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## NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL $1,1899$.

ADMIRAL COLOMB ON THE SPANISH WAR.
Admiral Colomb, who is the literary Mahan of the British navy, has lately contributed a paper to the Royal United Service Institution, entitled "The Lessons of̂ the Spanish-American War." The conclusions of the admiral are quoted and discussed at considerable length in a recent editorial in Engineering which is reprinted in the current issue of the Scientific American Supplement. We commend the article to our readers as forming a comprehensive ex pression of expert opinion on the part of the people who more than any other have reason to be interested in the technicail results of the war.
The most important criticism is that which calls in question the wisdom of the defensive policy which largely characterized our naval campaign in the Atlantic. Admiral Colomb considers that our proper strategy was to serd at once an adequate force to the coast of Spain. "The seizure of Minorca as a base would probably," he says, "have been an easy opera tion : and in any case it would have been morally cer tain that if this action had been taken, nothing offensive on the other side of the Atlantic could have been thought of by Spain." In view of the pitiful unpreparedness and incompetence of the Spanish navy, Admiral Colomb is undoubtedly correcr ; but no one knew at the outbreak of the war that the Spanish ships could not make half their trial speed or that Spanish gunners could not hit anything. It is easy to be wise after the event. The Spanish fleet on paper was too formidable in strengtr. and numbers for our fleet to be able to seal it up in the home ports; and, by placing the theater of the war on this side of the Atlantic, we placed upon the enemy all the onus of the coal supply placed upon the enemy all the onus of the coal supply. question-a consideration, by the ways.
Admiral Colomb is the father of the naval policy whose creed is that the best and most economical coast defense is a fleet of ships blockading the enemy's ports. Hence we are not surprised that he condemns the "sort of panic" which seized the people of the Atlantic coast and led to all the inconvenience of closed harbors and mined channels and waterways. While the panic was certainly uncalled for, the wisdom of closing our harbors was undoubted; for, even if we had blockaded the Spanish coast, it was reasonable to suppose at the time that our ships were too few to absolutely prevent the escape of some of the faster cruisers, any one of which might have wrought havoc in unprotected harbors. We know now that, even if some Spanish ships had escaped, they would have been comparatively harmless; but we did not know it then, and our conservative plan of campaign was justified by existing circumstances.
Admiral Colomb believes that ships are better than batteries. Ships will be too much engaged in hunting ships to take the time and run the risks involved in entering harbors to bombard cities. Thus he says : " No naval officer with his hands free would, in war, proceed into New York Harbor in order to damage New York, even if he believed there were no batteries and no mines to prevent him." To this Engineering makes the pertinent reply that we find an instance of the effect of the possibility of bombardment in the Manila campaign, when Admiral Dewey silenced the batteries at Manila by a threat of bombarding, not the batteries, but the town, if his ships were molested.

Except in the case where a country has an enormous navy in proportion to the length of its coastline and the exposure of its seaboard cities, a certain amount of coast defenses is not only advisable but imperative-
imperative if the navy is to be set free to do its legitimate work of hunting down and destroying the enemy's ships.
the Great central railway of england.
The Great Central Railway of England is an im portant engineering work which has just been completed, the first train starting on March 9. An important collection of railway lines in the center of England have now been combined and provided with a London terminus. Since 1868 no new railway from the north has entered into London, and in thirty years the
growth and development of England, and even Lon-
don itself, would really don itself, would really seem to necessitate the venture. The old Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire system from a provincial east and west line now takes its place among the great north and south trunk systems, giving what, under existing conditions, would appear to be the last important through route which can be added to the railway facilities of the metropolis. The Great Central system quietly extended itself southward to meet the gradual northward progress of the Metropolitan Company. When Annesley was reached the directors boldly announced their intention of securing access to London independent of the Great Northern system, over which their southern traffic had hitherto been sent. With the exception of some heavy work at Nottingham, the extension to a juncgineering difficulties. The new railway comes into London by way of Willesden Green and St. John, London by way or Winal station to be known John's Wood, and the terminal station, to be known as the
Marylebone Station, is just west of Regent's Park, Marylebone Station, is just west of Regent's Park,
and is located on the Marylebone Road. Thirty-seven acres were required for the terminal. The passenger station site has an area of nine acres, and is 1,000 feet long and 435 feet wide. Of this, a section 180 feet in width will, for the present, be occupied by three platforms and five lines of tracks. No attempt has been made to produce a particularly expensive station, but it is in excellent taste, as it is purely an engineering work, and is not covered with sham architecture. The large terminal hotel is, however, very handsome. It is probable that the London extension of the Great Central Railway will cost altogether some $\$ 50,000,000$. The huge freight warehouse is $385 \times 255$ feet. The cars are run into it on the ground level, and they can then be lowered bodily by elevators into the basement, and the upper floors are provided with cranes. Hydraulic and electrical appliances are used throughout the yard for the rapid moving of freight.

## NEW YORE TRUANT SCHOOL

In New York city, or, more properly speaking, that portion of it termed the Borough of Manhattan, the rules of the Board of Education regarding truancy are strictly enforced, and education is truly compulsory Those who persist in playing truant are sent to the Truant School, in East Twenty-first Street, where, for two or more weeks, the boy is detained as a prisoner but he is a prisoner only in name, for, while it is true the door is locked, there are no bars nor anything else which suggests a reformatory. There are twenty-two men and two women employed in the borough as tru ant or attendance officers. They investigate the case of truancy reported by the principals of the schools, and visit the parents of the children and try to get the parents to co-operate in seeing that the pupils attend school regularly. If this is unavailing, it is the duty of he attendance officer to take.the little offender to the Truant School, where the acting superintendent de cides whether or not he shall have another chance for the boys are committed to the school only as a last resort. When a boy begins to absent himself rom school, he is caught by the officer, asked the rea son, and reprimanded. Then the attendance office calls on his parents and reads them a copy of the compulsory education law. If this fails to make the boy a regular attendant, he and one of his parents are summoned to a private hearing before the superintendent Every case is carefully considered, and if there seems to be an antipathy between the teacher and the boy, he is transferred to another school. Sometimes these persuasive tactics are not sufficient. - Then the boy is put on probation for two weeks, and he must bring in a card to the superintendent, showing that he has been a regular attendant at school and his conduct has been good. If the small truant persists, however, in pursuing his rebellious career, there is nothing that can save him from incarceration in the Truant School.
The boy is kept in the Truant School at the expense of the city for two weeks or more, and this time can be extended to even six weeks if necessary. When a boy leaves the Truant School he is put for two months on parole. During that time he must report at regular intervals to the superintendent. If his conduct has been excellent, he is allowed to drill on Friday evenings with the truants. The work which has been done in the truancy school is very remarkable. The boy is taught by kindness and appeals to his moral nature, and there are no cases that sooner or later do not yield to all the influences to which they are subjected.
The building itself does not call for special attention. It was built originally for the Children's Aid Society, and is only fairly well adapted to the purpose. The boys sleep in dormitories, and to some of them it is their first experience in sleeping on a bed, for the pupils of the Truant School are cosmopolitan to the last degree. They include Americans, Italians, Poles, Russians, Jews, and Irish. They rise at 6 in the morning, dress and march downstairs, where they wash. Breakfast is eaten at 7 o'clock, then they make they
various studies until 12 o'clock. From 1 o'clock until 3 o'clock the school is in session again, and they are then allowed to walk up and down for an hour in the little courtyard, for, unfortunately, the school is shut in by high buildings. 'They have supper at $5: 30$, and at $6: 45$ they have a regular military drill. Promptly at 8 o'clock the boys go to bed on their little iron bedsteads. So well are the boys treated that they very seldom think of escape, and if they do, a half hour in a dark but well ventilated closet will always bring a dark but well ventilated closet will always bring
them to terms. The work that has been done specithem to terms. The work that has been done specitendent, Mrs. Alger, has been very remarkable, and shows what boys really need is a friend.

## A GROSS VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLE.

At a conference of the diplomatic representatives of the Latin-American countries which compose, with the United States, the International Union of American Republics, recently held at the State Department, it was decided that the admission of advertisements in the publications of the bureau should be continued, the publications of the bureau should be continued, and that all moneys received by the bureau from adver-
tising, etc., should be paid to the Secretary of State tising, etc., should be paid to the Secretary of State
for deposit in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the bureau fund. It was also decided that the Executive Committee should have power to specifically authorize, if it saw fit, the solicitation of advertisements and the sale of the bureau publications by agents working on a commission
It is impossible to mistake the purpose and effect of this compact. Its purpose is to increase the funds of the bureau by lending all the "drawing power" of the government to the advertising columns of what is practically a trade journal, and its effect is to set up the government in the publishing and advertising business in direct and disastrous competition with the interests of a certain number of its own citizens. In other words, the publishing and advertising interests find themselves in the anomalous and vexatious position of contributing to the support of a government which is using its powerful influence to capture the very trade upon which those interests subsist.
Now, anything more unconstitutional than this ac tion of the bureau, or aiming more directly at the rights of the individual citizen, it would be difficult to inagine. In the first place, it is a flagrant abuse of the functions of a popular and representative government that the interests of one section of the community should be sacrificed for the enriching of another sec tion.
The bureau already receives an appropriation to cover the expense of printing and publishing its literature, as do the other bureaus of the United States govern ment. By what special favor, then, is this particular bureau allowed to enter into commercial enterprise and use the government name to fill its own coffers at the expense of the legitimate trade publications?

The violation of principle is extremely dangerous as a precedent for further legislation of the kind. If the Bureau of American Republics is justified in filling its coffers by dabbling in trade, why not the othe bureaus? And if we had all the bureaus similarly en gaged and reaping the inevitable profits, we should have the ridiculous spectacle of a trading and manufacturing people supporting a great rival concern (their own governinent), whose operations were eating the very heart and life out of their own industries.

We were willing to believe that the parties who hav been responsible for this miserable piece of business had acted without looking at the question in all its aspects; and we fully expected that when its injustice had been pointed out, as it has been, in our own and many other journals, the bureau would act on the sug gestion and.discontinue its insertion of paid advertise ments. It seems we were mistaken. The gentlemen who control the bureau find the ill-gotten gains too profitable to be so readily let go, and the recent com pact at the State Department shows that we are still to be subjected to one of the most unblushing and extra ordinary abuses that ever brought discredit upon a popular government.

## GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AS LEGITIMATE TRADE MARKS.

An interesting decision has recently been rendered, touching the protection obtainable at common law on the use, as a trade mark, of a geographical name pure and simple. The difficulty of procuring the registration of trade marks for this class of names is well known, and the difficulty has increased in recent years, the Patent Office protecting itself in the position it assumes in refusing to register trade warks coming under this denomination, under the claim that it has no option, owing to the statutory regulations. Many instances arise, however, in which the geographical significance of a term is remote or far-fetched, and in many cases some obscure town or place is cited as a reason for refusing the registration of a trade mark, which name is entirely unknown to the applicant, and almost entirely so to the public at large. Such a strict application of the statute often works hardship, and doubtless leads to many anomalous con-
sequences. It sometimes places the department in the position of refusing registration for trade names which have been in use for many years, and which are so far recognized as commercial property as to be readily sustained in courts of law. All this leads one to hope for many radical changes in this feature of patent practice, and it is understood that remedial measures, with a view to unif ying the statutory and common law practice, will be recommended in the bill which is being prepared with so much care by the commission having charge of the revision of patent and trade mark laws. No doubt any change in this direction will be welcomed by the officials in the trade mark department of the Patent Office and will enable them to follow in their ministerial duties the best rulings of our highest courts of law.
The case cited herewith is the American Waltham Watch Company vs. United States Watch Company. Massachusetts: Supreme Judicial Court, March 1899
Holmes, J.: "This is a bill brought to enjoin the defendant from advertising its watches as the 'Wal tham Watch' or 'Waltham Watches,' and from mark ing its watches in such a way that the word 'Waltham is conspicuous. The plaintiff was the first manufac turer of watches in Waltham, and had acquired a great reputation before the defendant began to do business, It was found at the hearing that the word 'Waltham, which originally was used by the plaintiff in a merely geographical sense, now, by long use in connection with the plaintiff's watches, has come to have a secondary meaning as a designation of the watches which the public has become accustomed to associate with the name. This is recognized by the defendant so far tha it agrees that the preliminary injunction granted in 1890 against using the combined words 'Waltham Watch' or 'Waltham Watches' in advertising its watches shall stand and shall be embodied in the fina decree.
"The question raised at the hearing and now before us is whether the defendant shall be enjoined further against using the word 'Waltham' or 'Waltham, Mass.,' upon plates of its watches without some accom panying statement which shall distinguish clearly its watches from those made by the plaintiff. The judge who heard the case found that it is of considerable commercial importance to indicate where the defend ant's business of manufacturing is carried on, as it is the castom of watch manufacturers so to mark thei watches, but, nevertheless, found that such an injunc tion ought to issue. He also found that the use of the word 'Waltham' in its geographical sense upon th dial is not important, and should be enjoined.
'The defendant's position is that, whatever its intent and whatever the effect in diverting a part of the plaintiff's business, it has a right to put its name and address upon its watches; that to require it to add words which will distinguish its watches from the plaintiff's in the mind of the general public, is to require it to discredit them in advance, and that if the plaintiff, by its method of advertisements, has associated the fame of its merits with the city where it makes its wares, in stead of with its own name, that is the plaintiff's folly, and cannot give it a monopoly of a geographical name, or entitle it to increase the defendant's burdens in advertising the place of its works.

In cases of this sort, as in so many others, what ultimately is to be worked out is a point or line between conflicting claims, each of which has meritorious grounds, and would be extended further were it not for the other. (Boston Ferrule Company vs. Hills, 159 Mass., 147, 149, 150.) lt is desirable that the plaintiff should not lose custom by reason of the public mistaking another manufacturer for it. It is desirable that the defendant should be free to manufacture watches at Waltham, and to tell the world that it does so. The two desiderata cannot both be had to their full extent, and we have to fix the boundaries as best we can. On the one hand, the defendant must be allowed to accomplish its desideratum in some way, whatever the loss to the plaintiff. On the other, we think the cases show that the defendant fairly may be required to avoid deceiving the public to the plaintiff's harm, so far as is practicable in a commercial sense.

