

The British Admiralty, so as to thoroughly test the power of the Rodman Gun, has recently purchased one from the United States, with a supply of powder, shot, &c.; and, on the 24th of July, the experimental trials were made with it at Shoeburyness, before a large body of officers and others.

The *Engineer* commenting on the results of the experiments, concludes thus:—"It may also be deduced from the Shoeburyness experiments, that the 15-inch American gun is in no sense a more formidable gun than it has been supposed to be. The experiments, imperfect as they are, have gone far enough to show that it is inferior to our own 12-ton gun. * * *. It is satisfactory to learn even this much, and we have no doubt that when the gun comes to be tried at a target in competition with the English gun, the superiority of the latter will be fully demonstrated. It is to be borne in mind, too, that while the American gun weighs nearly 20 tons, the English gun weighs little over 12 tons; if, therefore, we regard the ease with which the two guns can be carried and worked on board ship, the English gun has an enormous advantage."

What says the *New York Tribune*, of the 10th of August, after having received full particulars of the experiments? Hear the editor:—"The Rodman gun has proved a signal failure," and after describing the construction of the target, and showing that it had "been repeatedly penetrated by English rifle projectiles;" the Rodman gun, at "only 70 yards," and with a charge of "60 pounds of American powder, that is to say, 10 pounds more than the ordinary charge of the Rodman gun," failed to penetrate it. "It struck the target in a weak place, the junction of two plates, leaving only an indentation of four inches, but buckling the plates considerably. * * * "These experiments leave little doubt that the Rodman 15-inch, weighing 19½ tons, is far inferior to the English 9-inch, which weighs only 12 tons, and it is not only in its penetrating power that we are disappointed, but its racking "effect, which is claimed as its special merit, appears to have been greatly overrated, and not comparable to that of the English gun."

"It is pretty clear now that with iron shot, and at 70 yards range, it could not hurt the best of the British iron-clads, and that even with steel shot (which are not part of its equipment) there are some vessels which would successfully resist it. * * *. The experiments at Shoeburyness have only taught us that if—which heaven avert—the British and American iron-clads should ever go into action against each other, we should be

blown out of the water before we had knocked a single hole in our enemy's hulls."

This will do until the Americans get up another sensational gun.

CANADIAN PATENTS.

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BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND STATISTICS,

PATENT OFFICE,

Ottawa, 19th July, 1867,

His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to grant Letters Patent of Inventions for a period of Fourteen years, from the date thereof, to the persons whose names are included in the following list.

Published by command,

A. J. CAMBIE,

Acting Deputy to the Minister of Agriculture.

John Johnson, of the city of Toronto, in the county of York, Gentleman, "A new and useful process or method for rendering unexplosive Benzole and other hydro-carbon liquids, and for generating and illuminating gas, therefrom the compound so produced to be called the "Patent Gas Oil."—(Dated Ottawa, 11th December, 1866.)

Charles Reid of the town of St. Catharines, in the county of Lincoln, Tinsmith, "A new and useful Stove pipe Shelf."—(Dated Ottawa, 14th December, 1866.)

John Mather, of Gatineau Mills, in the county of Ottawa, Saw Mill Manager, a new and useful Slab Cutter."—(Dated Ottawa, 20th December, 1866.)

Caspar Brinzer, of the Village of Yorkville, in the county of York, Cabinet-maker, "A new and useful Chair and Step Ladder, called the Brinzer chair and Step Ladder combined,"—(Dated Ottawa, 9th January, 1867.)

Charles Taylor, of the County of Bonaventure, in the district of Gaspé, Practical Engineer, "A new and useful Stone and Quartz Breaker,"—(Dated Ottawa, 11th December, 1866.)

John Lazier, of the Town of Belleville, in the county of Hastings, Merchant "A new and useful Improved Domestic Spinner,"—(Dated Ottawa, 17th December, 1866.)

John Yemen, of the Village of Mitchell, in the county of Perth, Dentist, "A Heel Plate called Yemen's Reversible Heel Plate,"—(Dated Ottawa, 11th December, 1866.)

Henry Wood, of the City of Montreal, Mechanical Engineer, "An improvement in the Manufacture of Paper Stock, from Straw, flag, grass and other fibrous vegetable matter,"—(Dated Ottawa, 11th December, 1866.)

Henry Wood, of the City of Montreal, Mechanical Engineer, "An Improvement in the Manufacture of Fibre from Indian Corn or Maize plant, fibrous Grasses, Canes, Bamboos, Seeds and other fibrous vegetable matter."—(Dated Ottawa, 11th December, 1866.)

Moses A. Payne, of the Township of Yarmouth, in the County of Elgin, yeoman, "A new and useful machine called 'Moses A Payne's Force Sand Pump.'"—(Dated Ottawa, 31st December, 1866.)

John Cummings, of the Township of East Zorra, in the County of Oxford, yeoman, and Hiram Harrington, of the said township, yeoman, "An Improved Threshing Machine."—(Dated Ottawa, 31st December, 1866.)