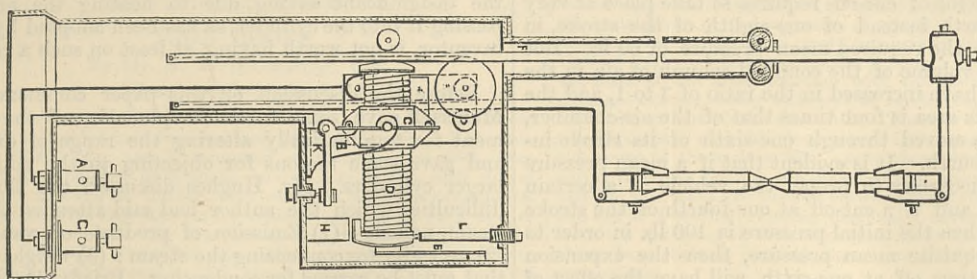


THE PARIS ELECTRICAL EXHIBITION.
No. XIII.

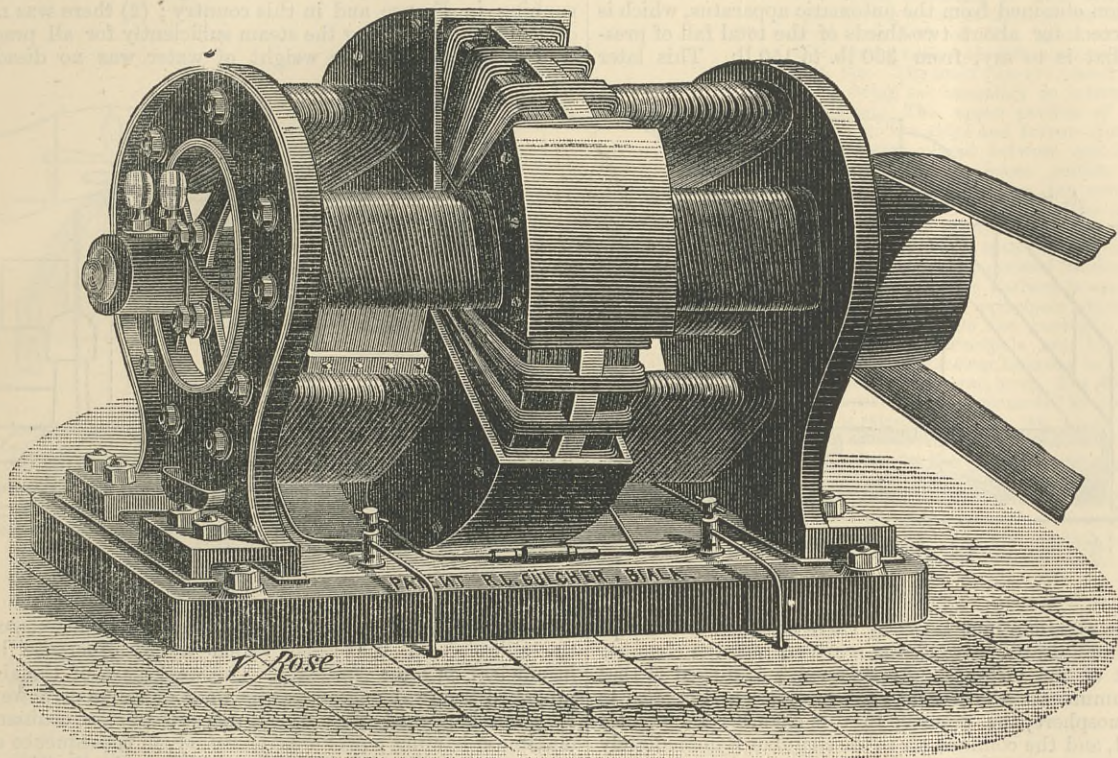
The Gülcher machine in the Austrian section can hardly lay claim to originality in principle. Its armature is a Pacinotti or a Brush ring, but the arrangement of the

current during each revolution. Mr. Gulcher, like all those who have designed fairly good machines, makes his machines of low internal resistance, that at Paris having a resistance of only 0.12 ohm, while the field magnets are wound with insulated copper cord. Mr. Gülcher also exhibits an arc lamp, a section of which we give.

axis C. As the carbons burn away D gradually resumes its normal position. The normal arc being thus made, the increase of the arc leads to a diminution of the current, and consequently the decrease of the action of the pole on the rod F, thereby allowing the carbon to fall. It may be interesting to notice in this place how Mr. Gülcher arranges his circuits. It is in reality equivalent to having a separate wire for every lamp. He calculates the section of wire required for any arrangement, and then calculates the diameter of the wire, of which say for twelve lamps,



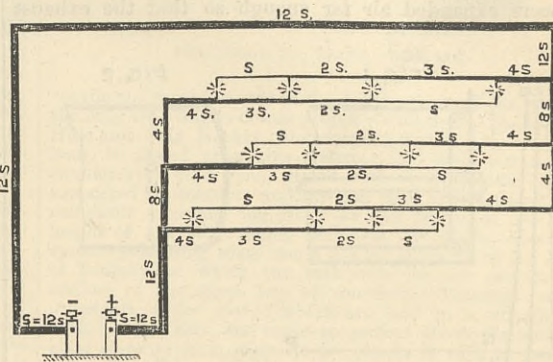
GULCHER'S LAMP.



GULCHER'S DYNAMO MACHINE.

field magnets may be noticed. There are four pairs of these magnets so arranged that the opposed poles are of the same name, and are joined by massive \square shaped pole pieces. The armature revolving almost entirely within

The upper and lower carbons are connected by cords. D is an electro-magnet, in front of which, and partially as an armature, is the rod connected to the upper carbon-holder. The polar surfaces of D are



GULCHER'S CIRCUITS.

twelve strands of wire arranged cable fashion will conduct the current. The twelve wires go from the + pole of the machine to No. 1 lamp, when one wire branches off through lamp to - pole of the machine, leaving eleven strands going to No. 2 lamp, where another wire branches off through the lamp, and so on. The illustration shows twelve lamps arranged in parallel columns, the numbers 12s, 11s, &c., showing the number of strands of wire in any given position.

Turning from electric light apparatus to notice new applications, we think that one of the most interesting is the adaptation to hoists or lifts. Dr. Hopkinson, F.R.S., has designed such an apparatus which is shown by Messrs. Clark, Muirhead, and Co. The hoist is intended to be used instead of pulley blocks, the power used being obtained from an electric current instead of manual labour. The weight of the apparatus is about two hundredweights, and it can be easily and speedily hung overhead by a couple of chains, shown in our engravings. The motor is a small Siemens dynamo-electric machine, but of course it might consist of a Gramme, Brush, Bürgin, or any other similar machine. The machine, through gearing, drives a chain pulley, within which is a Weston clutch. Over the pulley hangs a chain with hooks at both ends. The whole system being completely reversible, a weight can be lifted by either hook. The reversal is effected by a movement of the commutator brushes controlled by a light rope. On pulling one end of the rope, motion of the chain takes place in one direction; on pulling the other end, the chain moves in the opposite direction. The Weston clutch comes into operation where the attendant accidentally or intentionally lets go the rope, and the weight hangs safely suspended.

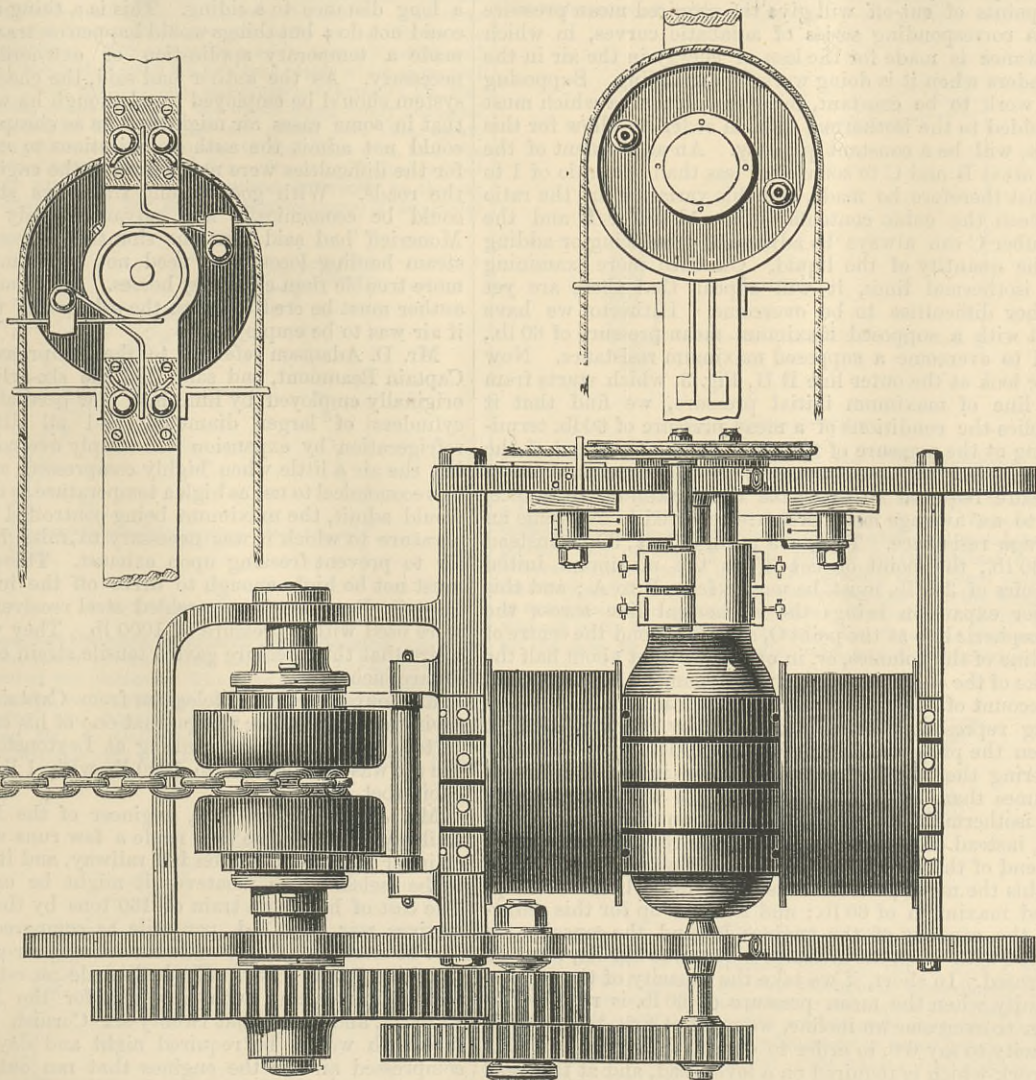
The hoist shown will lift about 5 cwt. held directly by one of the hooks, or 10 cwt. by the aid of a snatch block—the speed of lifting depending on the electromotive force of the producing machine. It is estimated that any of the ordinary electric light machines would be capable of causing the lift to hoist 5 cwt. 2ft. per second. It is hardly necessary to point out that a lift of this kind would in many instances be of the greatest convenience, and could be used when space or other considerations prevented the use of ropes or gearing. It also adds to the use to which a dynamo machine introduced into the works can be put, and so lowers the percentage of outlay incurred by such introduction.

THE INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.

On the conclusion of the discussion on Mr. Copeland's paper reported in our last impression, Mr. Scott-Moncreiff read a paper on

COMPRESSED AIR UPON TRAMWAYS.

In this paper the author first recounted the various objections which have long been urged against the use of steam on tramways and the working of steam tramway engines. He next gave his reasons for thinking that in many cases compressed air tramway engines could be used with advantage, and even with economy. In his reasoning, however, there was nothing which has not been previously urged against steam engines and in favour of compressed air, though it was admitted that that motor should be adopted which was most cheaply and efficiently available, and that in some cases this would be the steam engine. He then described at great length the various circumstances, and conditions of the design of a tram-car with engines receivers, and other gear, as indicated in Figs. 5 and 6. The wheel base is 5ft. Three cylindrical receivers, each 2ft. in diameter, and of the overhanging space, or 8ft. in length, are used at each end. These were first made as shown in Fig. 1. By means of a process of welding by gas jets, receivers are now made as at Fig. 2. The working pressure is about 22 atmospheres, but the receiver was tested to 750 lb. on the square inch. In working an engine with compressed air from a receiver a tolerably uniform resistance has to be overcome by a constantly decreasing pressure of air. The disadvantage of working by reducing the pressure before the air passes into the cylinders is that it entails the loss of a great amount of energy. See Fig. 3. Starting with a reduced pressure of 100 lb. per square inch, as against the 300 lb. initial pressure, the loss of energy is represented at first by four times the area BCDE for every revolution of the wheels, in the case of a two-cylinder double-acting engine. This area will decrease with the decreasing pressure, and the



HOPKINSON'S HOIST.

these pole pieces, cuts nearly all the lines of force of the field magnets, and as the pole pieces and the form of armature both aid in keeping the coils cool, it ought to be a fairly economical machine. Two sets of brushes are used at the commutator, there being four reversals of the

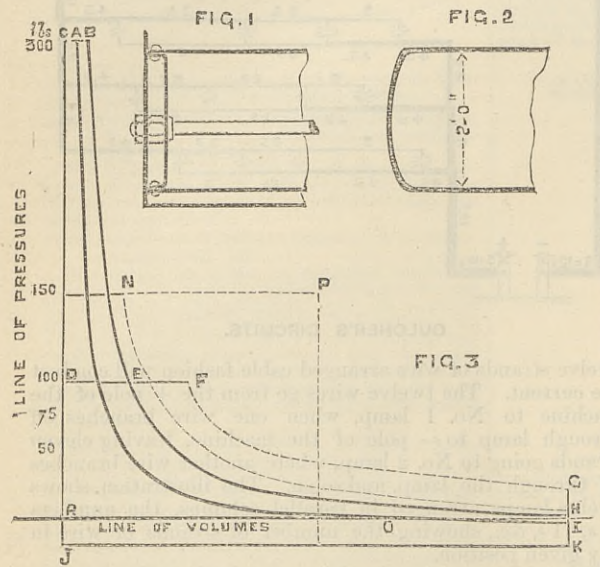
rounded off as shown. Ordinarily D presses against the stop L by the action of a spring, the tension of which is regulated by the lever K. When a current passes through D one pole holds the rod, the other pole being drawn towards the block H, the magnet D moving about the

gross loss is great. Again, where the pressure is reduced as low as one-third of the initial pressure, there is a great loss attending heavy work in consequence of late cut off and high pressure exhaust. Compressed air in receivers cannot be dealt with by reducing the pressure before using it without a great loss of power. In the diagram isothermal lines have been chosen to illustrate the meaning, on account of their simplicity. If adiabatic curves had been taken, allowing for the thermal equivalent of the work done in the cylinders, the same remarks would have applied to them at a higher point upon the scale of pressures. If engineers expanded air far enough so that the exhaust

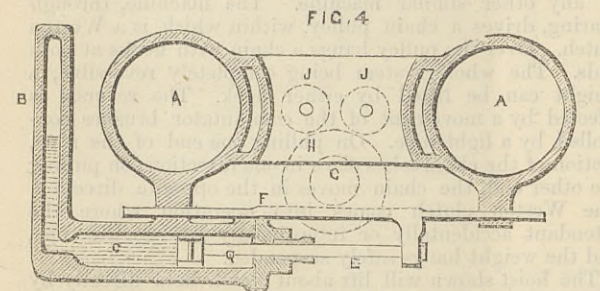
will be rendered correspondingly later. When the pressure has been reduced in the receivers by one-half, the pressure of the air confined in B being correspondingly diminished, its volume will have doubled. Hence the toothed rack would have moved through half its stroke, and would thus have moved the valves half-way towards their latest point of cut-off. When the pressure is reduced from 150 lb. to 100 lb., the point of cut-off requires to take place at very nearly one-fourth instead of one-eighth of the stroke, in order to give the required mean pressure of 60 lb. But at 100 lb. the volume of the confined column of air in the chamber will have increased in the ratio of 3 to 1, and the piston D, if its area is four times that of the air-chamber, will only have moved through one-sixth of its stroke instead of one fourth. It is evident that if a mean pressure of 60 lb. is necessary to propel the vehicle at a certain desired speed, and if a cut-off at one-fourth of the stroke is necessary when the initial pressure is 100 lb. in order to obtain the requisite mean pressure, then the expansion apparatus, cutting off at one-sixth, will have the effect of lessening the speed of the vehicle. Thus towards the end of the journey it becomes necessary to alter the rate of expansion obtained from the automatic apparatus, which is only correct for about two-thirds of the total fall of pressure—that is to say, from 300 lb. to 150 lb. This later

scale, and when furnace coals are to be obtained at 10s. per ton. The present car, as made for the writer by Messrs. Neilson and Co., Hyde Park Locomotive Works, Glasgow, travels seven miles with one charge of air at the moderate pressure of 26 atmospheres, and this with a load of forty passengers, and including about twenty-five stoppages and reversings of the engines. It is clear that the insignificant saving due to heating the air before passing it into the cylinder, as has been adopted by another inventor, is not worth having, at least on such a route.

