engineering inventions.
A grip for electric cars has been patented by Mr. John C. Henderson, of New York city. In a electric motor drive-car, with a hole in its bottom,
carried a vertical rod with rollers at the lower end, act as an adjustable clamp on a rail or bar arr
A car coupling bas been patented by Mr. Edward F. Pendester, of Milford, Mass. The invention covers a lever held at its innerend on a draw head,
and having two prongs, one of which, at the outer end, has a lug on the bottom surface, so the lugs of two op posite prongs engage with each other, and thereby couple the cars. The outer ends of the levers pass throngh frames projecting from the ends of the cars,
keeping the levers in proper position, and guidiog them while uncoupling the cars.

## mechanical inventions.

An improved vise has been patented by Mr. Henry A. Hyle, of Redwood, N. Y. The jaws are recessed, and in the recesses are cylinders, adapted to
be turned in the jaws, these cylinders having recesses or cavities of various shapes, both longitudinal and
transverse, for holding objects in horizontal and vertitranserse, for holding objects in horizontal and verti-
cal positions, these cylinders beiug set according to the cal positions, these cylinders
shape of the object to be held
A saw-mill dog has been patented by Mr . William B. Snyder, of Waynesborough, Penn. It is
arranged in a sliding head, adjusted by a pinion o arranged in a slididing head, adjusted by a pinion or sidie of the nneeof of the log of the carriage and with a
sliding head, pinion, and rack bar is a lever with a loose play about the axis of the pinion, with peculiar
bearing ata
An improved reamer has been patented by Mr. Charles H. Malmedie, of New Bedford, Mass. The invention combines in one device a reamer of fixed
diameter, an expanding or adjustable reamer, and a diameter, an expanding or adj justable reamer, and a
gauge of standard size for determining the diameter of gauge of standara size for retermining the diameter of
thereamed hole, so great accuracy is obtained, the durability of the tool is increased, and work is cone with greater facility.
A felly-boring and spoke-tenoning machine has been patented by Mr. Edwin M. Jenkins, of
Browning, Mo. A rotary hollow mandrel, adapted to carry a tenoning head, is combined with a hollow cut
ter and boringsocket, with a shaft arranged to slide in ter and boringsocket, with a shaft arranged to slide in
the socket and mandrel, and be screw-clamped thereto having a key seat along its whole length, and provider and table arranged to shift up and down to determine
the relation of the chuck and clamp to the tool socket.

## agricultural inventions.

A corn planter has been patented by
Messra. William Hopper and Isaiah J. Allen, of JefferMessra. William Hopper and Isaiah J. Allen, of Jeffer-
sos, Iowa. 7 lis is an improved mechanism for operat ing the dropping apparatus, markers or pointers, denters, and driving guides, designed to provide more
simple and efficient machines than such as are now in use. A grain drill has been patented by Messrs. Moses F. and Thomas A. Foley, of Waveland, Ind.
This invention is to adapt grain drills for use in drilling This invention is to adapt grain drills for use ind driling
wheat between rows of corn, and the plow beams are made with holess of receive the lower ends of the esead-
conducting tubes, the tues, standard, conducting tubes, the tuu
conveniently connected.
A plow attachment forms the subject of a patent granted to Mr. John O. Cald well, of Goshen, Ga. It is in the nature of a detachable mould board for the
turning shovels of a light plow, to prevent the collection tarning shovels of a light plow, to prevent the collection
of earth, vines, weeds, etc., on their upper portions, the of earth, vines, weas, et.. on their upper portions, the attachiment
applied removed.
A cotton scraper and cultivator has been patented by Mr. Seth H. Fountaiu, of Amite City, La.
In a cultivator are two front scrapers beveled and with an opeu space between them, and two shovels in the rear of each scraper, the scrapers being vercically ad-
justable and the plows laterally adjustable, and the justable and the plows laterally adj justable, and the
whole being suitably jointed together, to promotethe vigorous growthof small plants.

