

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"T. S. M., of Pa."—We admit the justice of your criticism, and have only this excuse to make—that the error was not discovered until it was late to correct it; nor can we explain how it could have passed through the hands of the editor, compositor and proof-reader, without its glaring inconsistency being noticed. There is no doubt, however, that the Water Melon was a mighty large one, and well proportioned, according to the laws which nature has established for the growth of her fruits.

"G. W., of Mass."—We cannot furnish you with No. 35, Vol. 4, not having any more of that No. on hand.

"S. B. C., of Ohio"—Can not be supplied with No. 1, Vol. 4, as we have not got it.

"D. C., of Ill."—The department is some months behind; the expense of an engraving, description, &c, would be about \$10, giving two or three sectional views of the apparatus.

"A. J. B., of Detroit."—We do not think the plan of sufficient utility to merit much attention; and, besides, we have seen the same thing in a model presented to us some six weeks since, but did not think very highly of it. Persons soliciting information of publishers, should be very particular to pay postage, as it comes rather hard, to be compelled to both give advice and pay for the opportunity also,—it is like working for nothing and finding yourself, or in fact worse. As a general thing we pay no attention to unpaid letters addressed to us.

"R. P., of Mass."—We did not very well understand your communication, but in regard to the agency of your pianoforte legs, we can reply that we do not take any such agency, nor do we know of any one that would do so.

"J. M. G., of O."—There are patent machines of the kind mentioned but we do not know where they are to be found.

"H. B. W., of Charleston, S. C."—Can be furnished with Vols. 3 and 4, of this paper, bound, for \$2.75 per copy.

"T. A. C., of R. I."—Your first suggestion cannot be attended to, but we shall be pleased to attend to the others, as they correspond exactly with what we had already contemplated doing, although we have but little hope of our effects being successful.

"E. P. S., of Pa."—The notice you speak of was sent you by mistake. You will receive yours to the time you name.

"E. F., of N. Y."—Your device has been tried, heretofore—there seems to be no manner of applying it without destroying that convenience which renders the present safe so admirably adapted to the wants of the business community.

"C. O. R., of Mass."—We answered your previous communication in No. 1 of this Vol. Copal varnish, blackened with lamp black and applied to the articles, after which dry them well in an oven. Overhaul Vol. 4, and you will find a note on this subject.

"G. M., of N. Y."—Naphtha is used for that purpose, and also turpentine. We prefer this method of replying to your inquiries over the one you propose, as more useful and less liable to "exceptions."

"D. J. S., of N. Y. city."—Your remarks in regard to propellers have been considered; we are under the impression that the ideas are not new. This point is better determined from a drawing or model, which we shall be pleased to examine.

"S. W., of Texas."—We have been unable to find such a work as Mr. D. wants.

"D. P. of R. I."—We presume that you could see the paper-folding machine in Springfield, although the inventor spends a portion of his time in the large cities exhibiting the model. Several experiments have been made to obviate the difficulties referred to in the last paragraph of your communication, all of which have proved too expensive for general use. Your plan is, no doubt new, but we think you would scarcely be remunerated for your trouble in introducing it.

"W. R., of Detroit."—Your favor came safe—we regret that we cannot send you No. 2 of Vol. 4; we have been out of that number for a long time.

"M. B. H., of N. Y."—You say that if you "increase the size of the pinion on the line shaft, to decrease the speed one half, and then add another shaft with spur gearing to the same speed per minute as before," do you "gain any power, and how much?" There is no gain, but loss—the increased friction on the spur gearing is all loss, for no purpose. This is self-evident; mind the maxim—without decrease of speed there will be no increase of power.

"F. G. R., of Mass."—Yours has been received and will be attended to as early as possible. We are very much hurried with business.

