recently patented inventions.

## Engineering

Rotary Engine. - Claiborne W. Triplett. Leland, Ore. This engine bas a cylinder with an
internal offset containing the inlet and exhaust porta, the miston concentric in the cylinder having its peribheral piston concentric in the cylinder having ins periperal
surface in contact with the inner face of the offeet, and the piston beiup secured on the main driving sbaft, while piston headd sliding in ine piston are adapted to he acted on by the steam paseing into the working chamber by the
inlet ports, the working chamber extending between the inlet porta, the working chambere extending between the
surface of the piston and the inner surface of the cylinsurface of the piston and the inner surface of the cylin-
der. The engine is designed to be very effective in operation, utiilizing the motive agent to the fult
tage, while simple and durable in construction.

## allway Appliance

Railway Tie Plate.-William J. allip, Clarendon, Ark. A reetangular metallic tie plate
according to this invention bas aturned-up lip cut from the body of the plate to engage the base flange of a rail here being an aperture for a a ppike in alignment with the iip, and two parallel V . shaped ribs on the reverse side of engthwise of the crrin. The tie wates are inerpensive nd may be quickly locked securely in postion on the dies, preventing the spreading of the rais.
Snow Plow.-William R. Lloyd, New York City. This plow is designed for convenient attachment to a locomotive or other motor, for readily remov-
ing snow and discharging it at the side of the track, the construction of the plow permitting convenient coup-
ling of the locomotive to locomotives or cars abead of it, ling of the locomotive the locomoives or cars aleadem of the
the air coupling. The body of the plow, of sheet metal, ipper end or estension over the pilot, and uas on n opening in the body, but arranged for uncoverin the opening for the pasesage of the drawbar and coup lings.

## Electrical.

adjustable Hanger for IncandeSCENT LAMps.-Fred C. Bell, Cceur d'Alene, Idaho. This iuvention relates to hangers in which the lamp is suspended from a cord wound in opposite directions apon a light may be readilifelerated and lowered and adjusted to any poeition desired. The device comprises a coiled epring within a rootatabe. drum with which the sus-
pending cord is connected, a notched disk on the drum spindel being adapted to be engaged by pivoted doge, and the operation being somewhat similar to that of the

Machine for Restoring Insulated Wire.- Nelson Wilson, Portland, Ore. This machine comprises a winding device for winding ap straightened and newly insulated wire and imparting a traveling mo-
tion to the wire a straibhtening device for straiphtening tion to the wire. a straightening device for straightening
old insulated wire, a stripping device for revoving the insulation from the wire, and a covering or winding and straightened wire. The speed of the wire, as it is wound ap on a drum, regulates the speed of the winding or covering device, so that the same number of tums
of the insulating material is given to each foot of wire, thus insuring a uniform covering, and enabling electric thus insuring a uniform covering, and enabling elect
companies to restore their old wire at slight expense.

## Mining, Ete.

Dump for Ore Buckets. - Hector Pepin, Victor, Col. A simple and inexpensive apparatus t) the dumping of the buckets as they are hoisted, thus dispensing with the services of one man, the top of the shaft being also co vered while the bucket is being
dumped, so that it is impossible for particles of ore io fail down the shaft. A ball or knob is suspended from and a lever pivoted at one side terminates at its outer
end in a fork or yoke, the lever being adapted to be swang beneath the raised bucket to embrace the knob.

## Mechanical.

Hack Saw.-George N. Clewson, Mid dletown, N. Y. The blade of this saw is made with its cutting edge bent alternately in opposite directions, the bends being of rectangular form, with a uniform width teeth. It is designed in this way to reduce the friction to a minimum when the saw is used, to stiffen the blade and thus insure against breaking, and to usual binding of the blade.
Water Motor.-Eli A. Rudasill, Shel by, N. C. This motor comprises a lever pivoted near it middle and having buckets pivoted to ite ends, the buck-
ets being mainly cylindrical but having tangential faces, while water-conveying spouts carried on the lever exten from the buckets upwardly and toward the center of th motor, a water delivery pipe discharging into the con
veging pipes above the lever pivot. Two pivoted bars veying pipes above bonnected to the buckets, whereby they are tipped to empty them at the limit of their downward swing. Th as long as the water supply lasta, the construction bein simple and not liable to get out of order.

