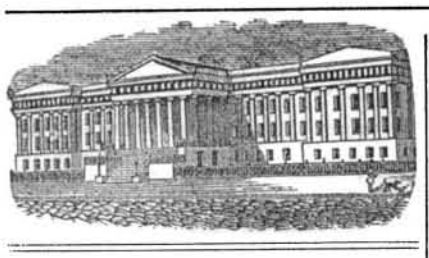

Reported Officially for the Scientific American

LIST OF PATENT CLAIMS

Issued from the United States Patent Office.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14, 1852.

CLOTHES PINS.—By Samuel Aldrich, of Springfield, Vt.: I claim, by letters patent, the improvement of manufacturing clothes pins from wire of any suitable metal, with jaws attached, operated by a spring, or lever, as being the most simple, cheap, effective and durable of any kind in use.

CONNECTING JOINTS FOR WASHING MACHINES OR OTHER PURPOSES.—By S. L. Egbert and S. W. Green, of Willoughby, Ohio: We claim the construction of the joint by which the connecting rod is attached to the spring board, by means of the knife edges disposed in a right line and confined by the straps and backing piece, substantially as set forth.

PRINTING PRESSES.—By Charles W. Hawkes, of Boston, Mass.: I claim, first, a pair of nippers, so constructed as to draw the paper from the form, by griping the margin of the paper firmly between the jaws of the said nippers, and at the same time holding the paper a little distance from the platen as set forth.

Second, I claim the adjustable spring and rod for holding the nippers up from the platen, as described.

Third, I claim the fingers for holding the edge of the sheet, in combination with the swing platen, as set forth.

LIGHTNING RODS.—By Herman H Homan, of Cincinnati, Ohio: I claim, first, the formation of the point of a lightning rod of successive sections of different metals, each being of greater fusibility than the one below it, and having oblique junctions, so that an over-charge of the electric fluid simply melts off the upper section, without enlargement of the point below, either by its own partial fusion, or by the lodgment of the upper metal upon it.

Second, uniting the successive sections, of an obliquely sectional lightning rod point, by solder or brazing, which is at each joint fusible at a lower temperature than the section immediately above it, so that the melting of the point shall remove the entire uppermost section, and thus more certainly prevent the lodgment of any portion of the melted section upon the point thus exposed.

SMUT MACHINES.—By C. and J. Keeler, of Union, N. Y.; We claim, making the blowing apparatus, with the drawer and spout, movable, substantially as described; so as to allow of the wind chest and pipe being easily taken out and turned in either direction, to admit of the machine being driven in whichever direction may be desired.

COILED WIRE FERRULES.—By Wm. T. Richards, of New Haven, Conn.: I claim, the method of cutting the wire at right angles to the axis of the coil, so that the ends of the ferrule will be perfectly true, without wasting any of the stock by the use of the short mandril, the clamp or holder, and the cutting die, when the machine is constructed, arranged, and made to operate, substantially as described.

I also claim, the combination of the method of cutting the coil, with the method of supporting the long coil and of feeding it, and of throwing off the piece when severed, when combined, arranged, and operated, substantially as described.

SHUTTLE GUIDES TO LOOMS.—By Horace T. Robbins, of Lowell, Mass.: I claim, first, the guide or its equivalent, either with or without the flange, in combination with cloth weaving looms, or as applied and used therewith, substantially in the manner and for the purpose of guiding the shuttle.

Second, I claim, the spring and finger, or their equivalent, so arranged as to hold the guide in its proper place, substantially as specified.

PORTE MONAIES.—By Benj. S. Stedman, of West Meriden, Conn.: I claim, first, the manner substantially as described, of putting the leather or other material in the frames, by forcing a sufficient quantity through the frame, with a die or plunger at the back side, and then by a larger die pressing the part so forced through, and folding it over the inner edge of the frames

Second, the form and construction of the clamp, which holds the frame and the leather or material, to wit: the lower part having an opening just large enough to allow the die to pass through and the upper part having an opening large enough to allow the die, to pass through and fold the the leather or material over the frame, and having a recess in its inner or bottom face, around the said opening to receive and hold the frame in it, so that the leather or material, is held independently of the frame and allowed to be drawn through the frame, substantially as described.

DOOR LOCKS.—By Wm. Moore, of Williamsburgh, N Y., (Assignor to James Carman of New York, N. Y): The dividing plate being well known, is public property, therefore forms no part of my claim. I claim the tumbler enclosed by the dividing plate, to be operated on solely by the key, when entered from the inner key hole, in combination with the revolving check, or its equivalent, and the bolt, for the purpose as described.

FORGING MACHINES.—By Geo. H. Richards, of West Roxbury, Mass., (Assignor to Calvin G. Plimpton, of Walpole, Mass.): I claim, the sliding guide, traversing upon the side bars, as described; having a pin, pivot, or fulcrum—one end of which is attached to the sliding guide, while the other end of the hammer, in which it is so fitted as to allow the hammer to turn a short distance, when power is applied to it by means of the crank, cam, or eccentric, and the connecting rods.

DESIGNS.

