

Business and Personal

The Charge for Insertion under this head is One Dollar a line for each insertion; about eight words to a line. Advertisements must be received at publication office as early as Thursday morning to appear in next issue.

The Handy Lace Cutter; cuts 1/4 to 3/4 inch. Post free, 25 cents. Discount to trade. H. L. Chapman, Marcellus, N. Y.
The None-such Turbine. See adv., p. 140.
For Light Machinists' Tools, etc., see Reed's adv., p. 156.
Five pints black ink; materials, 25 cts. E. D. Vance, Kinsman, O.
Large Slotter, 72" x 15" stroke. Photo on application. Machinery Exchange, 261 N. 3d St., Phila.
Van Bell's "Rye and Rock" has become a household word. It cures coughs and colds quickly.
Gear Wheels. Grant, Alden St., Boston. New list.
Vick's Seeds best in world. Floral Guide tells how to grow them. See adv., p. 140.

Wanted—A Brass Moulder. Steady work guaranteed to a good man. Address A. Y. McDonald, Dubuque, Iowa.
Rowland's Vertical Engine. Greatest strain and wearing parts of steel. Broad Bearings. F. C. & A. E. Rowland, New Haven, Conn.
For Sale.—Two New 66-inch Stevenson Turbine Wheels: composition buckets; 200 H. P.; price, \$1,500. Continental Works, Greenpoint, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Wanted—A Tug of 12 or 14 inch cylinder, or Stern-wheel Tow Boat of like capacity. Address, with particulars, R. F. Learned, Natchez, Miss.

ENGLEWOOD, N. J., January 29, 1881.
H. W. Johns Mfg Co., New York:
DEAR SIR: After two years' test of your Asbestos Liquid Paint on my hotel, the Palisades Mountain House, I am pleased to say I consider it superior in every respect to any other I have ever used—not excepting the best white lead. Although only one coat of your paint was used, it looks as fresh and perfect today as if it had been applied within a month. As you are aware, I am a large user of paints, and in future shall use no other. Yours truly, WILLIAM B. DANA.
Spring freshets and rain will fill your boiler with sediment and scale, causing foaming and burning. These can be prevented by Hotchkiss' Mechanical Boiler Cleaner. Send for circular. 81 John St., New York.

For the manufacture of metallic shells, cups, ferrules, blanks, and any and all kinds of small press and stamped work in copper, brass, zinc, iron, or tin, address C. J. Godfrey & Son, Union City, Conn. The manufacture of small wares, notions, and novelties in the above line, a specialty. See advertisement on page 156.
For Thrashing Machines, Engines, and Horse Powers, see illus. adv. of G. Westinghouse & Co., page 125.
Buy the Buffalo Port. Forge. Have no other.
The Inventors' Institute, Cooper Union, New York. Sales of patent rights negotiated and inventions exhibited and advertised for subscribers. Send for circular.
Presses, Dies, and Tools for working Sheet Metals, etc. Fruit and other Can Tools. E. W. Bliss, successor to Bliss & Williams, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Practical Papermaker; a complete guide to the manufacture of paper, by James Dunbar. \$1.00. Mail free. E. & F. N. Spon, 446 Broome street, New York.
Abbe Bolt Forging Machines and Palmer Power Hammer a specialty. S. C. Forsaith & Co., Manchester, N. H.
L. Martin & Co., manufacturers of Lampblack and Pulp Mortar-black, 236 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
List 25.—Descriptive of over 2,000 new and second-hand machines, now ready for distribution. Send stamp for same. S. C. Forsaith & Co., Manchester, N. H.
Send to John D. Leveridge, 3 Cortlandt St., New York, for illustrated catalogue, mailed free, of all kinds of Scroll Saws and Supplies, Electric Lighters, Tyson's Steam Engines, Telephones, Novelties, etc.
Pure Oak Lea Belting. C. W. Army & Son, Manufacturers. Philadelphia. Correspondence solicited.

Within the last ten years greater improvements have been made in mowing machines than any other agricultural implement. It is universally acknowledged that the Eureka Mower Co., of Towanda, Pa., are making the best mower now in use, and every farmer should write to the manufacturers for catalogue, with prices.
Jenkins' Patent Valves and Packing "The Standard." Jenkins Bros., Proprietors, 11 Dey St., New York.
Presses & Dies. Ferracento Mach. Co., Bridgeton, N. J.
Wood Working Machinery of Improved Design and Workmanship. Cordesman, Egan & Co., Cincinnati, O.
The "1880" Lace Cutter by mail for 50 cts.; discount to the trade. Sterling Elliott, 262 Dover St., Boston, Mass.
Experts in Patent Causes and Mechanical Counsel. Park Benjamin & Bro., 50 Astor House, New York.
Corrugated Wrought Iron for Tires on Traction Engines, etc. Sole mfrs., H. Lloyd, Son & Co., Pittsburg, Pa.
Malleable and Gray Iron Castings, all descriptions, by Erie Malleable Iron Company, limited, Erie, Pa.
Power, Foot, and Hand Presses for Metal Workers. Lowest prices. Peerless Punch & Shear Co., 52 Dey St., N. Y.
Recipes and Information on all Industrial Processes. Park Benjamin's Expert Office, 50 Astor House, N. Y.
National Steel Tube Cleaner for boiler tubes. Adjustable, durable. Chalmers-Pence Co., 40 John St., N. Y.
Best Oak Channel Leather Belting. Wm F. Forepaugh, Jr. & Bros., 531 Jefferson St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Slave, Barrel, Keg, and Hoghead Machinery a specialty, by E. & B. Holmes, Buffalo, N. Y.

