## ENGINEERING INVENTIONS

A patent has recently been issued to $\mathbf{M r}$ J. B. Hunter, of Ashles, IIL, for an improved motor
constructed with sprocket wheels, cog wheels, a drivconstructed with sprocket wheels, $\operatorname{cog}$ wheels, a ariv-
ing chain, and two independent fy wheels, of which is applied is applied, and the other is rotated from one of the
axles on which the wheels are mounted, whereby the power will be equalized and balanced in the motor. An improved automatic car coupling bas been patented by Mesers. Joseph Rigby and s. S. Mc
Hugh, of Ottawa. Kas. In this improved couping the drawhead is provided with a very large mouth. and the link is held in position to enter the opposite drawhead The drawhead is provided with a hole passing through
it longitudinally, a sloted sliding block being located it longitudinally, a slotted sliding block being located
in this, and actuated by a spring for pressing against the link as held by the pin, so that the link will be held


## mechanical inventions.

A"new and improved machine for fastening buttons to garments and.other articles is the invention
of Mr. Albert Hall, of Cypress Hill, N. Y. The invention is very simple in its constrnction, inexpensive to
make, and can be operated by an unskilled person.
Mr. Squire Raymond, of East Venice, N Y., has recently patented a simple weight power ar tion, and is intended more especially for operating small machinery, such as wood turning lathes, churns fanning mills, pumps, etc.
Mr. Ephraim R. Kugler, of Kingwood, N. .. has patented an improved turning lathe, which is especially adapted for turning out telegraph pins and
brackets. Not only is the entire rockets. Not only is the encire shaping of the head thread of the desired depth and width is cut upon the
head of the pin A simple and effective jack for use in lay ing flooring or applying sheathing boards has been re-
cently patented hy Mr. J. $\mathbf{~ H .}$ Williams, of East Craftscently patented by Mr. J. H. Williams, of East Crafts-
bury, Vt. The screw is elevated at such an angle as to bring the handle above the floor timbers or studding boards with greater ease to himself than it has been

An improved machine for cleaning fur
 Brooklyn, N. Y. The fur is brought in contact with
the rotating bruehes by beingcarried over two rotating feed rollers: and a hood is arranged over twese rotlers and brushes to carry away the dust and dirt up through
a chimney connected with it. The dranght which serves to carry away the particles of dust is caused by the rotation of the brushes, and if this is not sufficient Mr. Charles Daniel, of Butler, Mo., has patented an fimproved gate banger. This invention consists of an improved device for gates which open
by botb sliding and awinging, and the improvement consists in a bracket for the roller on which the gate slides, reversible for right or left hand attachment. It
has guide roller studs for supporting friction rollers to has guide roller studs for supporting friction roilers $t$ o
guide the sides of the gate bars, the bracket being a Suide the sides of the gate bars, the bracket being
simple device contrived in such form that it may be moulded and cast without the use of cores.
Messrs. R. Cartmell, of Middlebury, Vt., and Albert Ball, of Claremont, N. H., have recently patented improvements in machinery for grinding
the wood in the manufacture of pulp. The improvement relates especially to the class of machines shown in the letters patent granted to Mr. Cartmell, in May, 1882, in which the cylindrical casing carrying the grunding cylinder or wheel is provided with radiating chates
or hoppers. Theinvention further consists in certain or hoppers. Theinvention further consists in certain
features of construction and arrangement for facilitating the settiug up of the machine and its convenient opera
tion.
Mr. David F. Pratt, of Gardner, Mass., has patented a guide for rattan splitting machines, which
belong to tha c class of splititing machine which employs a sectional guide, arranged with suitable springs in such manner that it will firmly clampor grasp the rattan
while being forced against the knife, and will always properly center the rattan with respect to the knife, whether the rattan be large or small. The invention further cunsists in adapting the guide so that both the
lateral and vertical adjustment bring the guide orifice latera anc vertical adjusment bring the guide orifice Mr. G. W. Pittman, of Keokuk, Iowa, has patented a wrench having a stock or handle recessed
centrally to receive the sbank of the .movable jaw, and also at its end for the reception of grio devices for holding the movable jaw. The device consists of a pivoted
lever havinga cam head to gripe one edge of the shank, lever havinga cam heact to gripe one edge of the shank,
and acting by its free end upon an angle lever carrying ratchet teeth for engapement with serrations
of the opposite edge of the shank. The invention of the opposite edge of the shank. The invention
includes, also, a asystem of movale grip blocks or bits includes, also, a asystem of movable grip blocks or bits
in either the fixed or movable jaw or both jaws of the wrench, for hold upon round objects. These bits work
by roliers upon inclines tangent to the seais of the blocks in the jaws of the wrench, so that any slip of the shank of the movable jaw from its lower cam and
ratchet grip connections in the handie will be compenratchet grip connections in the tannete wicke
sated for by the movement of the bit blocks.

