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Rail Road News.

Railroad Hand-Car.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser states that Mr. Mattice, of that city, has invented a new hand-car for railroads, which will be likely to supersede those now in use. It is so constructed that it can be packed away in the shape of a large trunk or box, and thus rendered easily portable and capable of being put in readiness for service in a few minutes. The part which composes the body of the car, is closed with hinges, and thus becomes the box into which the wheels and other parts are placed for carriage. It is, withal, light easily worked, and capable of being driven at a high speed. Its great utility will be that it can be carried in a baggage car, and made available in cases of accident at a distance from stations.

Iron Sleepers.

The Engineer of the South Eastern Railway, England, has laid iron sleepers, instead of wooden ones on a portion of that line and expects that the greater durability of the iron will render it a cheaper material than wood. The experiments constantly going on in this country and in others, in the construction of railroads, are very interesting, and we should be glad if some of our correspondents, practically acquainted with the working of the longitudinal sill, and the wood and stone sleepers, would give us the result of their investigations.

Railroad City Improvements.

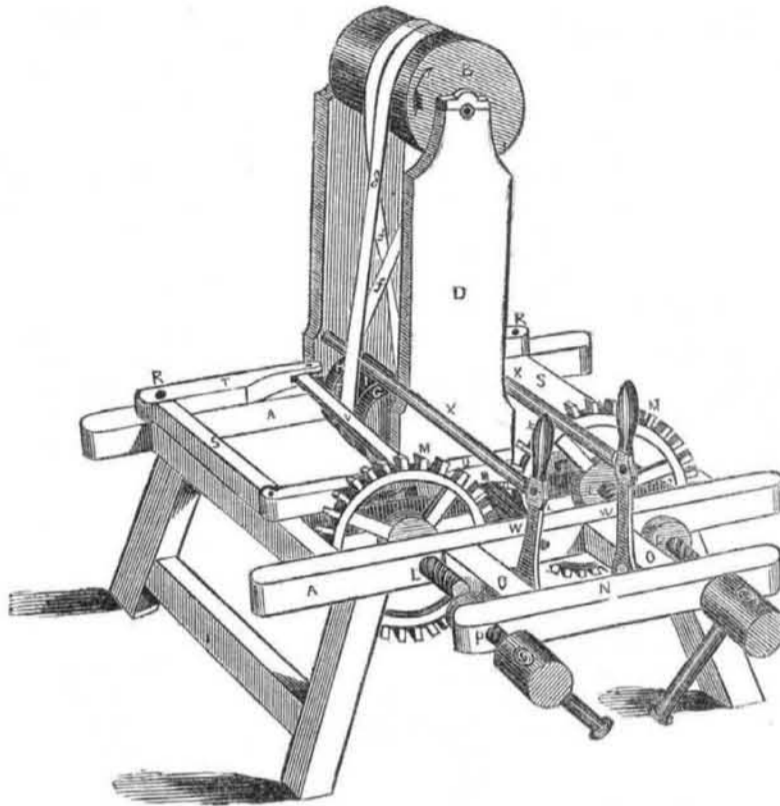
The Erie Railroad Company are making a great improvement on their dock at the foot of Duane street, this City, being no less than roofing it over the whole breadth, which is about seventy-five feet, and for nearly two hundred feet of its length, for the accommodation of the large trade which is there transacted in produce brought down by the Erie Railroad.—The amount of Business done in that way is exceedingly large.

Important Railroad Law Decision.

A passenger on the Eastern Counties railway England, instituted legal proceedings against that company for damages, from their not running their trains in conformity with their regular printed official time tables. He recovered damages to the amount of 12s 4d., the Court ruling that the time tables were of the nature of a public contract, and any deviation from them rendered the company liable.

Mr. Thaddeus Hyatt, a well known inventor of this city, proposes a new form of Rail and Car Wheel for City Railwaying, on the ground that the present Rail and Flanged-wheel, were designed for high velocities and the checks which they present are unnecessary at the limited speed allowed to cars in cities. He proposes a fluted wheel and rail to match, of such size and curve, as to offer no obstruction whatever. He also proposes a double track in the centre of the street, each track to be 2½ feet wide, with one foot space between the tracks, thus occupying but 6 feet in all.—His plans will shortly be made public.

