attention of the public, through the London Mechanics' Magazine of April 10th, to the unreliable character of the above-named fastenings for ships. He mentions the articles which appeared in the Scientific American (Vol. X) on this subject. In the repairing of vessels bolted with yellow metal, he has observed that in every instance where it has been in a vessel for five years, it had lost its ductility, and was, therefore, totally unfit for ship bolts. At various times he has personally called the attention of Lloyds' surveyors to this, but they have still classed vessels "A 1, 13 years," while he can safely assert, from experience, that four years are amply sufficiently to destroy the ductility of their bolts. He gives the British Admiralty credit for standing above the mercantile marine on this question -nothing but pure copper bolting being employed in the nary. He hopes the public will now demand that something positive be done to prevent the use of such ship fastenings. We hope that neither bolts nor sheathing of yellow metal are now employed by our ship-builders-this metal being totally unfit for use in shipbuilding.

## A Bridge Broken.

Not very long ago, a bridge crossing the river Severn, in North Wales, fell in, and one man lost his life. At the inquest the jury gave the following excellent and practical verdict:-
"We find that the death of Richard Grist was caused by the falling of the Caerhowell suspension bridge on the river Severn, that bridge not having been constructed or maintained in such a manner as to afford security to life and safety to property passing over in the ordinary way of traffic; that some of the defects consisted in the inferior quality of the iron, and workmanship badly performed-circumstances which might have been avoided had there been proper supervision by a person acquainted with the original plan and mode of construction. We feel it a duty not to separate without expressing our opinion that the present fatal catastrophe shows the necessity of greater vigilance on the part of the county authorities, and that safety and durability, rather than economy, should in future guide them in all public works."

Might not our American jurors and engineers learn from this?

American Assoclation for the Advancement of Science.-The twelfth annual meeting of this association met at Baltimore on the 28th ult. We shall be able to give an epitome of their proceedings next week.

## $\mathrm{n}_{2} \mathrm{~m}_{6}$

Lasued from the United States Patent Omce por the week rinding aprif $27,1858$. [Reported ofletally for the Scientific American.]
 claim originality or noveltivin the use of cylindrical
metallicic retorts for dry distillation, nor yet do we claim the use of such retorts, so constructed as to be
capablo of being shiffed on theiraxifrom trime to time
so as to expose a different portion of the retort to the so as to expose a different portion of the retort to the
aetion of the fire at each succebsive change, for the pur-
pose of preventing the retorts burning out so soon, as
 fore described, as oresg of disitilation, , , ub
duringthe procer
manner and for the purpose set forth.
Improved Look-Ludwig Baier, of Cincinnati, Ohio:
I claim the combined arrangement of the tumblers, coccc and d, guard plate, J, T-piece, i, with the
bilt, B, all forthe purposes mentioned and represented
in the spec fication.

 MiLisrone Desss-Franklln Belinger. of Lockport,
N. $\mathbf{Y}$. I claim the furrows, C, cut into the stones tangentially with the eye, D, and gradually dinininishing
both in depth and width, from the eye to the periphery
where they where they terminate in points, the space between the
circle, a, and eye. B, of the runner. Abing inclined or
made open, substantially as and for the purpose set
forth.

 vulcanized rubber emery or other hard and gritty ma-
trerial whan the same ie combined with an adjacent
rubber of metal or other hard unyielding material with
a grinding or breaking surface for the purpose get form. FURyITUBR CABTERs-H. D. Blake, of New Harfford
Center, Conn. I am aware that the sping and groove have beenemployed efore-grove being made in the
plate or socket tube the spring secured init, and catch-
ing on the groove made in the pin-but this is inconing on the groove made in the pin-but this is incon-
venient and eppensive, hence 1 do not claim the
gpring or the groove, my claim being confind the
manner of securing and arranging the grove and manner of becuring and arranging the grove and
gpring for the purpose of making a cheaper article to the
trade. But I Il tim the described arrangement of the several
parts of the caster contractede and operated in the man-
ner and for the purpose fully set forth.



























 <br> \section*{ <br> \section*{ ond}
 [A descriptione thil










 [Tidges are supplied automatically from a magazine arranged below the barrel. The present improvement ib
designed to render practicable the firing of common paper cartridges. To accomplish this, a thin pointed blade is placed in the rear part of the breech, and as the
cartridge is brought up from the magazine by the slidcartridge and exposes the powder thereof, so that it shall be readily ignited by the explosion of the cap.
This is a simple but ingenious and useful device.] Rat Trap-Wm. H. Cox, of Verden, IIl. : I claim
the sididig case, B, Placed on the bed piece, A, Fhich
is rovided with end-pieces, a a, and partitions, b b, the
 [This is a aliding box or case operated by a spring and retained by proper catches, a stationary chamber, and
a bed piece provided with upright end pieces, the whole being so arranged that, by means of a spring, the trap is tained in a proper chamber, without interfering with


 and

















 cutter bar of reapers and mowers. With it, by simply Fheel and turning the eame, the platform con be raised
or lowered to any position with very little labor, and
 dimpe. oerreiientyly loated, and not libible to de