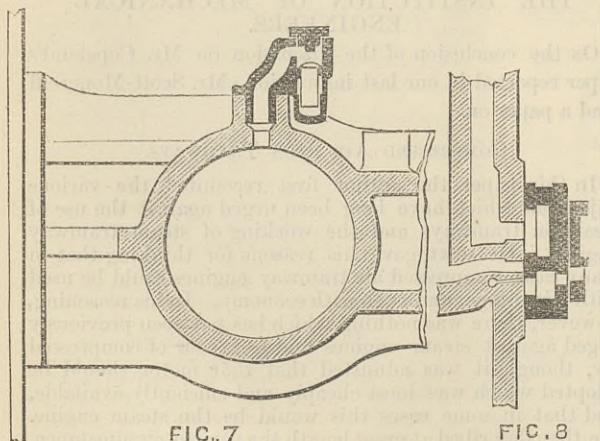
Before the discussion on this paper commenced, Mr. Moncrieff gave some further explanation of the arrangement for automatically altering the range of expansion, and gave some reasons for objecting to the adoption of larger cylinders. Mr. Hughes discussed the three chief difficulties which the author had said attended the use of steam, namely—(1) Emission of products of combustion; (2) necessity for condensing the steam; (3) weight of water that must be carried for condensing. Briefly, Mr. Hughes's answer to these was—(1) The products of combustion caused no inconvenience on the large number of cars running in France and in this country; (2) there was no difficulty in condensing the steam sufficiently for all practical purposes; (3) the weight of water was no disad-



took place at the pressure of the atmosphere, the loss of heat would be only the mechanical equivalent of the work done in the cylinders, without the additional loss of temperature at the end of the stroke, which occurs when a residual pressure is left to communicate momentum to the atoms composing the elastic medium. The writer found this to be the case by experiment, and thus showed that troubles from the formation of ice could only arise when the air escaped from the cylinders above the pressure of the atmosphere. Fig. 4 shows an apparatus devised for the purpose of automatically altering the range of expansion.



tion. A A are the engine cylinders. In chamber B is air at the pressure in the receivers. C is a chamber filled with a liquid so as to provide an hydraulic instead of a pneumatic connection with the piston D, which moves backwards or forwards as the pressure upon either side of it is increased or diminished. The piston rod E is attached to a toothed rack F, acting upon a pinion G, which revolves with the wheel H; and this in its turn gives a rotary motion to the pinions J J keyed to the valve spindles. These spindles, being turned to the right or left, give motion to cut-off valves placed upon the backs of the main valves, by altering their relative positions through the agency of right and left-hand screws. In this way the movements of



the piston D are conveyed directly to the valves, so as to vary the period of cut-off in accordance with the position of the toothed rack. Turn now to the diagram, Fig. 3. It will be seen that a mean pressure of 60 lb. will be given by the outer black line B H if the initial pressure is 300 lb. and exhaust at the pressure of the atmosphere. This mean pressure can only be obtained when the reservoir pressure has fallen to 100 lb., by cutting off at one-fourth instead of one-twentieth of the stroke. The pressure of the receivers, during the process of pumping, is admitted to the forward end of the piston D, Fig. 4, in the space Q, and therefore, as the pressure rises it forces back the piston until the motion is arrested by the confined air in the chamber B. Suppose the maximum pressure in the receiver and the piston D back so that the valves are adjusted to their earliest points of cut-off; and then, as the pressure in the receivers begins to diminish, the piston will be moved forward by the superior elasticity of the confined air in the chamber B, and the point of cut-off

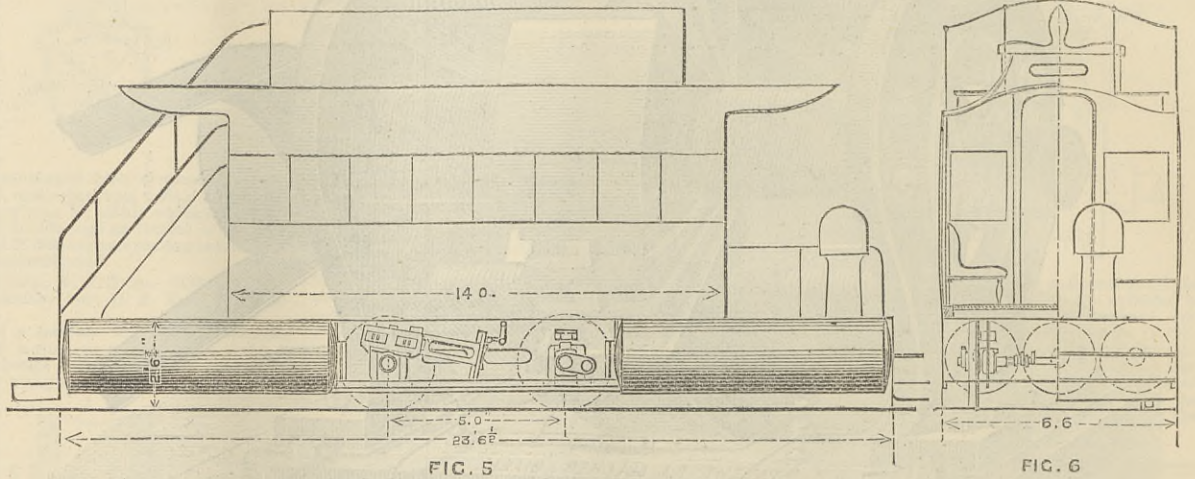
cut-off is obtained by a two-way valve attached to the pipe that communicates between the receivers and the chamber in front of the piston D. If this valve is turned so that the communication is closed to the receivers and opened to the atmosphere, the pressure in this chamber is instantly reduced, and the confined air in the chamber B immediately thrusts the piston D forward, so as to set the valves to a later point of cut-off. Turning to Fig. 3, it will be seen that many difficulties have still to be overcome. The ratio of the cubic contents of the two chambers B and C, when arranged as 1 to 4, is only right for the isothermal lines which we have already made use of for the purpose of explanation, besides being only correct for about two-thirds of the journey. The two areas must be adjusted so that the points of cut-off will give the required mean pressure for a corresponding series of adiabatic curves, in which allowance is made for the loss of energy in the air in the cylinders when it is doing work by expanding. Supposing the work to be constant, the dynamical area which must be added to the isothermal area, in order to allow for this work, will be a constant quantity. An adjustment of the two areas B and C to something less than the ratio of 1 to 4 must therefore be made, and this variation in the ratio between the cubic contents of the chamber B and the chamber C can always be adjusted by reducing or adding to the quantity of the liquid. On once more examining the isothermal lines, it will appear that there are yet further difficulties to be overcome. Hitherto we have dealt with a supposed maximum mean pressure of 60 lb., used to overcome a supposed maximum resistance. Now if we look at the outer line B H, Fig. 3, which starts from the line of maximum initial pressure, we find that it supplies the conditions of a mean pressure of 60 lb. terminating at the pressure of the atmosphere at the end of the stroke. Let us now turn, not to the maximum mean pressure required to overcome the maximum resistance, but to an average mean pressure required to overcome an average resistance. To use a mean of, say, 30 lb. instead of 60 lb., the point of cut-off at the maximum initial pressure of 300 lb. must be moved from B to A; and this earlier expansion brings the isothermal line across the atmospheric line at the point O, a little beyond the centre of the line of the volumes, or, in other words, at about half the stroke of the engine. In this way a dynamical loss will occur, on account of the back pressure of the atmosphere, this loss being represented on the diagram by the area H I O. When the pressure has dropped to 100 lb. it is necessary to bring the point of cut-off further in on the line of volumes than the point F, and in this way to terminate the isothermal line at the point H on the atmospheric line, instead of at G, so as to save the residual pressure at the end of the stroke represented by the height G H. To do this the mean pressure must be reduced below the supposed maximum of 60 lb.; and to make up for this reduction the capacity of the engines beyond the capacity we started with when the initial pressure was 300 lb., must be increased. In short, if we take the capacity of the engines as unity when the mean pressure of 60 lb. is required in order to overcome an incline, we must at first reduce their capacity to say 0.6, in order to obtain the normal amount of work which is required on a level road, and at the same time terminate the stroke at the pressure of the atmosphere; and on the other hand, when the initial pressure is reduced to 100 lb., we must have an earlier cut-off if we are to finish at atmospheric pressure, and must increase the capacity of the engines above unity in order to make up for it. Now the expense of the fuel for driving the writer's car is only about a half-penny per mile, when used on a large

vantage, and often was of great advantage in increasing the adhesion on the rails, which would otherwise be insufficient on some gradients. The weak part of the air-propelled tramway engine was its want of range of power. It often happened that much more than the ordinary maximum hauling power was necessary, in consequence of snowy roads or breakdowns. As an instance he mentioned that, on one occasion, the brakes of an engine in Paris stuck fast, and the engine could not be got to move. Its stopping would have stopped the whole traffic for some time, if the engines had not a considerable range of power. This enabled the next engine that came up to raise steam in a few minutes to full pressure, and then push the disabled engine and its car, as well as hauling its own car, a long distance to a siding. This is a thing an air engine could not do; but things would happen on tramways which made a temporary application of extraordinary power necessary. As the author had said, the cheapest efficient system should be employed; and though he would not say that in some cases air might not be as cheap as steam, he could not admit the author's objections to steam engines, for the difficulties were not now with the engines but with the roads. With good strong tramways steam engines could be economically and advantageously used. Mr. Moncrieff had said that the shunting necessary with the steam hauling locomotive need not cause much, or any, more trouble than changing horses. He thought that the author must be credited with the solution of the problem, if air was to be employed.

Mr. D. Adamson referred to the compressed air car of Captain Beaumont, and said that the six-cylinder engine originally employed by him had now been altered to two cylinders of larger diameter, and all difficulty with refrigeration by expansion was simply overcome by heating the air a little when highly compressed, and indeed it was economical to use as high a temperature as the lubricants would admit, the maximum being controlled by the temperature to which it was necessary to raise high-pressure air to prevent freezing upon exhaust. This temperature must not be high enough to drive off the lubricant. In Captain Beaumont's car, welded steel receivers 1 in. thick were used with a pressure of 1000 lb. They were of such a size that this pressure gave a tensile strain of 8 tons per square inch.

M. Bourgeron read a telegram from Captain Beaumont, saying, amongst other things, that one of his cars weighing 12 tons was successfully running at Leytonstone, and that the air was compressed to 1000 lb. with 1 lb. of coal per cubic foot.

Mr. J. Tomlinson, jun., engineer of the Metropolitan Railway, said that he had made a few runs with the six-cylinder Beaumont car on his railway, and it was proved to be useless there, whatever it might be on tramways. The cost of hauling a train of 150 tons by the steam locomotives was only 1 1/2 d. per mile as compared with even Mr. Moncrieff's 1/2 d. per mile for his one air-propelled car weighing 7 tons 7 cwt. He had made an estimate of the cost of introducing such a system for the Metropolitan Railway, and found that twenty-six Cornish boilers 40ft. in length would be required night and day to provide compressed air for the engines that ran out of Aldgate alone. These, with the engines and machinery and other plant, would require about 5 acres of land, and altogether it would cost more than the whole of the engines on the line and their working for a long time. The air engine had no recuperative power, and for many reasons could not be successful for traffic such as that on the Metropolitan Railway.



Mr. Walker spoke of the very successful working of the tramway locomotives made by Messrs. Kitson and Co., on the Leeds tramways.

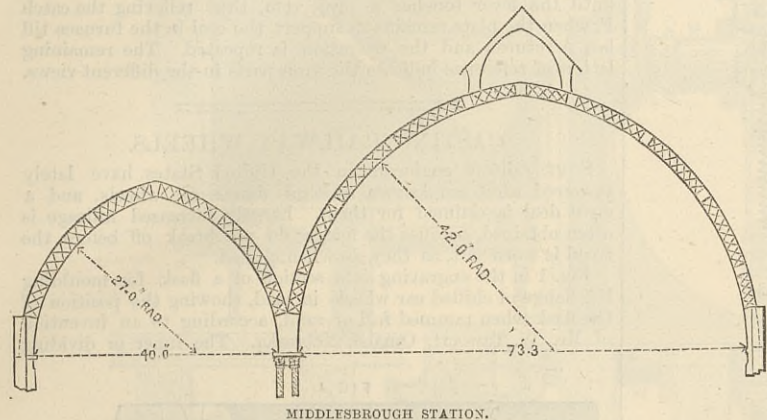
Mr. Scott Moncrieff then briefly replied to the discussion, and the business of the meeting concluded, the paper on water meters, by Mr. J. J. Tylor, being postponed.

IRON ROOFS.

By Mr. A. T. WALMSLEY, C.E.

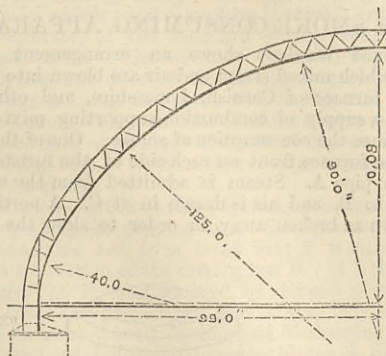
[Continued from page 336.]

THE roof over the Middlesbrough Station of the North-Eastern Railway is divided into two spans of unequal lengths. The main roof is 309ft. long, and is composed of principals of 76ft. span formed in a pointed arch shape, having a radius to each side of 42ft. and meeting at the top, over which is fixed an ornamental ridge, fitted with side louvres for ventilation, and at each end of the station two main ribs are placed close together to carry the screen. The main ribs of the side roofs are similar in construction, with a radius of rib equal to 27ft. struck from two centres, forming a span of 43ft. 8in.; the length is 183ft., and the roof is divided



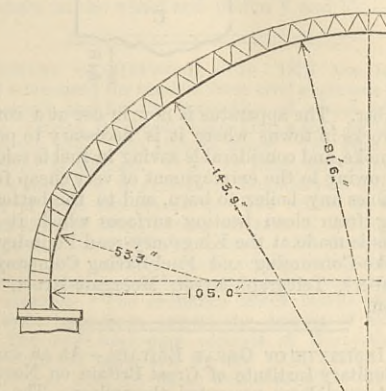
MIDDLESBROUGH STATION.

longitudinally between the end walls into nine spaces by eight double columns, over which the principals of the two roofs meet. The columns are connected by spandril girders carrying two intermediate ribs in each bay; the feet of the other end of the principals rest on side walls, which also carry the remaining ribs of the single roof, and are constructed to take the thrust of the outside ribs. The roof was designed in 1876 by Mr. W. Peachey. Each half of the main ribs of the St. Pancras station roof consists of two segments of circles with radii of 57ft. and 160ft. respectively, meeting in the centre, at a height of 96ft. above the level of the platform. The section of the rib varies to the same extent near the springing, the lower end of the rafter in a roof having to resist the maximum strain. The feet of the principals are each secured to an anchor plate built into the wall and strongly fastened down by four bolts 3in. in diameter, as well as connected below the level of the rail by a 1/2in. plate, which is rivetted on to the bottom flange of the wrought iron main floor girder of the platform. There are twenty-five of these main ribs in the roof, between which trussed purlins at every 18ft. 6in. carry intermediate ribs. The principals are placed 29ft. 4in. apart, and the roof is 690ft. long. The purlins help to stiffen the lower flanges of the main ribs longitudinally, and the whole is braced diagonally. The roof cost £31 10s. per square, and was designed by Mr. W. H. Barlow. The St. Enoch's Station, Glasgow, is covered with an arched roof of somewhat similar construction, but the main rib consists of a curve of five centres, struck with three radii, 40ft. at the springing, 125ft. at the middle of each side, and carried 90ft. over the centre. The clear span is 198ft., and the rise 80ft. from the soffit of the rib to the level of the platform. The principals are 5ft. deep all round, and are secured at the foot of each rib to a base plate, which is carried in about 13ft. under the platform, and projects externally 1ft. 9in. from the outside of the principal, the whole being firmly anchored down by 2 1/2in. bolts. The principals are placed 36ft. 10in. apart, connected by purlins supporting four intermediate ribs, and the whole is braced diagonally by wind ties. The end principal is filled in to serve as a wind screen, but is arranged differently to that at St. Pancras Station. In St. Enoch's Station there is no girder



ST. ENOCH'S STATION.

across the span, but the gable is trussed and bracketed firmly to the purlins, the lower portion being curved and rising 33ft. 9in. above the level of the platform. The wind pressure on the screen is thus transmitted to the purlins. The station forms the terminus of the Glasgow and South-Western Railway, the consulting engineer being Mr. A. Galloway. The roof over the Central Station, Manchester, is very similar to St. Enoch's, but wider, being

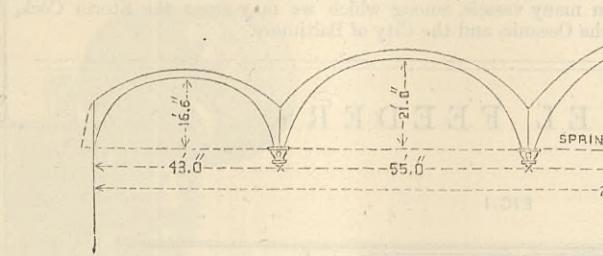


MANCHESTER CENTRAL STATION.

210ft. clear span, with a rise from springing level to the crown of 84ft. 10in. The principal is composed of five centres struck

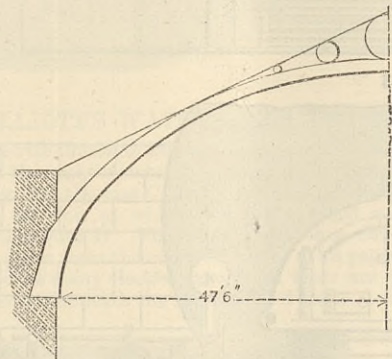
with three radii of 53ft. 3in., 91ft. 6in., and 143ft. 9in. respectively. The principals are 35ft. apart, dividing the roof into sixteen bays, and the feet of the principals are anchored down to masonry foundations. There are four intermediate ribs, except in the end bays, where an additional main rib is substituted for the last intermediate rib, and the gable screen is made more like St. Pancras Station than St. Enoch's Station. The principals are connected by purlins and diagonal bracing forming wind ties, and the whole work was designed and carried out by Mr. L. H. Moorsom to the satisfaction of the engineers of the Midland, Great Northern, and Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire railways. The Drill Hall at Derby is built on a similar principle without any direct tie, the form of the arch, together with the purlin connections and diagonal bracing, being sufficient to render the construction rigid and independent of the side walls. There are nine wrought iron ribs 75ft. span, each 2ft. deep placed 15ft. apart, and the level of the crown of the arch is 30ft. apart above the ground. The ribs spring from the ground, the lower portion being made of cast iron, and the side walls are built in between these standards. The wind ties are of T section, running diagonally under the roof covering from the springing of each alternate rib to the crown of the arch three bays distant, crossing the intermediate ribs at the purlin connections.

