Scientific American.



W. J. D. of New York .- Soft solder is composed of 66

parts of lead and 34 of tin.

J K. of N. Y.—The articles on dyeing were published in Vol. 10. There is no cheap plan for dyeing a dark brown on wool that will enable it to stand a strong sour of sulphuric acid. You can, by dyeing the goods a red with camwood, topping them with a prussian blue, or dyeing them first an indigo blue, and a red on the top, with madder, camwood, cochineal, or lac.

F. W. C. of Vt.-India rubber has been proposed to line vessels, to prevent leakage in case of collisions at sea. It would answer a better purpose than gutta percha

but would be more expensive.

N. II. of Md.—Those who have made inquiries of us respecting the work called "The Tinman's Guide," wish

VVm. Hogan, of Hogansville, Ga., wishes to purchase the best spoke lathe to be had in the market. Address him as above.

J. P., of Mass.—We do not know of any one engaged in the manufacture of steel wire. It is proper for your postmaster to charge 2 cents each on foreign papers sent to

G. M. M., of Tenn.-Patents have been secured for ma chines designed to reap, thrash, and separate the grain at the same operation. We believe they are considered impracticable, and, so far as we know, not one of them is

L. V., of Ill.-When boards are steeped a long period in a solution of the sulphate of copper, to preserve them, the solution should be weaker than when steeped in it only for a short period. Boucherie employs a stronger solution than that given by us. We cannot send you No. 28 of the last volume. We have seen drawings of Sala ville's method of ventilating granaries. The power of a windmill is just in proportion to its strength and the pressure of the wind on its sails. A breeze of five lbs. pressure on the square foot exercises twice as much power as

a gale exerting only half the pressure.

S. T. McD., of N. Y.—Any person stamping or printing the word "patented" on an unpatented article or machine, with the intention to deceive, is liable to a fine of \$100 for each offence. The date of the patent must be stamped or marked on all patented articles, under a penalty of \$100 for each neglect, if offered for sale by a pat-

P. S. A., of Ala.-We cannot conceive how you can obtain a vacuum in your tube by the descent of water, when both ends of it are immersed in water. It is well known that in a pipe of uniform diameter, water falling in it will cause a partial vacuum, because its velocity increases with the time of its descent.

John E. Boatman, of Bainbridge, Ohio, wishes a machine for knitting ladies and gentlemen's hoes. Who can supply him with this kind of a machine?

L. F. H, of Vt.—Sharp's breech-loading rifles are manufactured at Hartford, Conn. They can be purchased in this city. Some breech-loading rifles are very good for target shooting.

D. E. P., of Pa.-We did not receive your letter in time to do what you requested in regard to the milk pre-serving. If you intend to take out a patent for it, it will be better to defer the notice until such time as you might wish to publish an engraving of it.

B. J. V. M., of Pa.—Whirlpools revolve in all direc-

tions; they do not whirl contrary to the sun by any known law of nature. The water which you saw whirlingdown a pipe must have received its peculiar motion from the form of the pipe, or some other such cause. You will find the rules for obtaining the velocity of water under a head on pages 216 and 224, volume 11, Scientific Ameri-

B. W. M., of N. Y,-Good oil paint is the best for en posed brick or wood work.

U. B. V., of Pa.-Your suggestions in regard to the ven tilation of ships or sailing vessels by means of suitable machinery operated by clock-work are not new. This plan was first suggested in 1830 by a Commodore in the Navy, for ventilating dwellings in southern countries.— Since that time it has often been proposed to us.

A. S., of N. Y.-Attempts have been made to produce such a machine as you describe, but as yet we believe no success has been attained. Send us a sketch of yours and

we will examine it.

I. W., of N. Y.—Thegyroscope is an old invention, but was not generally known until it was illustrated in our last volume.

H. M., of Pa.-In architecture there is an arch called the "flat arch," on account of its curve being hidden to the eye, because it embraces such a small part of a cir-

R. G. S., of Md .- Acetate of lead dissolved in water then added to a solution of the bi-chromate of potash, precipitates the chromate of lead, which is employed as a yellow pigment in painting. You can easily manufac-ture it if you have chrome ore, as you state, on your

J. M. B., of Ohio.-You will find rules for calculating water power in our last volume, and by applying them to your case you will be able to calculate the power of your

J. McC., of Conn.—You cannot employ a syphon useful y to raise water to drive a water wheel. The reason why a syphon raises water is owing to the unbalanced pressure of the atmosphere; its outside leg must always be lower than the water level which supplies it. and the excess of its length over the short leg, is all the power you could obtain. As you would have to dig a pit for this purpose, and would have no tail-race, you will perceive that the project is impracticable.

Moneyre čeived at the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 29, 1856:-

S. P. S. of N. Y., \$30; P.H. of 111., \$55; A. & R. of N Y., \$10; P. E., of Ala., \$15; R. D. of Vt., \$25; H. F. P. of Mich., \$30; R. C. W. of O., \$20; W. B. of Tenn., \$25; K. & W. of Ind., \$25; J. L. of Pa., \$25; G. W. F. of Ind., K. & W. ofInd., \$25; J. L. of Pa., \$25; G. W. F. of Ind., \$27; C. & W. of Md., \$100; J. S. of Mass., \$5: M. J. M. of Md., \$15; T. G. of R. I., \$25; V. R. D. of Ill., \$30; J. G. E. of Pa., \$30; J. R. of N. Y., \$20, R. G. P. of N. J., \$30; O. & W. N. of Conn., \$30; W. F. of N. Y., \$20; S. N. S. of N. Y., \$60; H. P. of N. Y., \$15; V. R. of N. Y.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with thefollowing initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, Nov. 29:-E. G. A. of Mass. (2 cases); R. D. of Vt.; W. B. of Tenn.; K. & W. of Md.; J. S. B. of N. H.; W. S. of L I.; G. W. F. of Ind.; T. G. of R. I.; J. S. of Mass.; J. B. of Ill.; R. W. S. of Ala.; M. J. M. of Ind.

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give the most correct counsels to inventors in regard to the patentability of inventions placed before us for examination.

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