## patents for seventeen years.



The new Patent Laws enacted by Congress on the 2d of March, 1361, are now in full furce, and proveto be of great benefi to all parties who are concerned in new inventions.
The duration of patents granted under the new act is prolonged to seventern years, and the government fee required on filing an application for a patent is reduced from $\mathbf{\$ 3 0}$ down to $\mathbf{\$ 1 5}$. Other change n the fees are also made as follows :-


The law abolishes discrimination in fees required of foreigners, es oeptlog reference to such countries as discriminate against citizens o Russian, Spanish, and all other foreigners except the Canadians, te enjoy all the privileges of our patent system (exceptin cases of designs) on the above terms.
During the last sixteen years, the business of procuring Patents fo new ind tion of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN ; and as an evidence of the confidence reposed in our Agency by the Inventors throurhout the confidence reposed in our Agency by the Inventors throughout the FIFTEEN THOUSAND Inventors! In fact, the publishers of this paper have become identified with the whole brotherhood of Inventors and Patentees at home and abroad. Thousands of Inventors for whom we have taken out Patents have addressed to us most flattering testimonials for the services we have rendered them, and the weaith which has inured to the Inventors whose Patents were secured through this Office, snd afterward illustrated in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, would amount to many millions of dollars! We would state that we never had a more efficient corps of Draughtsmen and Specification Writers than are emplosed at present in our extensive Ontces, and we are prepared to attend to Patent business of all kinds in the quickest time and on the most liberal terms.

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Preliminary Examinations at the Patent Offec Theadvice we render gratuitously upon examining an invention does not extend to a search at the Patent Office, to see if a like invention hasbeen presented there, but is an opinion basedupon what knowledge Ollce. But for a fee of $\$ 5$, accompanied with a model ordrawingand description, we have a special searchmade at the United StatesPaten Oilice, and a report setting forth the prospects of obtaining a Paten cc., made up and mailed to the Inventor, with a pamphlet, giving in structions for further proceedings. These preliminary examination structions for further proceedings. These preliminary examinations
are made through our Branch Office, corner of $F$ and Seventh-streets, Washington, by experienced and competent persons. More than 5,000 such exami, ations have been made through this ofice during th past three ycars. Address MUNN \& CO., No. 37 Park-ruw, N. Y.

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## Foreign Patents.

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umit the issue of Patents to Inventors. Anyone can take out a Patent there.
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Rejected Applications.
We are prepared to undertake theinvestigation and prosecution of re ected cases, on reasonable terms. The close proximity of our Wash ington Agency to the Patent Offlice affords us rare opportunities for th examination and comparison of references, models, drawings, docu verygreat. The principal portion of our charge is generally left de pendent upon the final result.
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All persons having rejected cases which they desire to have prose
cuted are invita correspond with us on the subject, giving a brie cuted are ine correspond with us on the subje inclosing the offlial letters, de.
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## Assignments of Patents.

The assignment of Patents, and agreements between Patentees and manufacturers, carefully prepared and placed upon the records at th Patent Olfice. Address MUNN \& CO., at the Scientific American Pat ntagency, No. 37 Park-row. New York
It wouldrequire manycolumnsto detail all the ways in which the inventor or Patentee may be served at our offlices. We cordially invite all who have anything to do with Patent property or inventions to call at our estensive offices, No. 37 Park-row, New York, where any ques hons regarding the ricgats of Patentees, will be cheerfully answered. Communications and remittances by mail, and models by express (prepa
York.