The York Station belonging to the North-Eastern Railway is 234ft. in width between side walls, and is divided into four spans consisting of two arches of 55ft. span having a rise of 21ft. above the springing level, one arch of 81ft. span with a rise of 27ft., and another of 43ft. span with a rise of 16ft. 6in. The main ribs are placed 10ft. apart, there being no secondary or intermediate ribs employed. The upper portion of the roof is glazed on the ridge and furrow system, carried on stiffeners placed between and attached to the principals, the lower portion being connected by purlins carrying the covering. The length of the roof is 795ft. The roof is built on a curve in plan, the centre line of the main roof of 81ft. span having a radius of 1131ft. 6in. The Sunderland Station belonging to the North-Eastern Railway is covered with a roof constructed of principals similar to those in York Station, but the glazing is differently arranged. The principals are arched ribs of 95ft. span, with a clear headway in the centre of 45ft. 6in. above the rail level. The ribs are placed 10ft. apart and are connected by purlins. The ridge is raised about 9ft. 6in. above the bottom flange of the arch at the crown to carry the rafters which run down on each side in a straight line to the gutters resting on the side walls, which are raised at the abutments to meet them. The upper portion is glazed, and curved glazing is thus avoided. The outside lower portion is slated, while the interior view shows curved boarding carried on the main ribs. The best method of glazing is most open to argument. The ridge-and-furrow system admits of



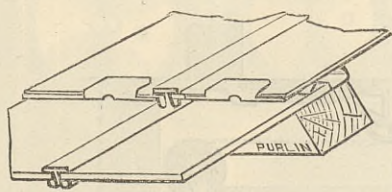
YORK STATION.

easy access for repairs, but it is evident that where the ridge-and-furrow follows the curve or pitch of the roof, one side of the sash bar suffers more from the weather than the other, destroying the putty, whereas when the sash bars are parallel to the main ribs the water runs off uninterruptedly. When putty is used it should



SUNDERLAND STATION.

have tallow mixed with it, as in the "thermo-plastic putty" manufactured by Sir W. A. Rose and Co., of Upper Thames-street, which, with due care in preparation, is found to harden in a few hours after it is used; but, when exposed to solar heat, sufficient to cause the expansion of the glass and metal, becomes plastic, and on cooling again returns to its original firmness. Where ordinary putty is used for glazing in exposed situations, fractures and leakages are sure to occur, and it is the wisest plan to avoid the use of putty altogether. Several methods for glazing without putty have been proposed. The favourite plan patented by the late Mr. W. E. Rendle, who was the originator of the

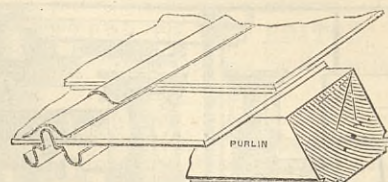


RENDEL'S GLASS ROOFING.

system, consists in constructing the sash bar in such a manner that any water finding its way through is immediately carried along the inside of the bar on to the outside of the square below, and so off the roof. Thus with a moderately steep incline of roof there is no drip either from condensation or water driven in during violent gales of wind, and the glass having full play in every direction is free from the effects of contraction and expansion in the framework of the roof produced by variations of temperature. Patent metallic bars are employed which are more durable than ordinary sash bars, and curved roofs can be glazed by this method with straight glass. The system has been largely adopted in several roofs, both of small and great dimensions.

Another system of glazing without putty has been patented by Mr. T. W. Helliwell, of Brighouse, Yorkshire, which, though not so well known as other systems, possesses many advantages deserving our attention. The glass is made to fit close all round

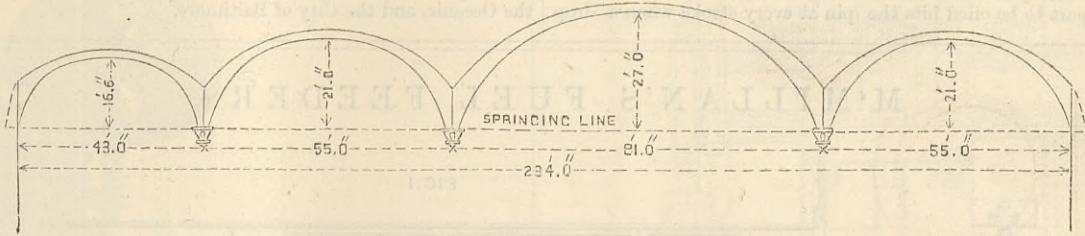
each square, so that there is no rattle in high wind, and the glass also receives sufficient support at the sides to be adapted to steep slopes. No air is admitted except such as is provided for by special



HELLIWELL'S GLASS ROOFING

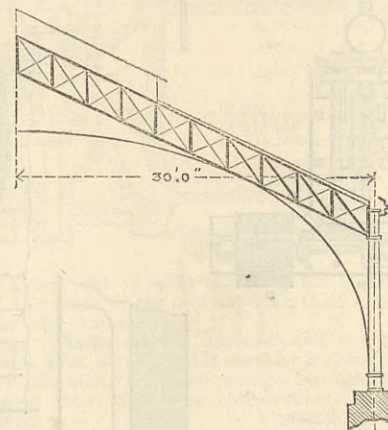
ventilating arrangements in the construction of the roof, which is the only true way to obtain proper ventilation. The roof over the Hide and Skin Market, Manchester, designed by Mr. F. H. Oldham, is glazed upon this system. The main rafters consist of circular ribs, 90ft. span, glazed with straight glass. The roof is supported on columns and girders, and is ventilated by louvre standards carrying the ridge at the crown of the arch, the height of the ridge being 66ft. 4in. above the floor. A third system possessing some merit is that patented by Mr. J. Watson, of Torquay, in which the sash bars do not project above the surface of the glass, but at convenient distances, or over the principals of the roof, timbers are laid in a direction parallel with the sash bars, and made to project above the surface of the glass so as to form supports for planks in case of necessary repair. The Winter Garden at Torquay, designed by Mr. Max-am-Ende, is glazed on this system. It was erected in 1880, and consists of a central pavilion 60ft. square, with two transepts serving as entrance halls to the pavilion and two wings, each 96ft. long, roofed over with principals of 60ft. span placed 12ft. apart, and formed of lattice girders strengthened with elliptical wrought iron arches having cast ornamental spandrels, the whole being connected together to act as an arch. Each wing and transept terminates in a gable constructed of cast iron framework. The slope of the roof is 1 in 2, and Z-shaped purlins formed of angle irons are placed 3ft. apart in plan, to which are fixed wooden purlins grooved on top, the grooves containing small zinc gutters. The glass is laid without lap lengthways, a clear space of 1/2in. being left upon the sash bars, while crossways the usual lap over the purlins is allowed. The corner of the four panes meeting at the intersection of the zinc gutters with the laps are held down by a galvanised bolt and india-rubber washer.

Whatever system of glazing is adopted, a glazier's tool should never be used in the construction of a roof, as it is easy to ascertain the usual sizes manufactured, and work them in accordingly. In the erection of roofs, it is necessary to take care not to create an initial strain upon the various portions greater than they are calculated to bear, and this precaution is especially necessary to



TORQUAY WINTER GARDEN.

observe with purlins. It is also essential in all rivetted work to observe that the rivet holes are carefully marked and accurately punched or drilled, as in the narrow bars usually employed in roof constructions, the stability of the structure is likely to become endangered by errors of workmanship. The roof over the reading room at the British Museum consists of a dome 140ft. in diameter, formed of twenty iron ribs springing from the base and united at the top by a circular ring surmounted by a lantern 40ft. in diameter. The main ribs, 106ft. in height, are filled in with brick arches, and



TORQUAY WINTER GARDEN.

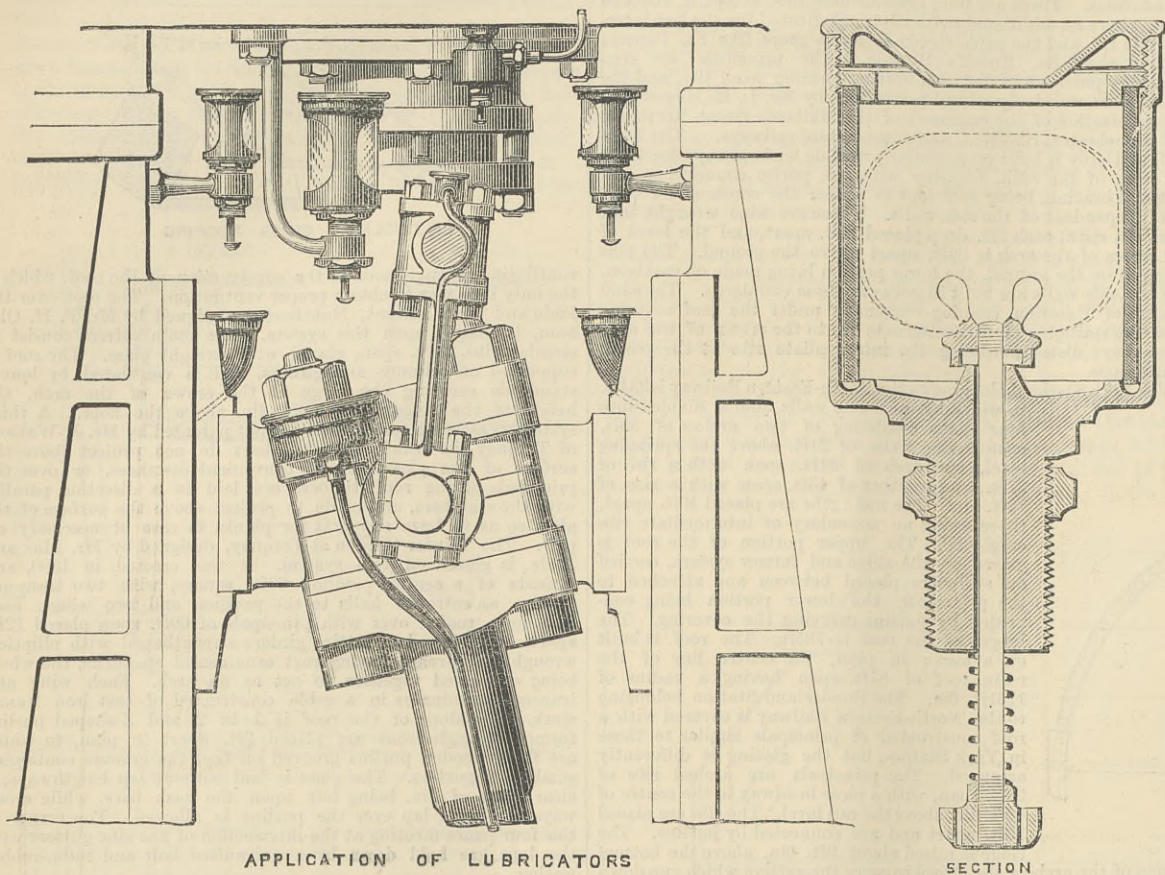
are supported upon twenty iron piers built into brickwork, each having a bearing surface of 10 square feet, including the casing, or 200ft. in all. The form of the roof was the original idea of Mr. afterwards Sir Anthony Panizzi, then principal librarian of the British Museum; the details being worked out by the late Mr. Sydney Smirke, the architect to the trustees, who was assisted in his design by the late Mr. Fielder. The excellent ventilating arrangements were carried out on Haydon's system, and the building was completed in 1857.

(To be continued.)

THE CUNARD STEAMER SERVIA.—This magnificent screw steamship, the largest that has been built on the Clyde, after having had a new shaft fitted on board in place of the original one which was found to be faulty, proceeded down the Clyde on Tuesday, assisted by four powerful tugs as well as her own engine-power. She went to Gareloch to adjust compasses and was to run a short trial trip before proceeding to Liverpool, from which port she starts on her maiden voyage across the Atlantic on the 26th inst. The Servia was drawing 23ft. of water as she left the dock.

MARKET HARBOROUGH SEWERAGE.—The plans for the main sewerage of Market Harborough and the adjoining parishes of Great Bowden and Little Bowden, in the counties of Leicester and Northampton, these parishes forming a united district under one local board, having been approved by the Local Government Board, a contract amounting to £11,950 has been entered into with Mr. G. Stevenson, of Eckington, near Chesterfield, for carrying the plans into effect. The works are now being executed under the direction of Mr. J. B. Everard, of Leicester, the consulting engineer, with Mr. E. G. Mawbey, the surveyor to the board, acting as resident engineer and clerk of works.

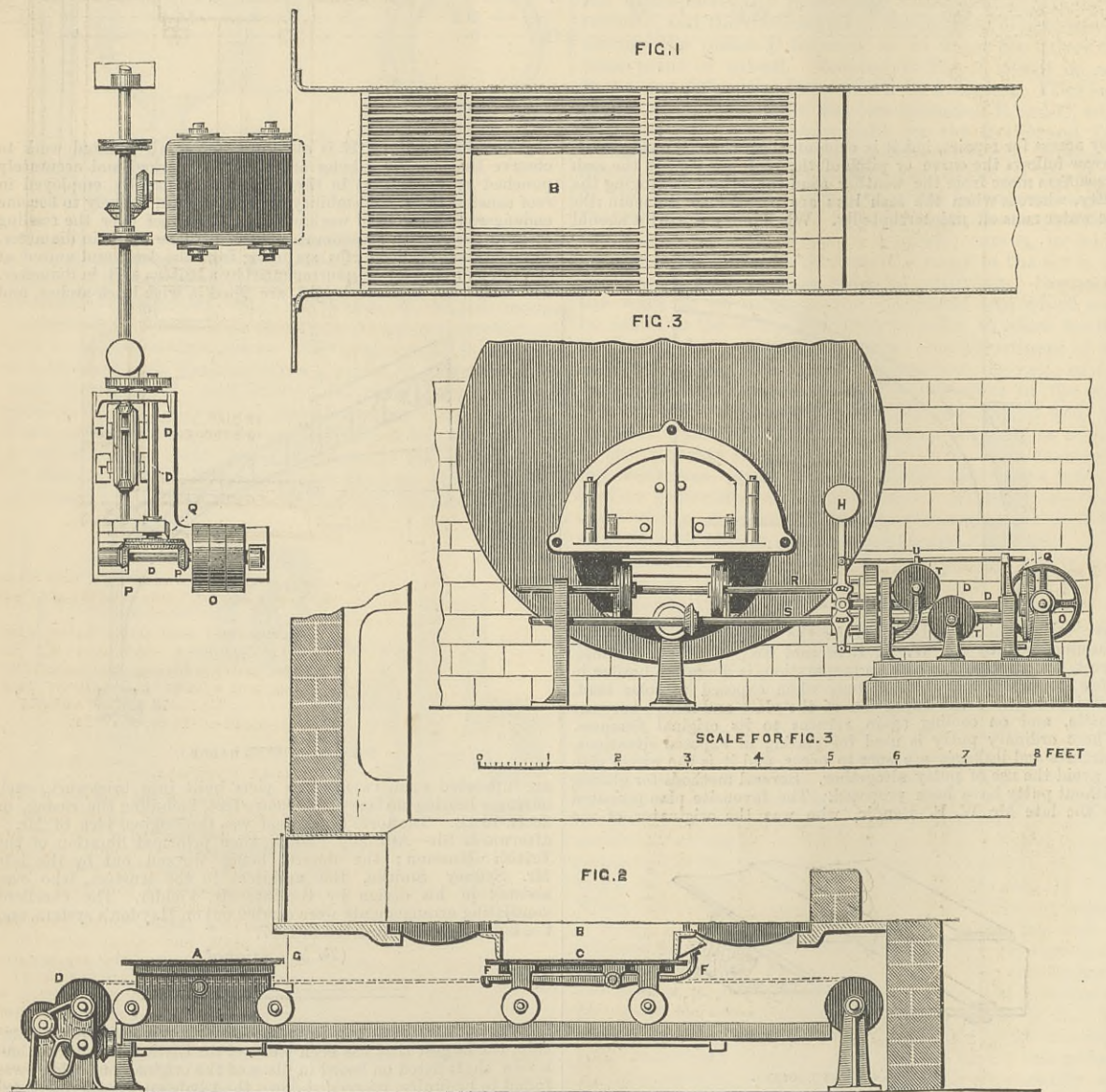
CADMAN'S AUTOMATIC LUBRICATOR.



We illustrate above a very ingenious and successful form of lubricator invented and patented by Mr. Cadman, of Liverpool. Its construction will be readily understood. It will be seen that each lubricator is fitted with a small valve, provided with a spring and a pin. The lubricator is so fixed that the reciprocating part to be oiled hits the pin at every stroke when a drop

of oil is discharged. When the engines are standing no oil escapes. Our engraving shows a lubricator, and the small end of a marine engine connecting rod and the crosshead, fitted with Cadman's lubricators. They have now been applied with perfect success in many vessels, among which we may name the Storm Cock, the Oceanic, and the City of Baltimore.

M'MILLAN'S FUEL FEEDERS.



The accompanying engraving illustrates a fuel feeder, patented by Messrs. J. and W. M'Millan, Port Dundas, Glasgow. Mr. M'Millan's patent fuel feeders are made either to be worked by means of a crank by the stoker or by self-acting gear. About two years ago two of the former kind were fitted up at the Port Dundas Distillery, and shortly thereafter the manager certified that they saved 25 per cent. in fuel, giving greater and more uniform heat, consumed the smoke, was easily worked, and gave no trouble. The apparatus was subsequently fitted in Greenock and at Dublin.

The Messrs. M'Millan are using the apparatus with self-acting gear, and it appears to give every satisfaction. They have it attached to one of the furnaces of a two-fueled ordinary hori-

zontal boiler of considerable size. The other furnace they prefer to leave in the meantime to be stoked in the usual way, so as to afford an opportunity to visitors to see by comparison the advantage of the feeder. But if the boilers were arranged in a line, one set of gear could be easily made to work a dozen at once, and each furnace could be supplied separately, if necessary, the gear being so arranged that either the whole or any part of it can be used. With their self-acting gear Messrs. M'Millan state that they get a regular saving of 20 to 25 per cent.; and there is no black smoke, except when the fires are being lighted in the morning. The coals being pressed up from beneath the furnace, the top of the fire is always clear, the combustion is thorough and regular, and altogether the apparatus promises well. It takes little

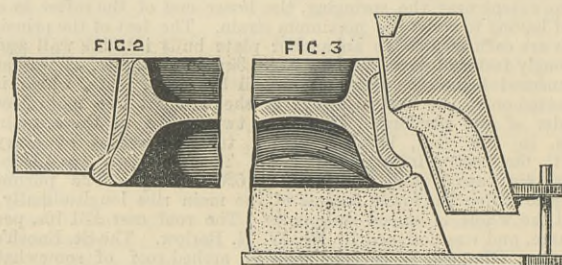
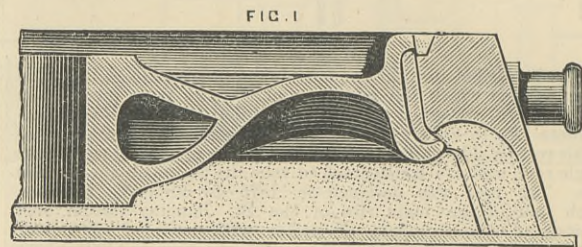
power to work the apparatus. Messrs. M'Millan work it now with belts and shafting from their large engine; but it may of course be adapted for a small separate engine to work it.