Hatoger-N. F. English, of Hartland, Vt. : Y claim
forming the claw, b, at the, outer edge of the hatchet
and over the eye or and of the hande, c, substantially
as and for the purpose eet forth. and for the purpose set forth.
[See a description in another portion of this paper.] TwEER-G. W. Finch, of Gibraltar, Wis. : I do not
claim
Beparately, or in themselves considered, any of the described parts.
But $\begin{aligned} & \text { claim the u } \\ & \text { in combination wit }\end{aligned}$

 cut of kinves.
But It ais. the cabbage cutter specified, where all
its parts are constructed and arranged for united operatis parts are constructed and arranged for united opera-
tion, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.
athis [This machine consists of an upright stationary cylinby, said cylinder being divided into two compartments
by a horizontal disk, which carries two knives or cutters. The cabbage to be cut is placed in the upper section of the cylinder, and held stationary by a stop-board while being cut to any desired degree of fineness by the
knives which are caused to revolve rapidly by means of knives which are caused to revolve rapidly by means of
a crank and two bevel wheels, the cut cabbage escaping into the lower section of the cylinder, and discharggood machine, and its advent doubtless will be hailed with pleasure by the lovers of good " sour krout.
Pivare-Thomas Fisher, of Camden, N. J.: I I claim
the application to rulerso india-rubber, which will revent the ruler from slipping, asdescribed, using for that
purpose the aforesaid india-rubber ar any other article
substantially the same, and which will produce the in-
 is, of a steel or cutting blade, and a cast-metal
odye as apecified, cast or founded on the sid
lade so as not only to confine in in its proper bage ao as not only to confine it it it its proper placee
with respect the the conical cavity of the body or holder,
but so that the metal of the body or holder shall embrace opposite sides and the back of the bhade, and ter-
minate at or naer the cuttinedge of the blade, by a
surtace made to stand at aright surface made to stand at a right ang ge or thereaboutsto
the outer surface of the knife, the same whent ine in-
trinument is in use, serving not only to support the stromernt is in use, serving not sonly to support the
snife under pressure againgt its in iner surface and cut-
kif
 isad and wood od.
is cros-grained.
 scribed whereby the whole mand cast iron blocks de-
united by means of the band B, Yig.
 in wet gas meters by a liquid not affected by frost, as I
am aware that alcoliol has been eafnoted for that aur.
pose, nor do I claim keeping a eatt solution neutral by he presence of a base or carbonate.
But I claim the use of an aqueous solution of deleatas of the liquid of a base, or carbonate of the base, of the salt or salts em--
plooed, substantially in the maner and for the pur-
pose as set forth.
Rooring Tixre-J. F. Grassle, of Hamilton, Ohio:
I claim the groove, , in the outer tongue, b, the per-
forated flange, $F$, shallow groove, d, and flan ge, $f$ of recease R, in combination with the pin pr, ang and lapof the
adjacent tile, substantially as and for the purpose set
forth.

 Pour Coupling-S. H. Gray, of Bridgeport, Conn.
I claim the curved or
iow-shaped bar, D , fitted under
 It being understo ad that I do not or claim any on the ared but the whole when arranged and applied to a
pump for the specific purpose set forth. CThis invention consists in the employment of a
curved or bow-shaped bar fitted undermeath lugg attached to one of the parts to be connected, the ends of the bar resting on the other part, or on a flanch con
ected therewith, and in line with its center. The ba being adjusted or set by means of a screw, so that the parts will be frrmly secured together, and allowed while the bar is being set, to adjust themselves so asto fit
snugly and water-tight.]
 any of the parts descr bed, for I am aware that revip-
rocating and rotatin rake have been previouly tapi,
but I am not aware that a reciprocating and rotating rake combined and operated as shown have been used.
I claime the rotating rake, F, and the reociprocating
rake, P, combined and arranged to operate conjointily as I also claim the particular manner of operating re-
spectively the rake, $\mathrm{F} P$, as described,
to wit, through the medium of the grooves ortguides, GG gearing, I $J$,
which connect the two shatt, $\mathbb{K}$, and the crank on
haft, $K$. CA revolving and intermittingly reciprocating rake is other, so that the planes of their movements are at right angles with each other, and they are so operated that the revolving rake is made to carry the cut grain from the front of the platform, when the otherrake, in Crons-T. B. Harper, of Xenia, Ohio : I claim the
combination of the piuion, H, disk, L. and pin, b, conetructed and arranged as described, and operating in
relation the the winch,
ner and and dashers, $\mathrm{B} C$, in the manLook For Doose- James. J. Hamilton, of Now Cas-
tle, Ind. I I claim, frist . The elidee, G G, constructed
arranged, and operating substantially as described. arranged, and operating substantially a a described.
Second, The double lift, E, constructed and operating
as described.
 pickers placed within a case or rame, and so arranged
that it may detach the cotton from the bolls, tor such But we chaim operating the endlesi chain of pickers,
B , through the medium of the pulley, D ,
,piring,
$F$,
 whereby a reaerve power is obtained as the inplement
in omed rom boll to boll so that the cotton may be be
picked gathered therefrom as the implement is ad-
justed to the bulle picked or gathered therefrom as the implement is ad-
justed to the bolls.
[An engraving and description of this will be found [An engraving a
on another page.]

