

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A. C. of La."—If a letter be written over with a solution of the sulphate of iron, the writing will be invisible; but if it be afterwards rubbed over by a feather, dipped in a solution of prussiate of potass, it will appear of a beautiful color: it is called sympathetic ink.

"C. A. R. of Miss."—Among the earliest writers upon the subject of physiognomy may be mentioned Aristotle and Admantius. It has since been discussed in connection with craniology by Hudd, Camper, Kent, Porta, Blumenbach, Fowlers, and by Dr. Gall, of Vienna, the originator of the latter. The science is not generally understood, but it is full of interest. Messrs. Fowlers & Wells, of this city, have for sale all the works devoted to the subject.

"J. E. of Ohio."—The lathe you refer to is not suitable for turning bed posts. The work would be too large for the dies used in it.

"J. P. E., of Pa."—We do not know where the apparatus you want can be obtained in Philadelphia. It can be had upon application to W. B. Leonard, 66 Beaver street, this city, agent for the Mattawan Co.

"J. W. A. of N. H."—Your question is answered in the negative.

"I. C. S., of N. Y."—A patent was granted in 1846, for the device claimed by you. It was noticed in the Commissioner's report for that year.

"J. H. C., of Pa."—The mere application of the machine to the purpose described by you, could not be patented, for the reason that you have invented nothing. If you have so modified it that a substantial novelty is produced, you can patent the improvement. A principle secured by patent, cannot be applied to another purpose by a second party without infringement. You do not claim to have invented any new principle in the machine.

"B. M. of Mass."—We see nothing patentable in your method of making fence. A claim could not be sustained on the principle of screwing the rails into the posts, or the application of springs for holding them in their proper place. Both are devices well known, and their immediate application to this purpose would not become the subject matter of a patent.

"S. C., of Ohio."—You are certainly entitled to a patent on your machine if it is such an improvement as you describe. It is difficult for us to say whether the government would adopt it or not. If it facilitates this branch of their service, they ought to by all means. They are not always ready to encourage the inventor, especially in a matter of decided practical utility. If you have friends clothed with dazzling authority, you might succeed in getting \$20,000. This is all Dr. Page got, and really it seems a small sum to expend on results of such magnitude as have been presented. How lucky some persons seem to be in making Uncle Sam "shell out."

"R. C. J., of Del."—Caveat papers cannot be withdrawn from the Patent Office, nor undergo any attention after they have been filed. You can send in additional papers, the right to notice expiring at the same time as the original papers.

"A. H., of Pa."—Mr. Humphrey charges \$2 for his work upon daguerreotyping. He has left a few copies with us to sell, which can be sent by mail.

"G. L. F. B., of Me."—We do not believe a patent could be secured, because rollers are now used for lessening the friction of running chains, and every body has a right to use them for that purpose, if they choose, no matter what the chain may be used for.

"A. D. B. of Geo."—Your two letters have come to hand. The engravings are in progress—but they will not be ready in time to return by Mr. Hutchings.

"J. S. of Phila."—The model and funds referred to came safe—and the business will come up very soon.

"G. W. B. of Phila."—We cannot see how a patent could be refused for your discovery for certainly it is both new and useful. Specimens of the iron made without and with your process must be sent to the patent office if you apply for a patent.

"H. L. E. of Pa."—Your statement is all correct; the notice was put in probably by mistake, when we are sending five or six thousand at one time.

"J. H. C. of Ill."—There is a Meat Safe patented, named "Kepharts." Your composition is good and has long been known and used. You could not get a patent and you don't infringe on any.

"R. B. of Vt."—Your improvement we believe is patentable. The first thing to be done in making application for a patent, is to get a neat small model to show the invention. From this the drawings and specification will be made by us.

"J. C. B., of N. H."—Masons and carpenters are not predominated laborers, though they labor. Three weeks ago we could have given you all the information you desire. If you direct a letter "Chief Engineer of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad," at Baltimore, it will find him.