Wright's Patent Steam Engine, with automatic cut off. The best engine made. For prices, address William Wright, Manufacturer, Newburgh, N. Y.
Mineral Lands Prospected, Artesian Wells Bored, by Pa. Diamond Drill Co. Box 423, Pottsville, Pa. See p. 125.
The Brown Automatic Cut-off Engine; unexcelled for workmanship, economy, and durability. Write for information. C. H. Brown & Co., Fitchburg, Mass.
National Institute of Steam and Mechanical Engineering, Bridgeport, Conn. Blast Furnace Construction and Management. The metallurgy of iron and steel. Practical Instruction in Steam Engineering, and a good situation when competent. Send for pamphlet.
Nickel Plating.—Sole manufacturers cast nickel anodes, pure nickel salts, importers Vienna lime, crocus, etc. Condit, Hanson & Van Winkle, Newark, N. J., and 92 and 94 Liberty St., New York.

The I. B. Davis Patent Feed Pump. See adv., p. 141.
For Pat. Safety Elevators, Hoisting Engines, Friction Clutch Pulleys, Cut-off Coupling, see Frisbie's ad. p. 126.
Saw Mill Machinery. Stearns Mfg. Co. See p. 141.
C. B. Rogers & Co., Norwich, Conn., Wood Working Machinery of every kind. See adv., page 142.
Moulding Machines for Foundry Use. 33 per cent saved in labor. See adv. of Reynolds & Co., page 141.
The Sweetland Chuck. See illus. adv., p. 141.

Machine Knives for Wood-working Machinery, Book Binders, and Paper Mills. Also manufacturers of Solomon's Parallel Vise, Taylor, Stiles & Co., Riegelsville, N. J.
Silent Injector, Blower, and Exhauster. See adv. p. 157
The American Electric Co., Proprietors and Manufacturers of the Thomas Houston System of Electric Lighting of the Arc Style. See illus. adv., page 157.
See Bentel, Margedant & Co.'s adv., page 156.
Diamond Drills, J. Dickinson, 64 Nassau St., N. Y.
Split Pulleys at low prices, and of same strength and appearance as Whole Pulleys. Yocum & Son's Shafting Works, Drinker St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Steam Hammers, Improved Hydraulic Jacks, and Tube Expanders. R. Dudgeon, 24 Columbia St., New York.

Burgess' Portable Mechan. Blowpipe. See adv., p. 140.
50,000 Sawyers wanted. Your full address for Emerson's Hand Book of Saws (free). Over 100 illustrations and pages of valuable information. How to straighten saws, etc. Emerson, Smith & Co., Beaver Falls, Pa.
Eclipse Portable Engine. See illustrated adv., p. 158.
Peerless Colors—For coloring mortar. French, Richards & Co., 410 Callowhill St., Philadelphia, Pa.
4 to 40 H. P. Steam Engines. See adv. p. 158.
Repairs to Corliss Engines a Specialty. L. B. Flanders Machine Works, Philadelphia, Pa.
Wiley & Russell Mfg Co. See adv., p. 125.

Tight and Slack Barrel machinery a specialty. John Greenwood & Co., Rochester, N. Y. See illus. adv. p. 156.
Elevators, Freight and Passenger, Shafting, Pulleys and Hangers. L. S. Graves & Son, Rochester, N. Y.
For Heavy Punches, etc., see illustrated advertisement of Hilles & Jones, on page 157.
Steam Engines; Eclipse Safety Sectional Boiler. Lambertville Iron Works, Lambertville, N. J. See ad. p. 125.
Best Band Saw Blades. See last week's adv., p. 157.
Reed's Sectional Covering for steam surfaces; any one can apply it; can be removed and replaced without injury. J. A. Locke & Son, 40 Cortlandt St., N. Y.
For best low price Planer and Matcher, and latest improved Sash, Door, and Blind Machinery, Send for catalogue to Rowley & Hemanee, Williamsport, Pa.

Rollstone Mac. Co.'s Wood Working Mach'y ad. p. 158
The only economical and practical Gas Engine in the market is the new "Otto" Silent, built by Schenlecher, Schumm & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Send for circular.
Penfield (Pulley) Blocks, Lockport, N. Y. See ad. p. 157.
Tyson Vase Engine, small motor. 1-33 H. P.; efficient and non-explosive; price \$50. See illus. adv., page 156.
Use Vacuum Oil Co.'s Lubricating Oil, Rochester, N. Y.

NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.
BOLETIN DE LA SOCIEDAD DE GEOGRAFICA Y ESTADISTICA DE LA REPUBLICA MEXICANA. Mexico, 1880.

The latest installment, consisting of parts 4, 5, and 6, vol. v., of this excellent periodical, published by the Mexican Geographical and Statistical Society, has just reached us, and its contents well sustain the high character possessed by the preceding numbers. Among the principal papers worthy of note in this issue are: Report on the Results of an Exploration of the Metalliferous Regions of the Sierra Mohajada, by Santiago Ramirez; A Hydrographic Study, by Pio Bustamente y Rocha; The Ores of the Sierra Queretaro, by J. M. Reyes; and a General Resume of the Mortality in the City of Mexico during the year 1879, by M. Flores Heras. In addition to these and several other original papers, there are numerous translations from foreign scientific works of subjects coming within the scope of the society's investigations, and forming altogether a collection of considerable scientific interest.

INDIA RUBBER, AND "VULCANIZED RUBBER FABRICS ADAPTED TO MECHANICAL PURPOSES."

