

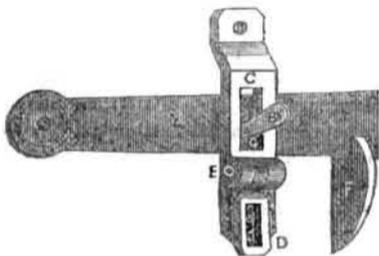


**New Inventions.**

**Improved Iron Bedstead.**

Mr. James Collins, of South Boston, Mass., is the inventor of a beautiful iron bedstead, which should command attention and come into general use. It is made of hollow taper iron tubes and the parts are attached to one another by peculiar dove-tail joints, so that the bedstead can be taken down and put up again in a few minutes. The same principle upon which these bedsteads are constructed can be applied to the manufacture of all kinds of furniture, which can be made plain or ornamental as desired. Owing to the parts being made hollow, the bedstead or other furniture can be made very light—much lighter than wood, for this form combines the greatest strength with the least weight of metal. There can be no doubt but iron bedsteads will yet supersede all others, as they should do, and Mr. Collins' (who is a machinist at Mr. Coney's) possesses merits which should arrest the attention of those desiring to invest money in a manufacture which will yet become very extensive.

**Morris' Patent Combined Latch and Lock.**



This very ingenious and simple improvement is designed for securing doors in a very convenient, safe and permanent manner, dispensing with the bolt now used in addition to the ordinary latch. There has been presented to the public a device for a similar purpose, but found impracticable. This simple apparatus is formed by inserting in the latch a metal pin, which works up and down in a slot in the strap, said strap is secured to the door in a similar manner of the ordinary door strap, to confine the latch thereto. The following is a description of the above cut:—A, Latch; B, catch or pin on latch A; C, strap with a slot G, for catch B, to work in; D hasp, which being thrown up over catch B, permanently secures latch A; E, joint in which the hasp D works; F, catch to hold latch A; H, strap with slot.

Extensive arrangements have been made for the manufacture and sale of this Patent Latch, for which a *Premium* was awarded by the American Institute at their late Fair. All orders and communications addressed to Messrs. Engelbrecht & Eddy, No. 132 Nassau st. New York, sole proprietors for the United States, will receive prompt attention. The price for this improvement will not exceed \$1 50, per doz.

**Munger's Yankee Turbine Wheel.**

We have been informed that Mr. Hiram Munger, of Manchester, N. H. has made some very important improvements on his Water Turbine Wheel, which has been pronounced by those who have used it to be most excellent, from its real practical results, the only test of its merits. He can drive one wheel according to the supply of water, from three to one hundred horse power. These kinds of wheels are coming more and more into general use, and we have frequent enquiries respecting their size, power, &c. Those who desire more information about them, will receive the same cheerfully by addressing Mr. Munger, post paid, who has made arrangements to sell rights at a very reasonable price.

We notice in a foreign exchange that a machine has been invented to make spectacles. It is said to perfect them glass and all, but we doubt this.

**Instantaneous Alarm.**

The Rev. Charles Brooks of Boston, has communicated to the American Academy of Arts and Science three plans—one by which the hours of time may be struck, at the same instant, on every public bell of the city, and in every private dwelling; another, by which the alarm of fire may be given at the same moment, throughout the city, and the place of the fire indicated at each of the engine-

houses simultaneously. A third plan is one by which all the lamps in the streets may be lighted or extinguished together, at any given moment.

We have seen the same plans proposed before, and in respect to the clock alarm, it is not a new invention. We should like to see the latter plan carried out, and if it is a practicable invention why should it not be adopted at once.

**BANVARD'S PANORAMA.---Figure 1.**



We here present an engraving of the machinery employed by the renowned artist Banvard in operating his wonderful Panorama of the Mississippi. The mechanical devices employed are very simple but answer the purpose in a most admirable manner. The canvass is wound upon one large vertical roller while it is being unrolled from the other.— This is done by bevel gearing A and B. As there is a great extent of canvass spread at once, which being painted is very heavy, it is very important to hold it up between the rollers and prevent it from what is technically termed *sagging*. To accomplish this object well, there is a cross beam erected in which there are set a double row of pulleys C C C. The manner in which this is done will be better understood, however, by examining fig. 2, which is an end section. A, is a beam running along above B B, in which the pulleys C C, are erected. These two pulleys C C, are fixed in B B, so as to receive the panorama canvass between them—therefore the edge of the canvass is only seen in this view. On

FIG. 2.

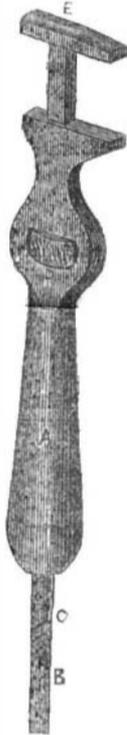


the upper edge or it may be called "a sel-vage," there is sewed a thick cord or small rope D, and as this rope rests on part of both the pulleys—running along the tops of the whole of them in the like manner—the canvass is rolled up along the whole length of the line without any sensible dropping of it at one place more than another. This is a very ingenious way to hold up the canvass and yet allow it to be wound freely on the large rollers.

