

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN,

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(The Principal Office being at New York.)
By RUFUS PORTER.

Each number of this paper is furnished with from two to five ORIGINAL ENGRAVINGS, many of them elegant, and illustrative of New INVENTIONS, SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES, and CURIOSITIES; and contains as much Interesting Intelligence as six ordinary daily papers, consisting of notices of the progress of Mechanical and other *Scientific Improvements*.—American and Foreign Inventions; Catalogues of American Patents;—Scientific Essays, illustrative of the principles of the Sciences of Mechanics, Chemistry, and Architecture;—Instruction in various Arts and Trades;—curious Philosophical Experiments;—Miscellaneous Intelligence, Poetry, and, occasionally, Music.

This paper is especially entitled to the patronage of Mechanics and Manufacturers, being the only paper in America devoted to the interests of those classes; but is particularly useful to Farmers, as it will not only apprise them of improvements in agricultural implements, but instruct them in various mechanical trades, and guard them against impositions. As a family newspaper, it will convey more useful intelligence to children and young people, than five times its cost in school instruction. Another important argument in favor of this paper, is, that it will be worth two dollars at the end of the year, when the volume is complete, and will probably command that price in cash, if we may judge from the circumstance that old volumes of the "New York Mechanic," by the same editor, will now command double the original cost.

TERMS.—"The Scientific American" will be furnished to subscribers at \$2. per annum,—one dollar in advance, and the balance in six months.
 Five copies will be sent to one address six months, for four dollars in advance.

Any person procuring two or more subscribers, will be entitled to a commission of twenty-five cents each.
TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—For 10 lines, or less, 50 cents for the first, and 12 1/2 cents for every subsequent insertion.

The Mechanic's Saturday Night.
 Oh! sweet is the home of the toil-worn Mechanic,
 When labor is hush'd in the stillness of night;
 When the hum of commotion, disaster and panic,
 Is still as the stars in their orbits of light,
 But sweeter by far is the neat little mansion,
 When o'erflowing boards of his industry speak;
 When the sweat-covered wages by widest expansion,
 Replenish his stores at the close of the week.

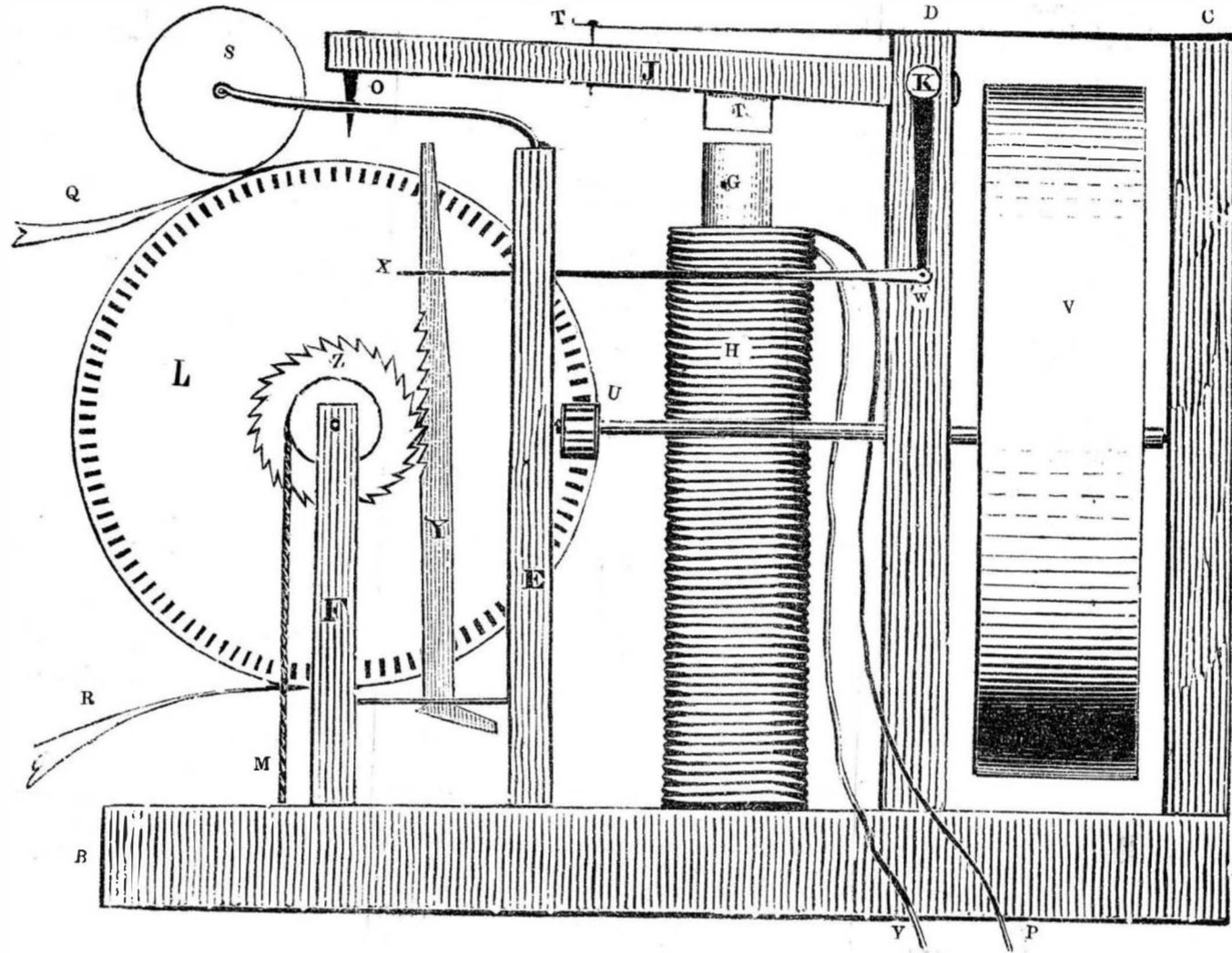
With plenty all smiling in natural splendor—
 With products of Nature, delicious and sweet,
 And the choicest of viands his earnings can render,
 All clustering high in the lowly retreat,
 How rich is the banquet—how great the profusion;
 How happy the man when his laboring ease—
 When his efforts are yielding the greatest diffusion,
 Of harmony, happiness, pleasure and peace.

