NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

ELECTRICITY FOR EVERYBODY. Its nature and uses explained. By Philip Atkinson, A.M., Ph.D. New York: The Century Company. 1895. Pp. 240, 12mo, 100 illustrations. Price

This is avowedly a book for popular reading. The author has kept constantly in mind the difficulty of his subject and has striven to divest his book of the contusing technicalities of the science. There is no sacrifice of strict scientific accuracy, but as little detail as possi ble has been included. Some of the latest applications of electricity, as electrical heating and cooking, are de-

VITRIFIED PAVING BRICK. By H. A. Wheeler E.M. Indianapolis: T. A. Randall & Company. 1895. Pp. 84. 12mo. Price \$1

This is a timely publication in view of the present active discussion on the subject of good roads, especially as it is devoted to a class of pavements that seem to have a great future in this country. They are now in use in about four hundred cities and towns, yet vitrified brick pavements do not seem to be as well known as their merits deserve. The advantages of this form of pavement are smoothness, ease of traction, freedom from mud, moderate noise, small expense of repairs, and comparatively moderate cost of construction. The book goes into the details of manufacture, testing and paving. The tables are of the utmost value

COMPEND OF MECHANICAL REFRIGERA-TION. By J. E. Siebel, Director Zymotechnic Institute, Chicago. Chicago: H. S. Rich & Company. 1895. Pp. 256. 16mo. Price \$2.50.

A comprehensive digest of applied energetics and thermodynamics for the practical use of ice manufacturers, cold storage men, contractors, brewers and others interested in the application of refrigeration. This is a very important contribution to the literature of a subject which until recently has been very inadequately treated. The tables and formulæ are of great practical value, the subject of thermodynamics, refrigeration in general, the ammonia compression system, ice making and storing cold storage, brewery refrigeration, the absorption system, other compression systems, installation, etc., are treated in turn. In the appendix is a bibliography of literature on thermodynamics, etc., which will prove very valuable. The work deals with the principles involved rather than the features of individual machines

OLD SOUTH LEAFLETS. Sir Henry Vane's D SOUTH LEAFLETS. Sir Henry Vane's Defense, 1662; A Free Commonwealth. By John Milton; Cromwell's Second Speech, 1654; Pym's Speech against Strafford, 1641; Ship Money Papers, 1654; Sir John Eliot's Apologie for Socrates; Letters of Hooper to Bullinger; The English Bible. Boston: Published by the Directors of the Old South Work, Old South Meeting House. 12monamphlets. pamphlets.

THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF DYNAMO ELECTRIC MACHINERY. By C. K. MacFadden and W. D. Ray. Chicago: Laird & Lee. 1895. Pp. 187 1630. 28 illustrations. Price \$1. 167. 16mo. 38 illustrations. Price \$1.

There are many good books on the various branches of electrical work, but they are often of such a technical nature as to bar the uneducated reader from obtaining much benefit from them. The close study of this book will place the average beginner on such a foundation as to make the other more complete electrical books more easily understood. It will prove of particular value to dynamo tenders and motor men.

COMPRESSED AIR. Practical information upon air compression and the transmission and application of compressed air. By Frank Richards. New York: John Wiley & Sons. 1895. Pp. 203. 12mo. 23 illustrations. Price \$1.50.

Owing to the general scarcity of practical information about air compression and the uses of compressed air and the wide diffusion of misinformation and prejudice upon this subject, the work is of special interest. One of the most interesting features of the work is the last chapter, which gives a remarkable list of the various applications of compressed air. The list includes only the direct applications of compressed air to specific uses, and notits employment in an air motor, or where it takes the place or does the work of a steam engine or other power developer. Great attention is paid in this work to economi cal air compression and the commercial aspect of the use of compressed air.

DICK AND JACK'S ADVENTURES ON SA-BLE ISLAND. By B. Freeman Ashley. Chicago: Laird & Lee. 1895. Pp. 312. 12mo. Price 50 and 75 cents.

HOW TO DRAIN A HOUSE. By George E. Waring, Jr., C.E. New York: D. Van Nostrand Company. 1895. Pp. 16mo, 33 illustrations, Price \$1.25.

This is the second edition of a book of practical information for householders, with annotations bringing the work up to date. It treats of house drains and health, foundation and cellar, foul drainage, plumbing, the sewer gas question, traps, the soil pipe, sewage disposal, etc. The first edition of the work was very favorably received.

