

Improved Barrel Roller.

This engraving illustrates an improved apparatus for rolling barrels, and its form and application can be seen at a glance.

It may be described as a pair of tongs with disks, A, revolving loosely on the outer ends, the disks of such size as to easily enter within the chine of the barrel. The tongs are so made that the barrel may turn without rubbing when the disks are not exactly in center. The opening between the handles is such that the natural fall of the arms, in pushing or pulling, will press the disks against the barrel head, so that the heavier the load is the more securely will it be held. In using this tool, it is not necessary to insert the disks within the chine, but if they are run up along side, so as to be nearly inserted, and then pressed together, at the same time pushing or pulling, one half revolution of the barrel will throw them into place. When on the barrel the tongs and barrel form a combination similar to a common wheelbarrow, but the device is much more easily handled than a wheelbarrow carrying the same load.

Any person who has ever rolled a heavy barrel, especially down hill where the strength is used to retard, instead of to hasten it, will see at once how readily one barrel can be guided, held back, or pushed forward by the aid of this machine. Many severe injuries have been caused by the carelessness, and sometimes by unavoidable accident, of persons rolling heavy casks down declivities, where it is necessary for them to stoop over in very uncomfortable positions, and use heavy leather gloves to retard the speed of the barrels. In such cases, a tool of this kind would be much more efficient, for the user could bring his whole strength into action, instead of a part of it only, as in the former case. The heaviest casks, requiring the services of several men, can be handled with ease by this machine by attaching a rope to the handles so that a number of men can take hold. In such a case as rolling down a wharf and then up a gang plank, when the cask reaches and rests at the lowest point, the apparatus can be just turned over and the same men that let it down can pull it up again. In short, there is no case of barrel-rolling in which it is not superior to hand labor. This apparatus was patented April 25, 1865, through the Scientific American Patent Agency, by Henry W. Stephenson of Cincinnati, Ohio, who holds it for sale, in whole or part, to suit applicants. Any person desiring information will address him as above.

LITTLE'S FRUIT GATHERER.

The device illustrated by this engraving is for gathering apples, peaches, pears and other fruit, which generally hang so high as to make it necessary to climb the tree or use some device by which the fruit may be reached from the ground.

No better description of this fruit gatherer can be given than to call it a semicircular rake; A being the teeth thereof, and B the head in which they are inserted. An extensible rod, C, which can be made longer or shorter, to which this rake is attached, enables it to be raised to the highest part of any fruit tree. The fruit is detached from the tree by a raking motion, in clusters or singly, and when severed falls into a long pouch, D, from one of the pockets of which it can be received into the hand. When the rod, C, is extended, the lower pocket, E, is used, but when the fruit is gathered close at hand, the pouch is shortened, so to speak, by a cord, G, which is tied tightly around it between the two pockets. To preserve the length to which the rod, C, is adjusted, a set screw, H, is employed, and I, is an adjustable slide to which the lower end of the pouch is attached. Sometimes, owing to the position

of the fruit and other circumstances, the knife, J, which encircles the teeth, constitutes an important accessory to the latter in severing or breaking the stems of the fruit; and for the same purpose the knives, K, may be called into requisition. The upper end of the pouch, E, is held open to receive the fruit, by the metallic strip or retainer, L.

Owing to the simplicity of the device it can be constructed with little difficulty, and manufactured at little expense.

**STEPHENSON'S BARREL ROLLER.**

A patent for the invention was granted March 21, 1865, to James A. Little, of Danville, Hendricks County, Indiana; by addressing him, any desired information can be had.



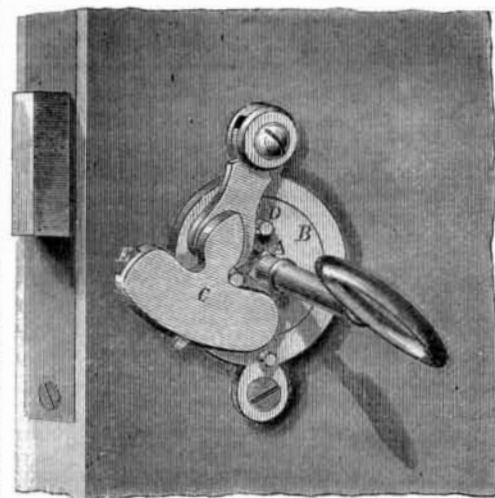
A FINE piece of carpeting, measuring 14 feet by 20, the first of the kind manufactured in Austria, has just been placed in the Museum at Vienna. It presents a map of the railways of Central Europe, and was produced at Prague.

DESAUSSES'S LOCK PROTECTOR.

Travelers sojourning in hotels have awakened in the morning to the unpleasant consciousness of the fact that their pockets had been rifled in the night; and this in spite of the lock on the door. Skillful thieves take advantage of the small end of the key which protrudes through the hole, and by using a peculiar pair of nippers, grip the end so that they are able to turn the key and enter the room; when the key is not in the lock the latter is picked with a skeleton key.

It is to foil burglars who use forceps that this device has been invented.

It consists in forming the key with a square shank,



as at A, and in a plate, B, which fits this shank. This plate works in a recess so that it turns easily in any direction when the door is to be locked, but is held fast by the hasp, C, when the same is vertical, or in such position that the pins, D, fall into a groove, E, in the hasp. When this occurs the key can not be turned from the outside by any contrivance whatever. Thus there is a double lock on the apartment; the door is locked by a key and the key itself is locked.

This device can be applied to the cheapest, as well as to the most costly lock, and can be constructed of four pieces of cast iron, or made ornamental if desired. A patent is now pending through the Scientific American Patent Agency, by J. H. Desausse. For further information address A. B. Justice, No. 14 North Fifth street, Philadelphia, who has the patent for sale.

A LUXURIOUS CHAIR.

We have had a very curious chair in our office for some days past, and it is one of the most comfortable and unique things of the kind we have seen. The seat is composed of sections of india-rubber tubes strung on fancy-colored cords; the back also is so made, and the sensation experienced is delightful. The greatest benefit, however, is derived from the elasticity of the rubber. This gives an easy, springing support to the person, impossible to describe, but not at all difficult to endure. The chair is lighter than those made with springs, is much cooler in summer, and seems in all respects a desirable and useful novelty. It is a fact that all men are not built on the same model, but with this piece of furniture it matters little how fearfully and wonderfully they are made, for this elastic seat supports every part of the person that touches it at once, and does not rest one set of muscles at the expense of another set.

There are also couches, lounges and other articles made on this principle, and for the reasons above set forth they must prove exceedingly comfortable. These articles of furniture are made by the patentee, Mr. Hector Hyves, No. 45 Mercer street, New York.

SOME of the Hartford capitalists have brought out the Weed Sewing Machine Company, of Nashua, N. H., and have formed a new joint stock company with a capital of \$200,000 for the manufacture of the machine at Hartford.

MR. HOLLOWAY'S successor to the office of Commissioner of Patents has not yet been announced. There are rival claimants.