For the Scientific American. The Electric Telegraph. (Concluded from our last.)

1747 .- Franklin communicated his obser vations, in a series of letters to his friend Collinson, and explained in a satisfactory manner the phenomena of the Leyden phial.

Dr. Watson, and others, conveyed the electric fluid across the Thames, at Westminster bridge, making the width of the river a part of the circuit. He proved that the ground also conducted the fluid, by an experiment with a wire 150 feet long, supported upon baked sticks, using the ground as half the circuit. In another experiment he made the dry ground a part of the circuit for a mile, and found it to conduct equally as well as water. The transmission of electric fluid was graph. instantaneous.

Mr. Ellicottconstructed an electrometer for measuring the quantity of electricity, and Mr. Maimbury, of Edinburgh, electrified two myrtle trees in the month of October, and they put forth small branches and blossoms sooner than those which had not been electrified. The same experiment was tried upon seeds sown in garden pots, with the same success. Mr. Jallibert, Mr. Boze, and the Abbe Menon, at Angers, tried the same experiment upon plants by electrifying bottles in which they were growing. They proved that electrified plants always grew faster, and had finer stems, leaves and flowers, than those that were not electrified.

1748.-Franklin and his friends held an electrical feast on the banks of the Schuylkill near Philadelphia, which was amusing as well as scientific. He gives an account of it to his friend Collinson in these words :-" Chagrined a little, that we have hitherto been able to produce nothing in this way of use to mankind: and the hot weather coming on, when electrical experiments are notso agreeable, it is proposed to put an end to them painting, the mineral is first made red hot in for this season—somewhat humorously, in a party of pleasure, on the banks of the Schuylkill. Spirits at the same time to be fired by a spark sent from side to side through the water without any other conductor than the water: an experiment which we sometime since performed to the amazement of many. A turkey is to be killed for our dinner by the electric shock, and roasted by the electrical jack, before a fire kindled by the electrified bottle: when the healths of the famous electricians of England, Holland, France, and Germany, are to be drank in electrified bumpers, and under a discharge of guns from the electrical battery."

1749.-Franklin first suggested his idea of explaining the phenomena of thunder gusts, and of the aurora borealis, upon electrical principles; and in

1752 .- He completed his grand discovery, by experiments. He constructed rods, and brought the lightning into his house, to ascertain whether it was of the positive or negative kind. He succeeded in the experiment for the first time in April, 1753; when it appeared that the electricity was negative. On the 6th June, he met with a cloud electrified positively. His discoveries roused the attention of all Europe, and many distinguished electricians repeated them with success.

Towards the end of the 18th century, the science was extended by numerous and successful experiments.

1787.-Mr. Lomond, of France, invented the first electric telegraph of which we have an account. He communicated with a person in a neighboring chamber, by means of electricity : but it does not appear that it was used •n extended lines.

spark for telegraph purposes, but to any extent.

lar telegraph to that of Reizen. No description of his plans were ever seen, and probably were never given to the public.

Galvani, in 1890, and Volta in 1800, made as is well known, many very important discoveries.

1809 -Samuel Thomas Soemmering invented his voltaic electric telegraph. 1816 .- Ronald invented an electrical tele-

graph, and tried it at his house, Hammersmith. electro magnetic telegraph, and the first real- use.

ly practicable telegraph on the electric principle. All the telegraphs in Europe are invented subsequently.

1833 .- The Baron Schilling, of Russia, constructed an electric telegraph, which was received with approbation by the emperor, | who desired it established on a larger scale; but the death of the baron prevented it.

Counsellor Gauss and Prof. William Weber constructed one. 1836 .- Taquin and Ettieyhausen made ex-

periments with a telegraphic line over two streets in Vienna.

1837.-Alfred Vail invented an electromagnetic printing press.

Wheatstone made an electric needle tele-

Steinhell (Dr.), of Munich, erected between that city and Bogenhausen, a magnetic electrical telegraph. In the account he gives of his own telegraph, he says, that Belancourt established, in 1798, a communication from Madrid to Aranjuez (26 miles,) by means of a wire, through which a leyden jar used to be discharged, which was intended to be used as a telegraphic signal.

Mason, Professor of philosophy at Caen, (France,) made trial of an electric needle telegraph, at the college ot that city, for a distance of about six hundred yards. He has since endeavored to simplify and improve his apparatus

1837.-Davy's needle and lamp telegraph. 1838 .- Mr Amyott, proposed in Paris to construct an electric telegraph.

Edward Davy-electric telegraph.

1840 .- Alexander Bain-electric printing telegraph. 1841.—Wheatstone's rotating disc telegraph.

Ultramarine.

(Concluded from our last.)