A LABORATORY COURSE IN EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS. By W. J. Loudon, B.A., and J. C. McLennan, B.A. New York: Macmillan & Company. 1895. Pp. 302. 8vo. 50 illustrations. Price \$1.90.

The book contains a series of elementary experiments specially adapted for students who have had but little

acquaintance with the higher mathematical methods There is also an advanced course of experimental work in acoustics, heat, and electricity and magnetism which is intended for those who have taken the elementary course. The experiments seemed to be fully explained but in many cases they are supposed to be tried with the elaborate and expensive apparatus of Koenig and other makers-apparatus which the student does not always

ADD'S DISCOUNT BOOK. Compiled and edited by William J. Ladd, Unpaged, 8vo, Price \$3. Double indexed edition \$4.

This book contains more than one hundred thousand calculations. The tables will be found very complete and will prove of value for finding the net cost of goods and for making lists for specified discounts and for making discounts for specified lists, also for comparing prices, etc. A few days' use by buyer, price clerk, or manufacturer, or any one who has to handle the anwieldy discounts of to-day, will verify the claim of the compiler that the book is accurate, rapid, and withal

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE SIZING OF PAPER. New York: The Arabol Manufacturing Company, 1895. Pp. 32. 12mo.

SIMPLE METHODS FOR DETECTING FOOD ADULTERATION. By John A. Bower, London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1895, Pp. 118. 16mo. 36 illustrations. Price 80 cents.

The experiments are simple, consisting for the most part of the application of simple chemical and micro copical tests as well as of specific gravity.

TABELLEN UBER DIE BLECHDICKEN UND DURCHMESSER DER FLAMMROHRE VON DAMPFKESSELN. Im Auftrage des Internationalen Verbandes der Dampfkessel- Ueber wachungs - Vereine. Herausgegeben von G. Eckermann, Hamburg: Boysen & Maasch, 1895. Pp. 26. 18mo, Tables. Price 2 marks.

Any of the above books may be purchased through this office. Send for new book catalogue just pub lished. MUNN & Co., 361 Broadway, New York.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

BUILDING EDITION

OCTOBER, 1895.-(No. 120.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

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Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly marked or labeled.

(6655) C. N. R. asks how to prepare brewer's yeast. A. Brewer's yeast is prepared as follows: 72 lb. unkilned malt and a handful of hops are gradually stirred in a clean tub containing 7 gal. of water of 170° F.; and to this 51% gal. water of 200° are added. The tub is then covered tightly and left quiet. After some time it is cooled rapidly. This is accomplished by setting in cans filled with cold water. When the temperature of the mash has reached 70°, the tub is covered again and allowed to stand for some twelve hours longer, when 1½ gal. fresh beer yeast are to be stirred in. After another twelve hours have elapsed, pierce a hole in the layer formed by the husks of the malt and dip 31/2 gal. of the liquor beneath, then stir the whole up and dip 134 gal. from it (husks and liquor). This is the mother leaven, from which yeast can be generated all the year round by using it in the way described instead of the ordinary beer leaven. To the remainder in the tub add 5 gal. wort of 90°, and make use of it within two honrs. The mother yeast also must be used the same day for fermenting another portion.

(6656) E. J. B. says: Can you inform me how to preserve plants with their natural colors? A. A recent improved receipt for preserving plants with their natural colors is to dissolve 1 pint salicylic acid in 600 parts alcohol, heat the solution up to boiling point in an evaporating vessel and draw the plants slowly throughit. Shake them to get rid of any superfluous moisture and then dry between sheets of blotting paper under pressure in the ordinary manner. Too prolonged immersion discolors violet flowers, and in all cases the blotting paper must be frequently renewed. The novelty appears to be the salicylic acid.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Granted

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

gine. Steam engine.

Stean engine.

Steam engine.

Stean engine.