## miscellaneous inventions.

A rein guard has been patented by Mr.
Charles W . Speaks, of Canal Winchester, ohio. It is a Charles $W$. Speaks, of Canal Winchester, Ohio. It is a
device for holding the reins raised, so the horse cannot device for holding the reins raieed, so the horse cannot
throw its tail vorer them, and consists of a wire frame bent and
braces.
A chain for draperies has been patented by Mr. Curistian A. Schmidt, of Hoboken, N. J. The influrous materials are eireda at snitable intervals, the
tutts being held on or between the links as may be desire
A pistol game apparatus bas been patented
Mr by Mr. John R. Mestier, of Corpus Christi, Texas, In
combination with a horizonta revoving table, with
con stalls for a ball, is a pistol device for dropping the ball
into the table while revolving for playing a game, in into the table while revolving, for playing a game, in
which the score is to be counted by the number of the stall into which the ball falls.
A book hoider and rest has been patented by Mr. Edwin V. Parker, of Strafford, Vt. Two strips
of wood or metal are united at one end by a bowspring, and at their other ends have cross strips, in connection
with a C -shaped standard and a spring clip, whereby a book may be held open and its inclination varied as
A wire fence fastener has been patented by Mr. Charles E. Grifith, of Storm Lake, Towa. The in-
vention consists of a screw with spirally curved eye, Vention consists of a screw with spirally curved eye,
which will hold a fence wire away from a tree, butleave a free longitudinal play of the wire through the eye, thus making a simple, cheap, strong, and easily adjustable fastening.

A folding kite has been patented by Mr Joseph stumpp. of Brooklyn, N. Y. The kite is made nẹcted at their adjacent ends by sliding tubes, so the parts can be readily separated and the kite rolled into and transportation.
An improvement in the manufacture of material for electric insulation has been patented by
Mr. William V. Wilson, of Jubilee Street, Mile End Middleser, Eng. The invention covers the consolid tion of wood or vegetable tar by the use of nitro-cellu lose, softened in a special manner, and the mode of
An improvement in barbed fences has bee patented by Mr. Willis K. Gore, of Johnstown Peen According to this invention, the top and bottom rail are Pormed of two wires twisted together, in combination with intermediate vertical plates, with two barbs at
each end, bent and passing in opposite direction each end, bent and pa
through the twisted wire
An apparatus for loosening up and remov ng sandbars, etc., in rivers and harbors has been
patented by Messrs. Larence A. Johnson and N. E. Johnsen, of Portland, Ore. It is a machine with rotary autting wheels and plows, to be drawn over a river or the covering or crust that sometimes forms on sand-
A pocket knife has been patented by Mr. Orison Huff, of Lyman, Me. Its peculiar construction adapts it ot be opened or closed with one hand, the
knife handle being formed of two hollow sections, the pper one with a collar, pin, and projections, and there being a spring pressed and notched locking plate, so
that the a slight jerk.
An improved boiler has been patented by Mr. Alfred E. Dalley, of Quincy, Mich. This is an improvement of the combined furnace and boiler used by
farmers for cooking food for cattle, boiling sirup and consists in so arranging the flue through which the heat products from the furnace pass that the heat will
act more effectually on the bottom than is the case with att more eftectualy on the bottom thar
the present tylye of furnace and boiler.
An improved letter box has been patented by Mr. Charles F. Maize, of Philadelphia, Pen. This
invention covers a special construction of parts of the box, arrangement of guard plates for the newspaper drop, novel self-closing lid for the letter drop, wifh imeroved hood, in which the letter drop lid id is fited, to
exclude water from the box, all to afford increased security and protection to mail matter deposited in the
box.

