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Machine Wipers of Raw Silk.—At the recent Profile House meeting of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association testimony was given showing the value of silk machinery wipers, as compared with the usual combustible waste. Many leading railroads have adopted the silk wipers and the agents of several large mills are investigating them. The American Silk Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia, the largest manufacturers of raw silk machinery wipers in America, report that the percentage of converts to the clean non-combustible raw silk wipers is largely in excess of that continuing to clean machinery in the old way. These wipers are washable and will not injure the finest parts of machinery.

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Notes & Queries

HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Names and Address must accompany all letters or no attention will be paid thereto. This is for our information and not for publication.

References to former articles or answers should give date of paper and page or number of question.

Inquiries not answered in reasonable time should be repeated: correspondents will bear in mind that some answers require not a little research, and, though we endeavor to reply to all either by letter or in this department, each must take his turn.

Buyers wishing to purchase any article not advertised in our columns will be furnished with addresses of houses manufacturing or carrying the same.

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Scientific American Supplements referred to may be had at the office. Price 10 cents each.

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Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly marked or labeled.

(7046) P. R. L. writes: 1. I have a small storage battery. When charged it will light a 4 volt (Fairy) incandescent lamp for two hours. Please let me know how I could connect the storage cell to a 110 volt incandescent circuit (two lamps in use on the circuit now). A. Put it in circuit with one or two incandescent lamps. Charge until gas is evolved. 2. Could I charge the cell to light the lamp longer, by leaving it in the charging circuit longer? A. If of good construction, the battery should run for ten hours; possibly it cannot be made to run on capacity of your lamp over the two hours. 3. Let me know what dry solution is used in place of sulphuric acid and water when battery is to be used in a wagon, etc. A. No dry solution is used. Cover it hermetically.

(7047) A. W. says: In your answers to Notes and Queries in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN will you please give me modus operandi and formula for cleaning soiled sheepskin that has been tanned white? A. One washing with warm (not hot) suds will not materially hurt the skin itself. The skin may not seem quite so soft after the washing, but if the washing is done quickly, the skin well rinsed in cold water, and dried with only moderate warmth, being frequently turned and shaken, the difference will hardly be perceptible.

(7048) G. E. B. asks what the depolarizing compound used in most carbon cylinder batteries consists of. A. A mixture of carbon lumps with manganese binoxide (black oxide) out of which the dust has been removed by sifting is a good mixture; 4 parts of manganese to 5 or 6 parts of carbon may be used. In the agglomerate Leclanche the formula is.

Manganese binoxide	40 parts.
Carbon	52 "
Gum lac	5 "
Potassium bisulphate	3 "

(7049) A. C. S. asks: Please inform me how to prepare a very energetic exciting fluid for small tumbler battery. What size wire shall I use to connect the cells, and for connecting to a 6 candle lamp? A. Use water, 100 parts; potassium bichromate, 16 parts; sulphuric acid (66°), 37 parts. Use only when cold. Amalgamate the zincs. Use No. 20 or 22 wire.

(7050) H. A. L. says: Please send me a copy of your paper that gives instructions for polishing sea shells. A. Porcelainous shells are so hard as to require the apparatus of a lapidary to cut or polish them, but they are generally so smooth as to require no rough grinding. They may be polished by using a felt wheel and applying putty powder. Nacreous shells or those of the pearl variety may be filed and cut without a great deal of difficulty. Pieces to be turned are first roughly shaped on the grindstone, then turned and polished with pumice stone, putting on the final polish with rottenstone. Irregularly shaped pieces are filed and ground, then smoothed with pumice stone and water, and finished with rotten stone. The rotten stone is sometimes mixed with sulphuric acid full strength, or slightly diluted, to heighten the polish.

(7051) L. A. L. asks for the receipt for making fixatif used on charcoal drawings. A. 1. Two tablespoonfuls of rice boiled in 1 pint or 1½ pint of water; strain, and pass the drawing quickly through the liquid; use a large flat dish for the liquid. 2. Prepare water starch in the manner of the laundress, of such a strength as to form a jelly when cold, and then apply with a broad camel hair brush, as in varnishing. The same may be done with thin cold isinglass water or size, or rice water; very thin white shellac varnish applied with an atomizer answers well as a fixatif.

TO INVENTORS.

