

cloth about two yards long, roll it up into a hard roll. Dip one end into the boiled oil, and add a few drops of shellac varnish, and rub the work previously oiled with that until a fine polish is obtained.

How can I mend a rubber hose having small holes in it? A. With rubber cement, which you can obtain from dealers in rubber goods. Caoutchouc, dissolved in chloroform, will fill very small holes.

MINERALS, ETC.—Specimens have been received from the following correspondents, and examined, with the results stated:

J. McE.—It is a rich ore of lead—galena.—S. C. C.—A poor iron ore—argillaceous limonite—W. A. M.—The incrustation consists for the most part of lime sulphate and carbonate, together with a little silica, alumina, iron, and organic matter. The remedies suggested will, in time, soften but not remove it.—C. F. B.—Quartz, of no especial value.—J. H. P.—No. 1, Quartzite with specular and titaniferous iron. The green piece contains copper oxide, silicate, sulphide, and carbonate, together with much iron. No. 2, A limestone. No. 3 resembles No. 1. Nos. 4, 12, and 13, conglomerate. No. 5, Hematite with crocidolite. No. 6, Quartz containing siderite. No. 7, Lithographic stone. No. 8, Limestone with pyrites and a trace of copper sulphide. No. 9, Red Jasper. No. 10 contains specular iron. No. 11, Limestone. No. 14, Barite—impure barium sulphate. It occurs commonly in beds or veins of metallic ore.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

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

Progress of the Plow. By F. W. J.
Preventing Explosions in Mines. By F. P. and A. D.
Safeguard against Counterfeiting. By E. A. H.
Locomotive Strokes. By W. St. L.
Our Earth Motionless. By S.
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The Polariscopes as a Photometer. By P. H. V.

OFFICIAL.

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FOR WHICH

Letters Patent of the United States were
Granted in the Week Ending
March 12, 1878,

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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Electric machine.—H. C. Spalding, Bloomfield, N. J.
Filter.—A. Van Haagen, Philadelphia, Pa.
Furnace.—S. T. Owens et al., Allegheny, Pa.
Hose.—S. W. Baker, Providence, R. I.
Life boat, J. F. Schultheis, N. Y. city.
Middlings, dressing, etc.—T. D. Jones, Syracuse, N. Y.
Moulding machine.—W. Munzer et al., N. Y. city.
Rail joint.—E. Payne, Chicago, Ill.
Railway switch.—J. S. Williams, Riverton, N. J.
Ribbon roll.—H. G. Hubert et al., N. Y. city.
Rock drill.—W. W. Dunn, San Francisco, Cal.
Screw machine.—C. D. Rogers, Providence, R. I.
Sewing machine.—J. E. Folk, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Shot concentrator.—R. Morris, U. S. A., et al.
Sickle grinding machine.—W. S. Ingraham, Waukegan, Ill.
Spinning machine.—F. Rabbeth, Pawtucket, R. I.
Stopper.—W. H. Hicks, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Syringe.—M. Mattson, N. Y. city.
Transmitting power.—W. H. Clark et al., Chicago, Ill.
Vehicle for self-propulsion.—G. W. Bishop, Brooklyn, N. Y.
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