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Applications for Letters Patent.

(*14th, 15th, and 17th May*, 1875.)

1791. Aug. Malfroy, of Horsley Road, Rochester, in the county of Kent, for an invention of "A photographic apparatus with portable camera obscura."—A communication to him from abroad by J. B. David, Gentleman, of Saint Etienne, Loire, France.—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1792. Alexander Taylor Machattie, of Glasgow, in the county of Lanark, North Britain, Doctor of Philosophy and Analytical Chemist, for an invention of "Improvements in the construction of ships having for their object to facilitate the saving of life at sea."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1793. John Henry Johnson, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the county of Middlesex, Gentleman, for an invention of "Improvements in the vehicles of railways and tramways, and in means or appliances for signalling in such vehicles."—A communication to him from abroad by Mathieu Auguste Rikli, of Paris, in the republic of France, Merchant.—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1794. John Warran, of Tavistock, in the county of Devon, Engineer, and Thomas Atkinson Ellis, of Pentonville, in the county of Middlesex, Civil Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in stampers for crushing and pulverizing ores."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1795. Andrew Paul, of Dumbarton, in the county of Dumbarton, North Britain, Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in or connected with windlasses or ships' winding apparatus."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1796. Robert Wilson, of Paisley, in the county of Renfrew, North Britain, Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in floating docks."—A communication to him from abroad by Doctor Bruno Johan Tideman, Chief Constructor of the Dutch Royal Navy, and residing at Amsterdam.—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1797. Edouard Aubriot, of 2, Rue Ste. Appoline, Paris, France, for an invention of "Improvements in decorating or ornamenting glass."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1798. Henry Singleton, of 1, Upper Road, Plaistow, in the county of Essex, for an invention of "A new and improved graduated wheel tonguer or machine for manufacturing wheels."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1799. William Walkington, of Leeds, in the county of York, Engineer, for an invention of "Improved automatic adjusting and deodorizing apparatus to be applied to closet lids."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1800. JOHN FAULKNER, of the city of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, Telegraph Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in electrical appliances."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1801. ANDREW MUIR, of the Albion Works, Strangeways, Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in lathes."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1802. JOHN PERCY, of 8, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London, for an invention of "Improvements in apparatus for the raising and lowering of ships' boats."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1803. RICHARD LANSDALE, of the city of Manchester, Sizing Flour Dealer, for an invention of "Improvements in the manufacture of size, and in the application of a certain material for preventing mildew in cotton and other fibrous substances."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1804. JOHN NEVIL MASKELYNE, of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, in the county of Middlesex, Illusionist, and JOHN ALGERNON CLARKE, of Sutton St. Mary, in the county of Lincoln, Farmer, for an invention of "Improved means for actuating automaton mechanism."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1805. THOMAS MARSHALL, of Belfast, in the county of Antrim, Ireland, for an invention of "Improvements in the manufacture of waterproof coats or garments and other articles of dress."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1806. HORACE TABBERER BROWN, of 47, High Street, Burton-on-Trent, Brewer, for an invention of "An improved method of recovering the brewers wort and other matters retained with the hops after boiling or boiling and pressing, and in the arrangement of machinery for that purpose."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1807. OWEN CHARLES DALHOUSIE ROSS, of Craven Street, Strand, in the county of Middlesex, Civil Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in distilling apparatus, and means for economically effecting the separation of sulphur from native ores and other substances."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1808. WILLIAM EDWARD HALL, of 50, Sloane Street, in the county of Middlesex, for an invention of "Improvements applicable to umbrellas and parasols."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1809. MATTHEW PRIOR, of Sheffield, in the county of York, Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements applicable to compensating safety metallic pistons, valves, and anti-galvanic lubricant for same, applicable more especially to steam, water, air, or gaseous engines, to stuffing boxes, to circular or piston valves, and to air and water pumps."—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1810. ALEXANDER MELVILLE CLARK, of 53, Chancery Lane, in the county of Middlesex, Patent Agent, for an invention of "Improvements in hydraulic engines, accumulators, and hoisting apparatus."—A communication to him from abroad by Ferdinand Rochow, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings, and Francis Otto Matthiessen, of New York city, both in the state of New York, United States of America.—(Complete Specification.)—Dated 14th May, 1875.