Oh! bright is the hearth of the Workman at even,
 And kindly the feelings his bosom must know,
 When his generous heart in its fullness hath given,
 The bread he has earned by the sweat of his brow,
 And how sweet is the scene of the family of pleasure—
 The holy affections they fondly retain;
 When he clasps to his breast his own loving treasure,
 And fondles his little ones over again.

Ye spirits of mercy look down on his dwelling,
 And guard his abode in the midst of all harm,
 When the surges of poverty frightful are swelling,
 Or frown o'er his cottage adversity's storm,
 Oh! come like a pilot of truth on the ocean,
 And guide his lone bark to the haven he'd seek;
 And render his life in his country's devotion,
 As sweet as his home at the close of the week.

The World—as it is.
 The world is not so bad a world,
 As some would like to make it;
 Though whether good, or whether bad,
 Depends on how we take it.
 For if we scold and fret all day,
 From dewy morn till even,
 This world will ne'er afford to man
 A foretaste here of heaven.
 This world in truth's as good a world,
 As e'er was known to any
 Who have not seen another yet,
 And these are very many;
 And if the men and women too,
 Have plenty of employment,
 Those surely must be hard to please
 Who cannot find enjoyment.
 This world is quite a pleasant world,
 In rain or pleasant weather,
 If people would but learn to live
 In harmony together;
 Nor cease to burst the kindly bond
 By love and peace cemented,
 And learn that best of lessons yet,
 To always be contented.
 Then were the world a pleasant world,
 And pleasant folks were in it,
 The day would pass most pleasantly
 To those who thus begin it.
 And all the nameless grievances
 Brought on by borrowed troubles,
 Would prove, as certainly they are,
 A mass of empty bubbles!

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPH MACHINE.