"J. S. Y., of Mass."—We are ready and willing to answer your communications at any and all times, but beg of you to remember that "brevity is the soul of wit," which very just saying is as applicable to business communications as any other. We think your device is patentable, but it is too complicated—simplicity being the grand desideratum in all machines, at least in so far as it is compatible with the object to be attained.

"C. O. P., of N. C."—You had better send your model to Washington and have it expressed by packet to our address.

"S. W., of Mass."—Your letter of the 20th has been received and the back numbers forwarded to your address. We should like to comply with your views in relation to patent claims, but as a general thing it would injure two inventors where it benefitted one. If we did not know this to be the case, we should adopt the system.

"J. O. F., of Pa."—We have four 3 horse engines complete, with cylinder boilers, for sale at \$300, 10 inch stroke and 4 1-4 inch bore, well made in every particular.

"J. H., of N. Y."—Such a glass as you refer to will cost you \$5, if the focus be 18 inches; 26 or 30 inch focus \$16. You perceive that a little difference in size makes a great difference in price. These glasses are warranted to be such as you describe.

"L. & I., of Boston."—The specification and drawings of your valuable invention were forwarded to the Patent Office last Tuesday. An engraving of the invention published, with a description in the Scientific American, would cost you \$8, and it would be money well expended for you. It is a good invention, and you only need to get it before the public to have it appreciated.

Z. C. L., of Mass.; A. P., of N. Y.; J. B., of Va., and E. B. R., of Vt.—The specifications of your inventions have been sent to your address for signatures since our last issue.—Please execute your papers and return them back to this office as early as possible, and they will receive our further attention.

Money received on account of Patent Office business, since Sep. 18, 1849:—

T. S. B., of N. Y., \$20; I. S., of Mich, \$30; H. A. F., of Mass. \$10; C. N. F., of Ct., \$20; Z. C. L., of Mass., \$20.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

**THE YANKEE BLADE.**—A large and handsomely printed Weekly Journal, devoted to Literature, Art, Education, Morals, Criticism, Fun, News and Story Telling—and especially desirable to the Family Circle. Published every Saturday, at \$2 per annum, in advance.

All letters, (post-paid,) should be addressed to MATHEWS, STEVENS & CO., Publishers "Yankee Blade," No. 12 Schoolstreet, Boston, Mass. N. B.—Any person desirous of receiving a copy of the Yankee Blade, as a sample, can be accommodated by notifying the publishers by letter, post-paid.

**OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.**  
"The Yankee Blade" one of the very best papers on this continent, still remains under the editorial control of Wm. Mathews, Esq., a gentleman of rare accomplishments. The Blade is published at \$2 per annum, on a large and elegant sheet.—[N. Y. Spirit of the Times.]

An excellent paper, which, under the management of the able editor, Wm. Mathews, has acquired an enviable reputation as a Family Newspaper.—[Boston Mercantile Journal.]

"THE YANKEE BLADE."—This most excellent paper has entered upon the ninth volume, with the same degree of interest and usefulness that has characterized it since the commencement. It is one of the most useful and interesting papers received at this office, and is read with more avidity than any other exchange. We take pleasure in recommending it to those who wish to subscribe for an Eastern paper.—[Delphi (Indiana) Times.]

"THE YANKEE BLADE."—This favorite and much admired newspaper is filled as usual with sparkling wit and humor; long may it flourish and prosper, driving away dull care from the gloomy-minded, and infusing a spirit of cheerfulness and pleasure among its numerous readers. It is published in Boston at \$2 per annum, and to the lovers of light literature and original humor we can recommend it as one of the best papers in the North.—[Grenada (Miss.) Repub.]

Patent Agency.

From our long acquaintance and experience in Patent Office business we have no hesitancy in asserting that we are better able to judge the merits of new inventions, and are better capable of advising upon all subjects pertaining to Patents than any other concern in the United States.

Any business connected with the Patent Office may be done by letter through the Scientific American office with the same facility and certainty as though the inventor applied in person. Our prices too (another important consideration to inventors) are but about half as much as the charges of most agents, as the amount of business which we do, and that in connection with the publication of the Scientific American renders to us superior advantages over all other agents.

