Recently patented inventions. Of Interest to Farmers.
CHOPrER.-M. S. SOBER, McLoud, okla
homa Ter. The bject of provide a new and improved chopper mor
especially designed for use in cotton-fields, but also useful in corn-fields, rice cultivation, and the like and arranged to permit convenient
chopping, cultivating, and thinning of rows in the fields and whipping caterpillars and CURRENT-MOTPR point, Idaho. This invention relates to im provements in motors designed to be placed in a river or other body of water in which a current-motor of simple and novel construc
tion that may be utilize for pumping wate for irrigating purposes and may be also util ized for operating machinery.

TRUNK.-M. B. Behrman, Baltimore, Ma The invention is an improvement in packing ping cases, delivery-as, such as merchant tai lors use to deliver clothing, and similar cases to provide a construction by of its objects, may be held from movement in the case and move about and become wrinkled and othe wise deranged. buckle.-C. L. Hastings, Fond du La buckles for use in attaching straps or oth flat connecting devices of any kind to eac cther. One object of his invention i
care greater holding force in articles constructions. has been attained in previous cross bar has a projection which causes a mor pronounced pressure upon the strap place tipon it than in the case when this the surface of the buckle, an thereby prevents slipping of the straps.

## Hardware and Tools. MITER-BoX.-A. Von Gunten, St. Charles, Mo. In Mr. Von Gunten's patent the invenMo. In Mr. Von Guntens patent the inven tion has reference to miter-boxes of that par-

 ticular form in which the saw-frame swingabout a vertical axis and also tilts about horizontal axis to permit the saw to stand
in a plane inclined to the vertical. WRENCH.-F'. W. McNabb, Parry Sound, Canada. This improvement relates to
wrench capable of many uses, but especially main objects being to secure a maximum eff creasing the cost or causing any undesirable complication. Other objects are to prevent slipping of the instrument and injury to the and the like Tool-HOLDER.-H. Langer and G. Beck,
Steglitz, near Berlin, Germany. The inven tion of Messrs. Langer and Bock has refer
ence to a new tool-holder especially adapte to be used in connection with lathes. the special construction of the locking device another feature of the invention being the a

## Machines and Mechanical Revices.

 Match-Box.-E. C. Carris, WashingtonIowa. This invention refers to match-boxes a time adapter to supply a single match a feature consists in the provision of deep thus forming a resilient entral tongue-piece thereon, upon which the matches rest and are match: and springs are provided for rockin the shafts and moving the pusher-arms into the cylinder. It is an improvemen
mer patent granted to Mr. Carris.

## Pertaining to vehicles.

DRAFT ATTACHMENT FOR VEHICLES.G. H. Klugel, Thieman, Minn. This invention plied to any kind of a vehicle but is especially adapted to two-horse wagons and the like. The
principal object is to provide means for preventing the jar and swinging of the tongue which occurs when one of the wheels meets an
obstruction or is raised for any reason. An important feature is the provision of mears for permitting the front axle to be swung without bringing most to the strain upon one of the draft animals and also for equalizing the strain upon the animals when one tend

## Designs.

DESIGN FOR A WALL-COVERING.-T mental design for wall-coverings, a solid ground son of irregular wiped

Norre.-Copies of any of these patents will be furnished by Munn \& Co. for ten cents each. the invention, and date of the paper.


