Scientific American.

INVENTIONS

An Improved Valve Cock.

An improvement in the above has been invented by John Griffith, of Philadelphia, Pa. The valve cock possesses advantages over the plug cock in its lightness, and the facility with which the valve is ground tight; as at present constructed, it is frequently in practice very imperfect. It is usual to make the screw, by which the valve is opened and closed on the valve stem, and unless every part is very perfectly constructed, this will cause one side or the valve to close sooner or bear in its seat harder than the other parts, which will be liable to bend the stem, and this difficulty is attended with worse consequences when the valve has a broad bearing. The object of this invention is to provide a remedy for the above difficulties, by making the valve with a cylindrical stem, passing through a hollow stem, which forms part of the body of the cock, and is furnished outside with a screw, to which is fitted a nut. This nut carries a yoke, in which the valve stem is capable of turning freely but not of moving longitudinally. By turning the nut the valve is raised and lowered from and to its seat, in a right line; the valve being always kept in such a position that it will fall truly into its seat and close perfectly when the valve stem is turned. The inventor has taken measures to secure his invention by patent.

Improvement in Hot-Air Furnaces and Ventilators.

The method of operating the wings or ventilators of hot-air registers, has heretorore been attended with some inconveniences that appear to be obviated by a very simple contrivance invented by S. T. Munson, of New York City. The nature of his invention consists in having the wings of the register attached at one end to a slide by means of bent arms, the outer ends of which fit loosely in apertures in the sides, said arms being secured to the wings at points some distance from the centres. The slide is operated by means of a lever having a slot in it, through which slot a small projection from the slide passes. By operating the lever, motion is given the slide, and the wings are operated or cleared according to the direction in which the lever is moved. An impetus is given the lever as it is moved by means of a spring placed at its lower end. The spring also prevents the casual movement of the lever. Measures are taken to secure a patent.

Ornamental Letters for Door Plates.

C. L. Osborne, of New York City, has taken measures to secure a patent for an improvement in articles of this description. The nature of the invention consists in a novel combination of stained glass, with mirrors, for the purpose of representing, with a peculiar effect, letters, figures, and ornamental devices suitable for door-plates, signs, and similar articles. The stained glass employed is of that description which is only stained on one surface, and on this stained surface is engraved such letters, figures, or other devices as are desired, to such a depth as to remove the stain entirely from the glass; behind the glass so engraved is then placed a mirror. The effect produced is, that when the plate is viewed in any position except that perpendicular to the line of vision, the reflection of the devices engraved is seen on the mirror through the colored part of the glass, which appears illuminated, and the reflection of the colored portion of the glass is seen through the colorless or engraved portion, and presents a very peculiar and beautitul appearance.

Manufacture of Steel.

A gentleman of this city, Geo. Nimmo, has shown us some very good specimens of steel which he manufactures by a peculiar process from scrips of old wrought-iron and steel. Mr. Nimmo has prepared a flux which he uses in smelting the iron and steel which he says gives to the mixture the quality of good cast steele; this flux probably also imparts a portion of its substance to the iron. The discovery may prove to be of value to manufacturers, as the process is very simple, and the ingredients used are not expensive. The discoverer, Mr. Nimmo, has taken measures to of the front of the spring, showing the man-are attached to the spring, as shown at ed, or secure a patent.

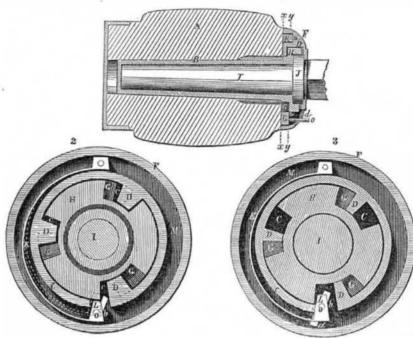
G. W. FINK'S IMPROVED WAGON HUB.

sented by the annexed engravings, was in- | verse section through the line, y y, of fig. 1. vented by G. W. Fink, of Circleville, Ohio, The same letters refer to like parts in all the for which he has taken measures to secure a patent. The hub is composed of wood with a metallic centre, in which the axle turns; it works treely and nice, is kept lubricated without difficulty, and is at the same axle being fastened at the inside of the hub. circular grooved movable cap, F, is fitted,

The improvement in Wagon Hubs repre- | tion through the line x x, and fig. 3 is a transfigures.

I is the axle, represented within the hub, A. which has the metallic centre, B, provided with featners upon each side to prevent its turning in the hub; it projects beyond A on time kept entirely free from dust and dirt, the | the inside, at H, over which projecting part a Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section meeting the inside of the hub. The axle passthrough the centre; fig. 2 is a transverse sec- es through this cap until it meets the collar

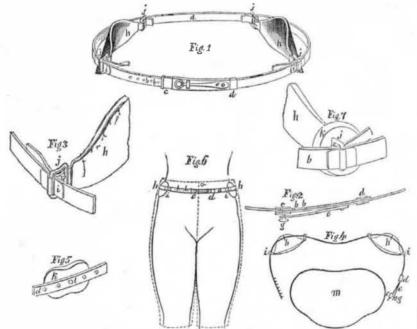
Figure 1.



