

# INVENTIONS

(Up to 1932)

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## Introduction

The following are some of the most important inventions in the history (up to 1932) of civilized man.

No date can be given to the most useful invention of all, that of the wheel (involving the use of rollers and pulleys, etc.) for in Europe and Asia Minor it dates back to prehistoric times. Yet in America and in early Egypt the pulley was unknown.

## Inventions

*Lever and screw*: Archimedes (c. 287-212, B.C.)

*Printing*: from movable type,  
in China, A.D. 1041;  
in Europe, 1440.

*Gunpowder* (in the Western world): the monk Berthold Schwartz, 1313.

*Logarithms*: J. Napier, 1614;  
J. Burgi, 1620.

*Steam engine*:  
Piston, Newcomen, 1698.  
Condenser, Watt, 1769.  
Locomotive, Trevethick, 1804.  
Turbine, Parsons, 1884.

Spinning jenny: Arkwright, 1769.

Gas illumination: Murdoch, 1792.

Electricity:  
Leyden Jar, 1745  
Electro-magnetic induction, Faraday, 1831.

*Steel*: Bessemer process, 1856.

*Anesthetics*: Humphrey Davy, 1799.

*Chloroform*: Simpson, 1847.

*Wireless*: receiving and transmitting apparatus, Marconi, 1895.

*Internal combustion engine:* Gottlieb, 1883.

*Aeroplane:* Wright Brothers, 1903.

*Radiography:* Rontgen Rays, 1 895.

*Photography:* J. N. Niepce, 1817, Daguerre, 1839.

*Atomic energy:* splitting of the atom by Cockroft and Walton, 1932.

End

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