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J. C. A., of Mass.-If petroleum be subjected to sufficiently high temperature it will doubtless undergo destructive ds tillation, and be converted, in whole or in part into permanent gases. If the heat were great enough to convert it all into strictly permanent gases, we should suppose a large proportion would be marsh gas, and that the illuminating power of the oil would be di-
E. L., of N. J.-Any alcohol may be converted intovinegar by the quick process; vinegars retain the flavors of the grains or fruits from which they are made, but the ef flavors may be re moved by flltering through charcoal. Prof. Everett, who has had a great deal of practice with the blow pipe, says he likes the flame of a broad-wicked paraline candle best of any; better even than that of an alcohol lamp. Magnetizing locomotive wheels has been tried on the New Jersey Central Railroad.
E. L. A., of Conn.-Probably; the reason that your india-rubber would not dissolve inichloroform was that gou tried vulcanized rubber.
E. G. F., of N. Y.-You can detect petroleum in springs with perfect ease and certainty by the smell.
H. C. E., of Mass.-To make 12 gallons of black ink, take 12 pounds of nutgalls, 5 pounds of green sulphate of iron, 5 galls three hours, add ng water for the evaporation; dissolve the gum in a little hot water and add it to the solution. See fuller di rections on page 327, Vol. XI
S. S. B., of N. Y.-You will shortly see an engraving of a steam carriage for common roads illustrated in the Scientific american.
A. D., of N. Y.-You will find a recipe for blue ink on page 250, last volume, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. We cannot publish the over and over again.
J. F., of N. Y.-Address Solon Robinson, New York, for a work on farming.
A. H. Y., of Conn.-It is the common notion that the bodr of a drowned person may be raised to the surface by firing a cannon, but we never met with any evidence that there is any foundation for the opinion.
T. S., of Ky.-iray hair may be dyed black by a preparation of nitrate of silver, or one of ammonia nitrate of silver. It would be better for you to buy the preparation of a druggist than to attempt to make it.
H. L. W., of Mass.-Find full directions for making tranafer paper on page 341, Vol. XII., ew series.

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Patent Clarms.-Persons desiring the claim of any invention which has been patented within thirty years, can obtain a copy by addressing a note to this office, stating the name of the patentee and date of patent, when known, and enclosing $\$ 1$ as fee for copying. We can also furnish a sketch of any patented machine issued since 1853, to accompany the claim, on receipt of 82 . Address M UNN \& CO.. Patent Solicitors, No. 37 Park Row. New York. Invariable Rule.-Tt is an established rule of this office to stopsending the paper when the time for which it was pre-paid bas expired
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## Improved Shingle Machine.

This machine is intended to cut shingles and heat ing, and is highly recommended by parties who have used it. It was awarded the first premium at the New York State Fair, at Utica, in 1863, and at other places also. It is capable of cutting obliquely or otherwise, any desired thickness or length, up to 24 inches. It is safe and durable and not liable to get out of order. As sbingles and heading are articles of great demand, the aim and object of the inventor has been to get up a machine that would do the work with the greatest ease, rapidity and in the most perfect manner. The saw rucs horizontal, striking the bolt in the side, and cuts with the grain. The car-
collected by hand and carried away. This involves great expenditure of time and money, which might be dispensed with, and it has occurred to inventors that the work might be successfully accomplished by a machine. In the engraving published herewith we give an example of the latest machine ot this kind. It is designed to be self-acting and merely requires to be diven over the field, when the stones are all gathered up and thrown into a receiver behind from which they are afterwards discharged.
The details are as follows :-The shoe, A, of the machine is furnished with a guard, B , in front, against which the teeth, C, on the roller, D, work closely, but not in contact. As the machine advances the roller


## SMITH'S SHINGLE MACHINE.

riage travels only in proportion to the width of the receives rapid rotary motion from the gears, E, af shingle or heading, making them, when the saw is in proper order, as smooth as though shaved.
In operating this machine the bolt is laid on the table, A, which swings on a celiter, B, and is capable of being inclined at any angle. There are two gages, C, at the bottom, by which the inclination of the table is regulated. The bolt on the table is then caught and held by the dogs, $D$, attached to the carriage, E , and worked by the levers, F. The carriage and bolt are then moved up against, the saw, which
 rapidly severs the shingle from it. The operation of the ground is regulated by the lever, I , so that the


## STONE-GATHERING MACHINE.

setting and sawing is repeated centinually until the bolt is used up. The alternate action of the table in moving from side to side, taking off each shingle re gularly, so that all the bolt is used without loss. It is guaranteed to cut 10,000 shingles a day.
It was patented May 13, 1862, and is manufactured by Wheeler, Melick \& Co., New York State Agricultural Workø, Albany, N. Y. For machines, or town county or State rights, address Franklin Krum \& Co., Albany, N. Y.

## Improved Stonemathering Machine.

In some parts of the country stones cover the surace of the ground so thickly that they have to be
machine works as well on rolling land as on a plain. This apparatus can be used for potatoes or other vegetables of similar nature. A great demand for machines of this kind has sprung up lately.
This invention was patented through the Scientific American Patent Agency on April 26, 1865, by J. L. Quimby, of Pleasant Grove, Pa.; for further information address him at that place.

The Baltimore Indtstrial Exhibition.-The Eighteenth Annual Exhibition of American manufactures, by the Maryland institute, will be opened on the 2 d of October next; for particulars see advertisement on another page.

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