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Contents.

(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)

Patents granted, weekly record. Patents, legal decisions upon.... Personai recollections of emi-nent men. nent men. Poison, arrow. Quarantine stations, need of. Rubber hat bag industry Schorlemmer, Prof. Carl. Screws, Rogers' method of mak-ing* Straight line indicator*. Wolf, American black. World's Fair buildings*. World's Fair notes. 177 177 179 179 180 175

. 175 . 180

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT

No. 872.

For the Week Ending September 17, 1892. Price 10 cents. For sale by all newsdealers

 I. ASSA YING.—An Improved Method of Determining Small Percentages of Silver and Gold in Base Metals, Mattes, etc.—By CALEB WHITEHEAD.—An exact method of assay in the cases mentioned described, with results as attained in actual practice, weights of substances used, and general details of the process...
II. ASTRONOMY.—Nova Aurigæ.—By Miss AGNES M. CLEREK.—The wonderful discoveries made in the case of the temporary star Nova Aurigæ.—The first one spectroscopically investigated.—How it was found to be a double star.
III. BIOLOGY.—The Science of Fishes.—By J. S. KINGSLEY.—The biological laboratory at Wod's Holl and what is to be seen in it.—The work of students and the methods of instruction and investigated stock Ramming.—By WALTER ROBERT KNIPPLE.—Methods of securing foundations which threaten to settle by deposition of thin mortar beneath them and the ramming of hard material into PAGE

- . 13937
- 1393
- 13931
- f securing foundations which threaten to settle by deposition of in mortar beneath them and the ramming of hard material into be soft substratum. -5 illustrations.... LECTRICITY.-Electrical Resistance of the Human Body.-By I. VON FREY.-The resistance of the human body measured as n electrolyte, showing the importance of large electrodes in se-uring the lowest resistance. 13934

THE NEED OF IMPROVED QUARANTINE STATIONS. | ple waiting for bulletins up to midnight of the eventnew ships from the infected ports of Europe have an-1 the space in other columns to describing it, preach a chored in the mouth of the harbor of New York, which curious sermon. It is questionable if any event for may be said to be the principal gateway of the conti- years past has excited the same widespread interest as nent.

small width of water to be patroled, are factors that world's pugilistic champion. facilitate the health officers' work. The pecuniary interests involved in the exclusion of cholera, and the resources of the United States which should be at comwork for its exclusion.

promptly removing the passengers to salubrious places | had been used. and fighting the disease with nature's weapons-fresh in. If disease breaks out upon them, the sick may a school girl is, to say the least, a curious one. sooner or later be removed. Adequate disinfection is that could be done is not accomplished. The additional incentive to the plague of anxiety of mind is superadded to the other conditions-conditions of man's own creation. Communication with the ships is virtually cut off, and the unfortunate passengers are thrown at once into a quarantine of isolation, in accordance with the traditions of the last century.

The proper course would seem to be the establishment of rational quarantine stations on shore. At Sandy Hook, at the mouth of New York Bay, there is a tract of government property which would be admirably adapted for the purpose. Some miles to the eastward on the sandy shores of Long Island there are appropriated for the well, while special stations could received. be established for those seriously sick and for the convalescent. Other places equally well adapted for such uses could be named.

At last a better outlook seems at hand. Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, of this city, has privately chartered the large and commodious steamboat Stonington, and to her the cabin passengers from one of the detained who by similar acts of philanthropy made Ameri- on the returns from his invested capital. can generosity famous. Other citizens have made tenders which have facilitated the work.

built up on shoals in the bay, Swinburne and Hoff- least for more Sullivans to be conquered. man Islands, there should be a quarantine and detention ground of several hundred acres extent, with the best possible sanitary appliances, water supply and