Whatever might have been the doubts some years ago, we think that now it is pretty well settled that the plaintiff, merely on the strength of having been first in the field, may put later comers to the trouble of taking such reasonable precautions as are commercially practicable to prevent their lawful names and advertisements from deceitfully diverting the plaintiff's custom
"We cannot go behind the finding that such a deceitful diversion is the effect, and intended effect, of the marks in question. We cannot go behind the finding that it is practicable to distinguish the defendant's watches from those of the plaintiff, and that it ought to be done. The elements of the precise issue before us are the importance of indicating the place of manufacture, and the discrediting effect of distinguishing words on the one side, and the importance of preventing the inferences which the public will draw from the defendant's plates as they now are on the other. It
is not possible to weigh them against each other by abstractions or general propositions. The question is
specific and concrete. The judge who heard the evidence has answered it, and we cannot say that he was wrong." Decree for plaintiff.
William A. Munroe, Frederic P. Fish, and Frank L. Crawford for plaintiff ; Oliver R. Mitchell and Causton Browne for defendant.

## TESTING ACETYLENE GENERATORS

There are four villages in this country lighted in part or entirely by acetylene gas, and a number of stores, factories, and hotels have installed plants having a capacity of about two hundred lights each, but nevertheless the principal development to-day is with that type of generator that is adapted and intended for the lighting of such places as dwelling houses, small stores, offices, or shops, in localities where the ordinary city gas is not to be had or is supwhere the ordinary city gas
plied at an excessive price.
Up to the present, the $d$
Up to the present, the development in generator design and construction has rather tended toward multiplicity, rendered possible by the simplicity with which the gas can be generated, and inventors find that it requires very little ingenuity to devise a satisfactory apparatus for the purpose.
This multiplicity of apparatus is instructive as a study, but when they are actually to be introduced into communities where their faulty action, especially in the hands of careless or ignorant persons, may cause loss of life or property, the idea at once suggests itself : How are we to know whether any generator of the host offered for sale is safe?
To this question there is but one answer-test it, have some.one else test it, or inspect it at some place where the generator has been in use for a long time There are other considerations to be reckoned upon than the simple possibility of the apparatus being able to supply gas. Ainong these may be mentioned the possibility of the gas igniting through the genera tion of excessive heat in a generator which contain some air, and consequent explosion of the apparatus although this is liable to occur only in the drip or dip types. Gas may escape into the generator room and b accidentally ignited. The apparatus may be so made that emptying or charging it fills the apparatus with too much air-a fact which soon becomes evident when the careless or ignorant operator brings a flame near it. Deposits of lime, tar and water in the house pipes caused by lack of filters and condensers, too much heating or violent generation, or an overproduction of gas may burst the apparatus or blow out the seals and fill the neighborhood with an evil-smelling gas. Many other inconveniences may be noted, but these are suf ficient to show how important it is to have the appa ratus tested or a satisfactory assurance that this has been done by competent persons.

In this connection the tests made by W. W. Duffield under the direction of Prof. Lewes* and Boverto Redwood, a sub-committee appointed by the London Society of Arts to test the generators submitted for the Imperial Institute Exhibition (opened June 15, 1898), may be of interest. It was decided that no apparatus should be admitted until tested and shown to be safe. They first adopted the following classification of generators:

1. Those in which the gas is generated by water be ing allowed to drip or flow in a small stream onto the top of the carbide
2. Those in which water rises round the carbide.
3. Those in which the carbide falls into the water

Automatic.-Those having storage capacity less than the volume of gas generated from the carbide charge and a regulating device to stop contact of carbide and water.
Non-Automatic.-Those having a holder large enough to take all the gas given off by the maximum charge of carbide.
This classification differs somewhat from previous ones, and is interesting for that reason. They then laid down the conditions for the admission of appara tus to the exhibition, of which the following is the sub tatae:
Automatic Generators.-1. Working pressures must not exceed that of 100 inches of water ( $3 \cdot 6$ pounds per square inch). 2. When charged, less air must be inclosed than one-fifth the capacity of the apparatus. 3. Shutting off gas must stop generation in a seasonable time, and a pipe must lead any accidental overproduction outside the building. 4. Gas generation should not cause excessive heating.
Non-Automatic Generators.-1. Working pressure must not exceed that of 100 inches of water. 2. Air spaces should be as small as possible and generation should not be accompanied by excessive heating. 3. If pipe between generator and holder becomes choked, a blow-off seal must be provided or water may be allowed to escape through the water supply pipe.
Mr. Duffieid was given a set of rules to govern him in his tests, of which the following is an abstract :

* An interesting series of lectures delivered by Prof. Lewes before the Nos. 1203, 1204, 1206, and 1209

1. No generator to be tested until a sectional drawing is submitted with the signed statement that the apparatus is in proper working condition
2. Details to be noted before testing : $a$. Dimensions of generating chambers. b. Charge carbide. c. Cubic capacity of gas holder or storage chambers. d. Vapor condensers. The cubic capacity of generating cham bers determines the air introduced when charging. 3. Details to be noted during working : $a$. Pressure in generating and storage chambers. $b$. Temperature in generating chamber; the latter is determined by rods of tin (melts $434^{\circ}$ Fahr.), lead (melts $629^{\circ}$ Fahr.), and zinc (melts 790' Fahr.), placed in the carbide, and examined after generation for fusion. $c$. Weight carbide charged, and time until necessary to recharge in regular working. $d$. After removing residue, throw it into pail of water, noting whether gas is given off. Although all generators used the same grade of carbide, the yield in gas per pound varied from 3.55 to 5 cubic feet; this undecomposed carbide in the residue may cause annoyance and be dangerous. $e$. If the gas does not leave the generator cool, a Liebig's condenser may be used to cool the gas before testing.
The generator building was open at all sides, and each apparatus was connected to its own burners inside the exhibition building, forming a separate plant. A meter and mercury pressure governor was attached to each machine, and drip cocks provided for pipe condensation.
Every day a weighed quantity of carbide was supplied to each exhibitor and a printed record blank filled out. This blank contained the items: Name of apparatus, date, charge carbide, gas generated (by meter), equivalent in cubic feet per pound, number of burners supplied and hours lighted, kind of burner, pressure in generator and in supply pipe, cubic feet of gas used per burner hour, volume liquid removed from drips, condition of lime residue, water flowing to waste during run, and notes as to the general behavior of the apparatus.
" The generators which combine the largest yield of gas with strength of material and simplicity in charging the carbide, and in emptying the residue, are those which will recommend themselves to the public."
When manufacturers are trying to make good exaggerated claims for their apparatus, as to the number of lights it can supply, they are liable to overheat the gas and be pursued by a consequent long train of evils. The committee found that many of the machines submitted had to have their rating cut down before they would work satisfactorily. The temperature in these cases sometimes was sufficient to melt tin. They think that portable lamps may be dangerous, and should be handled with care. They are led to believe from their tests that generators can be made which are absolutely safe with ordinary precautions, as much so as any other method of lighting.
The concluding paragraphs of this report are worth giving in extenso, as they are authoritative. The com mittee includes such men as Professors Dewar, Lewes, Roberts-Austen, and Thomson, Sir Henry Wood, and others, all men of world-wide reputation, and it is worth while knowing what they think of generator types. They say:

We consider that non-automatic generators, with a holder capable of taking the gas generated from the largest charge of carbide the generator will hold, are free from objections attending all automatic genera tors examined by us, and we are of opinion that every generator should be fitted with an arrangement by which all air can be rinsed out of the generating chamber by acetylene or some inert gas before action is allowed to commence between the water and carbide.
' We are also strongly of opinion that every generator should be fitted with a purifying chamber or cham bers in which the acetylene is purified from ammonia and sulphureted and phosphureted hydrogen and from other impurities."
A point not touched upon as yet is insufficient construction. Some cheap generators are built of thin galvanized iron riveted and soldered and dignified by the name of gas machine. These generators soon be come dented, and rust through in a comparatively short time ; in some cases the temperature of genera tion becomes so great with the dip or drip type that the solder begins to melt, and it is not long before the apparatus leaks and must be thrown out. If generator manufacturers were more careful and insurance companies or city officials more vigilant in inspection these and other evils would not be possible. In many cases the generator maker and his representatives ar the worst enemies of acetylene lighting.
As the multiplicity of apparatus increases, the public good demands that some guarantee of safety be pro vided and that each type be tested thoroughly before it is put upon the market.

For many years it has been a much disputed point whether Molière died at No. 34 or No. 40 Rue de Richelieu, Paris, and whether 34 or 40 should bear the bronze tablet. Both houses had their partisans, which caused many quarrels. At last it has been decided it was in No. 40 that the great writer of comedies died.

## TRICK WOOD JOINING.

In the Scientific American for April 25, 1896, we published an article on trick wood joining, a study of which led one of our correspondents, Mr. Wilhelm Segerblom, of Wakefield, Mass., to design the curious puzzle which is illustrated in the accompanying illustrations, Figs. 1, 2, and 3. The problem is to join three pieces of wood, each at right angles to the other two, and so made that, when joined, they show no signs of cutting. They must be capable of being slipped together or taken apart with ease.
The puzzle, as herewith illustrated. consists of three short lengths of wood, each one inch square in section and five inches in length. At the center of each stick seven-eighths of the wood is cut away for a length of one inch, leaving the remaining one-eighth in the form of a triangular prismatic section of the shape shown in Figs. 1 and 2. One side of this prism is flush with the side of the stick, another side lies in a plane bisecting the stick diagonally and lying in its longitudinal axis, while the third side of the prism lies in a plane also passing through the longitudinal axis and bisecting the stick normally to its side As each of the sticks is cut away in the same manner, they are in every respect identical.
The puzzle is to fit the pieces together so that each shall be at right angles to the other two and their axes shall intersect at a common point, and shall lie in two planes which are at right angles to each other. When this has been done, the center prisms will lie in the position shown in Fig. 3, where one-half of each stick is shown cut away in order to show the method of interlocking. In Fig. 1 the pieces are shown in the act of sliding into position. It will help the reader to work the puzzle successfully if he understands that the pieces slide into engagement with a diagonal and simultaneous movement; that is to say, it is impossible to lock two pieces and then interlock them with the third. The movement of the pieces is indicated by the arrows in cut 1.

## INSECT MIGRATIONS <br> by prof. c. f. holder.

In the early spring, when insects seem to come to life, the hot sunshine bringing them out, many inter esting phenomena may be seen. In the San Gabriel Valley I have several times observed a migration of yellow butterflies (Colias) that was remarkable for its duration and the vast numbers that undoubtedly formed a part of the swarm. My point of observation was the town of Pasadena, and for three or four days I watched the continual stream of yellow butterflies fluttering on, all flying in the same direction to the northeast. In looking out of a window two or three or more were in sight continually and others as far as the eye could see.

By personal observation I found that over an area of 16 square miles they were as numerous, a column of millions all moving in the same direction. Wishing to determine the limits of the migratory horde, I wrots to the towns 60 or 70 mile: north and south, and the reply was that the same conditions existed there; so that from San Bernardino to Santa Barbara this living stream, representing millions of insects, extended. Why they were moving can only be conjectured. The yellow butterfly is famous for its migrations, and they have been met with out at sea, covering decks and rigging of vessels. Darwin mentions a column of these forms that was at least 50 miles wide and which was many hours in crossing a South American river. In this instance they were all moving in a given direction, following the dictates of some singular instinct.
The migrations of locusts are most devastating in their results. The accompanying photograph shows a doorway in Colorado Springs during such a passage. The numbers of this horde were incalculable, and the insects were swept out of houses like snow.

There is hardly a Western or, for that matter, an East ern State that has not suffered from time to time by these pests. In Colorado they so covered a railroad track that the wheels of the engine refused to catch and the train was brought to a standstill. It appeared to be caught in a dense fog, and the cab became so filled with the crawling, nauseating horde that the
engineer retreated to the cars to wait until it had passed.
There is something especially disagreeable in these migrations, and history tells us that they have of ten occasioned great loss of life. The Bible records that John the Baptist fed upon locusts; and the practice is still followed by the Arabs in Arabia, Egypt, and Syria. The insects are ground in hand mills, the flour or meal being stewed in butter. In the south of France


TRICK WOOD JOINING.
every precaution is taken to prevent migration by collecting eggs and insects. The government pays half a franc per kilogramme (about $21 / 2$ pounds). The insects are caught by a land seining process, two men holding a piece of cloth 30 by 40 feet long, and dragging it along the surface, scooping them in.
Some of the most remarkable migrations have been observed in Africa. Mr. Barrow, the noted traveler, saw the ground covered with migratory locusts for 2,000 square miles. The insects during the flight were blown into the sea by a northwest wind and were beaten upon the beach, forming a bank 4 feet in height for 50 miles. When the wind changed, the odor became intolerable for miles, and could be noticed 150 miles from the sea, the air, in the language of the observer, having become poisoned by the fetid exhalations.
The Sou'h American countries are frequently devastated by these insects. Several years ago a migration passed the village of Luxan, near the river of that name. At a distance it had the appearance of a reddish cloud that was supposed to be the smoke of a terrible fire from the paupas country. Finally it reached the town, and was found to be a cloud of migrating locusts. They moved at a rate of about 15 miles an hour, and, when they alighted, changed the green of the surface to brown
In Russia the migrations of locusts are considered


## a pest of locusts at colorado springs

national calamities, and were not the accounts of them well substantiated, they might well be doubted. In 1825 the government literally declared war against an invading horde of these locusts, and placed thirty thousand men in the field to oppose an army of locusts that was devastating the land. The call for help came from the inhabitants of Odessa and Kiev. This vast
region was fairly enveloped in the clouds of locusts that covered the ground and high in air formed a black cloud of ominous appearance. The sun was darkened, the air filled with noxious odors. The migrating horde crawled into the houses and even the beds of the people, and changed what had been a fertile region into a desert. Every green thing, every leaf or twig that showed any evidence of life, was destroyed, and thousands of men, women, and children were faced with starvation.
The Russian farmers at first fought them by fire, whole towns and villages combining; but, while millions of the insects were consumed, it made no appreciable impression upon them. In some places the locusts would settle upon green spots to a depth of four feet, and when in the air and borne along by a heavy wind, the sound was appalling. The appeal was finally made to Moscow, and the emperor ordered out thirty thousand men, armed with shovels, bags, and fire. They formed a line of battle two miles in length and moved ahead, covering the locusts, raking them into piles and burning them. The men found the insects so firmly intrenched that it was impossible to make any impression upon them. The army wagons became blocked in the living mass and the horses were unable to move them, the insects crawling over the men and animals, which, finally maddened with fear, struggled and rolled in the seething, horrible mass. An official report stated that through the governments of Ekaternberg and Kherson, for hundreds of miles to the Black Sea, the locusts lay in a solid mass two feet thick. A naturalist traveling through the country in the interests of the government met the migrating horde fifty miles from Kiev, and they almost stopped his carriage. reducing the rate of speed from eight miles an hour to one
On the island of Phanagoria the insects left the ground, and from a distance of five miles they resembled the smoke of an enormous volcano, hanging in the air at a height of six hundred feet. Thousands of people are said to have starved to death from this cause alone. In Algeria the French forces were once ordered out to make common warfare against the enemy.
Migrating locusts have long been a scourge in this country. Kansas and Nebraska and Colorado have been particularly unfortunate. In Nebraska during a certain raid, the sun was not visible for three days-a remarkable example of the numbers of insects constituting a migration.