COOKING STOVE—By Samuel D. Vose, of Albany, N. Y.; ante-dated March 14, 1852.

PARLOR STOVE—By Conrad Harris and Paul W. Zoiner, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

COOK STOVE—By Samuel D. Vose, of Albany, N. Y.

COOK STOVE—By N. S. Vedder, of Troy, N. Y.

PARLOR STOVE—By James J. Dalley, (Assignar to Johnson, Cox & Fuller, of Troy, N. Y.

Orders in Appeal from the Commissioner of Patents.

1. In every case desired to be tried before me, the petition must be addressed to me as "Assistant Judge of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia."

2. Previous to any action by me, and preparatory to hearing any appeal, the party must comply with the requisites of the law in the Patent Office; and his petition to me must state concisely the application for the patent; its nature; and, if a case of interference, the residence of the party interested; the Commissioner's refusal; the prayer of an appeal, and notice thereof to the Commissioner; the filing of the reasons of appeal in the Patent Office; and the payment into the Office of the sum required by the law. To every petition must be annexed a certificate of the proper officer that the requisitions of the law have been complied with, or an affidavit of the truth of the facts stated in the petition. No notice to the Commissioner will be issued until such certificate or affidavit be made or produced.

3. The appeal will be tried upon the evidence which was in the case and produced before the Commissioner.

4. The applications must be in writing.—The cause will be heard upon written arguments only, unless otherwise specially directed; which arguments must state the points of fact and law relied on, and the authorities in support of the same.

5. Five days will be allowed after the filing of the Commissioner's Report to the apellant to file his argument; and the like period will be allowed for any answer and reply; at the expiration of the last of which periods the cause will be taken up and decided, and the papers returned, with the decision, to the office of the Commissioner.

6. Copies of the Commissioner's Report or grounds of decision, and of the arguments filed, can be had, if desired, from the Secretary to be appointed, upon the payment of the usual fees for such services.

JAMES S. MORSELL.

Assistant Judge of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia.

[The above is the circular of the Assistant Judge Morsell, which has been issued in accordance with the provisions of the amendment to the Patent Laws, which was published in ~~our last number~~.

Blatchford's Circuit Court Reports.

This is a new work, of which volume 1 has just been issued by Derby & Miller, of Auburn, N. Y. It contains reports of cases argued and determined in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Second Circuit, by Samuel Blatchford, Esq., Reporter of the Court. It may be needless to state, but we cannot help doing so, that it is got up, in that superior style of printing and binding, and with that care, which distinguishes our books on legal subjects, above all others; we give the lawyers great credit for this.

The reports are a collection of the decisions, as well as some able arguments on both sides, of cases brought before Judge Nelson, of the U. S. Supreme Court, and whose judicial reputation stands very high. We are glad that this work has fallen into so worthy and able hands, as those of Mr. Blatchford; no one could have done it so well. It is a great treasure in our eyes, owing to the important patent cases which have been tried before Judge Nelson since his accession to the bench of the U. S. Supreme Court, in 1845. The great case relating to the Woodworth Patent, after its re-issue, between James C. Wilson vs. Louis Rousseau and Charles Easton, with the argument of counsel, occupies no less than 145 pages; it goes over the whole ground, and the Woodworth patent is fully discussed in all its important bearings. There are three cases respecting the Woodworth Patent, in which James G. Wilson was complainant, and four cases in which John Gibson was plaintiff; the Woodworth Patent, therefore, stands pre-eminent among all others in this able work. We may refer to those particular cases at some other period.—There are no less than twenty-nine patent cases reported altogether, embracing trials of some of the most prominent existing patents, such as Blanchard's patent for turning gun-stocks, &c., Wolf & Truscott's famous cast-iron car wheel, Goodyear's india rubber, Wilder's iron safe, Parkhurst's cotton gin, Morse's Telegraph, Burden's iron spikes, and Parker's water-wheel. This latter case is a singular one, and presents a subject for serious reflection to all patentees. The case was decided against Parker by a jury, yet it appears to us that the evidence was exceedingly meagre for such a decision. One man gave evidence that he had assisted in making one water-wheel, embracing the same principle, in 1819; it was taken away twelve miles, and he never saw it afterwards. Upon this testimony the jury found a verdict for the defendant, against the claims of the Parker Wheel. Of some of the decisions made by Judge Nelson, respecting certain machines being infringements, we hold an opinion as unfavorable as that which we entertain about the decision in the wheel case, but more about this at some other fitting opportunity. In the mean time, let us say, that no man interested in patents can be posted up in legal matters respecting them, unless he becomes a possesser of this book. It is for sale in this city by J. J. Diossy and J. S. Voorhies, and by the publishers at Auburn.

Form of the Earth—A New Theory.

