

Business and Personal.

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**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 This is for our information and not for publication.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.

Special Written Information on matters of personal rather than general interest cannot be expected without remuneration.

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

Books referred to promptly supplied on receipt of price.

Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly marked or labeled.

(703) A. D. asks if the Edison dynamos require larger wire in armature than in field magnets. A. The armature may generally be wound with finer wire than that used on the field. The relative resistance of field and armature varies with the relative sizes of wire and is fixed by such considerations as the adoption of series, shunt, or compound winding.

(704) J. H. W. writes: Suppose a thermometer to be frozen or embedded in a cake of ice, surrounding it say 6 inches on all sides. What temperature will it record under these circumstances, and to what extent will it subsequently be affected by exterior changes of temperature? Should the temperature fall say to 15° or 20°, will the embedded thermometer show an approximate fall? I suppose it would show no rise above 32° Fah. so long as any ice covered it. A. The ice will act as a protective covering and the thermometer will be but slowly affected by the temperature of the surrounding air. If time enough is given, the thermometer will assume such temperature if below 32° Fah. It will not rise above 32° Fah. until the ice has melted away from it and the bulb is exposed all or in part to the air. A thermometer embedded in ice may register any degree of heat below 32° Fah.

(705) L. D. asks: 1. How many miniature lamps and of what size can be run with a storage battery 36 ampere hour, 2 volts, with a discharge of 4 amperes? A. The voltage is too low for a regular type lamp; the eight watts of your battery should give about one candle power. 2. What is the largest size motor that can be used with this battery? A. A small toy motor; the simple electric motor, SUPPLEMENT, No. 641, is too large.

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 unequalled 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.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS**For which Letters Patent of the United States were Granted**

JANUARY 26, 1897.

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]

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