## Ice Bubbles Explode.

A traveler in Siberia tells of a remarkable occurrence among the frozen regions of that country. In the intensely cold nights, he writes in Good Words, the silence was sometimes broken by a loud report as of a cannon. This was the bursting of one of the ice bubbles on a river-a phenomenon I had neither heard nor read of before.
The streams coming down from the hills were frozen on the surface some 6 to 9 inches thick. The water beneath flowed faster than it could escape, and the pressure, on the principle of a hydraulic press, became irresistible. First, the elasticity of the ice was seen by the rising of circular mounds some 6 to 8 feet high. The bursting point came at last with a report like an explosion. The water escaped, but soon froze again. I have seen scores of these ice hillocks in a few versts of the river.

## A Gold Medal for Prof. Dewar.

A gold medal has been conferred on Prof. James Dewar, F.R.S., of London, by the Smithsonian Institution, in recognition of his discovery of processes by which air may be liquefied ; it is what is known as the Hodgkins medal. Mr Hodgkins left $\$ 200$, 000 to the Smithsonian Institution, half of which was to be spent in aiding and rewarding the discoverers of new elements or pro perties of the air. The first call upon the fund was made some two years ago, when $\$ 10.000$ was divided between the principal discoverers of the new element "argon," and four silver and eight bronze medals were conferred upon those whose effort bronze medals were confred upon those whose efforts aided in. the mint at Paris.

April i, 1899.

A SIMPLE PIPE-HANGER
A most effective pipe-hanger is now being made by the American Twist Drill Company, of Laconia, N. H., the construction of which is noteworthy for the novel means employed to obtain greater strength.
The hanger is composed of two sections hinged to gether at one end. Each section is formed with a semicircular pipe-receiving portion with a projection constituting part of the semicircular portion, and with a hook-shaped end by which the device can be suspended. In operation, when the two lianger-sections are brought together, the semicircular portion tions are brought together, the semicircular portion
will form a circular opening to embrace the pipe and


THE WORRALL PIPE-HANGER.
the hook-shaped ends will form an opening to receive the suspending means.
In order to prevent the separation of the hangersections the projections are provided with registering holes, which are adapted to receive a locking-pin. In order that the hanger-sections may brace each other and thus strengthen the device, they are oppositely bent, so that when brought together the hook-ends and projections will interlock. The locking-means employed will effectively prevent the accidental unfastening of the hanger-sections after having been applied to a pipe.

## THE MULTIPHONE.

We publish herewith the latest development in talking machines, the multiphone, conceived and recently constructed by Mr. E. Berliner, the well known inventor of the loose contact transmitter, the gramophone, and other inventions. It is a gramophone in which a number of records, copies of one original, are played simultaneously.
Gramophone records are pressed from dies or matrices, like seals, under heat and pressure, and consequently all records of one catalogue number are exactly alike in every detail.
It has long been the aim of talking machine people to increase the loudness of their records without changing their quality, and, while others have worked in the line of special diaphragins, larger size of record waves, and enlarging by photography or leverage, Mr. Berliner has vastly increased the loudness of the talking machine by the simple device of rotating a number of records from one motor and playing them together. They sound like only one record, and with a loudness proportionate to their number.
The illustration shows a sextuplex multiphone consisting of six turntables run by one motor. Each has a sprocket wheel underneath, and a perforated leather belt rotates them with precision and without noise. Six records of the same catalogue number are placed on the turntables, so that the needles of the reproducing sound boxes all strike the records on the same peripheral line, which is most easily accomplished. The needle points are then slid from the edge into the first record line-an operation requiring no special skill.
After being placed in position, the switch is turned and the reproduction follows without a hitch.
It has long been known that the carrying power of the ordinary gramophone is most astonishing. It fills a hall the size of the Metropolitan Opera House, in New York, and on the water, on a quiet evening, it has been


THE BERLINER MULTIPHONE.
through the office, from the rear door of which the guard is able to obtain a view of every cell in the prison. The cells will be located in the long structure one story high. They will be constructed of steel, with running water and all modern appliances. They will be twenty in number and will be situated in two rows in the cell department. They will have no windows, but will open on the central corridor. The corridor will also run around them. The cell department wili be 92 feet long and 40 feet high, and the cells will be 8 feet square.

## A MACHINE FOR FILTERING LIQUIDS.

In order to remove the foreign matter from dense liquids, such as oils, in a more rapid manner than has hitherto been possible, Mickael B. Koerper and Edgar C. Talley, of Waco, Tex., have devised a filtering machine in which an endless belt of filtering material is employed, coacting with a series of rollers.
Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the machine, parts being broken away to show the construction. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section through the machine. The filtering machine is inclosed in a casing, in the sides of which the rollers are journaled. These rollers support the endless belt of filtering material. The belt, is driven through a tank in the bottom of the casing by means of a driving-roller, above which there


## A MACHINE FOR FILTERING LIQUIDS

is adjustably mounted, as shown in Fig. 2, a discharge roller which receives the refuse matter. Partially sub merged in the liquid contained within the tank are two large filtering disks, which are mounted on a shaft journaled in the casing, and which engage the belt.

The oil to be filtered is poured in a broad stream upon the belt between the disks by a spout having a flaring delivery end. By reinforcing the edges of the belt with a double thickness of material, a tight and liquid-proof connection is produced between the belt and the disks; for it is bere that the greater portion of the filtering is accomplished. The oil, after having been cleansed, passes into the tank. The refuse matter is carried by the belt between the driving and dis charge rollers, is compressed upon the discharge-roller, and is removed therefrom by a knife and discharged from the machine by means of a chute. The oil which has been filtered will be drawn from the tank by means of a pipe.
Since in the filtering of oils froth is produced, the inventors have mounted between the driving roller and one of the supporting rollers a small recelving trough. An outlet in the side of the casing permits the discharge of the froth collected by the trough. Beneath the driving roll a steam or air pipe has been introduced for the purpose of cleaning the filtering material when the oil is very heavy.

After the parts of the machine have been once adjusted, the inventors state that the filtering can proceed uninterruptedly.

THE officers and sailors of the "Yale" have received their shate of the prize money accruing from the sale of the Spanish boat "Rita." After this vessel had been captured by the "Yale" it was purchased by the government for $\$ 125,000$. The prize money to be divided amounted to $\$ 59,000$. Captain Wise, of the "Yale," received $\$ 8,091$; the swallest sum received by a sea man was $\$ 76$.

## The Heavens in April. <br> by garrett p. serviss.

April is a grood month in which to begin the use of the opera glass among the stars. The increasing mildness of the nights, and the beauty of the constellations in sight, attract people out of doors and fix their attention on the sky. Overhead two striking star groups are visible-the "Sickle" of Leo, south of the zenith, and the "Great Dipper," in Ursa Major, north of it That is their position at $10 \mathrm{P} . \mathrm{M}_{\text {. }}$ at the beginning of the month, and at $8 \mathrm{P} . \mathrm{M}$. at the end of it. At the same time Sirius will be seen near the horizon in the southwest, with Orion settling in the west and Capella very bright and as white as a diamond, well up in the northwest. In the south is Hydra, with but one conspicuousstar, situated in a barren region of the sky West of Leo gleams the "Beehive," a cluster of minute stars in Cancer, which becomes interesting when viewed with a strong opera glass. Over in the east are Spica, glittering white, Arcturus, reddish yellow and looming large, and farther north the half-circlet of the Northern Crown.

THE PLANETS
Mercury is an evening star, visible after sunset for a few days at the beginning of the month. On the 12 th Mercury is in conjunction with the sun, after which it becomes a morning star. It remains in Pisces throughout the month.
Venus is also a morning star, gradually approaching the sun. She moves from Aquarius to the border of Pisces and Cetus, steadily losing brilliance.
Mars, which, in the course of the month, passe from Gemini into Cancer near the "Beehive," has faded since midwinter to the brightness of an average first magnitude star. It is still receding from the earth, and early this month attains its greatest distance from the sun.
Jupiter, near the border between Virgo and Libra, is very bright, rising between eight and nine oclock and getting into good position for observation about mid night. On the 25th Jupiter will be in opposition to the sun, and consequently in an admirable position for telescopic study. It is an interesting experiment to look for the satellites of Jupite with a field glass. One or more of them are cer tain to be visible, almost any clear night. The belts of the planet are now exceedingly beautifu when viewed with a glass of four or five inches aperture.
Saturn, which does not rise until about mid night, being situated in Ophiuchus, carries off the honors this month on account of Prof. Pickering's recent discovery that the great ringed planet has a ninth moon. The discovery was made by photo raphy at the Arequipa observatory, and is ver rmarkable on account of the faintness of the new moon and its immense distance from the planet. The outermost moon of Saturn hereto ore known, Japetus, is about $2,225,000$ miles fro Saturn, but the new moon, Prof. Pickering an nounces, is three and a half times as far from its pri mary as Japetus is. That makes its distance 7,875,000 miles, or more than thirty times the distance of our moon from the earth. Its stellar magnitude is given at $15^{\circ} 5$; so that only a few of the most powerful tele scopes in existence can be expected to show it. Its per iod of revolution is about seventeen months. Contrast this with the period of Saturn's nearest moon, Mimas, which goes round in only 22 hours and 37 minutes and the extraordinary extent and variety of the system of which Saturn is the center becomes apparent. The period of the largest moon, Titan, is 10 days, 22 hours and 41 minutes, while that of Japetus is 79 days, 7 hours, and 54 minutes. The discovery is another vindication not only of the value of photography in astronomy, but also of the independent manner in which Prof. Pickering has applied this powerful means of research.
Uranus is in Ophiuchus about $5^{\circ}$ north of the red star of Scorpio, Antares. It rises one hour ahead of Saturn
Neptune is rather more than a degree northwest of the star Zeta in Taurus.

THE MOON.
New moon occurs on the morning of the 10th, first quarter on the afternoon of the 17th, full moon on the afternoon of the 25th, and last quarter on the morning of the 3 d . The moon is nearest the earth on the 6 th and farthest from the earth on the 18th.
The lunar conjunctions with the planets occur on these dates: Saturn 1st, Venus 7th, Mercury 10th, Neptune 14th, Mars 18th, Jupiter 25th, Uranus 27th, Saturn 28th.

The Metric System in our Colonie
The advocates of the metric system in the House of Commons are greatly interested; according to a cable dispatch to The Sun, to know what decision the United States will arrive at regarding the system of weights and measures to be used in Cuba. Porto Rico, and the Philippines. They hope that the American government will not compel the abandonment of the metric system for the cumbrous English system.

Considerable attention has been given by botanists to the subject of vegetable monstrosities. These abnormal growths are not well understood, but it seems to be well established that many of them are the result of disease. It has been believed that not a few of them may be reproduced from seeds grown on abnormal plants. M. Hugo de Vries has been cultivating these strange anomalies for twelve years past and the results of his studies have been published in the Comptes Rendus. He says, with the exception of the plants which have been turned abnormally green by parasites, every plant developing unnatural growth with which he experimented was reproduced from its seed. He has, therefore, proved the heredity of the monstrous types. He isolated all the plants he raised, and a large propor tion of their descendants were of the normal type, but the abnormal individuals were sufficiently numerous to prove the theory of heredity as well as disease as the cause for the multiplication of monstrosities.

## AN IMPROVEMENT IN SMORECONSUMERS.

There has recently been patented by James W. Alexander, of Bridgeport, Ohio, an ingenious device which is designed to draw the smoke, sparks, and cinders from the smoke-box of a boiler into the fire-box, in order that they may be consumed with the burning fuel.
The accompanying engraving shows the invention applied to a locomotive-boiler. At its forward end the boiler is provided with the usual smoke-box into which open the smoke flues extending from the fire-box. In the bottom of the smoke-box an opening is formed leading to a casing, from the sides of which suction pipes extend, running alongside the boiler to the firebox. Near their rear ends the suction-pipes are fitted with valves. To each suction-pipe is connected a steam pipe, in order that steam may be forced through the suction-pipe to create a suction therein, in order to draw the smoke and cinders from the smoke-box into the fire-box. An adjustable bell-shaped deflector is


ALEXANDER'S IMPROVEMENT IN SMOKE-CONSUMERS
located in the smoke-box above the opening and serve to distribute the sparks, cinders, and smoke uniformly

When the suction-pipe valves are opened, and steam under pressure is allowed to pass through the suction pipes, the smoke, gases, and sparks will be drawn ove the deflector, down into the casing below the smoke box, and through the suction-pipes to the fire-box.

