ABRIDGMENTS OF THE SPECIFICATIONS RELATING TO STEAM CULTURE

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Trieste

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RELATING TO

STEAM CULTURE.

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PREFACE.

THE Indexes to Patents are now so numerous and costly as to be placed beyond the reach of a large number of inventors and others to whom they have become indispensable.

To obviate this difficulty, short abstracts or abridgments of the Specifications of Patents under each head of Invention have been prepared for publication separately, and so arranged as to form at once a Chronological, Subject-matter, Reference, and Alphabetical Index to the class to which they relate. As these publications do not supersede the necessity for consulting the Specifications, the prices at which the latter are sold have been added.

Many Specifications being yet unpublished, the only guide in discriminating subjects in such cases has been the titles of Patents, which are frequently defective, and may therefore have led to an occasional omission.

When the entire series of Specifications shall have been printed it is intended to publish a new and complete edition of these Abridgments; meanwhile, the manifest usefulness of such works, and the urgency of the demand for copies, have been considered a sufficient justification for *the present* issue.

The present series of Abridgments of Specifications relating to "Steam Culture" comprises not only the inventions which have for their object the employment of steam-power for cultivating the soil or performing the field operations of agriculture, but also those inventions which are indirectly connected with the subject. In the latter class are included the working of agricultural implements by electricity, explosive agents, heated air, compressed air, wind, atmospheric pressure, or water-power; also the various plans of communicating motion to carriages or agricultural implements which have been subsequently adopted in steam culture, as by grooved pulleys travelling along or in contact with fixed or slowly moving ropes or chains, propelling screws, differential pulleys, winding up ropes or chains, &c.; likewise such improved forms of implements or machines as might be or have been adapted to till the soil by the agency of steam, as revolving harrows, cultivators, and clod-crushers, portable or travelling agricultural engines, digging-machines, &c.

B. WOODCROFT.

INDEX OF NAMES.

[The names of persons by whom inventions have been communicated from abroad, when known, are printed in *Italic*.]

STEAM CULTURE.

A.D. 1618, January 17.—N° 6.

RAMSEY, DAVID, and WILDGOSSE, THOMAS.—"Newe, apte, "or compendious formes or kindꝭ of engines or instrumentꝭ and "other ꝑfitable invenc̃ons, wayes, and meanes for the good of "our commonwealth, as well to ploughe groundꝭ without horse "or oxen, and to enrich and make better and more fertill as well "barren peatꝭ, saltꝭ, & sea sandꝭ, as inland and upland "groundꝭ, within our kingdomes of England and Ireland, and "our domynyon of Wales; as alsoe to rayse waters from anye "lowe place to highe places for well watering of cittyes, townes, "noblemen's and gentlemen's houses, and other places nowe "much wanting water, with lesse charges than ever hath bene "heretofore; and to make boates for the carryage of burthens "and passengers runn vpon the water as swifte in calmes, and "more saff in stormes, then boatꝭ full sayled in greate wynes."

[No Specification enrolled. Letters Patent printed, price 3d.]

A.D. 1627, August 6.—N° 39.

BROUNCKER, WILLIAM; APRICE, JOHN; and PARHAM, WILLIAM.—"A most readye and easy way for the earing, "ploughing, and tilling of land of what kind soever without the "vse or helpe either of oxen or horses, by the labour or helpe of "twoe men onely to goe with everie plough that shalbe vsed, with "an engyne or gynn for that ꝑpose."

[No Specification enrolled. Letters Patent printed, 3d.]

A.D. 1630, January 21.—N° 50.

RAMSEY, DAVID.—"To multiplie and make saltpetre in an "open feilde in fower acres of ground sufficient to serve all our "dominions; to raise water from lowe pittꝭ by fire; to make any

" sort of mill℘ to goe on standing waters by continuall moc̃on,
" without the helpe of winde, waite, or horse; to make all sorts
" of tapestrie without any weaving loom, or way ever yet in vse
" in this kingdome; to make hoates, shippes, and barges to goe
" against stronge winde and tyde; to make the earth firtile more
" then vsuall; to rayse water from low places, and mynd℘ and
" coalepitt℘, by a new waie never yet in vse; to make hard iron
" soft, and likewise copper to bee tuffe and soft, which is not in
" vse within this kingdome; and to make yellow wax white verie
" speedily."

[No Specification enrolled. Letters Patent printed, 4*d*. See also No. 6.]

A.D. 1634, January 29.—N° 68.

RAMSEY, DAVID.—"A farre more easie and better waye for
" soweing of corne and grayne, and allsoe for the carriage of
" coaches, carts, drayes, and other thing℘ goeing on wheeles, then
" ever yet was vsed and discovered." On comparing the above with the titles of Letters Patent Nos. 6 and 50, it seems probable that the inventors purposed to plough or break up land and deposit manure and seed by steam power.

[No Specification enrolled. Letters Patent printed, 4*d*. See also Nos. 6 and 50.]

A.D. 1634, July 17.—N° 72.

PARHAM, WILLIAM; PREWETT, JOHN; PREWETT, AMBROSE; and DORNEY, THOMAS.—"A certaine newe and readie
" way, for the good of our c̃mon wealth, for the earinge and
" plowinge of land of what kind soever, without the vse or helpe
" of horses or oxen, by meanes of an engine, by them newly
" invented and framed, and not formerly practized or vsed within
" our kingdome of England or dominion of Wales, by the labour
" and strength of two men onlie to drive or enforce the saide
" engine, and of one other p̃son to hould or guide the plowe or
" sullowe to be drawne with the same engine."

[No Specification enrolled. Letters Patent printed, 4*d*. See also No. 39.]

A.D. 1769, March 14.—N° 921.

MOORE, FRANCIS.—"New machines or engines made of wood,
" iron, brass, copper, or other metal, and constructed upon peculiar
" principles, and capable of being wrought or put in motion by