1811. WILLLAM REID, Manager to Messieurs Donald Matheson and Company, of Govan Croft Dye Works, in the county of Lanark, North Britain, for an invention of "Improvements in apparatus for saturating yarns and other textile materials with bleaching, preparing, mordanting, dyeing, clearing, or other liquids."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1812. ALEXANDER FRASER, of Edinburgh, in the county of Mid Lothian, North Britain, Printer, for an invention of "Improvements in type composing and distributing apparatus."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1813. BENJAMIN CROCKER CROSS, of Redhill, in the county of Surrey, Civil Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in ventilators for sewers and drains."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1814. HENRY LATOUR, of Vigean, in the department of the Gironde and republic of France, at present residing at 4, Old Compton Street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, Engineer, for an invention of "Improvements in machinery for picking, carding, and spinning both old and new cordage and all materials suitable for the calking of ships, for combing flax and hemp, and for picking rags and other textile materials."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1815. KENNETH MCLEAY PHIN LOUTTIT, of Greenwich, in the county of Kent, for an invention of "Improvements in the construction of lamps, applicable also for heating purposes."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1816. JOSEPH WALLACE, of Seaham Harbour, in the county of Durham, for an invention of "A new and improved pump for pumping water, air, or gases."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1817. JAMES HARRISON CARTER, of 82, Mark Lane, in the city of London, for an invention of "Improvements in disintegrators."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1818. SAMUEL IBBOTSON, of Kirkman Place, Tottenham Court Road, in the county of Middlesex, Engineer, for an invention of "A pedomotive wheeled horse or perambulator."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1819. ARCHIBALD WATSON FINLAYSON, of Johnstone, in the county of Renfrew, North Britain, for an invention of "New or improved mechanism or apparatus for applying tension to tapes or bands which are employed for driving spindles, shafts, or other rotating bodies."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1820. JOHN WHITTINGHAM, of the Cross, Willaston, Nantwich, in the county of Chester, Civil Engineer, for an invention of "An improved millstone-dressing machine."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

1821. WILLIAM TOPHAM, the younger, and EDWARD SNUSHALL, both of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, Galvanizers and Iron Plate Workers, for an invention of "Improvements in the manufacture of metallic covers or lids for tea kettles, tea and coffee pots, and other vessels, and in the manufacture of spouts for metallic vessels."—Dated 15th May, 1875.

A.D. 1875, 14th MAY. N° 1804.

SPECIFICATION

OF

JOHN NEVIL MASKELYNE
AND
JOHN ALGERNON CLARKE.

ACTUATING AUTOMATON MECHANISM.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:
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1875.

A.D. 1875, 14*th* MAY. N° 1804.

Actuating Automaton Mechanism.

(*This Invention received Provisional Protection only.*)

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by John Nevil Maskelyne and John Algernon Clarke at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with their Petition, on the 14th May 1875.

We, JOHN NEVIL MASKELYNE, of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, in the County of Middlesex, Illusionist, and JOHN ALGERNON CLARKE, of Sutton St. Mary, in the County of Lincoln, Farmer, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "IMPROVED MEANS FOR ACTUATING AUTOMATON MECHANISM," to be as follows:—

The chief object of this Invention is to set in action by an invisible agency clockwork mechanism, or trains of wheelwork actuated by weights or springs, and to increase at pleasure the speed of such mechanism beyond what is due to the impelling force of the springs or weights or to retard the action at will, the design being to imitate more closely than heretofore the natural movements of human and other figures.

As the controlling power we employ compressed air or gas, and we may also use an exhaust in combination with compressed air. Supposing that it is desired to control two arrangements of clockwork mechanism,

we fit each apparatus with a locking lever for engaging with a ratchet wheel on the motive-power axle, and between these levers and near the free ends thereof we set up a vertical sliding rod which is carried by a piston. This piston works in a fixed cylinder which is open at bottom to a trunk or chamber in connection with a compressed air or gas receiver, or with an air pump or bellows. The piston rod carries a tappet for working one of the locking levers in its descent, while the other is worked by the head of the rod striking it while ascending.

When air is admitted to the under side of the piston from the trunk or chamber, the piston will be forced upwards, and to effect the return motion a coiled spring, or it may be a weight is employed which forces down the piston and its rod when released from the upward pressure of the air. The ascent of the rod to its full height will lift one of the locking levers and allow the mechanism with which it is connected to start into action.

If we require to quicken the action of this mechanism, we connect the lever by means of a wire with a valve opening from the air trunk or chamber, and so situate with regard to a fan wheel forming part of the clockwork, that the valve when opened will cause a jet of air to impinge on the fan blades, and thus give an impetus to the clockwork. If on the other hand the speed is required to be retarded a counteracting jet may be thrown upon the fan blades. Immediately the pressure of the air is removed from the piston the counteracting pressure of the coiled spring or weight will bring down the piston rod as before mentioned, an escape being provided for the compressed air, and as the piston rod descends its tappet will strike the free end of the locking lever of the second arrangement of clockwork, and thereby set that mechanism in action to produce a further and distinct movement of the automaton, the first arrangement being simultaneously stopped by the descent of its locking lever.

To provide for the tappet passing and re-passing the second locking lever, we fit it with a jointed tail piece which will yield to the upward movement of the tappet, and will present a rigid bearing surface to the tappet when descending.

The compressed air or gas which we employ may be stored in a pedestal and discharged in pulsations by the operation of a valve.

Maskelyne & Clarke's Means for Actuating Automaton Mechanism.

It will be obvious that the like impelling or retarding force may be obtained by the use of an exhaust so applied as to induce an indraught of air to act upon the fan blades.

This Invention admits of the use of a small pedestal highly charged with compressed air or gas, and capable of being placed in any convenient position for controlling by the emission of jets of the compressed air or gas, the action of separate pieces of mechanism a valve or stop-cock in the pedestal being opened by means of an electrical or other connection worked by the foot of the performer or an assistant.

This pedestal arrangement may also be used for the inflation of bellows within an automaton figure, and for acting upon rotating fans and wheels for the purpose of driving mechanism not actuated by weights or springs.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1875.