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Bound Volumes of the Scientific American.-I have on hand bound volumes of the Scientific American, which 1 will sell (singly or together) at \$1 each, to be sent by express. See advertisement on page 380. John Edwards P. O. Box 786, N. Y.

NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

PRINCIPLES OF MACHINE CONSTRUCTION By Edward Tomkins. With volume of Plates. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers, 182 Fifth avenue, New York.

This work belongs to Putnam's Advanced Science series. It is an exceedingly clear, well arranged and well edited treatise, simple enough for the student of mechanical engineering at the outset, and at the same time it will prove a useful manual of reference to the often by the free use of the higher mathematics is made unnecessarily obscure. No extensive knowledge on the part of the reader is here presupposed. The author begins with simple drawing apparatus, and devotes his initial chapter to the rudiments of draughting. He then advances through various geometrical constructions, development of surfaces, etc., and finally in the chapter on "Motion " enters upon the application of the principles laid down. Elementarycombinations of mechanism, a discussion of materials, modes of construction, a good clear exposition of the difficult subject of gearing, and lastly the practical building of machine tools. make up the rest of a volume which

PINE PLANTATIONS ON THE SAND WASTES OF FRANCE. By John Croumbie Brown, LL.D. Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd, Publishers.

Dr. Brown has published a number of valuable work on sylviculture, which contain strong arguments against the destruction of forests and in favor of reclaiming waste lands by tree planting. The present work relates mainly to the attempts at arresting and utilizing | A the sand drifts on the waste regions in France by the plantation of the pine and other trees or grass, the suitability of which is indicated by the nature of the soil and atmospheric conditions.

MANUAL OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY. Edited by B. H. Paul, Ph. D. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 15 Astor Place. Price \$10.

This work is based upon a translation of Stohmann and Engler's German edition of Payen's "Précis de Chimie Industrielle." It is copiously illustrated, and the editor has added some chapters on the chemistry of the metals. As a manual for general reference it will probably serve instead of larger and more costly works, as

avenue, New York.

This is a lecture delivered before the New York Free Trade Club by Professor Sumner of Yale College. It by some microscopists whether the distinction is always Improved Steel Castings; stiff and durable; as soft adds many cogent arguments to one side of a controversy in which it is not the province of this journal to participate.



(1) G. W. S. asks: Can any saving be made in battery material of Callaud cells by breaking circuit when not needed for use? A. If the circuit remains open any length of time the blue (copper) solution reaches the zinc; soluble zinc sulphate is then formed and the copper deposited on the zinc. The The great Wheelock Engine, which furnishes the Smee or Leclanché cell is better suited for open circuit

M. Peclet's work, so often quoted in Rankine's treatise on the steam engine? A. "Traité de Chaleur," par M. lime carbonate with a little sulphate and a trace of po-Peclet, Paris. 2. Who are the standard authorities on locomotiveengineering? A. Colburn, Clark, Holley, and fair quality of fire clay.-J. D.-Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are ar-Forney are authors of standard treatises on the loco- gillaceous limestones. Nos. 4 and 5 contain calcium motive. 3. Does an engineer, who makes a specialty of locomotives, require to be well versed in the higher branches of mathematics. such as calculus, trigonome-The Cameron Steam Pump mounted in Phosphor ful builders have been ignorant of the higher analysis, Bronze is an indestructible machine. See ad. back page. but such knowledge is frequently of great assistance. For Solid Wrought Iron Beams, etc., see advertise- (3) O. J. B. asks: Which will transmit more power, a polished cast iron pulley or a rough one? A. A polished pulley.

Hand Fire Engines, Lift and Force Pumps for fire to be placed in a bath of melted zinc, covered with sal ammoniac. If desired, it may then be placed in a bath of melted tin, or may be used at once, after receiving the zinc coating.

(6) R. J. B. writes: Occasionally I am in the habit of laying my pen, without cleaning, on the make. Send for cuts. Steptoe & Co., 214 W. 2d St., Cin. O. ; writing desk (which is of mahogany) and by so doing up a lucrative foreign trade, will do well to insert a well move the stains? A. The ink may be removed by displayed advertisement in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN the application of strong aqueous solution of oxalic acid or a solution of calcium hypochlorite in acetic acid. Apply wet blot ing paper to remove excess of solution, and then a dry blotter. After the wood is dry apply a little boiled oil. The spotting cannot be altogether obliterated.

> (7) G. S. C. writes: By using oxalic acid with Prussian blue for laundry purposes, it gives the water a greenish tinge. What can I use that will give the water a purplish tinge or a purplish blue? A. Use potassium ferrocyanide instead of oxalic acid, in proportion of about 3 to 20 of the Berlin blue. See p. 969, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, No. 61.

> (8) E. B. asks whether spur or bevel wheel gearing is preferable, in cases where either kind can be applied. A. Spur gearing is best.

(9) W. & K. write: We have difficulty with a belt in our office. On which will a leather belt slip practicing engineer. We cancommend the book as one least, smooth iron, rough iron, or a turned wood surwhich embodies a great deal of information which too face? A. Smooth iron. As a general rule the best way to prevent the slipping of belts on smooth faced pulleys, is to increase the area of the friction surface by usingpulleys of larger diameter or width of face, and belts of a corresponding size.

