Scientific American.



J. R. N., of Mass-Some short articles on improv ments in agriculture would be acceptable. Our field of discussion is the whole circle of arts and sciences-nev and useful improvements especially.

J. G., of L. I.—There are several Patents on hydrants, in which the inventors claim that they are proof against the action of the frost, but we think there is considerable room for improvements in this class of inventions yet

W. & C., of Pa., wish to know where the metal aluminum can be procured in this country, and at what

R. C. M., of S. C.—The idea of sending written mes sages through a tube by means of atmospheric pressure is not new. Thirty years ago this plan was seriously talked over by men of science in Scotland, and subsequently several modifications have been proposed. Richardson had some ingenious modifications of this old system, but was not its first inventor as you suppose. Paper has been made of grass and also of corn stalks. Patents could only be procured for certain processes employed in the manufacture and not for the use of this article itself.

C. C. of N. Y.—There appears to have been no move-ment made by the Canadian Parliament to reform its odious Patent system; therefore you are evidently de-ceived in reference to the matter. We shall be glad to hear of the adoption of some system there which will open the way to the introduction of American improve-ments. Λ little more liberality in this matter would benefit the resources of Canada very much.

A. J. C., of Md .- In the course of our experience we have often met with just such cases as yours. If you had spent \$50 or \$60 at the time you firstmade your invention in procuring a patent for it, you would not now be mourning over the fact that some one else is making money out of it If you have no proof to sustain your claim to the originality of the invention, you have no remedy against the present patentee. While you have been shaking the bush some one else has caught the bird

R. A. of Ohio.—Our office at Washington gives careful attention to the examination of inventions with reference to their patentability. If you wish us to examine your device, we will do so upon receipt of a sketch and description of it. You cannot procure a Patent on the composition you describe for making a cement roofing West's Patent covers the same combination of ingredi

C. E. J., of Mich .- Whenever you succeed in lifting yourself over a fence in a basket by grasping the han dles, then we shall not dispair of success with the " per petual motion." Many ingenious men have wasted much of their valuable time over this phantom. They have many times "discovered it without mistake," but have always been snagged whenever they have attempt. ed to reduce their wild theories to practice. Take our word for it the thing is impossible with man.

J. F. G., of Mass.—Dick's Practical Astronomer will give you full instructions respecting the polishing of achromatic object glasses, specula, &c. We cannot tell you where you can procure rough disks of fiint glass.

D. F., of N. Y,—Neither sand, clay, ashes, fine brick, nor gypsum are good heat conductors, iron is the cheapest conductor. An article patented in England can be patented here by the first inventor, whether he is, or is not, the foreign patentee.

S. K. B., of N. H.-The average power of oversho water wheels is 70 per cent. The Lowell turbines, it is stated, average 80 per cent, of the water power.

T. C., of Ohio. - We are not acquainted with the opera tions of the Goodwin's Water Wh el, mentioned in your letter. The turbine of Mr. Munroe, illustrated another page of the present number will answer well for you, under a six foot head.

M. B. F., of _____Canadian balsam is the gum of the pine species, abies balsamea. The balsam of fir is a simi-

G. D. of Ill.-There is no law requiring an inventor to put his name on a machine of his invention, constructed before he obtains a patent for it.

W. T., of Conn.—Chloroform has never been applied to kill whales, and we presume never will. A gallon of it would produce no greater effect upon a monster of the deep than the same quantity of whiskey.

specting their reapers. You will find a decision given in one case between these two patentees on page 235, or our last volume.

H. P., of Ky—Your views in regard to the moon's rotation on an axis of its own, in reference to the planets, is the same as those we have already expressed on the

E. B., of N. H.-We do not question the correctness of your statement in reference to the operations of a divin-ing rod; but until we witness similar results it will be difficult to alter our opinions regarding its efficacy.

Money received at the Scientific American Offic on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, May 9, 1857 :-

W. L. B, of Vt, \$25; D. J., of Me., \$30; S. G. of Mass., W. L. B., of Vt., \$25; D. J., of Mes, \$30; S. G. of Mass, \$30; J. N. C., of Ex, \$20; L. C., of Pa., \$30; A. F. A., of Conn., \$30; J. A., of Mich., \$55; H. & S., of N. H., \$20; G. L. C., of N. Y., \$25, T. B., of N. Y., \$30; G. B., of N. Y., \$30; F. B., of Conn., \$25; J. C. S., of Mass., \$10; P. B., of N. Y., \$250; C. D. W., of Pa., \$200; D. S. D., of N. Y., \$20; T. M., of Pa., \$25; L. E., of Mich., \$30; H. B. L., of O., \$25; H. N. T., of N. Y., \$25; S. & Y., of Ill., \$30; G. S. C., of Ill., \$35; T. S., of Pa., \$57; J. E., of N. Y., \$30; B. & Van P., of Wis, \$25; C. P. C., of Mass., \$25; P. H., of Ill., \$30; U. B. S., of \$25; P. H., of Ill., \$30; W. M., of La., \$30; L. B. S., of N. Y., \$32; J. C. M., of N. Y., \$25.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with

the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, May 9, 1857; S. B., of La.; G. L. C., of N. Y.; D. J. of Me.; K. &c.

