



## Notes and Queries

CAN any of our members identify the interesting piece of mechanism shown in the accompanying illustration? The original pictorial source is a daguerreotype of about 1850, owned by Mr. William L. Warren, a contributor to *OLD-TIME NEW ENGLAND* and member of its Editorial Committee. Acquired in New Haven, this unusual mid-nineteenth-century document is thought to represent a Connecticut subject. In 1964 it was shown to members attending a meeting of the Early American Industries Association, at which time Mr. Ralph Hodgekinson wrote to Mr. Warren as follows:

“Very few of the members would even attempt a guess on this one, but those who did are people whose judgment I respect.

“They were, of course, not positive, but agreed that it was:

1. Some form of air compressor.
2. Incomplete, and on a flatcar, ready for shipment.
3. *Not* a multistage compressor. The four cylinders would have been to make a more uniform air flow. The necessary plenum and ducts etc. would be installed on top after the machine was in place.
4. Dated only by the costumes of the two men and the photographic medium.”

The two gentlemen seem to have no small share of pride in the matter, and it would be interesting to know their identity as well.