

Recent American and Foreign Patents.

Under this heading we shall publish weekly notes of some of the more prominent home and foreign patents.

LAST.—Nathan M. Rosinsky, of New York city.—This invention consists in attaching the heels of such shoes as are known in the trade as turn shoes to the soles before attaching the uppers, and in afterwards securing the uppers, either in whole or around the heel only, by headed nails driven from the side which becomes the inside of the shoe after it is turned; whereby the soles are secured very firmly, as the nails have heads at one side and are riveted at the other by being driven against a metal last; or long nails are used at the heel, so as to fasten it from both ways. Besides fastening the soles better, the nails will not hurt the feet, as they are likely to do in the ordinary method.

SPINNING WHEEL.—James Cochran, Jr. of Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.—This invention provides an improved method of support and fastening for a hand spinning machine, by which it may be adjusted on the edge of a table in positions for the operator to either stand or sit, the same clamp answering in either case.

HOPPER FOR BAG HOLDERS.—Warren Wasson and George W. Dungan, of Genoa, Nevada.—This invention consists in the construction of grain hoppers for bag fillers and other apparatus, of rawhide or leather stretched on a wire or other frame; the rawhide or leather is in one piece and formed in the shape of a common wood hopper within the frame, and is provided with a hole at the center of the bottom for the escape of the grain. The hopper is coated with waterproof paint and varnish, so as to make a smooth hard surface and protect it against moisture.

FEED CUTTER.—Samuel Holl, of Reading, Pa., assignor to himself and Jacob Holl, of same place.—This invention relates to an improvement in the class of feed cutters wherein the cutter has a compound or planetary motion. In the present arrangement the cutting is effected by a circular or disk knife, which by means of suitable gearing is not only rotated on its iron shaft but is carried round the main shaft by an arm; it is so adjusted that it passes before the feed rollers and does its work as it descends. The invention also consists in a modified arrangement of the feeding apparatus.

PEANUT PICKER.—Samuel C. Fewell and George Baars, of Beardstown, Tenn.—The first part of this invention relates to breaking off or picking the nuts from the plants by means of two cylindrical rollers which are so arranged, in close proximity but not in actual contact, that when revolved in opposite directions they fasten upon and force between them the soft and yielding plants, but cannot so fasten upon and pass the nuts. The second part relates to the final separation of the nuts from the plants after they are picked off by means of two carrier belts, which are so arranged, one above the other, that the upper belt receives the denuded plants, as they come from the picking rollers, and carries and discharges them at a remote point, while the lower belt receives the nuts at the same time, and carries and discharges them at a point less remote in the machine. The third part relates to cleaning the nuts from dust, leaves, or broken stems by means of an inverted fan, by the action of which the nuts, in falling into the chute that discharges them from the machine, are exposed to a strong current of wind.

ELEVATOR BRAKE.—Theodore Thorn, of St. Clair, Pa.—This invention is an improvement in the class of brake attachments for elevators wherein wedges are employed, and it consists in the construction following: The brakes are connected by flat steel springs, by means of which they are also forced apart and made to operate. To the centers of the springs are attached rods which are connected with the central lifting block, so as to be drawn up in the centers, and the brake blocks draw up to the corners. Should the supporting chain break, the released springs would straighten themselves and force the brake blocks against the corners of the frame, where they would become safely wedged by the weight of the car.

BRIDGE.—John Johnson, of Mott Haven, N. Y.—This invention furnishes an improved mode of building arched bridges and other arched structures, which is simple, convenient, and effective, and enables an arch of any desired span to be formed without previously constructing a form or guide frame; it consists in supporting the arch in process of construction by two or more pairs of suspended cables, and in combining with the main arch a secondary one, the blocks of which are formed with tenons which interlock with the crossbeams of the main arch.

LATH MACHINE.—Samuel M. Palmer, of Glen's Falls, N. Y.—This invention furnishes an improved lath machine, which is simple, convenient and effective. It is so constructed as to bring the machine fully under the control of the operator, so that he can easily regulate the rapidity of the feed without stopping the machine, and instantly stop the feed when desired.

TUMBLER FOR POLISHING FORKS, ETC.—Hilon Bump, of Wallingford, Vt., and Alexander H. Ritchie, of New York city.—This invention furnishes an improved tumbler for polishing forks, etc., which is so constructed as to furnish no cracks or crevices for the points of the forks to catch in and be broken, thus protecting the manufacturer against the loss from breakage in polishing in tumblers constructed in the ordinary manner; it consists in grinding the ends of the tumbler barrel and the main hole cover to their respective seats so as to form perfectly close joints.