of Ill.; W. L. B., of Vt.; F. B., of N. Y.; J. C. M., of N. Y.; H, B. L., of O., A. W., of Pa.; T. M., of Pa. C, A. P., of N. Y.; H. N. T., of N. Y.; B. & Van P., of Wis.; C. P. C., of Mass.; N. J., of N. Y.; J. E., of N. Y.; L. B. S., of N. Y.; J. F. P., of N. Y.; E. O., of Mass.

Literary Notices.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE for April contains a fine picture by Sartain of the late Dr. Kane, which is said to be the best likeness of that eminent man yet published. It is certainly a very beautiful production, and does credit to all who have had a part in its preparation. Accompanying the portrait is an eloquent article upon "Dr. Kane's Arctic Explorations," which have so closely fastened his memory upon the hearts of his countrymen, and we may say of the whole world. The Eclectic Magazine is published every month by W. H. Bidwell, No.5 Beekman street, New York, at \$5 per annum. It is made up of the choicest selections from the ablet European periodicals, and is a work of great merit. We recommend it to the patronage of our readers.

THE YOUNG MEN'S MAGAZINE, conducted by Richd C. McCormick, Jr., has made its appearance, having chosen for its motto, "Droit et Avant". It has a choice and varied collection of original and selected matter, which cannot fail to recommend itself to that class for whose special benefit this magazine is intended. We wish it much success. Terms, \$1.50 perannum.

important Items

COMPLETE SETS OF VOLUME XII EXHAUSTED. We regret that we are no longer able to furnish com plete sets of the present volume. All the back numbers previous to No. 27 are entirely exhausted.

GIVE INTELLIGIBLE DIRECTIONS-We often receive letters with money enclosed, requesting the paper sent for the amount of the enclosure but no name of State given and often with the name of the post office also omitted Persons should be careful to write their names plainly when they address publishers, and to name the post of ficeat which they wish to receive their paper, and the State in which the post office is located.

PATENT LAWS AND GUIDE TO INVENTORS .- This pam. phlet contains not only the laws but all information touching the rules and regulations of the Patent Office Price 12 1-2 cents per copy. A Circular, giving in structions to inventors in regard to the size and proper construction of their models with other useful information to an applicant for a patent, is furnished gratis at this office upon application by mail.

RECEIPTS-When money is paid at the office for subscrip tion, a receipt for it will always be given; but when subscribers remit their money by mail, they may consider the arrival of the first paper a bona fide acknowledgment of the receipt of their funds.

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PATENT CLAIMS-Persons desiring the claim of any in vention which has been patented within fourteen years can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office stating the name of the patentee, and date of paten when known, and enclosing \$1 as fee for copying.

INVENTORS SENDING MODELS to our address should always enclose the express receipt, showing that the transit expenses have been prepaid. By observing this rule we are able, in a great majority of cases, to prevent the collection of double charges. Express companies, either through carelessness or design, ofter neglect to mark their paid packages, and thus, withou the receipt to confront them, they mulct their customer at each end of the route. Look out for them.

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IMPORTANT TO INVENT-ORS.

THE UNDERSIGNED having had ELEVEN years' practical experience in soliciting PATENTS in this and foreign countries, beg to give notice that they continue to offer their services to all who may desire to secure Patents at home or abroad.

Over three thousend Letters Patent have been issued, whose papers were prepared at this Office, and on an average freen, or one-third of all the Patents issued each week, are on cases which are prepared at our Agency. An able corps of Engineers, Examiners, Draughtsmen, and Specification writers are in constant employment, which renders us able to prepare applications on the shortest notice, while the experience of a long practice, and facilities which few others possess, we are able to give the most correct counsels to inventors in regard to the patentability of inventions placed before us for examination.

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Private consultations respecting the patentability of inventions are held free of charge, with inventors, at our office, from 9 A. M., until 4 P. M. Parties residing at a distance are informed that it is generally unnecessary for them to incur the expense of attending in person, as all the steam accessory to accuracy and accuracy accuracy.

them to incur the expense of attending in person, as all the steps necessary to secure a patent can be arranged by letter. A rough sketch and description of the improvement should be first forwarded, which we will examine and give an opinion as to patentability, without charge. Models and fees can be sent with safety from any part of the country by express. In this respect New York is more accessible than any other city in our country.

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Most of the patents obtained by Americans in foreign countries are secured through us; while it is well known that a very large proportion of all the patents applied for inthe U. S., go through our agency.

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