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neering and the Construction of Roads, etc. By Frede ick W. Simms, F.G.S., M. Instit. C. E.,' Civil Engineer Fifth Edition. Revised and Corrected, with the Addition of Mr. Law's Practical Examples for Setting out Railway Curves. With Three Lithographic Plates and several
Wood cuts. New York: D. Van Nostrand, Publisher, No. 23 Murray street and 27 Warren street. This being a new edition of a well-known valuable work it would be unnecessary here as wry as impossible in our limited space to give it an ex-
tended review. It is merits or the work, that it is one of the best treatises on the subject of level.
ing extant. The addition of the practical examples mentioned in the title ing extant. The addition of the practical examples mentioned in the titile
will prove a great help to students, and even to those who have passed the will prove a great help to students, and even to those who have passed the
student stage and have become engaged in the actual practice of engineer
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handsome appearance.
The Phrenological Journal and Packard's Monthly A Repository of Science, Literature, and General Intelli. and other Engravings. Vol. L., Old Series; Vol. I., New Series, January to June, 1877. S. R. Wells, Editor and
Publisher, No. 389 Broadway New York Publisher, No. 389 Broadway, New York.

## Mr. Wells will please acc of this popular publication.

Thi Trichnologist, for December, containa a Ane table of contents. It loses the volume of this well-conducted and interesting monthly. It is is
sued by the Industrial Publication Company, 178 Broad way, New York, the low price of 82 .00 per annum.
$W_{z}$ are in receipt, by the courtesy of the Hon. Horace Capron, U . s Commissioner of Agrculture, orhis Reportfor the year 1869. It 18 a volumin
ous and instructive document. Mr. Capron will please accept our thanks.

## Business and entruat

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Situation Wanted by a Practical Draftsman. Best references en. Colinne, 33 Nassau st., Newart N.J.
Grindstone Shafts, by J. E. Mitchell, Philadelphia, Pa
Nova Scotia Grindstones, by J. E. Mitchell, Philadelphia, Pa. How to use Grindstones," by J. E. Mitchell, Philadelphia, Pa At the Cincinnati Industrial Exposition, Oct., 1870, the judges say: "The Union Stone Company exhiblt Emery Wheels and Grinding
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cents per lb. C. D. Fredricks, 587 Broadway, New York. The Merriman Bolt Cutter-the best made. Send for circu lars. Brown and Barnes, Fair Haven, Conn.
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Machinery for two 500 -tun propellers, 00 -Horse Locomotiv Boiler, nearly new, for sale by Wm. D. Andrews \& Bro., 414 Water st., N. Y Keuffel \& Esser 116 Fulton st.,N.Y.,the best placet o get 1st-class Drawing Materals, swiss instruments, and Rubber Triangles and Curves.
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For mining, wrecking, pumping, drainage, and irrigating machinery, see advertisement of Andre ws Patents in another column.
House Planning.-Geo. J. Colby, Waterbury, Vt., offers in formation or value to all in planning a House. Send him your address.
A very Valuable Patent for sale,the merits of which will be ap preciated at sight. Apply to or address Jewell \& Ehlen, 93 Liberty st.,N. Y For Solid Wrought-iron Beams, etc., see advertisement. Ad dress Union Iron Mills, Pittsburgh, Pa., for lithograph, etc.
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phia Oak- Tannea, to C. W. Arny, Manufacturer, 301 Cherry st., Phila. For Fruit-Can Tools,Presses,Dies for all Metals, apply to Bliss \& Williams, successor to May \& Bliss, 118, 120, and 122 Plymouth st. , Brook lyn, N.Y. Send for catalogue.
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## Quswers io Cortspotiduts.