This is the title of a handsome book just issued by the New York Belting and Packing Company. It gives thorough details of the manufacture, as carried on at the works of the Company at Newtown, Conn., and is beautifully illustrated. It is only intended for distribution among their customers, but those who use rubber belting, hose, packing, springs, etc., will undoubtedly find here much that is peculiarly interesting, and that will enable them "to care more understandingly for the preservation and prolonged wear of rubber goods," as well as to "discriminate more closely in their purchases, and avoid such products as are of imperfect or unskillful manufacture, or made with injuriously adulterating compounds." The book also contains a full description of their manufacture of vulcanite emery wheels, and the improvements they have made in this direction, whereby their emery wheels are in demand for the best class of work abroad as well as at home.

THE "GAS ENGINEER'S" DIARY AND TEXT BOOK FOR 1881. Birmingham, England: John Wright & Co.

The second annual edition of this work, prepared for the subscribers of the Gas Engineer. In addition to matter of special value to the gas manufacturers of England, the volume contains a series of original articles on gas manufacture and apparatus, and several tables of use to gas engineers everywhere.

DIE MATERIEELLEN VERHOLDNISSE UND VORTHEILE FUR EINWANDERER IM STAATE KENTUCKY. Frankfurt: Kentucky Geological Survey and Bureau of Immigration.

A pamphlet for free distribution among Germans, describing the resources of Kentucky and the opportunities the State offers for colonization; together with a number of photographs of scenery in sections available for immigrants seeking cheap lands.

U. S. COMMISSION OF FISH AND FISHERIES. PART VI. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR 1878. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1880.

A fat volume, giving, in addition to the Commissioners' report of the year's operations of the Fish Commission and a statement of the importance of the work it has undertaken, nearly a thousand pages of matter relating to fish, fish culture, and kindred subjects. These reports are becoming a library in themselves, and one whose significance and value are very imperfectly apprehended by the public generally.

NAVIES OF THE WORLD. By Lieut. W. Very, U. S. N. New York: John Wiley & Sons. 8vo, pp. 451.

Lieutenant Very has undertaken to describe concisely the plans, armament, and armor of the naval vessels of twenty of the principal nations, and to give the latest developments in ordnance, torpedoes, and naval architecture. His point of view is that of the naval officer rather than that of the engineer or ship builder, though he does not neglect the architectural developments of the past decade or two. An interesting chapter is devoted to the principal naval engagements since 1860.

THE SILK GOODS OF AMERICA. By Wm. C. Wyckoff. New York: Published under the auspices of the Silk Association of America. \$3.

The second edition of Mr. Wyckoff's account of recent improvements and advances of silk manufacture in the United States. The new part comprises the Eighth Annual Report of the Silk Association, summarizing the progress of the year 1879, which, as our readers already know, was extremely encouraging. The directory of manufacturers and dealers in silk covers 38 octavo pages, indicating a rapid extension of the silk industry.

FIVE LITTLE SOUTHERNERS. By Mary W. Porter. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co.

A children's story of child life on a sugar plantation, with a tragic conclusion in a hurricane on the Gulf.

Notes & Queries

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS. No attention will be paid to communications unless accompanied with the full name and address of the writer.

Names and addresses of correspondents will not be given to inquirers.
We renew our request that correspondents, in referring to former answers or articles, will be kind enough to name the date of the paper and the page, or the number of the question.
Correspondents whose inquiries do not appear after a reasonable time should repeat them. If not then published, they may conclude that, for good reasons, the Editor declines them.
Persons desiring special information which is purely of a personal character, and not of general interest, should remit from \$1 to \$5, according to the subject, as we cannot be expected to spend time and labor to obtain such information without remuneration.
Any numbers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT referred to in these columns may be had at this office. Price 10 cents each.

(1) A. H. asks (1) for the process of coating or plating small polished steel articles with tin (or a composition similar to it), by dipping the articles into the melted metal and have a good smooth, bright surface when taken out. A. a. Boiling water, 12 1/2 lb.; ammonia alum, 17 3/4 oz.; add protochloride of tin, 1 oz. Dip the articles in hot potash solution, then rinse in clean water, dip in dilute sulphuric acid, and suspend in the tin solution for a few minutes until bright. b. Bitartrate of potassa, 10 1/2 oz.; water, 17 oz.; protochloride of tin three-fourths oz. Immerse in this the cleaned articles in contact with a piece of zinc until tinned. c. Pyrophosphate of soda, 11 oz.; water, 17 1/2 oz.; protochloride of tin, 4 1/2 oz. Dissolve. Connect the cleaned articles with a wire from the zinc pole of a battery and immerse in the solution, the vessel containing which should be lined with pure sheet tin connected by means of a wire with the copper or carbon plate of the battery. In Wegler's process the bath consists of stannic chloride, 1; water, 10. The articles are pickled in dilute sulphuric acid, scoured with fine sand or scratch-brushed, rinsed with clean water, loosely armed with zinc wire or ribbon, and immersed for ten or fifteen minutes at ordinary temperature. Rinsing and scratch-brushing follows, after which whitening is used for finishing. 2. Will the same process do as well to coat or plate polished brass articles, and give a bright, smooth surface? If not what different process will be necessary? A. Yes.

(2) E. J. C. asks: 1. Will a steam gauge fixed upon a boiler during the hydrostatic test show the pressure within the boiler the same as it will show the pressure of steam? A. Yes. 2. I have a model oscillating engine, 1 inch by 2 inch cylinder. The valve faces are 1 1/4 inch by 3/4 inches. How can I lubricate these faces while the engine is running? A. With a proper lubricator cup attached to the steam supply pipe or steam chest. 3. What should be the weight of a fly wheel for the above engine, running with 15 lb. of steam and driving the belt from a 2-inch wheel on the shaft? A. 12 or 14 lb.