	301
Boiler. See Steam boiler. Water tube boiler. Boiler, E. R. Stettinus.	549.031
Boiler. See Steam boiler. Water tube boiler. Boiler. E. R. Stettinus. Boilt. See Anchor boilt. Boit plate, king. E. Clark. Bolt plate, king. E. Clark. Bolting reel, W. S. Hill. Boots or shoes, machine for scoring insoles for for scoring insoles for scoring insoles for scoring insoles for for scoring insoles for scoring	548.957 548.916
Boots or shoes, machine for scoring insoles for Scott & Dancel	or, 549,028 548,886
Box. See Fruit box. Junction box. Lunch bo Whist box. Box staying machine. J. Mobs.	x. 549.002
Wolst Jox. Bracket. See Chair bracket. Scaffold bracket. Bracket. See Chair bracket. Scaffold bracket. Bracket. See Car brake. Electric brake. Vehibracket. Sea Car brake. Electric brake. Vehibracket. Sea Car brake. Electric brake. Vehibracket. Brake See Car brake. Electric brake. Welibracket. Brake beam, H. B. Robischung. Brake beam, H. B. Robischung. Brake device. F. E. Herdman. Brake shoe, W. W. whitcomb. Brick press. Wallace & Fenfield. Burglar alarm, electric, M. Anthony. Burner. See Hydrocarbon burner. Butter moulding and cutting machine, R. Simpson. Cable boist, W. Dusedau. Cachou de Laval, treating, R. Vidal. Can H. F. Orter. Can labeling machine, G. B. Dunbar. Can opener, J. H. Hollen. Can opener, J. H. Wantin. Can opener, J. H. Wantin. Car coupling, E. N. Offord. Car defer, H. Bander. Car fender, J. O'Donal. Car fender, J. Wellams. Carpet stretcher, F. M. Zander. Car fender, J. C. Donal. Car fender, J. R. Williams. Carpet stretcher,	549,046
brake. Wagon brake. Brake beam, H. B. Robischung.	549,021
Brake device. F. E. Herdman. Brake shoe, W. W. Whitcomb.	548.828 548.939
Brick press. Wallace & Penfield	935, 548,936 549,070
Burgar alarm, electric, M. Anthony. Burner. See Hydrocarbon burner. Burner moulding and outling machine.	549,045
Simpson Cable grip, Z. S. Taylor	548,821
Cachou de Laval, treating, R. Vidal. Can, H. T. Porter	549,082 549,015
Can labeling machine, Cornell & Knapp Can labeling machine, G. B. Dunbar Can opener, J. H. Hollen	548,866 548,703 548,917
Canada thistles, composition for destroying, M. Curtiss Car bolster, J. C. Wands	R. 548,966 548.858
Car brake, J. P. Martin Car coupling, E. N. Gifford. Car coupling, G. A. Shelton	548,648 548,914 548,666
Car door, J. H. Fleet. Car door, freight, C. K. Chamberlain	548,975 548,955 549,089
Car fender, H. Brandt	548,966 548,967 548,631
Car fender, G. L. Favorite	548,974 549,068 548,815
Car guard, street, H. A. Howe	548,905 548,997 549,004
Card filleting upon cylinders, apparatus for wing J. S. Dronsfield	1d- 548.632 548.788
Carpet fabric, ingrain, T. B. Dornan	548,747 548,735 549,044
Carriage wrench, J. W. Carver	548,696 cal,
Cash register and indicator, A. B. Hayden Caster, furniture, G. D. Clark.	548,873 548,825
Chair, L. A. Chichester. Chair bracket, W. I. Bunker. Charren See Octoor observer	548,699 548,864
Chuck, T. E. Cherry. Cburn dasher, J. J. A. Morath	548,773
Cigar bunching machine, J. R. Williams Cigar lighter, G. W. La Baw	548,861 548,686 548,806
Cigar wrappers and binders, machine for cuttion to J. R. Williams	548,902 548,687
Circuit breaker alarm, automatic, J. H. Williams Cistern, O. O. & W. Walker	548,688 2 548,968 2 548,823
Closet seat wall attachment, P. J. Cabill Clothes pins, machine for making, P. J. Scharbs	549,038 548,9 6 7 ach 548,662
Coal receptacle and elevator, C. L. Charman Coll winding machine, J. J. Wood Collapsible tube, W. S. Scales	549,090 548,903 548,890
Concrete construction, E. L. Rausome Condensing and evaporating, art of and appa tus for, E. D. Mellen	ra- 549,001
Cooking outfit, F. H. Buzzacott. Copied effect on written or printed matter, mer for producing, C. E. Adamson Cord making and braiding machine, W. R. Sch	549,066 ans 548,734