- An insulator for electric wires has been patented by Mr. Wiliiam W. Beach, of New York city. The invention consists of an insulating block with
grooves to receive the wires, and a tongued piece for holding the wires in the grooves, and a frame adapted tongues for partly filling the grooves, so that a series of
wires can be held A corn sbeller has been patented by Mr. Luther Matthews, of Paris, Texas. The invention
comprises a double shelling surface of peculiar con struction in one plate or bed piece, so a corn sheller with but little weight is produced capable of shelling either one ear, or, by using both hands, two ears at the
same time, doing its work easily, and with ready clearsame time, aling its work
ance for the shelled corn.
A process for the manufacture of cream lartar forms the subject of a patent issued to Mr. Franz Dietrich, of Munich, Germany. It consists in its compounds, and then clarify ying and discoloring, the nisture being boiled, the clarifying effected with clay, treated with muriatic acid.
An improved lock bas been patented by Aessrs. Ruador E. Woodrich, of New York, and Carres
Langbien, of Brooklyn, N. Y. This lock is made with an extensible casing and bolt, the bolt resting on inde-
pendent pivored cam plates, adjusted to be turned by sey inserted through escutcheons screwed into screwthreaded apertures in the casing, the
casing in place in the drawer ordoor.
An improvement in hanging doors has been patented by Mr. Alexander H. P. Leur, of Brooklyn N. Y. Crossbars are pivoted in recesses in the ends of
the door, and have pivots hinged to their ends to enage with sockets let into the door casing, so the door The pivots, while serving as hinges, are locked in place
by spring pressed bolts, which enter grooves in the pivots.
An improved motion transmilter has been patented by Mr. Henry Gardner, of Bordentown, N.J. are frequently started and stoppeal, and is controlled by the foot of the operator. The invention covers a spe-
cial form of hanger with square socke: and square speeds, aud the whole is simple, quick acting, and tworthy.
An extensible fire escape bas been patented by Mr. Paul Kingston, of Hastings, Minn. This fre
escape combines a series of lazy tongs, in pairs connected by cross rods, and connecting links with stops
net eected by cross rods, and connecting links with stopa be rendered rigid and frm, and, with guide ropes, may be adjusted and held by a windlass for use at any de-

An improved floor scrubber bas been pat nted by Messrs. Peter O. King and Andrew M. Carlson, of Valley City, Dakota Ter. The invention covers a special construction of clamp or hoider, with hinged operate with clamping screws passing through the side made, and one with increased facility for inserting on removing the rubber or other scrubbing material.

An improvement in pipe and other joints has been patented by Mr. James A. Baldwin, Jr., of
East Jaffrey, N. H . It is more particullerl joints, and consists in a copper ring, having in its projecting face au annular groove, so made that when the
two llanges or pipes are drave toward ach other in two flanges or pipes are drawn toward each other in
tighteniog up the joint the partially countersunk copper tightening up the joint the partially countersunk copper
ring will form a close fitting packing between the ring will form a close fitting packing between the
flanges, so it will resist great pressure, and make the fanges, so it will resist graat pressure,
joint equal or superior to a ground one.
An improvement in the manufacture of mosaic and other tiles has been patented by Mr. Jean Larmanjat, of
process of brightening the colors of tiles and a more moulding them. The brightening is effected by treating
the powdered material or cement with soft soap, and the powdered material or cement with soft soap, and
the monlding of inlaid designs for ornamental ties is the moulding of inlaid designs for ornamental ties is
done in a compound mould, with which the whole of the design may he deposited at one time upon the material orming the base of the tile
A car door lock bas been patented by Mr. James Sharkey, of Honey Creek, Ind. A latch bar is
pivoted to the car body below the lower back corner of the door and reaching up at an angle of about 45 derres to about midway between the vertical eddes of
the door, where it is connecied to form a latch for fastening the door without being locked, and a slide
bolt and lock are contrived with the latch bar to lock bolt and lock are contrived with the latch bar to lock
the door, making a very simple and substantial locking device.
device for destroying insects bas been patented by Mr. Charles J. Gustaveson, of Salt Lake city, Utah Ter. This invention covers an apparatus
with a spirit lamp beneath a vessel for raising steam, the latter having a fiesible pipe to direct the jet as desired, and, for an insect destroyer, poisonous materials or volanized, while the apparatus may also be used carbsinfecting or fumigating a sick room, by using
cor other suitable substance, evaporated with the water, the apparatus having special improve-