(3) C. P. asks: 1. At what temperature will a bar of soft steel, say half-inch in diameter, sustain the greatest weight? A. We know of no experiment to determine this point, but if steel behaves in the same manner as wrought iron, its greatest tensile strength is between 325° and 400°. 2. Are car wheels more liable to break in very cold weather, because the wheels are affected by the cold, or because the road bed is frozen, and consequently is not elastic? A. Yes from both causes. 3. Will a steel spring break quicker at a temperature 40° below zero, than at 40° above zero? A. Yes, especially if there be any sudden movement or jar. 4. Will a nail rod sustain more weight at 40° below

zero than at 40° above zero. A. No. 5. At what degree of temperature will a chain stand the greatest strain? A. From 325° to 400° Fah. 6. Is the power of cohesion in wrought iron the strongest at a very low temperature? A. No. 7. Is the power of cohesion in gray iron the strongest at a very low temperature? A. No.

(4) J. E. F. asks if the lumber for a boat bottom below the water line should be green or dry. A. All lumber used in the construction of a boat should be dry or seasoned.

(5) D. J. L. asks: 1. Is it safe to blow off steam with 60 lb. pressure and two gauges of water while the engine is running? If it is safe to do this, how low should I allow the water to go? I have blown off steam at 60 lb. on Saturday, and on Sunday at noon it will have water to the bottom of the glass. How can I remedy it? A. It is safe, but when the steam is blown off the water should be above the usual height to allow for evaporation over Sunday, and have ample supply for raising steam on Monday morning. 2. The polished parts of my engine become rusty quite frequently from water dropping on it. What can I get to keep it bright without using emery? A. Use pumice stone and oil. 3. I have a glass tube on the water gauge which has iron rust burnt into it, what can I get to clean it? A. Try vinegar or dilute sulphuric acid.

(6) C. H. F. asks: 1. Do the compressed air motors of to-day generate their own pressure while in motion, or do they have to be charged before leaving a certain place and stop to get charged again when the first is exhausted? A. They are charged at the stations. 2. Is there in existence, to your knowledge, any device whereby a greater head can be put on at a water power without increasing the natural head? That is, a greater head with the same dam, amount of water, and same mill machinery. A. No. 3. What does the term "perpetual motion" mean, or apply to? Does it need be some machine that will not wear out and run perpetually, or one that will run perpetually if replaced when worn out by friction? A. A machine that will run without extraneous aid until its parts are worn out. 4. What is the reward, and by whom offered, for perpetual motion? A. The laws of force are now so well understood that any one acquainted with the rudiments of the subject would never think of offering a prize for perpetual motion.

(7) G. G. writes: Suppose I order two 3-inch governors from the manufacturer, one to run 100 revolutions and the other 170 revolutions per minute, what will be the difference in the construction of the two governors? A. With many governors there would be no difference, as means are generally provided for adjustment to the speed required.

(8) G. H. W. asks: Will opening the windows of a stamp mill diminish the noise in the mill? A. We think not.

(9) P. T. D. L. writes: I want to get a light boiler for an engine the cylinder of which is 1 1/2 inch bore by 3 inches deep, to run at 300 revolutions per minute, with a pressure of 50 lb., but of enough strength to stand 100 lb. It is for the purpose of running a small boat. Could it be heated by naphtha lamps? I would like to know what size the smallest and lightest boiler I could use would be. A. You should have a vertical tubular boiler with 1 1/2 to 2 square feet heating surface. Such boilers are not on sale; they are only made to order.

(10) A. M. P. writes: In making a strength test of brick, will a column have greater pressure in an upright position than in a horizontal one, provided the whole weight is thrown on the brick? A. There will be no difference, if the weight of the column itself be taken into account.

(11) W. G. A. asks: Does water in a boiler get hotter than 212°, that is, if the boiler has 126 or 150 lb. of steam, does the water attain a greater heat than boiling point to generate steam to that pressure? A. Yes, the temperature rises with the pressure of the steam. It may be heated to very high temperatures, providing the containing vessel is strong enough to withstand the pressure.

(12) C. F. H. asks: 1. How can I make a gallon of silver plating solution? A. Dissolve 5 1/2 oz. pure nitrate of silver, and 8 oz pure cyanide of potassium in 1 gallon of soft water. 2. How can I make a gallon of nickel plating solution? A. Dissolve three-quarter lb. of the double sulphate of nickel and ammonia in a gallon of soft water. 3. How many quart gravity cells will it require to plate metals of about an inch and a half to two inches in diameter? How large should the positive pole be in relation to the negative pole or the thing to be plated in the solutions? A. See nickel plating, page 153, vol. xliii., and page 81, vol. xlii., SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

(13) E. W. K. asks: What process if any will take fly specks from bronze? A. Lavender oil, 1 drachm; alcohol, 1 oz.; water, 1 1/2 oz. Use a soft sponge, and proceed as quickly as possible, with little rubbing.

(14) J. B. S. asks for a formula for making permanent black dye for woolen goods, something that will not rub off. This latter trouble is what I am anxious to obviate. Several formulas that I have do not relieve this trouble. A. You will find practical formulae and directions for black dye in Nos. 53, 54, 55, 74, 75, 76, and 168, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT. See Hints to Correspondents.