The smoke-consumer possesses the merits of bein simple in construction and effective in operation. It can be applied not only to locomotive-boilers, but to other boilers as well.

## Manufactories in Turkey

Dr. Cabell Whitehead has been tendered and has accepted an important position in the service of the Turkish government, and he will shortly enter upon his new duties. He will be virtually Director-General of Industries. The present Turkish Prime Minister has recognized the wonderful technical and scientific progress of the American nation, and has labored to introduce into Turkey American methods, American products and machines, as well as American scientists and technologists. Just now several large establishments are to be built, and the general management of them will devolve upon Dr. Whitehead. Dr. Whitehead was born in 1863 and is a graduate of Lehigh and Columbia Universities.

## An American Bridge for the Soudan.

An erecting gang from the Pencoyd Iron Works will leave Philadelphia in a few days en route for Africa, for the purpose of building a bridge across the Atbara River, in the Soudan, near Khartoum. The order was placed with the Pencoyd Iron Works by the British War Office, less than six weeks ago, and the seven parts of the bridge, with a total length of 1,100 feet, have already been shipped. The Pencoyd Company was given the preference over English bridge builders, because the latter said it would take seven months to complete the structure. The British War Office was anxious to have the bridge completed be fore the fall, in order to facilitate the operations of Gen Kitchener against the Mahdi.

## The Windsor Hotel Fire.

For a quarter of a century the Windsor Hotel, at Fifth Avenue and Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Streets, New York city, has been one of the most famous hotels in America. It was built in 1871 and opened in 1873. The hotel had a frontage on Fifth Avenue of 200 feet and on Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Streets of 160 feet. It was seven stories in height, was built of brick, and had no architectural pretensions. The Windsor Hotel, alt hough intended to be fireproof when it was built, was really a most excellent fire trap. On each floor five broad corridors intersected, and in the middle of the building were two wide shafts, constructed for the purpose of admitting additional light and air. Broad staircases led from the office floor to the parlor floor, and other broad staircases connected with the succeeding floors. This scheme could hardly have been improved upon for hastening the hardly have been improved upon for hastening the
destruction of the house by fire. It was built upon destruction of the house by fire. It was built upon a plan really obsolete, at the time it was constructed.
Many times the building authorities had insisted upon adequate fire escapes being built on the fronts of the building, but their efforts had been unavailing.
Never within the knowledge of the fire department of New York has the uniformed force acted with greater heroism, but their efforts were in many cases futile, owing to the bad construction of the building. Fifteen minutes after the alarm had been turned in, the roof of the big hotel had fallen, and the fire was spectacular to the last degree
Iron fire escapes on a building, if they are well constructed and numerous, will, perhaps, save a great many lives, but it must be remembered that with flames pouring out of the windows below, often those who try to descend by such means find themselves cut off from escape before reaching the ground. The intense heat soon makes them red hot gridirons, and then they are worse than useless. The ordinary rope fire escape in its present form is almost useless, as few men and almost no women understand the art of descending fifty or sixty feet with the aid of a rope. The friction soon cuts into the flesh, and the user falls to almost sure death or severe injury. It seems as though inventors could devise some practical form of fire escape wnich would answer in cases of this kind. A fire escape to be really practical must be simple and easily understood by the user, who has no time to read instructions or to do much adjusting of the apparatus in an emergency. The individual fire escape for hotels and buildings which are not fireproof or provided with a fireproof stairway really seems to be a partial solution of the difficulty. Of course it would have been very easy to have constructed an absolutely fireproof tower in this hotel, doors leading to the stairways from every floor, but would the guests have known where to go to reach this point of safety?
The fire has resulted in many suggestions as to the protection of hotels and similar buildings which are not fireproof. Asbestos curtains, sprinklers, alarms in every room, and other well-known schemes have been advocated. The real solution of the problem is to build hotels which shall be really fireproof, so that if a fire starts in one room, it can be confined to it.
There have been fires in several modern fireproof There have been fires in several modern fireproof
hotels and we believe that no serious injury other than the gutting of one or two rooms has resulted. Many hotels in New York city which conform to the build ing and fire regulations of the period when they were constructed are now very little better than was the Windsor Hotel. As they are substantially built, however, nothing can be done in the way of condemning them. Already the proprietors of New York hotels have had several meetings and have expressed a desire to co-operate with the authorities in framing building laws and fire regulations which would tend to increase the safety of their guests and prevent another horror like the Windsor Hotel fire

## Prizes for the Care of Cars.

In Birmingham, Ala., the street railway company decided to offer prizes to the men for the care of cars Conductors on the electric cars and motormen of fare box cars who have kept the neatest cars will be given $\$ 10$, while those whose cars have been habitually dirty will be discharged. All motormen who have not cost the company anything for damages will be given $\$ 20$ while those who have not cost the company over $\$ 5$ for collisions or breakdowns will get $\$ 5$. All those who cost the company over $\$ 25$ damage will be discharged unless they can prove that the accidents were not caused by carelessness. Similar schemes might be ap plied to advantage on many of our Eastern lines.

According to the Bulletin de la Direction de l'Agriculture et du Commerce, published by the gov ernment of Tunis, the Bey, on December 3, 1898, decreed that, after the date mentioned, all irrigating ma chinery and the windmills used in driving the ma chinery shall enter the regency of Tunis duty free provided that the two apparatus in question be im ported at the same time.

THE IMPROVED TURRETS OF THE BATTLESHIP "TEXAS."

The gre heat naval battle of July 3, off Santiago, which the complete destruction of Admiral Cervera fleet, has shown in the most realistic manner possible that too great a value cannot be placed upon rapidity fire and rapid-firing guns on board a man-of-war. The battleship "Texas" took a very important part in this battle, and the efficiency of her large guns is due chiefly to the improvements on her turrets, instigated by Lieut. F. J. Haeseler.
The "Texas" is a first rate battleship of the second class, having a displacement of 6,315 tons. She is 309 feet over all, has twin screws, triple expansion engines, and on her trial trip she had an indicated horse powe of 8,610 , giving a speed of 17.8 knots. Her main bat tery consists of two 12 -inch breech-loading rifles mount ed in turrets and six 6 -inch B. L. Rs. which are slow fire. The turrets of the "Texas" and those of th "Maine" are on the same general plan, the port one on the "Texas" being forward, the starboard one on the "Me "Texas" being forward, the starboard one on the "Texas" turrets and barbettes are of 12 -inch face hardened steel armor, while the ammunition hoists and tubes are protected by 8 -inch armor. The turrets, ammunition hoists, and rammers are all worked by hydraulic power, the engines being of the three cylin der Brotherhood type. The power is furnished by four powerful hydraulic pumps, all the machinery being inside the armored redoubt
When the "Texas" went into commission, it was impossible to load these 12 -inch guns except in two positions, pointed directly ahead or directly abeam, the rammers for these two positions being outside the tur rets. When firing in intermediate positions, it, was necessary to train the gun off the target to load, picking the target up again after loading. This consumed much time, the interval between two shots from the same gun being at that time about seven minutes.
Lieut. Haeseler advanced the idea of carrying a light but strong telescopic rammer inside, which was to revolve with the turret, thus enabling the gun's crew to load from any position. To accomplish this it was necessary, besides securing a strong rammer that could be easily handled, to change the lead of many of the hydraulic pipes, secure a "change" or "balance pres sure "valve, and to devise a means of loading insid the turret. A "balance pressure" valve that could be used as a supply, exhaust, and reversing valve was obtained by a slight modification of a "Sellers" valve and the hydraulic plant was changed accordingly Immediately behind the breech of the gun, when level, a strong but light telescopic rammer was balanced on trunnions, which permitted its being raised or lowered into working position by one man. The rammer is shown in our illustration to the rear of the breech of the gun.

The next problem was to devise a means of transport ing the 12 -inch shell, which weighs 850 pounds, from the ammunition hoist outside the turret to the breech of gun, as formerly they were hoisted into a loading position forward of the stationary rammers. A circular track carrying a small traveling car was placed entirely around the turret inside the redoubt and a grooved table was put just inside the turret opening. When a shell was sent up from the ammunition room below, it was whipped by a chain strap and differential pulley into the traveling car, run around to the turret opening into the traveling car, run around to the turret opening
by one man, and shoved into the stationary table.
Inside the turret another ammunition lift was place running by hydraulic power, and fixed so that in its upper position the shell table on it was level with the bore of the gun in its loading position. One man pushes the shell into the shell table; the powder, which is in four sections, is placed in stands beside the shell ; the car is hoisted; the shell and powder are run home by the rammer, and the car lowered for another charge. A small loading platform, working on hinges and secured by a hook, was placed under the breech of the gun, to allow a man to wipe out the powder chamber after the gun has been fired. An interesting experiment was tried in regard to sighting the turret guns, which would have been very useful in case of accident to the regular sights. The gun is sighted by means of telescopic sights placed in hoods on each side of the breech, the officer in charge being in this hood and sighting the gun. Ordinarily, in case this hood were to be demolished by a shot, the gunners would be unable to obtain anything like an accurate aim.

Through an aperture in the turret, near the gun, a small tube was placed which was laid exactly parallel with the bore of the gun. Cross wires were fitted in the ends of this tube for sighting. Near the elevating slide, at the side of the gun, an arc was fixed firmly, graduated in yards, and a pointer attached to the slide pointed out the yards on this arc, the accuracy of the are having been tested by the regular sights. To aim the gun by this improvised sight, the gun was trained on the target by means of the fixed tube, and the gun was elevated or lowered until the tube, and the gun was elevated or lowered until the
pointer on the slide showed on the arc the number of
yards indicated on the range finder. The test shots with these sights gave very accurate results.
This constituted the repairs that were made on the guns in the New York navy yard, and after preliminary drills the "Texas" went out beyond Cape Henry, at Old Point, to test the work. The result was even more than expected. A mean between the intervals of five shots was one minute and fifty-five seconds, a vast improvement on the old record, while one interval was as low as eighty-five seconds. The "Texas" returned to Old Point ready for whatever was to come, and her record during the late trouble showed how completely she can be relied upon.

Formerly, for these 12 -inch guns, there were but two kinds of shells, common and armor-piercing, as shrapnel are not used in the larger guns. Common shells are rather long, weigh 850 pounds, and carry a bursting charge of about 60 pounds of powder. Armorpiercing shells are the same weight, but are somewhat shorter, carrying no explosive charge. They are made of the hardest steel, with toughened point, intended, as the name indicates, to penetrate armor. The new as the name indicates, to penetrate armor. The new
armor-piercingshells have soft steel caps on the points, supposed to give them a greater penetrating effect. A new shell that has lately come into use, and which did good service during the late war, is known as a "semi" shell. It is a combination of the other two, of the same weight. has a hard steel head designed to penetrate light armor, and carries in addition a bursting charge of about 50 pounds. This shell is especially designed for use against armored cruisers or vessels of light protection, and is very effective. The igniting fuse for this shell is a base fuse, instead of the old nose fuse used in common shells. Common shells are intended to be used against forts, earthworks, and unprotected vessels, and were used almost entirely against the batteries before Santiago.
It could always be told when a shot struck, as a great cloud of dirt, smoke, and debris would rise in the air as a shot exploded. Several times, most notably during the engagement of the "Texas" and La Socopa battery, the guns of the Spaniards were completely buried by the earth thrown up by these shells, but the Spanish soldiers had discreetly retired to a pit on the opposite side of the hill, smoking in calm safety, to return, when the ships had retired, with mules and workmen, hauling out and remounting their guns.

While armor-piercing shells are meant to be used against protected vessels, the "semi" shells, carrying an explosive charge, were used principally during the battle, July 3. Of these shots there is a record of but two, both of which struck the "Infanta Maria Teresa" on the port quarter, entering just under the berth deck. A remarkable feature was that the holes made by these two shells were so close together that they lapped each other, giving a convincing proof that "lightning" does strike twice in the same place. These shots entered and exploded in the after torpedo handling room, and the effect, as seen by the writer, was something awful. Stanchions were cut to ribbons, frames wrenched from the side plating, and the deck beams were severely twisted. Everything in this part of the ship was wrecked. and a large jagged hole, about 4 feet square, was made in the starboard side. The effect of some of the 8 -inch shots was nearly as great. The one exploding in the forward turret of the "Oquendo" alone wiped out the entire gun's crew, and put the gun out of commission.
That the large guns of the "Texas" did most efficient work is shown by the attitude of the Spanish officers, work is shown by the attitude of the Spanish officers,
who not only feared the marksmanship of the "Texas," but were surprised to hear that she was not one of our best and most formidable ships. A bright tompion in the muzzle of the starboard 12 -inch gun shows by the following inscription the service it has seen "Santiago de Cuba," "Guantanamo," " Maria Teresa," "Viscaya," "Oquendo," "Cristobal Colon." "Pluton" and "Furor," "Reina Mercedes," "La Socopa."
The crew of the "Texas" showed their appreciation of his services by presenting Mr. Haeseler with a beautiful gold watch with the following inscription: "Presented to Lieut. F. J. Haeseler by the crew of the 'Texas,' in appreciation of his services in creating the Old Hoodoo' into the 'New Hero.'"
Considering the severe tests to which she has been subjected, it is safe to say that when her slow-fire 6 inch guns have been replaced by rapid-fire guns of the same caliber, there will be no more efficient vessel of her size in our entire navy than the battleship "Texas." Special attention is invited to the front page engraving, which, in addition to showing the improved method of loading the guns, gives an excellent view of method of loading the guns, gives an battleship. The side plating of the ship is supposed to be cut away giving a view of the interior from the main deck down to the handling room at the bottom of the ship. The shells are brought to the ammunition hoist in a sling, suspended from an overhead track. The cage has two platforms, the upper of which carries the powcage is hoisted lyy hydraulic power, and the ammunition is transferre from it as already described. On the same deck with the magazines are the engines and
boilers, one of the latter being shown in the engraving, and above them is a steel deck, 2 inches in thickness, which protects this portion of the vessel, known as the "vitals," from shell fire. Along the sides, at the water line, is shown the belt armor of 12 -inch steel, and between the belt and the boiler rooms are the coal bunkers, which add their protection to that of the belt. A shell striking above the belt would have to pass through several feet of coal to reach the interior of the ship; if it struck on the belt, it would have to penetrate 12 inches of Harveyized steel and several inches of wood backing and many feet of coal before it could endanger boilers, engines, or magazines. The water itself effectually prevents the entrance of shell below the water line.

