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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1866.

## Contents :

(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)


## EDOCATED MECHANICS.

In a recent number we spoke of the advantages of intellectual education for mechanics and workingmen, in addition to that derived from the shop, the farm, or the road. We alluded to it as a means to raise the position of the workingman and to elevate the status of his profession
In the ordinary prosecution of his business, the attisan must be stolid indeed if he did not gain some knowledge beyond that of mere manual dexterity. His judgment and his capacity for comparison is stimulated by hints, incidents, and accidents, so that he must improve more or less. But an acquaintance with the laws which govern matter in all its forms whether at rest or in motion, the means of availing himself of the operation of those laws, come slowly to him unless he understands the principles upon which those laws are founded. Such knowledge is not readily gained in the prosecution of his business but by study. Knowing the existence of the phenom ena, of which he is a daily witness, he must spend years in using that knowledge by piecemeal as he receives it, and work over again the experiments, the processes and results of which have been recorded for him, unless by reading and study he is willing to avail himself of the labors of those who have gone before him.

Therefore we cannot too strongly insist on the study of the natural sciences by all who aspire to use the latent or active forces of nature for the benefit of themselves or of mankind in general. An instance of the benefit to be derived by mechanics by a judicious course of study, we cannot forbear to introduce here, an instance of the recognition of merit-in the hope that others may be induced to follow so shining an example. We have mentioned the fact that at the annual commencement of the University of the City of New York, held June 21st, at Niblo's Garden, the degree of Doctor of Physical Science (Doctor Physicis Artibus, A. P.D.), was conferred upon Erastus W. Smith, an eminent mechanical engineer. It was the first honorary degree of this character conferred in this country.

We have obtained some facts in regard to the recipient of this honor which may not prove uninteresting. Mr. Smith served an apprenticeship at the Allaire Works, in this city, remaining there four years, when he entered the University and pursued acourse of study in the physical sciences, graduating with the class of 1844 . He returned to the Allaire Works and spent several ycars as workman, foreman, and superintendent. He has since filled important positions as engineer of the American U. S. Mail

Steamships, comprising the Bremen, the Southampton, the Havre, and the Collins's Liverpool lines.
He designed and superintended the construction of the engines for the New Orleans Water Works, and of the engines of several inland lines of steamers, including the Metropolis, of the Newport route, and is now designing and constructing engineer of the Harlem Bridge, the engines of the New York and Bristol line of steamers-the cylinders of which measure 110 inches with twelve feet stroke,-of several other steam-transportation companies, and of the Dunderberg, under the Government contractor, Wm. H. Webb

Application to and love for his business, with a determination to fit himself for the highest positions tion
in his profession, we believe, have been of more service to Mr. Smith than the patronage of influential men or capitalists. In his letter conveying the in formation of the honorary testimonial, Prof. Draper said :-
"I am sure it will be gratifying to you to learn that yours is the first degree of the kind ever conferred in this country, and is the highest we can give. It is for these reasons all the more honorable to you. The establishment of this degree places the niversity in connection with mechanical engineer ing-one of the most important and growing professional interests of our city and country."
Our object in thus noticing this acknowledgment of merit is not to add to the well-earned reputation of the recipient of these honors, but to present it as an incentive to our mechanics. When literary societies and educational institutions accord to the educated mechanic and the scientific engineer the position to which his usefulness and worth entitles him, the status of the mechanic is raised and his profession becomes, in the eyes of the world, more honorable. Practical knowledge, combined with nat ural genius, aided by mental acquirements, is sufficient to enable any intelligent mechanic to reach the uppermost round in the ladder of his profession.

## FREE AND EASY LEGISLATION ON PATENTS

On the 25th ult., Senator Cowan, chairman of the Patent Committee, reported a bill for the extensio of Thos. D. Burrall's patent for a corn sheller; he also reported a bill for the extension of Thos. W Harvey's patent for the manufacture of wood screws; also for the extension of Stephen R. Park hurst's patent for ginning cotton and burring wool It remains to be seen what action the Senate will finally take in regard to those important measures
Mr. Cowan reported the House bill, which provides for the payment of a ten-dollar tax on all cases taken from the primary Examiner, on appeal, to the Ex-aminer-in-Chief. After the Senator had stated the nature of the bill, the following debate took place :-
Mr. Cowan.-I will merely state that an applicaion for a patent is first referred to the primary xami to the Board of peal there is bo fow paid. It is complained in peal there is no fee paid. It is complained in primary Examiners, because they can appeal with primary Examiners, because they can appeal with out any additional cost; and it is therefore thought
to be adrisable, for the purpose of compelling them to attend to the case before the primary Examiners to attend to the case before the primary Examiners, that there should be an appeal fee, to be paid before oing to the Examiners-in-Chief. The committee ink this is proper, and have therefore recom mended the passage of the bill.
Mr . Grimes.-Is that all there is in the bill?
Mr. Cowan.-That is all.
The bill was reported to the Seuate, ordered to third reading, read the third time, and passed.
Thus a bill which will draw from the pockets of inventors between $\$ 4,000$ and $\$ 5,000$, annually, passed without a show of opposition. Mr. Cowan's, "That is all," satisfied the Senate, and the thing was done

We regret the success of this unjust measure The Patent Office has nearly $\$ 150,000$ surplus funds, and does not need to tax inventors any more for the privileges they now enjoy.