SEED AND GUANO DISTRIBUTOR.—William J. West, Greenville, S. C.—The invention consists in providing a seeder hopper with a pendulum swinging shoe, whereby the grain and guano are held until said shoe is tilted, shaken and caused to distribute it; in providing the shoe with a leather or other tube placed centrally at the conveyer end so as to place the seed always in the middle of the furrow; and in a plumb, so placed as to enable the operator always to know when he has the shoe at the proper inclination. This machine is manufactured by the firm of Gower, Cox and Markley, Greenville, S. C.

BAG HOLDER.—Thomas Jefferson Trapp, Williamsport, Pa.—The invention consists in providing a bag holder with a shank tapering on the rear side so as to throw the mouth of the bag on a decline toward the front, and with an auxiliary stem guide; in providing the jointed arms with edge flanges so that one arm may slide within the other, with ratchet and pawl to hold them at different degrees of expansion; and, finally, in providing the pawl with a flanged holder that raises from and lets down the pawl into the ratchet.

MACHINE FOR PICKING AND CLEANING HAIR, WOOL, COTTON, ETC.—David M. Varney, Burlington, Vt.—The invention consists in a combination of the ordinary feeding bands of pickers, and a set of radial arms provided with movable comb pickers—said pickers being advanced and retracted by an eccentric groove so as to draw toward the center pickers at each revolution to clear themselves. It also consists in providing two perforated disks and a hood to create a current of air in the direction of rotation of the pickers, for the purpose of blowing out refuse, dust, etc.

PARLOR COOKING STOVE.—Edward M. Deey, of New York city.—This improvement consists of a modification of the base burning open fire heating stove patented by the same inventor February 9, 1871, whereby it may be converted into a parlor heating and cooking stove. The modification consists, first, in converting the principal portion of the body of the stove into ovens, and in an arrangement of flues and dampers therefor suitably applying the heat at will; also for utilizing the ovens for air heaters. Second, in an adaptation of the magazine so that it is readily removed and its seat converted into a cooking top; third, in a pot-heating attachment to the horizontal part of the pipe behind the stove; and fourth, in the construction of the top plate for heating pots and other cooking utensils.

BLACKSMITHS' TONGS.—John Woodville, of Washington, Ind.—This invention relates in part to constructing blacksmiths' tongs with transversely notched jaws, one of which is bifurcated or grooved to receive the other, by which means they are adapted to hold rods or bars in a peculiarly efficient manner. It also consists of a sectional handle which is so contrived that, by shifting one section forward and backward on the other, the outer end taken in the hand may be adjusted, relatively to the other handle, as needed for holding thick or thin pieces between the jaws.

BRICK MACHINE.—Wm. F. O'Reilly, Starkville, Miss.—The invention consists in operating two pug mills, an intermediate press, and a mold supplier and discharger by the same operative mechanism, whereby bricks may be made in the most effective and workmanlike manner and at a reduced cost.

BEES HIVE.—Wirt F. Cunningham, of Middletown, Ky.—This invention furnishes an improved bee hive, which is so constructed as to facilitate the various operations of attending the bees, watching their condition, removing the comb, keeping out moths, etc. It consists more especially in closing and opening the front side of the base by means of a triangular roller which is pivoted within it.

COMBINED EXTENSION SKID AND LADDER.—Emanuel B. Field, of Yonkers, N. Y.—This invention furnishes an improved extension skid by means of which barrels of flour and other heavy articles are conveniently carried up a flight of stairs to an upper floor or down a flight of stairs to the basement; it may also be adjusted for use as an extension ladder for the use of firemen, carpenters, masons, and others. It is made in two lengths, one of which is made to extend along and beyond the other, and is held securely in any position by means of pawls and ratchet bars. Various improvements enter into its construction, including a sliding carriage and windlass to operate it.

AXLE.—Charles Ahrenbeck, of Navasota, Texas.—This invention furnishes an improved iron axle for wagons and other vehicles which is stronger without being heavier than iron axles made in the ordinary manner; it consists in so forking a bar of the ordinary weight that the metal is upset, or forced from each end toward the point where the collar is swaged out of the same bar; by which means the weight and strength of the metal thus condensed is thrown on the points of greatest strain. The bottom edge of the journal is made oblique instead of horizontal, so as to allow the lubricating oil to flow back along it.

COMBINATION LOCK.—William A. Kerr, of Williamsport, Pa.—This invention relates to improvements in combination locks, and it consists in a novel arrangement of adjusting apparatus for setting a set of combination disks for locking and preventing the withdrawal of the bolt after it has been shot. It also consists in an application to the disks of an apparatus for returning them to the true position if they are disarranged after being turned away from the locking position and left in positions indicated by the letters of the word representing the combination on which it is locked. The readjusting apparatus is also applicable for use in changing the combination. This invention produces a lock that cannot be picked or easily blown up by powder, and which, if blown up, destroys the means of moving the bolt and leaves it unmoved.

