

and the water flows into the air chamber in a steady stream. J. M. may not be able to run at 200, but I think he can go over that. I think the supply pipe is large enough. I hope J. M. will tell through your paper how he succeeds. A. Your hints are practical, and will be of great value to some readers. The air chamber in the supply pipe, however, is not the universal panacea for sulky pumps that you seem to consider it. Still, no one who puts in such an air chamber will have cause to regret it.

(29) E. L. F. says, in reply to F. S. M. & Co.'s query as to sesquioxide of manganese: The sesquioxide of manganese is found in its anhydrous state as braunite, and in an hydrated state as manganite. It may be obtained by passing chlorine through manganese carbonate, placed in water, and afterwards applying diluted nitric acid to remove the excess of the carbonate.

(30) E. L. F. says, in reply to W. H. R., who asked how to make the muriatic salts of nickel: Pure nickel has a great similarity to iron, both in its external appearance and its combinations, and is regarded as a tetrad, although it forms but one chloride, in which it is bivalent. Nickel chloride ($NiCl_2$) may be prepared by dissolving the oxide or carbonate of nickel in hydrochloric acid. By a simple process, the nickel carbonate may be prepared from the cryde species. Any good work on chemistry explains the method.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Editor of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN acknowledges, with much pleasure, the receipt of original papers and contributions upon the following subjects:

On Vegetable Fibers. By J. W.
On Hydrocarbons of Iron and Steel. By L. P.
On Solids Floating on Liquids. By A. R.
On Popular Dental Science. By C. S. S.
On a Flying Machine. By C. H. C.
On Boiler Explosions. By R. B.
On Oyster Culture. By O. C.
On Suet Butter. By J. L.
On a New Projectile. By W. L. A.

Also enquiries and answers from the following:

J. G. G.—S. W. R.—E. W. H.—C. A. P.—X. Y. Z.—L. N. K.—W. J. R.—J. W. D.—W. D. D.—F. R. D.—M. L. W.

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents whose inquiries fail to appear should repeat them. If not then published, they may conclude that, for good reasons, the Editor declines them. The address of the writer should always be given.

Enquiries relating to patents, or to the patentability of inventions, assignments, etc., will not be published here. All such questions, when initials only are given, are thrown into the waste basket, as it would fill half of our paper to print them all but we generally take pleasure in answering briefly by mail, if the writer's address is given.

Hundreds of enquiries analogous to the following are sent: "Who erects wire tramways? Who buys broken window glass? Who builds engines and boilers for small boats? Where can spectroscopic apparatus be bought? Who sells photographic chemicals that can be relied on for quick work?" All such personal enquiries are printed, as will be observed, in the column of "Business and Personal," which is specially set apart for that purpose, subject to the charge mentioned at the head of that column. Almost any desired information can in this way be expeditiously obtained.

[OFFICIAL.]

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