EXPLANATION.—To the platform, A, B, the posts or uprights, C, D, E, and F, are secured, as also the electro magnet G partly enclosed in the helix H. This is an U magnet, (a front view of which is shown on the next page,) but this being a side view, only one pole thereof, G, appears in view. The armature I—one end of which only is shown,—is attached to a lever J, which is mounted on the pivot K. A metallic wheel or drum, L, is mounted on two posts, E, and is occasionally put in motion by a weight attached to the cord M. (This weight falling below the machine, is not shown in this view.) In the periphery of this drum is a slight groove; and a hardened steel point, O, is so adjusted in the lever J as to fall into this groove, when the lever is forced down. Whenever a circuit connection is formed between the helices and a galvanic battery, by means of the wires P and Z, the attractive power of the magnet instantly brings down the armature I, and with it the lever and the steel point or pencil, O. A long strip of paper, Q, R, is drawn from a roll, and is passed over the drum, L, being pressed between that and the roller S, which is held by two wire springs, which project from the post E. Another spring, T, projects from the heads of the posts C, D, and holds up the lever when the power of the magnet is suspended. On the end of the drum, and near its periphery, is a circle of gear-teeth, which take to the pinion U, and thereby puts in motion the fly-wheel V, which is mounted on the same shaft. This wheel, V, is hollow, being made of thin plate copper, and contains four or more apartments, formed by partitions extending from the axle nearly to the periphery. This wheel also contains a small quantity of alcohol, which retards the motion of the wheel, as it requires time to flow from one apartment to the next, as the wheel revolves. An arm, W, projects downward from the pivot K, (to which the lever J is attached,) and to the end of this arm, is connected by a pivot, a small metallic rod, W, X, which extends horizontally through the post E. The X end of this rod is flattened horizontally, and contains a vertical aperture, through which passes a vertical rack Y, the teeth of which take to those of a ratchet, Z, which is attached to the end of the drum. The bottom of this rack passes through a horizontal plate which extends across between the posts E and F; and the foot of the rack being turned or bent back, it can not be drawn through the plate, and consequently holds the drum from moving. But whenever the circuit-connection is made, the lever falls, which throws back the arm W and the rod X, which detaches the rack Y from its hold on the ratchet, and the rack descends by its own weight till its foot strikes the platform. It will be seen that the form of the foot is such as to incline the rack forward, which causes it to again take hold of the ratchet. As long as the telegraphic operation continues, the rack will be so frequently detached from the ratchet, that it will not retard the motion of the drum; but whenever the motion of the lever ceases, the rack will stop the drum in two or three seconds. The small drum or barrel from which the weight-cord M is suspended, is so constructed that the power or influence of the weight, as applied to the drum L, is not for a moment suspended, even while being wound up, [which may be done either by means of a crank attached to the axle, or by a treadle, operated by the foot of the attendant,] so that the forward motion of the drum never ceases during the continuance of telegraphic communication. This barrel,—denominated the *power retainer*,—is by itself an important invention, not hitherto known, and will be made the subject of an article in another number, with an engraving. When the drum and paper are in motion, the point O will make an indentation in the paper, as often as it falls to the drum; and these indentations are made shorter or longer, according to the time or duration of the circuit-connection. If the circuit is closed and broken with the utmost rapidity, a close succession of dots merely, will appear on the paper; but if the circuit is closed and broken with less rapidity, short lines or dashes and intervening spaces are made; and by means of certain combinations of dots, dashes, and spaces, all the letters of the alphabet, numerals, and a variety of words, and even sentences are expressed. These drums may each contain four or six grooves, and the levers may contain a corresponding number of points, so that 4 or 6 copies of each communication may be produced at the same time. The following example of four line communication, will suffice for the present

T H E S C I E N T I F I C A M E R I C A N

EXTRACT FROM AN OLD SCOTCH NEWSPAPER.—
 EDINBURGH, Feb. 7, 1707.
 Copy of a painter's bill presented to the Vestry for work done in our Church.
 To filling up a chink in the Red Sea and repairing the damages of Pharaoh's host.
 To a new pair of hands for Daniel in the Lion's Den, and a new set of teeth for the Lioness.
 To repairing Nebuchadnezzar's beard.
 To cleaning the whale's belly, varnishing Jonah's face and mending his left arm.
 To a new skirt for Jacob's garment.
 To a sheet anchor, a jury mast and a long boat for Noah's Ark.
 To giving a blush to the cheeks of Eve, on presenting an apple to Adam.
 To painting a new city in the land of Nod.
 To cleaning the garden of Eden, after Adam's expulsion.
 To making a bridle for the Samaritan's horse, and mending one of his legs.
 To putting a new handle to Moses' basket, and fitting bull-rushes.
 To adding more fuel to the fire of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace. Rec'd payment, D. Z.

THE GREAT CITY.—London upon, an average the last ten years, has paid annually \$48,840,000 in custom duties, or nearly half the whole amount of revenue raised from that department. There are 2,000 merchants and brokers within half a mile of the Exchange. The water companies supply 237,000,000 hogsheds every year, and the gas companies 10,000,000 cubic feet of gas, every twenty-four hours. In 1839, there were sold in Smithfield market 180,780 head of cattle, and 1,500,000 of sheep. The London newspapers consume 10,000,000 stamps annually. The steamboats carry 10,000 passengers every day. There are 10,000 miles of railroad, stretching from London into every part of the kingdom, completed at the expense of \$222,000,000. There are 58 canals, which cost about \$20,000,000. The business of the London bankers alone, averages \$333,000,000 a month!

INGENUOUS EXPEDIENT.—A workman who, by means of a rope, had ascended to the top of an immensely tall chimney, in Preston, Eng., found himself in an awkward predicament, by losing his rope. After turning the matter over in his mind a few minutes, he unravelled his stocking, lowered the length of worsted to the ground, and a piece of fine cord being attached, he was soon enabled to hoist the rope up again.
 Never judge a person's actions until you understand the motives which prompted them.