"T. B., of N. Y."—You will discover by experiment, that all the extra power you may gain, will not counterbalance the extra expense. We don't wish you to go to unnecessary expense.

Money received on account of Patent Office business, since August 22, 1850:—

E. S., of Me., \$30; D. B., of N. Y., \$60; A. J. C., of Pa., \$35; E. A. S., of Mass., \$25, and R. A. G., of Pa., \$20.

Now is Your Time.

Those desiring to secure Volume 5 but have delayed subscribing, are advised to remit \$2 without delay or they. We have a few incomplete sets of Volume 4, containing each about 40 numbers, which will be forwarded by mail on the receipt of one dollar. Those of our subscribers whose term for which they have pre-paid expires with Volume 5, and who design renewing their subscription to Volume 6, will accommodate the publishers by remitting their money before the new Volume commences.

Patent Claims.

Persons desiring the claims of any invention which has been patented within fourteen years can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office; stating the name of the patentee, and the year the patent was granted (adding the month of the year when convenient), and enclosing one dollar as fees for copying.

Important Notice to us!

Whenever any of our friends order numbers they have missed—we shall always send them, if we have them on hand. We make this statement to save much time and trouble, to which we are subjected in replying, when the numbers called for cannot be supplied.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Terms of Advertising.

One square of 8 lines, 50 cents for each insertion.  
 " 12 lines, 75 cts., " "  
 " 16 lines, \$1.00 " "  
 Advertisements should not exceed 16 lines, and cuts cannot be inserted in connection with them for any price.

**PATENT METALIC OIL FOR MACHINERY**—Warranted not to gum. Manufactured under Cumberland Brothers patent (April 6th 1849), by C. E. de la Vergne & Co., Elizabethport, N. J. Transparent metallic, adapted to light bearings, spindles, &c., will last a quarter longer than pure sperm. For burning will be found superior. Fluid White Metallic, of the consistence of cream, to be used without wick and tube, adapted to the oiling of engines, shaftings, &c. will last twice as long as pure sperm oil. Hard White Metallic, to be used instead of tallow, will last three times as long; when used in cylinders, the packing must be renewed. Blue Metallic grease, prepared for greasing the inside of boilers when thoroughly cleaned, that the scale which afterwards collects may be removed with one third the usual time and expense. It is also adapted to the greasing of cog wheels; and for the axels of vehicles it has been found to last more than four times as long as any grease ever used for that purpose.  
 KENNEDY & GELSTON, Sole Agents,  
 50 3m No. 8 Pine st. New York.

**BURR MILL STONES.**—We have made arrangements which will enable us to supply all kinds of French Burr, Holland and Esopus Millstones of the best material and manufacture, at the lowest prices. Burr Mill Stones made to order and warranted to be of the best quality; Burr Blocks for sale.—Orders addressed to MUNN & CO., post-paid, at this Office, will meet with prompt attention. 41tf

**PATENT SELF-ADJUSTING WRENCH.**—The Subscriber having obtained Letters Patent on his improved Self-adjusting Wrench desirous to sell rights or arrange with some manufacturer to furnish his Wrench to the trade. Address ADAM HAY, 14 Allen st., Newark, N. J., post-paid. 50 4\*

Patent Office.

128 FULTON ST.

**NOTICE TO INVENTORS.**—Inventors and others requiring protection by United States Letters Patent, are informed that all business relating to the procurement of letters patent, or filing caveats, is transacted at the Scientific American Office, with the utmost economy and despatch. Drawings of all kinds executed on the most reasonable terms. Messrs. Munn & Co. can be consulted at all times in regard to Patent business, at their office, and such advice rendered as will enable inventors to adopt the safest means for securing their rights.

Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Barlow and Payne, Patent Attorneys, in London, for procuring Letters Patent in Great Britain and France, with great facility and despatch.

MUNN & CO.,  
 128 Fultonstreet, New York.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PATENT AGENCY.