 prort openingen on the outside of the room, substantially
tor and for the purposes set forth
[This invention is design
employment of the surplus heat of a cooking range for generating the gas used by families, and thusenable
every family to make its own gas without expense forfuel andretort stands. With this arranal ment of retort it is not necessarily exposed to the destructive action of the fire but once a week or every fortnight, and thus is saved from being soon burned out. The necessity of opening the retort on the inside and thus the wherein the range is located is overcome, must suffocating fumes escaping from throm the alwhen opened. The whole arrangement is a perfect safety, and admirably adapted for the purpose above
stated
 With a tapering or beveled-shaped neck, through which
a bunch of bristles is drawn, as describe when the bristles are fastened nt their lower ends with
cement or glue, they are so rigidly held as to prevent
ct I also claim, in combination $\begin{aligned} & \text { ith the above. the nae } \\ & \text { of a hollow sand the lower portion or base of which } \\ & \text { fitted with plaster of Paris, or other non-conductor of }\end{aligned}$
 of the bristles is embedded, is protected, and preventa
from being oftened or melted by heat, as set forth. Corn Harvesters-Adam Humberger, of Somerset,
ohio in I claim the described corn carrier and shucker, provided with pulleys, C, interlocking at pleasure with
wheels, B, in connection with the rope, SBaid pullegy
bein operated by lever E, and rod e, being operated by lever, E, ani rods, e, for binding and
shucking corn. the whole being constructed, arranged STRAM Warumg Appasatys-E. E. Ingails and J.
R. Nichols, of Haverhill, Mase : First, We claim the device as set forth for increasing or diminishin t the ca-
pacity of the fire chamber, 80 as to maintain a larger or Second, W or
 We didgaim so connecting this arrangement as to
control dampers in the smoke floe and draft in the
manner embraced in $\mathbf{C}$. Devenport's patent, of March manner embraced in C. Devenport's patent, of March
11 th. 1866 . We claim the device, constructed essentially
Th
 corrugated radiators, of thin plates of ironifacing across
the corrugations, grtins of metal securely fastened, and
for the purpose as set forth. Ho

 and mode of application of the semi-elliptic buffer.
Second, The combination and arrangement of the el-
liptic cushion, ae deecribed arrange and operating

Fraid FENCE-Ebenezer E. Lewis, of Geneva, N. Y.:
I claim the combination of the panels and posts of a
fence, when arran gedindependent of ach fence, when arrangedind ependent of each opher, sub-
stantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.
 cape valves, $M M$, rods, $V V$, chain, U, windlass, G, and
the air value, H , and screw, Fon. the windlase bibitt,
to operate in the mannor set forth. Fraisinvention has been patented in England and France through the Scientific American Agency. An columns in a few weeks.]

 Second, I claim the manner described of delivering
the detonating pilitg, and shutting off fre from the
same by the sue of the inclined ended rode, and 10 ,
and shield, n, constructed and operating substantially and shield,
as
asecified.
Corn Plantzre-Oliver Lippincott, of Camden, N.
J. I claim the arrangement of the plow, Z', and its
beam, B , with

Tox-Conrad Liebrich, of Philadelphia, Pa. : T Claim sign upon tho, three or more dighk, and combining
them with certain devices tor setting the disks in mo-
tion tion, and stopping them in such a way that after each
stoppage the relative position of the disks bhall be
 circumferences of the disks, and arranging the whole in
such a mannuer that the nature of the chane in ithe
relative position of the dikk after each stoppage will be relative position of the diskB after
a matter of accident, as set forth.
Psige Macarse-Michael Longham, of Pitteburgh,