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Newark, N. J., and 92 and 94 Liberty St., New York. For Mill Mach'y \& Mill Furnishiug. see illus. adv. p.172. Lathes, Planers, Drills, with modern improvements. The Pratt \& Whitney Co., Hartford, Conn.
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Pa. Diamond Drill Co. Box 423. Pottsville. Pa. See p. 174. For best low price Planer and Matcher. and latest
improved Sash, Door, and Blind Machinery, Send for improved Sash, Door, and Blind Machinery, Send for
catalogue to Rowley \& Hermance, Williamsport, Pa. Steam Pumps. See adv. Smith, Vaile \& Co., p. 174. Gears.-Grant, 4 Alden St., Boston.-Water motors.

## NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Medical Directory of PhiladelPHIA FOR 1884. Edited by Samuel B.
Hoppin, M.D. F. Blakiston, Son \& Co., Philadelphia. Price, $\$ 1.50$.
This is an alphabetical and street list of physicians and directory of dentists, druggists, medical societies, The Prondnciation of German. A Progressive Study of the Sounds of the
German Langoage, with Directions FOR Producing them Accurately. By
Charles F. Kroeh, A.M., Hoboken, N. J. Published by the author.
The title of this little work is a good resume of its
contents. It constitutes No. 1 of a series of contents. It constitutes No. 1 of a series of drill books by the same author, which are in preparation, and which will treat of the German and French verb. The
book is an excellent one for the purpose, being modbook is an excellent one for the purpose, being mod-
eled on the "rational method," for which Professor Kroeh is well known.
The Railways and Tramways of New South Wales, according to the report of the Commissioner $1882, £ 16,7766642$, and $£ 11,000,000$ more had been authorized to be raised for the completion of work in progress. The average interest paid for railway loans has been $4 \cdot 26$ per cent. There are $1,3211 / 2$ miles opened for trafflc, of which 38 miles have double track, and 889 miles of road laid out are to be finished. The report done and the condition and equipment of the roads.

