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## Madicsk Murvies

hints to correspondents.
No attention will be paid to communications unless writer.

## Name

We renew our request that correspondents, in referring
Wen io ing Former answers or articles, will be kind enough to of the question.
Correspondents whose inquiries do not appear after lished, they may conclude that fime If not then pub inshed, they may conctar
Editor declines them.
Persons desiring special information which is purely of a personal character, and not of general interest,
sbould remit from $\$ 1$ to $\$ \overline{5}$, according to the subjee as we cannol be expected to spend time and labor to obtain such information without remumeration. any numbers of the Scientific american SuppleMENT referred to in these columns may be had at this
office. Price 10 cents each.
Correspondents sending samples of minerals, etc.,
Correspondents sending samples of minerals, etc.,
for examination, should be carefal to distinctly markor label thei
fication.
(1) F. S. B. asks: Is there anything that will destroy the buffalo carpet bugs? A. One of the if thoroughly applied.
(2) J. A. C. asks: What can I mix with gas tar and apply to felting to make a fair roofpitch of roof 1 ft . in 15 ? A. The pitch can be used
without any addition if used hot; or it may be thinned somewhat with naphitha, and applied cold. In either absorbed substance, and drive outany laree excess of it Thus prepared, it can be used on a roof pitched 1 in 15
(3) R. F. H. writes: I have a slidipg lens three-quarters of an inch diameter on a photographic
camera. By use, the slide has come to work loosely in the mount, so that after focusing, in the subsequen manipulation of inserting diaphragm and nncapping for exposure, the side is moved and the focus disturbed.
Both slide and mount are of steel (or an alloy), nickel plated, turned on a lathe. How can 1 effect less free plated, turned on a lathe. How can 1 effect less free
dom of motion of the slide in the mount? Would any sort of sticky substance answer, and if so, whati A. We have found the following to give satisfaction in
similar cascs. Remove the lens from warm the tube as hot as the hand can bear, then with a wide brush coat its outside evenly and quickly with shellac varnish as sold ready prepared. If this does not make it tight, give it another coat in a similar manner, snd when found to fit snugly, rub over the surface
with the fingers anointed with a 1 tule wiping off any excess of oil with a clean oil, lightly wiping off any excess of oil with a clean soft rag or
piece of chamois skin. Adhesive substances are objectionable, as they gather dust and harden and are unpleasant to handle. In some camera tubes the outer or
stationary tube is lined with velvet. Perhaps yours is stationary tube is lined with velvet. Perhaps
of this kind; if so, try relining the outer tube.
(4) A. N. H. writes: I am building this seadip and use best pine shingles for roof, and intended $\$ 3.00$ per thousand for the bath, which on a large roof is quite an item. Can you tell me whether I can use some preparation of coal tar or lime or some cheap oil for the
bath; it is intended only to fill the pores of the wood, and preserve the shingles? I intend to paint them with an coserve the shingles and render them . A. Yo by putting them through a bath of warm or hot "dead
(5) L. C. asks: Will you kindly inform me as to the best method of dissolving white shellac Have tried alcohol. A. Try absolute alcohol.
(6) H. C. asks: 1 . What is the best form of ectric enginex? A. For small motors the Trouve machine. 2. Is there any way of making a strong cur rent of electricity from heat or light? A. A strong cur rent may be generated by means of a thermo-electric battery. See Supplement, 159. 3. Is there a steam cylinder that imparts a rotary motion to shaft other than by crank and piston rod, and has it any dead centers for the various types of rotary engines Many of the hare tho dead points.
(7) J. H. asks: What kind of a bit can I get tuat will brre a quarter inch hole through seven inches
bits A. We know of no better bit than the one known
as the auger bit, that has the lip turned up instead of
Cart self. See Egg carrier. Trace carrier. the old fashioned leading lip, which heats and wears for mortising door frames. All reputable hardware ouses keep these on sale.
(8) R. B. M. asks what polishing material is made of, called composition for polishing brass, iron nickel, and steel, the different grades and the quantity of each ingredient for mixing the same? A. They ar generally made of sesquioxide of iron mixed up with oil and pressed into bars, using finest of the oxide
for the different metals as is best determined by experince. Frequently some sal ammoniac in powder mixed in to the extent of twenty per cent, when the polish is to be used for gold or iron.
(9) W. J. F. asks: What liquids do manuwhite? The paints are made to dry very quickly, with a gloss, and are very cheap. A. Ultramarine blue mixed with a little boiled linseed oil in turpentine, and white ead similarly mixed for white.
(10) D. B. V. writes: I have a shaft 5 feet (10) D. B. V. Wre are I have weigh about one hundred and ten pounds, i. e., the shaft
and wheels together. One of these wheels is a wate wheel, 32 inches in diameter, having 12 buckets, which are 5 inches deep and 714 inches long or across the wheel. Upon this whee I had a stream of water I inbtained quite some power, but I do not know how nuch, nor do I know how to find out. How much
ninth of a horse power. 2. Can I obtain $1 \frac{13}{}$ hors power by using 100 gallons of water per minute under than seven-tenths to eight-tenths of a horse power. 3 Can I obtain 132 horse power by using 200 gallons of
water per minute under 15, 18, 20 , or 24 inch head? . Yes, under 20 inch or 24 inch head. 4. What size orifice should the water run through? A. An opening
of 40 to 48 inch area, $w$ hich can be reduced by a gate to of 40 to 48 inc
suit demand.
ofricial.]
INDEX OF INVENTIONS