## Miscellaneous

calendar.-Martin Cowen, Bellaire o. A disk in the nature of a leaf is mounted at the back of the front member of the frame of this calendar, the
disk taruing freely and having radial panels in which the disk taraing freely and having radial panels in which the
dates of the days of a week are printed, and in each panel the name of the month, the device being in measure a perpetual calendar, so constructed that the
figures representing the days of one week only will appear at the face of the calendar, together with the name of the month, thus preventing confusion and enabling
one to quickly and accurately ascertain a given date. The leaf or member bearing the dates and the nawes of the
monthe may be quickly and convenien
the leaf freely revolved npon the frame.
Life Insurance Table or Chart.Yathan P. Neal, Waxahachie, Tex. This table is de and their practical application lineally, geometrically an matheratically, showing those living and paying pre miumb each year or any series of years, and also those who ie each gear or any series of vears, enabling one better understand the mathematical results. The tahle i bhom aren the number of ten thousand persons, all of nd all deceased at the age of ninety-one
Kinetographic Camera.-Warren B. dapted for use in connection with a display device f apted for use in conecion wh a display device $f$ as a master wheel for operating both the shutter and whe film, the two parts being consecutively moved,
whereby a series of negatives may be rapidly and co veniently made. It is also provided that whenever the shutter is brought in position for an exposure a prede ermined area only of the surface of the film will be bronght under the influence of the lens, the master
wheel ao acting apon the shutter and the fllm negative will so closely follow the other fhat that on be comparatively no space between them.
Fluid Pressure Regulator. -- Jenki Williams and Joseph R. Rees, Pueblo, Col. In regu-
lators for use in supply pipes carrying natural or artif cial gas, water, air, steam or other fluid, this inventio provides an improved esfety pressure device of simp and durable construction, very effective and automatic in operation. It comprises a chest having an inlet and
an outlet orifice, one of the orifices commanded hy a slide valve to which is attached a rod reciprocating hrough a packing gland in one wall of the chest, whi the orifice commanded by the valve, and an expansive spring surrounds the rod and bears against the gland
and bellows. In case of the breaking of the service ipe by accident or from fire, the supply of gas, water tc, is automatically shut off
Cloth Measuring and Cutting De-rice.-William B. Hood, Waco, Tezas. This invection may be pivoted and two spaced bars by which the measuring is accomplished as the roll is unwound, means being also provided by which the cloth mas
clamped close to the first. one of the spaced bars then cut by a movable knife mounted in one of the clamping bars. The device may be mounted on a plate secured to a counter at any convenient point, and is direction.
Brake for Dumb Waiters.-Charles W. Hoftman, New York City. The ends of the hoieting rope, according to this invention, are connected with
slides having a limited sliding motion, and there are connections between the slides and a brake mechanism normally braking the counterbalance of the dumb erted on the rope. The mechanism is of simple and durable construction, not liable to get out of order, and
automaticails brakes the cage and its load whenever th operator lets go of the rope, on both the upward and