which surrounds the axle, and is stationary | upon the inner side next the cap, so as to form ed in figs. 1 and 2. These lugs are chiselled be obtained by addressing the inventor.

upon it, being packed with the cap to prevent a shoulder, G, under which a portion of the the escape of the lubricating oil. The cap, F, | circular flange or projection, H, slides when it is then made fast to the stationary projection, is desired to lock the axle to the hub, which H, in the following very convenient manner, is done by turning the cap, F, until the key, in order to prevent the wheel from sliding L, of the spring, K, passes down between one from the hub:-M is a groove or channel cut of the lugs, D, and a section of the broken in the cap, F, for the purpose of receiving the collar or projection, H. When it is desired to circular spring, K, which is made fast to the remove the wheel from the axle it is effected Two impostant desiderata in the construction cap at one end, and has the pointed catch or by raising the spring by means of a pin, o key, L, upon the other end. The circular passing through a slot, b d. The outer end of flange or projection, H, is removed at c c, be- the hub is closed, as shown in fig. 1 in the cap, ing cut away for the reception of the lugs, D, | F. This is a very neat arrangement and cast within the cap, F, in the form represent- forms a good hub. Further information may

IMPROVED ENCIRCLING SUSPENDER.



The annexed engravings represent an invention patented by H. H. Tinker, of New London, Conn., on the third day of December, 1851. The object of the improvement is for passing it round the body. Fig. 5 represents the purpose of supporting the pantaloons or other garments by an encircling suspender passing around the human body. It may be used by males or temales, and will be found fitted upon the body; and fig. 7 represents a to be quite easy and convenient.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the encircling suspender or spring. Fig. 2 is a section ping one on the other. Two or more bands

a section of the spring representing the manner of attaching the pads. Fig. 4 is a top view of the suspender, showing the method of the pad attached to the spring by a single pivot, which is sometimes used instead of the pads, h h. Fig. 6 shows one of the suspenders small pad surrounding the buckle. In fig. 1 the spring is represented with the ends lapner in which it is clasped together. Fig. 3 is having a space or loop on the inside to receive Atlantic ever made.

the other end of the spring, which, being passed through these spaces, the bands, c and d, form clasps or bracelets to guide and retain the connection of the two ends of the spring. A pin g, in spring, e, passing through the belt, d, at either end of the openings, b b, for the purpose of attaching the parts of the band together and adjusting them suitably for the wearer; h h are buck-skin pads or straps to rest upon the hips of the wearer; they are attached to the bands or belts of the plate, i; by buckle, j, or the pad may be a cushioned metallic plate, (as shown at k, fig. 5), attached to the belt by a centre pin, which may vibrate to accommodate the pad to the different motions of the body-a small movable pad encircles each buckle to make them easy to the wearer. m, fig. 4, represents a section of the human body, the ends of the belt being separated in the act of being put on or taken off. In fig. 6 the belt or suspender is represented in its proper position upon the wearer, having the pads, h h, resting upon the hips, and the dotted lines represent the garments provided with hooks, loops, or other suitable device to attach them to the suspender. The advantages of this invention are, that the weight of the garments are sustained on the hips instead of being suspended upon the shoulders, thus relieving the vertebral column. These belts may supersede the necessity of abdominal supporters, being adjustable, covered with kid or other suitable material, and well fitted to the human form; they may be underlaid with cotton or other soft substance, so as to make them agreeable to the touch, and be locked as loosely around the body as is thought proper, at the same time adjusting the pads, h, to the hips as closely as is thought best, this also gives liberty for the chest to expand more freely than when encased by the common suspender.

More information may be obtained by letter addressed to the inventor at Pendleton

New Steam Valve.

Notwithstanding the great variety of valves patented and in use in our country, there are few good ones yet brought before the public. of valves, are, simplicity and want of friction. Several accomplish the latter object at the expense of the former, and some the former at the expense of the latter. A valve has been lately invented by Jarrett Megaw, of Wilmington, Del., which is intended to avoid the friction occasioned by the pressure of steam upon it, and is, at the same time, a very simple structure. The arrangement of Mr. Megaw is substantially the following:—a conical cup is surrounded by a band, both being perforated for the admission of steam, the band is fitted to the cup and turns steam-tight upon it. As the steam is let into the steam chest it presses equally upon the opposite sides of the band and also of the cup, thus one side is made to counterbalance the other. Measures are taken to secure a patent.

Improved Dental Instrument.

F. Davidson, of Liberty, Va., has invented an instrument for removing the saliva from the mouth during dental operations, particularly in filling'teeth. The manner in which Mr. Davidson accomplishes the object is by placing small tubes within the mouth to absorb or take up the saliva, which is thus conveyed by other tubes to a small cylinder or napkin placed upon the lap or by the side of the patient .-The saliva is absorbed or sucked up from the mouth by a small pump working within the cylinder, which may be operated by the subject or by another person standing by his de. Dentists are well aware of the difficulty often experienced in filling the lower teeth on account of the accumulation of saliva; sponges and astringent drugs are employed to remedy the inconvenience, but they are generally employed without success. The tubes are said to effect the object in a very desirable manner. The inventor has taken measures to secure his invention by patent.

The Atlantic steamship arrived at this port on last Saturday, having made the shortest passage this season, viz., nine days and twenty-two hours. This is the fastest passage the