Cord making and braiding machine, W. R. Sch mann	ur- 549,026 549,066 549,032
mann. Corn sbock tier, G. O. Houck. Cotton chopper, L. Studer. Counting apparatus, S. C. Wood. Coupling. See Car coupling. Yoke coupling. Crane for street sprinklers, hydrant, P. Eley. Crane, traveling, W. Russell. Cultivating machine wheeled E. S. Keeler.	549,032 548,794
Crane for street sprinklers, hydrant, P. Eley Crane, traveling, W. Russell. Cultivating machine, wheeled, E. S. Keeler. Cultivator and insecticide distributer, combin	548,910 548,725 548,642
Cultivator and insecticide distributer, combin J. Y. Laramy Cultivator tooth, Hedges & Crafton	ed, 548,713 548,638
Current motor, polyphase alternating, F. Hurting. Currents distribution system for elternati	S. 548,709
Hurting. Currents. distribution system for alternati A. L. Searles. Curtain pole, A. R. Welch. Cut-off mechanism, automatic, W. M. William Cut-out, automatic time, F. B. Badt. Cutter. See Weed cutter. Cutting machine. J. R. Scott.	548,789 548,901 8 548,733
Cut-out, automatic time, F. B. Badt	548.904
Damper, fireplace, P. T. Ripley	548,889
Hays. Dental engine, Hood & Reynolds. Dental engine bandpiece, Hood & Reynolds. Dental hot air syringe, J. H. Stackhouse. Dental mouth mirror. F. L. Platt. Disinfector, water closet, O. F. Hager. Door check, jiquid. E. C. Le Bourgeois. Door operating apparatus. A. Tborn. Draught and buffer mechanism. P. Brown.	549,754 548,989 548,988
Dental mouth mirror, F. L. Platt. Disinfector, water closet, O. F. Hager	548,766 548,870
Door check, jiquid, E. C. Le Bourgeois Door fastener, A. D. Fritts Door operating apparatus, A. Thorn	548,881 548,911 548,856
Draught and huffer mechanism, P. Brown Drapery rack or stand, M. A. Heimann Drive for machine tools, variable, W. Ames	548,863 548,875 548,860
Dry battery, J. T. Todd. Dumping apparatus, J. D. Kelly et al. Dyeing machine, H. L. Freeman	548,730 548,995 549,063
Eclipses, apparatus for observing, S. C. Drew. Ecg tester. Hainz & Machek Electric brake, F. E. Case	548,868 548,803 548,952
praught and buffer mechanism, P. Brown. Drapery rack or stand, M. A. Heimann. Drive for machine tools, variable, W. Ames. Dry battery, J. T. Todd. Dumping apparatus, J. D. Kelly et al. Dyeing machine, H. L. Fre eman Edlipses, apparatus for observing, S. C. Drew. Egg tester. Hainz & Machek. Electric brake, F. E. Case. Electric current indicator, A. C. Crebore. Electric generator, turbine, C. E. Sarsent. Electric machine, dynamo, N. Wbichello. Electric meter, R. O. Hood.	548,701 548,930 548,684
Electric motors, automatically controlling, F.	E. 540.000
Herdman Electric motors, device for regulating current mitted to, F. E. Herdman Electric motors, safety and limit switch for	ad- 548,829
F. Card	548,949 548,744 548,819
F. Card. Electric switch, J. C. Cassidy. Electric switch, H. Ross. Electric traction, E. Chabeaut. Electrode for applying electric currents, E.	548,819 548,627
Davis Elevator, J. W. Gentry Elevators, pneumatic signal device for, S. Opdyke, Jr Embroidering machine, Haas & Lintz	548,752 B.
Embroidering macbine, Haas & Lintz End gate. vehicle, C. Zweig.	548,984 548,692
Emboudering macoine, Hass & Lintz. End gate. vehicle, C. Zweig. Engine. See Dental engine. Gas engine. and oil engine. Gravity engine. Rotary gine. Steam engine. Evaporator, P. C. Hewitt. Exhibit, mechanical Scenic, W. Keast. Exhibitor goods G. L. Hewman	en-
Exbibit, mechanical scenic, W. Keast. Exhibitor, goods, G. L. Heyman. Explosives, operating mechanism by, C. E. Bu Farm gate, W. A. McDaniel.	548,879 548,987
Farm gate, W. A. McDaniel	548,720

October 29, 1895. [See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]