## A FOUR-TOOL PLANER,

Some few weeks ago we gave a description of a seven-tool lathe for working out railway cranks withaccuracy and dispatch, which was in use at the locomotive works of Crewe, England. We find, in a recent number of the Engineer, an engraving and brief description of a planer designed to economize time, it being of planer designed to economize time
time of an ordinary tool of this class is wasted ; or, in other words, that during the return of the bed the tool is idle.

Planers that act both ways are not new, by any means, Whitworth having, long ago, introduced a machine of this class with a rotating tool post that faces about after the bed has made one stroke, and cuts on the return. What degree of popularity this device meets with in England, we are unable to say, but few machines have been imported to this coun try. On long lathe beds, steam engine bed plates and similar work, such an arrangement would seem to be very desirable, but there must be some practical difficulties in the way which prevent their adop-

We have been informed that it is a matter of diff culty to adjust the tool so that the cut is equal in running both ways, and that the least hesitation of inaccuracy in the reverse action of the tool causes it to take a heavier cut at one time than at another and so, break the tool or spoil the work.
In Elder's machine there are two sets of standards or uprights in the middle of the bed, which face each other, and are fitted with sliding carriages and headstocks, as usual, there leingr two headstocks on each slide. These are so arranged that but one or all may be in use at the same time ; that is, two cutting when the bed runs one way and two when it returns.
This duplication of parts, of course, entails great expense in construction and adds to the weight of the machine, besides rendering it much more complicated ; but there is no question about its efficiency which is the main point to consider.

## A JUST MEASURE.

In a previous number we stated that the bill to pay Examiners in the Patent Office, for extra service rendered by them, had passed Congress. A dispatch to the Associated Press made it appear that the money thus appropriated was to come from the Treasury, which is not the case. The facts are simply these : Soon after the breaking out of the rebel ion the number of applications for patents was greatly reduced, which caused also a considerable re duction in thepatent fund, and in order to comply with the law making the Patent Office a self-sustaining bureau, the Commissioner was obliged to reduce the salaries of Examiners and Assistant Examiners below the amounts fixed by law, which was the best course he could adopt as a temporary expedient, as it could not be regarded wise to remove experienced Ex aminers in such a contingency, which was not likely to last for a long time. During the years from 1852 to 1860 , the average number of cases examined per man was one hundred and forty-two ; from 1860 to 1865 the average was two hundred and forty-an increase of eighty-two per cent. This increased amount of labor was done on reduced salaries and at a time when the cost of living was double what it was before the war broke out. The Examiners, as a body, are a faithful, laborious, intelligent set of men, and, at best, are not overpaid for their services, and now that the patent fund has so largely augmented, there is great justice in the act of Congress which authorizes the Commissioner to pay Examiners and Assistants out of the patent fund for services actually performed by them
Mr. Wentworth, of Illinois, attempted to defeat the bill, but his effort did not produce any effect. Mr. Jenckes, the mover of the bill, and to whom much credit is due, metall the objections, and the bil passed by a large majority.

THE 9•22-inch bore or $12 \frac{1}{2}$-tun Armstrong gun burst to splinters a few days since at Shoeburynes during ordinary gun practice, and after 390 rounds had been fired. The gun's crew had a very nar row escape for their lives, and Capt. Reeves, who was conducting the practice, was nearly struck by a large piece of the gun as it flew past him.-Me chanics' Magazine.

Aluminium Armor.-A trial has just been made at Florence of a cuirass of aluminium, which is as light as an ordinary waistcoat, nearly as flexible, and capable of turning a musket ball fired at the distance of 38 paces, and of resisting a bayonet thrust from the heaviest hand. Each cuirass costs only 5 frs. Two regiments are, it is said, to be immediately provided with them


Iseued from the u. s. patent orfice for the week ending juse $24,1866$.