Having been often complimented by those who have entrusted their business in our care, we here repeat what very many have said: "The best Patent Agency in the U. States is at the Scientific American office."

All models, drawings or communications sent to the Scientific American office for inspection, are deposited from the eyes of the public until the necessary application for securing the invention has been made.

The best of artists are constantly employed to make drawings from models, and our corps of specification writers are composed of gentlemen formerly connected with the Patent Office at Washington as examiners. All communications should be addressed to

MUNN & CO., Scientific American Office, Post Paid. (d16) New York.

**DAGUERRIAN MATERIALS.**—JOHN ROACH, Optician, 79 Nassau st., N. Y., is manufacturing American Cameras of imported Flint Glass, which are warranted equal to any. Also, on hand, Voightlander Cameras. Plates, Cases, Chemicals, &c; Galvanic Batteries for gilding and silvering. Electro Magnetic Machines for medical purposes. Thermometers wholesale and retail. Object Glasses of various sizes, ground to order and warranted achromatic. 2 10\*

**LITERARY "CORNER STONE."**—Once possessed of a work so able, copious, and scientifically constructed, as WEBSTER'S QUARTO DICTIONARY, one discovers a hundred benefits previously unthought of. Old uses and new uses, and disuses and abuses,—old terms, and new terms, and the history of the rise and progress of terms,—together with apt citations, pointed and sparkling,—with other benefits I need not attempt to enumerate,—combine to make him feel the work a desideratum—to lay it as a corner stone in his library. Or rather—since corner stones are not often disturbed—as a janitor—a librarian,—ever at his post, ready to converse on whatever topic is at hand. CHARLES BEECHER. Published by G. & C. MERRIAM, Springfield, Mass., and for sale by all Booksellers. 2 2\*

**LAW'S NEW PLANING MACHINE.**—For boards and plank, is now in operation in this city—planing, tonguing and grooving at the same time, with rapidity and beauty. It is believed to be superior to any other machine, as it will do the work of two or three rotary machines, and for all Southern, and the majority of Northern lumber, the execution is much better. Machines, with rights for States, or Counties, can be had by applying to the subscriber, at 216 Pearl street, or at Collyer & Dugand's mill, foot of West Fourteenth street, where the machine is at work. 2 tf H. LAW.

**DANIELS' PLANING MACHINES.**—Manufactured by BALL & RICE, successors to Thomas E. Daniels, Worcester, Mass. All orders promptly attended to, and at such prices as cannot fail to give satisfaction to all who may favor us with their business. 2 3m\*

**STEAM ENGINES FOR SALE.**—A number of Steam Engines, of one, three and five horse power, will be sold cheap, at No. 2 Bethune st., N. Y. They are all made of the best materials, compact, and well put together, and can be seen running. This affords a good opportunity to those who wish to purchase. Address J. WILEY, as above. 2 3\*

**THOMAS E. DANIELS' PLANING MACHINES.**—Manufactured by HOWE, CHENEY & CO., Worcester, Mass. All orders for the above machines executed at short notice and satisfactory prices. 2 4m\*

**TO PAPER MANUFACTURERS.**—A gentleman who has bred a Papermaker, and who has carried on the business 10 years himself, and for the last 4 years has been engaged as foreman for a large manufacturer in Massachusetts, is thoroughly acquainted with manufacturing all kinds of paper, and with all the modern improvements, and can produce the best of reference, wishes for a situation as foreman in a papermill, in one of the Southern or Western States. A line addressed to L. A. FLETCHER, Lowell, Mass., will receive prompt attention. 1 4t\*

