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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1887.

Contents.

(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)

Table listing various articles such as 'Ants, habit in, modification of...', 'Aquariums for amateurs...', 'Brick clay...', etc., with corresponding page numbers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT No. 621.

For the Week Ending November 26, 1887.

Price 10 cents. For sale by all newsdealers.

Table listing sections I through IX, including 'ASTRONOMY', 'BOTANY', 'CHEMISTRY', 'ENGINEERING', 'MISCELLANEOUS', 'NAVAL ENGINEERING', 'PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE', 'PHOTOGRAPHY', and 'TECHNOLOGY'.

THE SIEMENS REGENERATIVE FURNACE PATENT IN THE SUPREME COURT.

A suit was brought by the Siemens Brothers against William Sellers and others, of Philadelphia, for infringement of this famous patent. The defense hinged upon the limitation of the American patent by the lapse of a period of seventeen years since the date of an English patent of prior granting.

Now that the Supreme Court has disposed of this and the driven well suit, the ground is clear for the rendering of their opinion in the great telephone suits. It is now eagerly watched for, and is expected every Monday.

THE DRIVEN WELL PATENT INVALID.

Some months ago, the United States Supreme Court rendered a decision in one of the famous driven well suits, in which the reissued patent granted to Nelson W. Green was declared a good and valid patent.

The decision, which was rendered on the 14th inst., is based on the record in a case, Nelson W. Green et al. against George Honey, which was originally brought in the Southern District of Iowa.

ROADSIDE PLANTING.

The subject of securing shade for roads by planting trees at their sides has within a few years been receiving considerable attention in Europe. In Belgium especially the work has been taken up with much interest, and the economic results ascertained.

Transfers for Zinc Etching.

A new method of preparing transfers for the zinc etching process has lately been introduced by Jaffe and Albert, of Vienna. With the usual method of making transfers in greasy ink, it happens sometimes, in transferring the developed greasy image to the zinc plate, that the lines or dots of the image will be crushed and become broader.

der consisting of a mixture of asphaltum, colophony, and wax, then the whites of the paper are freed from any adhering powder with the aid of a pad of cotton, and an alum solution is applied, in order to tan the gelatine on the paper, so that it may become hard, and not give way afterward in the transferring process.

Professor Tyndall on Lightning Conductors.

Prof. Tyndall, writing to the London Times, says: "Your recent remarks on thunderstorms and their effects induce me to submit to you the following facts and considerations. Some years ago a rock lighthouse on the coast of Ireland was struck and damaged by lightning. An engineer was sent down to report on the occurrence, and as I then held the honorable and responsible post of scientific adviser to the Trinity House and Board of Trade, the report was submitted to me. The lightning conductor had been carried down the lighthouse tower, its lower extremity being carefully embedded in a stone, perforated to receive it.

The Peppermint Crop Abundant.

Wayne County, N. Y., is noted for its great growth of peppermint, and this year the crop is very large, it being estimated by a correspondent of the Graphic that it will yield over 200,000 pounds of oil. The size of the crop is a detriment to the growers, because the oil is lower than it has been for thirty years past. The usual price is \$2 a pound, but the present quotation is \$1.80. Aside from the product in this one county in the State of New York, three counties in Michigan yield a small product. The crops in these two States comprise nearly all of the peppermint that is grown in the world.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY.—The directors of this company have declared a dividend of 6 per cent per annum on the preference shares for the half year ended 31st October.