APPARATUS FOR HINGING HOGS.—Patrick Kenny, of Chicago, Ill.—This invention furnishes an improved mode and apparatus for singeing hogs to remove the bristles, hair, and other matters from the carcass preparatory to dressing it, and it consists in providing a number of furnaces arranged in a circle so as to leave a space between them for the carcass of the hog. In the inner sides of the furnaces are formed holes through which the flames are driven by a fan blower and made to impinge on the carcass. The carcass is introduced and removed in any convenient manner.

MEDICAL COMPOUND FOR HEALING WOUNDS, ETC.—Nicholas W. Gaddy, of Nichols, S. C.—This invention and discovery relate to a new and useful compound to be used as medicine for the cure of diseases, and to be applied externally for healing wounds and sores on man and beast; it consists in the distilled sap of pine, strained, clarified, and suitably prepared for use.

ELEVATOR BELT TIGHTENER.—William Merson, of Danbury, Conn.—This invention furnishes an improved device for tightening an elevator belt and holding it until laced, and it enables the ends of the elevator belt to be drawn together and laced by a single person. To the belt, near one end, is bolted a small plate or lug, to which is attached one end of a short rope, the other end of which is attached to a short shaft which is passed through holes in the sides of the elevator case, and the ends of which project and are squared off to receive a crank. The other end of the belt is secured to the case by screws. By this arrangement, by turning the crank the cord is wound upon the shaft and the belt is tightened. The crank is then reversed so that its handle rests against the case and holds the shaft from turning back while the lacing is being done. When the lace has been secured the devices detached, and the holes in which the shaft works are closed by caps.

FURNACE GRATE BAR.—William H. Settle, of Louisville, Ky.—This invention furnishes an improved grate bar which is so constructed that the slice bar or poker cannot strike against the sides of the separations and break the bar, while at the same time provision is made to protect the bar from the injurious effects of unequal expansion and contraction; it consists in making the bar of a peculiar form by which the poker or slicer is made to glance off instead of striking the bar.

WASHING MACHINE.—John C. Chase, of Monticello, Minn.—This invention furnishes an improved washing machine which is simple, compact, and without framework to get in the way of the person using it; it consists mainly of a large corrugated roller and four small plain ones, whose journals revolve in head blocks; the journals from the large one and arms from the head block rest in notches on the upper part of the two. The peculiarity of the construction allows the small rollers to be conveniently unshipped when desired, and also adjusted in any desired position, according to the work to be done. Some of them may be used as wringers while the others are doing the washing.

SOLDERING APPARATUS.—Jacob Gulden, of Keyport, N. J.—This invention relates to a new apparatus for soldering the bottoms of tin cans to the sides of the same, and more particularly to the application to such an apparatus of the heat from gas flames, so that the process can be rapidly carried on by hand. It consists in the application to a metallic table of inclined soldering platforms with circular recesses and made of metal, which are heated by gas from beneath.

INSTRUMENT FOR PLUGGING TEETH.—Christopher S. Longstreet, of New York city.—This invention provides an improved dentist's plugger, the details of the construction of which would not be understood from a verbal description. Among the various improvements effected are an arrangement for regulating the weight of the blow struck and a provision for lubricating the shaft journal, etc.

TRACTION ENGINE.—William H. H. Heydrick, of Chestnut Hill, Pa.—The invention relates to improvements in traction engines or the propelling mechanism for steam plows, and it consists in an arrangement of devices for connecting the front axle with the frame or platform in a simple and efficient manner so as to admit of supporting the platform on a spring placed on the axle, and for confining the axle without the use of a king bolt passing through it, while allowing it the free universal oscillation needed for traveling over uneven ground. An oscillating plate and a housing are pivoted to the under side of the platform and also, at the lower side, to two strong braces. The axle lies across and within the housing, and between it and the top wall of the same, which is immediately under the plate, an india rubber spring is placed.

SHOE FASTENING.—Charles A. Rolfe, of Utica, N. Y.—This invention provides an improved mode of securing the buttons to ladies', misses', and children's boots or gaiters, and consists in an additional strap which runs the whole length of the fastening on the inside of the boot; a metallic clasp is secured to the strap where each button is to come by bending projecting portions off round the strap. A wire staple with the bottom attached is passed through the boot and through holes in the clasp, after which the ends are bent down into the clasp by means of suitably formed pliers.

DOOR SPRING.—James Losee, of Peekskill, N. Y., assignor to himself and Joseph L. Cook, of same place.—This invention furnishes an improvement in the class of springs which are arranged vertically or parallel to the hinges of the door and which have a torsional action; it consists in the employment of a rubber cylinder, a spindle, a notched disk, a curved connecting arm or rod, and a screw, which are so arranged that the degree of torsion and longitudinal compression of the cylinder is governed by adjusting the disk and screw. By the construction, as the door is opened the rubber cylinder is both compressed and twisted, so as, when the door is released, to close the door by the elasticity of the rubber. The upward pressure of the rubber also tends to support the door, thus relieving the hinges and preventing the door from sagging.

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