**PHILOSOPHICAL AND CHEMICAL APPARATUS** for Colleges and Schools, and Engineering Instruments.—JAMES GREEN, 175 Broadway, New York, and 43 South street, Baltimore, Manufacturer and Importer of every kind of Philosophical and Chemical Apparatus, and Optical and Mathematical Instruments, Barometers, thermometers, telescopes, Drawing Instruments, pocket Compasses, &c. wholesale and retail. Experimental Apparatus and Models made to order. 1 3m\*

**MACHINERY.**—Messrs. NORCROSS & CO., Agents for the purchase and sale of Machinery, have transferred their business to the subscriber, who offers his services in said line at 43 Fulton street, New York. SAMUEL C. HILLS, Machinery Agent. 1 4t

**S. C. HILLS, NO. 43 FULTON STREET,** has constantly for sale—Steam Engine 3 to 30 horse power, at from \$200 to \$250—good horizontal engines—deliverable here or in Philadelphia. Steam Boilers for the same, say Bentley's patent, or common cylinder, at lowest prices. Engine Lathes 5 feet \$170; 7 feet \$180; 10 feet \$200 each, with gear for cutting screws, \$45 additional. Iron Planing Machines, to work by hand, \$100.—Also hand Lathes, Drills, &c. The above Machinery will be warranted. Letters must be post paid. all 8t

**GUN FOR SALE.**—A fine sporting Shot Gun, of English manufacture and of superior finish, for sale at this office. It belongs to one of the proprietors of this paper and will be sold for \$25; it is nearly new and cost \$50. Address "Scientific American." Z. C. ROBBINS, CONSULTING ENGINEER AND COUNSELLOR FOR PATENTERS. Office on F street, opposite Patent Office, Washington, D. C. j20 tf

**SUPERIOR TURNING LATHES.**—JAMES Stewart, 15 Canal st., and 100 Elm st. is constantly manufacturing and has now on hand between 50 and 60 superior Lathes of the following descriptions and at reasonable prices, namely: Dentist's Lathes, very highly finished. common, Brass and Wood Turner's Lathes. Jeweller's and pencil-case maker's, very superior. J. STEWART is also authorized to act as agent for the sale of the celebrated Lathes manufactured by James T. Perkins of Hudson, of large size and at prices from \$250 to \$800. A specimen of this description may be seen at his factory as above. j27 tf

**TO MANUFACTURERS OR CAPITALISTS ABOUT TO COMMENCE THE MANUFACTURE OF COTTONS.**—The subscriber, brought up with Messrs. Samuel & Jno. Slater, at operating and building cotton machinery, and for the last twenty years has travelled through several of the United States, setting up and building, on the most approved plans of modern invention, now offers his services as Superintendent, and is ready to introduce a new system, greatly reducing the cost of manufacture, and at the same time making better goods than ever was in the market. Please direct, postpaid, to G. W. HOWARD, 228 Eddy street, Providence, L. I. 49 2m\*

**FAIRMAN'S PATENT UNIVERSAL CHUCK, FOR LATHES.**—Oliver Snow & Co.'s Hand Planing Machines, also Lathes for dentists, Jeweller's, Wood Turners, &c. Lathe Wheels, Hacks, Hooks and Eyes, Circular Saws, Saw Mandrills and every other description of Tools for Machinists, Carpenters, Coachmakers, &c., constantly on hand at WOOD'S old established Tool store, corner of Chatham and Duane streets, New York. Planes made to order and warranted. Carpenters' and amateurs' Tool Chests, &c. 49 3m\*

**BRITISH PATENTS.**—Messrs. Robertson & Co., Patent Solicitors, (of which firm Mr. J. C. Robertson, the Editor of the Mechanics Magazine from its commencement in 1833, is principal partner,) undertake THE PROCURATION OF PATENTS, for England, Scotland, Ireland, and all other European Countries, and the transaction, generally, of all business relating to patents. Instructions to Inventors can be had gratis, on application to Mr. THOMAS PROSSER, 25 Platt street, New York; as also the necessary forms of Petition and Declaration for British Patents.

