Scientific American.



W. G. C., of Pa.-Your proposed plan of treating slaty soil with lime, in the spring, and then with guan in the fall, appears to be correct, according to agricultura authors. Rich loamy soil is best for flax and hemp. It must be well pulverized. Sow two bushels to the acre in the spring, and pull before it is rank ripe, unless you wish to raise it for the seed. It is best to sow the flax in drills by a seed sower.

I. A. H., of Wis.-We do not know any material that is capable of preventing Frenchgreen from fading when applied to blinds. Write to Alfred Speers, formerly of Passaic, N.J., now of thiscity, in relation to his weather strip for doors

G. C. of 111.-The views that have been presented on the Moon's rotation are very numerous ; there is no use in presenting any diagram or plan on one side or the other, but that of a model which accurately exhibits the different motions of the earth and the moon.

W. L., of N. Y .- The same kind of marine governor as that presented by your sketch, has, on a former occasion, been submitted to us for examination.

J. T., of Iowa.—An extra dome on your boiler will be of some advantage inshedding the water; also a perforated plate at the mouth of your steam pipe, which should be made large. But the best plan would be to take your steam pipe through your smoke box, so as to partially su perheat it.

C. B. C., of N. Y .- Your ten horse engine requires a boiler with a grate surface of 10 square feet, and a heat-ing surface of 90 square feet, at least. You may make it of any form you choose, to embrace these conditions ; we prefer the locomotive boiler, as being the most economical of fuel. A long cylindrical boiler, with return flues, would be the simplest and cheapest, and no doubtwould answer your purpose. Be sure and get a strong boiler, and one that will raise sufficient steam without forcing it T. W., of Tenn.-Your suggestion in regard to a trimonthly is all very well, but it would be impossible for us to attend to it and do justice to our other business.

R. P. B., of N. Y .- We cannot answer your inquiry.

M. A., of N. J .- We will never advise an inventor to apply for a patent unless we think there is a goodchance for his success. Agents cannot expect, however, to procure all the cases for which they make application. Thi would be impossible. If you employ us we will do th This best we can for you. One thing you can depend upon you will be fairly and openly dealt with, and what money you entrust to our care will be appropriated for the purposes for which it is paid. The fellows you refer to who hang about the corridors of the Patent Office are general. ly sharks, and leeches, with no professional merit, and no title to confidence; they are ready to open their unclean mouths against any one who may happen to fall in their way. If you kick a skunk you are likely to get the worst of it. You have now learned by sad experience that respectable patent agents are most reliable. They are usually at their offices instead of prowling about the Patent Office watching for customers.

H. T. W., of Mass.-Prussic acid is one of the most deadly poisons. It is composed of cyanogen and hydro-gen. Cyanogen itself is very poisonous, hence great care should be exercised in using the cyanic compounds so common in electro-plating. Some assert that its action is like a paralytic shock, and that it will pass off and animation be res tored by pouring a cold solution of the ace tate of potash and salt on the head and spine of the person poisoned with it.

E. N. P., of S. C .- We do not wonder that you made sixteen drops of rain to fall perpendicularly into your gauge, and only twelve at an angle of 45 deg.; according to the diagram, fig. 3. you have made the spaces one fourth greater between the angularlines.

R. M. of Philadelphin.-Paper machie is compressed in molds into any particular form required. India rub. ber is formed into hollow balls and other toys while in a plastic state. Metallic molds are used. A patent was grant ed to E. D. S. Goodyear in 1854, for partially filling adia rubber balls with water, which is converte steam during the vulcanization process, to preserve their

J. K. S., of Pa .- You cannot procure a very modern work upon millwrighting. Evans' work was published many years since, and is out of date to a great extent. E. C. of Vt.-Several patents have been issued for

newspaper feeding machines, but not one, to our know-ledge, has succeeded. It would be useless for you to spand your time on such an invention without first un derstanding all the difficulties to be overcome. You mus understand what has been done, and also the construct tion of Hoe's mammoth presses.