(15) G. W. C. asks: Which gives the most heat, the dry or green wood of same quality and quantity? A. Dry wood.

(16) O. B. S. inquires as to the best method of mending broken ivory. A. Moisten thoroughly a small quantity of very finely powdered quicklime (good) with white of egg to form a paste. Use at once, clamp the parts, and do not disturb for 24 hours. Do not use an excess of the cement.

(17) O. E. W. asks: 1. How can I make a galvanic battery with copper and zinc plates, each 2x2 inches, strong enough so that I can feel the current? What kind of acid shall I use? A. It would require several hundred such elements, joined copper of one to

zinc of next, and so on, and an interrupted current to produce the static effects required. See "Galvanic Batteries," in SUPPLEMENTS, Nos. 157, 158 and 159. Also "How to Make Induction Coils," SUPPLEMENT, No. 160. 2. How can a cracked lamp be mended so the oil will not leak through? A. Clean the glass thoroughly with strong hot solution of sal soda, warm, and apply over the parts inside and out the following: Resin, 3 parts; caustic soda, 1; water, 5; boil together until completely saponified, then mix with half its weight of plaster of Paris. 3. What kind of wax is it that engravers use to at the metals that are to be engraved upon by nitric acid? A. White wax, 2 oz.; black and Burgundy pitch, of each, 1/2 oz.; melt together; add by degrees powdered asphaltum, 2 oz., and boil until a drop taken out on a plate will, when cold, break by being bent double two or three times between the fingers. It must then be poured into warm water and made into small balls for use. 4. Is copper better for a boiler, 6 inches diameter and 12 inches long, than iron? A. Yes. 5. Is the pressure in the cylinder the same as in the boiler? A. No; it is always less, and how much less depends on the length and size of the steam pipes and the manner in which they are protected.

(18) I. K. E. asks: Can waterglass in small quantities be prepared for experiments without expensive apparatus? A. Fine quartz sand, 2 parts; carbonate of soda, 3/4; reduce to fine powders, mix, and heat to a very bright red in a crucible capable of holding four times as much. As soon as the mixture is in a state of calm fusion pour out on an iron plate to cool. For use dissolve in hot water.

(19) H. G. E. asks: Cannot eggs, butter, etc., be kept for a considerable period by having them in a vacuum? Could a brick vault be cemented so as to be air tight, and capable of sustaining exterior atmospheric pressure? Would an air pump be the best way of exhausting the air? A. It is not practical; they would doubtless remain unchanged in a perfect vacuum, but that is unattainable by any ordinary means. Such a vault could be constructed; the pressure from without would be equal to about 15 lb. on each square inch.

(20) C. G. W. writes: I am led to believe that the cultivation of and gathering of such sumac as grows naturally in this sandy country would be a profitable industry. The stag horn sumac (Rhus typhina) grows here in abundance, other varieties to some extent. A. The best sumac of commerce is the leaves of the Rhus coriaria, cultivated in Sicily. It closely resembles the R. typhina, or stag's horn sumac, which has proved, when properly handled, to be nearly if not quite as valuable. See article on sumac, on page 199, vol. XXXVI, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

(21) C. D. A. writes: 1. I have heard good engineers say that the friction of a valve depended entirely upon the size of the ports, and if there were no ports in the seat, a valve might be held against it, and when the steam was admitted, if the support was removed the valve would drop down; is this true? A. It would drop down. 2. I always supposed that the size of the valve determined the amount of friction. A. The friction depends upon the size of the valve, deducting so much of the ports as may have steam within, and the pressure upon the unbalanced surface of the valve.

(22) S. B. G. asks: Does a large wheel have any advantage in power over a small one in overcoming the friction on the axle, the axle and load being the same, and running on a smooth level surface? A. Yes. (23) H. C. M. writes: I notice in vol. XLV., No. 24, page 378, of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, article 8, a formula for making oxygen gas for inhalation. Can you tell me whether it is the same as is used by physicians in Philadelphia? A. Probably. 2. Can water be recharged with it, and if so, how? A. By passing the gas through cold water under pressure the quantity of oxygen it normally contains may be slightly increased. On exposure to the atmosphere or heat the oxygen thus taken up will soon escape again. 3. If not, how can it be used other than in the manner given in the paper referred to? A. We know of no other way of using it. There is no liquid solvent for oxygen that will take up enough of the gas to be of practical service in the way you propose.

(24) W. H. asks: 1. Of what kind of silk are balloons made? A. Good common unbleached silk will answer. 2. What kind of oil are they prepared with? A. Usually a mixture of boiled oil and wax, thinned with turpentine. 3. How are the seams made air tight? A. The seams are "felled," waxed, and varnished inside and out. 4. Will gas keep its lifting power for one week, or longer? A. Yes, if kept in a perfectly airtight vessel. In an oiled silk balloon envelope as usually constructed, no.

(25) J. B. B. writes: 1. A claims that a hollow shaft equal in diameter to a solid one has more strength in driving machinery than the solid shaft. B claims that the solid shaft, equal in diameter to the hollow one, is the strongest. Which is right? A. If of the same diameter, the solid shaft is the strongest; if of the same weight, the hollow shaft is the strongest. 2. What steam pressure is considered in getting the nominal horse power of a steam engine? A. The average pressure in the cylinder. 3. Is it not advisable to give a slide valve as small a stroke as possible, provided you get sufficient port opening? A. Yes.