Letters Patent of the United States wer Granted in the Week Ending October 31, 1882,
AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[Those marked (r) are reissued patents.]

A printed copy of the specifleation and drawing of any since 1866 , will be furnished from this office for 25 cents In ordering please state the number and date of the patent desired and remit to Munn \& Co., 261 Broad-
way. corner of Warren Street, New York city. We iso furnish copies of patents granted prior to 1866
ut at increased cost, as the specifcations not being printed, must be copied by band.
Air brake for railway cars, automatic, W. J. Ford, 266688 Alarm. See Fire alarm.
Alcohol, apparatus for rectifying, D. F. Savalle.. 266,902
Anchor, field, W. F. Morris.........


Animai power, W. C. Knox........................................ 266
Animaltrap, . H. Bussard.......
Balcony, portable adjustable window, G. W. Can-
nallon box, s. T. Bacon.................................................26660644
Bar. See Car draw-bar.
Battery. See Stamp battery.
Bed, lounge, E. J. Pahtz..
Bed or crib, C. Mc Wayne
Bed spring, J. Stephens...... Binder, self, Whiteley \& Bay Bleaching fiber, P. 'thomas

## Bolt. See Door boit

Boit pointing machine, O. R. Olsen...
Boot or shoe tongue, Haggerty \& Ein
Boot or shoe tongue, Haggerty \& King...............
Boots or shoes, guide for the manufacture of,
Boots or shoes, guide for the manufacture of
varney \& Howard....................................
Boring pump logs, etc., machine for, P. T. Per
Boring p
kins.
Bottle sto
Botte
Bottle stopper, A. C. Schuiz.
Box. See Ballot box. Musical box.
Box fastener, R. M. Williamson............... 266.666

Brick mould, J. J. John
Buckle, D. W. Smith.
Burner. See Gas burner. Gas and oil burner. Button. J. Costello.

Wikins....
Button fastening, G. W. Prentice...
Button. separable, D. Humphress

can.
ar chimney, railway. C. A. Dubey.
Car coupling, L. I. Hinkle.
Car coupling, G. K. Hoff.
Car coupling, G. K. Hoff...
Car . Kelley.
arr coupling, L. Recht....
Car couping, G. W. Watts
Car draw-bar, railway, E. B. Sankey..
Car platform guard, J. B. Driscole.
Car runnine gear, E. D. Carter......................
Car step attachment, raitway, F. W. Coobaugh..
Car wheel, A. Cottrau...............................
Dysart.
Dysart conductors, apparatus for treati...........................
rbon conduct
Lock wood

 Chains wivel; watch, Hancock \& kichards
 Cheese cutter, Blodgett \& Felix........................ 26.1 266,919 hopper. See Cotton chopper. Cigar bunching machine, G

Cigar bunching marhine, G. Moebs......................... 2666, 26711 | Cigar butt cutter, P. Scheppach...................... 2666,711 |
| :--- |
| Cipher code and apparatus, 2. T. Oney............ 266.875 | Clamp, T. Reno.......

