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Hydraulic Presses and Jacks, new and second hand. Lathes and Machinery for Polishin
Eclipse Portable Engine. See illustrated adv.,p. 189 Bradley's cushioned helve hammers. See illus. ad. p. 206.
Sheet Metal Presses, Ferracute Co., Bridgeton, N. J. Band Saws a specialty. F. H. Clement, Rochester, N.Y Diamond Engineer, J. Dickinson, 64 Nassau St., N.Y.
Yacht Engines. F.C. \& A.E. Rowland, N. Haven, Ct Split Pulleys at low prices, and of same strength and Works, Drinker St, Philadelphia, Pa
Noise-Quieting Nozzles for Locomotives and Steamboats. 50 different varieties, adapted to every class of
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A well equipped Machine Shop desire to manufacture special machinery.
Box 532 , New York.
The New Economizer, the only Agricultural Engine with return fiue
Co., page 206.
Walrus Leather and Bull Neck for Polishing all Me
als. Greene, Tweed \& Co., 18 Park Place, New York.

Oak Tanned Leather Belting, Rubber Belting, Cotton
Belting, Polishing Belts. Greene Tweed $\&$ Co.. N.York Pays well on small investments; Magic Lanterns and Stereopticons of all kinds and prices; views illustrating nery subject for public exhibition and parlor entertaintenial medal. McAllister, 49 Nassau St., New York Cooper Manufacturing Company, Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Saw Mills, Grist Mills, Mill Machinery, etc. Engineers and Contractors. Circular free.
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Expanders. R. Dudgeon, 24 Colu hia St., New York. Elevators, Freight and Passenger, Shafting, Pulley Cut Gear Cut Gears for Models, etc. (list free). Nodels, wor D. Gilbert a Son, 212 Chester St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Holly System of Water Supply and Fire Protection or Cities and Villages. See advertisement in Scren Self-feeding Upright Hand Drilling Machines of suDerior construction. Pratt \& Whitney Co.. Hartford, Ct. lelphia Smelting Co, Phila., Pa.
Improved Steel Castings; stiff and durable; as sof less than 65.000 lbs. to sq. Circulars free Pittenurg Steel Casting Company, Pittsburg, Pa.
Steam and Gas Fitters' Tools a specialty. Send for
Wm. Sellers \& Co., Phila., have introduced a new For Shafts, Pulleys, or Hangers, call and see stock

## NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

On the Use of the Barometer on Sur-
VEYs AND RECONNOISsANCESER By Lieut. Government Printing Office.
A compendium (without plates) of Lieut. Col. Wilfamson's paper on the barometer, professional papers manual in a form convenient for field use.
A Practical Treatise on Lightining Con.
ductors. By H. W. Spang. Philadel. phia. 12mo, paper, pp. 44. Advocates Mr. Spang's system of non-insulated lightning condu
The Illustrated Sydney News.
The 1llustrated Sydney News has sent out a special in vitation issue, dition at Sydney creditable bit of enterprise, the numerous and excellent illustrations making a particularly geod impressio There are given besides a four column leader on the Ex ibition, descriptions of the buildings and grounds, an large amount of information as to the climate, geogra
Spons' Encyclopedia of the Industrial Arts. Manufactures, and Commercial Products. Edited by G. G. Andre.
F.G.S. New York: E. \& F. N. Spon, 30 parts, each 75 cents.
Parts 5 and 6 of this Encyclopedia complete the article on potash, and add soda, alloys, alum, alumina, arsenic beverages, the last including aerated waters and beer.
 HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.
No attention will be paid to communications unles rriter.
Names and addresses of correspondents will not be given to inquirers
We renew our re
former answers or artict correspondents, in referring , former answers or articles, will be kind enough of the question.
Correspondents whose inquiries do not appear afte
reasonable time should repeat them.
Persons desiring special information which is purely a personal character, and not of general interes, should remit from $\$ 1$ to $\$ 5$, according to the subjec obtain such information without remuneration.
Any numbers of the Scientific American SuppleMENT referred to in these col
office. Price 10 cents each.
(1) W. E. M. writes: I am proprietor of a paper. Last night, when goingin my cooler, I noticed paper. Last night, when goingin my cooler, I notice a phosphorescent light, also blood that had dropped to the fioor when spread over quite a surface lit the room so that I could distinguish objects for five feet. Can you explain this phenomenon? A. Many organic as well s inorganic substances exhibit the phenomenon o phosphorescence under certain circumstances. The "Phosphorescence in Minerals, Plants, and Animals;: Becquerel's "La Lumiere, ses Causes et ses
Effets." See article on p. 199, Vol. 40, Scientifi american.
(2) A. W. P. asks: 1. Is there an instrument or anything that a man can use to find gold or silver coin that has been hidden underground? If so, please nform me where one can be obtained. A. A pick and
hovel answer a good purpose. 2. I have a small engin cylinder $5 \times 10$, makes 200 revolutions per minute: ho much lead must $I$ give the cut off valve-it cuts off pound. The pump piston is made fong engine wid pound. The pump piston is made fast to cross head. lead, and you may increase it, provided it does not
reopen before the maln valve closes.
(3) E. R. asks: 1. How does a vacuum rate as an insulator of electricity? A. Electricity cannot
pass through a perfect vacuum. 2. What is the best metal to use for $1 / 3$ inch pipe to contain cold drinking water, as cheap as is consistent with regard to health? A. Iron. 3. Are the contributions that you weekly nnounce under head of ' Communications Received all printed in the AMERICAN, or are part printed in the SUPPLEMENT? A. Some are published in the Scientific Amein
some not at all.
(4) E. S. asks for the surest method of siler plating large quantities of steel knives. The silver ion deposits beautifully, but in burnishing comes ion deposits beautifully, but in burnishing comes up
very blae. What is the cause? A. Your trouble is doubtless due to imperfectly cleansing the work or pu ting it in the bath before closing the circuit. Clean with hot potash or soda, and with dilute sulphuric acid and pumice stone or fine clean sand if necessary The whitenwith an extra cell or two.
(5) E. S. N. asks whether the black oxide of manganese will answer to mix with copper and tin made in a latenumber of the Scientric Americ An I ind the metallic manganese is too expensive (costing ome $\$ 290$ per lb.) I find manganese classed among the metals difficult to fuse. Will the oxide melt at the mperature of molten copper? A. Yes; reduce the oxide toan impalpable powder ( 120 mesh), mix it with gradually to the copper. Under these circumstances he latter will take up the small quantities of the ananese reduced by the carbon.
(6) E. A. E. asks: 1. In the freezing of 25 b. of water at $60^{\circ}$ Fah., how much heat must be given off? A. Sufficient to raise about 22 lb . of water from
the freezing to the boiling point. 2. What quantity of crushed ice and salt, mixed in the proportion to produce the greatest cold, will, in passing to the fiuid condition, absorb this quantity of heat? A. In practice from 50 to 70 lb . of a mixture of 2 parts ice and one of salt would ordinarily suffice to cool the water to the freezing point
(7) B. A. asks: Which is strongest or preferable for general work, a pulley (from 18 to 60 or
more inches diameter) with curved or straight arms, and why? A. Formerly pulleys were cast with curved arms, with the idea that they would produce less shrink
othe pressure, but the art of proportioning and casting pulleys has been so improved that we think the curved have little or no advantage over the straight arms.
(8) E. F. M. would like to know (1) if ships medium size are propelled with screw propellers of What size and how long are the blades? A. The length
. of the blades is the radius of the propeller, less the radius of the hub. 3 . What width? A From 20 to 30 inches. ally from 55 to 70 degrees. 5 . How wide a space of water backwardmovement of the vessel? A They are assumed to displace a column equal to their owndiameter.
(9) O. T. G. writes: 1. In steam engine er dimensions of area of induction ports in square nches? A. 56 inch $x 416$ inches. 2. Area of eduction ports in square inches? A. 1 inch $\times 41 / 3$ inches. 3 .
Inside diameter of steam pipes? A. $2 / 4$ inches diameter What number of revolutions should such engines make with 50 lb . pressure in cylinder. A. It depends
upon the amount of work it has; the speed of an engine is generally determined by the character of the work or machinery to be driven. 5. Please give rules for calcu lating the above. A. The above will give about the asual proportions for engines of this class. There are no ules for proportions applicable to all kinds of engines.
(10) D, \& C. ask: 1. Can you tell us of a better way to smooth spokes, as they come from the
the, than the sand kelt? A. No. 2. We have trouble getting the ground glass to adhere to the ducking belts. If there is no better way than to use the belts there a better cement than common glue for fastening he glass or emery to the beltss A. Apply a rathe thick coating of good tough glue to your belt; heat the allows the sand to become deeply embedded in the glue 3. How can we season oak hubs without their cracking, nd the quickest way? We want to season them in thre onths, if possible. A. They are sometimes seasone quickly by steaming, but this method cannot be recom raw linseed oil.
Minerals, Etc.-Specimens have been re ceived from the following correspondents, and examined, with the results stated:
T. L. F. a co.- No. 1. A compact limestone resem xtensively for lithographic purposes. No. 2 , usartz stensively for lithographic purposes. No.2. Quart
No. 3. Impure crystallized lime carbonate. No. variety of calcite. No. 5. A fine marble. No. 6. Sem crystalline impure limestone.-C. A. B.-The clay wil probably make excellent bricks, but contains too much iron oxide, lime carbonates, silica, etc., to be useful for pottery.-J. W. K.-It is a rich magnetite-magnetic xide of iron. A valuable ore of iron iffree from phos-porus.-S. B. M.-The sample of resinous substance ppears to be of vegetable origin. A arger sample -Galena-sulphide of lead. It probably carries traces of silver. To ascertain the value would require an assa A. L. F.-1. Flint containing crystals of feldspar. 2 hornblende. 4. Similar to No. 1. 5. Conglomerate.

## COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

## On the Aurora. By C. P. <br> On the Columbus Clock. By N. C. R. Crank Motion. By W. A. D.

[OFFICIAL.]
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