**WE WOULD** remind our numerous friends throughout the country, that we still continue to conduct the business of procuring Letters Patent for new inventions in this and all foreign countries, where the right is recognized. Since making arrangements with those eminent attorneys, Messrs. Barlow, Payne & Parken, Editors of the London Patent Journal, we have secured and managed through them, several foreign applications, with the utmost economy and facility. Inventors and others, desiring advice upon this subject, can correspond confidentially with the Editors of this paper.

PATENT ROCK DRILLING MACHINE

The celebrated Rock Drilling Machine, invented by Messrs. Foster & Bailey, of this city, and described with an engraving on page 153 of Vol. 3 of the Scientific American; is now offered for sale in rights to suit purchasers. The machine has been thoroughly tested upon all kinds of rock, and its superiority over every other drilling machine that has yet been invented, must be apparent to everyone who has had experience in using machines for this purpose. A silver medal was awarded to the inventors by the American Institute, and while it was exhibiting at the Fair for a few days, it attracted crowds to witness its simple but successful operation. A model of the machine, with the "Silver Medal," may be seen at the Scientific American Office, and all letters of enquiry concerning the purchase of rights may be addressed, (post-paid) to MUNN & CO.

P. S.—A valid patent is secured on the above, and the public are cautioned not to infringe the claims. Patent Rights for sale for any State, county, or section, and working drawings furnished to the purchaser. 47tf

A LIST OF VALUABLE SCIENTIFIC AND MECHANICAL BOOKS.

FOR SALE AT THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN OFFICE.

Ranlett's Architecture, 2 Vols. bound,	\$12.00
Minifie's Drawing Book,	3.00
"Scientific American," Vol. 4, 40 Nos., unbound,	1.00
scription	3.00
Scribner's Mechanics, Tuck, Gilt,	1.25
Treatise on Marine and Naval Architecture,—	
published monthly, 12 Nos., each	.75
Leonard's Mechanical Principles,	1.50
Mahan's Civil Engineering,	3.00
Morfit's Chemical Manipulations,	2.50
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Wood Bridges, Viaducts, &c., of the United	
State's Railroads. Published monthly in parts	
to be completed in 12 parts. Parts 1, 2, 3, 4,	
5, 6, and 7 now ready, each	.75
N. B. This work is supplied to subscribers only.	
Graefenberg Manual of Health, (noticed in No.	
41), an excellent work, bound, 76cts., unbound,	.50
N. B. The latter sent by mail.	
Foot's Counterfeit Detector, a new and enlarged	
edition, with glass, mailable.	1.00

PROSSER'S PATENT LAP-WELDED

Boiler Tubes—Diameter, Number and Length of each at date:—

Inches.	In Stock.	Afloat.
1 1-4	1221	7-0
1 1-2	105	10-6
1 3-4	10	10-6
2	226	10-0
2	746	12-0
2	941	14-0
2	1246	15-0
2	55	4-9
2	77	4-10
2 1-4	355	15-0
2 1-2	250	15-0
2 3-4	349	15-0
3	15	15-0
4	23	15-0
5	1	15-0
6	14	15-0

THOS. PROSSER & SON, Patentees,  
 August 27, 1850. 28 Platt st., New York.

**BRUSH'S IMPROVED DOUBLE-ACTING LIFT AND FORCE PUMP.**—From the increased facilities of the subscriber, he is now prepared to furnish, at a reduced price, the most effectual, powerful, durable and yet simple Lift and Force Pump in use. For a house pump, factories, breweries, railroad stations, or any other purpose where a constant stream of water is required, they cannot be surpassed. The public are cautioned against an article purporting to be Brush's Pump, but are invited to call at or address 83 Pike Slip, and get the original.  
 J. A. BRUSH, Inventor. 49 3m\*