MAOHLNE Yor Werting Papre-John A. Lynch, of
Boston, Mass. : I do not claim a hollow periorated Boston, Mass. : I do not claim a hallow perforated.
cclinder through which water oozes, as anmilar de.
vioe has been used for coating the inking roller of a printing press.
B, handle, $I$, and combination of the wetting cylinder, as described, the E, handle, I, nad roller, H, as described, the whole con-
stituting a nee implement or machine by wich the
sheet on which the impreasion sheet on which the imprefsion is to be taken can be
dampened, and its superfous moisture absorbed by
dassing the apparatus once over me mber dampened, and
passing the apparatus once over the sheet.

 or sizing for causing either the gilding or the metanlice
backing to adhere to the glass or to each other, as de-
scribed
 letters, figures, dc, which are generayy require on
the inner aurfaces of the pancs of glass of windows,
tranaoms trausoms and doors of stores, \&c.i. for the purpose or
Becuring and protecting the said letters, figures, dec.,
from from being damaged and described, and without ob-
structing the free passage of tre raye of light through
the immediately purrounding parts of the glass from
 combine various parts described, I claim, firgt, The
come sinid mand the mandrel with the rollerg, 8 ,
then


## Scientific Amerixam.







 [This is an improvement on the mode of discharging
the cut grain or hemp from a machine patented by this the cut grain or hemp from a machine patented by thi
inventor June 2 , 1857 Its object is
to facilitate the
manual part of the work or process, so that the emateria is discharged upon the ground in compact gavels two a










 ${ }^{\text {breast tirccle }}$ Thir The a rallel or uniform lines upon the whole


 production of the small ines in any required.
the tace of mill one tor dressing the same.


 (This invention consists in the employment of a ries of metal plates or strips so arranged as to lap on which are attached to the lower ends of the plate im. mediately above it, and the plates connected by toggles
while in connection with srms and $s$ windlass, gllow the plates to be raised and folded together, when an awning is not neceesary, or to fall and be distended
When an awning is require.]





 scribed


 Carcn-G. S. Rarey. of Columbus, Ohio: I clafm
 TThis invention consists in a novel means emploged
for $\operatorname{civing}$ a reciprocating motion to a vertical dasher from a rotating driving shaft, whereby the necessary length ofstroke may be given the dasher, and also the
requisite speed, with buta little expenditure of power.]






 for the purpose est forth.
CA notice of this invention will be found on another









 Wone claim the manner of taking leather out of tan
ata sy usin hokg, as foreaian, on $a$ movable frame








 per ed ge of the walls above the cotini. top. When fixed in
its
toporer place.
This









## [see

 in all cases, as the other features of my in rention may
be succeastuly used in the construct on of bedtead
 Which they are come ected at top. .
hecond, The outide e enciriling rail, D. for supporting




 directions simultaneoully, the above being man
fashioned substantiall
as mbown and described.

 their equvalenta, connected with the drawer and ope
rating in the manner substantially as set forth. WAABNG MAcurinz-Edmund Tharp, of Cincinnat

 forcing pump or fis equavient with the erinder or

 the pump, but twuy lateraly out of the ㅍay or beyond
the mouth of the pump, when receiving the material to
be eround.






 [ $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ notice
column.]


 [A notice of thi
another column.]








 spring. K , or its equivalent


 application of the described pipes to the water houses
of railroad stations, or to any other place for the same
 I disclaim the hinged joint.






 [An engraving and description of this invention will Gund on another page.]



[See deseription in another column.]

 danpening he leaves of the book with a bruah or
 ng copies of er writen neteters and other topuments sub-
tantiall asd described in the specification.



Founixg Matrprgs-Wm. Wells, of Harrisurrgh,
$P a:$ I claim the inclined seats of the hinge, $B$, on
 poses sp








 in guch mannert thatitit entire rear side can be opened
and closed substantially as set forth.




Fgrvarb of Looovorvve Borrrb-Ros Winans, of


Rating and Druvering Attacharnt to harvbst-
 falling motions by means of a a single traveling bill or
chain without any
the mancher appliancea, and substantially in




 Corron Gris-J.J. N. Wilson and G. W. Payne, of





 GANGG Prows-G. W. N. Yost, of Cincinnati, Onio: I


 team, so is to obviate the e eecessatit of perploping many

 yillining rack, j , over the surface of the water in the

 operated for the purpose set torth.

 manner as specitied.
NAIM MAcorive-Heary Greene and Wm J. Gordon


 tire earrying chining substantially as describec, for thie
purbese of causing the nails to be drawn from head to
poin point in the foregoing proces

Adjebtable seats for Vkitolrs-Geo



[See description of thisinvention on another page.]

 inat iur heater metaliit plate subjected to their action





 $\underset{z, ~ a s ~ d e s c r i b e d . ~}{\text { combination }}$


 Fhol or partined with brik. gypum and other non-



 outside walls containing in the chamber formed within
 chambers and radiate the same
as deseribed in the speci cation.

 Neither do I claim inducing a downward circulation

 each other and ope
purposes specified.

 orth.