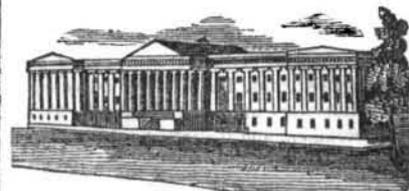
The distinguished artist is now in the Old World, and in the capital of the British empire he has been treated with that consideration which has so uniformly distinguished the English people in respect to American artists. The Panorama of the Mississippi has had an astonishing effect upon all classes in London. The most of the English people think that our Western country is nothing but a wild-man-of-the-woods region, and no doubt but many places on the Mississippi are wild enough, but Banvard's panorama presents many scenes where the poet might indulge his fancy and the lover of the picturesque sight to

behold in reality. We hope that Mr. Banvard's success will be commensurate with the greatness of his Panorama, which is the largest ever exhibited.

**Combined Wrench and Screw Driver.**



This is a very neat and useful tool, for machinists and especially tentors in factories, who are obliged to carry a wrench always in the pocket. It is simply a wrench such as we have before described in the Scientific American combined with a screw driver, or it may be combined in the same manner with other tools fitted for that purpose. A is the handle, D, is a screw nut with an interior thread worked by the thumb which raises or lowers E, the upper jaw of the wrench, by the rack of the same which extends through the nut. B is the screw driver. It is made with a round head and passes into a circular recess cast in the end of the handle. This recess has a small groove cut in one side of it extending upwards and another crosswise. These grooves are for the purpose of retaining the screw driver in the handle by a spring C, with a nib on the inner end of it which fits into the cross groove, and the spring itself which answers the purpose of a feather in the other groove, thus serving to keep the driver firm and snug in the handle. This tool is manufactured by and secured to J. O. Lewis Worcester, Mass. There is nothing that facilitates work more than a good handy tool and nothing keeps a mechanic in better temper. We therefore think that this tool will soon be universally introduced as its very simplicity proclaims its utility.



**LIST OF PATENTS**

ISSUED FROM THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,

For the week ending Dec. 5, 1848.

To Daniel Cushing, of Aurora, Ill., for improvement in Harvesting Machines. Patented Nov. 21\*, 1848.

To Horatio N. Barrow, of East Windsor, Conn. for improved composition for the Pastel Vat to be used in Dyeing. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To George Emerson, of Dyersville, R. I. for Machine for Grinding Card Teeth. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To Oliver Allen, of Norwich, Conn., for an improved Gun Harpoon. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To M. A. B. Cook, of Boston, Mass. for improvement in Smoothing Irons. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To J. T. Foster and R. L. Bailey, of New York City, for improved Rock Driller. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To Abraham Bassford, of New York City, for improved Cushion for Billiard Tables.— Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To Lyman King, assignee of James M. Cook, of Taunton, Mass., for improvement in Car Wheels. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To U. E. Bleecker and S. D. Vose, of Albany, N. Y. for improvement in Stove Flues.— Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To George E. Waring, of Stamford, Conn., for improvement in Plates for Boiler Holes in Cooking Stoves. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To E. E. Hawley, of Middletown, Conn., for improvement in Hand Cultivators. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To Alexander Bain, of London, England, for improvement in copying surfaces by Electricity. Patented in England May 27, 1843, in America Dec. 5, 1848.

To Henry Ruttan, of Cobourg, Canada, for improvement in Warming and Ventilating Buildings. Patented in England June 23, 1848, in America Dec. 5, 1848.

**DESIGNS.**

To Isaac T. Baker, assignor to Cornelius & Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., for Design for Furniture Ornaments. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

To John P. Rathbone, of Albany, N. Y. for Design for Stoves. Patented Dec. 5, 1848.

\* This patent was delayed in the issue on account of one of the claims being contested, but now removed.

**INVENTOR'S CLAIMS.**

We have concluded to publish no more of the Patent Claims, as we are not able to keep up with the date of the patents granted, without occupying too much of our space. Those of our subscribers, who wish to know the claim of any patent granted during each current year will be furnished with the same if they desire. Those who wish to get claims for patents prior to the current year, will be furnished with the same by a reasonable compensation for our trouble.

**Rock Drilling Machine.**

It will be seen by our list of Patents that Messrs. Foster and Bailey of this city have been granted a patent for their valuable machine for drilling rocks. This Machine has justly been pronounced the best portable rock driller ever constructed. Its mechanical construction for drilling underground in mines, is the most perfect of any that ever has come under our notice, and this is the opinion of all who have seen it operate. Messrs. Foster & Bailey can receive their Letters Patent by calling at this office.

It is reported that Commodore Parker and Commanders Dupont, Buchanan and Barrow, of the Navy, have received furloughs from the Department, for the purpose of proceeding to Europe, to organize the new Navy recently created by the Federal German government.