CLOCKS FOR CHURCHES, PUBLIC

Buildings, Railroad Stations, &c.—The subscriber having made important improvements in the construction of Clocks, especially in the apparatus for counteracting the influence of the changes of temperature upon the pendulum, and in the retaining power, (which keeps the clock going while being wound up), together with a most precise method of adjusting the pendulum to correct time, are prepared to furnish time-keepers of a very superior quality, both for accuracy of time-keeping and durability. They speak with confidence, from having tested their performance for several years. The terms of payment will be so arranged as to afford purchasers ample opportunity to test their qualities. Address SHERRY & BYRAM, Oakland Works, Sag Harbor, Long Island. 40 3meow\*

TO IRON FOUNDERS, &c.

—Fine ground and bolted Sea Coal, to mix with moulding sand, an approved article ground from selected lump; Charcoal Foundry Blacking; Bolted Lehigh, Soapstone, Black Lead Foundry Facing; also Fire Clay, and Iron and Brass Founder's superior Moulding Sand, in barrels, for sale by G. O. ROBERTSON, New York. City Office 4 Liberty Place, Maiden Lane, near the Post Office. 47 4eow

**JUST ISSUED.**—A new edition of Minifie's Mechanical Drawing Book, substantially bound in paper, which can be forwarded through the mail.—Price \$3. For sale by MUNN & CO., Agents, New York. 42tf.

**WILLIAM HOVEY'S PATENT SPIRAL CYLINDER STRAW CUTTERS** are now manufactured by the Patentee, at Worcester, Mass., and not by C. Hovey & Co., their license to build and sell these celebrated machines having expired. No persons in Worcester have any right to make or sell these machines, except the patentee. All offered to the public as Hovey's Cylinder Straw Cutters may be considered spurious, unless the knives are attached to wings, cast on the cylinder, by nuts and screws, with set screws to adjust them on the cylinder. These machines are for sale in this city by John Mayher & Co., 197 Water st. WM. HOVEY, Patentee. New York, Aug. 16, 1850. 49 3\*

12 POWER PLANING MACHINES.

—**SCRANTON & PARSHLEY**, New Haven, Conn., have now finishing off 12 power Planers that will plane 3 feet long, 27 inches wide and 24 inches high; these planers are of the first quality, are self-feeding every way; the table is worked by a rack and pinion; the bed is 12 feet long. With each planer there is a spinning head and counter shaft, pulleys and hangers. They weigh about 4000 lbs.; the price, boxed and ready to ship, is \$625. Also 12 hand lathes, with back gear on iron shears, and legs 7 feet long, swing 20 inches, about 700 lbs. weight—\$75. These lathes are of the first quality. 45tf

ALCOTT'S CONCENTRIC LATHES.

—We have on hand a few of these celebrated Lathes, which the inventor informs us will execute superior work at the following rates:— Windsor Chair Legs and Pillars, 1000 per 11 hours. Rods and Rounds, 2000; Hoe Handles, 800; Fork Handles, 500; Broom Handles, 150, per 11 hours. This Lathe is capable of turning under two inches diameter, with only the trouble of changing the dies and pattern to the size required. It will turn smooth over swells or depressions of 3-4 to the inch, and work as smoothly as on a straight line, and does excellent work. Sold without frames for the low price of \$25—boxed and shipped, with directions for setting up. Address, (post paid) MUNN & CO., 14tf At this Office

TO PAINTERS AND OTHERS.

—American Anatomic Drier, Electro Chemical graining colors, Electro Negative gold size, and Chemical Oil Stove Polish. The Drier, improves in quality, by age—is adapted to all kinds of paints, and also to Printers' inks and colors. The above articles are compounded upon known chemical laws, and are submitted to the public without further comment. Manufactured and sold wholesale and retail at 114 John st., New York, and Flushing, L. I., N. Y., by QUARTERMAN & SON, Painters and Chemists 48tf

COTTON, WOOLEN AND SILK MANUFACTURERS' DEPOT.