(26) D. B. M. writes: I have a copper boiler, 36 inches long, 12 inches in diameter, 1/4 in thickness, no flues. What would be the highest pressure to run with safety? A. Without knowing more of its construction we could not say. 2. Would a two horse power engine, with the above boiler, afford sufficient power to run one of Edison's generators to supply one of his lamps? A. Your boiler will not supply a two horse power engine, it is not equal to one horse power except it be driven very hard. 3. What would such a generator lamp, etc., probably cost? A. They are not in the market. You should write the inventor in regard to them.

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

M. F. M.—No. 1. Tremolite—calcium-magnesium silicate.

No. 2. Blue glass. No. 3. Calcium aluminum silicate. No. 4. The habitation of some insect—the material is chiefly lime carbonate. No. 5. Marcasite—FeS₂—with a coating of iron oxide. No. 6. Magnetite and hematite. No. 7. Argentiferous (silver bearing) galena. No. 8. Chiefly lead oxide. No. 9. Iron, alumina, and silica, with possibly a trace of silver.—E. S. B.—The gravel contains no precious metals—only mica and pyrites.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

- On a Mysterious Boiler Explosion. By W. A. D.
On Ripening Melons Underground. By I. T. B.
On the Wax Myrtles. By J. P. S.
How to Mount very Small Lenses. By C. M.

[OFFICIAL.]

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

FOR WHICH Letters Patent of the United States were Granted in the Week Ending February 8, 1881.

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

A printed copy of the specification and drawing of any patent in the annexed list, also of any patent issued since 1866, 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. We also furnish copies of patents granted prior to 1866; but at increased cost, as the specifications not being printed, must be copied by hand.

Table listing various inventions such as Air compressor, Air medicating apparatus, Ammunition packing box, Animal trap wheel, Axles, Barb holding device, Basin attachment, Bath tub folding, Bed bottom, Belt lock, Billiard cues, Boot and shoe, Boot and shoe heel, Boot and shoe heel, M. Wise, Boot and shoe soles, frictional attachment for, G. W. Hewitt, Bolt, C. Zube, Bolts and nuts, machine for threading, H. B. Hurin, Brick machine, W. E. Tallcot, Bridge, arch, S. Bissell, Brush, H. D. Musselman, Brush, stencil, T. T. Lotherington, Buckle, W. D. Ewart, Buffer wheel, A. Leavett, Building, fireproof, J. Gilbert, Bull wheel for artesian wells, M. B. McManus (r), Buoy, signal, F. Barr, Button, separable, G. Van der Burgh, Calendering machine, cloth, R. J. Walker, Can stopper, W. H. Rodden, Canal boat, A. Albertson, Car coupling, J. C. Mathews, Car coupling, W. V. Perry, Car coupling, E. Weidling, Car door, grain, T. Butterworth, Car heater and ventilator, G. Laube, Car wheel, J. J. Davis, Car wheel, P. H. Lindsey, Cars, atmospheric compressor for street, I. P. Wendell, Carpet lining, C. H. Bradley, Carriage, W. Ruby, Carriagespring, I. B. Osborn, Carriage top, shifting, J. H. Fairbanks, Cartridge crimping machine, H. S. Burns, Carving fork, Haddan & Smith, Casting car wheels, French & Robertson, Casting metals, mould for, C. Sneider, Casting mould boards, mould for, G. K. Smith, Cement and lime, manufacture of hydraulic, Dimelow & Pedro, Cement, bituminous, E. J. De Smet, Centrifugal machine, G. A. Hagemann, Chain, detachable drive, J. L. Pope, Chain, drive, J. C. Cooney, Chain, drive, J. M. Dodge, Chair seat and back, G. Hunzinger, Chest lock, G. B. Cowles, Chuck, lathe, J. B. Secor, Churn, Bartlett & Burd, Churn, S. B. Rathbun, Cigar bundling machine, J. J. Kruse, Cigars, machine for coloring and flavoring, E. Hadra, Clevis, A. Sanford, Clock striking mechanism, A. E. Hotchkiss, Clothes drier, revolving, T. Pritchard, Clutch and brake, friction, D. H. Merritt, Collar pad, harness, J. L. Richards, Copy holder, E. P. Newman, Corset, S. A. Drewry, Corset, E. L. Smith, Cotton chopper, R. I. Draughon, Cotton gin, J. Du Bois, Coupling for earth augers and rock drills, J. H. Suttin, Cradle, grab, M. Naumier, Crimping machine, S. A. Gould, Cultivator, J. G. Evans, Cutter head for wood-working machines, S. A. Woods, Doll, celluloid, Leferts & Carpenter, Door fastening, L. C. Northrop, Draught equalizer, A. C. & J. T. Jacobson, Draw gauge, E. G. Latta, Earthenware vessel, R. B. Eason, Electric machine, dynamo, W. E. Sawyer, Electric push button, illuminated, E. J. Swan, Electric signal, H. R. Miller, Elevator, J. M. Dodge, Envelope and letter sheet, combined, J. F. Dodd, Evaporating pan, T. E. Scantlin, Evaporator, Whitney & Simpson, Fan, L. Sanders, Fan, S. Scheuer