## AGRICOLTURAL INVENTIONS.

An improved potato digger and picker has recently been patented by Mr. Squire Raymond, of
East Venice, N. Y. In this machine two plows are East Venice, N. Y. Int this machine two plows are ar-
ranged in the tore part to throw the soil from the sides of the hills, while a single plow passes heneath and
raises the potatoes and the soil in which they are em. bedded, and the shaker separaues the potatoes from the soih, deivering them at the rear
through the ehaker to the ground.

A cultivator of unique pattern and design. ed to accomplish a great amount of work with the ssall. granted to Mr. David Wise, of Cottondale, Tex.
Mr. W. P. Triggs, of East Portland, Ore., is ee patentee of an improvement in harrows. The imple ment is suspended from a truck frame which is mount-
ed on wheels, so as to be easily transferred from one field to a aother. By an ingenious arrangement of levers the harrow is raised from the ground at the will of the operator, and when it is wanted for use it is
readily dropped to the ground, and the harrow commences its work.

## MISCELLANEOUS INVENTIONS.

Mr. J. B. Freeman, of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, England, bas patented an improved process of making white pigments from oxide of zinc and sul-
phate of lead. The process consists in first grinding the oxide of zinc and sulphate of lead together, and then grinding them with oil.
Messrs. Jesse Wasson añd Richard T. Hitt. of La Porte City, Iowa, have patented an improved ma-
chine for working hutter. The object of the invention to provid a machine or tahle which will greatly facilitate and expedite the operation of working butter during its preparation for market.
Mr. John D. Blakeman, of Smith's Grove, Ky., has obtained a patent for an improved trace dewhich is adapted to be operated by the driver to detach the traces and thus separate the horse from the vehicle in case the former runs away.
Mr. C. O. Tinker, of Ashtabula, O., has imple roller die for making auger and bit blanks, the object of which is to improve and cheapen their manufacture, which this invention seems to accomplish in an effective manner.
A two wheeled vehicle has recently been paented by Mr. L. S. Clari, of Doylestown, Ohio. Theinvention consists of an improved contrivance for applying combined coiled wire and rubber springs to two and four wheeled spring carriages, and an improved joint connection of the shaft of a two wheeled veli
An improved stopper for wire rope, etc. has been patented by Messrs. E. M. stoddard and J. N Johnson, of Norfolk. Va. The object of this invention is to provide a stop which shall act automatically to
prevent a bar, rod, or rope from moving in but one direction, allowing it at same time to move freely in the

Mr. Ezekiel Holman, of Sandy, Utab Ter., oasting and smelting furnace for the reduction of ver, lead, and other ores. With this construction of furmace coke and other high priced fuels may be dispensed witb, as ordinary coal can be used with good

An improved roof for railroad cars has been patented by Mr. John Walter, of Nashrille, Tenn. The
object of the invention is to provide a readily detachable or portable roof which may be quickly applied in part or whole to the top of the car. This roof also af the top of the car than the old construction of roof and the top of the car than the old construction of roof, a
provides an efficient means for ventilating the car.
Mr. S. W. Sykes, of Passaic, N. J., has patented recently an improved sweep strap connection for vicker sticks of looms, cousisting of a jointed
metal hanger having a rocking connection with the sweep strap, also in special means for uniting the strap with the pivot or cross bolt of the rocking connec-
tion, whereby the durabilityof both the hanger weep strap is greatly increased.
Mr. W. J. Moore, of Weatherford, Texas, as recently obtained a patent for a light, durable. and strong basket, made of wire, and designed for handling cotton and farm produce. The invention consists in
any arrangement of a series of wires, whereby great any arrangement of a series of wires, whereby great
strength is attained. Diagonal wires or braces connect the top and bottom hoops, and are twisted or wrapped
around the upright wires intermediately of their length. An improvement in suspenders has been hatented by Mr. William B. Pratt, of Rahway, N. J. The buckle of the suspenders is provided with a cup-
shaped slotted plate, and the ends of the suspenders re provided with a T-shaped shank which serves to is seen thatthe ends may be readily detached from the buckle, and the cl othing will not be torn nor the suspenders worn as rapidily as at present.
Messrs. R. H. Dimock and J. A. Robinson, New Haven, Conn., bave recently patented an oil burner suitable for the use of any suitable volatile incamphene, petrolenm, and other like liquids, for amphene, petrolenm, and other like liquids, for pro-
ducing light and heat, and in which the liquid, that may be supplied under a head or pressure, is conveyed for volatilization and combustion through a block or blocks
f non-inflammable absorbent material and hurned of non-inflammable absor
Mr. Benj. F. Perry, of West Andover, ., has obtained a patent for an improved fence. This nd the great advantage is zigzag or worm fence, worn out fences may be need in the construction of the new fence and serve a very gond purpose. The rails of the different sections are alternately placed one
above the other and are bound in place by wires, the above the other and are bound in place by wires, the
ends of which are secured to wosts in the ground. A arbed wire is also proposed to be extended along the