Pamphlets containing the Patent Laws and full particulars of the mode of applying for Letters Patent, specifying size of model required, and much other information useful to inventors, may be had gratis by addressing MUNN \& CO., Publishers of the Scientific American, New York.
55,799.-Mode of cutting Boots.-John Adams, Tiokinmo, Ind.
I claim as a new article of manufacture, a boot produced as
follows, to wit, by cutting the foot and le, portion ouc of a sin-

 scam to the rfont eldes of the counter and from thence clown to
the shank of the hoot, said horizontal and vertical silc seams serving torasten the separate outside connter-picece of leather
over the onening whicharas left in entting rtic foot and leg of
the boot, all substantially as and for the purpose described.
55,800.-Grain Separator and Cleaner.-Wil-
liam M. Arnall, Sperryville, Va., assignor to him-
self and W. II. Brownell, New York ('ity



55,801.-Device to prevent Boiler Explosions. - Alfred $\Lambda$ rnold, T'enaply, N. J.

I claim, st, The morle of preventing stcam boilcr explosions,
sulstantilly as hercin set forth. 2.l, The construction and arrangement of the devices neces-
sary to carry the mode into operatioit, substantially as de-55,802.-Egg-beater.-Frederick Ashley, New York City
I claim the grooved or screw threaded slide or slecve, E, in
combination with the plain shart, A, having a fixed stud or pin a, and a beater, $B$, arrangedtorcther and © perating as and for
55,803.-Water Wieel.-Sainuel W. $\Lambda$ yres, Monticello, Ind.
In conn bination with the spiral scroll, A, 1 claim the double
whecl, $\mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}$, when so arranged that the water shall be discharg. Whecl, B, when so arranged that the water shan be discharg.
ed from the scroll through the unper section, towarcls tha cen-
ter, and thence passing into the lower sectionticdisenared ter, and thence passing into the lower sectionl, dischargred from
the center through the periphery, substantially in the manner

55,804.-Horse Rane.-II. A. Bailey and A. R. Burclick, Racine, Wis.
grooves, i, and retainct on the rate- providled withings, the uppre and stantichty as and for the purposencrein set forth lonscly on the axde, A, and operated liy means of levery hy the
driver rom his scat, c, for the purpose of automatically raising
the rake to discharge its luad substantinlly as shown the rake to discharge its load, substantially as shown and de-
scribed.
55,805. -Roof of Buildings.-William W. Beach, New York City
 and ornamental, substantially in the manner and for the purpoye hercin set forth.
$2: 1$, O
namenting nin
anc miea, sulstant upon or bet ween the plates or thicknesses of
therth and described.
3d, Maiking an elastic rooting by cencnins the plates of mica With ficxilite cement, substantially as set forth her pring of mica
4th, The combination of mica with wood, slate, or other cquivalentsubstances, sub
purposeshercin set forth.
55,806.-LaMI'-Jacob II. Beidler, Lincoln, Ill. I claim, 1st, The method herc in described of creating an as.
cending current of air to feed the fiame by means of stean gencrated by the caloric emanating fiom the illuminating flame
 the purpose describiled. 55,807.-Grater and Egg-beater.-William A. Bemis, Spencer, Mass.
 body of the heater, of the rennevable frame, D, previrfed with
the enting witcs, a, substantially as and for the purposes set
forth. forth. In comhination with the egg-beater, I claim the grater
2d, In,
moving in quides on the bory of the e. eg-heiter, the whole be-
 puse sLown and descrived.
55.809.-Machine for framing Matches.-Jacob Bentz, Brookiyn, N. Y.
I clain, st, In comb ination with the $g$ ooved hed and hopp sunstantiall y as described.
2d, The construction of the grooved hed in two parts; the
front part being hinzed to the rear lixed part for the purpose of being su ung down below the plane of the fixed part when or
re
tired to remov broken splints, slivers, or other obstructions
 4th. In conhlination wioh the plnn.er frame and the fromt


55,809.-Stump Extractor.-John W. Blodgett, Plymouth, Ind.:
Ic laim, 1st, The comhination and arrangement of the posts,
C. and foot-boards, E iud N , substantially as and for the pur-
 Jerer. Kin in mhination with whecels, A, foot.
sulustaulially as and for the purposes set forth.
55,810.-Utilizing Steam.-John M. Brosius, Lib erty, Va.
I cliam the arangement, with a stationary denot or water
stal ion custin, or he bueomotive boiler, bubstantualy in the hanater and for the purpose described.
5j,811.-Cotton-seed Planter.-Frederick H. Brown, Chicago, Ill.
Inclain, 1st, In a a cotion-sce, phanter the combination of the titintinly
 ranged and operatiny substautially as speciticd and shown and


55,812.-Mode of construucting Vacuum Vessels for Evaporating, etc.-Duncan Bruce, Rossville, N. Y.
I claim the method, substantially as herein described, of strensthen ing and
purposes set forth.
5j,813.-Hammer for bending Couplings.-John T. Bruen, New York City

 sucecssive operationg of the hanuner, applied, arranged, and
operaing sulustantially as hicrecin specithed.
 hhe two parpuscs of recinlating the stroke of the hammer aud
of preventing destructive goncussion and no oss.
55,814.-Lock.-Henry and Samuel W. Budd, Philadelphia, Pa .
I clam, list, The bolt, B, and its spring, d, in combination with the sliding block, F, Find plate, b, or its equivilent, ille
wwhole being constructed and operating substantially as aud for

