

coin?—S. D. says: There is a certain species of wood used in England for boring tin plates. Some say it is a hard pine imported from Belgium, others that it is species of ash. Does any one know what it is?—V. C. asks: How is inlaid woodwork done, and how are the colors for dyeing the wood made?—F. P. says: There is a species of hawk, called in Vermont blue hawk, whose true name I would like to ascertain. Its back is very dark; it is bluish in color, with the breast rather of a brick color. It is nearly as large as the hen hawk. It has crooked wings like the wings of an eagle, it flies aery rapidly, and it makes great havoc among young chickens, etc., which it seizes without stopping, making a rapid swoop upon them. It is hardly ever seen except in the neighborhood of its nest, which is always made on the bare rock, on lofty cliffs. The eggs are of a very dark red, a little mottled with white. It is very noisy, and screams when any one goes near the nest. What is its proper name?

#### COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

On a Bread Toaster. By T. C. H.  
On Boiler Explosions. By J. R. R. M., and by H. P. G. C.  
On the Climate of Oregon. By M. W. W.  
On Aerolites. By J. S. D.  
Also inquiries and answers from the following:  
G. K.—H. M. S.—J. A. H.—C. H. P.—J. G. G.—T. S.—J. A. G.—O. J. S.—C. R. S.—S. L. M.—O. B. S.—S.—F. E. J.—G. W. S.—R. H. M.—W. H. R.—P. A. B.—J. B.—J. M. V.—E. M.—W. G. R.—C. F. E.—E. R. C.—B. S. G.

#### 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.

Inquiries relating to patents, or to the patentability of inventions, assignments, etc., will not be published here.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 inquiries analogous to the following are sent: "Who sells paper bag machines? Who sells refrigerators? Who sells steel springs for use in small motors? Who sells parlor skates? Whose is the best nautical telescope? Who sells a fireclay preparation, porous enough to admit the passage of gas, as in a wire gauze burner?" All such personal inquiries 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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January 9, 1877,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

A complete copy of any patent in the annexed list, including both the specifications and drawings, will be furnished from this office for one dollar. In ordering, please state the number and date of the patent desired, and remit to Munn & Co., 37 Park Row, New York city.

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9,693 to 9,698.—OIL CLOTHS.—C. T. Meyer, Bergen, N. J.  
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