

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. R., of Coburg—Your impressions about a reduction in the price of English patents appear likely to become realized, as we have just learned from our London agents that the abolition of certain securities will tend to secure this result.

McF., of Nashville—We should think it would require 2 horse-power to drive a planer of the size mentioned, although we are not certain.

G. W. C., of Ky.—Messrs. Hoe & Co., or Worrall & Co., of this city, are good saw-makers. We think your plan is not patentable.

C., of Pa.—We were not aware, when we replied to your inquiry about saw-mills, that Messrs. Clark & Overton no longer manufactured them.

S. H. of Oregon Ter.—The telegraph wires could not be supported by iron hooks, but must rest upon some non-conducting substance.

G. B. W., of Ill.—Your letter, with enclosure, came safely; Col. C.'s name is entered upon our subscription books for one year.

B. R. E., of Me.—Fountain pens are in common use in this and other countries; as early as 1814 we imported, for our own use, the first pen of the kind we ever saw.

J. B., of N. Y.—We see nothing patentable in your press, and cannot advise an application.

J. A., of Tenn.—We will hand over your letter to an engine builder for attention. The distance between yourself and parties here must be an effectual bar against success.

D. W., of Ohio.—A cam to operate the valve rod of a steam engine has long been used. You can see it on some of the Western steamboats.

T. E., of N. P.—We decline your proposition about publishing your perpetual motion.

J. T., of Ohio.—Stone-ware chimney caps we have never seen, but have been informed they had been used in other countries.

N. P. D., of New York.—The intensity and quantity of the battery is the same, but through a long conductor the intensity is diminished.

C. P. H., of N. Y.—We cannot conceive any patentable point in your suggestion about the bedstead. It is possible you have something new.

B. A., of N. C.—T. Wood, corner of Chatham and Duane street, this city, is a dealer in tools.

S. S., of Hernando.—We do not know of any mechanic who would undertake to make such an engine as you require.

G. W. W., of Phila.—We do not know of any spark arresting plan superior to the one you present.

Money received on account of Patent Office business for the week ending December 27. T. H. D., of N. H., \$30; W. H. of O., \$20; J. H., of Texas, \$60.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Dec. 27:—W. W. V., of Md.; E. G., of Me.

An Important Paragraph.

Subscribers names, as they now come in, will be entered to commence with No. 14, the first number on the second quarter, unless the back numbers are expressly ordered.

Whenever our friends order numbers they have missed—we always send them if we have them on hand. We make this statement to save time and trouble.

Sending Receipts.—Postage on Books.

The Post Office Laws do not allow publishers to enclose receipts; when the paper comes regular subscribers may consider their money as received.

Subscribers ordering books or pamphlets are particularly requested to remit sufficient to pay postage.

Back Numbers and Volumes.

In reply to many interrogatories as to what back numbers and volumes of the Scientific American can be furnished, we make the following statement:

- Of Volumes 1, 2 and 3—none.
Of Volume 4, about 20 Nos.; price 50 cts.
Of Volume 5, all but 4 numbers, price, in sheets, \$1, —complete sets, bound, \$2.75.
Of Volume 6, all; price in sheets, \$2; bound, \$2.75.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Terms of Advertising.

Table with 2 columns: Description of ad space and Price.
- 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 at any price.

American and Foreign Patent Agency

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.—The undersigned having for several years been extensively engaged in procuring Letters Patent for new mechanical and chemical inventions, offer their services to inventors upon the most reasonable terms.

MUNN & CO., Scientific American Office, 128 Fulton street, New York.

LATHES FOR BROOM HANDLES, Etc.—We continue to sell Alcott's Concentric Lathe, which is adapted to turning Windsor Chair Legs, Pillars, Rods and Rounds; Hoe Handles, Fork Handles and Broom Handles.

MUNN & CO., Scientific American Office, 128 Fulton street, New York.