> (10) J. F. N. asks: Will a tin tube answer as a core upon which to wind an induction coil for electrical purposes; would the tin cause any diminution of the current? A. It is not advisable to use the tin tube for the core; it is better to wind the primary coil direct ly on a core or bundle of parallel iron wires, covered with one or two layers of clean paper soaked in paraf fin.

> (11) G. M. W. asks: What volume of steam, at atmospheric pressure, is procurable from the evapo ration of a unit volume of water, and what would be the ratio of decrease in the volume of steam under added pressure? A. According to Professor Rankine, whose calculations agree quite well with the experimental investigations of Fairbairn and Tate, the relative volume of steam, compared with that of water, is as follows:

Pressure in tmospheres.	Relative Volume.
1	1646
2	
3	580
4	440

(12) C. W. M. asks: 1. How can rusty steel tools be made bright? A. Clean them with oiled emery paper. 2. How can a soldering iron be tinned when the tin is off, so that the solder will adhere to the iron? A. Heat the soldering iron, and file the end down to the clear copper, then rub it in resin and solder mixed by the heat of the iron. You may have to file the iron twice.

(13) F. L. M. asks: 1. In what kind of aterwill most likely be found animalcules for low powermicroscopes from 20 to 100 diameters? A. Any stagnant water. 2. How can I obtain some "paste eels?" A. Allow flour paste to stand two weeks or more in a moderately warm place, in contact with the air. 3. What power is required to distinguish human from other blood? A. Not less than 500 diameters; one fifth inch objective with B eyepiece. It is questioned ossible.

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

H. A. J.-It is hornblende.-W. M. B.-The fire clay is not of excellent quality. It is of little value as a pigment. Properly tempered it might serve as material for drain pipes, tiles, common pottery, soft bricks, etc.-J. N., Jr.-The glittering particles in the powder are of mica. Not valuable.-A. B. T.-The sandstone and red jasper contain nothing of value.-J. S., M.D. We do not consider the pebble of value; it is milky quartz.-C. & R.-The sample of quartz does not ap pear to be auriferous. The other specimen contains silica, clay (aluminum silicate), lime, magnesia, and a little sodium and iron. -E. A. S.-The samples of native magnesium sulphate received. We should be (2) C. B. P. asks: 1. What is the title of pleased to have further particulars respecting the deposit.-E. McD.-The samples consist principally of tassa, strontium, and phosphoric acid.-D. E.-It is a carbonate with a little baryta and strontia. No. 6 is calcareous clay. No. 7 is clay slate. No. 8 is a variety of hematite. No. 9 is a concretionary formation of cal We cannot ind ge the proximity of coal. No.1 might be used as a building stone, but is rather soft.-W. J. C.-It is zinc blende -of some value as a source of zinc.-W. J. T.-The curious hair-like substance formed on the coke is similar to the mineral wool now largely made from molten blast furnace slag by the contact with a jet of hotair or steam. In composition it is an iron-lime-alumina silicate, containing a little graphitic carbon. Its formation would require an unusually high temperature in the retort.

OFFICIAL.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS FOR WHICH

Letters Patent of the United States were Granted in the Week Ending

April 23, 1878.

AND EACH BEARING THAT BATE. [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, ease state the number and date of the patent desired, and remit to Munn & Co., 37 Park Row, New York city,