Should any accident take place to the gear, the furnaces can be fired in the usual way, as no alteration is made upon their doors. In the accompanying engraving the feeder is shown, in Figs. 1 and 3, fitted to a Cornish boiler, and in Fig. 2 to an externally fired boiler. In plan and side elevation the box A, containing the green coal, is shown on the outside of boiler, ready to receive its charge, while the space provided, B, in the grate bars, is closed at the bottom by the plate C, thus preventing the fuel from falling down. The gearing for moving the box and plate is shown in Fig. 1. Connected with the plate C is a lever, having a projecting catch F, which enters into a slot G in the box A. The working of the apparatus is as follows:—After the box A has received its charge, the apparatus is put in motion and the box is moved in under the bars, the catch F entering into slot G, so that both the box and the plate go in until the box A comes exactly under the opening B in the grate bars, then the loose bottom of A is raised by the self-acting gearing, forcing the green coal up underneath and amongst the living fuel already in the furnace, after which the box is withdrawn, bringing the plate C with it until the lever touches a projection, thus relieving the catch F, when the plate remains to support the coal in the furnace till box A returns and the operation is repeated. The remaining letters of reference indicate the same parts in the different views.

CASTING RAILWAY WHEELS.

SOME railway engineers in the United States have lately favoured what are known as sand flange car wheels, and a great deal is claimed for them. Largely increased mileage is often obtained, because the flanges do not break off before the tread is worn out, as they do when chilled.

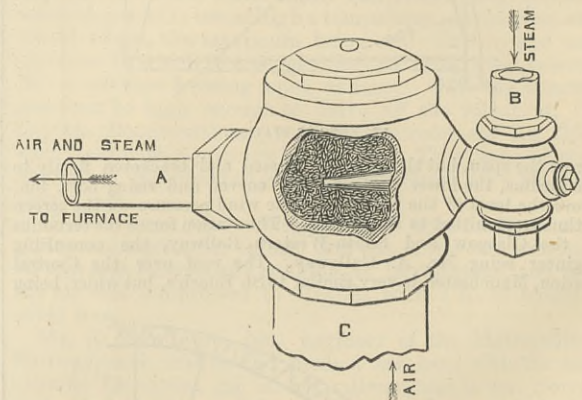
Fig. 1 in the engraving is a section of a flask for moulding the flange of chilled car wheels in sand, showing the position of the flask when rammed full of sand, according to an invention of Mr. W. Tawcett, Omaha, Nebraska. The inner or dividing



ring B is made conical, and serves as a parting line for separating the two bodies of sand, and allows all the sand under the pattern to remain in the usual manner on the bottom plate A, as shown in Fig. 3, and by its peculiar construction carries the sand that has been rammed on the upper side of the flange and holds the sand between the rings while the flask is being lifted off to allow removing the pattern and finishing the mould. Fig. 2 is a section of the ordinary chill, showing the chill in contact with the flange of wheel, and its effect on the rim of the wheel.

ORVIS'S SMOKE-CONSUMING APPARATUS.

THE annexed woodcut shows an arrangement of steam injector by which mixed steam and air are blown into the upper part of the furnace of Cornish, Lancashire, and other boilers so as to give a supply of combustion-supporting mixture where needed, to cause the consumption of smoke. One of these globes is fixed to the furnace front on each side of the furnace door by means of the pipe A. Steam is admitted from the upper part of the boiler to B, and air is drawn in at C. A portion of the globe is shown as broken away, in order to show the steam jet



and air chamber. The apparatus is now in use at a considerable number of works in towns where it is necessary to prevent the emission of smoke, and considerable saving in fuel is said to be the result, partly owing to the employment of very cheap fuel, which its action enables any boiler to burn, and to the better evaporation resulting from clean heating surfaces which it preserves. The apparatus is made at the Kingsbury-road Foundry, Dalston, for the Smoke-Consuming and Fuel-Saving Company, St. Stephens' Chambers, Telegraph-street, Moorgate-street, and is in use in London.

SANITARY INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN.—At an examination held by the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain on November 3rd and 4th, eight candidates presented themselves. The Institute's certificate of competency as local surveyor was not awarded; but the institute's certificate of competency as inspectors of nuisances was awarded to Joseph Horrocks, W. Sortwell, and J. W. Witts.

GUBBINS' MORTAR MIXING MACHINE.

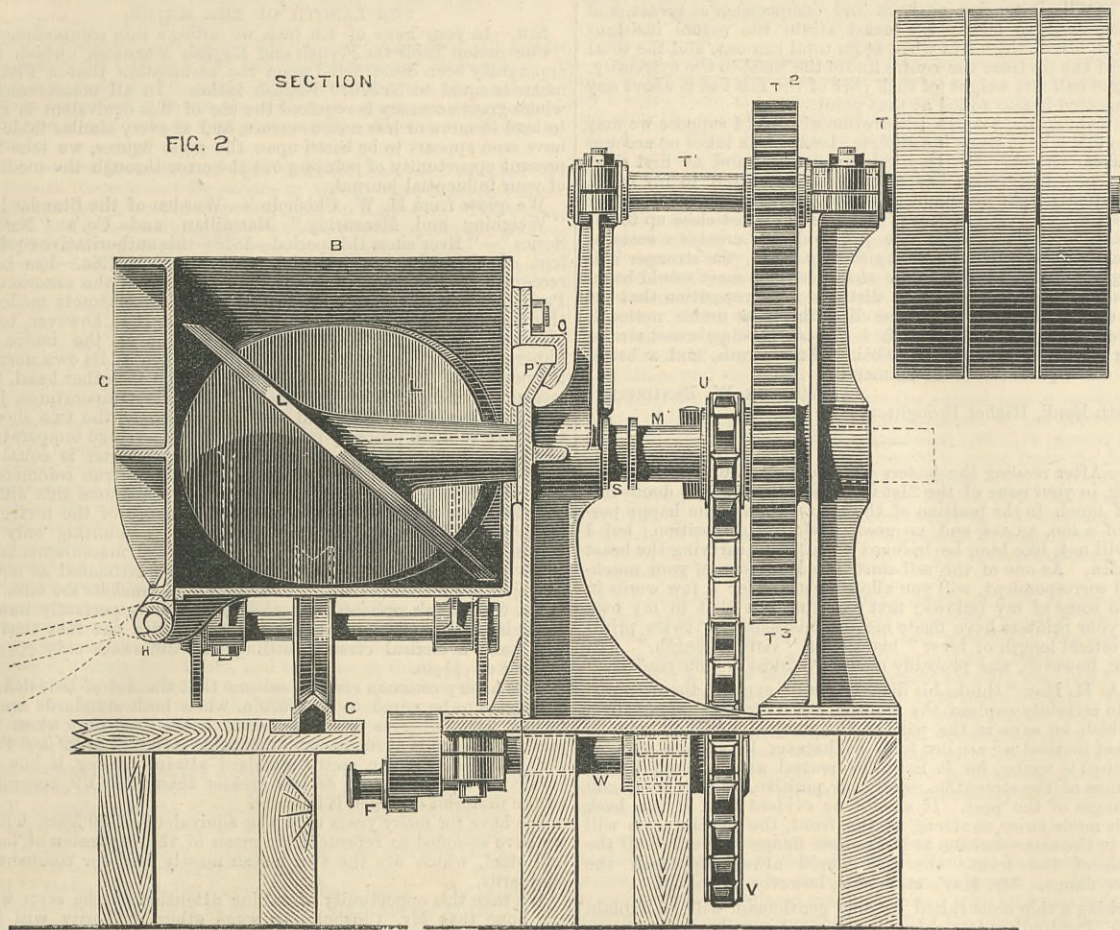


FIG. 2

SECTION

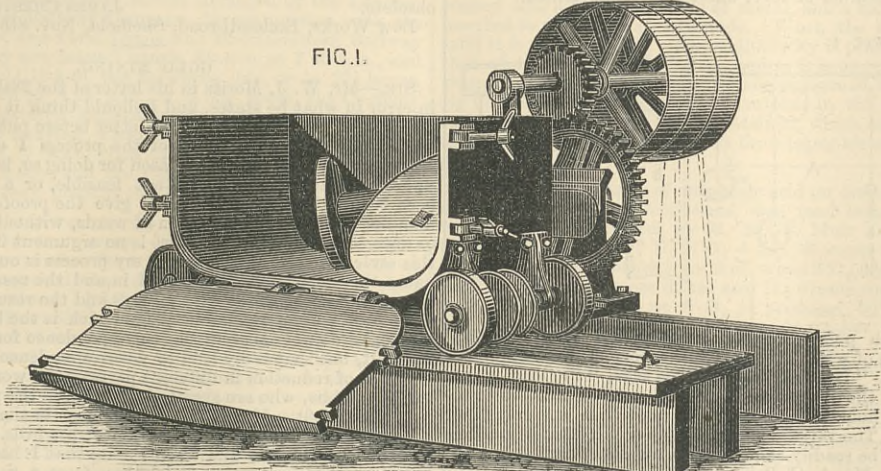


FIG. 1.

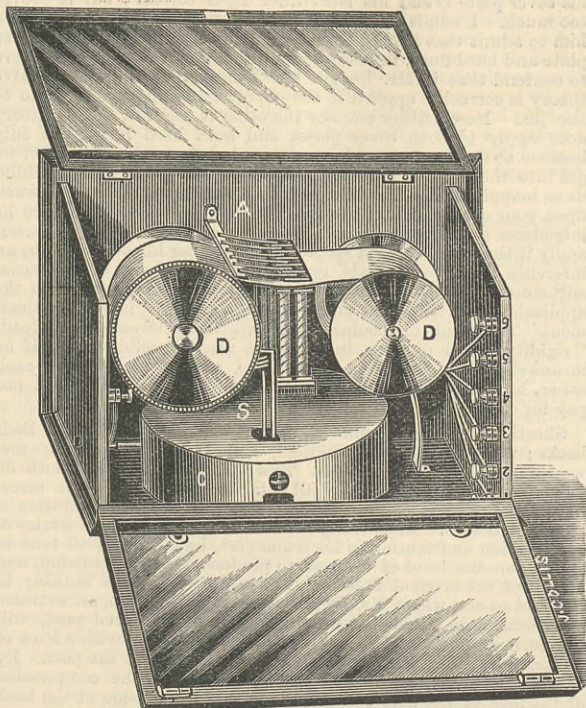
The engravings herewith illustrate a new form of mixing or pugging machine for making mortar or any other similar material. It has been designed by Mr. R. R. Gubbins, more especially for mixing emery with agglutinating material for making emery wheels; and a machine is at work on this material in the manufactory of the Standard Emery Wheel Company, Greek-street, Soho. The machine is shown in perspective in Fig. 1 with the side door of the mixing box let down as it is when the box is being emptied; and in Fig. 2 it is shown in transverse section. The principle of the machine is the employment of discs fixed at an angle of about 45 deg. on shafts revolving in a mixing box, to which a slow reciprocating movement of short range is given.

In our illustrations C is a knife edge rail, upon which run grooved wheels supporting the pugging box. To the axle of one grooved wheel a connecting rod from crank arm F is attached to effect the to-and-fro motion of the mixing box B. G is the door of the box B hinged at H, and secured by hinged pins carrying fly nuts. A cover and hopper and also a trap may be supplied to the box B for continuously feeding and discharging the material operated upon. L L are the pugging blades or discs on shafts M. The shafts M pass through a slot in the box B, and the packing of these shafts is effected by the face plate sliding and bearing against the face of the standard of the machine. P is a guide piece on the standard, against which bears and slides the piece Q bolted on to box B to support and guide the box B in its movement. The forked ends of a yoke engage with the collars S on the shafts M, this yoke being set by a screw so that the shafts may be easily removed. The machine is driven from the pulleys and shaft T through gearing T₂ and T₃, and by the Ewart's chain on the wheel and pinion V and U.

THE SURVEY OF HEYWOOD. — In 1879 the local board of Heywood advertised for tenders from civil engineers for the survey of the borough, and for the correction of a book plan then existing. The district is about three and a-half by two and a-half miles, and the area 1450 statute acres. The work was entrusted to Mr. Alfred Hopkinson, C.E., of Bury, and is now completed, including a survey of the extended boundary of 630 statute acres, or a total of 2080 statute acres. The whole is shown on two plans, each 13ft. by 10ft., having an area of 260 square feet, and is drawn to a scale of 88ft. to an inch. All the buildings, roads, streets, footpaths, railway, canal, river, watercourses, &c., and also all sewers, drains, manholes, lampholes, and shafts with their sizes are marked. The ordnance bench marks are shown, and reduced levels have been cut at the corners of all the principal streets. The new book-plan consists of thirty-three sheets of paper on holland, each 3ft. by 2ft. The public buildings are coloured neutral tint, the other buildings pink. At a meeting of the Surveyor's Committee, held on the 17th October, the committee expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which Mr. Alfred Hopkinson, C.E., Bury, had carried out his contract for the new plan of the borough, and the town clerk was instructed to communicate the same to Mr. Hopkinson.

ELLIOTT'S WATCHMAN'S DETECTOR.

We herewith illustrate an exceedingly simple form of detector, to show if the night watchmen perform their visits regularly and punctually. In the case C is a clockwork apparatus driving the axle S, at the end of which is a worm which gears into the wheel of the drum D. The rotation of D thus obtained unrolls a strip of paper from the other drum D. This paper passes over the poles of as many electro-magnets as there are points to be visited, and underneath the armatures of these electro-magnets.



Each armature has a sharp point fixed on its under side, and when a current passing through the coils causes the attraction of the armature, this point perforates the paper. The places to be visited are connected electrically with the binding screws shown, and the watchman has merely to press a button to make the electric circuit complete. It has been found in practice that plain paper answers every purpose, as the clock giving an almost uniform motion enables the reader, after having seen the perfo-

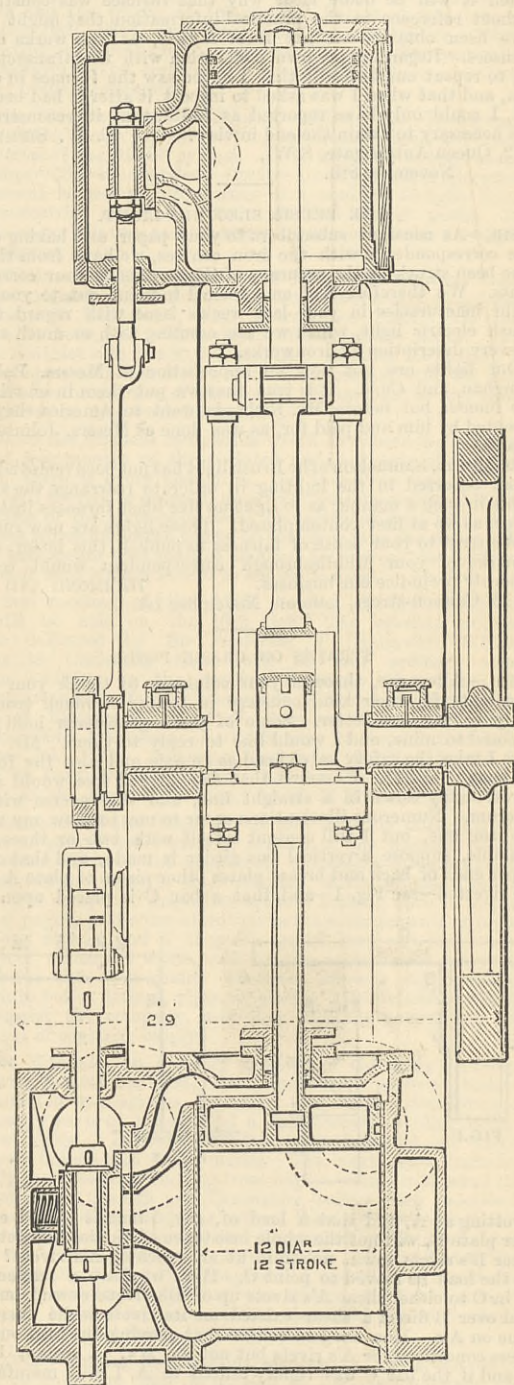
rated slips once or twice, to determine fairly well the time which elapses between each pressure of the button.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.]

PUMPS AT SEA.

SIR,—With this we beg to hand you tracing of the general arrangement of a steam pump which we make, and which, we think, goes a long way towards fulfilling the conditions you name—in your very sensible article this week on "Pumps at Sea"—as requisite for the kind of pump which every steamship ought to have as a stand by in case of a leak. We got it out specially as a ballast pump to lift 160 tons of water per hour, to give no trouble, and make no noise in working, and to be as nearly as possible incapable of being choked, save with hard substances; and in practice we find that waste, shavings, chips, and coal pass through



it freely. Every part is easily accessible for repairs, and when well fitted and made of the best material, there is nothing to get out of order with ordinary care.

The steam cylinder is 10in. diameter, and pump barrel 12in. diameter and 12in. stroke, and it occupies a space about 3ft. 9in. square by 7ft. 9in. high. The water passages through the valve to the pump are each about 22in. area, and suction and delivery pipes 6½in. diameter. CARRICK AND WARDALE, Redheugh Engine Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne, Nov. 1st.

PRICE'S RETORT FURNACE.

SIR,—Although I noticed in your journal of the 21st ult. a letter from Mr. Wm. Price, finding fault with my observations on Colonel Maitland's paper, read at the last meeting of the Iron and Steel Institute, I did not think it necessary to trouble you with any reply, considering that Mr. Price is evidently not well informed on what I did say, and will before long be in possession of the paper, and of my observations upon the same.

In your issue of last week I observe a further letter from Mr. Price, written in the challenging style, and calling attention to the points of difference between his furnace and the regenerative gas furnace of usual construction, which I admit are very great.