Knit Mitten.-Ifaac W. Lamb, Perry, Mich. This invention relates to mittens in which the hand blank is knit flat and then folded over and the adjoining edges sewed together except at the thumb
opening, the thumb blank being similarly folded and opening, the thumb blank being similarly folded and
sewed and then sewed to the hand blank. The invention provides for a blank formed of a ribbed fabric the tip being formed by the stitches narrowed in all the courses at the inside, and with some of the stitches Strainer for Coffee Pots. -Simon J: Freeman, Bradford, Pa. Thisis is a removable straine to be placed inside the coffee pot as an auxiliary to the usual fixed or stationary strainer. The device com-
prises two straining plates, an inner one with a flange prises two straining plates, an inner one with a flange
and supporta arranged for engagement with the body of and supports arranged for engagement with the body of
the pot, and a forward straining plate having amalle openings than the rear one, the forward plate being supported by the flange of the rear plate. All parts of the Hat Pin.-Felix Stefany, New York lity. This device is designed to form a permanent
ure on the hat and be always ready for use. It consisto principally of a flanged and curved sheath for attach ment to the inside of the head gear, a pin sliding in the
sheath, and an auziliary pin moving with the sheath pin nd extending at angles thereto outside of the sheath.
Farkier's Pincers.-Hubert Wagner Buffalo, North Dakota. This device comprises a pair o djacent to the pivot co conform to the curvature of the aws and receive.them when open. The pincers ar the flat surface of an animal's foot to remove undeaira le matter and facilitate fitting the shoe.
Bo1тle.-Henry Weil, New'York City his is a "non-refillable" bottle, which prevente the i shall have been discharged. It has a valve in its nec and a crossbar extended through a bole at one side of while a hole at the opposite side of the neck receives the end of the rod, a spring dog carried by the rod having
locking engagement with the socket. The device ocking engagement with the socket. The device comparatively mex
cost of the bottle.
Fsiy Trap.-William Engelbrecht, Ash Grove, Ill. This device comprises a cage in which the bait receptacle, so that the flies entering from the bait
 large numbers with little trouble, as the trap has to be emptied and reset only once a day.

Designs.
Cuff Button. - Harold L. Palme Utica, N. Y. This button has a Y-sbaped shank, wit ers and a base head of the ordinary button type
Wagon Body and Top.-Samuel V Smith, Philadelphia, Pa. From an ordinary body, cording to this design, rises a paneled portion eimulating paneled and projecte forwardly beyond the body.
Notr.-Copies of any of the above patents will end name of the patentee, title of invention, and date of tois paper.

## NEW BOOKS, ETC

Descriptions of New or Little KOWN G FNERA AND SPECIES OF Fishes from 'rhe U Nited States.
By Barton $W$. Evermann and Wiliau C. Kendall. Extracted from for 1897. Article 5. Pp. 125 to 133. publication February 9, 1898.
Roofs andBridges. Part IV. Highe Structures. By Mansfield Merriman
and Henry S. Jacoby. New York John Wiley \& Sons. Pp. 276. Pric $\$ 250$.
The Lehigh and Cornell professors who are the author of this series of volumes have found, in the succes-
sive editions through which the first volumes have fourth volume. Part I co in Trusses ; Part II, Graphic Statics; Part III., Bridge Design, and in the present volume continuous swing bridges
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different loadinge, and the subject is presented concisely and clearly, with historical information and illustration Pre theory by numerical examples.
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Electricity and Mag-
By John Henderson. NETISM. By John Henderson. Lon-
don and New York: Longinans,
Green \& Company. Pp. 388 Price Gre
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Thie volume is the second of a series of physical and electrical engineering laboratory manuals, flve chap-
ters being devoted respectively to the measurement resistance of current, of electromotive force, of quantity of electricity and of capacity, and two chapters magnetism and electromagnetic waves. It is the inten-
tion of the publishers in these volumes to provide a course of instruction for carrying out a progressive series of experiments, arranged so that the urual laboratory apparatus may be employed in a variety of experiments, and so
that, so far as possible, a student working alone may that, so far as possible, a student working alone may
obtain satisfactory results. Di Pontibus. A Pocket-book for Bridge New York: John Wiley \& Sons. Pp.
403. Price $\$ 3$.
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most important bridge work for many years. The use of a Latin title, equivalent to "Concerning Bridges," is humoronsly explained as being partly due to the fact that the author, in many years' work, had never hefore found opportunity to employ a laboriously acquired knowledge
of Latin, and partly to intimate that the book to not of Latin, and partly to intimate that the book ls not
complete treatment of the subject on hoth theoretica complete treatment of the subject on hoth theoretical
and practical lines. It is, however, full of valuable sug. gestions for practicing bridge engineers and for young engineers in offices of bridge specialists and bridge manucivil engineering will find that a consultation of it pages will tend to aid in the wise direction of all thei