S. W., of Ill.--We understand that the riffes used by Ber dan's sharp shooters, were made by Mr. James, the well-know rifle maker at Utica, N. Y.
C. H. R., of Iowa.-A patent could not be obtained for the use of cast iron in the manufacture of slabs and monuments for
grave stones. The idea has been frequently suggested to us.
G. W. M., of Pa.-Nature has provided many ways for scattering the seeds of plants, and among them is the attachment to each seed of certain plants, of a wing or fiber by which they may be wafted by the wind. This is called by botanists the ala. The grea value of the ala of the cotton plant is due to its extraordinary strength. Since the discussion of providing some substitute for cot ton, we have recenved specimens of the ala of many plants, but all deficient in the essential quality of strength. The sample that you send is from the cottonwood, or popmelu.s comaulensis, and the fiber is as weak as any that we have ever seen.
P. S., of Ind.-No newspa pers hold themselves responsible
for the assertions of advertisers.
J. P., of Wis.-It seems to us a very poor time to advocate universal peace. Wait till the nations are somewhat wearied with wal
K., of Del.-A stand of arms consists of a musket with the usual appendages, bayonet, cartridge box, if.
B. T., of R.I.-Some bomb shells burst into a hundred pieces, while others break into but few
A. L. L., of Va.-The American Rifle was formerly sold by Messrs. Appleton and Co. of this city. If yo
them we know not where it cill be obtained.
J. M. H., of N. Y.-We do not know of any parties en gaged in the mackerel fishery, but we presume you could ascertain by addressing the post-master at Glourester, Mass. We copied the paragraph to which you allude from some Eastern paper, without knowing anything personally about the facts.
J. A. C., of C. W.-An electro-magnet, if its iron is very pure and soft, will not retain one-fourth of its indnced magnetism after the circuit is broken. A counter current of electricity in coil, if itis of suficient power, will nullify the induced magnetism a magnet.
. A. H., of D. C.-Do not use tar for cementing the bot tom of your aquarium. Pitch is a bout the best substance you can use. Allow it to stand for several dass full of water, then
the old and put in clean water before you put in your tish, \&c.
L. J., of Mass.-There is no published work on cotton manufactures and co
D. B. D., of Iowa.-Various remedies lave been recom mended for the bite of rattle snakes, but we cannot personally in dorse the virtue of any one of them. In Ceylon and the East Indies, where the venom of serpents is very fatal, incision and culting out of the affected part and the application of a hot iron to it, is con sidered the only probable safe mode of treating snake wounds. In various parts of our own country, persons who are bitten by snake are treated with copious supplies of whisky until they become applied to the wounds time an infusion of tobacco and whisky successful. An infusion of snake root taken in wardly, and also ap plied to the wound, is said to be a cure for the bite of copper head and rattle snakes.
J. R. G., of Ky. - An enamel of porcelain on large iron sugar rollers, would prevent the cane iuice from acting on the metal, but it would perhaps cost too much for your purpose to acquainted with any cheap cement that will answer the same pur pose.
W. H. G., of N. Y.-Modern steel is neither inferior in strength, tenacity, nor temper to ancient steel. It is a well known fact, however, that steel improves in ductility by keeping it lying in a fxed position for a year or tu'o after it is made. Damascus steel
has a high reputation, but it is somewhat scarce. Hussey, Wells $\&$ Co., of Pittsburgh, Pa., manufacture good steel, but most of the first quality used by our manufacturers of cutlery, is made in She field, England.
H. G., of Pa .-The pressure of the atmosphere is about 15 lbs. to the square Inch. If you compress into a vessel of the capa
cubic feet, under the ordinary pressure, its pressure, atter being compressed, will be 45 lus . to the square inch, or 30 lvs . above the atmospheric pressure, and if you force 72 cubic feet of aur into your vessel, the pressure will be 90 lbs ., or 75 lbs a above the atmospheric pressure, \&c. From this explanation it will be easy for you to calculate the power of the compressed air. The atmospheric air is one
of those gases which do not condense into the liquid state under the heaviest pressure to which the same has been exposed.
H. F., of Bogota.-We do not think the Patent Office will allow a patent for sour method of removing frecklesfrom the skin, neither do we know of any one who would purchase it. Yull had better kcep the secret until youare prepared to exhibit to our com-
munity the eflicacy of your discovery. You might then dispuse munit
of it .
J. R. J., of Mass.-The pressure per square inch in a steam boiler is found by the following rule, when the weight, length of lever, diameter and weight of valve, are given : Multiply the num ber of pounds of the weight by the number expressing the propor from between the distance of the weight and that of the valve stem from the fulcrum, add the weight of lever, taken at the point where pounds, divide by thed and the weight of ralve, all exp the result is the pressure of the steam in lvs. to the square inch.
R. S. L., of Ohio.-The quantity of water, in pounds, fall ing in one minute, multiplied into the perpendicuiar hight of your fall, and divided by 33,000 , will give you its horse power, from which it is common to deduct one-hird fority. If you multiply arca of sour open pipe by the square root of its depth in feet, and by 200, it will give the cubic feet of water discharged per minute.
J. H. F., of Kansas.-If you wish to keep steam up in your boiler at a working pressure all night, to start your engine in the morning without kindling a fire, of course you must expect your boiler to wear out somewhat faster than otherwise. We prefer to use a damper in the smoke pipe so as to keep a low firc always under the boiler at night.
J. R. B., of N. J.-Dry loam or charcoal dust is superior to lime for spreading on the floor of a hen house. Old india-rubber patches of old rubber laid on and pressed down with a flat iron.

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$\$ 45$ J. C. M., of Ill., $\$ 20$ J. J. A. W., of N. Y., $\$ 45$
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Wis.; J. F. T., of Mass, ; J. A. A., of Conn.; J. B. W., of Mass.; G. de C., of Conn.; P. M., of France (2 cases); W. M. D., of N. Y.; J. W.
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The annexed letters from former Commissioners of Patents we com mend to the perusal of all persons interested in obtaining Patents :-
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Improved Coal Sieve.
the handsome profits made on the sale of some patent coal sifters have stimulated inventorsto extraordinary activity in this department, and the number of new patents which are being procured, and the ingenuity which is evinced in some of thesedevices are wonderful. The accompanying engravings illustrate a remarkably simple, convenient and durable coal sifter recently patented by W. B. Wadman, of Boston, Mass.