—ANDREWS & JESUP, No. 70 Pine st., N. Y., dealers in articles for the use of Cotton, Woollen and silk manufacturers, and agents for the sale of shearing, carding, burring, napping, wool-picking, rock-cutting and waste machines, regulators, satinet and jean warps, &c. Weavers reeds and heddles, bobbins and spools, of every description, made to order. Sperm, lard and olive oils and oil soap. 40tf

TO INVENTORS.

—The subscriber wishes to purchase the whole or part of some new, useful and patentable article adapted to the use of Housekeepers. Some labor-saving machine, (except washing machine) that can be introduced into any and every family, a patented article would be preferred. As this article will be sold principally in the States of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, it will not interfere with sales in any other States. Any person having "anything new" in the housekeeping line they wish to sell will please address, (post-paid) WILLIAM BURNETT, No. 14 East Fourth st., Cincinnati Ohio. 49 4\*

CUTTING ENGINE FOR SALE.

—The subscribers have for sale a superior and handsomely finished Cutting Engine, for cutting either spur, bevel or spiral gearing, in infinite variety, from the smallest up to 5 feet in diameter, the index having 26,000 holes. The machine has been but little used, and when new cost \$700, and is supplied with iron cones, loose and tight pulleys for driving belts. Address TALLCOT & CANFIELD, 47 4\* Oswego, N. Y.

WOOD'S PATENT SHINGLE MA-

CHINES.—These excellent machines, illustrated and described in No. 23, Vol. 5, Scientific American, are offered for sale in Town, County and State Rights, or by single machines. There are three sizes, the first cuts an 18 inch shingle, price, \$100; 2nd cuts 24 inch, price \$110; 3rd, 23 inch, \$120. Orders addressed to J. D. Johnson, Redding Ridge, Conn., or to Munn & Co., "Sci. Am." Office, will meet prompt attention. The above machine can be seen in successful operation at F. R. Roach's mills, No. 133 Bank st., this city. 36tf

MACHINERY.

—S. C. HILLS, No. 12 Platt Street, N. Y., dealer in Steam Engines, Boilers, Iron Planers, Lathes, Universal Chucks, Drills, Kase's, Von Schmidt's, and other Pumps, Johnson's Shingle machines, Woodworth's, Daniel's and Law's Planing machines, Dick's Presses, Punches, and Shears; Morticing and Tenoning Machines, Belting, machinery oil; Beal's patent Cob and Corn Mills; Burr Mill, and Grindstones, Lead and Iron Pipe, &c. Letters to be noticed must be post paid. 46tf

MATTEAWAN MACHINE WORKS.

—Locomotive Engines, of every size and pattern. Also tenders, wheels, axles, and other railroad machinery. Stationary engines, boilers, &c. Arranged for driving cotton, woollen and other mill. Cotton and woollen machinery of every description, embodying all the modern improvements. Mill gearing, from probably the most extensive assortment of patterns in this line, in any section of the country. Tools, turning lathes, slabbing, planing, cutting and drilling machines. Together with all other tools required in machine shops. Apply at the Mattawan Co. Work, Fishkill Landing, N. Y., or at No. 66 Beaver st. New York City, to WILLIAM B. LEONARD, Agent. 49tf

WOODWORTH'S PLANING MACHINE

—For sale, the right to use this justly celebrated labor-saving machine in the following States, viz. Pennsylvania west of the Allegheny Mountains, Virginia west of the Blue Ridge, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. For particulars apply to the Proprietor, ELISHA BLOOMER, 304 Broadway. 45 6\*

FOREIGN PATENTS.

—PATENTS procured in GREAT BRITAIN and her colonies, also France, Belgium, Holland, &c., &c., with certainty and dispatch through special and responsible agents appointed, by and connected only with this establishment.—Pamphlets containing a synopsis of Foreign Patent laws, and information can be had gratis on application. JOSEPH P. PIRSSON, Civil Engineer, Office 5 Wall street, New York. 46tf