

Correspondents

W. B. B., of N. Y.—There is no limit in the time allowed for the re-issue of a patent, or for a patent to be granted for an invention after its conception, provided in the latter case it is not allowed to come into general public use for a period exceeding two years before application for a patent is made.

I. H. N., of Vt.—Morse's patent for the electro-magnetic telegraph was extended in 1854 by the Commissioner of Patents for seven years; it will not, therefore, expire till 1861. Another renewal, if procured at all, must be obtained by special act of Congress.

P. M., of Pa.—To stock the river you mention with eels, you must obtain a number of the species from the nearest river or creek where they are found. They can be caught in an eel trap, which is very simple. It consists of a barrel with a large hole in the lid, in which is hung a tube of coarse cloth. This trap is sunk to the bottom of the river in the evening, and raised in the morning. The eels can easily get into the cloth tube in the barrel but not out of it.

F. E., of N. Y.—Compressed air has been employed in an engine, but without obtaining those advantages which you expect.

G. J. N., of N. J.—The Patent Office Report for 1857 has not yet been issued.

B. Mackerly, of Bainbridge, Ohio, wishes to correspond with manufacturers of hemp linen fabrics—such as would be suitable to be employed in expressing grapes.

H. K., of La.—We have never known of tinned iron tubes being employed for boilers to prevent incrustations. The advantages to be derived from them would not, in our opinion, cover the extra expense. But if you can demonstrate by experiment their superiority, we think you may obtain a patent.

O. L. C., of Ill.—Your reply of the 8th fully indicates a clear knowledge of what we require of you. You must proceed de novo. Send model and patent fee as soon as possible, and we will vigorously push your case.

H. E., of Conn.—Before applying for a patent on your invention, we advise you to have a preliminary examination made at the Patent Office. This will cost you the small fee of \$5; and it is our experience, after a trial of eighteen months, that, in a great majority of cases, this course is the safest and best.

P. K. W., of Ohio.—We appreciate your suggestion in regard to the republication of back volumes of the Sci. Am., but it is impracticable at this late period. Few of the original engravings are in our possession now.

W. H. B., of N. Y.—You can print with copperplate or any other engravings by the use of water pressure, the water being employed as the pressing cushion. There can be no difficulty about the operation, but we do not see what benefits can be derived from it over the common method.

J. H. H., of Md.—You can enamel both sides of cloth in the same manner that one side is treated. In No. 36, this volume, Sci. Am., there is a recipe for cloth enamel varnish.

M. J. O., of Mass.—The Smith patent lock to which you allude we never heard of before, and from your brief description of it can give you no opinion as to its merits. If you will send us one for inspection, we will try to answer your questions.

I. B. R., of Iowa.—You can hear of such a machine as you want for cutting out match splints by addressing Wm. Gates, Jr., Frankfort, N. Y.

C. A. W., of Iowa.—We are aware that bullock's blood, mixed with sand and lime, is employed for making hard barn floors in Wales and some other European countries.

D. P. F., of Pa.—You can procure an efficient apparatus for burning green tan of Gideon Bantz of Frederick City, Md. For particulars write to him.

Money received at the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business, for the week ending Saturday, May 15, 1858:—

- D. J. W., of Ohio, \$25; B. & R., of Ill., \$30; B. & McC., of Mo., \$55; J. L., of Mass., \$15; R. & C., of N. Y., \$25; J. H. P., of N. J., \$30; W. H. Van G., of N. J., \$30; D. B. T., of Ohio, \$30; F. H. O., of Pa., \$25; W. S. H., of N. J., \$25; E. M., of N. Y., \$25; J. B., of Conn., \$30; S. P., of Mass., \$30; J. H. C., of Ohio, \$10; W. M., of Iowa, \$30; A. E. T., of Ohio, \$25; J. P., of Mass., \$25; M. W., of Ohio, \$5; J. H. G., of Ky., \$35; F. C. K., of N. Y., \$30; J. F., of Mass., \$30; A. A. H., of Ohio, \$25; J. H. H., of S. C., \$30; J. A. E., of Conn., \$30; J. M. S., of Cal., \$77; T. W. L., of N. Y., \$30; A. F., of Ohio, \$35; A. D., of Mich., \$30; J. L. S., of Tenn., \$35; T. W., Jr., of Conn., \$25; S. L. W., of Pa., \$25; A. B., of Pa., \$10; J. W. P., of Pa., \$25; A. D. S., of Vt., \$20; J. P., of L. I., \$30; G. W. S., of Conn., \$55; A. D. B., of N. Y., \$55; W. H., of N. Y., \$30; J. B., of N. Y., \$35; H. O. A., of La., \$25; S. F. L., of Ind., \$30; J. H. B., of Mass., \$10; G. E., of Pa., \$30; W. B. C., of Pa., \$12; B. B. & Co., of R. I., \$37; J. M., of Miss., \$27; A. A., of Ill., \$25; J. L., of N. Y., \$30.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, May 15, 1858:—