## 

HIN'IS TO CORRESPUNDENTS.
No attention will be paid to communcations nnless
accompanied with the full name and address of the writer. iven to inquirers.
We renew our request that correspondents, in referring o former answers or articles, will be kind enough to name the date of the paper and the page, or the number
of the question. a reasonable time should repeat them. If not lished, thes may conclude that, for goot 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, should remit from $\$ 1$ to $\$ 5$, according to the subject,
as we cannol be expecteri to spend time and labor to as we cannol be expected to spend time and
Any numbers of the Scientipic American Soppleoffice. Price 10 cents each.
Correspondents sending samples of minerals, etc.,
for examination, should be careful to istiuctly mark or for examination, should be careful to distiuctly mark or label their specimens so as to avoid error in theirindentification.
(1) J. M. H. asks how saltpeter acts when used, with salt and sugar to preserve meat. What is the an antiseptic that is, of saltpeter woure ferment ation or putrefaction, Boraz or boracic acid is more commonly used as a preservative for meat. The use of
sugar in this connection we think would hardly be desugar in this connection
sirable or eveu necessary.
(2) W. S. N.-Pearline is simply a trade name given by James Pyle to a soap manufactured by
him. We do not know its composition, and cannot tell him. We do not know its composition, and cannot tell
unless a chemical aralysis of it were made, but from its ittle we think very likely that it contains pearlash,
or potassium carbonate. Bluing may he made by treat-
ing 1 ounce pure Prussian blue with 2 ounces concentrated hydrochloric acid. Effervescence ensues, and th mixture soon assumes the consistence of a thin paste. This can then be moulded in bulls ordried and powder-
(3) E. L. N.-The paste sent consists of rouge (red chalk) mixed with some oil or tallow, probably boiled linseed oil. Powdered tripoli is likewise used in combination with boiled linseed oil as a paste
for polishing. The difference in quality found in varifor polishing. The difference in quality found in vari-
ous samples is probally due to the different degree of neness to which the rouge or tripoli is ground A sit more finely ground, so does it increase in efficiency. Liquid oxygen is not
(4) A. W. G. asks how the polishing paste for cleaning and restoring tarnished nict
Usechalk or rouge mixed with tallow.
(5) S. S. asks: How many "Bunsen" cells of gallon capacity will it require to produce an arc light of one-eighth inch carbon candle, length of co (B) J. C. W. A. What subst
(6) J. C. W. asks: What substance can be used as a conductor of electricity, and yet have but
little or no spring? A. Comminuted metals, acidulated water, powdered carbon, lead, soft copper, soft iron, mercury.
(7) J. H. D. asks: Is there any substance which can be mixed with ground talc, so as to form paste which will harden in moulds, and yet he fireproof
A. It can be mized with hydraulic cement or plaster of Paris, both of which would crack when exposed to heat.
Perbaps it would be more desirable to incorporate the Perbaps it would be more desirable to incorporate the talc with kaolin or some clay, satisfactory to you, and
bake the product. There would result a sort of earthbake the
enware.
(8) G. S. B. asks: 1. Can magnetic force e transformed into electric force (the force of permanent steel magnets, $\mathbf{I}$ mean)? If so, how? A. Yes, by
revolving an electro magnetbef ore or between the poles of the permanent magnet, and taking the current from the terminals of the electro magnet by means of a suit. Tbe telephone magneto call and the magneto-eleztric edical machines are examples of machines producin read in Scientipic American Reference Book that ice boats on the Hudson River travel faster than the wind, would like to have the philosophy of it explained. See Sopplement, No. 21
(9) W. A. asks: 1. What is the thickness of the carbon used in the Blake transmitter, and how is it made? I bave an electric light carbon seven-sixbuttons for transmitter? A. Your carbon is about the right diameter. The thickness of the button is immaThe face of the button must be well polished to secure good results. The hard French carbons ane best for
the purpose. 2. I have several ounces of silk insulated copper wire (I inclosed sample). I think that it is No.
30 ; will it answer to wind the spools of telephone decribed in Supplement No. 142, or had I better use a smaller size? A. Your sample of wire is No. 30 Am .
W. G. It will answer a purpose, but is not so good as No. 36. 3. Shonld the end of a steel bar in telephon upon which the coil is placed be tempered and harden-
ed, or should the whole of the bar be hardened and tempered? A. They will work well either way. Per haps morely hardening the ends is quite as good a plan
(10) B. V. F. asks: Will two Leclanche batteries of good size heat fine wire so as to be pracli-
cable for lighting gas? If not, how many batteries: should be used, and what kind and size of wire should be used in either case? A. No. One smail cell of of No. 36 platinum wire. By employing a helix with magnetic core, your two Leclanche cells may be used to produce a spark that will light gas. See any work on
physics for the manner of producing the extra current physics for
and spark.
(11) S. J. B. asks what he can use to pre serve paste or starch for mounting photographs? A Carbolic acid, salicylic acid, and oil of cloves are all
used for this purpose. The amount to be used must be very small, probably not over one per cent; frequently a much smaller quantity is used.
(12) S. T. asks how to make solution for cast iron, so it would have coppered surface? A. Make
a solution of 2 oz. copper sulphate in 1 qt. water, add 1 oz. of sulphuric acid. Clean the iron by pickling it in dilute sulphuric acid, and washing and scrubbing it with a wire brush before immersing it in the coppering
solution. Afrer removing it from the solution, was thoroughly with water
(13) C. O. R. asks: 1. Is there any diamag netic substance known that is quite or nearly perfect
A. Bismuth is the most diamagnetic substance known 2. Is there any known substance that would allow a permanent bar magnet to act only in one direction, and not permanently neutralize or prevent its actionin oppositedirection8 A. No. 3. Wbat will efficiently neutralize "damp," or carbonic acte in wells? Sometimes in
digging wells it nearly overcomes me. I baveused lim digging wells it nearly overcomes me. I baveused lime and lime water, but with unsatisfactory results. A
Ventilation is the only efficient remedy. Drive out the foul gases by forcing in fresh air.
(14) G. H. asks: 1. How may eggs long Can they be told without breaking? A. Expert dected? have a way of looking through them at a light, and
fudge by the shade if they are sound, but it is very Judge by the shade if they are sound, but it is very
doubtful if any one can tell how long they have been doubtful
stored.
${ }^{\text {(15) }}$ J. D. writes: For finding the nominal號 $\frac{d^{2}+\mathrm{D}^{2}}{-}$ or $\xrightarrow{d^{2}+\mathrm{D}^{2}}$.