The Mutual Rubber Production Company was one of the first to engage in this new and immensely profitable industry on a large
scale. Years ago our managers purchased from the Mexican Government over 6,ooo acres of land in the heart of Chiapas, the most
tropical and fertile State of Mexico. No similar tract is available moday for less than five times what we paid for ours. Thus the re-
markable opportunity is now cpen to you to secure an interest upon the most favorable terms, in an enterprise that is destined to revo lutionize the production of one of the world's greatest staples. No
industry ever underwent so radical a development as that in which industry ever underwent so radical a development as that in which
we are now engaged without making immensely wealthy all those who were interested in the change.
This splendid domain is now fast becoming a great commercial rubber orchard, conducted upon the most scientific principles of 6,ooo shares, each share representing an undivided interest equiva-
lent to an acre of land, planted to rubber trees and brought into bearing, and the price of these shares is $\$ 288$ each. No large cash-
down payment is required to sectire them, however, as the shares down payment is required to sectire them, however, as the shares
are paid for in small monthly installments just as the work of development progresses. Thus the man or woman who wishes to secure a safe and certain income for future years, and who is able to
save now a few dollars each month, is on the same footing in rubber cultivation as the mightiest capitalist, for wealth alone cannot force the soil.
For example, suppose you buy five shares (equivalent to five
acres). You pay $\$ 20$ a month for twelve months, then $\$$ Is a month for twelve more months, then \$Io a month for a limited period unth you have paid the full price for your five shares, $\$ 1,440$-or $\$ 288$ per
share. But meantime your dividends will have amounted to $\$ r, 050$, or $\$ 210$ per share. Hence the actual net cost of your five shares, or
acres, is $\$ 390$ or $\$ 78$ each. We secure these early dividends by planting 600 trees to each. acre, and then "tap to death"" 400 of them before maturity, getting every ounce of "rubber milk" from
them. The dividends secured from the sale of this rubber are sufficient to pay your total money nearly all back before maturity, and is the normal number for the permanent yield. These 200 trees will each give at least two pounds of crude rubber per year for more
years than you can possibly live. This rubber at 60 cents per pound net profit means a total profit of $\$ 240$ a year on each acre, or $\$ \$, 200$ and they are not ours. They are vouched for by the most reliable United States and Great Britain. Of course if you buy io shares your income would be $\$ 2,400$ a year; or 25 shares will yield you
$\$ 6,000$ annually.

Five Acres, or Shares, in our Rubber Orchard planted to 1,000 Rubber Trees will at maturity yield you a sure and certain income of $\$ 100$ a month for fifty or more years, and your dividends will avarage 25 per cent. during the period of small monthly payments.

## Every possible safeguard surrounds this investment. The State Street Trust Company of Boston holds the title to our property in Mexico as trustee. We agree

 Company of Boston hold the tithe to our property in Mexico as trustee. We agreeto deposit with them the money pain in for shares. and we. fle with them sworm
statements as to the development of the property. This company also acts as registrar of our stock. You are fully protected from loss in case of death or in
case of lapse of payments. and we grant you a suspension of payments for go
days any tine you may wish. Furthermore, we agree to loan you money on your We can prove to you that five shares in this safe and permanent investment,
paid for in small monthly installinents, will not only brin you an average return of 25 per cent. on your money during the period of payment, but will then bring
you 5100 a month for more than a life time. Send us at once $\$ 20$ as the first nilonthly payment to secure five shares, \$4 for ten shares, \$roo for twenty-five
shars- $\$ 4$ per share for as many shares as you wish to secure. Our literature
explainsour plan fully and concisely and proves every statement. It will be sent
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Es
amss and Address must accompany all letters or our information and pat thor pubto. Thication. is for
nerences to former articles or answers should

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Scientific American Supplements referred to may be
haid at the ofice. Price 10 cents ach. price.
Minerals. sent for examination should be distinctls
marked or labeled.
(9524) N. L. asks: What causes the sparks between the trolley wire and trolley of an electric car in motion, also the sparks and rails? A. A spark occurs whenever there is an air gap between the trolley wire and the little gravel on the rail will produce the latter as the wheel strikes it, and a jarring Please give the colors in succession that show apon steel in tempering, from the lowest to the highest temper. A. The colors upon steel
vary from deep blue up to a high straw color. The blues indicate low, and the straw colors indicate a high temper. The tempering is by all ook. . Is the United States superior
to what country ranks first, as a whole? A.
We think that mechanics in the United States We think that mechanics in the United States
are among the most skillful of any in the world. 4. Do either the inside or outside wheels
of a railway car slip in going around a curve? If not, how is this difficulty overcome? A. Both the inside and the outside wheels may Slip in going around a curve. 5 . In your es-better-mechanical or electrical engineering? A. Both mechanical and electrical engineering
are good fields for any young man. Wach one should follow his preferences. Every one
who would enter either profession nowadays should be highly educated. Both mechanical and electrical engineers pursue very nearly the
same studies at first, and toward the last of the course take different work. An electrical ing, and vice versa. 6. Is it a fact that 99 per cent of the energy in a ton of coal is lost in
transforming that energy into incandescent electric lights, that is to say, is only one per
cent of the energy utilized in electric lighting when coal is used as the source of energy ?
A. It is not true that 99 per cent of the energy A. It is not true that 99 per cent of the energy
of the coal is lost in transforming it into incandescent electrical light. In small steam plants 85 per cent may be lost, and in the
large powers, where $11 / 2$ pounds of coal prodice one horse-power, the loss drops to near
(9525) W. A. G. asks: 1. Kindly show a circuit of three or more gas jets as wired for electric gas jets with one coil, and at the same tine run the circuit of the secondary coil through
each gas burner, connect to the wires of the igniter on the jet, and carry the circuit back to the coil again. This will make
a complete circuit from one pole of the secondary around to the other pole. Connect the battery to the primary of the coil, and the
switch. This makes another circuit complete. switch. This makes another circuit complete. On closing the switch, a series of sparks will
be thrown across the gaps at the burners, if the work has been properly done. 2. How should a Ruhmkorff induction coil be connected
to ihe circuit-the primary or secondary being used, or both? A. The battery and switch are
in the primary circuit of the coil. The igniters in the primary circuit of the coil. The igniters
in thendary circuit.
3. Is there any danger in the wiring, except where it is near the
gas pipes? A. There is no danger except where a spark is produced. 4. Are there any liabili-
ties from fire due to the high current? A. There should be no fire set by a battery current. is it not necessary? A. The battery is brought into action by closing the switch. At other (9526)
D. M. asks: To decide a dispute, will you kindly answer which is correct, A or 13? A holds that the electric current motor, thence by the wheels to the rails and is back to the power house by either the rails
-r the earth. B holds that it goes back to the power house by the rails or the earth, thereby making a complete circuit. A. The
theory accepted at present is that the electric current, after passing from the overhead trolley through the motor and the wheels to the
rails, is by the bonds of the rails and the rails themselves conveyed back to the dynamo, the rails for that purpose. There is some