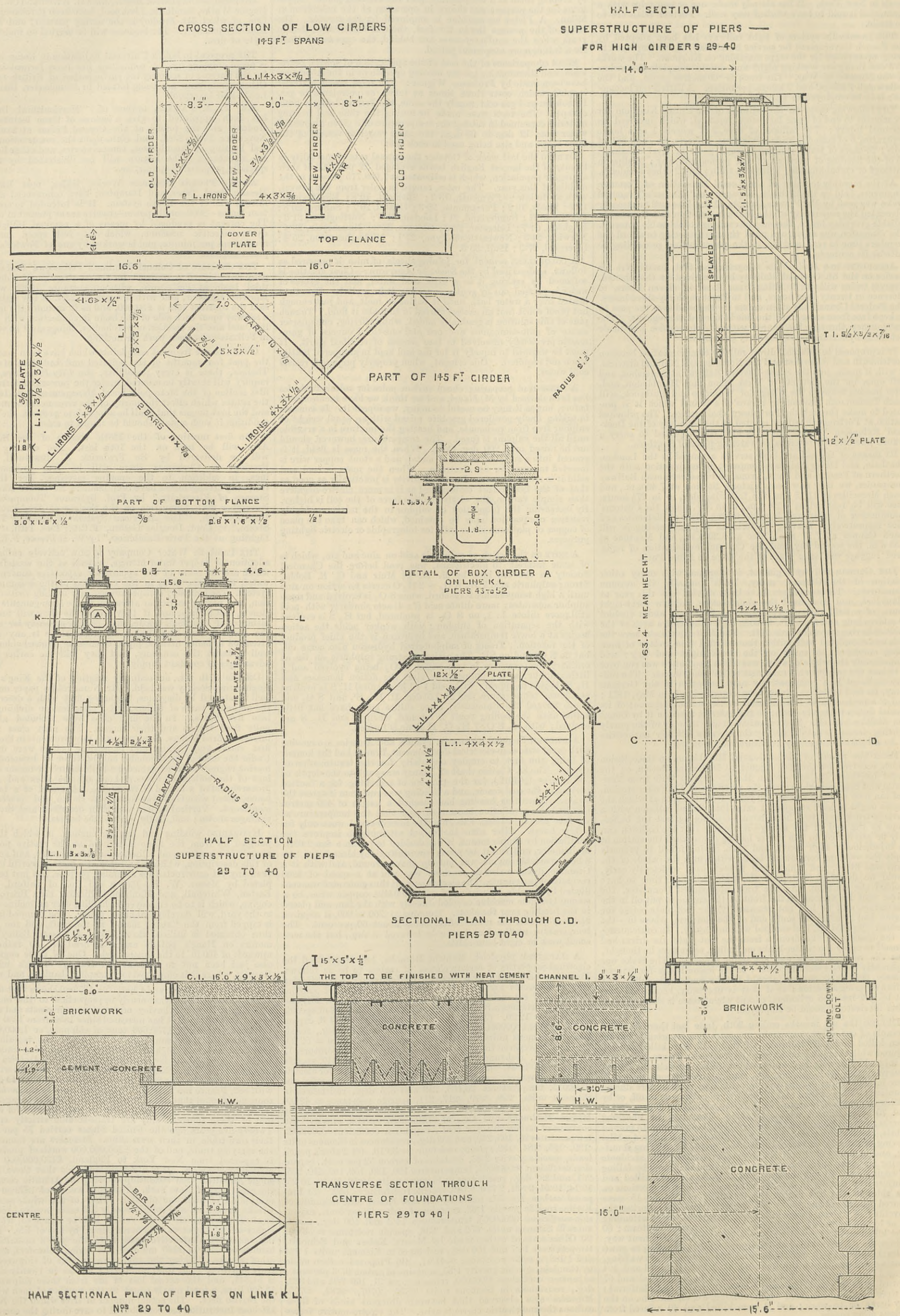
When Mr. Price sees the complete account of the meeting, he will find that I did not criticise his furnace, but stated the difficulties I had found with the combined retort and grate gas producer, as patented by me in 1864—No. 3018—which patent Mr. Price seems to ignore, although it must have been extensively read, seeing that all printed copies of the specification have been sold and a second edition is being prepared at the Patent-office.

I asked two questions at the meeting, viz., in what respect the retort gas producer employed at Woolwich differed from mine, and what was the consumption of fuel per ton of steel produced? No answer was given at the meeting to these two practical questions, but Mr. Price now states, in reply to the first, six points of difference between his furnace and the regenerative gas furnace with reversible regenerators as usually constructed by me. These points of difference, however, do not remove the important points of similarity between the two apparatus in question, viz., that of both, being gas producers, consisting of a vertical retort placed above a common grate with admission of atmospheric air, the retort portion being heated by spare sensible heat in order to pass the fuel through the first stages of distillation. In both cases the hydrocarbon evolved in the retort pass downward and through the fuel made incandescent by the air passing through the grate; and

THE NEW TAY BRIDGE.

MR. W. H. BARLOW, F.R.S., ENGINEER.

(For description see page 353.)



CROSS SECTION OF LOW GIRDERS
145 FT SPANS

HALF SECTION
SUPERSTRUCTURE OF PIERS
FOR HIGH GIRDERS 29-40

PART OF 145 FT GIRDER

DETAIL OF BOX GIRDER A
ON LINE K L
PIERS 43-52

SECTIONAL PLAN THROUGH C.D.
PIERS 29 TO 40

15'x5'x1/2"
THE TOP TO BE FINISHED WITH NEAT CEMENT

TRANSVERSE SECTION THROUGH
CENTRE OF FOUNDATIONS
PIERS 29 TO 40

HALF SECTION
SUPERSTRUCTURE OF PIERS
29 TO 40

HALF SECTIONAL PLAN OF PIERS ON LINE K L
Nos 29 TO 40

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LEIPSIK.—A. TWIETMEYER, Bookbinder.
NEW YORK.—THE WILLMER and ROGERS NEWS COMPANY, 31, Beekman-Street.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- * In order to avoid trouble and confusion, we find it necessary to inform correspondents that letters of inquiry addressed to the public, and intended for insertion in this column, must, in all cases, be accompanied by a large envelope legibly directed by the writer to himself, and bearing a 1d. postage stamp, in order that answers received by us may be forwarded to their destination.
* We cannot undertake to return drawings or manuscripts; we must therefore request correspondents to keep copies.
* All letters intended for insertion in THE ENGINEER, or containing questions, must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a proof of good faith.

F. DE V. (Funchal).—Grant on "Cement," will answer your purpose. You can obtain it from Messrs. Spon, Charing-cross, London.
A FOUNDER.—The Staveley Coal and Iron Company, Chesterfield, will probably supply what you want. Also see our advertising columns.
ENGINEER.—Multiply the square of the diameter of the piston in inches by the average effective pressure per square inch, by the speed of the piston in feet per minute, and by .000238. The result is the horse-power.

THE REDENBACHER TURBINE. (To the Editor of The Engineer.)

SIR,—I shall be much obliged to any of your readers who can tell me where I can get a drawing of the Redenbacher turbine. B. F. November 10th.

JOINTING CEMENT FOR CAST IRON TANKS. (To the Editor of The Engineer.)

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent's inquiry for a good jointing material for brewers' tanks, I should recommend him to use Scotch cement, which he will find answer the purpose better than any other material, without injuring the beer in any way. G. FREDK. RANSOME. 172, Scotland-road, Liverpool, November 7th.

BOOKS ON MILLING. (To the Editor of The Engineer.)

SIR,—Supposing that "Novice," in THE ENGINEER of 14th inst. means grain milling, permit me to say—(1) I think there is not in English a really good book on the subject, that of Fairbairn (Longmans) being about 17 years old, that of Pallett (Baird, Philadelphia) about 12 years, that of Craik (Baird) 11 years old, and that of Abernethy (American Miller, Chicago), though through its recent date—1 1/2 year old—having some of that useful new information which the others have not, being apparently partial. The prices of these American books are about \$4, \$5, and \$4 respectively. Lockwood, 74, Duane, New York, has in press a \$6 one by R. Grimshaw, M.E., which I think will be better, though not perfect. (2) In French, there is no book recent enough, but Roret, Paris, has in preparation a new edition of his "Manual." (3) In German, the best and most recent books are Kick's (1875), Pappenheim's (1878), Haase's (1877), Bergmann-Kogel's (1880), and Meissner's (1881). These are 18, 12, 11, 12, and 10 marks respectively. (4) Let him see last edition of Whitaker's "General Catalogue," Matheson's "Aid-book to Engineering Abroad," Lefel's "Dams," and consult the Miller, 69, Mark-lane. I wish him success, and offer to convenience him if I can. O'MADDEN. 24, St. Paul W., Jersey City, U.S.A., October 28th.

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Remittance by Bill in London.—Austria, Buenos Ayres, and Algeria, Greece, Ionian Islands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Chili, £1 16s. Borneo, Ceylon, Java, and Singapore, £2 0s. 6d. Manila, Mauritius, £2 5s.

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Advertisements cannot be inserted unless delivered before six o'clock on Thursday Evening in each Week.
* Letters relating to Advertisements and the Publishing Department of the paper are to be addressed to the Publisher, Mr. George Leopold Riche; all other letters to be addressed to the Editor of THE ENGINEER, 163, Strand.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Tuesday, Nov. 15th, at 8 p.m.: Paper to be discussed, "Iron Permanent Way," by Mr. Charles Wood, M. Inst. C.E.
THE METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Wednesday, Nov. 16th, at 7 p.m.: "On the Gale which Passed Across the British Isles, October 13th-14th, 1881," by Mr. G. J. Symons, F.R.S., President. "On the Structural Damage Caused by the Gale as Indicative of Wind Force," by Mr. J. Wallace Peggs, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., F.M.S. "On the Meteorology of Mozambique, Tirohot, 1880," by Mr. C. N. Pearson, F.M.S.

THE ENGINEER.

NOVEMBER 11, 1881.

THE FORTH BRIDGE.

IN THE ENGINEER for May 20th we reviewed the history of the Forth Bridge from its inception in the year 1864 to its revival in the spring of the present year. Since the date of that article matters have progressed favourably; and the railway companies interested, namely, the North British, North-Eastern, Midland, and Great Northern Companies, are applying to Parliament for powers to construct a steel girder bridge in lieu of the suspension bridge for which an Act was obtained by the late Sir Thomas Bouch. We briefly indicated in the article referred to, the leading features of the design submitted by Mr. Fowler and Mr. Baker, and we understand that

these features are adhered to in the design prepared, after five months' further investigation, by Messrs. Harrison, Barlow, and Fowler, for submission to Parliament next session. In a work of this magnitude and novelty the details of the design must necessarily vary almost from day to day as the elaboration of the plans proceed. We shall give on another occasion the design as first submitted by Mr. Fowler, and reserve for the time a consideration of the modifications already agreed to and of the details generally.

We may begin by stating that the future Forth Bridge will be a continuous girder bridge of varying depth. There are two spans of about 1700ft., two of about 600ft., and a viaduct approach of ordinary character on each side. The depth of the proposed girder is 330ft. over the piers and 55ft. at the centre. The extreme width of the lower member of the girder is about 112ft. at the piers and 30ft. at the centre, and of the upper member about 50ft. at the piers and 30ft. at the centre. In fact, the depth of bracing is roughly proportional both on elevation and plan to the stresses taking effect upon it. One result of this general characteristic of the design is that a large portion of the shearing stresses will be transmitted direct through the main members of the girder, and consequently the long struts and bracing generally will be eased to a corresponding extent in the same way that those members are relieved of stress in a bowstring girder by the arching of the top member. By making the bridge a continuous girder on plan as well as on elevation, it will be seen that the lateral wind bracing at the centre of the giant span of 1700ft., as regards length of struts and otherwise, is exactly similar to that of an ordinary double line railway bridge, instead of being 120ft. in width as in the original suspension bridge design. In the same way the central portion of the girder is of ordinary proportions, and thus the mass and weight furthest removed from the points of support and acting with the greatest leverage are enormously less than in an arch or suspension bridge of corresponding span and strength. It is due to this condition and to other consequences of the design that it has been found, after the most exhaustive and impartial investigation, possible to build a steel girder bridge of the unprecedented span of 1700ft. of vastly increased stiffness and freedom from risk during and after construction, and at an expenditure of about half-a-million less than that of a suspension bridge of the type originally contracted for. The estimated cost of the girder bridge is, it is true, considerably in excess of that of the original bridge, because the economy effected by the change of principle in the design is more than absorbed by the extra expenditure required to give that strength and stability which the Board of Trade justly insist upon after the disastrous experience of the Tay Bridge accident. Sir Thomas Bouch's bridge was designed for a rolling load of but 600 tons on each line, whilst the girder bridge is calculated for 1700 tons. Again, the wind pressure provided for was only 10 lb. per square foot in the former; and further, the strain upon the chains of the original bridge was 10 tons per square inch, whilst 6 1/2 tons has been adopted for the girder. The increased cost of the amended design thus needs no further justification.

Undoubtedly, after recent experience, the attention both of the public generally and of experts will be addressed in the first instance to the lateral rather than to the vertical stability of the Forth Bridge, and on this point it may be well to re-assure the public mind at once. We may state then, that it is intended to give such strength and stability to the structure that under the impossible wind pressure of twice 56 lb., or 112 lb. per square foot, no part of the bridge would be blown over, nor would any tie, strut, or any other member of the bridge, nor the structure as a whole, be even permanently injured, still less destroyed by the enormous lateral pressure due to that wind. All discussion as to what might be the actual maximum pressure of a hurricane in the Firth of Forth is thus anticipated by assuming a pressure which all the world will admit cannot possibly be approached on so large a surface as that of the Forth Bridge. It is hardly necessary to remark that with a pressure of 112 lb., which, as we have explained, would leave the bridge uninjured, locomotives, loaded coal wagons, and everything else about a railway would be sailing through the air like fallen leaves. The provision of such immense lateral stability involves, necessarily, the expenditure of an enormous amount of steel in the superstructure; but the cost is justified by the feeling of security which the public will subsequently enjoy in crossing the bridge during a storm. It is admitted on all hands that a wind pressure of 40 lb. would upset a railway carriage. Consequently it needs no demonstration to prove that no passengers could be in the neighbourhood of the bridge when what, having reference to the strength of the latter, might be termed the moderate gale of 40 lb. to 50 lb. per square foot was blowing. We have said that, under a wind pressure of 112 lb., no tie, strut, or other member of the bridge would be injured. The stress upon any member due to that pressure is necessarily a matter of calculation, whilst the stress which it could sustain without permanent injury is one of experiment. We understand it is intended to determine the proper sectional area of each member of the girder by direct experiment upon model members, and not to deduce it from indirect experiments upon the steel generally. This will involve a large expenditure of money and skilled supervision; but the results cannot fail to be of correspondingly great interest and value to the profession. As regards vertical strength little need be said. The rolling load provided for is four of the heaviest locomotives with an unlimited number of loaded coal wagons, which load on the 1700ft. girder would be equivalent in its bending action to a couple of tons per foot run moving load covering the entire length of the bridge. As the gradient approaching the bridge is 1 in 75, it would be practically impossible to work anything like that load, for the couplings would break if it were attempted. Under this load, however, the strain upon the steel would in all cases be less than 6 1/2 tons per square inch. This, it will probably be admitted, is too low a strain, having reference

to the unprecedented heaviness of the dead load; and it must be admitted that a strain of 6 1/2 tons per square inch on the Forth Bridge, where the dead load is about five times the live load, is certainly no more severe upon the metal than a strain of, say, 5 tons per square inch upon a steel bridge of moderate span where dead and live loads are equal. The Board of Trade do not at present recognise the vast difference in destructive effect on metallic structures of a live load as compared with a dead load, although the practice of drawing this distinction is universal in America and on the Continent. Whatever doubt may exist as to the legitimacy of the conclusions deduced by German writers from Wöhler's experiments on the fatigue of metals, it cannot be denied that a comparison of the practice of mechanical engineers as regards strains on iron subject to frequent alternations of stress, with that of architects and builders dealing with girders or brestumers carrying the dead load of a brick wall or house front, will show that practical men in the course of years have unconsciously been driven to Wöhler's conclusion, that a live load is at least twice as destructive as a dead load. With strains anything at all approaching those prevailing in ordinary railway bridges, the Forth Bridge must therefore, owing to the great dead weight, be regarded as an exceptionally strong structure. A wind pressure is, it is true, a wholly live load, but then the high pressures for which a bridge is calculated would not occur more, perhaps, than fifty times in a century. Taking the most unfavourable hypothesis, and assuming that a hurricane would blow alternately on opposite sides of the bridge, so that the strains would sometimes be tension and sometimes compression on each member of the wind bracing, then it follows from Wöhler's experiments that even if the strain were as high as 13 tons per square inch upon the steel, at least 100 million applications of alternating blows of the hurricane would be required to fracture the members of the wind bracing. The general practice in all countries of allowing a high unit strain upon wind bracing, although subject to alternating stress, is thus fully justified.

With reference to the important element of stiffness, it will be apparent at a glance that the girder design offers incalculable advantages over the suspension system. The great depth of girder over the piers and the enormous dead weight are sufficient guarantees that the deflection and vibration under a rolling load will be relatively less than in any existing metallic structure. The estimated deflection under a rolling load of 3400 tons on the 1700ft. span is but 9in., and the lateral deflection under a wind pressure of 56 lb. per square foot about 10in. In the suspension bridge the vertical and lateral deflections would be measured by feet and not inches. A stiffening girder may give a suspension bridge sufficient rigidity for ordinary loads, but the amount of tremor which invariably attaches to all suspension bridges, even under ordinary road traffic, is sufficient evidence of what might be expected if it were attempted to run a Scotch express over such a structure. In the girder bridge, on the other hand, we have a well-tested type of structure, across hundreds of which express trains are run daily without slackening speed.

Little need be said about erection, as the principle of the operations will be clear to all. The work will be commenced at the piers and carried on by adding successive portions to the projecting ends of the larger girder. The system is as old as the present century, and some of the largest existing bridges, such as the 520ft. span Douro and St. Louis arch bridges and the Minnehaha 320ft. span girder bridge, have been so erected. The form of the Forth Bridge girder is, as regards design, specially adapted for this mode, as the great rigidity of the girder over the pier entirely obviates such minor difficulties as have been found to arise when a comparatively flexible arched rib held up by wire back stays has had to be dealt with.