An experience of nearly fifty years, and the preparation of more than one hundred thousand applications for patents at home and abroad, enable us to understand the laws and practice on both continents, and to possess unequaled facilities for procuring patents everywhere. A synopsis of the patent laws of the United States and all foreign countries may be had on application, and persons contemplating the securing of patents, either at home or abroad, are invited to write to this office for prices, which are low, in accordance with the times and our extensive facilities for conducting the business. Address MUNN & CO., office SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, 361 Broadway, New York.

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AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

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Washing machine, W. S. Foster 571,758
Washing machine, J. C. Wilson 571,819
Weighing machine, F. H. Richards 572,065, 572,066, 572,068, 572,069, 572,071, 572,088 572,067
Weighing machine, automatic, F. H. Richards 572,089
Well system, driven, B. F. Smith 572,034
Wheel with electrical motor hub for vehicles, C. Theryc 572,086
Window fastener, C. M. Fowler 572,052
Wire stretcher and domestic scale, combination, M. Gross 572,004
Wrench, W. C. Stokes 572,035

DESIGNS.

Ax, broad, J. Barbour 26,335
Bath, bidet and foot, P. H. Pendergast 26,331
Bicycle brace or fork, C. L. Travis 26,342
Bicycle crank axle hanger, I. D. Lengel 26,341
Bicycle pedal tread piece, A. Sidwell 26,337
Bicycle saddle, F. Mesinger 26,343, 26,344
Bicycle toe clip, H. A. Eibach 26,336
Box, G. Miller 26,314, 26,315
Box body, match, A. N. Clark 26,316
Box or holder for blocks, etc., J. E. Hutchinson 26,318
Carriage body, H. C. Sears 26,347
Collar, H. Rusenthal 26,313
Curling iron heater, M. N. Dial 26,326
Currycomb and card, O. B. Read 26,338
Display jar, E. E. Latta 26,321
Display stand, W. M. Mitchell 26,322
Egg tester, duplex, P. M. Earle 26,329
Felly or wheel rim, J. L. Dann 26,345
Handle bar, L. G. Billings 26,339
Handle bar, R. W. Murphy 26,340
Insulator, F. M. Locke 26,323
Painter's cabluet, A. N. Pringle 26,332
Paper holder or similar article, L. Arkin 26,320
Pen rack, F. Wood 26,319
Pipe ferrule, M. L. Kaufmann 26,324
Puzzle, T. W. Kloman 26,317
Sad iron holder, M. L. Newell 26,330
Stove, gas, A. H. Wolff 26,327
Thinning tool for cotton, etc., J. M. Sanders 26,333
Tire, elastic, J. L. Dann 26,339
Toy sand mill frame, M. B. Scharles 26,325
Toy stove, C. A. Bailey 26,326

TRADE MARKS.

Baking powder, H. A. Kespohl & Company 29,200
Beer, lager, Chicago Brewing Company 29,193
Cards, Sunday school, International Art Publishing Company 29,189
Clinical and office instruments and apparatus, H. Sanche 29,214, 29,215
Clinical instruments and apparatus, H. Sanche 29,216
Clock cases, wooden, Seth Thomas Clock Company 29,218
Cough syrup, E. T. & C. D. Higgins 29,191
Electrical appliances, certain designated, Hart & Hegeman Manufacturing Company 29,217
Gloves and mittens, workingmen's, F. H. Hunicke 29,190
Groceries, certain named articles designated, W. Edwards & Company 29,201
Medicinal preparations containing iron or manganese, R. Fabery 29,194
Pepsin wafers, J. Shattuck 29,195
Pickles, Skilton, Foote & Company 29,198
Remedies, fever and ague, E. C. Howe 29,193
Remedy for rheumatism and kindred diseases, F. S. Mason 29,192
Rubber, gutta percha, and other vulcanizable gums, India, G. A. Alden & Company ..... 29,206 to 29,213
Sauces, W. H. Courtenay 29,197
Starch, laundry, T. Kingsford & Son 29,202
Stoves and ranges, Plymouth Stove Foundry Company 29,219
Suet or fat, refined beef, Hygon & Company 29,203
Talc or agalite, powdered, International Pulp Company 29,205
Tea, Formosa, Wolfe, McMillan & Company 29,199
Toilet preparations manufactured from wool fat, B. Jaffe & Darmstaedter 29,204

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Canadian patents may now be obtained by the inventors for any of the inventions named in the foregoing list, provided they are simple, at a cost of $40 each. If complicated the cost will be a little more. For full instructions address Munn & Co., 361 Broadway, New York. Other foreign patents may also be obtained.

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