## A New Gun Camera.

A new gun camera, probably the finest ever built, is being constructed in Chicago by Willian Gaertner for being constructed in Chicago by William Gaertner for
the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington. The the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington. The
specifications required that the instrument should be capable of making a successful exposure in one sixhundredth of a second. It is hoped that this speed will be increased so that a good negative may be obtained by an exposure of only a $t$ housandth of a second. The principal purpose for which this camera was designed is to serve the photographing of aerodromes, with which Prof. S. P. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, is conducting elaborate scientific experiments in an attempt at the solution of the problem of aerial flight. The instrument is provided with a delicate measuring apparatus, by which the precise angle at which the camera is tilted at the moment of exposure is known to the operator and is also photographed on the plate. This device will enable scien tists to determine, under given conditions, the exact location and elevation of the object photographed.

Motor Carriage Contest at Liverpool.
A motor carriage competition will be begun at Liver pool on the morning of July 31, and the tests will conclude on the evening of August 2. Trial runs will be made from Liverpool, over a distance of from 30 to 40 miles. There will be four classes of vehicles eligible the minimum loads being 2 tons, $31 / 2$ tons, 5 tons, and 6 tons, the long ton being reckoned. The vehicles must be propelled by mechanical power alone, but there will be no restrictions as to the source of power or the nature of the agents used. The hope has been officially expressed that vehicles from the United States will take part in the competition. Interested parties can secure details of conditions, regulations, etc., by addressing E. Shrapnell Smith, Honorary Secretary of the Self-Propelled Traffic Association, Royal Institution, Liverpool, England.

## An ocean Line Pigeon Service.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, better known as the French line. proposes to develop its carrier pigeon service, following the experiments carrier pigeon service, following the experiments
which were carried out on board the "Bretagne" a which were carried out on board the "Bretagne" a
few months ago. The birds will be trained at Havre few months ago. The birds will be trained at Havre
and New York. The vessels that go outward-bound and New York. The vessels that go outward-bound
from Havre will release pigeons after passing the from Havre will release pigeons after passing the
Scilly Islands and when approaching New York. It is believed that in the last case the birds will give notice of their arrival some twelve hours before the vessel is observed at the Fire Island station. The service will begin during March, and it is assumed that when it is fully developed, communication between the land and the steamers of the company will be interrupted for less than five days.

A New Record at the Blue Hill observatory. The world's record for kite flying was broken at the Blue Hill Observatory, whose work we have so re cently illustrated. On February 28 an elevation of 12,507 feet above the sea level was obtained by the highest of a string of tandem kites. This is 383 feet higher than the preceding best record, made at the same place on August 26. The flight was begun at 3:40 P. M. and the temperature at the surface was 40 degrees, and the wind was blowing at the rate of seventeen miles an hour. At the highest level the temperature was 12 degrees and the wind velocity fifty miles an hour. The combined kites had an area of 205 square feet and weighed 26 pounds, while the weight of the wire was 76 pounds. A series of five high flights were made on successive days, Sunday excepted. The average height reached was 10,300 feet, or nearly two miles.

A Large Timber Ocean Cradle.
An immense timber cradle has been under construc tion at Seattle. Washington, during the past three months, and the last section of the odd-looking craft was launched on March 20, and will be placed in position to receive the first cargo in a few days. It is thought that the cradle will have a capacity of 3,000 ,000 feet of lumber. Many lumber shippers are afraid the craft will never reach San Francisco, its destination.


QUADRUPLE HARMONIC-MOTION PENDULUM.

April i, 1899
$P$. This plate holder is suspended from a standard 20 inches in height, and carries a darkened glass plate upon which the needle moves and traces its circuitous paths. An excellent plate darkener has been found to be a thin coat of vaseline covered with lampblack. These plates, if covered with another coat of varnish, serve the purpose of first-class negatives for photographing the curves. Then there is the ordinary apparatus for projection, $L$, being a metallic inclosure for the lamp, and the key, $K$, the axis of a mirror which reflects the light up through the plate, $P$, and into the prism, $M$, whence it is thrown upon a screen. And last, but not least, there is the contrivance for determining the phase and amplitude of vibration, two elements in these figures only second in importance to time itself. The amplitude depends upon the length of the cord, $c$, which, beginning at the key, $K^{1}$, and passing down through the tube, $T$, and then through the screw-eye, $g$, is fastened to a small hook, $h$, hanging from the block, $b$. This hook is raised (thereby pulling the pendulum toward the screw-eye, $g$ ) and put up through a hole in the block, $b$, at the top of which the hook is caught by the end of a little lever, $l$ (Fig. 18). This lever is connected with the adjacent pendulum, $a$ by means of the thread, $t$, whose exact length, adjusted by means of the thumb-screw, $s$ (see photograph), determines the phase of oscillation.

Fig. 18 gives a view of all three levers and their connections, and Fig. 20 the same in a different position. It will be noted that pendulum, $a$ (Fig. 18), is set off by hand, and then $a$, pulling the lever, $l$, sets off pendulum, $b$, then $b$ performs a similar service for $c$, and $c$ for $d$, and supposing each set of pendulums to be isochronous, both needle and plate w ill circle around in the same direction, that is, counter clockwise. In Fig. 20 the needle and plate take opposite directions, thereby producing an entirely different class of figures, each class containing an endless number of varieties, determined by modifications in time, phase, and amplitude. A few of the more striking figures are shown in the accompanying cuts.
It may be asked here whether there is any way of

telling by inspection the amplitude and oscillation ratio of the two circular motions required to produce any of these figures. The answer to these questions is much simpler than may at first be imagined. First, the ratio of oscillations may be known from the number of points or loops in the figure, since this number is always equivalent to the sum of the two numbers of the ratio, e. g., 2:3 $=5$ points or loops (Figs. 2, 5, 6, 7), $3: 4=7$ (Figs. 2, 8, 9, 10), and 5:7 = 12 (Figs. 2, 11, 12). But how can a person tell whether, for example, the ratio was $5: 6=11$, or $4: 7=11$ ? By this simple rule The lesser number of the ratio is invariably one greate than the number of points or loops cut off by any line


## Fig. 18.-LET-0FF MECHANISM

in the figure, as may easily be verified in Figs. 2, 6, 8, 9. 12. Secondly, the amplitude of the two circular motions may be found in the following manner : The distance from the center to the farthest part of the figure is the sum of the two required amplitudes, and the distance from the center to the nearest part of the figure is the difference of the two amplitudes, and from the sum and difference the two amplitudes themselves may easily be found. Figs. 5, 6, 7, of the ratio 2:3, and Figs. $8,9,10$, of the ratio $3: 4$, show how figures of the same ratio may be varied by a simple change of amplitude. Figs. 2, 13, 14 and 15, 16, show how the resultants may be varied by starting the plate and needle in the same or opposite directions. Fig. 17 is a sample of what may be obtained by having all four pendulums of dif ferent lengths.
Fig. 19 shows how the resultant of quadruple harmonic motion may be plotted beforehand and then verified upon the pendulum. The diameters of the two circles represent amplitude of swing, and the divisions of the circumferences, distances traveled in equal times by the needle and the plate. Then the algebraic sum of the sines and cosines at each instant $1,2,3$, etc., after starting will give the exact position of the resultant at the same in stant, and a line passing through all these points will describe the figure which the combined motions of all four pendulums would, under the given conditions, produce.

It may be remarked in conclusion that the starshaped figures beautifully exemplify the action of plain polarized light in passing through quartz crystal, where, according to theory, the beam is broken up into two circularly polarized keams going in opposite directions and at different speeds, thereby shifting the original plane by an angle proportiona in size to the thickness of the crystal.

THE LATE PROF. O. C. MARSH.
Prof. Othaniel Charles Marsh, who occupied the chair of paleontology and was curator of the geological collections of Yale University, died at his residence at New Haven on March 18, 1899, of pneumonia.

In the death of Prof. Marsh American science has suffered the severest blow since the death of Prof. Cope. He was born in Lockport, N. Y., in 1831 ; his maternal uncle being the eminent banker George Peabody. From early youth Prof. Marsh was addicted to athletic exer cise, and he was a sportsman before he became a scientist. This out-of-door life and contact with nature soon turned his and contact with nature soon turned his attention to the study of natural sciences,
and at the same time it contributed roand at the same time it contributed ro-
bustness and vigor to his frame, which enabled him in after life to perform without weariness an amount of thorough and efficient work under which the bookish man would have succumbed. In


THE LATE OTHANIEL CHARLES MARSH.
-the Rocky Mountains. He led various scientific expeditions to this then little known country, and in these researches he crossed and recrossed the Rocky Mountains between twenty and thirty times, and penetrated regions which had never been before visited by white men, encountering much danger and enduring great hardships. More than once he required the protection of the United States troops against the assaults of hostile Indians. The Yale exploring party of 1870 discovered over a hundred new species of extinct vertebrates, most of them from two newly discovered tertiary basins. Among the more important of these discoveries were a new sub-class of birds with teeth, the


Fig. 20.-LET-0FF CAUSING NEEDLE AND PLATE TO MOVE IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.
of the Eosaurus acadianus, the earliest fossil example of reptilian life then known. In 1862 and 1865 he studied zoology, geology, and mineralogy in the principal German universities, among the most eminent teachers of the time, passing his vacations in field work in various parts of the Continent and specially in the Alps.

In 1866 he returned to this country and was appointed Professor of Paleontology at Yale University, and retained the professorship until the time of his death. The fund which endows it, as well as the endowment of the Peakody Museum of Natural History at New Haven, Conn., the Peabody Museum of Archæology and Ethnology at Cambridge, and the Peabody Academy of Sctence at Salem, Mass., comes from the estate of George Peabody, his uncle.
Prof. Marsh began the work of his professorship by the examination of the cretaceous and tertiary fauna of New Jersey, and in 1868 he made the first journey to the region with which his name is most fully identified
first known American pterodactyls, two new orders of large mammals of elephantine bulk, with horned cores on their skulls, specimens of the earliest known ancestors of the horse, the monkeys, bats, or marsupials, ever found in this country, and a number of several new families of dinosaurs. Some of these reptiles were the largest land animals ever discovered. All of these became the property of the Peabody Museum at Yale. Probably his most startling discovery was that of the fossil ancestor of horses-the cohippus-as large as a fox, with four toes and the signs of a fifth on the fore feet and three toes on the hind feet. In 1876 Prof. Marsh began preparing monographs describing his discoveries, and more than three hundred of them have appeared in The.American Journal of Science and in the publications of the United States Geological Survey, the last to appear being "The Dinosaurus of North America," in 1896. Naturally, Prof. Marsh was the recipient of many honors, both at home and abroad. Prof. Marsh has left his entire estate to the University. It is thought that it will amount to $\$ 150,000$. Prof. Marsh gives to Yale his residence and his spacious grounds for a University botanical garden. The National Academy of Sciences is to get $\$ 10.000$; and 2,000 orchids belonging to Prof. Marsh are left to the University. It is said that his scientific collections referred to below were worth in the neighborhood of $\$ 1,000,000$.
Prof. Marsh will be best remembered at Yale by his magnificent gift made in January, 1898. For years he had been collecting a valuable series of examples of vertebrate and invertebrate fossils from all over North America, the collections numbering many thousand individual specimens. These were presented to Yale University January 15, 1898. The entire collection really includes six individual collections. The first were vertebrate fossils, the most important part of the gift. Prof. Huxley stated in 1876 that this was the greatest collection of the kind in the world. Second is the collection of fossil footprints, taken mostly from the region of Connecticut Valley. The third is that of the invertebrate fossils. The fourth in the series is recent osteology. The two remaining collections are of American archæology and ethnology, as well as a fine collection of minerals.
The news of Prof. Marsh's death was a great shock in university circles, and the loss to American science by his death is almost incalculable. His researches in pure science will never be forgotten.

A Singular Bequest.
It has been stated that John Walter, of The London Times, left as a legacy to his daughter one of the advertising columns of the Thunderer. It brought the lady a steady income of $\$ 150$ a day -enough to keep her from poverty.

Novelties for the Paris Exposition.
If the management of the Paris Exposition fulfills its promises, no small nuınber of technical marvels will be revealed to the public in 1900 . First of all there will be Sczepanik's much heralded telectroscope, an instrument which, by the aid of selenium, is said to have solved the problem of electrical vision. The telectroscope will, however, find a rival in the telautograph invented by Anton Pollak, a Hungarian engineer. The telautograph, it is claimed, provides a means of receiving messages sent from one station to another, in exactly the same form in which they were transmitted. The idea $i^{n}$ itself is old; but the inventor is said to have devised an apparatus which is entirely different from its pre decessors. Pollak claims to have solved the problem by using selenium-a metal which is unique in possessing the property of conducting electricity with a re sistance which varies with the intensity of the light that falls upon it. The varying illumination is produced by treating the written telegran in a peculiar manner, and the variations in resistance effected by the selenium are communicated to a conductor to produce an increase and decrease in the intensity of the current passing therethrough. According to Uhland's Wochenschrift, the Vereinigte Elektricitäts-Actien gesellschaft, of Budapest, has applied to the management of the Exposition for space in which to exhibit the apparatus. An imperfect model is said to be in tolerably successful operation, and to be able to trans mit in one hour 144 telegrams, each four inches by two inches, upon which spaceany number of words or characters can be inscribed.