In conclusion, it may be remarked that the proposed Forth Bridge involves no untried element either in design or execution. It is merely a very large continuous girder bridge of economical proportions as regards depth and otherwise. In principle it resembles the Britannia Bridge, and in details of construction the Saltash Bridge—that is to say, the principle is that of a continuous girder, and the details are characterised by boldness of proportion as regards depth of girder and the adoption of tubular compression members. The struts in the 1700ft. girder are necessarily long, but they are not nearly so long as the top tube of the Saltash Bridge. That tube is in effect a column 460ft. long and 16ft. in diameter unsupported laterally, whilst the large raking struts in the Forth girders are about 340ft. long and 12ft. in diameter with a support in the middle, reducing the effective height to 170ft. Under the test load the 460ft. iron strut in the Saltash Bridge sustained as high a strain per square inch as will occur upon the relatively short steel struts of the Forth girders under their test load, so no suspicion can be entertained as to the satisfactory behaviour of the long struts. As to the tensional members, it is perhaps a matter for congratulation that the construction of this bridge has been deferred till the present time, when the nature of mild steel and the mode of treatment required to guard against occasional failures are thoroughly understood, which was not the case a few years back.

THE DESFORD RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

THE coroner's jury returned on Monday a verdict of manslaughter against Butler, the pointsman at Desford, where, about a three weeks ago, a collision took place by which five persons were killed. As is usually the case in railway accidents, the circumstances are exceedingly simple. Desford is a station on the Midland Railway. It is a small place, provided with sidings for shunting goods trains. On the day of the accident a mineral train was put into one of these sidings out of the way of an express train from Burton to Leicester. The siding is entered by facing points. These points were left closed, and the express, instead of keeping the main line, followed the coal train into the siding. The result was disastrous, the leading carriages being smashed into one another; five persons were killed, and many others wounded. The points were not opened after the mineral

train had entered the siding, because Butler was talking to some one instead of minding his business, and forgot them. There were no signals to show whether they were open or shut, because the semaphore had been blown down in the great gale of the Friday before; and the semaphore was blown down because it had not been properly fixed in the ground; and it had not been refixed because, so far as we can make out, eighty semaphores had been blown down in various districts, and the Midland Railway Company had not sufficient hands to get them all put up again within a few days. Desford had to take its turn with other places, but being only an insignificant kind of station, its turn came late. It must be a very small station, however, that at which an accident cannot occur; and the Midland Company probably know by this time that no time ought to be lost in replacing signal apparatus which has been damaged by wind.

We see no reason to dispute the conclusion of the coroner's jury; nor do we doubt that Butler was one of the causes contributing to the accident, but he was certainly not alone to blame. His criminality is shared by the company. The utmost laxity of discipline was permitted to exist at Desford, the signal cabin appearing, indeed, from the evidence to have been used as an office by the shunters for making up their books, while to others it served as a convenient shelter in which to gossip on wet days. So long as the semaphore stood, and engine drivers—who have not much chance of gossiping on foot-plates—were vigilant, a neglect of duty such as that for which Butler stands committed for trial, could not have done much harm. The facing points and the signals being coupled, if the points were closed the signal would be against the driver. But this safeguard was missing. Lax discipline had full scope to do its worst, and it did it. The railway company was clearly to blame for not taking proper precautions to supply something which would be the equivalent of the interlocking arrangements which were absent. They supplied nothing. Here was one cause of the accident. The signalmen do not appear to have been specially warned to be careful. Things were left to go on in the ordinary way, although a very great protection for the travelling public had disappeared. Here was another cause.

This, however, is not all. It was not disputed by Mr. Loveday, Chief Traffic Inspector, that if the train had been fitted with continuous brakes there would probably have been no lives lost. Major Marindin told the jury the same thing. The train was running very fast when passing Desford, probably sixty miles an hour. The driver, if keeping a good look out—and drivers always do look out for facing points—could have seen at a distance of 50 yards whether they were open or shut. The mineral train stood some way in on the siding. Assuming—which it is quite within the range of possibility—that the driver realised the peril of his position 100 yards away from the coal train, it would still have been in his power with a Westinghouse automatic brake greatly to retard the train. About one second only would have been occupied in putting all the brakes hard on; during this the train would have traversed 88ft., leaving, say, 200ft. to be gone over. By the time the coal train had been reached the express would have lost so much of its speed that no telescoping would have taken place. In other words, the under frames of the carriages would have been able to stand up against the shock, and the passengers would have escaped, bruised and stunned indeed, but in all probability not a life would have been lost. If the company could argue that there is no continuous brake which will satisfy the ordinary conditions of railway work, then it would have a good defence. But this cannot be said. It has long been contended by the officers of the Midland Company, that the vacuum brake answers every purpose. If this be true, how is it that the express was not fitted with a vacuum brake? Again, it is well known that the Westinghouse brake has been worked for many years and given perfect satisfaction on—to name but one line out of many—the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, so that, take the facts in any way, the result is still the same. A continuous brake is ready for use, but the company will not use it. It is quite time that the true issues involved in this brake question should be made clear to the whole world. There are at this moment only two or three systems of continuous brakes, and two or three men in Great Britain who have any chance of being heard. Thus the field from which to select is not perplexingly large. There is no air pressure brake in the world which can compete with that of Westinghouse. To the adoption of this brake many English companies, the Midland, and London and North-Western in particular, manifest an invincible repugnance. They can allege no particular reason, bring forth no special argument for not using it; and the conclusion which forces itself on outsiders is that they will not adopt it because it has been invented by an American instead of an Englishman. The Midland Company has shown much favour to the vacuum brake, but as this brake did not comply with the conditions—obviously essential—laid down by the Board of Trade, the company has been compelled to abandon the simple vacuum—a very good brake in its way up to a certain point—and adopt an automatic vacuum brake designed by Mr. Clayton. This brake, however, does not comply with the required conditions; and while it is being tried and attempts are being made to improve it, nothing is being done to utilise inventions already perfected and ready for use. In the same way the London and North-Western Railway Company adhere to the use of a sectional chain brake, which is worse than useless, and seems to have been specially constructed to bring continuous brakes into disrepute. The returns to the Board of Trade made by the company about this brake contain statements which are not only in advance of the facts, but are a positive insult to the intelligence of Major Marindin and his brother officers. How much longer this condition of affairs is to last we cannot pretend to say. For the sake of the self-respect of the railway companies concerned, however, it seems that some kind of manifesto or authorised statement should be issued by the recalcitrant companies which would justify them in the eyes of the Government and the general public. General statements will not do. It will not suffice, for example, for the Midland Company to say, "We are doing all we can to fit our trains with continuous brakes." That would be an untruth. Nor will it do to say, "No continuous brake has been invented which will answer our purpose." The company will have to say categorically why the Westinghouse brake, for example, will not answer. If a company would honestly say that it is too poor to fit up its stock with continuous brakes in a hurry, but that it will do all it can, the excuse would be valid to a large extent. But companies do not speak honestly. They will not give in plain English the reasons for not adopting brakes which are proved to be satisfactory. Apparently plastic, they are really adamant, presenting a dull, unyielding, spherical kind of obstructiveness to every one, which it is impossible to overcome. They will do nothing, and they will not say why they will do nothing. Is it to be wondered at if under the circumstances very unpleasant stories begin to be circulated, and hints are freely exchanged concerning officials whose names ought to rank with those of the most honourable men who have ever lived? Is not such an accident as that at Desford one which disgraces a railway company? We think there can be but one answer to such a question. The *Times* in a powerful leader has recently called the attention of the public to the action of the railway companies in dealing with the continuous brake question. The time has at last arrived when the officials of our great railway lines are on their defence. "The verdict of the coroner's jury," in the Desford case, says our contemporary, "expresses a general sentiment," and with this statement we quite agree. Those who control the working of our railways will perhaps find that even the public opinion which they despise can assert itself to some purpose. The coroner's jury appended to their verdict in the Desford case the following rider:—"The jury also find that the semaphore signal displaced by the storm was 5ft. too short, and that it was improperly and insecurely erected. They also find that sufficient vigilance was not shown in re-erecting the semaphore. On both these points they consider the responsible officials are deserving of censure. The jury are also of opinion that if the express had been fitted with a continuous brake the accident would have been avoided, or much mitigated, and they consider that all trains should be fitted up with continuous brakes." Most of our readers will, we think, regard this as so closely resembling a verdict of manslaughter against the responsible officers of the company that the difference is nearly inappreciable. It is to be regretted that the shareholders, who are practically irresponsible, will alone have to pay the large charges for compensation which will no doubt have to be defrayed, the individuals really responsible escaping scot free.

THE CUMBERLAND COAL TRADE.

In the coal trade of Cumberland, owing to the difficulties amongst the workmen and other causes, the sliding scale system does not seem to have met with the favour that it has in others of the coal-yielding districts. One scale has been abandoned, and the agitation amongst the miners does not give much ground for hope that a second scale would be long adhered to. At a meeting of miners in one of the largest of the districts in the Cumberland coalfield, a resolution was passed unanimously to the effect that the meeting "deem it advisable to ask the coal-owners to advance the selling price of coals sufficiently to enable them to pay an advance of 15 per cent. on the wages of their workmen." It is the adoption of a spirit such as this that is most fatal to that improvement in trade from which all legitimate advances of wages spring. The argument at the meeting was chiefly this, that the demand for coal had increased, as was shown by the fact that last year "14 million tons of coal were wanted more than were ever wanted before," and that there was thus proved to have been an increased demand, which should have given higher wages. The fallacy of this is evident at a glance. The Cumbrian collier who buys his penny newspaper, pays with the penny for that paper, and out of it the printers receive their share of wage. But if the collier induces fourteen more men to buy the paper, is the printer to receive more wages?—that is to say, more than the same proportion? Suppose that the wages were a fourth of the total cost, it is plain that the more that were sold, the better for the workmen, if wages were at the old rate. So with the miner. Paid by the ton, he would receive his tonnage rate additional on all the 14 million tons, and so long as the cost of producing was the same, increased labour gives no cause for a higher rate of pay. When prices rose, under the operation of their sliding scale the wages of the miners rose 10 per cent. in Cumberland, and though prices have fallen, they retain still a fourth of this, whilst there are indications that another increase is approaching. To attempt to force up the price is to attempt to drive the coal trade into other districts, as was done in Cumberland once before to the benefit of the Scottish coal trade. The truest policy of the miners, now that the coal trade is apparently entering on an improved phase, is to fall to work so that that improvement may not be interfered with by artificial checks. To attempt to raise the basis of the scales so as to give an immediate advance of wages of "1s. per day," is a wild scheme, and in Cumberland it remains to be seen how far others of the men are prepared to kill the trade when it is apparently improving.

ENGINEERS IN THE NAVY.

The Lords of the Admiralty appear to be disposed to take the advice we have given, and reduce the number of engineers in the Navy. We have suggested that each ship should carry one chief engineer with a certain number of foremen to superintend the work done by artificers whose pay and position would be improved. A step has been made in this direction; a new order has just been issued for the engine-room department of all the ships in the Navy. A reduction will be made in the number of engineers and assistant engineers afloat, and an increase in the number of engine-room artificers. Thus, the *Alexandra*, which had originally an engine-room staff consisting of 1 chief, 8 engineers, 10 engine-room artificers, 14 leading stokers, and 60 stokers, has had it reduced to 1 chief, 5 engineers, with 12 artificers, and the same number of leading stokers and stokers. The staff of the *Inflexible*, which consists at present of 1 chief engineer, 10 engineers, 13 artificers, 16 leading stokers, and 90 stokers, will be changed to 1 chief engineers 6 engineers, 15 artificers, 2 leading stokers, and 90 stokers.

ROBERT MALLET.

No. I.

OUR friend and colleague of many years, Robert Mallet, died on Saturday last, the 5th of November, and it is with the sincerest regret that we have to record this loss of one who for many years occupied a leading place in the foremost ranks of scientific men and engineers, and whose works will ever hold a high position, especially amongst the illustrious physicists and geologists. Robert Mallet was the only son of John Mallet, who married his cousin, Miss Mallet, of Dublin. He was a manufacturer, and twice High Sheriff of Dublin, taking an active part in the municipal affairs of that city. He went to Dublin at the invitation of his brother, Robert Mallet, who had established a business in sanitary fittings, small fire engines, water-closets, &c., including a number of things invented by William Mallet—another brother. They were Devonshire people, and John went to Dublin about the same time, or with, Manders, the founder of the celebrated brewery firm. He became intimately acquainted with Bramah, and in sanitary work adopted some of the inventions of that well-known mechanic.

The late Robert Mallet was born in Dublin on the 3rd of June, 1810, and was for some time thought to be of weak health. As he grew, however, strength grew with him, and he became a man of unusually strong constitution and powers of endurance. When the time arrived for a commencement to be made with his education, he was sent to Bective House, a well-known school in Dublin, of which Mr. Wright was the proprietor, or principal. He remained there until he was nearly sixteen years of age. He then went, in December, 1826, to Trinity College, Dublin, for a term of four years, at the end of which he took his B.A. degree. Between the time of his leaving school and his going to college he made his first tour on the Continent, in the company of the Rev. C. Barden, clergyman of the parish in which he lived, and his future brother-in-law, Mr. Watson, of Fitzwilliam Place. During the time he was at Trinity College he was also under the tutorship of Mr. Friedlezius, a Swedish professor of mathematics. In December, 1830, he took his degree of Master of Arts.

During all this time he paid particular attention to engineering matters, but he was especially fond of chemistry, in which he attained marked proficiency at a very early age. When only a little over twelve years old he used so much of his time in making all sorts of curious boyish experiments and chemical mixtures, often of anything but a pleasant character, that a small room was set apart as his "laboratory." Here he spent a great deal of his time when not in school, and he was fortunate in being able to secure everything he required for the construction of experimental apparatus from his father's factory. So much was this little room his favourite haunt that whenever it became the stern parent's duty to correct the boy for mischievous pranks, the punishment that was found most severe was to lock up his "laboratory" for from one to three days, according to the nature of the offence. This laboratory was afterwards provided with every requisite for chemical and metallurgical investigation, and good use was made of it long before its owner was twenty-five years of age.

After he left college he spent a good deal of time in his father's works, and visiting engineering establishments in England at every opportunity, taking at the same time practical outdoor lessons in surveying and levelling from one J. J. Byrne. The rapidity with which he acquired practical engineering knowledge was remarkable, and was probably largely due to the good training he had had between Trinity College, his father's works, and that of his relation, Dr. Burton, a man of great acquirements, and known also as a traveller.

In the year 1831 he made an extended tour on the Continent in the company of Mr. Purser, of Rathmines Castle, and Mr. Friedlezius, and in November he married Miss Cordelia Watson. He was then taken into partnership in his father's works. These works were first started by his grandfather, and the chief business was brass and copper founding, and plumbing of all kinds. A large trade was carried on, much of it consisting of brewery and distillery plant and apparatus. Nearly all the chief work of this kind required in Ireland was done in these shops, which were situated in Ryder's-row, and John Mallet became possessed of a considerable fortune. A large lead mill was added to the works, and a quay wall constructed on the Royal Canal, the mill being driven by a water-wheel fixed by Messrs. Fairbairn and Co., Manchester. In October, 1832, Robert was elected member of the Royal Irish Academy, and in a few years he had enriched the "Transactions" of that body by several important papers. To these we shall refer further on. Soon after Robert was taken into partnership he matured plans for and converted the manufactory into an engineering works with a considerable foundry, and here in a very few years nearly all the engineering work of any importance in Ireland was carried out. The modern engineering era had fairly commenced, and railways were being constructed. Railways were being talked of for Ireland, but before this the Dublin firm, under the name of John and Robert Mallet, had secured large contracts for railway plant and permanent way material. Mallet's father had constructed an enormous building near Dublin, intending it for a flour mill, to be driven by a water-wheel erected by Fairbairn, but after it was finished it was found that the water power could not be obtained, the water rights not having been secured. The great building thus stood empty for years. It is now a steam flour mill. Robert Mallet converted this into a factory of railway material, with forty smith's fires, planing and screwing machines, large quantities of bolts and spikes being made there. One of Mallet's first engineering works exhibiting great engineering skill was the raising and sustaining of the roof of St. George's Church, Dublin, in 1834. This church was built in 1804 from designs by Francis Johnston, then Government

architect, and the failure of the roof was the source of great trouble to its architect. The roof was covered in by a large flat ceiling, with massive cornice and other ornamental work. Its failure was attributed to inferior design and to the use of short lengths of timber then used in consequence of the scarcity of timber during the continental war. The massive side walls were being pushed out, and the whole was in such a dangerous state that it was almost decided to take the roof off and rebuild it. Mallet, however, stepped in and offered to raise and sustain the roof without damage to the ceiling, and his offer was accepted, with, however, full security should his plans fail. The roof was about 133 tons in weight, and was a large area to support and raise. He successfully lifted the whole roof off the wall plates by means of specially constructed screw-jacks resting upon a whole balk platform built within the church. When the whole of the principals were thus relieved of all weight, they were raised, and strong iron truss framing was attached to them, and the whole suspended therefrom. Elaborate arrangements were made for working all the screw jacks simultaneously; for measuring the rise of the roof at different parts as the work proceeded; and for measuring the deflection. The roof was originally covered with copper, but when the roof was reinstated and strengthened by Mallet, the copper was removed, and a new covering of $\frac{3}{16}$ in. sheet lead substituted for it. The task was most successfully completed, and the young engineer made a handsome sum by the work. The architect was again proud of his church, and presented to it a peal of eight bells, the first notes of which were strangely enough the announcement of his own death. A full description of this church work was presented to the Institution of Civil Engineers, vol. i., p. 92, and a Telford premium awarded for it in 1841. In the same year he constructed a "manumotive," as it was called, to run to Kingstown and back with mails. It was worked by eight men, and made the trip each way in twenty minutes. He also constructed what was then a large jib crane for the Kingstown wharf. It is a very fine 30-ton jib crane with 40ft. radius, but it is very seldom used. In the year after, 1835, he presented his first contribution to the British Association Reports. This was, somewhat curiously as it now seems, a description of an application of a series of magnets for the automatic separation of brass and iron borings and filings, the magnets being electromagnets supplied with a current from a battery of four cells, each having a pair of plates over a foot square, the current being automatically made and broken by mechanism which lifted the wires of the soft iron magnets out of mercury cups and dropped them again when the iron had fallen from the magnets into proper receptacles. The paper described other applications of the magnetised and demagnetised magnets. "Brit. Assoc. Reports," 1835, part 2, p. 18. In the same volume is a short paper on a method of bleaching certain varieties of turf to make white fibre for paper making, and another paper on some singular phenomena of flames from coal gas. The paper on bleaching turf refers to a kind of peat found immediately under the vegetable surface of low land or flat bog in many parts of Ireland. Some of this material is capable of being converted into millboard without bleaching, and with very inexpensive preparation. At this time the celebrated firm of brewers, Messrs. Guinness and Co., began to consult him upon various matters, and amongst other things he did at this time was to give them a supply of water by boring a 4in. hole through the solid rock at the bottom of a well that had given out, and then firing a charge of powder therein, by which the rock was shattered, and a supply of water obtained which has never since failed. He also constructed a machine worked by steam for washing casks, and erected a very large sky cooler for the brewery, which was then rapidly increasing in fame. Steam engines of various sizes were made in the works from his designs. The barrel-washing machines were also made for Messrs. D'Arcy and Messrs. Manders and Co. Steam printing and other machinery was made for Messrs. Grierson, then King's printers, and for the Dublin *Freeman's Journal*, and the *Irish Times*.