Table listing various inventions such as Fanning mill, H. Keller, Farm gate, A. Miller, Feeding and watering stock in cars, device for, A. D. Tingley, Feeding rack, W. T. Finch, Fence, D. S. Buck, Fence post, H. Laird, Fence stretcher, wire, Salisbury & Stevens, Fermenting vat, F. Fehr, Fermenting vat cooler, Kastner & Kunz, Fiber, machine for separating vegetable, E. A. Leigh, Fibrous stalks, machine for decorticating, A. Angell, Filter, J. Bergeman, Filter press, W. H. Harris, Firearm, breech-loading, W. H. Davenport, Fire escape ladder, O. Sherwood, Jr., Fire extinguishing sprinkler, automatic, A. M. Granger, Fish hook, E. Marion, Floors and ceilings, construction of, G. Howard, Forks, machine for cleaning and polishing, E. Hutchison, Fruit drying apparatus, C. H. Hill, Furniture, reversible center plate for, T. F. Darcy, Furniturespring, M. H. Learnard, Game board, C. E. Garrett, Gas generator, hydrocarbon, J. Flannery, Gas, process of and apparatus for manufacturing, J. J. Johnston, Gas scrubber, E. Jous, Glass articles, manufacture of, Dean & Peltier, Glass tile, mosaic, etc., L. C. Tiffany, Gleaner and binder, combined, H. N. Johnston, Globes, mounting and attachment for terrestrial, E. E. Fitz (r), Governor, E. Wright, Grain drill gearing, J. King, Grain separator, W. Ackerman, Grain separator, A. S. Phelps, Jr., Grain separator, I. Sherck, Grinding mill, G. A. Raymond, Grinding wheels, machinery for automatically delivering sand to, H. C. Luther, Gun, rocket, N. E. Rice, Flame fastener, L. E. Jones, Handles for cutlery from vulcanized fiber, manufacture of, J. B. H. Leonard, Harness, breeching lifter for, S. F. Smith, Harness fastening, J. S. Maldox, Harrow, T. Rogers (r), Harvester, H. N. Johnston, Harvester guard finger, W. Scott, Hatter's iron, F. C. Taylor, Hay rake, horse, J. La Dow, Heel breasting machine, A. K. Washburn, Hides for tanning, preparing, J. S. Swan, Hinge, gate, N. B. Sebring, Hinge, spring, F. W. Brocksieper, Hoisting and conveying machine, L. Messier, Hoop nailing machine, E. Cole, Horse bonnet, E. Boersch, Horse holding attachment for vehicles, R. E. Shannon, Hose nozzle, Johnson & Hoyer, Hot water apparatus, T. Fairbanks, Hubs, point band for, W. Neracher, Hydrant, J. Jonson, Hydrocarbons, device for burning liquid, L. E. & G. W. Dudley, Ice cutter, J. T. Marlin, Ice making machinery, De La Vergne & Mixer, Indices, machine for cutting, W. E. Waters, Insect killer, E. S. Griffith, Kettle, preserving, J. I. Burr (r), King bolts, manufacturing clip, Knowles & Hitchcock, Knitting machine, C. E. Kelley, Lamp, fountain, C. Stockmann, Lamp, street, E. Boesch (r), Lamp switch, electric, W. Sawyer, Lathe, P. B. Conklin, Lathe tool support, E. Wright, Lead and crayon holder, C. W. Boman, Lead and crayon holder, J. Hoffman, Leg and foot protector, W. Beattie, Life raft, H. Miller, Loom, L. J. Knowles, Loom, G. L. Pallat, Lubricant, H. Hurty, Lubricator, H. Howe, Matches, apparatus for sulphurizing or paraffining friction, N. Butler, Mattress frame or bed bottom, F. A. Palmer, Meters, connection to, A. Mackey, Middlings purifiers, sieve for, J. A. Raney, Milk cooler, A. McAlum, Milk cooler, G. C. Shaler, Mitering machine, J. M. Rhodes, Mitten, Haight & Strossman, Moulding metals, flask for, C. Sneider, Mouldings, process of and apparatus for ornamenting, C. C. Stuart, Nailing machine, J. H. Foster, Net for horses, fly, J. F. Smith, Nut lock, E. J. Brooks, Oatmeal machine, G. H. Cormack (r), Oil cup, S. G. Cabell, Oil cup for saws, F. Rousseau, Organ bellows, Fogelberg & Graves, Oven, baking, Aff & Jordans, Packing case, H. E. Clinton, Packing for steam and other joints, J. Kirkman, Packing, metallic piston, J. H. Brown, Pall, dinner, Ludlum & Peck, Pantaloon protector, E. C. Wilson, Paper box, Adams & Miller, Paper cartridge machine, G. P. Salisbury, Paper floor covering, D. H. Morrison, Paper weight and calendar, combined, G. A. Ogle, Pegging jack and bench, T. B. Ellis, Pen, fountain, W. W. Stewart, Photographic head rest, W. S. Lughton, Photographic negatives, producing impressions in line or stipple from, F. E. Ives, Pianofortes, stringing, A. K. Hebard, Piano lock, G. B. Cowles, Planter, corn, J. C. Van Dyke, Planters, fertilizer attachment for seed, H. Wright, Plow, Swenson, Lindquist & Hedlund, Potato digger, L. V. Rouse, Preserving fruit juices, Schaumburg & Dillman, Press, C. L. Ingalls, Pressure regulating valve, R. H. Soule, Printing, apparatus for and method of chromatic, G. Schwarzwald, Printing machine, plate, H. Lee, Printing machine sheet delivery apparatus, W. Scott, Pulp, dry ground, H. B. Meech, Pump bucket and valve, S. A. Saum

