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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.
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(7611) A. W. S. asks: Which is the best or most economical for a toy motor-four cells of grevity battery or two cells of Sampson battery, now used for electric bells? I have both in use now, one for telegraph and the other for electric bell, and would like to know which will be best to attach motor to. Also say whether it is best to leave a gravity battery on closed circuit or open, when not in use. A. The gravity battery is best for motor work, the Sampson for ringing bells. This is because the gravity is a closed circuit battery and the Sampson an open circuit battery. Neither can be used in place of the other. The liquids of the gravity would soon be mixed if left on open circuit, and on closed circuit the Sampson battery would soon be worthless by polarization.

(7612) W. T. H. asks: Why is it that heavy thunder and lightning strokes are so common in the Western States in winter, even during snow storms when such are never known in the South Atlantic States. except perhaps during one of those electrical storms that occasionally traverse the continent? I lived thirty years in the State of Georgia, and never knew or heard of lightning striking an object, and rarely ever heard thunder in winter, never when very cold. I have lived in Arkansas thirty-three years, where lightning strokes and heavy thunder are almost as common in winter as in summer. A. Answer by H. E. Williams, Acting Chief United States Weather Bureau, Department of Agriculture: So far as known, thunderstorms and lightning are not as prevalent in winter as in summer in any part of the United States. The statistics that have been collected on the subject show that the States most liable to winter thunder storms are Louisiana, Texas, and portions of Arkansas and Mississippi. In this region, however winter thunder storms form less than ten per cent of the annual number of such storms. The statistics of thun, derstorms reported by the Weather Bureau observers during 1898 in Arkansas and Georgia. respectively, are as follows: Number of days with thunder storms in Arkansas, 178, of which number 21 occurred in the winter months; number of days with thunder storms in Georgia, 158, of which number 20 occurred in the winter months. If your correspondent has access to the Chronicle Fire Tables, he will find that the number of fire caused by lightning in Georgia is about as large as the number in Arkansas. The subject of winter thunder t been alocaly studied impression, however, that the danger of lightning stroke is equally probable in all parts of the country in which such thunder storms occur (7613) M. W. asks: How much CO₂ gas is required to saturate 31 gallons of water at 2°C. and atmospheric pressure, and 31 gallons of water at 2° C. and 6 pounds extra pressure, and 31 gallons of water at 9° C. and 7.5 pounds extra pressure ? Also please state formula, how to figure above problems. A At atmospheric pressure and at ordinary pressures, water will absorb about its own volume of CO₂ gas, forming a solution with a specific gravity of 1.0018. 'The weight of gas dissolved at other pressures varies nearly in the same proportion as the pressures. The effect of temperature npon the amount of CO_2 dissolved is this: The higher the temperature, the less gas is held in solution until, when the boiling point is reached, all the gas in driven off. The volume of CO2 which water will absorb under a pressure of one atmosphere for various temperatures is as follows: At 0° C., 1 7697 volumes; at 2°, 1 6481 volumes; at 8°, 1.2869 volumes; at 10°, 1.1847 volumes These results are from experiments, and no formula is required. At 2° C. and 1 atmosphere 1.7697×31 gallons will be dissolved. At 9° C, and one-half atmosphere, 12358×31 gallons will be dissolved.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS For which Letters Patent of the

United States were Granted MARCH 7, 1899,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE. See note at end of list about copies of these patents.

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