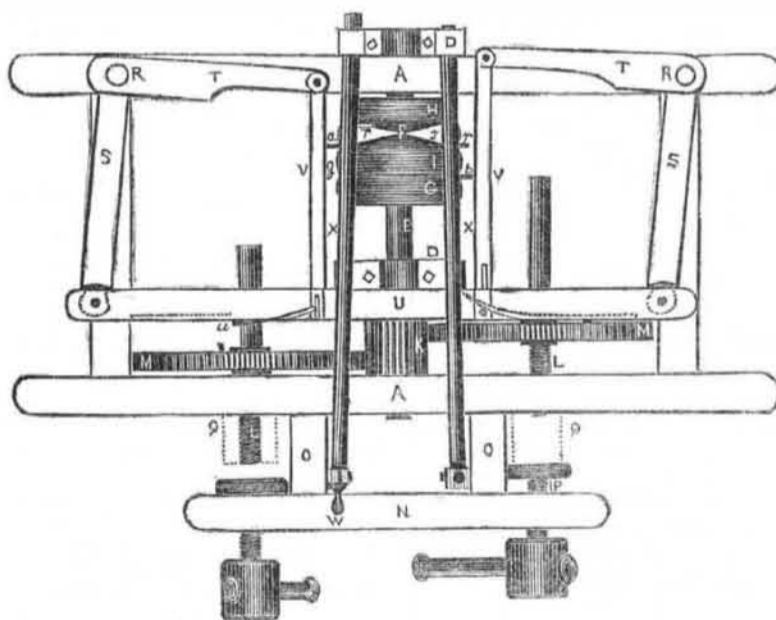
HALL'S MACHINERY FOR BORING BED POSTS.—Fig. 1.



This apparatus is the invention of Mr. Anson A. Hall, of Gibson, in the County of Susquehanna, Pa. This machine has two hollow augurs, one having a right handed thread and the other a left handed thread, fitted in two bearings, one a hollow cylinder bush, and the other a female screw, in which the screw augur itself works. Each augur has a toothed wheel on the axis, gearing into a pinion on a revolving shaft parallel to both augurs, which causes both augurs to revolve in the same direction, but while one is running forward, the other is running backward.

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and fig. 2 is a top view, with the top pulley removed. The same letters refer to like parts. A A are parallel beams, mounted upon legs, constituting

Figure 2.



the frame. B is the drum or driving pulley. D are upright supports firmly secured to the frame, E, fig. 2, is a shaft which carries two fast pulleys, G F, and two loose pulleys, H I; K is a pinion on it also. L L are hollow screw augurs, the backs of which are cylindrical shafts, carrying the toothed wheels, M M. The screws parts of the augurs work in female screws through the bearing, A, and the back part of the screws, at the back, work in bushings. The cog wheels, M, gear into the pinion, K. N is a bench-bar, secured in front by the cross ties, O O. P P are clamp screws working into female screws in the bar, N, and are employed to secure the bed posts against the front bar, A, while being cut. Q Q (fig. 2), represent the posts.

ger at r, for leading the belt, g, from the loose pulley, I, to the fast pulley, G. The crossed belt, f, is represented on the fast pulley, F, and the belt, g, on the loose pulley, I, consequently the shaft, E, rotates in an opposite direction to that of the pulley, B, as shown by the arrow, fig. 1. The augur is represented entering the post Q, at the right hand, and the left hand one as being withdrawn—its vice screw being slackened. It is therefore a self-acting machine, shifting its own belts on the pulleys, to move the one augur forward, and withdraw the other, alternately. This machine only requires one person to attend it, and it will cut three hundred sets of screws in twelve hours.

The inventor has taken measures to secure a patent. Any information on business will, by letters, p. p., be obtained from him, if addressed to his residence, mentioned above.

Useful Receipts.

To Select Turkeys and Chickens.

Take with a small head, bright eyes, tapering neck, full breast, straight back, plump oval-shaped body, with legs of moderate length. The signs of a good chicken are a plump breast, a thick, fat and flexible rump, and fatness under the wings. Old fowls should be boiled; the young may be either boiled or roasted, though the hen is preferred for boiling, and the cock for roasting. White flesh is preferable, though some think that a yellow-skinned chicken makes the most delicate roast.

Of the different varieties of the turkey, those of white plumage are considered the most delicate and tender. The signs of a good turkey are fullness of the muscles on the breast, thickness of the rump, the existence of fat under the wings, and flexibility of the hinder part of the breast bone.

Peeling and Boiling Potatoes.

The loss of the most nutritious portion of the potato is incurred by peeling off the rind and parts directly underneath, as in those the nitrogenized matter, but no starch, chiefly reside, which are dissolved by cold water and coagulated by water while boiling. If potatoes, therefore are thrown into cold water, and heated, much of their nitrogenized principle will be extracted before the water reaches the point of ebullition; whereas if it be made to boil before they are introduced, the coagulation will cause the matters to be retained within the tissue of the vegetables lying contiguous to the rind.

The best way to cook potatoes, is to steam them, an old iron pot with a close lid and a little water, will do the business.

Use of Corn Cobs for Cattle Feed.

It is stated that if corn cobs be soaked in salt water, that cattle will eat of them readily and thrive on them as part of their food. Half a peck to an ox every morning, is about the quantity.

To Destroy Rats.

Professed rat catchers in England use the following compound, and so affected are rats by this perfume that they can be taken by the hand with impunity.

Powdered Assafœtida	1-4 Grain,
Oil of Aniseed	1 Drachm,
Essential Oil of Lavender	1 Scruple,
Essential Oil of Rhodium	3 Drachms,

Mix this compound and spread it on the bait in the trap.

Corned Beef and Cabbage.

The Edinburgh Review says the cabbage contains more muscle sustaining nutriment than any other vegetable whatever. Boiled cabbage and corned beef make fifty-two as good dinners in twelvemonths as a man can eat.