Nearly eighty years have passed since General An- was spotted with very interesting and curious marks. drew Jackson won his fame in the defense of New The marks, according to scientific men, are footprints Orleans against the British army, concentrated on its of the Anisichnus deweyanus, which was very common capture. His defense of the position and the strategy in the valley several million years ago, the beast being he displayed in it were, to a certain extent, an impor- a combination crocodile-bird. tant step toward the presidential chair which he sub-It is the opinion of Prof. William North Rice, of sequently occupied. We can well conceive the inter- Wesleyan University, to whom the fossil slab was sold est felt all over the United States when the news of for one hundred dollars, that at the time the deweyathe victory was received by the slow processes of mail nus flourished there was no Connecticut River, but coach and mounted mail carrier. In many places the | in place of it a bay that was fifteen miles wide, exnews of the battle and of its result must have been tending from the sound to the border of Massachusimultaneously received. There were then no prelimisetts. In that epoch, a good many million years since, nary details, sent by telegraph all over a continent, no this crocodile-bird used to bathe in the bay, then come hourly display on bulletin boards of the record of out of it, shake himself, and gambol awhile on the American or English success in the different phases of plastic micaceous sand, then on top of the earth; and so he left his mark on it. In time the sand became the battle. Eighty years later all is changed. Again a battle is gelid, the world grew over it, and now workmen toilfought in New Orleans. It is not a battle of armies, but ing in the bowels of the earth, 130 feet below its surof two individuals. The railroads have furnished pa- face, come on the playground of the Anisichnus latial trains to carry the participants to the spot. The deweyanus; and a professor studying the tracks imtelegraph transmits preliminary bulletins as to the ex- printed in the sandstone is able to tell just what sort act physical condition of the competitors. When the of a creature strode about in the Connecticut Valley contest begins, every feature in it is telegraphed far when Time was a babe. Wonderful, indeed, is the eye and wide, so that three thousand miles away the re- of Science, even when it wears spectacles and follows

The threatened invasion of our seaports by cholera, ful day, the daily press moralizing over the brutality has rapidly grown into prominence as day after day of the thing in one column and devoting five times the prize fight in New Orleans. The people showed The federal government has, by its declaration of that the old love for a physical contest was alive. The quarantine, re-enforced the local authorities. Under supposed advance in civilization has not cured their the circumstances, the absolute exclusion of cholera love for it-it has only made them a little ashamed of should be an easy task. The situation of New York, it. The coming presidential contest will hardly prove the great tracts of uninhabited territory near it, the more exciting than the story of the downfall of the

The development of personal contests since the days of the classic athletes of Greece and Rome has to an extent brought us back to their methods. No fight of mand for resisting it, are additional factors that should recent time has been conducted in costume more in accordance with the old gymnastic customs. Even the While this state of things obtains, the methods old cestus or armor for the hands, used by the Greeks hitherto adopted by the health authorities are open to and Romans to make the blow a more severe one, criticism. The antiquated idea of quarantine, which found its representative in the five ounce gloves of the is the detention of all persons arriving from infected modern contestants. These, worn to bring the affair ports, and their confinement on board of the infected ostensibly within the statutes of the law, if anything vessels, has been carried out to the letter. Instead of made the blows more severe than if the bare hands

The methods of training have been notable in the air, good food, and pure water-the least possible tendency to light gymnastics. The great effort to atthought seems to have been given to these great tain quickness of action seems in the case of the victor weapons of the sanitarian. Ships from the infected to have been so successful as to win for him the fight. ports are detained. Crowded as they are at this sea- The skipping rope was a favorite with both contestson, they are left at anchor, with all their passengers ants in their training. The picture presented to the and crew on board, fit places for the germs to incubate mind's eye of a modern Hercules skipping the rope like

The contest of Dares and Entellus, described in the impossible under such circumstances, but the best Eneid by Virgil, and parodied by Thomas Moore in his matchless verse, has been cited as analogous. In both cases there was a difference in age, but where Virgil gave the victory to the older man, better training, better ability, or some factor or factors, gave the prize in New Orleans to the younger contestant.