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- Wain

Filtering Water.-Your correspondent can make a cheap and good filter in his cistern by simply partitioning off one corner with one course in thickness of soft-burnt bricks, leaving a space inside of about $18 \times 36$ inches at the top of the cistern, making a close-fitting cover,
through which to insert the pipe from the pump. The water will filter tion justabout as fast as incomesinto theoutside cistern. through t
Cleaning Fire-engine Boilers.-I think the trouble with H. C.'s Cole steam fire-engine boiler would disappear by thc attachment
and use of a surface blow-off. I flnd it so not only with such engines, but and use of a surface blow-off. I
locomotives.-T. L. v. D., of Neb.
Quarter Twist Belt.-If it would not be too presumptuous in a young mechanic, I willgiveto J. F. K., and others if they wish it, a
rule for putting on a quarter twist belt to make it stretch alike on both rule for putting on a quarter twist belt to make it stretch alike on both
edges, and do their work well, no matter what the width of the belt. The edges, and do their work well, no matter what the width of the belt. The belt is to be put on in the usualway, and the ends brought together ready
for lacing. Then turn one piece the opposite side (or inside) out, and lace. The belt will run, it will be found, first one side out, and then the other, and willdraw alike on both sides.-W. H. K., of N. Y.
Quarter Twist Belt.-If Mr. J. F. K. will put up a short shaft parallel with, and running at the same speed as his driving shaft, with twist belt, and two pulleys on his driven shaft, and use two flve-inch belts, twist belt, and two pulleys on his driven shart, and use two flve
he will find it much better than one wide belt.-W. S., of N. Y.
T. M. H., of Pa.-In the system of levers described in your query, if the power be constantly applied in a tangential line to the arc
described, by the ends of the levers, the leverage will be the same on each described, by the ends of the levers, the leverage will be the same on each
lever; but if it be applied in the direction of either the chord or sine of the same arc the leverage will be greater on the longer lever. In estimating the power of levers, the direction in which the moving force is applied
T. H. R., of Kansas.-The holes broken out of the bottom of your lamp chimney admit air, which mixing with vapor from the oil used in your lamp forms an explosive compound, which, when sutticiently
heated, makes the slight explosion described, and extinguishes the light. C. H. R., of N. Y.-The electric light produced by the use of carbon points in connection with a galvanic battery is continuous. The flashes or sparks generated by friction in electric machines may also bi made to succeed each other with such rapidity as to produce the effect of a
continuouslight, though, of course, only a succession of flashes in reality. continuous light, though, of course, only a succession of flashes in reality. the D., of --. All other things being equal, the longer the hose of a fre engine, the less will be the volume discharged, the less
will be the velocity of discharge, and, as a matter of course, the less will be the throw. The diminution is wholly attributable to friction.
E. F. D., of Conn.-Very many recipes for black ink have been published in the Scientific Amirican. You say you have found none that suits, but give no requirements, except that it shall be jet black
at first, and always remain so. Arnold's Japan ink comes as near this requirement as any we know. We do not think the powder mentioned in"ourdescription of a new printer's ink, could be used to make a writing in "ou
ink.
S. L. G. T., of N. H.-If we understand your query, the pipe nearest the ground would exact the least power for the supply of waterto your city, for the two reasons, that being shorter it would have less fric
tion, and the hight to which the water would be raised would also be less. J. W. M., of N. Y.-There is no substance known that, placed between the poles of a
power of the magnet.
W. H., of Wis.-The lubricating oil, callé " West Virginia Black Oill,' contains, we believe, some volatile hydrocarbons, which justify the discrimination made agand by the underwriters.
H. S. S., of Minn.-Rubber is not melted in the process of making overshoes as now conducted. The information you seck is hard to obtain, as the manu facturers refuse to disclose their processes.
S. A. R. and G. W. McK., of Ohio.-So far as we know, there has been no recent contest between English and American mowers and
H. E. S., of Kansas.-We know of no preparation that will remove hair from the human body without injury to the skin.
G. E. S., of Wis.-You should apply to some extensive dealer in paper hangings. Your query is not of suffciest general interest fo publicatio
A. L., of Texas.-Colored men have taken out patents, but as y.
. L. E., of Mass.-The tunnage of the Great Eastern is 27,000.
decent Ametican ami foreigu gatots.

## Under this heading we shall pubish inent home and foreign patents.

Cotton-serd Planter and Guano Distributer.-Henty L. Tillery Halifax, N. C.-This invention relates to divers improvements i: a machine intended for distributing guano in a drill, and then for planting cotton or
other seed in the same drill, said improvements consisting of corrugated ther seed in the same drill, said improvements consisting of corrugated
wings on the drum that sits within the seed box and of an arrancement a an A-shaped scraper, whereby the same may be made to cut furrows of greater or less depth; and of sundry other arrangements of said scraper and other devices.
"Taraet Game."-John C. Schooley, New York city.-This inve:ation relates to a target th""gh which is made a dozen, more or less, or holes, each hole being marked with a certain number; and in combination with the target a ball connected therewith by an elastic cord, the object of the game be ing to send the ball through one of
cord after it has been stretched.
ExTENsion Plowshare.-George W. Thorp, Columbus, Kansas.-This in ention has for its object to furnish an improved plow, \}Which shall be so and held securely in place when adjusted.