WHITAKER'S PATENT CRADLE.—This is an invaluable addition to the Nursery, and no family should be without one of them, after a short time. In practical value, this invention far surpasses every other attempt of the kind.

FOR ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.—Either of the following journals may be obtained:

- THE AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.—A Repository of Science, Literature and General Intelligence, amply illustrated with Engravings.
THE WATER-CURE JOURNAL and Herald of Reforms.—Devoted to Physiology, Hydropathy, and the Laws of Life, profusely illustrated.
THE STUDENT and Family Miscellany, designed for children and youth, parents and teachers.
THE UNIVERSAL PHONOGRAPHER.—Devoted to the dissemination of Phonography and to Verbatim Reporting, with practical instruction to Learners.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—A Treatise on the Chemical changes produced by Solar Radiation, and the production of pictures from Nature by the Daguerrotype, Calotype, and other Photographic processes.—By Robert Hunt, Professor of Mechanical Science in the Museum of Practical Geology, author of "Researches on Light," "The Poetry of Science," etc., with additions by the American Editor.

WATERLOO IRON WORKS.—Taft & Latourette, iron founders and machinists, manufacture steam engines and boilers, for steam saw mills, grist mills and other purposes.

VENTILATION.—Mr. Ruttan, of Coburg, Canada, is desirous of an opportunity to direct the erection (for ventilation) of a good dwelling or school house in the city of New York.

WANTED.—To purchase, 10 or 12 ring and traveller Twist and Filling Frames, of 132 to 160 spindles each, new or second hand, in first rate order.

HAWKINS' STAVE DRESSING MACHINE.—Is now in operation in the city of Milwaukee, Wis., and will dress from 6 to 8000 staves per day, ready for the truss hoops, and at one operation.

A. B. ELY, Counsellor at Law, 46 Washington st., Boston, will give particular attention to Patent Cases.

TRAUTWINE ON RAILROAD CURVES.—By John C. Trautwine, Civil Engineer, Philadelphia; just published and for sale by WM HAMILTON, Actuary of the Franklin Institute. Price \$1.

POST'S PATENT SLIDING DOOR FRONTS.—For Stores and Public Buildings; a new, cheap, and simple fixture for securing store fronts, which renders them fire and burglar proof.

BILLINGS PATENT BAND WRENCH, for Wagons and Carriages.—This article is fully described and illustrated by engravings in No. 7, Vol. 7 of the Scientific American.

TO STAIR BUILDERS.—"The Universal Stair Builder," just published by R. A. CUPPER, Architect, New York, shows plans of the various forms of Stairs, with a new method of sawing the twist part of any handrail and joints, square, from the face of the plank, and to a parallel width.

THE EXCELSIOR Sand and Emery Papers.—Are offered as new and superior articles, being manufactured by an improved process; the paper is made from the best Manila hemp, and consequently is very strong and lasting.

PATENT CAR AXLE LATHE.—I am now manufacturing, and have for sale, the above lathes; weight, 5,500 pounds, price \$600.

THE SUBSCRIBER has on hand several improved Steam Engines of superior quality, and made of the best materials, particularly adapted to manufacturing, saw mills, flour mills, &c.

1851 TO 1856.—WOODWORTH'S PATENT Planing Machines.—Ninety-nine hundredths of all the planed lumber used in our large cities and towns continues to be dressed with Woodworth's Machine.

LOGAN VAIL & CO., No. 9 Gold street, New York, agents for George Vail & Co., Speedwell Iron Works, have constantly on hand Saw Mill and Grist Mill Irons, Press Screws, Bogardus' Horse-Powers, and will take orders of Machinery of any kind.

BALLOONS.—I am prepared to manufacture Hydrogen Balloons of from 1 pound to 50,000 lbs. ascending power to order.

P. W. GATES'S PATENT DIES FOR CUTTING SCREWS.—Patented May 8th, 1847.—This Die cuts Screws of any size, V or square thread, by once passing over the Iron.