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at the Adelaide Observatory and at the Adelaide Observatory and
other places in South Australia and
the Northern Territory, during the year 1894, under the direction o
Cbarles Todd. Adelaide: Published by authority of the government of
Practical Calculation of Dynamo Electric Machines. By Alfre, ${ }^{\text {E E E }}$
Wiener, E.E., M. E. New York : The
W. J. Johnston Company. Pp. 683 Price $\$ 2.50$.
A manual for electrical and mechanical engineers and based upon actugl working results obtained in practice. presents information derived from the data and test of over two hundred of the best modern dynamos of American as well as European make, comprising all the nsual types of field magnets and of armatures, and rang
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HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.


 some answers require not a little research, and,
though we endeavor to reply to all either by letter
or in this department
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(7403) H. R. S. asks: Will you please tell me through the Notes and Queries of the Scientific
American how or where I may find directions that will enable me to make a folding bellowe such as are usedon cameras. A. Full directions are given in Scientific American Supplement, No. firs, price 10 cents by mail. (7404) J. S. S. asks if dynamos, arcs, witches and exciters are liable to damage by lightning
when working, from the fact of their being charged by artifcial electricity, any more than what they would be if they were other than electrical machinery and appurte nances, or would the hkelihood be greater when in a
state of rest? Also is it feasible fur an electrical plant (electrical Als or is it feasible fur an electrical plant (electrical macbinery only) where power is generated to
be struck by lightning, even where a detractor or lightniug conductor is used ? A. Electric lines and apparatus are probably more liable to be struck by lightning than adjacent buildings; but it is not probable that their potential due to the current they are carrying would rende them more liable to such a stroke. The E. M. F. of a ightning flash is so enormous that a few hundred volt
more or lees makes no difference. Such lines are struck more or lees makes no difference. Such lines are struck
as lightning rods are because they are metallic and a better path for the current. Lighting arresters are usuall effective in preventing injury to apparatue. It is though by many that the lightning strikes less frequently in place air.
(7405) T. M. P. asks (1) if the points on the interrupter of electric bells are platinum or not,
and how are they soldered on or made fast to the sprin of the interrupter? A. The contact pointe of au electric bell are best made of platinum,but in cheap bells the coe of the platinum prevents its use. Platinum can be soldered the usual manner with the ordinary solderin luid. Clean the copper surface by scraping or by acid
Wash and coat it with solder. Clean the platinum. La It on the place where it is to be fixed, heat with a blow pipe or soldering copper till the solder fiows. 2. About how many times the resistance or copper is water (for electricity)? A. The resistance of pure water is so big dition of a minute quantity of sulphuric acid reduce he resistance greatly. Ordinary well or apring wate usually will allow an electric current to flow through it but no figure of resistance can be given for water in general. Scarcely two samples would have the same re-
sistance.
(7406) A. E. writes: The following experiments are interesting, if not important; they may not ou think them worthy a place in the Scientifi AMERICAN or Supplement they are at your service. Cu tick it against the glass of a window. Look at th tick it against the glass of a window. Look at thi
card through a prism, and you will see blue at the top of the card and violet beneath the blue. $\Lambda t$ the bottom of the card you will see red, and yellow beneath it. So w get the most refrangible colors at top, aud the least re rangible at bottom. Now place a second card same a the frst just below, about halp inch from the first, so hat the blue at the top of the second card falls on or the union of the two, $\mathbf{Y}$ and $\mathbf{B}$, is a heautiful green. think this is not in accord with modern views, but the fact that blue and yellow light does produce green mugt be ac