In 1836 important works were being carried out by the Shannon Commissioners, Sir John Burgoyne being then the Government engineer, and owing to the skill of its junior member, which was becoming known throughout the country, Mallet's firm secured the contracts for the construction of a large number of bridges, including the swivel bridges over the Shannon at Limerick, Banagher, Portumna, Athlone, and Shannon Harbour. All the sluices and other apparatus for this work were also made by the firm from designs by Robert Mallet.

It gives some idea of the diversity of his studies amidst all the business of managing the Victoria Works, as those in Dublin were named, to mention that in this same year we find amongst his writings a paper on the seed-dispersing apparatus of the musk scented heron's bill—*Erodium Moschatum*—published in the magazine of natural history; and another paper on unobserved features in the structure of some of the trap rocks in the County Galway published in the "Transactions" of the Royal Irish Academy. In the same volume of this "Transactions," is a paper on the action of air and water on iron.

Beside the varied work which was being carried out under his care and from his designs in the Victoria Works in 1837, we find that he turned his attention to hydraulic rams, and produced a form of ram which was largely used in Ireland, and amongst other places was employed on the Kingstown Railway for forcing water to tanks for the locomotives. Amongst his literary work of that year are two papers in the British Association reports, the first on the formation of crystallised metallic copper in the shafts of the Cronchane copper mine, County Wicklow, and the other on the mechanism of the movement of glaciers. The object of this paper, which was the result of a visit to the Mer de Glace in 1831, was to show that "the great *primum mobile*, which causes these colossal masses to advance with such steady and irresistible force, is not to be sought in their weight alone, but it will be found in the hydrostatic

pressure, acting between these masses of ice and the rocky bed on which they rest, and thus at intervals lifting them up and floating them, or as it were transferring them upon liquid rollers from a higher to a lower level," this theory being based on the fact that glaciers melt from their lower surface, a fact also previously noticed by Saussure and Playfair. This paper shows a most complete grasp of all that had been written on the subject by Merian, Simler, Höttinger, Schencher, Gruner, and Agazis. Another paper by him was published in the "Journal of the Royal Geological Society of Dublin" in the following year. Although in after years he modified some of the views put forth in these papers, most of them remain unquestioned. He had collected a large quantity of notes resulting from subsequent visits and more mature consideration, but owing to the loss of his sight these and his later views were never published, but were given to his son, Dr. J. W. Mallet, of the University of Virginia. The great and rapid increase in the application of iron to engineering structures at this time caused a good deal of discussion on the corrosion of iron under the influence of air and water, and in 1838 appeared his first report on a remarkably exhaustive series of experiments, carried out by him at the instigation of the British Association, on the action of pure and foul sea water and air on wrought and cast iron and steel. This and the succeeding reports in 1840 and 1843 are alone monuments of the skill and completeness with which he carried out any investigation entrusted to him. With the exception of the results of observations on modern mild steel, nothing out of all that has within the last few years been written on the subject, has added in the least to the knowledge of the subject as left in these reports; and the fact that mild steel plates do not corrode faster than iron when the magnetic oxide scale is completely removed, though looked upon as a recent discovery, was completely set forth in these reports, which mentioned that every metal is electro positive to its own oxides, the most direct inference from which would have been, if the reports had been examined by those who have in recent years had to study the subject, that the complete removal of these magnetic oxides would also have removed a great cause of corrosion of plates when placed in liquids as in boilers, and especially in sea water.

In May, 1839, he was elected associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers, proposed by Sir W. Cubitt, and seconded by Thos. Rhodes and Francis Bramah, and he was transferred to the class of member three years afterwards at the recommendation of Sir J. Burgoyne, Fairbairn, and Vignoles. During this year the business at the Victoria Works was increasing, but in spite of this and severe family troubles, he managed to find time for experimental and literary work. The handsome tower gate entrance to the Duke of Abercorn's castle grounds was designed and erected by him for the father of the present duke. The gate when first erected was opened and closed as a carriage approached and passed in by the lodge keeper, an aged woman, from within the lodge; but for some reason it is not so opened now, though we believe the gear is still in working order. A working model of this fine gate is still to be seen in the duke's castle. At this time also his scientific knowledge was called into play in devising extensive ventilating and heating apparatus for a large number of public buildings, upon the ventilation and heating of which he was called upon to report. Amongst the buildings ventilated and heated from his designs were Dublin Castle and chapel, the Records Office, Law Courts, and numerous prisons and poor houses. In all these the heating was effected by hot water, and the apparatus is all in working order to this day. In 1840 he turned his attention to the supply of water to Dublin, partly suggested by the supply he furnished to Lough Crew House, Co. Meath, by building a large circular catchment reservoir on the mountain side, and conveying water thence by pipes, the whole of which is in working order. He surveyed the whole of the river Dodder in 1841 at his own expense, and had plans made with a view to the supply of Dublin with pure water, and to supply the paper and other mills in summer time. All the paper mills were stopped in summer time for want of water, but this he proposed to prevent by constructing six large reservoirs at different levels along the Dodder, and by these store up and supply water which caused floods and ran to waste in the Liffey. It is noteworthy that Mallet's plans for supplying Dublin with water are now about to be utilised by the Commissioners for supplying Rathmines and Pembroke townships with water from the Dodder. In 1840 he began to make beam engines of considerable power, such as those erected at the Ringsend Dock Mills of Messrs. Hastings and Carter, but the Irish market for steam engines was not more extensive than now, and Mallet turned his attention more to railway and civil engineering work, of which he presently did a great deal. In the year, however, of which we are speaking he spent some time in his old college, for which he designed, erected, and fitted out the new laboratory for Dr. Apjohn. His taste in designing ironwork of an architectural character was also well shown in the circular stairs erected on each side of the chancel in Trinity College Chapel, and in the much-admired palisading and railing bounding the College from Provost House in Grafton-street, through the whole length of Nassau-street, to Clare-street. The numerous illustrations of failure in the attempt to produce an iron palisading of pleasing design shows that though always looked upon as a small matter, it is not a task which can be satisfactorily discharged without some architectural taste.

It was in this year that he commenced some experiments with the buckled plates by which his name is well known to many who, not being interested in physical and geological sciences, know nothing of his works in these. An extensive series of experiments on the chemical and physical properties of a great variety of the atomic alloys of copper and zinc and of copper and tin, were made by him during this year, and the results presented to the Royal Irish Academy. Most of these results were embodied in two tables, and are now of great value. All the chemical, physical, and characteristic working proper-

ties of these alloys are given, as well as their relation to or effects upon cast iron when in presence of a solvent such as sea-water.

The buckled plate was one of the most successful of his inventions in a commercial sense, although in most other men's hands it would have been worth a hundredfold what it ever was to him. It was one of Mallet's faults that he had little commercial tact. As it was, however, the buckled plates were very extensively used in this country and abroad. They formed the very best floor ever made, combining the maximum of strength with the minimum of depth and weight. They were employed on the Westminster and other London bridges, one of which was floored at Mallet's cost owing to his own laxity in accepting verbal assurances from a contractor from whom the most stringent conditions should have been secured. It is anticipatory to deal with these buckled plates thus far, but it may now be mentioned that it did not occur to him until 1852, that this invention was worthy of being the subject of a patent, and that he received a grant of prolongation of the patent in 1866. He subsequently took out patents for buckled plate railway sleepers, and on the Bolivar railway sixty miles of these cross sleepers were laid by Messrs. Brunlees and McKerrow. Returning to 1841, it is perhaps worth remark that the three large 36-man power fire engines still used by the Dublin Corporation were made from his designs at the Victoria Foundry in that year, or forty years ago. In 1842-43, the shops were very full of the work to which the drainage operations then in progress and the railway then fairly commenced gave rise, and at the same time we find such work as the construction of the Limerick dock gates with 80ft. opening and 24ft. depth formed part of the operations carried out under him. Railway signals and numberless coke ovens for the production of coke for locomotives also employed his workmen. The atmospheric railway system also occupied much of his attention, and a very interesting report by him on the Kingstown and Dalkey line will be found in Weale's quarterly papers, Part II., 1844. In this he advocated the employment of large vacuum chambers to be exhausted by small engines running constantly, instead of the very large engines which were necessary under the system in use. The vacuum chambers thus proposed would have served the same purpose as the accumulator used for hydraulic machinery, and would have been very economical. The atmospheric system failed, however, owing to its want of flexibility and cost.

In 1845-6 he designed and erected the terminal station of the Dublin and Drogheda Railway; the large polygon engine-shed with a hydraulic turntable in the centre; the Kingsbridge passenger sheds, as they were called, and all the workshops and other buildings for the Great Southern and Western Railway; the engines and machinery for the Castle-comer Coal Mines, Co. Kilkenny; a 40ft. overshot water-wheel and machinery for Mr. McDonald's paper-mills in Sagart, Co. Dublin; while even a brief notice of the railway stations, roofs, and railway plant executed in 1848 would occupy more space than can be spared. Part of this work, however—the Nore Viaduct—should be mentioned, for the design for this, a wooden structure, though nominally prepared by Captain Moorsom, was re-designed by Mallet, as failure would certainly have been the result of following the original drawings. It was 200ft. span, the main girders or wood trusses being 22ft. in depth, constructed of Canadian haematac, a wood very similar to pitch pine, but not possessing the strength of that timber. Six hundred tons of timber were used in its construction, and during the erection a flood rise of 5ft. 9in. took place in one night, bringing down cots and hay which rested against the staging, and the whole structure only just missed being wrecked in consequence. The wood trusses were replaced in 1876 by an iron lattice girder, constructed by Messrs. Courtenay, Stephens, and Bailey, from designs by Mr. R. Galwey, C.E. Moorsom's whole design was considered by Mallet to be a mistake, as the situation was eminently well suited for a three-arch masonry bridge. In 1846 we find his first paper on "Earthquake Phenomena," in the *Philosophical Magazine*, giving an explanation of the vortice motion then supposed to accompany earthquake shocks, and another in the Report of the British Association for 1847 on the facts of earthquake phenomena. The first paper systematically dealing with earthquakes, and setting forth his dynamic theory of earthquakes and reducing their observed phenomena to the known laws of wave motion in solids and fluids, was published in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy in 1848; and in the next year was published his elaborate report to the British Association on his experimental inquiry on railway bar corrosion. This showed, what has since been confirmed by long experience on the Cologne-Minden and other roads, that rails in use corrode much less rapidly than rails stacked. The report contains a mass of information on corrosion which has been overlooked in the modern investigations on the subject, which have gone over similar ground. In 1849-50 the Victoria Foundry was fully occupied with railway station roofs, plant, and bridges, but still he found time to devote himself to literary pursuits. Having now, however, briefly alluded to about half his active career, we must leave to another day the completion of our notice.

Mr. Mallet was buried yesterday in Norwood Cemetery.

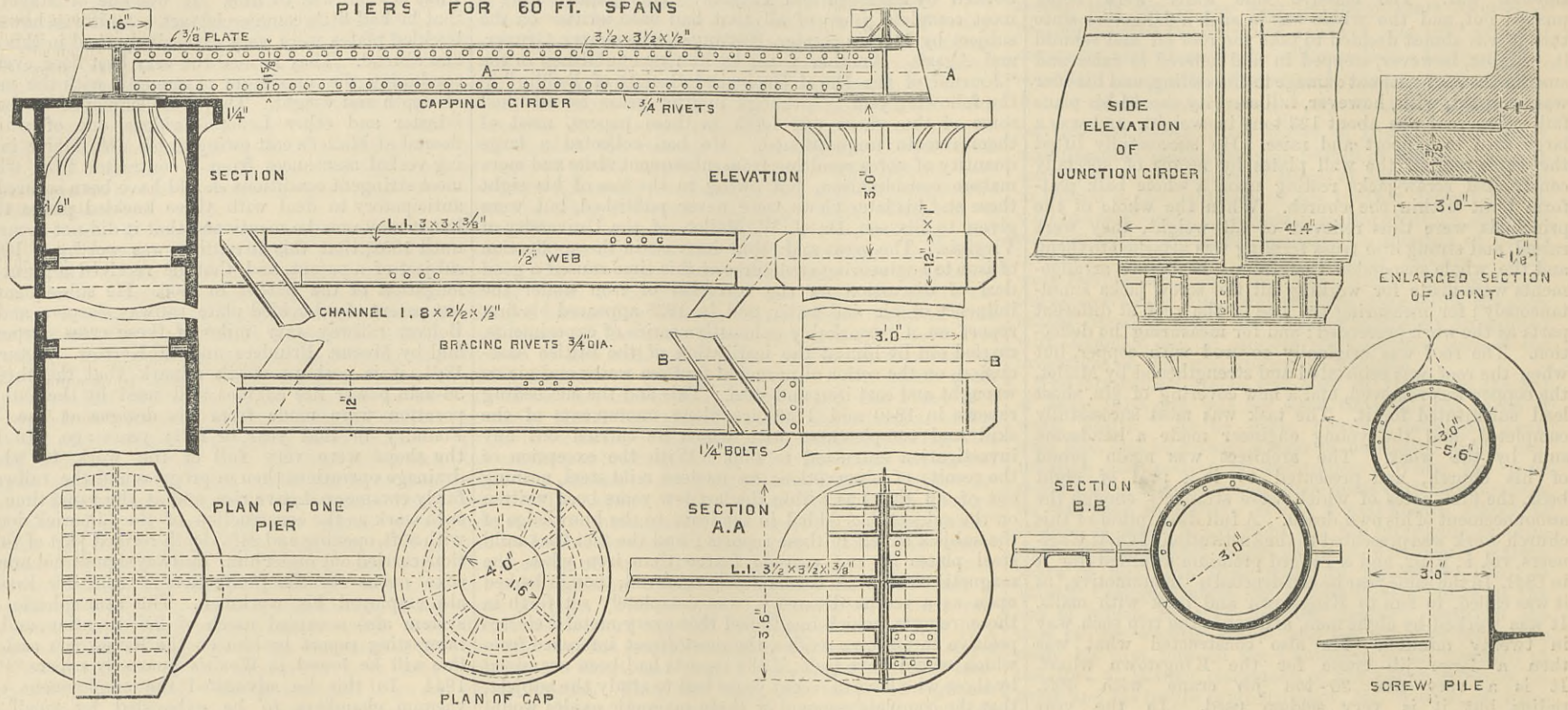
THE NEW TAY BRIDGE.

In our last impression we gave a general elevation and some details of the new Tay Bridge as designed by Mr. W. H. Barlow, C.E., F.R.S. On page 350 we now give another page drawing showing the construction of the wrought iron superstructure of the piers and that of the 145ft. lattice girders. The pier superstructures are designed to secure great strength with lightness, the latter being necessary in view of the character of the river bed, while the use of wrought iron will free the structure from the results of slight transverse flexure which are so serious when light cast iron columns are employed. These drawings are sufficiently clear to make a description almost unnecessary. We shall, however, give other drawings in another impression with the particulars relating to the whole structure.

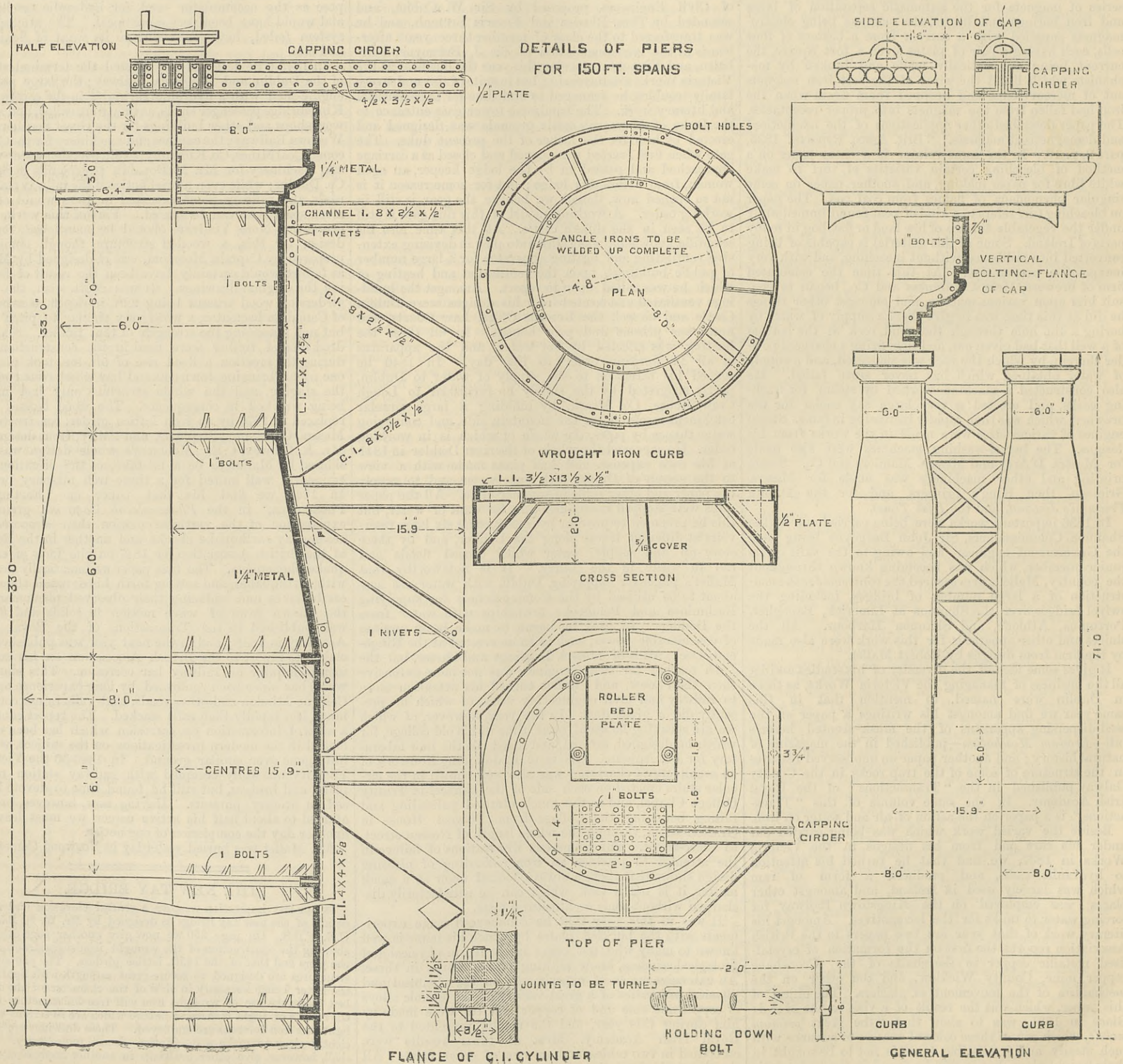
CONTRACTS OPEN—BRIDGE WORK FOR INDIAN STATE RAILWAYS.