Table listing various inventions such as Pump piston, W. Burlingham, Punch, metal, S. H. Jenkins, Puzzle, geometrical, E. Anthony, Radiator, indirect, T. H. Brooks, Railway, elevated, M. E. Walton, Railway switches, operating, R. P. Garsed, Railway track drilling machine, A. Loehner, Railway tracks, apparatus for laying, N. Kimball, Railway train marker, C. W. White, Razor, J. Deasey, Reclining folding chair, F. Hunger, Rein holder, G. W. Miller, Safes and vaults, electrical envelope for, H. C. Roome, Safety pins, manufacture of, J. P. Courtney, Sait, manufacture of, N. B. Rice, Saw, circular, G. F. Simonds et al., Saw jointer, circular, A. S. Pierson, Saw mill log carriages, brake for, F. Tuxworth, Sawing and routing machine, S. M. Bragg, Scarf ring, F. A. Sundberg, Scoop, S. H. Kerfoot, Sewer and stretch trap, C. Halstead, Sewing machine, G. F. Newell, Sewing machine feeding mechanism, G. F. Newell, Shed, cattle, M. Thorp, Sheet metal articles, dies for forming flat, A. Scherb, Shirt bosom, S. K. Devereux (r), Shutter worker, J. C. Landes, Sifter, H. A. Trench, Soldering machine, can, W. A. Wicks, Stairrod fastener, M. L. Githens, Stamp, hand, H. P. Smith, Starching machine, R. Brenner, Station indicator, automatic railway, J. H. Whitelegge, Steam generator, D. Renshaw, Steam pipes, boilers, etc., covering for, W. M. Bitler, Steering apparatus, steam, J. W. Watson, Stench traps, mercury seal for, J. Bennor, Still, oil, M. Livingston, Stock clearance indicator, J. C. Uhler, Stone, wood, etc., wheel or tool for cutting, sawing, or grinding, H. Blackburn, Stove back, W. Schenck, Stove shelf, Hasselhoff & Mayne, Stoves, attachment for burning crude oil in, L. C. Snell, Straw cutter, W. Barrett, Straw cutter, S. Luther, Swing, R. S. B. Thornton, Syringe, vaginal, F. Wilhaff, Tablet, writing, G. L. Garrigues, Telegraph, chemical, C. A. Randall, Telephone, G. W. Foster, Telephone lines, switch board for, E. T. Frost, Telephone switch, H. R. Miller, Telephone, transmitting, E. A. Schoettel, Telephonic transmitter, C. A. Randall, Terret, head, H. A. Perkins, Thill coupling, A. French, Thrashing machine, peanut, J. P. K. Daughtrey, Ticket reel and receptacle, C. S. Locke, Tobacco, apparatus for sweating and coloring, C. F. & B. A. Meyer, Toy, optical, G. E. King, Toy wheel, J. M. Jones, Truck, stove, H. G. O. Burrows, Turn table, A. J. Delavigne, Type distributing machine, D. Reynolds (r), Umbrella and parasol, Bissland & Williams, Umbrella and sun shade, H. B. Gray, Umbrella and water cooler stand, J. F. Conway, Valve, steam, G. J. Roberts, Vaseline, refining, R. A. Chesebrough, Vehicle spring, E. Spaulding, Vehicle spring, J. Tilton, Wagon bolsters, adjustable standard for, J. Grier, Wall paper manufacturer's use, hanging up and carrying off machine for, J. Waldron, Washing machine, R. G. Baldwin, Washing machine, B. R. Trull, Washing machine, J. E. Watkins, Washing machine, B. Wright, Watch key, stem winding, E. C. Fitch, Water cooler, T. W. McKeever, Water elevator, windmill, J. M. Hastings, Weather strip, J. E. Gowen, Wells, method of and apparatus for sinking oil and other, L. Smith, Wheat scouring apparatus, A. Buhl, Windlass, E. & G. N. Waterbury (r), Windmill, H. H. C. H., & C. Beckman, Windmill, Chamberlain, Signor & Straw, Window, colored glass, L. C. Tiffany, Wire springs, machine for forming, G. W. Lewthwaite, Wood, producing designs upon, S. K. Devereux (r), Wood working clamp, A. M. Colt, Wrench, C. I. & H. F. Praeger, Wringer and bench, I. R. Laux, Wringing machine, J. Kinleyside

DESIGNS.

Table listing designs such as Carpet, J. Nell, Hair ornament, A. Proget, Oil cloth, C. T. & V. E. Meyer, Steam engine, C. M. Farrar

TRADE MARKS.

Table listing trade marks such as Bitters, A. Dryfoos, Cigars, A. Estlow, Medicinal preparation, Orthozic Chemical Association, Oily compounds for coating surfaces as a paint or lubricant, J. Dixon Crucible Company, Paper of all kinds, writing, Z. Crane, Jr., & Brother, Washing compounds, A. Zink

English Patents Issued to Americans.

Table listing English patents such as From February 4 to February 8, 1881, inclusive, Barrel hoops, machine for nailing, E. Cole, B'klyn, N. Y., Buoy, signal, F. Barr, New York city, Engine, hot air, A. S. Lyman, New York city, Furnace for burning gas, A. L. Holley, Brooklyn, N. Y., Hatter's irons, F. C. Taylor, New York city, Ice, manufacture of, T. L. Rankin et al., New York city, Loom, F. O. Tucker, Hartford, Conn., Moulding hollow articles, W. B. Carpenter, Newark, N. J., Nailing machine, J. H. Foster, Chicago, Ill., Necktie, Fisk, Clark & Flagg, New York city, Pipe joint, W. Painter, Baltimore, Md., Razor machinery, J. D. Frary, Bridgeport, Conn., Separating solid from liquid matter, P. Cassamajor, Brooklyn, N. Y., Steel, manufacture of, J. Conant, M.D., prairie du Chien, Wis., Steam boiler, D. Renshaw, Cohasset, Mass., Transporting money, etc., J. C. White et al., N. Y. city.