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Rail Road News.

Distressing Accident on the Central, Pa., Railroad.

On Thursday, the 3rd inst., the passenger train of cars on the Central Railroad, while coming from the West, came in collision with a burden train above Petersburg, Perry county. Mr. Hurtz Heisley, an assistant engineer on the road, was so severely injured that he died in a short time. Mr. Hall, engineer of the locomotive and Mr. Hand, conductor, were also badly hurt.

Railroad Robbery.

On the night of the 3rd inst., as Mr. Warden the depot master at West Townsends, on the Fitchburgh Railroad, was sitting in the office, two men, disguised, entered, gagged him, and robbed him of \$400. They then bound him hand and foot, put him inside of a freight car, hung him by the heels, locked the car-door and decamped. When found about an hour afterwards, Mr. W. was nearly dead.

Tearing up a Railroad.

A few weeks ago, a company of some seventy-five residents on the line of the Pontiac Railroad, in Detroit, turned out and tore up a portion of the rails, for the purpose of preventing the cars from passing into the city. Several were arrested, and gave as a reason that the road is a nuisance, because it obstructs the highway.

Rise of Railroad Fares.

A number of the Massachusetts Railroads have raised their fares. They must have tested the utility of high and low prices. The Boston and Worcester Railroad, after the 1st inst., commenced to charge 2½ cents per mile, and 3 cents between way stations. The Old Colony Road has also raised its fare to 3 cents per mile. This is at the rate of \$3 per hundred miles.

Mohawk and Schenectady Railroad.

The Mohawk and Schenectady Railroad made 3½ per cent. dividend, payable on the 20th January. This result of skillful and economical management must be gratifying to the stockholders. Not long since this stock was selling at 30 per cent., now it is worth 90.

Our Own City.

New York City has a larger population than either of the States of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Vermont, or Michigan. It has fully the population of New Jersey. It has more than the three States of Arkansas, Florida, and Texas, together. It also has more population than the States of Rhode Island, Iowa, and Delaware, added with that of Oregon territory.

The Jews have obtained a firman from the Turkish Government to admit of their building a temple on Mount Zion, which they pray may equal in splendor that built by King Solomon.

The Steamship Crescent City, while on her recent voyage to Chagres, broke the cross rail of her engine.

NEW SMUT MACHINE.

Figures 1.

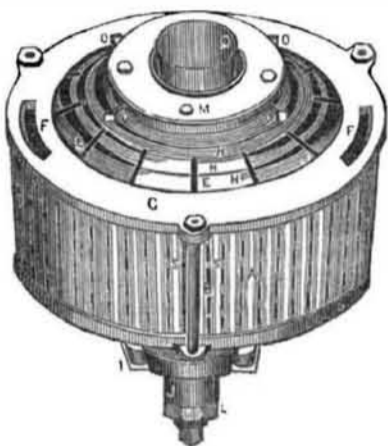
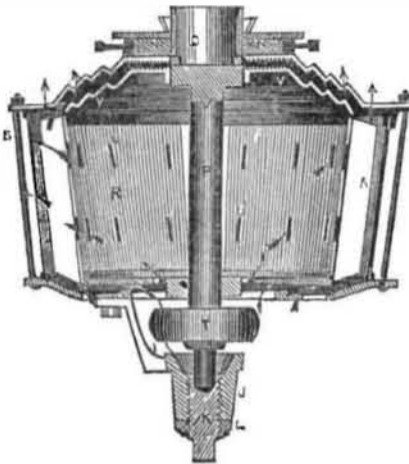


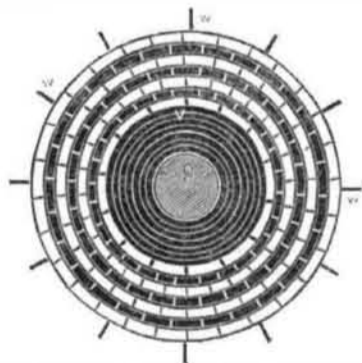
Figure 2.



This machine is the invention of Mr. C. D. Gordon, of West Martinsburg, and Mr. S. S. Gouldthrite, of Lowville, Lewis Co., N. Y., who have taken measures to secure a patent. The machine is very neat and beautiful in its construction, and combines good principles for effective operation.

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Figure 2 is a vertical section, showing the inside; and figure 3 is a top view of the corrugated scouring surface. The same letters refer to like parts. A is an outside circular screen (with perforations, S S) which may be made of tin or sheet iron; C and D are top and bottom metal plates, with a groove in each, around, into which the edge of the screen, A, is set, and they are secured together by screw rods, B, fastened by nuts in the flanges of the two circular plates. The top plate, C, is the cover. Figure 3 shows its interior form; Q is a hopper into which the grain is carried by a spout, from any situation. This hopper is like a cup in the centre of the machine, and it revolves. It is therefore secured on the top of an upright shaft, P, to which is connected an air chamber, R, (fig. 2) which is made with fans on its outside, indicated by W W, fig. 3. These fans revolve between the outer screen, A, and

FIG. 3.



the inside revolving chamber, R, to act the part of a blower. The inside revolving chamber has slits, U U, in it to allow the wind to pass through to separate the smut, &c., and drive it through the perforations in the screen,

Dress in Japan.