Mr. C. L. Dalton of
Mr. C. L. Dalton, of West Elkton, O., has datented a novel thill coupling spring having an aftachjoint pin, by which the pole or shaft is united with the coupling, and with which the latch engages: also, in a
prevent its spreading, likewise in a shaft strap provided With a loop or hook that engages with the screw bolt
and in means for holding the thill coupling spring back when $i$ it required to detach or adjust the shafts o pole of a vehicle.
The Harvey W. Peace Company, of Brook yn, N. Y.. by assiunnment from Mr. Alexander Sloan, of cross cufsaw Dandles. The saw nandle is provided with countersunk socket having exterior ribs to prevent rom turning, an interior screw thread to receive th split screw, which is made in two parts, having a book upon the lower end of one part to pass through a hol in the saw plate, and a recess in the end. The connection between the saw plate and handle is provided with a washer placed upon the split screw, between the han the said saw plate. By this invention the plates or cross cut saws are securely held by the handle and may be readily detached therefrom.
An improved incandescent electric lamp is the subject of a patent recently granted in the United States to Mr. Desmoud Gerald Fitzgerald, of Briston,
County of Surrey; England. The invention has for its object to produce a more complete vacuum in electria incandescent lamps by effecting the removal of residual oxygen, and, in some cases, residual nitrogen. To this
end is employed a supplementary carbon filame end is employed a supplementary carbon filament, or a such as iron or zinc-or be covered with an oxidizable placed within the bulb-and capable of being tempn rarily thrown into circuit, so that by the passage of the corrent, after more or less complete exhaustion by the pump, the carbon filament or oxidizable wire will be heated, and thereby effect the absorption of the residual oxygen, and when magnesum is employed the residua

Mr. Edward K. Warren, of Three Oaks Mich., has patented a new stiffening material for corsett, ladies' dresses, and like purposes. 'The invention
has for its object the utilization as a rib or siffener for corsets and other articles of dress or fabrics of the have been stripped-as for instance, the after the have been stripped-as for instance, the feathers of
turkeys, geese, chickens, and other fowls-which kind stock have beretofore had little coms-which kind of stock have beretofore had little commercial value
The growing scarcity and increased cost of whalebone for the above and other purposes has led to the employ ment of various substitutes, including bones, horn, rub ber, steel, and rattan, but the use of splitquills of fowls is believed by the patentee to be the best substitute
for whalebone that has been devised for the above for whalebone that has been devised for the above
named purposes, and for some kinds of surgical appliances. The same inventor has obtained a patent for making whips out of whole or split quills made up in
imilar manner to the material described for stiffening similar manner to the material described for stiffening corsets, etc. The splints are arranged to overlap and
break joints, and when bound together form a tapering lastic rod which may be covered in the ordinary way

## NEW BOORS ANL POBLICATIONS

Mechanical Dra wing Self-Taught. By
Joshua Rose, M. E. Illustrated by 330 Joshua Rose, M. E. Illustrated by 330 engravings. Henry Carey Baird \& Com-
pauy. 810 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. pany. 810.
The aim of the book is to enable the beginner to id of an instructor. The two first chapters are de voted to descriptions of and instructions in the use of instruments. The remainder of the book is taken up with explanations of simple geometrical terms, showing their practical application, shadow lines, and line shad-
mg, and examples in drawing bolts, nuts, screws, gear Ing, and examples in drawing boits, nuts, screws, gear
wheels, engine work, plotting mechanical motions, drawing for line shaded engravings, shading, and co oring. The illustrations are well executea, and althoug all the lines necessary are used, there is not that pro-
fusion sometimes seen in works of this character, and which confuses instead of instructs the student. The nater is systematically arranged, that part whic
teaches the principles leading up to that part showing their practical applica