 55,815 --Brusif for Boiler Flues.-Charles II. Bush, Fall Rive1, Mass.
 eratinst as hercin set fiorthand described.
5ũ,816. - Ralliead Watelr-elevator.-William II. Butler, Chicago, Ill.
 densation of steam, or coited with such resistant oun one on
both sides, substautially as aescribed and for the purpose mentinncd. claim in combination witit the follower and steam pipe
the rubber packing, I, is described. 55,817.-Step-laddeli.--E. P if Capron, Spring.


 2 818
55,818.-Treating Ohes.-Charles F. Carpenter, Louisvi!le, Ky.
I chim the mode of using stcam of any temperature for the

 stantially the same.
55,819.-Water-indicator for Steam Genera , Tons.-Franklin Chalfant, Lancaster. Pa. I claim, Ist, The vibrating conlumn or cylinder, F, in con-
nction with a stcam boiler, A., whicu cmployed for the purpose spaciiticd. claim the soapstone disks, K, when appliced substan-
tially in the manner and for the purpose set forth. 55 820.-Ice-cream Freezzer.-John R. Champlin, Laconia, N. H.:
 putpon: set iorth, and support, X, when constructed sulven



 creanh-10.
set forth.
55,821.-PuMP.-Robert Cochran, Morrison, Ill.

55,822.-Pump for Deep Wells.-Robert Cornelius, Plisladelphia, Pa.
Lelaim the combination or an outcr case with apertnes, an
inctron
int
55,823.-Door-beli, and Burglar-alairm.-Elliot
H. Crane, luarr Dak, Mich.





55,824.-Horse Hay-fork.-Thomas C. Craven Albany, N. Y




Which are adapted to serve as a locking device, substantially ats
deecribed.


55,825.-Churn.-F. J. Crissey, J.epslurer, Vil I claim the arrangencicn and com, Sination of the center

55,826. - Cultivator. - John- Custer, Sandusky, Ohin:

 55, 8 di-Marine Compass.-Samuel Custer, Salem,
Va.:

 a pointer plazed mid way between the north and south poles of
its two needles.
 longer radius to ulte pointer.
55,828. - Roller-feed for Cairding and Picking Maciinses.-James Dempster, Nangatuck, Comn.:

 machinc, substantially as deseribed and for the purposes set
55,829.-Hay-rack for Wagons.-Danie! Dennett, Buxton, Me.
I claim the stretchers, $\mathrm{b}, \mathrm{b}, \mathrm{b}, \mathrm{b}$, cut in two at d , d , in the man
ner and for the purposes specitied. 55,830--Car for transporting Petroneeum. J. Densmore, Meadville, Pa., and G. W. N. Yost, Corry. Pa.




50,831. - Car for transporting Petroledm. J. Densmore, Meadville, Pa., and (.) W. N. Yost, Corry, Pa.

 formander, when contructedandeombined for the purpoes
herein-lxfore described and set forth, or when attached and emnhined hy any other mechanical constrnction substantially
the sinnt aud which will prouuce the sinne resuls.
55,832. - Car for transporting Peitroleum.James Densmore, Meadville, Pa., and Amos Dens more and G. W. N. Yost, Corry, Pa.
We claim, 1st. The one tank, B, square or ohlong square of waycar, $\Lambda$, by means of the cleats, E, and the holts, 1,1, , I), 1 ),






 same, and which will produce the same resuits.
55,833.-Maciine For Planing Moldings.Thomas Dickivenon, Newark, N. J.
ing two moldings simultan-ously ly one cmutereheat, consistine

55,834.-Apparatus formaising Paiper-ruler, foi

- bleaching and for otirer Purioses.-Juhn W. Dixon, I'hiladelphia, Pa.:

B, the diaphramm, combination of the digester, $\Lambda$, the man-liole b, The combination of the digester, A, hie heating coil, in
the punp, $D$, as described.

55,83:J.-Apparatus for making Paler-heuliphon Wood, Straw, and otmer Materials.-Johi W. I)ixon, Philade! phia, Pa.
 while being made to circulate by the pump.

55,836 - Process of making Paper-puir from Wood, Straw, and other Materials.-John W. Dixon, Philadelphia, Pa

I claim, 1st, The phlping of wood, straw, and other vegetable
sulstances with asolntion of highy-heated aluminite of soda
 ate ot soda through the mass to be pulped, substantially as dc-

55,837.-Harvester.-John A. Dodge, Auburn
 cespectively constructed and arrangel for use, substastially i