	Amalgamator, S. F. Charles	202,703
	Amalgamator, Firmin & Forster	202,804
	Animals, shelter for. W. Heaton	. 202,648
ļ	Auger, earth, O. H. Polley	
i	Axle, car, H. Watkeys	202.682
	Baby walker, J. H. Headler	
	Balance, spring, C. Forschner	
	Bale tie, Gray & Johnson Balloon, W. F. Pearson	
	Barrel lining, M. Lafin.	
	Basin waste pipe, I. A. Singer	202,035
	Bathing house, portable, N. Overfield	
į	Bed, camp, O. A. White	
	Bedstead, table, A. A. Hoffman	
	Bell, horse car, J. M. Gaughen	202,645
	Bobbin, shuttle, R. W. Porter	202,664
	Boiler, steam, B. T. Babbitt	202,689
•	Boilers, fire box for steam, G. H. Hoagland	202,819
;	Book binding, J. S. Lever (r)	8,195
i	Book rack, J. M. Clark	
i	Boot and shoe, T. Poore	202,865
	Boot and shoe heels, S. T. Gates	202,808
	Bottle stopper, N. Fox Bottle washing machine, C. Michel	202,714
	Bottle wasning machine, C. Michel	202,740
	Brake shoe for railway cars, R. N. Allen Brick machine, Phillips & Williams	202,772 202,861
	Brick machine, runnys & wunams	202,801
ļ	Buckle, J. B. Gathright Bullion, covering strands for, R. C. Alton	202,044
	Burglar alarm, G. W. Eddy	
	Burglar alarm, C. H. Carter.	
ļ	Burial case, L. K. Dutton	202 707
ļ	Button, C. B. Chaffee	202,191
	Button, West & Spittle	202.684
	Button, E. S. & J. E. Wheeler	202,907
	Cans for holding oil, Collins & Boughton	
	Car, stock, J. Miller	
;	Card, advertising, G. C. Bell.	202.692
	Carriage, child's, C. Gillis	202,715
	Carriage, child's, C. Gillis Carriage tops, etc., fastener for, J. Watters	202,683
1	Cartridge box. J. W. Frazier	202.642
	Cartridges, capping, H. A. Kingsland	202,831
ì	Chair, nursery, F. Caulier	202,788
1	Check hook, G. E. Waring, Jr. (r)	8,199
1	Cigar machine, R. A. Bright, Jr	202,628
	Clock, H. J. & W. D. Davies	202,795
	Clock, ∇ . Himmer (r)	8,194
	Clothes line tightener, S. Conner	
i	Clothes pounder, M P. Colvin	
l	Cock, gauge, C. J. Elliott	
ļ	Cock, water, M. Hogan	
•	Cocoa nut fiber, treatment of, E. Pallu	
	Coin, detecting counterfeit, Baker & Simonton Coin package, C. F. Trout	
ł	Colors, ultramarine, R. Hoffman	202,822
•	Cotton gin saw cleaner, R. S. Munger	
	Cultivator, J. Smith	202.763
	Cupboard, elevating, J. T. Westwood	202.906
	Curry comb, Lawrence & Holmes	202.837
	Curtain cord tightener, J. F. Mienhardt	
	Curtain roller rack, J. F. Almy	
•	Cutlery, table, C. Reese	202,767
•	Ditching machine, T. F. McGough	
	Dog power, F. K. Traxler	
i	Door chain, T. F. Stevenson	
	Draught equalizer, H. D. Cress	
l	Effervescent liquids, drawing, T. Warker (r)	
ļ	Election stickers, blank for, J. Arnold	
i	Engine, W.H. Hoffman	
	Engine, C. M. & E. E. Miller	
j	Engine, W. H. Elliot Engine, F. Starkenberg	202,088
1	Engine, O. Stenberg	
i	Engine, B. H. Taylor	
۱	Engine, D. Turner	
۱	Engine condenser, W. J. Allen (r)	8,188
۱	Engine condenser, J. Absterdam (r)	
l	Envelope, O. P. Hatfield	
i	Fabrics, machine for cutting, A. Warth	202.901
l	Faucet, bung, S. T. Moore	202,855
۱	Felting process, Flagg & Jackson	202,805
•	Fence, W. M. Landreth	202,836
:	Fence, C. H. Phelps	202,752
	Fence, N. Westcott	202,905
-	Fence, W. R. White	202,686
ļ	Fence, H. & J. Harrington	
1	Fence post, E. D. Roseman	
ĺ	Fiber, machine for making, L. P. Summers	
	Fiber, treatment of waste, J. Wilkins	
	File, bill, T. Lees	202,7322
1	Filtering apparatus, A. Van Haagen (r)	
	Fire alarm, signal box, R. N. Tooker.	202,891
	Fire arm, W. H. Bliss	
į	Fire arm, L. Ybarra	
ļ	Fire escape, F. Dettmer Fire escape, Swank & Jehnke	
ļ	Fire escape, Swank & Jennke Fire front, J. A. Ewing	
	Fishing apparatus, O. Hesse	
ļ	Fluting device, J. & E. Shane & Hooker	
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ent. Address Union Iron Mills, Pittsburgh. Pa., for lithograph, etc.

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Blake's Belt Studs, the best fastening for Rubber and an acid bath (sulpouric acid and water, equal parts), and Leather Belts. Greene, Tweed & Co., 18 Park Place, N.Y then scrubbed with sand or emery. When clean, it is

(4) W. M. J. writes: I wish to build a 16 x25 foot dryingroom for green lumber 25 feet from my engine, using the exhaust steam from the engine which is 25 horse power. It takes all the power to do the

work required of it with a free exhaust through a 21/2 inchpipe. I am fearful of the back pressure. Will it do to enlarge the pipe 1/2 inch, and if so, how many coils of pipe will be necessary? A. You can regulate Climax Washing Machine. Reliable Agents wanted. the back pressure to a considerable degree by using which would probably be sufficient for your purpose, the back pressure ought not to be increased more than

(5) G. & H. ask how to galvanize sheet

iron. A. The iron should be cleaned by immersion in

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Editorof the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN acknowledges with much pleasure the receipt of original papers and contributions on the following subjects: Singular Locomotive Accident. By W. J. T. The Jury at the Paris Exhibition Storm and Flood Signals. By A. W. Set ing Boilers. By F. B. C. Money. By J. A. Iron Mining and Manufactures. By M. I. H. The Phonautograph. Ink Wipers. By C. F. S.

Price of Machinery. By J. C. H.

Furnaces, gas check for blast, D. N. Jones 202,730 Glassware, machinefor finishing, D. Challinor.... 202,631

Fluting iron, N. R. Streeter 202,676

Fuel box, W. McCarroll 202,833;

Funnel, D. B. Lester...... 202,734

202,657

202.863