The Weekly "National Intelligencer."
 This paper, being made up of such a portion of the contents of the National Intelligencer proper, as can be compressed within the compass of a single newspaper, continues to be issued and mailed to subscribers every Saturday at Two Dollars a year, payable in advance, in all cases. No account being opened with subscribers to the Weekly paper.
 To bring this paper yet more nearly within the reach of such as desire to take by the year, a cheap paper from the seat of General Government, a reduction will be made in the price of it, where a number of copies are ordered and paid for by any one person, or association, at the following rates:
 For ten Dollars, six copies will be sent.
 For twenty Dollars, thirteen copies; and for every sum of Ten Dollars, above Twenty Dollars, eight copies will be forwarded; so that a remittance of fifty dollars will command thirty-seven copies.
 N. B. Publishers of papers, throughout the several States and Territories, who will give a single insertion of this advertisement, with this note annexed, and send one of their papers to this office with the advertisement marked therein, shall receive the Weekly National Intelligencer free of charge.
 Washington City Nov. 1845.
 It is a sign of wisdom to be willing to receive instruction—the most intelligent sometimes stand in need of it.

DAYS WITHOUT NIGHTS AND NIGHTS WITHOUT DAYS.—There is nothing that strikes a stranger more forcibly, if he visits Sweden at the season of the year when the days are longest, than the absence of night. The sun, in June, goes down at Stockholm a little before 10 o'clock. There is a great illumination all night, as the sun passes round the earth towards the north pole, and the refraction of its rays is such that you can see to read at midnight. There is a mountain at the head of the Gulf of Bothnia, where, on the 21st of June, the sun does not go down at all. Travellers go up there to see it. A steambat goes up from Stockholm for the purpose of carrying those who are curious to witness this phenomenon. It only occurs one night. The sun goes down to the horizon, you can see the whole face of it, and in five minutes it begins to rise. At the North Cape, lat 72 degrees, the sun does not go down for several weeks. In June, it would be about 25 degrees above the horizon at midnight. The way people there know it is midnight, they see the sun begin to rise. The changes in those high latitudes, from summer to winter are so great, that we can have no conception of them at all. In the winter time the sun disappears and is not seen for six weeks. Then it comes up and shows its face. Afterward it remains for ten, fifteen or twenty minutes, and then descends. And finally, it does not set at all, but makes almost a circle round the heavens. Birds and animals take their accustomed rest at their usual hours. The hens take to the trees about 7 o'clock P. M., and stay there until the sun is well up in the morning—and the people get into this habit of late rising, too. The Swedes in the cities are not very industrious, owing probably to the climate.

FLORIDA EVERGLADES.—The labors of the surveyors who have recently been in the Southern portions of Florida, seem to demonstrate the correctness of the opinions which all who have carefully examined the subject have entertained upon the practicability of draining the everglades. They are found to be considerably above the level of the sea, and it is supposed that an enlargement of the Miami, and other rivers flowing from them into the Atlantic, will drain the waters from millions of acres. If this be ever done, South Florida will indeed be the garden of our country; for in addition to its adaptation to the culture of tropical fruit and hemp, this immense tract will secure unequalled advantages of soil, climate, and position, to the sugar, cotton, rice and tobacco planters.

COUNTING HOUSE ALMANAC—1846.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY					1	2	3
31 days.	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
FEBRUARY		1	2	3	4	5	6
28 days.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
MARCH		1	2	3	4	5	6
31 days.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
APRIL					1	2	3
30 days.		5	6	7	8	9	10
		12	13	14	15	16	17
		19	20	21	22	23	24
		26	27	28	29	30	
MAY						1	2
30 days.		3	4	5	6	7	8
		10	11	12	13	14	15
		17	18	19	20	21	22
		24	25	26	27	28	29
		31					
JUNE					1	2	3
31 days.		7	8	9	10	11	12
		14	15	16	17	18	19
		21	22	23	24	25	26
		28	29	30			
JULY						1	2
31 days.		5	6	7	8	9	10
		12	13	14	15	16	17
		19	20	21	22	23	24
		26	27	28	29	30	31
AUGUST							1
31 days.		2	3	4	5	6	7
		9	10	11	12	13	14
		16	17	18	19	20	21
		23	24	25	26	27	28
		30	31				
SEPTEMBER					1	2	3
30 days.		6	7	8	9	10	11
		13	14	15	16	17	18
		20	21	22	23	24	25
		27	28	29	30		
OCTOBER						1	2
31 days.		4	5	6	7	8	9
		11	12	13	14	15	16
		18	19	20	21	22	23
		25	26	27	28	29	30
		31					
NOVEMBER					1	2	3
30 days.		8	9	10	11	12	13
		15	16	17	18	19	20
		22	23	24	25	26	27
		29	30				
DECEMBER						1	2
31 days.		6	7	8	9	10	11
		13	14	15	16	17	18
		20	21	22	23	24	25
		27	28	29	30	31	