For February is Devoted Largely to the "New West"

It is not a " write.up," but gives an intelligent, sympathetic interpretation of the sig
nificance and spirit of the west-the west boran since s spo. It emphasizes what is dis-
tinctive in tinctive in the western empire which has developed in such a wonderful manner
during the last few years. Articles are by well-known writers and handsomely
illustrated-many illustrations in colors. If
" "
"In the Land of Sunshine
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"The Westerner"
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itiation Ceremonies. It comes from a reliaSle source and shoulld be read by everyone
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Enclosed find s.1.0 for wheci please scnd THE WORLD TO-DAY for one year, commencins with
leakage to the earth, but this stray current
ultimately finds its way to the dynamo with ultimately finds its way to the dynamo with
the rest. When an underground trolley the rest. When an underground trolley is
used, there is no return by the rails. Two sea, there is o return in the rains.
conductors are placed in the conduits, and a double trolley is used. B's view is the accepted one. The suggestion has re
cently been made that the current is dis cently been made that the current is dissipated to the earth, and does not go back in the same manner as in the telegraph, but this has received little attention. The elec trolysis of pipes between the rails and th
ynaw is agat
(9527) E. H. L. asks: 1. Who was the first man to run an electric motor from a dynamo? A. The discovery of the fact that a dynamo would by its current drive another similar machine as a motor is ascribed to Gramme, the inventor of the Gramme ring
armature. It is said to have been an accidenarmature. It is said to have been an acciden-
tal discovery. Mr. Tesla invented the rotary tal discovery. Mr. Tesla invented the rotary
magnetic field, by means of which the rotamagnetic hela, by means of which the rota-
tion of the polarity of the magnet poles drags ion of the polarity of the magnet poles drags
after them the armature in the alternating current system. It was a most valuable dis covery. 2. Having a line of shafting on a ground floor used to run agitators, which is the most economical-to run direct with belt from an engine, or to use motors and a dy namo? A. The most recent practice is to run each machine by its own motor, instead of driving from a line of shafting, belting to
the separate machines. Its economy is due the separate machines. Its economy is due
to the saving of the power required to drive to the saving of the power required to drive
a line of shafting, and the stopping of the a mie of shafting, and the stopping of the
power by shutting off the current from the
mote motor is little or no waste of power by this metho of driving.

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This book forms an epitome of modern American bridge construction. All types of
arched bridges are thoroughly illustrated and arched bridges are thoroughly illustrated and
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used in their construction.

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while this knowledge is supplemented by useful hints concerning the care and of ase of the machine. In the case of the foreign of the machine. In the case of the foreign
cars, the descriptions published have been taken largely from the Automobile Review and the Scientific american Supplement. Besides the description of automobiles, several articles on storage batteries, automobile construction, and the like, add to the value of the book. Its up-to-date character will be realized from the fact that a considerable number of the airships and kites which competed
at the St. Louis Exposition are illustrated in the d. Lo Lx the last chapter of the book. On the whole tion books that have thus far been published.
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