PATENT OFFICE, 166 Fleet street, London. ml tf

**JOHNSON'S IMPROVED SHINGLE MACHINE.**—The subscriber having received letters patent for an improvement in the Shingle Machine, is now ready to furnish them at short notice, and he would request all those who want a good machine for sawing shingles, to call on him and examine the improvements he has made, as one-eighth more shingles can be sawed in the same given time than by any other machine now in use. Manufactured at Augusta Maine, and Albany, New York. J. G. JOHNSON. Augusta, Me., Oct. 28, 1848. o28 1y

**LAP WELDED WROUGHT IRON Tubes,** for Tubular Boilers, from 1 1-2 to 8 inches in diameter.—These are the only Tubes of the same quality and manufacture as those so extensively used in England, Scotland, France, and Germany, for Locomotive, Marine and other Steam Engine Boilers. THOMAS PROSSER, Patentee, 25 Platt street, New York. ml

**TO INVENTORS.**—The subscriber begs leave to inform inventors and others that he manufactures working models of machinery &c. in a neat workmanlike manner. Patterns of every description made for Castings. Scroll sawing neatly executed.—Mathematical and Nautical Instrument Cases of every description. JOSEPH PECKOVER, 240 Water street N. York, (between Beekman st. and Park Slip.) j30 3m\*

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**DOG POWER MACHINERY.**—For Sale, three fine Newfoundland Dogs, trained in the most complete order, they require no tying in, but obey the commands of their master; likewise the Drum, 10 feet in diameter, which is all put together with bolts and screws, and can be taken to pieces and packed in a small compass. To farmers for churning, pumping water, cutting straw, &c., or for any light mechanical purposes, this is a rare chance, a full description of which is given in the Scientific American, No. 8, Vol. 4. For particulars apply, if by letter, pp. to JOSE. PECKOVER, 240 Water street. 50 4\*

**DEE'S AMERICAN CAST STEEL** Works, (at the foot of 24th st., E. River, N. Y.) The above works are now in successful operation, and the proprietor would respectfully call the attention of machinists and all consumers of the article to an examination of his Steel, which he is warranted by the testimony of the principal machinists and edge tool makers of this city, in recommending as fully equal in every respect to any ever used in this country. A full assortment of the different sizes constantly on hand, which the public are respectfully invited to call and examine at the office of DANIEL ADEE, 51 6ms 107 Fulton street, New York.

**BLAKE'S PATENT FIRE PROOF PAINT,** from Ohio, which in a few moments turns to slate or stone, protecting whatever covered from the action of the weather and from fire. Purchasers should be particular and see that every barrel is marked "Blake's Patent Fire Proof Paint," as there is any amount of worthless counterfeit stuff in the market, called fire proof paint. The genuine article for sale by the patentee, at No. 3 Broad st. N. York. 51 12\* WILLIAM BLAKE.

**NOTICE.** The Second EXHIBITION of the MARYLAND INSTITUTE for the Mechanic Arts, will be held at Washington Hall, in the City of Baltimore, from Thursday, 27th of September, to 18th October, inclusive. Machines, models, or specimens to the address of H. Hazelhurst, Corresponding Secretary of the Institute, (expense paid) will be met with immediate attention, and every facility used to exhibit the same to the best advantage. j16 4m

**MACHINERY, &c., FOR CLOTH AND OTHER MANUFACTURERS.**—One shearing Machine, with extra spiral and iron frame, two yards wide, made by R. Ralston, Glasgow. 1 Power Loom, 1 Card cutting machine, 1 crumpling ditto, 1 Jacquard ditto; also Reeds, Shutles, Press Boards, &c., for sale low, by J. C. ERNESTUSCH, 1 Pine street, near Broadway. 50 \*

**BARLOW & PAYNE,** Patent Agents and Consulting Engineers, 89 Chancery Lane London ml2 tf Patent Journal Office.