In the methods of the fight there is room for a feeling of interest. The general principles of the winner were repeated blows upon the same part of the body and face of his opponent. In the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, No. 776, we gave an article descriptive of the points on the human person most susceptible to the effects of a blow. These were given as the gist of the explanations by Dr. Philip E. Donlin, the coroisolated beaches which are ideal places for the purpose. ner's physician of this city, who has made coma and Fire Island is a beach or sand spit, separated by a shock a special study. In the recent contest, one of large bay from Long Island proper, and facing on the these blows were nearly given, which, it is stated, would ocean. Here there is a large hotel which might be have ended the contest much earlier, had it been

The ethics of the affair take another aspect. By making himself champion of the world the victor has opened for himself a business career which otherwise, even under the auspices of his former millionaire employer, he would never have had. He at once acquires a small fortune in the stakes at issue, He will next travel through the country and exhibit himself. ships, the Normannia, are to be transferred. Very and at the end of a year, with proper management, he aptly he is the son of a partner of George Peabody, can afford to retire as a capitalist and live sumptuously

All this shows that the world has not greatly changed from the days when the Roman mobs clamored for The lesson of the occasion should not be lost. It t_{i}^{\dagger} "bread and games." The fact that to witness three has shown that New York is without proper means for prize fights over \$100,000 in admission fees were paid resisting the importation of disease. For this port, by the spectators tells a strange story. Railroads, above all others, a great quarantine station should be hotels, and the telegraph all reaped immense returns, permanently established. Instead of two little islands and the daily press can wish, if not for more worlds, at

"Footprints in the Sands of Time."

drainage arrangements. Quarrymen operating in the Portland sandstone quarries in the Connecticut Valley recently blasted THE SECOND BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS. out a block, 130 feet beneath the earth's surface, that

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176

Frictional and Galvanic Electricity.—The modern view of elec- tricity and the abandonment of the old distinctions between the	tant step toward the presidential chair which he sub-	
two old-time divisions mentioned	sequently occupied. We can well conceive the inter-	Wesleyan University, to whom the fossil slab was sold
GEIKIE VII. HYDROGRAPHYThe Currents of the North AtlanticBy	est felt all over the United States when the news of	for one hundred dollars, that at the time the deweya-
RICHARD BEYNONInvestigation of the currents of the ocean	the victory was received by the slow processes of mail	
by bottles.—A map showing bottle drifts, illustrating the location of the Sargasso Sea.—Map of the Sargasso Sea.—2 illustrations 13940	coach and mounted mail carrier. In many places the	
VIII. HYGIENESterilized MilkBy Dr. ALBERT R. LEEDS and	news of the battle and of its result must have been	
Prof. H. W. CONNThe effects of sterilization on milk, with bad as well as good effects produced upon milk by heating	simultaneously received. There were then no prelimi-	
ERTS-AUSTEN	nary details, sent by telegraph all over a continent, no	
panion piece to the famous battle of Dorking, an imaginary naval	hourly display on bulletin boards of the record of	
the search light.—5 illustrations		plastic micaceous sand, then on top of the earth; and
Tunny Fishing on the Mediterranean.—How the fish are watched for from watch towers and how they are caught, an interesting	e i .,	so he left his mark on it. In time the sand became
account of the characteristic industry1 illustration 13831 The Kola Nut		gelid, the world grew over it, and now workmen toil-
Whaling in the North.—The new methods of catching whale with steam vessels and harpoons fired from gubs.—The sport as	fought in New Orleans. It is not a battle of armies, but	
witnessed by the Emperor William of Germany9 Mustrations. 13332 XI. POLITICAL ECONOMYA World PostThe postal union and	5	
the gradual reduction to uniformity of postal rates and methods	of two individuals. The railroads have furnished pa-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	latial trains to carry the participants to the spot. The	
	telegraph transmits preliminary bulletins as to the ex-	
the industry.—2 illustrations	act physical condition of the competitors. When the	
celerate the crystallization of sugar in order to avoid as much as possible the production of molasses and the consequent low-	contest begins, every feature in it is telegraphed far	
ered yield of crystallizable sugar	and wide, so that three thousand miles away the re-	•
valuable practical discussion by house paintersWhy it is that paint on houses peels, -Probabilities of water being the cause of	sults are almost as quickly known as at the ring side.	the humdrum vocation of teaching the modern dude.
the trouble	The crowded streets of distant cities, filled with peo-	-Stone.

The crowded streets of distant cities, filled with peo-