(10) L. B. asks: What can I use that will render a paper butter or lard tray grease and brine proof,
and at the same time be non-poisonous? A. Coat the and at the same time be non-poisonous? A. Coat the
paper tray with paratine. or else cover the article with n ordiamy y varnish.
(11) H. C. inquires of what metal those bright red or blue caps are made which are on many of
the French bottles of medicines, etc. It is very thin, the French botles of medicines, etc. It is very thin
and I slould like to know how it is colored. A. The capp referred to are composed of tin mixed with more
or less lead, then coated with more or less shellac varor less lead, then coated, with more or less shellac
nish. colored with aniline dyes according to fancy.
(12) J. G. B. asks how to temper thin shee The saw-makers temper steel saws by dipping in edgewise to harden, then draw in hot nil bath and ham mer to straighten. The hammering nvolves much ex-
perience, and is considered a high art aumong sa w-makperience, and is considered a high art among sa w-mak-
ers. You can make a fair experiment in hammenngby a trial upon a piece of sheet iron that is warpen. Hard ening sheet steel by pressire between col
iron, but we do not know with what
(13) J. S. W. asks: 1. How to mend an ivory penstock which was broken square across?
Ivory cement. Dissolve 1 part. of isinglass and 2 o white glne in 30 of water, straiu, and eaporate to parts. one-half a part of alcokol; add 1 part of zincs white When required for use, warm and shake up. 2. How is aniline prepared from coal tar? A. See Scientific american Supplements, 57 and 68. 3. Would a bullet from a rifle go through an ordinary book, one-half inch thick, bonnd in boards, placed at a distance of 200
yards? A. It depends upon the caliber of the gun, the amount of powder nsed, aud the manner in which the book is supported. Under favorable conditions the
(14) R. A. T. asks: 1. What is the differ ence between "draught pounds" aud "avoirdupois
pound $\varepsilon$ "? A. "Draught pounds," as we understand it, is the "pull" in ponnds by the horse ou the vehicle o coad. Avoirdupois ponnds are the ordinary pounds of
commerce. 2. What is the difference between the disances the power is from the draught (in foot lengths). feet at one time and 5 feet at another from the dranght, what is the difference of "draughtpounds"? A. None. 3. What is meant by "draught pounds," and what by
"foot pouuds!" A. The $m$ auing of the term '' foot ponuds' is the weight in pounds multiplied by the dietance it is lifted in feet in one minute of time. The
difference between " drausht" and "foot " pounds is the load. and the latter does.
(15) C. E. $\Lambda$. writes: I notice in your issue or January 13, page 25, an article upon the formatiou by means of a zinc plate. Is the acid meutioned formed when gasoline is used? A. If the gas from gasoline is properly prepared a
any sulphnric acid.
(16) W. H. D. asks: What is the per cent of potash in pine wood ashes? A. Red pine,
cent potash; white pine, $15 \%$ per cent potash.
(17) J.W. F. asks: 1. What is the best book to bus for the use of an\#lyses? A. Fresenius" "Manual
of Quantitative Chemical Analyses." 2. Also, a book on
tertilizers, how to manufacture. etc. ficial Manures, their Chemical Selection, and Scientifi Application to Agriculture," hy M. G. Ville, trans ated and edited by Wm. Crookes.
(18) M. T. S. asks: 1. $\Lambda$ t about what temperature wou'd pure oxygen attack copper, producing combustion or fusion? Or would it so act at any tem-
perature short of fusion? A. It would oegin at low red heat before fusion. 2. Please give best method of ob-
taining oxygen (absolnte purity not essential) cheaply taining oxygen (absolnte purtty not essential) cheaply and rapidly. A. Cousult Scientific American Sup-
plement, No. 313, p. 4994. The method is there given full.
(19) A. B. asks: Can you tell me if there is any quick method of transferring the film and image of an albumen photograph on to glass, linen, etc.? A. There is no satisfactory method for transferring the
tilm and image of an albumen ptotograph on to glass, inen, etc. The best method wonld be to photograph
(20) B. C. M. asks: 1. How the non-erasible with ziuc, after which one coat of the silicate ccating is put over the slate. 2. Would varnish prevent the ading of an outline taken by the gelatiue transfer process? A. Use bleach shellac and alcohol as a varnish, as it will prevent fading.
(21) T. G. H. asks for a receipt for manu. acturing the "hcktograph," or gelatine pad, now much unsatisfactory in its present condition, and can, I think, be mproved. A. The following is a composition by Lebacque:


Banum sulpha (22) F. T. H. asks: 1. If ordinary school about what proportions? A. Washed pipe clay ind washed chalk, equal parts; mix them into a paste with sweet ale made hot, and with a ch'p or two of isinglass dissolved in it. 2. Are the crayons cnt into shape, or are the materials made in culntiou and let settle into then cut iuto slips, and then rolled into cylinders by the aid of a little flat piece of wood. then cut to the length of three inches each, a
ing stove until hard.


#### Abstract

(23) L. R. A. asks: 1 Where can I obtain directions for making a smple and efficient telephone MENTS, 250 al.d 163. 2. Please give the formula for computing the power of a celestial refracting telescope?  eyepiece? A. To compute the magnifying power of a telescope, divide the focal length of the object-glass in nches by the focal length of the eyepiece, or its equivalent in inches. The quotient is the magnifying power. To get the focal value of a Huyghens eyepiece, multiply together the focal lengths of the two lenses in inohes together the focal lengths of the two lenses in inohes, and thisproduct by the distance from face to face of their plane sides, also in inches. Divide this product their plane sides, also in inches. Divide this produc by the sum of the focal lengths of the two lenses in aches. The quotient will be the focal leugth of an equivalent ens in iuches. To illustrate: Take two lenses, respectively 3 inches and 1 inch focus, distance apart, 2 inches. Then $-\underset{3^{\prime}}{\prime \prime}+1^{\prime \prime},-=\frac{6^{\prime \prime}}{4^{\prime \prime}}=132^{\prime \prime}$, or


 the focus of an equivalent lens. Suppose that your ob-ject glass is 40 inches focus, then $\frac{40}{126}=266_{i}^{\text {s. }}$ magn. fying power. A crude way practiced with small telescopes is to observe a distant and distinct object with
one eye through the telescope and with the other eye direct, borh eyes seeing the object at the same time. little practice will enable one to approximate to the
power. This is often done with terrestrial or erectin power. This is often done with terrestrial or erecting the arrangement of the lenses. 3. In the secondary battery described on page 406 of vol. xliv., Scientific
American, could the lead foil that covers the insides of American, could the lead foil that covers the insides of
tea chests be advantageously used as plates, or is it too thin? Canton flannel and blotting paper is soon destroyed by the sulphuric acid. What other cheap stuff
can be used instead? A. The foil would be too thin Better cast your plates with holes in them, and fill the holes with the lead oxide. 4. Ihave an induction coils inches long; wire core, seven-eighths inch in diameter. The primary coil consists of four layers No. 16 cottoncovered copper wire, and the secondiary of $2 \% / 6$ pounds
No. 32 cotton-covered wire. Even with No. 32 cotton-covered wire. Even with a battery of four Bunsen cellsonly a mere trace of an induced cur-
rent is perceptibie. Please give me a clew to the fault rent is perceptible. Please give me a clew to the fault.
A. It is probable your insulation is imperfect. You tion. Try doubling or treblung the quantity of fine wir see Supplement. 160.

Minerals, etc.-Specimens have been re eived from the following correspondents, and ramined, with the results stated J. P. G.-The mineral is a slate containing pyrites. J. E. H. The mineral is a carboniferous shale.
COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED. On Fire Escapes. By A. C
On Flight. By F. P. H.

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