The Elasticity and Resistance of the Materials of Engineering. By Wm. William Howard Hart Pro
H. Burr. Wind nics at Reusselaer Polytechnic Institute John Wiley \& Sons, New York.
The author states in his preface that the work is the outgrowth of lectures to students on the elasticity and
resistance of materials; elaborated and extended so as to cover many details not included in the ordinary echnical course of study. The book is divided int two parts, "rational" and "technical," the first being
iutended to furnish an analytical or rational basis for the second, or practical development Part the second, or practical development. Part I. consid-
ers the general theory of elasticity in a morphons solid bodies, thick, hollow celinders, and spheres and torsion, the energy of elasticity, and the theory of flexture. Part $\Pi_{n}$, in which the mathematical results obtained in Part I. are subjected to the test of experiment. discusses tening and torsion, bending orflexure.connections, working stresses and safety factors, the fatigue of metals, the the book is admirable as by the aid of The plan of resnlts in a great variety of material, coefficients a establishod which involve the varied and complicated circumstances of material in actual use, and formule, which other wise express ideal conditions only, are thus rendered of the greatest practical value. The experimental result given arevery numerous, the author aim-
ing toshow variations in products of different mills, and ing toshow variations in products of diferent mils, and
also of the same mill; to show the variations due to dif ereice in size, shape, relative dimensions, and condition identically the same may pive different resalts direction in which further investigations may be most proftably pursued is indicated.

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Peck's Patent Drop Press. See adv. page 269.
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HINTS TO CORRESPUNDENTS.
No attention will be paid to commumcations unless accompanied with the full name and address of the