It consists of three parts which are represented separately in the engravings. Fig. 1 is the external

## Improved Endless Revolving Mattress.

 The accompanying engravings illustrate a simple but very novel improvement in mattresses which promises to be of considerable value. It consists merely in making the mattress in the form of an endless belt, as shown in perspective in Fig. 1, and in section in Fig. 2.The principal object of this invention is to prevent the mattress from becoming compressed and flat tened in some portions more than in others; this unequal compression producing an uneven, hard and uncomfortable surface for the sleeper. By having


## WADMAN'S COAL SIEVE.

barrel or cylinder, in which the sieve Fig. 2 fits the mattress folded as shown it is very easy, as the loosely so that it may be shaken; Fig. 3, being the bar or handle for shaking the sieve.
The cylinder, Fig. 1 may be formed of sheet iron or wood, and fitted tightly in the top of an ordinary barrel to hold the ashes. Within the cylinder, and at its lower edge is a cast-iron rim, $a$, flaring downward toward the center to conduct the ashes to the middle of the barrel below. This rim may be of cast iron, and it is crossed by a bridge, $b$, which may be cast $\ln$ one piece with it. This bridge has a hole through the middle to receive the pivot projection, $c$, Fig. 3, on the rod by which the sieve is shaken. The handle of this rod, when the parts are in place, passes through the slit, $d$, in the side of the cylinder, Fig. 1, and extends outward far enough to afford a convenient hold for the hand of the operator.

The sieve, Fig. 2, is formed of sheet iron or other bed is made each day, to roll the mattress so as $t$ bring the fold in a $n \in \mathrm{w}$ place, and thus to change all parts of the mattress in their positions in relation to each other and to the bed. This of course prevents any one place from becoming compressed more than another, and preserves all parts in an even, smooth and comfortable condition.
Beside this principal advantage the following are claimed as incidental :-
In consequence of the surface being frequently changed this mattress will last much longer than an ordinary one.
Being folded in a different placeevery time the sur face is chavged, has a tendency to loosen up the fill ing and keep the bed constantly soft and elastic.
Being made of two thicknesses, each thickness
about half that of an ordinary mattress, it can be
Fig. 1


Fig. 2.


## BASSETT'S ENDLESS REVOLVING MATTRESS.

suitable metal, and its bottom is covered with a
meshwork of iron wire. It is crossed at the bottom meshwork of iron wire. It is crossed at the bottom by a bar, which has a square prow below to fit upon a corresponding projection, $f$, upon the upper side of the rod, Fig. 3. So that when a reciprocating movement is given to the handle of this rod along the slit, $d$, a corresponding motion is imparted to the צieve.
The sieve is provided with handles upon its inner side, and the whole is closed by a tight cover not shown in the engravings. The projection, $f$, is cut out in the form shown to diminish the weight of metal.
The patent for this invention was granted through the Scientific American Patent Agency, and further information in relation to it may be obtained by addressing the inventor, W. B. Wadman, at 1013 Wash. ington street, Boston, Mass.
more thoronghly aired and theefore is more conducive to health than other mattresses.
The fact that it can be used so great a length of time, without picking over and refilling makes it very durable.
When the ticking is soiled or worn on one side, the mattress can be turned so as to bring the other side out.
The pater.t for this invention was granted, through the Scientific American Patent Agency, April 15, 1862, and further information in relation to it may be obtained by addressing the inventor, Edward F. Bassett, at Seymour, Conn.

A large pelican was lately shot at Carson Sink on the eastern slope of the Serra Nevada. It measured 8 feet 7 inches from tip to tip of the wings. It was milk white except the quill feathers in the wings, which were black.

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## VOLUME VII.-NEW SERIES.

The SEvENTH VOLUME of the NEWI SERIES of the SCIEN TIFIC AMERICAN commences July 5 , 1862 .
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The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN has the reputation, at home and abroad, of being the best weekly journal devoted to mechanical and industrial pursuits now published, and the proprietors are determined to keep up the reputation they have earned duringthe seventeen years they have been connected with its publication.
The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN is indispensable to every inventor, as it notonly containsillustrated descriptions of nearly all the bestinventions as they come, but each number contains an Official List of the Claims of all the Patents issued from the United States Patent Oflice during the week previous; thus giving a correct history of the progress of inventions in this country. We are also receiving, every week, the best scientific journals of Great Britain, France and Germany; thus placing in our possession all thatis transpiring in mechanical science and art in these old countries. We shall continue to transfer to our columns copiousextracts from these journals of whatever we may deem of interest to our readers.
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