American Ralway Master Mechanics Association.
A convention of Railway Master Mechanics was held at leveland, Ohio, Sept 30, at which time an organization was formed, and the above title adopted The following offcers is Cincinnati and La Fayette Railway; Vice-president Mr N E. Cbapman, of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railway Secretary, Mr. Frederick Grinvell, of the Atlantic and Great Western; Treasurer, Mr. S. S. Hayes, of the Illinois Central Railway. A constitution was alopted and signed by the gen tlemen present, a large number of railroads being represented. A Committee on Order of Business was appointed, which reported the following subjects for discussion

1. Are steel plates preferable to iron in the construction of locomotive koilers, and if so will the difference in strength, durability, and safety, justify the excess of cost of steel as compared with the cost of the best iron?
2 d , What should be the thickness of steel or iron plates when used in the construction of the outside shell of a fortyeight inch boiler? Also the best and strongest mode of riv. eting and bracing the same?
3d, Wbat water space is deemed best upon the sides and nds of a furnace, b ith for wood and coal burning engines? 4th, How does the durability of steel for furnaces and flue heets compare with that of copper or best iron?
5th, What space should there be between the flues so as to obtain the greatest absorption of heat?
6 th , What size flues and what length win
sults in wood and coal burning engines?
7th, What is the experience of the different men chanics as to the wear and tear of steel tires now in use on their respective roads?
8th, What are the views of this convention on the subject of packing for cylinder and stuffing boxes?
9tb, What are best modes of preventing the formation of lime and other incrustations in boilers?
10th, What is the opinion of this convention as to the present system of safety valves, levers and fixtures upon locomotive and other boilers-is it the safest and best?
11th, Would not the adoption of a "lock up valve," that could not be interfered with by the engineer, tend to the prevention of explosions now so frequent?
Tbe following committees were appointed'to report upon these subjects at the next meeting:
On the articles 1st to 6 ch , inclusive, Messrs. Hayes, Jauriet, and Anderson; article 7th, Philbrick, Eddy, and Perry ; article 8th, Brown, Chapman, and Smith ; article 9th, Dripps, Towne, and Ray; article 10th and 11th, Stone, Young and Wells.
On motion a committee of three-Messrs. Kinsey, Cooper, and Congdon-was appointed on valves anti-Iriction, size, etc. Messrs. Losey, Callen, and Little, were appointed a commit tee on the explosion of boilers.
After the transaction of some minor business, the meeting adjourned, to ment at the shops of the Peansylvania Central Railway at Pittsburgh, Pa , on the second Wednesday of September, 1869

## Adulterations in Vinegar.

The Prairie F'armer, has the following on adulterations in vinegar: Since the great increase in the price of high wines. on account of the heavy tax imposed by the Government, there has been a disposition, on the part of vinegar manufacturers, to produce the requisite degree of acidity by means of a cheaper substance than acetic acid, which forms tbe acidity of all pure vinegar, and which can only be produced by tbe oxidation of alcohol. Sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric acios are all en pioged for this purpose, but in the great ma jority of cases. the former is used, on account of its extreme cheapness and its intense sourness.
This acid may be detected, even in extremely small quan ti'jes, by taking a portion of the suspected vinegar, placing it in a clear glass vessel, and dropping into it a few drops of a solution of the chloride of barium, or the nitrate of barita If the vinegar remans clear after the introduction of this substance, it is sufficient proof that it contains no sulphuric acid. If, on the other hand, the liquid presents a cloudy appearance, it is on account of the formation of the sulphate of barita, which will remain insoluble, whatever acid may be af erwards added.
The detection of nitric acid is not so easy. It may be discovered, however, by first adding to the vinegar placed in a wine glass, a few drops of sulphuric acid, waitıng a few minutes for the misture to cool, and then dropping in a crystal of the sulphate of iron, or copperas. If nitric acid is present, a brown ring will form around this substance, in the bottom of the glass.
To detect hydrocbloric or muriatic acid, we have only to bring the suspeated vipegar to a moderace heat, and to hold over it a glass rud or shaving of wo d, moistened in aqua ammonia. If this acid be present, it will form white fumes as the two substances come in contact, forming, as they do, chlorde of ammonium, or sal-ammoniac.
Ordinarily, however, it will only be necessary to test for sulphuric acid; but this should always be done before using vinegar, as tbis acid is very injurious to the health, and ex ceedingly liable to destroy substances placed in it to be preserved, as pickles. A few cents' worth of the substance we have recommended under this head, is sufficient to test all the vinegar wbich wou'd be used in a family for many years. The cheapness of sulpburic acid is so great that vinegar may be made from at-or, ruther, a subetance that passes by the aame of vinegar-for only a cent or two per gallon. That it is so made, is evident from the fact that carboys of sulphuric acid are $t \cdot$ be found in most of the manufactories of "pure cider vinegar," in this as in other cities.