## Houdin and the Arabs.

Probably the most interesting personality in the whole history of magic is Robert-Houdin. His interesting works on magic are classics, and are so regarded by all conjurers. Rarely has a more fascinating biography been written than his " Memoirs." The crowning event of Houdin's life was when he was sent to Algeria to counteract the influence of the marabout priests over ignorant Arabs. The marabouts are Mohammedan miracle workers and were continually fanning the flames of re bellion against French domination. The French govern ment invited Robert-Houdin to go to Algeria and perform before the Arabs in order to show them that a French wizard was greater than a marabout fakir. This was pitting Greek against Greek. The marvels of optics, chemistry, electricity, and mechanics which Houdin had in his repertoire, coupled with his digital dexterity, were wel calculated to evoke astonish ment and awe. How well the French wizard succeeded in his mission is a matter of history. A full account of his adventures among the Arabs as contained in his "Memoirs" makes very interesting reading. The Household World recently published the following account of his early experiences in Algeria:
To witness Houdin's first performance in Algiers the neighboring tribes were invited. The theater was speedily filled with them and the French officials, who attended in all their pomp and glory. Interpreters were scattered through the house in order to repeat Houdin's remarks to the natives in their own language. With true Oriental dignity and gravity, the Arabs witnessed the first few tricks in stolid silence, but the tak ing of a huge cannon-ball from a borrowed hat aroused great excitement.
Then came the great tricks of the evening, especially prepared to astonish the Arabs.
"By a wonderful power which I possess," said Houdin, "I can deprive any man of his strength. I invite any one to prove my words."
On this being interpreted to the Arabs, a tall, strong man stepped forward on the stage. Houdin held in his hand a little iron box, and, balancing it carelessly on his little finger, he asked the Arab,
"Are you strong?"
"Yes," replied the man carelessly.
"Are you sure of always remaining so ?"
"Always."
"Lift that box."
The Arab did so, and asked contemptuously, "Is that all?"
"Wait!" said Houdin, making a solemn gesture. "Now you are weaker than a woman. Try to lift that box again."
The Arab seized the handle and tugged again. He could not raise the box an inch from the floor. After many attempts, he paused for a moment to brace himself for a final effort. He seized the handle again, but shrieked aloud with pain, dropped on his knees, then,
rising, threw his cloak round his face to conceal his shame, and rushed from the theater, leaving his compatriots stricken with fear. The trick was as simple as the result was startling. The box was placed on a powerful electro-magnet, and the current being complete, no man on earth could have lifted it. An electric shock, sent at a signal by Houdin from behind the stage, was what caused the Arab to shriek and hurriedly retreat.
Before the excitement caused by this trick had subsided, Houdin announced that he had a taliswan which rendered him invulnerable, and he defied the best shot in Algiers to kill him. A marabout at once sprang on the stage, exclaiming, "I want to kill you !" Houdin handed him a pistol, which the Arab, examining, pronounced a good one. "It is a good pistol, and I will kill you.
"Very well," said Houdin. "To make sure, put in a double charge of powder. Here's a wad. Take a bullet from this tray, and mark it so you will know it again. Ram it into the pistol well."
"It is done."
"Now," said Houdin, " you say the pistol is a good one, and you've loaded it well, so kill me."
"Yes," replied the marabout; "I will do that."
Houdin took a pear, stuck it on a knife, and walked a few paces in front of the Arab, and told him to aim at his heart. He fired, and the marked bullet was seen on the pear. After the powder and wad were rammed home, and while the Arab was marking the bullet, Houdin slipped a little tube into the pistol. This tube was closed at the lower end, and into this the Arab dropped the bullet. As he thrust the wad down with the ramrod, the tube fitted snugly on to it, and was withdrawn with it, being polished to resemble it. Houdin thus got possession of the marked ball, and all was then plain sailing
On one occasion during his visit to Algiers Houdin was placed in a very awkward position, from which he
showed the bullet between his teeth. "You could not kill me," he said, "and now you shall see what my shots can do." He fired at the marabout, and immediately a red splash was seen on the whitewaslied wall before which he was standing. The Arab was untouched; stepping up to the wall, he dipped his finger in the red splash, tasted it, and realizing that it was blood, collapsed in amazement.
Though the trick was simple, only a Houdin could have devised and carried it out successfully. During the night he had melted some wax, blackened it to look like lead, and ran it into a bullet mould, thus obtaining a hollow globe of wax exactly resembling a bullet in appearance. It was with this bullet the marabout loaded his pistol, and in ramming it down crushed it to powder. A second bullet, similarly made, Houdin filled with blood obtained from his own body. This he dropped into his pistol, and rammed it down very gently, so as not to crush it. As it struck the walk it was broken, leaving a red splash of blood.

## TELEPHOTOGRAPHY.

Every photographer has seen opportunities for making desirable photographs when distance interposed an insurmountable obstacle; for example, it may be desired to photograph a group of cattle in a field, which would be scattered on the approach of a human being, or a distant but inaccessible mountain which could only be seen to advantage from a neighboring hill, or a bit of scenery on the further side of a river or lake, and hundreds of other scenes which attract the eve of the photographer, but which are practically beyond the reach of his instrument without the device described in this article, by means of which the object may be brought into such close proximity as to make the work of the photographer very easy.
Given a distant and inaccessible object, the necessity for a photograph, and a photographer desirous of producing such a photograph, and we have all the conditions for the practical use of the telephotographic attachment herewith illustrated. This is not a telephotographic objective, but an achromatic negative combination to be attached to an ordinary photographic lens to amplify the image produced by the lens from three to eight diameters, thereby representing the object at from one-third to one-eighth the distance shown by the lens without the attachment; in other words, it enables the operator with a photographic lens to obtain a photograph of an object on a much larger scale than can be obtained with the lensalone without the telephotographic attachment. During the late war with Spain, the desirability of pro-
only extricated himself by his quick-wittedness. He was the guest of an Arab chief, Abou Allem, and entertained his host and friends by a few tricks. One of the company was a marabout, who asserted that the spectators in Algiers had been merely duped by a vision. Houdin, however, produced the marabout's watch in his hand, and, on feeling his sash, the marabout found there a five-franc piece. Convinced by this and other feats that Houdin was really a sorcerer he challenged him to repeat his performance in the theater and produced two pistols. "You need not fear," said the Arab, "since you know how to ward off bullets." Without losing his self-possession, Houdin


COURSE OF THE RAYS THROUGH THE TELEPHOTO.
explained that his invulnerability lay in a talisman which was with his possessions in Algiers. "By six hours' prayer, however, I can do without that talis man, and at eight o'clock to-morrow morning you can fire at me."
At the appointed time there was a large concourse of Arabs, which the news had attracted. The pistols were brought and carefully examined. The marabout dropped in the powder, Houdin handed him a bullet from the tray, and he rammed it down. Houdin then loaded his own pistol, and, walking about fifteen paces away, turned and faced the marabout. The shot was fired, and the Frenchman opened his mouth and
negatives with the aid of a curing photographic me very apparent. Mr. Dwight L. Elmendorf, of New York city, who has made a special study of this method of photography, followed the campaigns in Cuba both on sea and land, and with the id of the remarkable photographs of troops in action. Many of these photographs were taken at a great distance from the scene of action, so that the photographer was in comparative safety while engaged in taking the views The results obtained, however, do not justify this supposition, as, from all appearances, the men appear to be in close proximity to the camera, and one would judge that the intrepid photographer was having a hot time of it. There are immense possibilities of a very practical nature in the use to which this method of photography can be put, and it should prove of of photography can be put, and it should prove of
great value in warfare in determining the nature of great value in warfare in determining the nature of
the enemy's country, in making observations of special objects and fortifications, and in obtaining a record of the positions of troops while maneuvering or in action, while they are at a considerable distance.

We give an example of the work that may be ob tained by the use of the telephotographic attachment. The smaller picture is a view of a large summer hote in Maine, which was taken on an $8 \times 10$ plate with a rectilinear lens. The small space inclosed by the parallelogram contains what appears on the larger plate magnified seven times. Both views were taken from the same point, one with the photographic lens alone the other with the lens provided with the telephoto graphic attachment adjusted to magnify seven times This attachment is of great utility in taking views with even much less magnification than that her shown. It is very useful in making pictures of buildings, especially high and inaccessible portions, as it permits the operator to take the view from a point far enough away to avoid the distortion common to pictures made with the lenses of wide and medium angles.
The attachment is shown as applied to a Zeiss anas
tigmat $61 / 2 \times 81 / 2$ lens on an $8 \times 10$ box provided with an extension, to enable the parts to be adjusted for a magnification of eight times. This necessitates a camera box 42 inches long, requiring the use of two tripods. The extension on the back of the camera box is 22 inches in length, and is used fully extended only for magnif ying six, seven or eight times. For making views with a magnification of three, four or five diameters the rear bellows is closed, and the apparatus is supported on a single tripod.
The telephotographic attachment represented in one of the engravings with a Zeiss objective inserted in the outer end is shown partly in section, to more clearly illustrate the construction. The rear or flanged end of the attachment contains an achronatic negative or concave lens which corresponds to an amplifying lens in a microscope or telescope. To the tube containing this lens is fitted a sliding tube, in the front end of which is placed the photographic lens proper. The sliding tube is adjusted by means of a rack and pinion, the latter being turned by the inilled wheel.
As the amplifier magnifies any imperfections that may be in the lens to which it is applied, it follows that none but the finest lenses can be used in connection with the attachment. It has also been ascertained that it is necessary to have the negative lens fitted to and corrected for the photographic lens with which it is used. After the rays cross in the photographic lens and diverge within the camera, the central ones are rendered still more ivergent by the achro divergent by the achronatic concave lens taking the course shown in the diagram. It will be seen that only a small portion of the rays received and transmitted by the photographic lens pass through the amplifying lens. The time of exposure is, of course, posure is, of with the, telephotographic attachment than with the photographic lens alone: that is, it is approximately proportional to the square of the magnification. For example: If, with the photographic lens alone, the exposure would be $\frac{1}{64}$ of a second, with the telephotograph adjusted to magnify eight times, it would require an expoure of one second ; but there is considerable latitude in exposure in a telephotograph, and t is well enough to give a little more time than the rule calls for
The principles underlying the use of the camera for this kind of photography are so simple that there is no reason why any one having any taste for photography should not quickly become accustomed to its manipulation, with results that will be found mat lil be found most novel and gratifying. The expense is trifling, as the ordinary camera and lens may be used, the extra length being obtained by means of the box extension at the back of the ordinary camera. This box extension is clearly shown in the engraving. Of course, owing to the length of the complete apparatus when assembled for telephotographic work, two tripods are necessary. We present in one of the views a detail of he telephotographic attachment and a diagram showing the path of the rays before they reach the plate as


A HOTEL IN MAINE PHOTOGRAPHED WITH ORDINARY LENS.


PHOTOGRAPH OF SAME BUILDING FROM SAME PONNT WITH TELEPHOTO ATTACHMENT, DISTANCE NEARLY TWO MILES.
calling it "swallowing," "An act similar to swallowing," etc.
The writer's discovery of two membraneous valves just inside the teeth has made possible the following conception of the breathing of teleost fishes.

The construction and operation of the fish's appa ratus is that of a perfect two-valve pump. In such a pump there must be a chamber which possesses two openings, each guarded by a valve. The forces neces sary to operate such a structure are three (or six) in number: 1st, a force so applied as to alternately con tract and expand the chamber; 2d, a force to alter nately shut and open the posterior (exit) valve; 3 d , a force to alternately shut and open the anterior valve. These valves must be operated in proper sequence to the expansion and contraction of the chamber. The valves may be operated either by separate mechanism or by the automatic action of a current passing through the chamber.

It is to this latter point that attention is called in the case of the fish. Here we find a chamber (the oral cavity) and two openings, the mouth (anterior opening) and the double gill opening (posterior opening). Muscular force is applied to expand and contract the oral cavity. But no such direct application of muscular force is needed to open and close the anterior and posterior openings. This is done automatically by the branchiostegal valves in the gill opening (or posterior opening), and by the maxillary and mandibular breathing valves in the mouth opening (or anterio opening). The fish is thus not required to use separate muscles to close and open the passages, but the loss of energy due to friction and retarded momen tum on the valves mus be added to that required to expand and contract the oral cavi ty. It is simply a mechanical economy such as is found in the heart.

## Work on the Public

 Library.At the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of the New York Public Library it was an nounced that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment would pioba bly be able to appropriate $\$ 1,000,000$ for the work on the New York Public Library during the present year, and $\$ 500,000$ thereof is now immediately available, by reason of an appro priation made March 17, for removing the reservoir and making the foundations. The work on the library has been delayed for a long time, owing to the real or supposed approach of the city to its debt limit. However, there has really been no time lost, for the interval since the adoption of the plans has been mos valuable as giving an opportunity for their study and development. Since July, 1896, about 80,000 volumes and 80 , 000 pamphlets $h a v e$ been added to the col lection of the library, and at the end of the present year the library will contain about 465,000 volumes and 180,000 pamphlets. To accommodate the great increase, nearly five linear miles of shelv ing have been built, of which nearly onehalf has been placed in the Lenox Library building.