CHAS. W. COPELAND, Consulting and Mechanical Engineer, Surveyor of Steam Machinery, &c., No. 68 Broadway, N. Y.—Superintends the construction of steam vessels, and steam engines and machinery of every description.

ADIRONDAC American Cast Steel.—This steel has recently been greatly improved in uniformity, soundness, strength, and toughness. It is purely American, and will be sold as low as the imported; this improved quality is warranted superior to any other in market.

SCRANTON & PARSHLEY, Tool Builders, New Haven, Conn., have on hand six 12 ft. slide lathes, 28 in. swing; also four 8 ft. do.; 21 in. swing, with back and screw gearing, with all the fixtures; one 5 ft. power planer; 12 drill presses, 4 bolt cutting machines, 30 small slide rests; 5 back geared hand lathes, 21 in. swing; 15 do. not geared; 8 do. 17 in. swing on shears 5 1/2 feet; 25 ditto with and without shears, 13 in. swing; counter shafts, all hung if wanted suitable to the lathes.

BEARDSLEE'S PATENT PLANING MACHINE, for Planing, Tonguing and Grooving Boards and Plank.—This recently patented machine is now in successful operation at the Machine shop and Foundry of Messrs. F. & T. Townsend, Albany N. Y.

WATTS & BELCHER, Manufacturers of Steam Engines, Lathes, Planing Machines, Power Presses, and Mechanics' Tools of all descriptions.

PAINTS, &c.—American Atomic Drier, Graining Colors, Anti-friction Paste, Gold Size, Zinc Drier, and Stove Polish.

MACHINERY.—S. C. HILLS, No. 12 Platt-st. 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; Mortising and Tennoning machines; Belting; machinery Beal's patent Cob and Corn mills; Burr mill and Grindstones; Lead and Iron Pipe &c.

LAP-WELDED WROUGHT IRON TUBES.—For Tubular Boilers—from 1 1/4 to 7 inches in diameter. 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.

MALLEABLE IRON FOUNDRY, EASTON, Mass.—The subscriber continues to manufacture castings of every variety, for machinery and other purposes, of the best quality, at the above establishment, we have facilities for making castings 5 1/2 feet in length.

WOOD'S IMPROVED SHINGLE MACHINE.—Patented January 8th 1850, is without doubt the most valuable improvement ever made in this branch of labor-saving machinery.

LEONARD'S MACHINERY DEPOT, 109 Pearl-st. 60 Beaver N. Y.—The subscriber is constantly receiving and offers for sale a great variety of articles connected with the mechanical and manufacturing interest.

MANUFACTURE OF PATENT WIRE Ropes and Cables—for inclined planes, suspension bridges, standing rigging, mines, cranes, derrick, tilters &c.

RAILROAD CAR MANUFACTORY.—TRACY & FALES, Grove Works, Hartford, Conn. Passage, Freight and all other descriptions of railroad Cars, as well as Locomotive Tenders, made to order promptly.

BEST CAST STEEL AXLES AND TYRES, (a new article,) for Railroad Carriages and Locomotives. The quality of this steel is sufficiently attested in the announcement that it has carried off the first prizes awarded at the World's competition of 1851, in London.

IRON FOUNDERS MATERIALS.—viz.: fine ground and Bolted Sea Coal; Charcoal, Lehigh, Soapstone and Black Lead Facing. Iron and brass moulding sand; Fire Clay, Fire sand and Kaolin;—also English, Scotch and Welsh Fire Bricks—plain arch, circular and tower cupola—for sale by G. O. ROBERTSON Liberty place, between 57 and 59 Liberty-st. (near the Post Office) N. Y.

McCORMICK'S PATENT REAPERS AND MOWERS.—1700 of these machines, for which the great Medal of the World's Fair was awarded, are being manufactured at Chicago, Ill. with the intention of supplying the South-eastern States for the next harvest.