Names and addr
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 nol appear afte a reasonable time should repear them. If not then pubEditor declines them.
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of a personal character, and not of general incerest, or a personal character, and not of general interest,
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Correspondents sending samples of mingrals, for examination, should be careful to distinctly mark or label their specimens so as to avoid error in their identi. fication.
(1) J. M. K. writes: Would you kindly in form me the, process used in taking the yellow color out of raw parafine so as to make it white and almost
transparent? A. Different solvents are used. Some times bisulphide of carbon, benzine, etc. Hübner treats it with sulphuric acid, and then distills the tar, frst separated from the acid, mising the tar in the
retort with quicklime. Th is product is then pressed and treated with benzine.
(2) C. E. W. writes: In this part many armers are making underground (tile) ditches. Some of these men place smaller tile at the outlet than at the
head or throughout the length of the ditch, claiming that more water will flow out than if the outlet is the kame size or larger than the maiu part of the ditch. Is it not merely a smaller stream at a higher speed, and not more water that flows ont? A. It is only a sma!ler
stream at a higher velocity. 2. Are lazy tongs a suitastream at a higher velocity. 2. Are lazy tongs a suitable means for doubling the throw of a crank, or had
they better he avoided in heavy marhinery? A. "Lazy tongs" had better be avoided in all arrangements for onveying power.
(3) J. De W. C. writes: In my business it is sometimes necessary to ascertain the number of gal-
lons in square tanks or cisterns, and in circular. on of contents in ciloss? Aud whet arecies of on is understood? I am confused by certain tables in my possession, which state that "the wine gallon must contain 231 cubic inches" and in another place a galon is said to contain " $2774 \frac{1}{4}$ cubic inches,' although the bushel in same table is put down at " $2,1501 / 2$ cubic inches," and again at " 215044 cubic inches." A. The
United States legal gallon contains 231 cubic inches. United States legal gallon contains 231 cubic inches.
To compute contents ingallons of round tanks: Square diameter in feet, multiply by 0.7855 , and again by the epth in feet, and multiply by 7.48 , this latter being the
umber of gallons in one cubic foot. For tanks quare or rectangular outline, multiply together the ength in feet of both sides and multiply result by ength in feet of both sides and multiply result
depth of tank in feet and again, as above, by $7 \cdot 48$.
(4) D. M. R. writes: 1. If I take nickel plated articles from an electro-nickel bath and place hem in an electro-siver bath and silver plate them, is would there be with any other two metals? A. No amalgamation will take place. The silver would be
simply superposed. 2. What is plating by the Parker simply superposed. 2. What is plating by the Parker
process? A. We do not know the Parker process by hat name. 3. What is pyro-plating? A. Plating by the aid of heat,
was introduced.
(5) N. W. H.-A copying ink that may be used without press or water, and will yield one or two fair, neat copies, is made by mizing 3 parts jet hlack
writing ink and one part of elycerine. This ink dries very slowly and must be used on glazed paper. The writing also mast be fine
(6) A. F. R. writes: Please inform me where the best gas engine is made. I want 30 horse
power or thereabouts. And can you say if sulphur gas power or thereabouts. And can you say if sulphur gas (natural gas) will drive suchan engine? A. Gas engines
are not made of more thau 5 horse power. Sulphurous gas would, we think, not work well in a gas engine The products of combustion would contain sulphntic
acid, which would corrode the cylinder and piston.
(7) A. C. P. asks : 1. How thick should the carbon pencil be made in the simple electric light
describea in SUPPLEMENT, No. 1629 A. $1 / 8$ to $1 / 4$ inch in diameter. It should be pointed. 2. Would a piece of the carbon wire taken from a broken Edison incan-
descent lamp work well? A. No. 3. How many cells would be needed of the easily made bichromate batter (8) W in SUPPLEMENT, No. 159? A. 10 or 12. (8) W. W. T. writes: I am building a wind mill 10 ft . diameter; please give me the angle with the
p!ane of motion that the sails should set. Should the sails be set at right angle with the axis, or pitched arainst the wind alittle? A. Rule given by Smearon The radius is supposed to be divided into 6 parts, and tremity (of the radius) No. 6. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6, angles (9) H. M. asks: How can I. create a vacuin a hollow ball six inches in diameter, without the aid of an air pump? A. The best vacuum you can possibly get without a pump of some kind may be oblained by placing a small quantity of water in the ball and heat the ball and steam the air out. Conlinue the heat until the steam is also all out, or nearly ceases to be discharged; then seal the ball with a plug or by any means you may see H .
(10) H. S. M. writes: 1 . On the hub of a of the two rides the farther, the wagon being driven straigbt ahead for a period of 15 minutes? The bee beals the fly by the difference in the length of the two cycloidal curves which their positions give by the revo-
lutions of the wheel. 2. Does any pari of said wheel move backward during said time or trip? A. It does :
not. 3. Which part of a fly wheel of an engine moves the fastest, the rim or hub? Engine running at same the fastest, the rim or habs Engine rumning at same
speed for both calculations. A. The rim moves the fastest.
(11) W. \& W. ask: Can you inform us if glass sewer pipe has been manufactured anywhere in
the United States? If yes, at proved a success? A. We do not know, and has sewer pipe has been used. It certainly cannot be sold for a price that will make it a success. There is no
doubt as to its durability and sanitary value, as its smooth, hard surffce offers no lodgment for germs or filth.
(12) D. R. C. asks: Is there any difference between an injector and an inspirator for steam
boilers? If so, what is the difference? A. Inspirato only a speci, what is the difference? A. Inspirator
(13) A. M. H. writes: I bave a practical trealise on beat by Thomas Box, and on pages 130 and 131 , he statement is made fhat acast ironflue dissipates $\mathbf{3} 35$ times as much heat as a sheet iron one under the same conditions. On page 148 it says the loss of heat by
contact of cold air is independent of the nature of surface. Page 146, by table of raliating bodies, the radiant power of sheet iron is 0.56620 and the radiant power of cast iron is given as $0 \cdot 64800$. This gives castiron less than $\frac{7}{7}$ more than sheet iron; which is nearest to the truth? Under the same conditions, which gives off the most heat by radiation, cast iron, plain or galvanized, or lacquered, and in what proportions? Can you give me any other cheap method of preparing the surface of cast iron (witbout polishing) to prevent mach radiation rom it, at $20 \omega^{\circ}$ to $500^{\circ} \mathrm{Fahr}$ A. The fllgures given in Boz's treatise are not alto
gether reliable, for the reason that he does not state the condition of the surfaces, whether smooth or rough and the color of the radiating surface. This is a ma terial point in the relative value of the radiation from different metals or materials. When the surfaces of sheet and cast iron are exactly in the same condition as to smoothness and color, the radiant power is in favor of the sheet iron. The roughnese of cast iron by increasing its surface may give it an artificial advantage as a
radiant body. For preventing radiation there is nothing betrer than a smooth, polished surface. The next hest is a good coat of lime (whitewash).
Minerals, etc.-Specimens bave been reeived from the following correspondents, and xamined, with the results stated:
G. D. C.-No. 1 is common mica in Peldspar. No. 2 red spots being the garnets.-H. S.-Specimets; the red spots being the garnets.-H. S.-Specimen No.
is a iolack slary serpentine. No. 2 is quartz is a black slaty serpentine. No. 2 is quartz with cal-
cite (limestone), and No. 3 is a quartz.-J. L. T.-The mineral is pyrite (iron sulphide) of no value.

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