## Sorresponderice.

## A New Plan of Education

To the Editor of the Scientific American
The sketch I gave of a plan to promote international correspondence and mutual help, that you kindly inselted in the Scientific American of January 14, 1899, has brought me many very sympathetic comments from your readers and more inquiries than I know how to answer, unless you can find a place for this letter in your correspondence columns. I shall try to condense my reply as much as possible.
First: No such an association as I propose yet exists whether it ever shall be realized depends entirely on the reception this idea meets with generally. If such an association is really as useful as I believe it to be to thousands of intelligent people all over the world, it will certainly appear, grow, and become as common an institution as the post office. If the time is not ripe for it, it will have to wait. I am the last man to know anything about that.
Second: I am quite alone in this, and have neither the time nor the means to work out the plan single handed.
Third : Since many correspondents ask me where the money is to come from, I must have failed to explain that the very pith of the plan is that no capital is needed to run it. All is based on mutual service. A comparatively small sum must be collected to pay for work in drawing up the programme, printing and posting the lists of associates, etc., these expenses to be covered by sale of lists at a moderate price. Once started, the bureau should soon become self-supporting. Finally: My idea of commencing the business was as follows: In each of the greater countries a newspaper or journal that would. lend its temporary assistance to the plan would request people who were universally known in their country (statesmen, authors, artists,
capitalists, etc.), and who approved the proposed association, to send their names and addresses to the editor. A list of these names would then be sent to each of these gentlemen, with the request to name one representative, the one who received the most votes to be the representative of his country. In case of refusal, the next, etc. Once elected, the representatives of all countries, perhaps 12 or 15 in all, might arrange the time and place of meeting, say at the Paris Exhibition. This meeting to nominate a board of three or more persons, at their choice, who would constitute the central bureau mentioned in my paper. Immediately on being nominated, the bureau would commence work, i. e., draw up and publish the circular, elaborate a programme, etc.
This co-operation of universally known men would be invaluable, as it would immediately place the whole scheme on a serious footing and earn for it the confidence of all people. At the same time, I fail to see on what grounds we could expect them to refuse their assistance. The plan is in no way a speculation or commercial enterprise-rather a kind of mutual education and assistance scheme. The trouble would be limited to writing and sending two cards to a newspaper, the first containing writer's name and address ; the second, name of representative. The work of the representatives on meeting each other would also be limited to the organization of the central bureau. When matters would have reached that point, I think it would be an easy matter to realize the sinall capital necessary to commence work.
A last word. Some correspondents tell me that it would be unreasonable to expect special or detailed information free of all charge. Evidently; nor do I think there can be two opinions on that point. But as things stand at present, most of us do not know where to ask for the reliable information that we are quite willing to pay for.
N. Shishkov.

Simbirsk, Russia.

The Current Supplement.
The current Supplement, No. 1213, has many in teresting articles, of which "The Nicaragua Canal" is undoubtedly the most interesting. This is a digest of a lecture delivered by Prof. Lewis M. Haupt, member of the Nicaragua Canal Commission, and revised by the author. It is accompanied by nine interesting photographs. "An English View of the SpanishAmerican War" is a timely article. "The Production of Metallic Tubes by Extrusion" describes a new metallurgical process, by which all kinds of metallic sections, even of the most complex designs, are obtained by forcing metal melted to plasticity through a die under hydraulic pressure. "Trade Suggestions from United States Consuls" are particularly interesting in this number. The usual notes are also published, including a number of formulas for shoe dressings. "New Jersey Corporations" is an article describing that State's great income derived from corporations which come to the State because they are not excessively taxed. "The Patent Systems of the United States and Foreign Countries Compared" is by W. Clyde Jones. "The North American Porcupine" is an interesting article by Dr. G. Archie Stock well.

## Content



## RECENTLY PATENTED INVENTIONS.

## Agricultural Implements.

CHECK-ROW CORN-PLANTER. -- Charles H. Baker, St. James, Mo. The invention provides a ma chine which is capable of varying in an effective and simple manner the distance between the points at which the wheel and means for imparting a continuous rotary motion thereto. A rotatable drop a conte is mounted beloo the feed-wheel and is provided with means for imparting an intermittent motion thereto, and with means fo varying the length of each movement thereof. The invention, it will be observed, embodies a new method of regulating the movement of the drop-plate. By reason of this construction, the intervals between the drop
pings can be varied as desired, it being also possible ac pings can be varied as desired, it being also possible ac-
curately to measure the exact adjustment of the parts necessary for any given distance between the droppings.

## Bicycle-Appliances.

DEVICE FOR TRUING WHEELS. - John G Schmidt, Portland, Ore. This truing device for bicycle wheels has a body-plate with a fixed and an adjustable jaw adapted for engagement with the forks of the
bicycle-frame. An adjusting-bar is pivoted on the body bicycle-frame. An adjusting-bar is pivoted on the body
bar and extends below the jaws and beyond the body plate. A truing-point is carried by the body-plate, and a second truing-point is adjustably located on the ad-justing-bar to take eccentric deflection off the wheel. The device is of such size and form as to permit its being carried in a tool-bag.

## Engineering-Improvements.

rotary engine.-William h. Wilson, Hinton, W. Va. The engine has two rotary exhaust valves which connected with oscillating pistons which are operated by steam led to them from the main inlet ports of the engine. These main ports are two in number-one for forward motion and one for reversing. They are opened and closed by a valve consisting of two concentric tububy a single lever connected with them on the outside.

## Mechanical Devices.

CARDING-MACHINE.-Alexandre Vinchon, Roubaix, France. The ordinary method of cleaning wool in carding machines, by means of the picker roller, gives imperfect results, because the wool is very slightly divided, and because it becomes entangled by large fibers,
thus hiding and retaining in the wool, burs and other im. thus hiding and retaining in the wool, burs and other im.
purities. The object of this invention is to overcome purities. The object of this invention is to overcome
these two defects by placing directly behind the picker roller a cleaning-roller having rows of fine teeth arranged longitudinally around its periphery. These teeth open out the fibers and expose the burs, which are then re-
moved by another picker-roller without injuring the fiber.
COIN-CONTROLLED VENDING'-MACHINE. .William Tribble, Alton, Ill. This machine is intended for the automatic vending of cigars. The cigars are
placed in a box in the top of the machine. They are the layers, so that when the ribbon is wound off on a reel the cigars are displaced one at a time and fall into slots in a delivering roller, which turns and drops them in a chute. The macinine is so constructed that it may be set to deliver two cigars or more at a time if desired
SINGLE TRIGGER FOR DOUBLE-BARREL FIRE ARMS.-Peter C. Koll, Walnut. Iowa. The invention provides a single trigger which may be used with perfect
safety for two hammers, and which is constructed so
that the right-hand llammer will drop first without the possibility of the left-hand hammer's being brough
into action. Upon pulling the trigger a second time after the first firing, the left-hand hammer will be perated. Novel means are provided for safely lowering the hammers when cocked and when the gun is opened this result being attained mainly by the forward move ment of the trigger. If, however, the hammer be cocke firing, the trigger being locked angingt dorwapd boved firing, th
ment.

## Miscellaneous Inventions.

EnVELOP.-Jacob Schaub, Salt Lake City, Utah This invention seeks to provide an envelop which cann provided with a bottom flap having an inward fold form ing a pocket, with two side flaps overlapping each other and the bottom flap, and separated at their lapped ends by a narrow space, so as to permit the tongue of a mu ilaged sealing-flap to enter the pocket. The envelop of especial service in the sending of second class matter
through the mails.
hose-coupling.-Henry O. Paul. Clear lake owa. One of the two sections of this coupling is formed with a conical, shouldered head, and with a second shoulder back of the first. The mating section is con-
nected with the first section by means of a collar, the rear shoulder previously mentioned being located within the coilar. Locking-pawls on the collar engage the first shoulder of the first named section, and prevent the uncoupling of the parts. In order to make the coupling watertight, a cone-shaped washer is fitted on the con al shouldered head of the one section, between the two

WIRE-FENCE.-Lingue S. Morgan, Kendall, Kan This invention provides a wire -fence whose longitudina wires may be easily applied and locked to the posts or readily adjusted to take up the slack of the wires, or to restore the posts themselves to their original vertical positions when they have departed therefrom. The fence-posts are notched to receive the wires and to hold them in place. In order that these wires may be still more securely locked, a spring-loop is pro-
vided which is adapted for engagement with the wire. The corner-posts of the fence are formed with a body portion comprising a
outer plate, and a flat-base. In order to adjust the post, an adjusting stay-rod, formed of two parts cornected by a swivel-nut, and two shorter brace-rods with nuts ap-
plied to their ends, are employed. In adjusting the plied to their ends, are employed. In adjusting the corner post, the swivel is rotated and the nuts turned on the brace-rods, until the desired position of the posts as been obtained.
CASKET-HANDLER FOR HEARSES. - William P. Fest, Rochester. N. Y. The improvement provided
by the inventor for moving burial caskets to and from by the inventor for moving burial caskets to and from hearses, consists of a platform and bars designed as a
permanent attachment to a hearse, and adapted to slide permanent attachment to a hearse, and adapted to slide
underneath the vebicle-body when not in use. By means
raised.
DRESS-SHIELD Holder. - August F. Beese, Buffalo, N. Y. The purpose of this invention is to pro to the arm-scye of a garment, the attachment being so made that the shield may be quickly detached from the garment and another substituted. The device consist essentially of two parts : a gripping-section having two
jaws, and a locking-section, the two sections coacting to jaws, and a locking-section, the two sections coacting to
hold the shield in place.
TELEPHONE DESK AND REGISTER.-Horati F. Forrest, Brandon, Canada. The desk comprises a
vertical backboard in which the desk proper is removably held. The desk is provided at its under surface with
two rollers. one of which is adapted to pass through th core of a roll of paper, the other to pass through the after it has been unwound. Two openings in the des permit the paper to pass from one roller to the other ove he desk, after the desired records, notes, or memorand have been made.
PIPE-COVERING. - John A. Scharwath, Jersey
City, N. J. The covering is especially designed for
City, N. J. The covering is especially designed for use on ammonia, brine, or other pipes, and comprises
a split layer of waterproof material, surrounded by split a split layer of waterproof material, surrounded by split
rings, a split layer of felt held together by staples and rings, a split layer of felt held together by staples and
surrounded by a tube, and a fabric the edges of which overlap and are held together by glue. The covering is designed to prevent the formation of frost on the pipe and the loss of cold.
Cartridge-belt. - Louis Sanders, Brooklyn New York city. The novel feature of this invention is ound in the use of a clamp comprising a box-loop fitted arms arranged to be outwardly bowed. Spurs or pron are arranged to be forced through the belt-leaf when th arme of the box-loop are readjusted to clamp the belttension leaves of the belt, and to increase or decrease the diameter of a cartridge-pocket originally formed in REP
repairing device.-George b. Leonard, Chi. cago, Ill. The purpose of the invention is to provide a to permit a quick connection between the water-supply pipe with the bowl, should the water-inlet be broken off. The device includes a thimble with a flaring end, mean for drawing the thimble outwardly, and a coupling co prising two pivotally. connected links extended loosely serviug to limit the outward movement of the thimble.

EGG-PRESERVING CRATE.-Benson H. Shearer and Whlism O. Lewis, West Clarksvile, N. Y. The body of the crate is so constructed that it will be surcontained in the chambers or passageways serving to prevent the absorption of water by the eggs, thus keep ing the eggs clear and bright. The lid of the crate is so made that, when placed in position, the egge will be pre vented from becoming tainted.
DOOR-HANGER-JACEson D. Schooler, Sedalia, Mo. 'The hanger at its upper end is journaled on balls mounted to travel in a tuhe split to permit the passage of
the hanger. The tube is supported on eyebolts, each having a shank and an open eye, the connection between the shank and eye being split. When each eyebolt is screwed up by means of a nut, the split portions are
closed, thus causing the eye firmly to hold the tube in place. The hanger is especially designed for freightcars, barns, and dwellings.

## Designs.

CORN-HUSKER PAD.-Johann G. Kees, Nebrask City, Neb. Pads of this class are secured to the hand by straps and are provided with iron hooks to open are made for the purpose of relieving the ends of the pad of undue stifness, and also for the purpose of preventine wrinkling as the ends are drawn and bent around the used to secure the pad to the hand.

Note.-Copies of any of these patents will be furn ished by Munn \& Co. for ten cents each. Please send
the name of the patentee, title of the invention, and date the name of
of this paper

## NEW BOOKS ETC

THE ELEMENTS OF PHYSICS. A College Text Book. By E. L. Nichols and
William S. Franklin. Vol. I. Me-
chanics and Heat. New York: The chanics and Heat. New York: The
Macmillan Company. 1898. 8vo. Pp. Macmillan Compa
218. Price $\$ 1.50$.
The volume before us is the new edition, revised, with additions. The study of physics is an entirely different
matter from what it was fifteen or twents years ago, and the conditions call for new text books and systems of
teaching. Now, when the student takes teaching. Now, when the student takes up physics, he
must necessarily have a familiarity with mathematics, must necessarily have a familiarity with mathematics, so
that he can take hold of the matter intelligently from a that he can take hold of the matter intelligently from a
mathematical standpoint. The present volume is admirably adapted for a text book where the knowledge of elements of the calculus is understood. Combined with supplementary lectures and laboratory work, the three volumes cannot fail to give the reader a most admirable

American Trade Index. A DescripNational Association of the Manufacturers of the United States. Arranged for the Convenience of For-
eign Buyers. Philadelphia : National Association of Manufacturers. 1899. $12 \mathrm{mo} . ~ P p .276$.
The National Association of Manufacturers was formed in 1895, for the advancement of American trade. The
membership of the association embraces 1,000 of the argest and most responsible manufacturers of the United States. It is a thoroughly representative organization, as its members are of all the important branches of industry and the principal producing sections of the country. A well equipped bureau of information is maintained by accomplished by it. The association neither buys nor sells merchandis, and charges no fees for furniehing information. The classified list, which is before us, is a large American trade index, and will undoubtedly

The Evolution of the English House. By S. O. Addy, M.A. London: Swan,
Sonnenschein \& Company. New
York: The Macmillan Company. 1898.
12mo. Pp. 223. 42 illustrations. Price
$\$ 1.50$. We do not know of a more interesting subject than the evolution of the English house, in which we are more or less interesled, because the English house is the
prototype of our own. The volume before us deals with round huts, which were the earliest form of European houses, underground houses, rectangular houses, the town house, manor house, the castle, watch tower and church or "Lord's house." The author has treated a very difficult subject with marked success, and it is to be hoped that a large number of readers will appreciate his efforts,
The volume forms one of the "Social England Series," The volume forms one of the "Social England Series,"
and the only criticism we have to make regarding it is the totally unnecessary badness of the half-tone engravings, which are almost useless. It is a pity that such a scholarly and important book should been so badly made. It is accompanied by an excellent Index, which is usually