From some experiments and observations, which have been recently made, I am inclined to the opinion, that the world we inhabit is not globular, nor round, as has been generally supposed, but that from North to South, it is much more depressed from the Equator to the Poles than it is from East to West, and much more depressed South than North of the Equator, with a proportionate elongation in that direction. In proof of this new theory, for such surely it will be accounted, I submit for the consideration of the curious and inquisitive:—

1st. The fact, as far as it is known, that there are three parts of the world, presenting a surface of water to one part of land; or philosophically, or chemically speaking, three-fourths of liquid matter to one-fourth of solid. That this water is literally diffused throughout the land, but is gathered in the largest body to the South, while there it has less disposition in its particles to condense, than towards the Northern Pole. If the world was round or globular, pressing the two motions of diurnal and annual, which is attributed to it, the one upon its own axis, and the other around the sun, the natural course of the two elements of earth and water, to advance and recede at the approach of the other, would necessarily be, to expose more of the Earth's surface, now covered with water, in one place, if the water was swallowed up or receded, or to equalize the surface of the water around the land as a common centre, provided the land passed in a continuous body from one hemisphere to the other, being of equal solidity and consistence.

2d. The magnetic needle, the mariner's only safe and sure guide across the pathless deep, is ever found pointing to the north, and although susceptible of slight variations from time to time, is nevertheless always sufficiently accurate to answer faithfully its office.—Why this certainty if the world be round? or if there be an equal distance from the Equator North as South? or the needle, with its positive pole known to vary, under extraordinary circumstances, so as to transfer its power to the negative or Southern point, and thus the one become substituted for the other?

3d. If the Earth be globular or round, why does the magnetic needle lay horizontally from North to South, and never take a position from East to West, no, not even when extraordinary accidents have befallen it, sufficiently great to transfer its power from the North to the Southern, or from the positive to the negative pole.

4th. If the Earth be round or globular, why the known difference between the time of arrival of two vessels, sailing each at the same time, the one east and the other west, making the same reckoning and the same observations, yet one in advance of the other.

5th. If our former lights upon these subjects were correct, why can we not account for all the natural phenomena which now bewilder our most profound philosophers.

Properly to account for these phenomena, we must first get the exterior of the Earth next its constituent principles, which we shall, find to be gravitation and electricity as its opposing force, next the correct motions of the earth, and with these principles well illustrated, we shall no longer be at loss to account for every apparent mystery in nature. This can be done, and demonstrated beyond doubt.—[Baltimore Clipper.

[The foregoing has travelled over a considerable space of newspaper circulation, as we see by our exchanges. It is really wonderful to see how long the divine light of knowledge takes to enter into some places. Here we have what is called "a new theory" of the shape of the earth advanced: it is certainly not quite so simple nor so sublime as that of old Deacon Homespun, who believed it to be "flat as a pancake," but on that account it may, to some, look all the more learned, as some people judge of things by their very nonsensical, unreasonable oddity. This person believes the earth is shaped in plan like the sections of two cones placed base to base, the south one being much longer than the north one. He does not say how thick he thinks the earth is, but he has it made with a ridge at the equator, something like the Ridge Road, in Western New York: and he has also another ridge away at the East, where the sun rises, and thus the earth is made of two great hollows and two great ridges; a queer ridgy holiowy theory truly. In proof of this theory, he submits for the consideration of the curious and inquisitive some considerations, and droll ones they are. He informs the world that the surface of the earth is only one-fourth of that covered with water, and that the greatest amount of the water is found at the South, where its particles have less disposition to condense than at the North. Every school boy knows that three-fourths of the surface of the globe is covered with water, and he also knows that its particles have just as much disposition to condense at the South as at the North; in fact, the North Pole has been approached, but far otherwise has it been with the voyagers to the antartic icy circle. He talks a great deal of nonsense about the two motions of the earth, and reasons as if the water and dry land moved with different velocities. He is very ignorant of the action of the magnet, and explodes his own argument with his own petard. He says the magnet always points ~~North, except under~~ extraordinary circumstances (what they are he does not say) when the North Pole becomes the South, and this is an argument he uses against the world being round; he thus accounts for the magnet pointing always to the North, by his elongated earth, the pole of it being nearer the equator. Very well, if this be true, then every ship sailing south of the aquator would have the poles of its compass changed, and thus become a globe form vane. How ridiculous; why did he not attempt to account for the action of the magnet first; why does it point north and south at all? If its action depended on the form of the earth, it would accommodate itself round all the points of the compass, as a ship sailed from east to west, north and south. When he talks about the difference of time between one vessel sailing east, and another sailing west, it is evident that his ignorance on the one hand, and his way of bringing the two vessels together again (if the earth is not round) on the other, deserves the most serious position in the comic almanac; two vessels, one sailing east and the other sailing west, would never meet if the world were not globular. He thinks that because men believe the world to be round, is the reason why philosophers cannot account for all natural phenomena; bright genius. He surely has become bewildered in endeavoring to account for phenomena which is quite plain and well known to all men of science, and for which they have accounted. What a botch-potch some men make with their crude information about electricity, gravitation, constituent principles, static pressure, centrifugal force and so on.

Scientific Balloon Ascent.

Some of the members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, recently made an ascent in a balloon along with Mr. Green, for scientific purposes. They took up various instruments with them, and went up 19,200 feet. They had exhausted tubes and took down air in them from that height, in order to analyze it. No cloud was seen above them, all was clear and cold, 25 deg. below the freezing point.

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