The first mill in America for making sewing silks and wists by water was built by Rodney Hanks, in Mansfield about fifty-eight years since. The first silk made by ma In 181 in the United States was made in 1829, in Mansfitl 1814 silk rose to $\$ 30$ a pound. The crnsus of 1810 give us the value of the silk manufacture and raw silk of Massa chusetts and Connecticut for that year - $\$ 29,121$. In Wind was $\$ 54,090$. In 1831 Mansield produced 84,000 worth of silk.

Can Any One Beat This
Old Saybrook, Conn., Sept. 26, 1868. Messrs. Wheeler \& Wilson
Gentlemen :-I wish to say that I have in my family Wheeler \& Wilson Sewing Machine," that bas been in almost daily use for the past ten (10) years, and not a thing has ever been done to it in way of repairing; not a screw loose, or any part of it out of order in all that time. It has been used in making coats, vests, and pants, of the thickest of woolen goods, beside doing all kinds of family sewing, and now, this day, the best machine for work I ever saw.
Can any one beat this?
Gilbert Pratt.
Any one who can beat this (and we think many can), wil Messrs. Wheeler \& Wilson,

625 Broadway, New York.

## OFFICIAI REPORT OF <br> Patents and Claims

Issued by the United States Patent Office.

## FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 20, 1868.

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Reported offctally for the Sctentifc American.
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Patents are granted for seventeen fears, the following On fil a schedule of fees:-



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of Canada and Nova Scotia pay $\$ 500$ on application.
Fampnletscontaining the Patent Laws ana rull particuiars of tne mod of appty ng or Letters Patent, spec fy ng s ze of model requ red. and much
other nformatton use ful to Inventors, may be had gratis by address $n \mathrm{n}$ other nf ormatton use ful to Inventors, may be had gratis by ada.
IUNN \& CO., Publ.shers of the Sc.entifc Amer can. New Fork.

83,124. - Car-Cocpling.-Geotge S. Acker, Kalamazoo, as-

 Ville Pa. Antedared October 9, 1888.
I Clyim, ist. The aranem and and combination of the balanced valve. E,
with the valve, J, lever. With the valve, J, le ver. H, piston, K, and yoke D.
2d The arrangement of the box, B, maclosiug the valves, $J$ and $W$ and
leyer. H. at
ever.H. Inkstand.-H. P. Andrews, and M. E. Rawson,




decaribed. Reveenue Stamp For Liquor Barrels.- George
83. Bishop, Baltimore, Md. Antedated October 6, 1868 .


 yarbues specitied.
 the purpose herein described.
83,129.-PERMOTATION Lock.-Edward W. Brettell, Eliza



scribed. Saw operating substantially as de Ramaar, St. Johnnnury, Vt.


described. 32 - Hose, and Machine for Making Hose.- George

 83,133.-Feeding Mechanism for Sewing Machines.-J
 2d. Tre feed bar, A, in combination with the cam silde, C, constructed as
described, and its mechanism for adjustment, as and for the purpose set

83,134.-Snap Hook.-Edward A. Cooper. Buffalo, N. Y
 ranged and secured together in the manner degcribed.
83,135.-VENTING Core.-George U.Cressey, Philadelphia, Pa
 83.136.-Boat Detaching Apparatus.-Thomas L Cuthoert, Cbarleston county, S. U., assignor to himself, Nathaniel Levin, ani
Edward $J$. Marks.


83,137.-Lu)CK FOR Trunks, Pianos, etc. -C. N. Cutter (as

 83. 188. - TuACK LIF
Grat Brityln.


 83,140-Nozzle for Cans.-Frederick W. Devoe, New


 83142 -Rallroad-Car Heater.-John C. Eckert, Dayton, Onn.
I claim, 1st, The knob or trigger, N , in combination with the vase, for the

 83,143.-PAPER COTING MACHINE. - Spencer Ellsworth,
Lacon, ill.