The Yarn of the Yampa, A Transat
lantic Cruise. By E. L'H. McGinnis. New York. Oun E. L'H. McGinnis pany. 1898. 16mo. Pp. 160. Illus pany.
This little book before us is admirably illustrated by half-tone engravings. The book is well worth reading since it sums up in an entertaining way the account of
the author's trip, and it gives good descriptions of many

Important things and places．We are afraid，however，
that our sailor friends will find that the author has been that our sailor friends will fnd that the author has been
somewhat loose in his use of nautical terms and phrsese， an on page 31 and elsewhere when he refers to the is a large seagoing vessel，and specifcally a large vese with bowsprit and three（recently also with four and even tive）masts，each of which carries square salls；a ＂schooner＂is a fore－and－aft rigged vessel of two or more masts］，and of waves＂striking us fairly and
squarely aft of our quarters，＂which would amuse most sailors．On page 53 we find that every rope wa neatly flemi

Inductive Master Method．German for Educated Americans，With or
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ing German，one thing at least is certain－it is assuredly ucique．To teach a language by induction is，to be sur no new idea；but the means whereby the author of the present system endeavors to impart this inductive knowl－
edge are decidedly original．Each day＇s lesson consists of a typical German sentence，which is modified into fifteen different forms．A ehort key to pronunciation and German proverb or poetical quotation conclude the day leesson．At the end of the thirteenth week the student is supposed to have learned eno
Uhland＇s＂D Des Sangers Fluch．＂

Quick and Easy Methods of Calcu

> LATING. A Simple Explanation o the Theory and Use of the Slide Rule
the Theory and Use of the Slide Rule
Logarithus，etc．By R．G．Blaine
M．E．London and New．York：Spon
\＆Chanberlain．1898．18mo．Pp． 144．Price $\$ 1$ ．
a necessity，and of these the slide rule is probalmo a necessity，and of these the slide rule is probably the
most important．The student，toiling along by arith－ most important．The student，toiling along by arith－
metical methods，can haraly fail to regard with won－ der and admiration the ease and rapidity with which deractically the same results are obtained by one expert in the use of this litte instrument．A clear perception
of the elementary trinciples on which the rule is con－ of the elementary principles on which the rule is con－
etructed will enable the student to soon work out for structed will enable the student to soon work out for
himeelf satisfactory methods of calculating，aud when he himself satisfactory methods of calculating，aud when he
is once master of the elide rule and the use of logarithms， he will certainly never return to the clumsy methods which he formerly used．
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railroad men，and it contains full information on the modern railroad locomotive and all its attachments，in cluding air brake，air pumps，triple valve，hrake pum taining valve，trainmen＇s signal valve，signals，switches brake leverage，etc．，also directions for operating and caring for all the parts．A set of questions and answers on braking，breakdowns，blocking，etc．，are added．It 1 nation．A full set of double trip daily time sheets lso included．

Electrolysis and Electrosynthe
 Sons．1898． 12 mo．Pp．103．Price
$\$ 1$. $\$ 1$. interesting one，and electricity，which possesses such position in organic chemistry．The very nature of the sub－ ject suggested the po：sibility of rolving eynthetical and analytical problems by it which had，as yet．remained nanswered．The book aims to give as briefly as pose le a review of what has already been accomplished，an $t$ the same time to create an interest in the performance of organic compounds．
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E．L．Wilson．1898．12mo．Pp． 286. Price 50 cents
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The American Sugar Industris．By Orange Judd Company．1899．Pp 211．Price $\$ 1.50$ ．
A practical mannal on the production of sugar beet from lies before us．It is prefaced by a treatise on the eco－ omic aspects of the whole sugar question，and its bear ing upon American agriculture，manufactures，labor and capital，constituting a hand book for the farmer o We have already published two illustrated articles he manufacture of beet sugar，and we know，from the widespread interest which they awakened，that
the subject is fast becoming of vital importance to the subject is fast becoming of vital importance
admirable treatise，clear and to the point．The illus－
trations are excellent and numerous．It is a book which we
The International AnNual of An Thon Y＇s Photographic Bulletin
Vol．X．For 1898．New York：E $\& \quad$ H．T．Anthony Company
8 vo ． Pp .303 ．Price 75 cents． The＂International＂is always a welcome visitor，and readable and valuable articles，which are beautifull illustrated．Without the several photographic annual vast amount of important information would be almo wasted，for few can preserve many periodicals．
How to Make an Indicator．By A．C．
Lippincott．New York：New York Lippincott．New York：New York
Publishing and Model Company，
Cortlandt ${ }^{\text {Street．}} 1898 . \quad 24$ pp． $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Cortlandt } & \text { Strect．} 1898 . \\ \text { pamphlet．} & 24 \text { pp．} \\ \text { Price } 75 \text { cents in cloth，} 50\end{array}$ cents in paper．
An admirable little publication，containing all instruc onsand working drawings required by an ordinar machinist to enable him to construct an accura eam engine indicator，make and test the springe，al
rom material readily obtained in any locality．Then high price of indicators has prevented many steam use from possessing them，but with a manual like the presen any mechanic can construct a reliable instrument，espe cially as the company supply materials，castings，an

Hand Book of Metallurgy．By Dr Carl Schnable．Translated by Henr ver，and Gold．Vol．II．Zinc，Cadmi－
um，Mercurv，Bismuth，Tin，Antimo ny，Arsenic，Nickel，Cobalt，Platinum Aluminum．London and New York Pp． $876+732$ ． 927 illustrations．Pric $\$ 10$
fact that there does not exist in the E There are，indeed，a number of smaller text books，mai $y$ adapted for the use of students，which cover the entir eld，but make no pretension to describing it with an horoughness or detail．Such being the position in re rendered the English－speaking metallurgist a distinct ervice in translating the most recent and eshanativ work on the subject in any langnage．from the pen of an minent metallurgical authorty．The book gives a com－ pete account of the matallurgical treatment of every one of the metals ordinarily employed，together with the recent improvements in the art，not neglecting the scie trated by examples drawn from actual practice in rated by examples drawn from actual practice
various parts of the world．The author＇s travels has been extensive，which results in his experience be ing very great，and，of course，amply qualifying
him for his task．After a careful examination of the two volumes，we feel we can safely say that it
is one of the most important contributions ever made 5 metallurgical literature．The matter is so condensed ifficulty readily available，and there volumes．The illustrations are numerous，well selected nd admirably．executed，and serve to elucidate the
ext in an excellent manner．The index pleases us par－ icularly．
A Guide to the Study of the Geolo Gical Collections of the New York State Museum．Albany． 1898
8vo．Pp．262，maps．Price 40 cents． U．Pp．26，maps．Price 40 cents． iseued as Museum Bulletin 19，＂A Guide，＂etc．，by Dr Frederick J．H．Merrill，director and State geologist．Tu balletin aims to supplement the collections with suc cimens，and to direct visitors to reliable sources for more detailed information，since few persons have the prelim
inary training to enable them to obtain from the collec inary training to enable them to obtain from the collec
tions such advantage as they might receive if they fully ions such advantage as they might $r$

Minerals in Rock Sections．Practi cal Methods of Identifying Mineral in Rock Sections with the Microscope． Company．1898．8vo．Pp．117．Price $\$ 1.50$ ．
The work is specially arranged for students in technical Departiment of Mineralogy．of Columbia University ren－ ders him particularly competent to deal with the subject． The identification of minerals in rock sections with the microscope，including as it does a knowledge of optical mineralogy，is often difficult for beginners，but the knowledge thus obtained is of the greatest possible value．
Unfortunately，the most of the publications ject are in Freuch and German，and they are usually tirely too confused in arrangement to be of much value to the student．For these reasons this text book has been prepared by the writer，with a view of putting before the students only those facts which are absolutely neces－
sary for the proper recognition and identification of com－ sary for the proper recognition and identification of com－
mon minerals in the rock sections．A valuable table mon minerals in the rock sections．A valuable table
gives a scheme for the optical determination of com－ gives a scheme for che optica．
mon minerals in rock sections．

T Square Club．Catalogue of the ohia，January 14 to February 2， 1899. Pp．224．8vo．Price $\tilde{5} 0$ cents
The handsome volume before us is filled with superb times its price architectural designs and is worth many imes its price as a study book for architects．The ad－ ertisers in the volume many and its merit dcserves The most important section，＂An Unaffected School of Modern Architecture in America－Will it Come ？＂is Bencen
tects，such as Louis H．Sullivan，John M．Carrère，D．H．

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htc．By A．S．Lovendal．Paris 60 cents
A book of this kind is always useful，as nothing A diffcult than to give the exact equivalents of tools ng the classification．After that all is easy．The pre ent dictionary will certainly prove of value

Berg＇s Complete Timber Test Rec ORD．By Walter G．Berg．Chicag This pamphlet is filled with valuable tables dealin with the strength of timber of all kinds．It will prove
interesting to architects，inspectors of wood and con tructi
Testing Milk and lits Products．A nd Cheese Chemists and Dairy Farmers．By E H．Farrington and F．W．Woll．
Madison，Wis．：Mendota Book Com－ pan
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It is a thoroughly scientific treatise on the subject by ent professors of the University of Wisconsín． s now in its fourth edition．The vital importance of tarians the world over．and ther are given very substan ial help by such a treatise as the present volume．It is

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This volume is an eminently practical book which will tects．It also includes full directions for framing the imbers for a brick house．The book is freely illustrated with well executed engravinge．

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The Tribune Almanac has established an enviable $r$ peliability．As a political register it is unrivaled．
ren the
Fifth annual Report ofthe Commis－ SIONER OF PUBLIC ROADS OF TH State of New Jersey for 1898.
Trenton．N．J． $1898 . \quad$ Pp． $207.8 \mathrm{gos}$. Illustrated．
We are always interested in this report of the Commis sioner of Public Roads，for，to a certain extent，New
Jersey，which has such splendid roads and such atro ciously bad roads，may be regarded as the experiment ground of the modern road builder．Some of the illus－ and the improvements which have been introduced them．If the farmers could only be brought to realize the enormous value of good roads，the work of the Road
Commissioner would be simple． Recent Earth Movement in th Great Lakes Region．By Grove ment Printing Office．1898．8vo．
The pamphlet before us is an extract from the Survey，and contains a vast amount of scientific informa－ tion on a little appreciated phenomenon．
Eleventh Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board OF AGricul－ TURE．Topeka：Kansas State
of Agriculture． $1899 . \quad$ Pp． 840.
When we look at the portly volume，which is larger than the Government Agriciltural Report，we congratu－ late Kansas upon her prosperity．＂What is the matter
with Kansas ？＂is now only a memory，and，if nothing lise were nceded，the volume bef with sure that the prosperity of Kansas is not grudged by her sister States
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（7627）K．D．R．asks：1．What is the size of the coils used in making the recording voltmettr
described on page 455 of＂Experimental Science＂？ described on page 455 of＂Experimental Science＂？ Why are two needles used，the inner one swinging in the central opening in the coils，the onter one being lo－ cated behind the coils，and what is the length of each
needle？How much wire is wound on each coil？What is the resistance of both coils？If $I$ wish to use the coils， needles，and index in a needle telegraph，would No． 22 wire be the right size to wind the coils？A．The working
warts，coils，needles，etc．，of galvanometer of＂Experi－ parts，coils，needles，etc．，of galvanometer of＂Experi－ mental Science，＂page 455，are those of an astatic gal－
vanometer．Three inches will do for the length and 1 vanometer．Three inches will do for the length and 1
to $11 / 2$ inches for the thickness of the spools．Two列es are used to render the system astatic．Make the would vary with the voltage current to which the instru－ ment is to be used．2．Do you publish in any of the back numbers of the Scientific American Supplement
an article on making a double needle telegraph？A．The needle telegraph is a double needie telegraph？Prescott＇s Electricity and the Electric Telegraph，＂price \＄7．
（7628）F．A．B．asks：Does aluminum ecome extremely brithe when cooled to the temperature of liquid air or liquid nitrogen？And does the tensile A．Aluminum is said to remain pliable when cooled to the temperature of liquid air．All metals have their tensile strength increased by cooling．Aluminum would be
about twice as strong at $300^{\circ}$ below zero Fah．as at the ordinary temperatur
（7629）G．F．W．writes：In a Sunday chool room，an empty seat（with back）vibrates with the can I utilize the vibrations of the seat to telephone them to a distant point？A．You will not be able to transmit the music of an organ to a distance by
means of a telephone and a seat in the rear of the room in which the organ is，for this reason：The e of sympathetic vibration．See Tyndall on＂Sound，＂price \＄2．50；Zahm＂ Sound and Music，＂price $\$ 3.50$ ，by mail．It is possible o arrange a telephone transmitter so as to take up the （7630）Reader asks ：How can I make battery，the exciting fluid of which shall be a solutiou


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strength of current sufficient to operate for say an hour
at a time? A. You ask the impossible. No sal anmoniac battery can run continuously for even a quarter of al our without great reductiou in the current. This is due
o polarization, and cannot be avoided. If you wish a
 or a gravity battery. 'The directions for making the b
chromate battery are given in SUPLEEMENT, No. 792 chromate batte
price 10 centa.
(7631) L. A. D. asks: Is there any dan ger in amalgamating the zinc of the gravity battery in

putting on the mercury too thick? Also, in making the regular Crowfoot do they add the mercury while meltin the zinc, or do they rub the mercury on afterward? . The rest you mar put on will run off as water does. Th | $\begin{array}{l}\text { mercurry is combined with the zine in the Carr composite } \\ \text { zinc. These do not require amalgamating and can be }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | bought of dealers in electric supplies. See advertisin columns.

(7632) A. R. T. asks: Should the rubber plates of a sectorless machine be shellacked? A. Nothing
is gained in shellacking the rubber platees of an mdnction machine beyond giving them a polished appear
preventing the deposit of moisture upon them.An experience of ifty years and the preparation
INDEX OF INVENTIONS
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