Camp, H. H. Taylor.
Clasp. See Garment 2266887
266,920

## 19

## 11



Collyrium, J. Fale.................................... 266 ,
Comb. See Currycomb.
Cord, machine for making ornamental looped, A.
Urahn.................................................293
Corn crusher, G. c. Mueller. ...............
Corn cutter and shocker, Burr \& Smith................. 266, 267,764
Corset, M. P. Bray.... ...... ....................... 266.757

Cotton chopper, G. W. Dugger........................... 26.768
Coupling. Sce Car coupling. Hose couping.
Thill coupling.
reamer, Ccapin \& Nercer............................. 266,769
Crusher. SeeCorn crusb.er. Rock or ore crusher.
Cultivator, cotton, Sursa \& Dowdall...........
ultivator, cotton, Sursa \& Dowdall.
266,734
266,697
Cup. See Lubricating cup. Oil cup.
Uurry comb, E. Miller
Curry comb, E. Miller ....................... ....... 266,635
Cuspidors, rolling support for, A. Stewart....... 266.655
Cut-off and reversing valve gear, H. T. Porter.... 266,88,
Cutter. See Bread cutter. Cheese cutter. Cigar
butt cut
utt
Cutting strings, machine for, IV. Barry............. 266,670
Desks, attachment for raising and lowering, J. A.
Desks, attachment for raising and lowering, J. A.
Eads.................................. 266,192
Digger. See potato digger.
Dish washing machine. B. S. Wheeler................ 266,933
Display rack, Knight \& Rowley............. 266,843

## Trobach \& Cords............... . ..............

the crude products of distillation thereo
apparatus for. I. D. Stanley............................................66,
Door bolt, A. C. Blayney................................... 2660. 260,266
Door check, pneumatic, G. R. Elliott........
Door fasteningdevice, J. T. schertzer................ 266,900
Drain and sewer, H. Z . Greenleaf.............. 265,809
Drier. See Clothes drier.
Drill. See Rock drill. Seed drill.
Jacobs.... ...., pan
Egg and flour mixer, A. Doll.
Egg beater, R. N. Harrison (r)
Egg carrier, A. B. Fisk......
Egg tester,J. A. Sheffield................... 266,618. 2666.6619
Electriccircuits, implement for closing and test
ing, L. Mann.
Electric distributi
Electric distribution system. T. A. Edison
Eectric machines, commutator brush for d..... 266.677
mo, W. B. Mason........................... 266,855
liectrical conductors. conduit for, G. S. Eaton... 26681
Electrical conduit, underground, S. S. Strohm
Electrodes for secondary batteries,
Electrodes for secondary batteries, making, c. F.
Brusb ................ ........ ......... 266,762

```
266,717
```

Elevator. See Hydraulic elevator.
Engine. See Locmotive engine. Steam engine.
Traction engine. Wind engine.
Fan, automatic fly, T. W. Cofer................266,
Faucet attachment or cask stopper, w. Wack-
sen ......................................
Feed trough, J. J. Johnston
Fence post, N. A. Haven
Fence post, N. A. Haven
Fence, wire, C. A. Mann


Filtering device, water, Horsnell \& Murphy.
Fiitering petroleum distillates for the separ
of paraffine, H. Warden.
Finger ring, N. Mitchell...........
Fire alarm. automatic, M. Martin.
Fire alarm. automatic, M. Martin
Fire extinguisher,. . Yarham....
Fire kindler, J. H. French
Fireplace, Wellington \& Chase..
Fire-pot, blacksmith's. S. H. Savi
Fire-pot, blacksmith's. S. H. Savine .......
Flour dressing reel. centrifugal, W. B. De
Flour dressing reel. centrifugal, W. B. De
Flour feeder and mixer, J. H. Langlois

Form, dress, Richardsou \& Ma
Frame. See Picture frame.
Furnace. See Boiler furnace
Furnace grate, J. R. Fish...
Gauge. See Marking gauge.
Galvanic batteries, containing vessel for, c......


${ }_{266,822}^{2}{ }^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$
$266 ., 822$
266,823

| 266839 |
| :--- |
| 2666720 |
| 26631 |
| 268997 |


266,742 Grain separator. A. H. Lighthallil...... ........... 2666.70

 Hame, o. P. Letchworth.
Harvess mounting, P. Petry
Harpess mounting, P. Petry .... ..
266,703
266,893

12 923 6.644

66,925