- D. J. W., of Ohio; R. & C., of N. Y.; W. W. L., of Ohio; J. L., of Mass.; W. S. H., of N. J.; E. M., of N. Y.; F. H. O., of Pa.; W. H. Van G., of N. Y.; A. H., of Conn.; J. H. G., of Ky.; I. F. B., of Ga.; J. B., of Conn.; J. P., of Mass.; M. W., of Ohio; A. A. H., of Ohio; J. H. H., of S. C.; W. A. J., of La.; G. W. S., of Conn.; A. D. B., of N. Y.; W. H., of N. Y.; W. W. of La.; J. W. P., of Pa.; J. P., of Tenn.; J. B., of N. Y.; R. H. N. B., of R. I.; L. L. C., of N. Y.; H. O. A., of La.; W. B. C., of Pa.; C. C. W., of N. J.; A. A., of Ill.

Literary Notices.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HUGH MILLER. By Thomas N. Brown. Rudd & Carleton, 310 Broadway, New York. The life of a man of science, a *literateur*, and a theologian, cannot fail always to call forth the deepest sympathies of our nature, for in their lives there must always be that touch of nature "that makes the whole world kin." So in tracing through its varied scenes, incidents and occupations, there is so much of interest to all mankind, that any biography of Hugh Miller will always prove an interesting relation by whomsoever it is told. The one, and the first that has yet appeared, that is now before us, seems to us very defective, because it only gives a Scottish view of Hugh Miller's character, life and genius, and in it he is regarded rather as the powerful mouthpiece of a belligerent church party than as the enunciator of the majestic truths of science. As the former, he is known in his native Scotia, and as such his name will long be mentioned in hallowed tones by the denizens of her picturesque hills and lovely valleys; but to us, to the world, his name is known as that of a true philosopher, the poet of geology, whose writings on his favorite study are one grand epic, and his truthful imagery equal the loftiest poem. With a pen unequalled since popular science has been written, he sketched the life of a bygone world, and brought up to the mind's eye as vivid as a present scene the luxuriant vegetation of the carboniferous strata; and so we conceive that a man of his gigantic mental career is worthy of a biography more correct in its appreciation of his scientific character. Perhaps it may be necessary that more time should elapse before his life can be fairly written, and until that time comes we accept the present one with gratitude, rather than have none.

THE YOUNG MEN'S MAGAZINE.—The number for May contains articles on "Elisha Kent Kane," and "The Early Italian Reviewers," which are very good. We think that were the editor to weed his original poetry, the value of the magazine would be enhanced.

WESTMINSTER REVIEW.—Published by Leonard Scott & Co., No. 54 Gold street. The number of the above Review for this quarter contains eight original essays. The leader is a favorable criticism of Auguste Comte's catechism of positive religion. It is not profound, its author seems to consider religion as a mere scale of sentiments, not a body of active principles leading and guiding men to action. There can be no question, however, of the general ability of this periodical.

THE ORIENTAL HORSE CHARIEM.—By C. J. Eldridge, Cincinnati. This pamphlet professes to teach the method of taming horses, but we can find nothing in it but what has been previously published in works upon the treatment of this noble animal.

THE PRINTER.—Published by Henry & Huntington, 1 Spring street, New York. This is a new periodical devoted to the "art preservative of all arts," and it is exceedingly well got up and the matter admirably selected.

Advertisement.

THE NEW AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA.—Reasons for Buying it, and the Ways and Means of Buying it.—The New American Cyclopaedia is popular without being superficial, learned but not pedantic, comprehensive but sufficiently detailed, free from personal prejudice and party prejudice, fresh and yet accurate. It is a complete statement of all that is known upon every important topic within the scope of human intelligence. Every article in it has been specially written for its pages by men who are world-renowned upon the topics of which they speak. They are required to bring the subject up to the present moment—to state just how it stands now. All the statistical information is from the latest reports; the geographical accounts keep pace with the latest explorations; historical matters include the freshest just views; the biographical notices not only speak of the dead, but also of the living, and of the living up to within the last half year.

And the work is cheap. Three dollars a volume; and each volume contains more—we have carefully computed the contents of both—more than the whole six volumes of Bancroft's history, which are sold at two dollars a volume, making in all twelve dollars. Every family ought to possess a copy of the New Cyclopaedia. It is a library in itself. Let each man save twenty-five cents a week, and by the time the work is complete he can not only own the fifteen volumes, but also a handsome bookcase to keep them in. Save five cents a day, (a little self-denial do it,) and you will be able to buy a set of books which will give you sound information upon all points about which you wish to inquire. School children—certainly the members of our high schools—can all have it. Save the pennies which are given to you, run errands and "do chores" when you can, and thus earn a quarter of a dollar a week—and the task is done. Mechanics! you have not much time to read; this then is just the work for you; it will help you upon all points of inquiry—and three hours *over-work* per week will buy it. Lawyers, physicians, clergymen! it will give breadth and accuracy to your information, and add largely to your influence and income. The New Cyclopaedia will be completed in 15 volumes royal 8vo.; \$3 per volume, in cloth; \$3 50 in library leather, \$4 half rosette; \$4 50 half Russia extra.