J. P. H., of Ohio-No Patent Report was published for the year 1836.

C. F. H., of Hopkinsville .- As we do not know in what State you reside, we could not write to you as you wish ed. The making of bath tubs of glass, instead of any oth-er material, is not patentable. Any one would have a perfect right to make tubs of glass or any other substanc H. C. G., of Ill.-If you did not sign your name to th

papers sent by you, we did not preserve them. You will e the difficulty of preserving papers unless we have the writer's name.

not new. In Wilson's patent you will find the same de vice employed for catching the thread. You must therefore abandon it. J. E. K., of Ark .- We do not understand the method o

curing the defects of barometers, as set forth in your let ter. You state that if the tube is air-tight, a perfect vacu um can be formed in it by driving out the air from the mercury by agitation. How can the air be drivenout of the tube, if it is air-tight? You have no doubt overlooked something that you intended to say.

F. H., of N. H.-Melt some glass in a crucible, and place it in a mold with your hook for a core. The bes plan you can pursue is to send your hooks to some glass works to be coated.

J. T. S., of Va.-The cheapest method of constructing telegraph lines is on elevated poles. If the wires were laid on the ground, they would require to be laid in glass Gutta percha and india rubber will melt when exposed to a high heat.

J. M. G., of N. Y .- We never heard of oyster shell. being used in steam boilers to prevent and remove incrustations. Their composition is carbonic acid and lime We cannot conceive how their action can be chemical and if not they cannot be patented.

J. C. R., of Mich .- Not a particle of reliable evidence has yet been presented to prove there is a race, of men with tails. The article you have sent us is an old story which has been floating about in several papers for a number of years.

H. H., of Va.-The stationary boiler with a fire-box and eturn flues is very good, but it is not new. It ought however, to be more generally employed. H. H. C., of Pa.-We have written to the Office con

cerning the delay in your case, and as soon as we get a reply we will communicate with you by mail.

J. W., of N. Y.-If a magnetic needle be suspended in a hermetically sealed glass yessel, and a copper disk set in motion under iton the outside, motion will be commu nicated to the magnet. Giass is not a perfect non-con ductor, as some seem to suppose. It is believed by some persons that gravitation and magnetism are one and the same influence. It is therefore supposed that the motion f the sun on his axis induces motion in the planets. R. McC., of Va.—As you have too little water to run a

wheel constantly throughout the year, we advise you to put up a steam engine. J. W. W., of Pa.-W. A. Smith, of Elbridge, N. Y., and

A. H. Turner, of Metheville, Onandago, Co., N. Y., put up the Parker wheel. Moneyreceived at the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Office,

on accountof Patent Office business for the week ending

on accountor Fateri Onice ousiness for the week ending Saturday, Oct. 25, 1556 :--E. G. H., of N. J., \$30; S. S., of Ind., \$25; E. B. & Brol, of Pa., \$30; W. W., of O., \$20; F. W., of Texas, \$30; E. F., of Conn., \$50; G. C., of N. Y., \$30; S. L. H. of N. Y., \$30; A. F. W., of Ky., \$30; J. P., of Texas, \$55; J. H., of Md., \$25; A. B. W., of Conn., \$30; H. P. T., of Mass., \$25; T. H., of N. J., \$30; L. Van L., of Conn., \$30; J. S. B., of N. Y., \$30; J. C. Jr., of Conn., \$30; II. M., of O., \$30: R. W. S., of Ala., \$55; J. J. W., of N J., \$25; D. W., of N. J., \$55; S. E. P., of Tenn., \$20; J. E. S., of N. Y., \$60; H. M., of N. Y., \$32; P. B., of N. Y., \$45; P. H., of N. Y., \$35; O. H. N., of N. Y., \$25; J. W. C., of L. I., \$25.

Specifications and drawings belonging to parties with the following initialshave been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday, Oct. 25th

S. S., of Ind.; C. H. N., of N. Y.; A. F. W., of Ky. S. R. H., of N. Y.; C. Van V., of Mich ; W. W., of O. G. S. B., of L. I.; H. P. T., of Mass.; J. W. C., of N. Y. G. C., of N. Y. ; J. E. S., of N. Y. ; P. H., of N. Y.

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