The Island of Japan is said to be the only country where a change in the fashion of dress has not occurred during a period of 2,500 years. All individuals, from the highest to the lowest, wear the *bata*, a species of wide frock, or gown, and the only difference is in the material and number worn—some of the richer class wear as many as twenty-five, of various colors, and of exceedingly light texture. We have very little knowledge concerning the resources, manners and customs of the Japanese.

S. also through the large slits, F, and the smaller slits, E E, in the cover. There are openings at the sides in the bottom of the hopper, Q, and through these openings the uncleaned grain passes into the rubbing or scouring chamber, which is formed between the cover, A, and the metal top of the revolving chamber (fig. 2.) The inside of the cover and the top of the revolving chamber are formed alike, of a stair form, as represented by H H, fig. 1, and V V, figures 2 and 3, are scouring grooves, which direct the grain from the hopper, outwards, between the stair formed chamber, wherein the grain is scoured round and round, breaking the balls, before the grain is directed into the annular chamber, between the outer screen, and the revolving air chamber, R, where it falls down into a receptacle below, meeting a strong current of air, when all the smut is entirely driven out through the perforated screen, and the wheat beautifully cleaned. By observing the form of the inside of the cover, and the form of the top of the revolving air chamber, in figures 2 and 3, a good idea of the scouring and cleaning operation of the machine will be obtained. The arrows indicate the direction of the blast. The air enters through holes in the bottom plate of the revolving chamber, which chamber being secured on the spindle, P, is driven by a band (from any power) passing around the pulley, T, (fig. 2.) The spindle, P, runs in a proper screw step bearing, K, with an oil cup on its top, and L is a nut. J is a collar, and from it two arms, I (one not seen) support the bottom fixed plate, D. On the top is a steadying collar, M, around the revolving hopper. It is secured on the top of the cover, C; by vertical screws, and has side setting screws, O O, fig. 1, passing into an armed plumbing socket, N N, (fig. 2.) The larger impurities are driven through the larger slits at the top, and the finer impurities through the screen.

By the foregoing a very correct knowledge of the construction and operation of this excellent machine will be obtained—and further information about business matters, may be obtained by letter (p. p.) addressed to the inventors.

By the late Report of the U. S. Treasurer, our exports for the last year amounted to \$145,755,820, and out of this Great Britain and her dependencies took \$84,000,000. Our commercial interests are stronger with one nation than all the world beside.

There is a rumor that the British Ministers intend, in the coming session, to prove their sincerity in the matter of sanitary reform and in that of education, by abolishing the health-destroying window tax, and the mind duties on paper.

Useful Receipts.

The Chlorides of Gold.

Great difficulty has hitherto occurred in preparing the chloride of gold, of the yellow and red colours, perfectly soluble in water, and without suffering reduction. The following process are recommended for this purpose:—

1st. In order to prepare the yellow salt of gold, take aqua regia prepared with three parts of hydrochloric acid, one part of nitric acid, and one of distilled water. Then put one part of pure gold into a porcelain capsule with a plate of glass and heat it in a salt-water bath, the heat being continued till red vapours cease; the cover is then to be removed, and if the gold is not entirely dissolved some aqua regia is to be added to it, the capsule being again covered, the heat is to be continued till vapour ceases to appear; the glass plate must be removed and replaced by folds of blotting paper, the heat being continued in the bath, until a glass rod, upon being immersed in the capsule, becomes covered with yellow solid chloride of gold.

The capsule is then to be removed from the salt-water bath, and the chloride of gold soon crystallizes in small prismatic crystals, of a fine yellow colour, with an orange tint. The chloride thus obtained is perfectly soluble in water without reduction; it is successfully employed in daguerreotype and like operations.

The red chloride of gold (res-chloride) is prepared in the same manner, except that the aqua regia employed is prepared with two parts of hydro-chloric, and one part of nitric acid. The operation is commenced by acting upon salt with excess of aqua regia on a sand bath, the salt water bath not being used until the gold is entirely dissolved; the remainder of the operation is conducted in the same manner as that for the yellow chloride.

Cochin China Fowls.

The most remarkable specimen of barn-yard fowl, in this country, are undoubtedly the "Cochin China." Not long since we saw some of them grown by B. Tiffany, Esq., of Southbridge, Mass. a gentleman of peculiar taste and experience in all that relates to good farms, stock, and general farming appendages. He represents them as possessing excellent properties for the table, prolific layers, and uncommon in their attention to the young. They have another and quite important advantage over the common barn-yard fowl, and that is nature, in bestowing upon them their physical capacities, (which in all other respects they stand pre-eminent) saw fit to clip their wings, thus saving the poulterer the trouble of performing the operation. A common picket-fence is good against their encroachments.

It has been stated that one egg of the pure Cochin China Fowl, of the Baylie's importation, contains nearly as much nutritious matter as two eggs of the Black Poland or Golden Pheasant Fowl, and is consequently much richer, better flavored and more valuable.—Something depends probably upon the way in which they are kept.

Parsneps.

This is a most valuable root for feeding animals, and should be cultivated more extensively than it is. It stands severe frost well, and is easy of cultivation.

A Salt Spring, 3 inches in diameter, 600 feet deep, and yielding 300 bushels of salt per day, has been discovered in Mercer county, Va., about six miles from the Red Sulphur Springs.

This present Congress is going to reform the Patent Laws, it is supposed.