 \$3, 144 - Plithmletation Lock.-William F. Ensign, Troy,
 83,145 .-W Ashing Machine. - Robert E. Ferguson, Chicago,








 83,149.-PIASTIC Composition.-Hannah C. Gaskin, Union
 subsance, as described.
zad The new article if plastic manuf, cture, substantially as described.
83,150 . KkIN HoLDer. Lorenzo D. Gillett. Rochester, and
 8criced. $151 .-S$ SED Plante
signor to J. F. Morse, Nurth Havernill, N. H






 83,153.-Billiahd Table. - Karl Gudenoge, San Francisco,

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 83.154-Combined Plow and Harrow.-Jacob Haessel St, Louis, Mofangern ho arangent of the harrows, D, r.ith the plow, A B, in the
manner shown and described. 83,155-Corn Harvester.-John D. Hampshire, Paper



 83,156-ADOER HandLE - T. C. Hendry (assignor to himself

 83,157. - Fastening for Check Hooks and Terrets.-A.



 as and for the purpose set forlh.
83,159.-Rail Road Axle.-George H. Hoagland, Port Jer-

83,160.-Toy.-Tohn L. Holt, Providence R. I.




83.161--F Fen water Heater For Steam Bollers.-B. A.








 tially ad deisiribed $83,164$. HARVESTR.-Henry Howe, Oneonta, N. Y.














































 83,180 - Hand Seed Drill.-Wm. Ledlie and Geo. L. Gray,











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 herein shown and described.










 3,191.- Brici Machive.-James Martin, Jersey City, as





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and deseribed

 83,203.-Whis Socket.-Louis J. Parsons, New Bedfora,
 83,204a-Thill Guard.-Louis J. Parsons, New Bedfora
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 stanialy in the eanner aeseribed 1 stanam the onip.F:
83, Pittsburr, Puling Horse Shoe Blanss. - Abram Reese


 83,208. - Matherine For Solimering Shert Meral boxes.-
 83,209.- Machine for Making Metal Boxes.-C. L. Rehn,
Philelphia, Pa.





83,210.-MANUFActure of Glass Ware.-Daniel C. Ripley,





 83,212. - Traveling BaG. - William Roemer, Newark, N. J.


 $83,214 .-$ Nur. -Benj. D. Sanders, Wellsburg. W. Va

 83,105. - W A TRR CLIOsEET.-D. Schilling, Brooklyn, N. Y

 described. Swinc.-Benj. F. Shaffer (assignor to himself and
 Rarrose specinited
 83,18 . wW Wha Sols

 spe, ined. -Tocking Device for Sewing Machines.-R. H.

























 ientid The combination of the tubular hande, A , slididing rod, B, ts head, D


 manherodeaderibeding Machine.-George R. Weber, Springfield,














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 8 specifoc.
 ${ }_{20}$, Tie disk, C, havingradiating channels formed

 the bag 1n themanner here n descriod and siown.








 88 , 245 . WHEL FOR VEHICLEs. - R. J. Bowman, Mans-



 Evarts (asignors to Bradey and fubbard), West Meriden, Conn.
 83, 247 - Cigar Machine.-Richard A. Bright, Jr., Provi-











 combination with a draw head of a car coupling.
$83,253 .-H A D N D$
STMMP. - N. C. Chamberlain, Boston, Mass.



 of the type whe ses, as specitied.
83,554 .-W ASHING MACHINE.--C. F. Chambers, Hutsonville





 arranged a sherein deseribed and set forth


 $83,258$. . - Seat Lock for Carriages.-Wm. Conway, Rush

 sumstand


 and described.
83,202.- SA wivg MAcrive.-R. B. De Bare, Philadelphia, Pa
 83,263.- BEE House.-Chas. Decker, New Michigan, Ill.



83,264,-APraratus for Boiling Eqgs.-Ira Dimock, Flo-




 $83,265$. Ice-Cream Freezer. - James Dooling, Boston,





 as described. ing the iee tank and contents upon a carritage movingon rails,
in combinition
in with stationary driving mechanism, operating suustantially



 for the six?ze subtantially as described.
 co, substantially as described
88,268 . WATER CHARER FOR PUMPS.-Thomas Dutton,

 stantially as shown and described.
$88,269 .-B U G A Y$ TOP FATENiNG.-Daniel S. Early, Hum-









 , Pa.