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IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PATENT SOLICITORS.—Messrs. MUNN & CO., Proprietors of the Scientific American, continue to procure patents for inventors in the United States and foreign countries on the most liberal terms. Our experience is of twelve years' standing, and our facilities are unequalled by any other agency in the world. The long experience we have had in preparing specifications and drawings has rendered us perfectly conversant with the mode of doing business at the United States Patent Office, and with most of the inventions which have been patented. Information concerning the patentability of invention is freely given without charge, on sending a model or drawing and description to the office.

Consultation may be had with the firm, between nine and four o'clock, daily, at their principal office, 128 Fulton street, New York. We have lately established a Branch Agency on the corner of F. and Seventh streets, Washington (opposite the United States Patent Office). This office is under the general superintendence of one of the firm, and is in daily communication with the Principal Office in New York, and a personal attention will be given to the Patent Office to all such cases as may require it.

We are very extensively engaged in the preparation and securing of patents in the various European countries. For the transaction of this business we have offices at Nos. 66 Chancery Lane, London; 29 Boulevard St. Martin, Paris; and 26 Rue de Eperonniers, Brussels. We think we may safely say that three-fourths of all the European patents secured to American citizens are procured through our agency.

Circulars of information concerning the proper course to be pursued in obtaining patents through our Agency, the requirements of the Patent Office, &c., may be had gratis upon application at the principal office or either of the branches.

Communications and remittances should be addressed to MUNN & COMPANY, No. 128 Fulton street, New York.

The annexed letter from the late Commissioner of Patents we commend to the perusal of all persons interested in obtaining patents:—

Messrs. MUNN & Co.—I take pleasure in stating that while I held the office of Commissioner of Patents, MORE THAN ONE-FOURTH OF ALL THE BUSINESS OF THE OFFICE came through your hands. I have no doubt that the public confidence thus indicated has been fully deserved, as I have always observed, in all your intercourse with the Office, a marked degree of promptness, skill, and fidelity to the interests of your employers. Yours, very truly, CHAS. MASON.

TO CONTRACTORS.—OFFICE OF CHIPPEWA Falls Lumbering Company, Chippewa Falls, Wis., April 24, 1858. Proposals will be received at this office until the first day of June next for building a Spar Dam across the falls of the Chippewa river, in town 23 North; range 8 West; said dam to be 700 to 800 feet long, and 16 feet high; and to be built in the most substantial and workmanlike manner, under the supervision of the President of the company; to be fitted with a slide about 20 feet wide, and long enough to allow lumber rafts to pass over in safety. The quantity of round timber to be used will be about 30,000 feet, running measure, and will average 12 to 16 inches in diameter. All the necessary timber and plank will be furnished by the contractor at the head of the Falls. The contract will be awarded on the 15th of June, and will be executed immediately afterwards. The work must commence on the 1st of July, or at as early a day previously as the water will permit, and must be completed by September 15th, subject to detention from high water. For the faithful performance of the contract, satisfactory security to the amount of \$10,000 will be required on the execution of the same. Plans and specifications, and all necessary information will be furnished on application to J. F. JORDAN, 87 Randolph st., Chicago, Ill., or to JOHN JUDGE, Secretary, Chippewa Falls, Wis.

GLOVER'S PATENT BALANCE IRON FOR Millstones, superior to anything of the kind now in use, giving the most complete balance, without difficulty, and in the shortest time. County, State, or individual rights for sale. Address J. H. GLOVER, Temple Hill, Barren co., Ky.

BOILER INCORUSTATIONS.—WEISSEN-BORN'S Patent Incrustation Preventer serves the double purpose of preventing scale and acting as a heater, besides being useful as a condenser. STEWART KERR, (Engineer,) Agent, No. 17 Broadway, New York.

COPPERSMITH.—JOHN H. CORNELL, No. 11 Old Slip, New York. Distilleries of all kinds, brewer's kettles, steam brewing apparatus, (McCracken's patent,) sugar kettles and trains, cane mills, malt mills, steam engines, boilers, &c. A small steam still for sale; runs 100 gallons in ten hours—95 over proof.

WHEELER & WILSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY'S SEWING MACHINES.—Highest Premiums awarded 1857, by the American Institute, N. Y., Maryland Institute, Baltimore, and at the Maine, Connecticut, Michigan and Illinois State Fairs. Office, 343 Broadway, New York. Send for a circular. We prefer them for family use.—[Tribune.] They are the favorites for families.—[Times.] It is without a rival.—[Scientific American.] Equal to nine seamstresses.—[Home Journal.] Most honorable to American genius.—[Independent.] The machine, for family use.—[Advocate & Journal.] Will give entire satisfaction.—[Observer.] The best ever invented.—[Christian Inquirer.] In looking for the best, see these.—[Examiner.] Indispensable in every family.—[The Preacher.]

FOR SALE.—A SUIT OF SUBMARINE ARMOR, Air Pump and Hose. Price \$350. Apply to GEORGE C. HOWARD, No. 17 South 15th st., Philadelphia, Pa.

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