According to some makers, the divisor is 30 circular
is, wishing to reckon the diameters of the high and low not more than 4 feet? A. We think about 16 miles per pressure cylinders from the nominal borse power, I hour, if of good model and very light. A plain, simple would like to know whether there is, or which rule is
generally used by builders. Say I have to give the ract diameters for an engine of 140 N.H.P. Which honld prefer that which has 30 for denominator. For the nominal H.P., Seaton gives the following:

## N.H.P. $=\xrightarrow{a^{2}+\mathrm{D}^{2}}$, where

$d=$ dia. of H.P. cylinder.
$\mathrm{D}=$ " "L.
$\mathrm{D}=$ " "L.P.
$n=$ circular incbes, which may be 30 to 82 or 33 , th lower denominator for the higher pressure, say of
100 lb .; and for the diameter of the H.P. cylinder:

## $\sqrt{\frac{\mathrm{N} . \mathrm{H}, \dot{R}}{1+r}-}$,

where $r$ is the ratio of capacity of the low to the high pressure cylin der, and the diameter of the low pressure ylinder $=d v r$. Example for an engine of 200 N.H.P.
he ratio of low pressure to high pressure cylinders be ing 4 and $n=33$, then
dia. of H.P. cylinder $=\sqrt{200} \frac{\times 33}{1+4}=36.3$ inches.
And dia. of L.P. cylinder $=36.3 \times{ }^{4}=72.6$ inches. 2. What relation do the diameters bear to each other or do the dimensions of high and low pressure cylin-
ders depend upon their areas? A. For steam pressures f,say 80 to 100 bl, the arease A. For steam pressares troke of both pistons is the same) of the low pressura cylinder is usually 4 times the H.P. cyl
pressures 60 to 80 lb . the ratio is 3.5 to 1 .
(16) J. F. B. asks how to make a small in candescent electric lamp, or tell me the number of
SUPPLEMENT describing one, if therei sone? I should like to know the material the lights burn on, and the size of it? A. It would be dificult for a novice to make blower, or would have to learn theart of glass blowing. He would want carbonizing apparatus and the most per fect air punnp, and added to all this, a long experience. call descriptions of toe manufacture of these lamps an be found in the back numbers of the SCIENTIFI descent lamp may be made from a coil No. 36 platinum ire, but it would not answer for continued use.
(17) W. S. -1 . The painting and bronzing radiators retards their heating qualities. 2. Th ficient than when placed vertically, as in radiators, with
(18) J. D. P.-Ordinary moulding sand i used for zinc castings just as for iron. For heat the inc should be melted until the vapor from the metal
(19) S. P. C. asks for a receipt for making carbolic dip into which stock may be plunged fo silling lice and mites? A. Use soft soap, 1 gallon;
heat with 30 gallons of water up to a temperature of $140^{\circ}$, then add one quart of crude carbolic acid. Then cool down to $110^{\circ}$ and dip the sheep or lambs; but for other animals, pour it along the back so that it run
down the sides. Great care must be taken that it is ap plied to the brisket, under the shoulders and thighs. For the sheep scabmites the temperature should be $120^{\circ}$ nd the scabs should be completely broken up by
(20) H. E. H. asks: 1. Will two cylinders of same stroke, with different diameters and same
sized ports, exert the same power? A. No. 2 Will two ylinders of same size exest the same power if on has but one piston, and the other has two, traveling pposite directions, both having the same sized ports? passenger locomotives while running? A. One hun dred and twenty to 140 pounds. 4. What distanc didd a locomotive pull a train, if its boiler was charg drawn out, before starting, theatmosphere being about $70^{\circ}$ ? A. This cannot be answered exce pt upon specific conditions-as to capacity of boiler, weight of train nd locomotive, grade, condition of track, etc.
(21) A. B. N. asks how papier mache is made? A. Papiermache is made by pasting or gluing and pressing to the shape of the mould, or making pulp of the paper material and pressing the pulp into he moulds.
(22) G. W. E. asks if there are any steam or electrical and steam buggies and tricycles invented (mostly in Europe), but they are for the most part not practical use.