(te purposes et forth. Mercantile Books.-John H. Gleim, St.
 and for the purposes get forth.-S. A. Good win. Buffalo, N. Y






 aganist the tree in which the insect ts are found, as herein shown and de - , Compown York city. for Destroying Insects. - Martin








 I ditcin, Enyland ${ }^{\text {ase }}$ or wapper made from a blank, formed and folded as


 83,286.-WINDow BLIND.-Wm. Johnston, Cincinnati, Ohio.



83,,887.- WHip Socker.- John Julien, Christiansburg, as-

83,288.-DUMPING PLATFORM.-S. C. Kenaga, Kankakee, III.


 purpose set forth,
 Iewartiche oweanuusature.
nem,291- STEP LADDER.-M. C. Longacre, Cleveiand, Ohio.


 under or lastic rollers, arranged in the mortises, as described.
83,293.-BUTTON HOLE CUTTER.-A. J. Lytle, West Union,



 purpose set forth





















 and arranged to operate as described.





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 shall inter vene between the e priphery or the base and the sides of the boil
asand for the purpes se torthe
83,308 . $M$ EAT CUTER
 as described, or the purpose of hol ding the kni ves of a meat cult
83,30.-CoNENSER- William Pelan, Pooria, Ill.







 83,310.-Ironing Table.-James T. Piercy, Martinsburg,
 83,311. - Pulverizing Land Roller. - Frederick Post,
 83,312.- FANNING MILL.-James P. Preston, Monroe, Wis.
 83,313.-Fruit Dryer.-J. Walter Pyne, Danville, Ill.
 83,314.-Corn Shelling Machine.--Joshua S. Rackham,

 sa, The eomponation, witat the cylinder, H, and shell, B, of the screen and
fan blower, subustatatily as auid tor the purpose described. 83,315.-STRaw Cutter.-Ellery P. Ralph, and James Han-








 Sinatity andeeriber B .-John Jay Rea, Cadiz, Ohio.

















 $83,324--\operatorname{SAWNG}$ MAchine




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 sintantill azspocited. Upton Stansbury, Plymoutt, Ind.













 83,340 Silfilil For Cori lianter. R. T. Taylor, Ever-



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cribed






 1 Mhart on. Astovilie. Tenn
 83. 3it.-Machine for Bending Sheet Metal.-A. W



 stand
 83 349. Latre Cruck. D. E. Whiton, Weet Stafford, Conn.
 83,350 .-Extension Table.- F. R. Wolfinger and Joseph






 and





## Reissues.

53,291.-Car Coupling.-J. J. Gest, Cincinnati, Ohio Dated









 21,034.-SEED Plantrer.-J. H. Thomas \& P. P. Mast, Spring-
 and
 5, 10. RING Fur Ring And Thaveler Spinvivg Machive


 74,871.-Cosmetic.-. J. M. Wilson, Seguin, Texas. Dated


74.169. - BaLlasting Vessels.-J. B. Stoner, Leopold Men
delisonan Theonore crimmelin, New York cty, assignees of J.B.Stoner





## DESIGN.

3,212.-Clock Case.-Karl Muller (assignor to Nicholas Mul-
ler), New York city.

## Inventions Patented in England by Americans

ompiled from the "Journal of the Commissioners or Patents."
PBOVISIONAL PROTECTION FOR BIX MONTHS.
2,680-Apparates for Prpzcting arrial Propulsion.-Jobn Hunter
 2,694.-Cettina Nipprrs.- - Nathan Thompson,Brooklyn, N.Y. Aug.31, 1868. 2.704.-Loom - George Crompton, Worcestrf, Mass. Sept. ., 1868. 2,774.-Stram Beilerr.-Joseph Nason, New Yorb city. Sept, 9, 1868. 2,780- - PUMP - James Wilson, Bridgeport. Conn,, and Chas. F. Mudge





 New endicines or medical compounds, and useful mixtures of all kinds, are
palen able
When the inventinn consists of a $m$ edicine or compound, or a new article

 specificition the orignal patent 18 invalid. .provided the errurhas arisen
from inadvertence, accident, or mistake, without any frauuulent or deceptive
 ents of the taw, as in orig nal applications.

Intertpronces. -When each of two or more persongclaime to be first in-
ventor of the same thing, an 1 Int ritereece is declared between them. and a


Ca veats.-A Caveat glves a limited but immediate protection, andis par-
cul arly useful where the invention is not fully completed, or the model is


 Quick caneneweo on payment of $\$ 10$ a yearfor as long a period as desired