(For description see page 355.)

PIERS FOR 60 FT. SPANS



DETAILS OF PIERS FOR 150 FT. SPANS



CONVERSION TABLES FOR FRENCH AND ENGLISH MEASURES.—No. II., AREA.

(Square Metres and Square Feet; Square Centimetres and Square Inches; Hectares and Acres.)

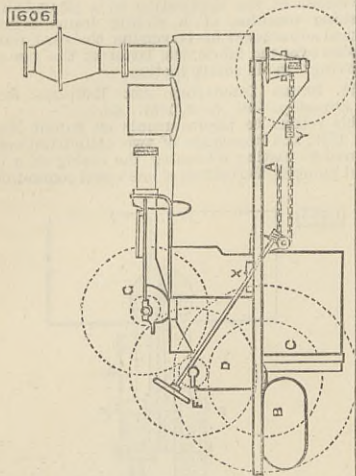
Large table with multiple columns for area conversions between French and English units. Columns include No., Sq. M., Sq. Ft., Sq. Cm., Sq. In., Hectare, and Acres. The table is organized into numbered sections (100-1000) and contains numerous numerical entries for conversion purposes.

CONVERSION TABLES FOR FRENCH AND ENGLISH MEASURES - No. 1 AREA.

Table with multiple columns for conversion factors and values. The table is organized into several vertical sections, likely representing different units of area (e.g., square meters, square feet, square inches). Each section contains numerical data for conversion purposes. The text is mirrored across the page.



iron sills A extend from the front truck to a distance in rear of boiler, and form the main frame, the platform for driver being beyond the rear of engine and also the water tank B. These sills are connected at point X on each side to the boiler, and are further supported by strap C (which bears the weight of the boiler), and by an expansion joint on the front truck.



To the sills vertical plates D are bolted, and each has a slot to fit over and brace the axle of the hind wheel, and is connected to the engine frame G and the bearings for counter-shaft F. The steering chain is fitted with elastic links Y so as to relieve the gear from sudden strain.

1652. PROPELLING SHIPS OR VESSELS, J. H. Johnson.—14th April, 1881.—(A communication from J. E. J. d'Arenbecourt.) 6d.

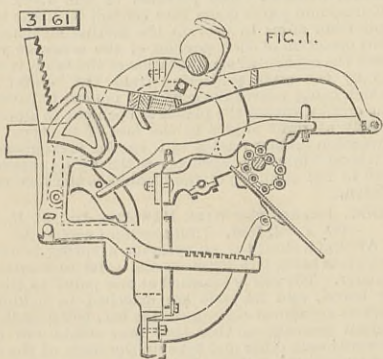
One or more pump barrels are arranged horizontally at the stern of the vessel below the water-line, the outer ends being open to the water. In the barrels are pistons worked from a suitable motor in the vessel.

1712. IMPROVEMENT IN ODOMETERS, E. S. Ritchie.—20th April, 1881. 6d.

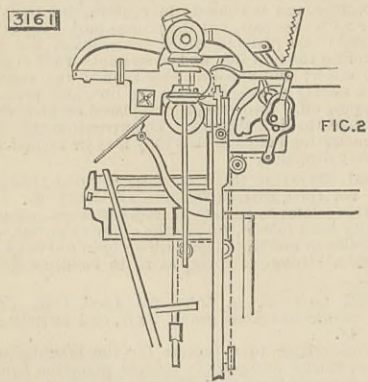
The object of this invention is to measure distances run with bicycles and similar vehicles, the apparatus in the former case being applied to the axle of the wheel, and revolving with it. The apparatus consists of a pair of magnets with their north poles in contact and their south poles also in contact; these are fixed inside a carrier, said carrier being attached to the axle of the wheel. Near the magnets is fixed by its middle a short magnetic needle, and so arranged as to move a train of wheels, the last one of which acts on an index hand. The force of attraction and repulsion of the magnets whilst the bicycle wheel revolves causes the magnetic needle to make one revolution for each revolution of the wheel, and the index hand to mark off on an indicator dial each revolution run.

3161. LOOMS, H. J. Haddan.—20th July, 1881.—(A communication from L. J. Knowles.)—(Complete.) 6d.

This consists partly in the employment in a closed-shed mechanism of angle levers, and which are connected with the heddles, and are located in an elevated frame at one end of the loom, the mechanism for



shifting the angle or heddle levers and for directing in which way they shall move being within the angle of said lever. It also consists in the combination of angle heddle levers and mechanism for working them in closed-shed looms with the compound levers of a drop shuttle-box motion, both the mechanism for operating the heddle lever and the mechanism for operating the compound levers, including the pattern



mechanism for both, being within the angle of the heddle levers. Fig. 1 is a sectional elevation, and Fig. 2 is a partial elevation, taken upon the back side of the loom, showing more especially the connection of the drop shuttle-box mechanism with the heddle mechanism.

3269. CIRCULAR KNITTING MACHINES, J. Bradley.—26th July, 1881.—(Complete.) 10d.

This relates to a knitting machine adapted to automatically manipulate two, three, four, or more colours so as to throw them successively into and out of action with the needles, and arrange the strips in any required order and make them of any desired width.

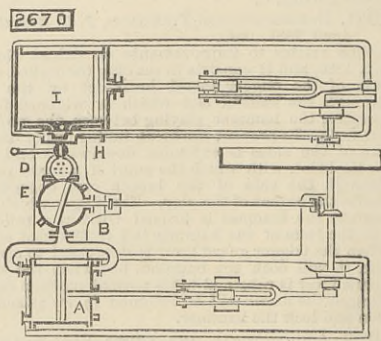
3278. ARTIFICIAL TOOTH CROWNS, S. Pitt.—26th July, 1881.—(A communication from C. M. Richmond.)—(Complete.) 6d.

This relates to the application of an artificial tooth crown to the natural tooth roots while in the mouth. The crown is composed of a porcelain cutting face backed with metal, and having a metallic ring from which a pin projects and enters the root, so as to form

a connection between it and the crown, being retained securely in a recess formed in the root by means of a suitable cement.

2670. OBTAINING MOTIVE POWER, B. J. B. Mills.—18th June, 1881.—(A communication from J. Lunant.)—(Complete.) 4d.

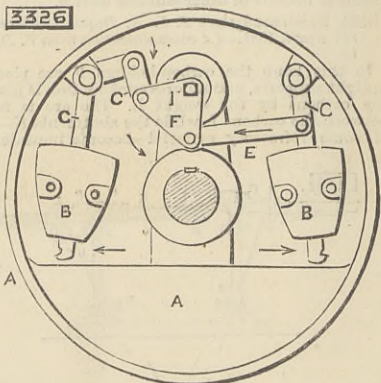
This relates to obtaining motive power by expanded air, and is based on the compression of air to a high pressure, and then heating and so expanding the same



by the combustion of petroleum therein. The pump A compresses air into reservoir B with two compartments alternately communicating with regenerator D by means of disc E, which is caused to rotate. The regenerator communicates with valve box H of cylinder I through a cock carrying a burner fed with petroleum from a reservoir in which the pressure is equal to that of the valve box.

3326. OPERATING VALVES, H. H. Lake.—30th July, 1881.—(A communication from F. B. Rice and S. A. Murphy.)—(Complete.) 4d.

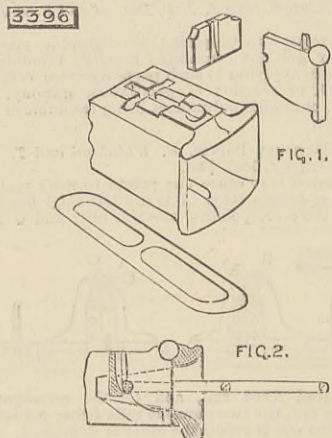
This relates to automatically operating the valve of an engine to adapt it to varying loads, and consists in a rock-shaft passing through the crank pin and having an eccentric pin for connection with the valve rod in combination with a governor arranged within the crank disc. A is the crank disc of an engine; B, governor weights connected to arms C; pivotted to the



disc E is an arm pivotted at one end to one arm C, and at the other to a triangular-shaped plate F connected by arm G to the other plate C. To plate F is connected the rock-shaft I passing through the crank pin and connected to an arm fitted with an eccentric pin to which the valve stem is connected.

3396. CAR COUPLINGS, A. J. Boul.—5th August, 1881.—(A communication from J. H. Hunt and F. W. Jones.)—(Complete.) 6d.

This consists principally in a draw head formed in two parts which are united upon a vertical central



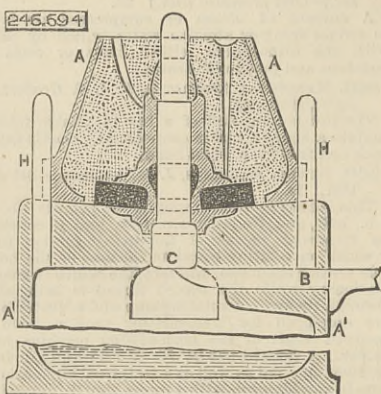
longitudinal line, and are adapted to yield to lateral pressure and release the link. Fig. 1 shows the different parts of the coupling detached; and Fig. 2 the whole coupling with the drawing link in its locked position.

SELECTED AMERICAN PATENTS.

From the United States Patent Office Official Gazette.

246,694. APPARATUS FOR CASTING HOLLOW ARTICLES IN METALLIC MOULDS, Ferdinand Tellender, Wenersborg, Sweden.—Filed June 18th, 1881.

Claim.—(1) An apparatus for casting hollow metallic articles, consisting of a hollow base part having a removable key, and of a metallic mould supported thereon, said mould having a metallic core which is guided in a top opening of the base part, substantially

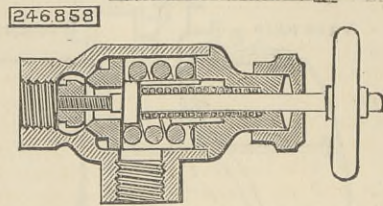


as specified. (2) In an apparatus for casting hollow metallic articles, the hollow base part A¹, having a horizontal removable key B and vertical guide standards H, with a metallic mould A having a core

C, which is guided in an opening in the top of the base part and adapted to be dropped into the same, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

246,858. RELIEF VALVE FOR STEAM ENGINES, James Aitchison, Cleveland, Ohio.—Filed April 16th, 1881.

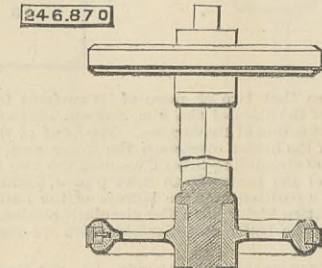
Claim.—(1) The combination, with a relief valve and a spring tending to force it away from its seat, of a safety valve and a spring tending to retain it against its seat, substantially as set forth. (2) The combination, with a safety valve provided with a relief valve seat and a spring for holding the safety valve against its seat, of a relief valve adapted to fit the seat on, the



safety valve and a spring operating to force the relief valve away from its seat, substantially as set forth. (3) A steam cylinder valve, the same being provided with a relief valve and an auxiliary safety valve, said relief valve being adapted to be locked either in an open or closed position, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

246,870. TOP ROLL FOR SPINNING FRAMES, Alexander R. Crichton, New York, N.Y.—Filed November 26th, 1879.

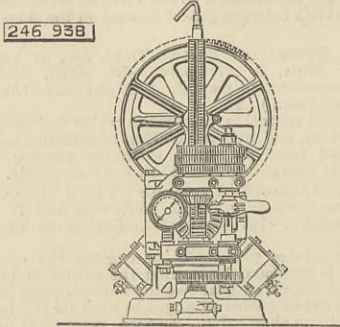
Brief.—The top drawing roll consists of a metallic



boss having a groove in its rim, in which is cemented two or more layers of leather, said roll being loosely mounted on a stationary spindle.

246,938. ROCK DRILLING MACHINES, Milan C. Bullock, Chicago, Ill.—Filed January 27th, 1881.

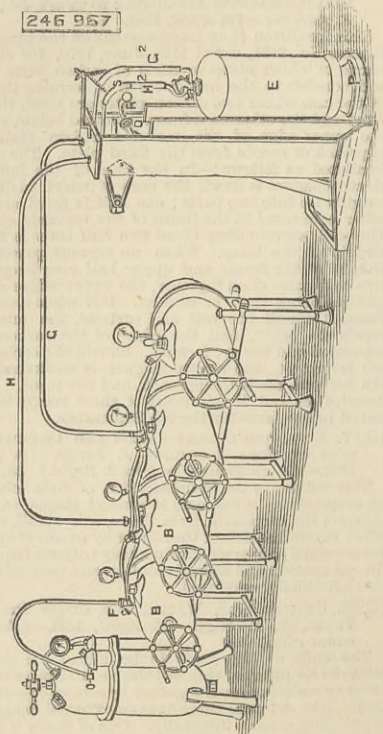
Claim.—(1) In a rock drilling machine, the combination, substantially as before set forth, of the front standard provided with a ring flange, the plate seated and adapted to be rotated on said flange, and the movable yoke, the parts being so arranged that the yoke carrying the swivel head and its attachments can be moved out of the way of the drill when the latter is to be withdrawn from the drilled hole. (2) In a rock drilling machine, the combination, substantially as before set forth, of a pair of trunk engines arranged at right angles to each other and operating a crank common to both engines, the crank shaft, the hoist rig



arranged above said shaft, and the feed screw for operating the drill. (3) In a rock drilling machine, the combination, substantially as before set forth, of the crank shaft, the hoist drum mounted to revolve on the drum shaft, motion transmitting mechanism, and the excentrics on the drum shaft. (4) In a rock drilling machine, the combination, substantially as before set forth, of the front standard provided with a ring flange, the swivel head, the hinged yoke, and the plate, to which the yoke is hinged, said plate being adapted to be turned so as to change the position of the hinge.

246,967. APPARATUS FOR CHARGING PORTABLE FOUNTAINS WITH AERATED BEVERAGES, John Matthews, New York, N.Y.—Filed July 6th, 1881.

Claim.—(1) The cock F, constructed with three or

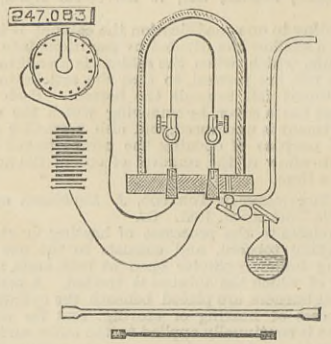


more tubular branches, and with the inclined or obliquely placed valve facing an oblique valve seat, all

arranged so that by said valve communication with only one of said branches can be shut off or established, as described. (2) In a soda water apparatus, the combination of the gas reservoir B and water reservoir B¹ with the gas pipe G² and water pipe H², and with the fountain E to be charged, all arranged for operation substantially as herein shown and described. (3) The combination of the charging reservoir B¹ and connecting pipes G² and H² with the fountain E to be charged, and with the pivotted weighted platform P, upon which the fountain E is placed, substantially as specified. (4) The combination of the tilting platform P, having the projection thereon, with the weighted lever R, rock shaft O, having lever and cranks, and with the valves L and N, all arranged for operation substantially as specified. (5) The combination of the fountain E with the tilting platform P and with the supply pipes G² and H², having valves L and N, all arranged so that when the fountain is full and weighted the said valves will be automatically closed, substantially as specified. (6) The combination of the elastic pipe G², which connects the pipe G and fountain E, with the metallic curved jacket S, substantially as described. (7) The combination of the tilting platform P, adapted to receive the fountain E, and provided with the projection T, for closing the valves L N, with the projecting graduated arm Y and weight Z, substantially as specified. (8) The combination of the tilting platform P and mechanism, substantially as described, for automatically closing the supply valves with the flexible connecting pipes G² H², curved metallic jackets S S, and suspension springs D², substantially as specified. (9) The platform P, provided with the cross bar L², formed into knife edge pivots L at its ends, in combination with the supporting brackets N and covering shield P, substantially as described.

247,083. PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING CARBONS, Hiram S. Maxim, Brooklyn, assignor to the United States Electric Lighting Company, New York, N.Y.—Filed 6th April, 1881.

Claim.—(1) The process of manufacturing carbon conductors for electric lamps, which consists in cutting the blanks from fibrous material, carbonising the



same, bending the carbonised strips into the desired shape, and then electrically heating them for giving them a permanent set, as described. (2) The method herein described of fixing a carbon strip in any form to which it may have been bent, by subjecting the same while bent to the action of an electric current in an atmosphere of carbonaceous gas or vapour, substantially as set forth.

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