(23) T. J. T. asks : 1. How long will cottonwood:Linn. (bass wood) and red elm last in fence pick-
ets? A. Basswood when well preserved and painted is A. Basswood when well preserved and painted $r$ than pine-perhaps twenty years. Cottonwood i most as durable when painted and preserved from the the best and cheapest preservative for that lind of vood when exposed to the open air? A Common paint, linseed oil, and the brownish red oxide of iron make one of best outdoor paints. 3. What is their
value compared with yellow or white pine? A. Southern yellow pine would perhaps be better than basswood or cottonwood, but white pine would be n
(24) F. J. del C.
(24) F. J. del C. asks how to make the so nd where to obtain or how to make it of the requisite trength? A. To make parchment paper dip ordinary unsized paper for 5 or 6 seconds into dilute sulphuric acid, and wash with weak ammonia water, acid 1 part
(25) J. K. asks: 1. What is the greatest speed that could be attained by a steamboat, a
screw propeller, in smooth water, of the following dimeneions, and what description ofboiler or boilers and engines would be the most suitable, and the amount of beam, 14 feet; depth of hold, 6 feet; draught of water
engine, 12 to 14 inch cylinder, and 12 inch stroke, with locomotive form of boller of ample capacity to carry
120 to 140 pounds of steam, having not less than 600 feet
eating surface.
(26) I. H. F. sends us a japanned buckle. wires. sample is dipped. String upon very amal to above $200^{\circ}$ F., then dip, and hang in oven. Turn the pieces over upon the wire 2 or 3 timeswhile they are
disposed to drip. This will make the japan even. If disposed to drip. This will make the japan even. If
the japanis good, itwill stand considerable thinning bethe japanis good, itwill stand considerable thinning be
fore it loses its gloss.
(27) L. H. D. writes: I am using water
(27) L. H. D. writes: I am using water
taken from a tank lined with ordinary sheet zinc, for taken from a tank lined with ordinary sheet zinc, for
greenhouse purposes. I notice, after the foliage of the he leaves become spotted with a whitish stain hough there was a sediment in the water which stick to the foliage after drying. Do you think this spotting
could come from the action of the water on the zinc? could come from the action of the water on the zinc
What kind of paint or varnish could $I$ use to coat th What kind of paint or varnish could I use ta coat the
zinc, which would have no effect on the water? The tank was built and lined about two years ago, and the
zinc now shows a roughened surface. Before buildig the tank I used the same water, but did not notice any stain. The water is changed about once in three or fou days. Tank holds about twelve bundred gallons. A
It is probable that the zinc is the cause of the spotting Painting the inside of the tank with red oxide of iron and boiled linseed oil will no doubt be a remedy. The You can mix it yourself.
Cith hrogh. Use no turnentine
pread easily with a brush. Use no turpentine.
(28) W. F. H. asks: Can you inform me fterthey are put together and found to leak slightly it is not the regular red lead and oil I have reference
o, but a hard cement which looks like red sealing wax. . This is called gas fitters' cement. Melt togeth 1/2 parts resin (by weight), 1 part beeswax, then stir i parts Venetian red and pour
iled paper or cold iron moulds.
(29) J. E. E. asks: Does sound travel greater distance north and south and more rapidly than oo, have electrical currents anything to do with it? o, have electrical currents anything to do with it?
Experiments upon the velocity and conditions of sound in the atmosphere during the past 150 years have not
developed any difference in the velocity or distance of developed any difference in the velocity or distance of sound as regards the points of the compass. There is
decided difference in velocity and distance, as with or gainst the wind, as well also with the temperature and ith the the atmosphere. The velocity increase degree above $32^{\circ}$ Fahr. The velocity assigned at $32^{\circ}$ in ry airis 1089 feet per second, and at $62^{\circ} 1125$ feet pe gecond. There are no experimentst known to us in re ditions of the atmosphere. We think the electricalin
(30) E. G. C. asks regarding the modern method of rendering glass articles iridescent. A. Som iced abroad on page 1800 of Scientific Ameprcia Supramment, No. 113 . It is also said to be produced y volatilizing tin chloride in the furnace.
(31) N. S. H. asks: 1. For receipts for mucilage and glue combined, called Egyptian Tenexine? A. We are not familiar with the composition of the article mentioned. 2. How is impression paper made? well with black lead, vermilion, red chalk, or any col oring matter; wipe this preparation well off with a piece of clean rag, and it will be ready for use. 3. How are uminous paint," Scientific American stopplement No. 24. 4. What are pocket lights made of? A.
See "Fire work formule," Scientiric American for See "Fire work form
July 16, 1881, page 42.
(32) R. H. H. asks: What is the best thing o clean buckskin mittens, and also what will clean a sed to cleanchamois skins, will probably be satisfac ory: Make a solution of weak soda and warm water, rub lenty of softsoap in to the leather, and let remain in Rinse well, in a weak solution of soda and yellow soa in warm water, but not in water only, else it dries hard. fter rinsing, wring it well in a rough towel and dry aickly, then pull it about and crush it well until sof Cleansing with naphtha will perbaps answer. For the bronze plate, if real, use
(33) A. W. B. asks: 1. If borax renders heilac soluble in water, will not the compound after being used as varnish or cement be then soluble and
easily injured by being washed, etc.? A. Yes; although as it dries up it is less likely to be dissolved off. 2. If hellac is dissolved in spirits, camphor or other resinous gum may be added to give the varnish a gloss or
luster. Can auything be added to produce this effect when water is used as a solvent? A. We would sugges he use of gum arabic for the purpose.
(34) J. J. D. asks: How sulphocyanide of mmonia is prepared? A. This salt may be prepared y mixing hydrocyanic (prussic) acid with ammonium polysulphice (a solution of salpaur in ammonium sul phide), and separating the resulting ammonium sulpho alt thus produced is in solution, and may then be ob ained in the dry state by evaporation to cryetallization In any case itis cheaper and preferable to purchase th sulphocyanide from a wholesale druggist or dealer in chemicals.
(35) D. P. S. asks: Will you tell me through otes and Queries why it is that certain salts or acid when dissolved or mixed with water produce heat, wbile thers produce cold? A. Bodies having a great chem al aftinity for each other produce heat when brough finty produce cold, as the heat is rendered latent by liquefaction.
(36) E. K. B. writes: 1. Will you please give me the candle power of the calcium light, say the
ight used by Mr. Stoddard in throwing his pictures upon the screen? A. From 100 to 125 candle power. 2. What are the limes used made of, and how? A. The best lime cylinders are made of calcined marble; but hey are usually cut out of selected piece
(37) S. J. D. asks: 1. What power is exrted by a screw one-eighth pitch, 1 in. diamater erted by a screw one-eighth pitch, 10 in. diamater.
Pointed angle of $30^{\circ}$ working between 2 pins, angle to Fointed angle of 30 working between 2 pins, angle to
suit screw; in other words, what weight will they lift? A. What is the length of your lever working the screw, and what pressure do you apply to the end of the lever? . What is correct method of finding the pressure on a slide valve? A. There is great difference of opinion as to the correct method-some say it is only that due to the area of all the openings; others that itis that due
to the whole surface of the valve when not moving, but less the area of one port when working.
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