To prepare ultramarine or lapislazuli for the fire and then thrown into water to make it easy to pulverise. The best way however is to heat it in a crucible to keep it clean and then quench it in vinegar and keep it therein for a few hours, when the vinegar is poured off and the lapis lazuli ground fine in a flint mortar, when it may be calcined again and treated in the same manner to make perfectly impalpable. A paste is then made of 9 ounces Burgundy pitch, 6 of white resin, 6 of Carolina or Georgia turpentine, a small quantity of waxand 2 ounces of linseed oil. This is mixed all together in a stoneware vessel and boiled therein until it will form a lump when poured into cold water. The cement thus formed may be poured out of the vessel into water and made into cakes for use. Take then an equal weight of this cement and the calcined lapis and melt all in a glazed earthen vessel adding the calcined matter by degrees, stirring with a glass rod till all is well mixed, when it is pretty well heated and thrown into a large basin of cold water. When it is cooled it is kneaded like the dough of bread and till the whole are well incorporated. Then put this cake into an earthenware vessel, the bottom of which should be rubbed with oil, and pour on it water of the warmth of blood. Let this stand for a short time and as the water softens the cake, it will lose the finest faint greenish tint. part of the calcined matter, which on gently stirring the water, or separating any of the parts of the cakes, will be suspended in water, fessor Loomis to detect prussic acid in the renewed and the same operation repeated a slow in giving the color it must be moved or nen cloth, leaving the solid parts in the cloth spitula, but not broken into small parts and and the vapor condensed. Previously a small can do for himself is to get the leading feaso much of the color is extracted as to render | part of the fluid was taken on a piece of pa- tures of it noticed in our columns. 1798.-Dr. Salva, of Madrid, made a simi. it necessary for obtaining more, the water is per; and a drop of the solution of pure po heated to a greater degree. The result of these tassium, a drop of the solution of sulphate of washings is the ultramarine. These three washings are then mixed with a boiling hot solution of two ounces salt of tartar or pearl ashes dissolved in a pint of water and filtered through clean paper. This is cooled and when the powder has fallen to the bottom of the vessel, the clear must be poured off and the powdered must be washed until all the pearlash or tartar is carried away. The ultra 1832 .- Prof. Morse was the inventor of the | marine is then dried and is duly prepared for |

Another method of purifying the ultrama- ted prussic acid. The second portion was rine from the cement may be used, which is the matter with what will run out and working them together in a flint mortar, after which before; but when the acid was applied it prethe mixture must be put into a lixivium of the duced a white color partially clouded, which tartar, or pearlash and proceeded with as before directed.

In order to free the ultramarine from that part of the water which cannot be poured off from it without carrying away part of the powder, let it be put into a deep coffee cup, and put candlewicks so as to hang over the edge with one end in the liquor and the moisture will be removed by capillary attraction, when the matter may be dried on polished the lazuli give out its color much sooner.

Ultramarine may also be prepared without any cement simply by calcining it and levigating with pearlash, and washing and then soaking it in distilled hot vinegar. A greater quantity will be produced in this way, but lighter in the color To make a fine ultramarine the lapis lazuli must be good, and to test this, if a small piece be made red hot and retain afterwards its hardness of color, it may be accounted good, but if it crumbles or turns brown, or dull and full of specks, it may be suspected. Ultramarine mixed with white flake and oil by the pallette knife can be comdepth and clearness of color. Ultramarine from its great price is ant to be adulterated by a precipitation of copper and an alkali, and also fine smalt. Copper is a dangerous mixture, it will turn black in oils and green in enamels, as soon as fluxed. It is not so easy to adulterate with fine cobalt as it is difficult scarcely to be levigated by art to be as fine as the ultramarine rendered impalpable by the calcination it has undergone. The adulteration with smalt does not hurt it for enameling and it will stand as well for water painting, but it does not mix well with oil and it will fall from it if the mixture be very moisty, or become pasty if stiffer and never works free-Copper adulteration may be easily detec ly. ted by pouring some diluted nitric acid on a small quantity when it will soon dissolve and leave a greenish blue solution. Smalt may be detected, by trying it with oil, or mixing in water when the coarseness of the smalt will soon be detected.

The lapis lazuli is, when perfect, a very light blue color, with a transparent effect in interest, as they contain important informaoil, and in some degree in water, and will tion relative to chemical analysis. stand when used in painting without fading with whatever pigment it may be mixed. For these reasons ultramarine is of the highest value in every kind of painting, being equally serviceable in all, even in enamel, and rubbed over with the hands with linseed oil though the Prussian blue on account of its cheapness may have lessened the use of it, yet this is to be considered as an injury to the art, as the skies of landscapes and many other parts of modern pictures shew their loss of it by their changing from a warm clear blue to a

Chemical Analysis.

The following is the plan pursued by Proprussic acid-therefore it was searched for iron and a drop of sulphuric acid put on the communication due attention. paper-this gave a blue color as far as it spread. It indicated the presence of prussic then took the distilled portion and divided it and correct. into three parts. To one portion he added a "S. L. of Pa."-We shall get your engrav-

tested with potassium, sulphate of copperby pricking the yolks of eggs and moistening, then with muriatic acid. The effect of the potassium of sulphate of copper was much as soon subsided. This too, indicated prussic acid. The third portion was tested with nitrate of silver-it gave a white curdled precipitate. This white precipitate would be produced by prussic acid and by several other substances-but nothing but prussic acid would produce the curdy appearance. This precipitate was dried, heated, and a lamp applied to the retort. If there had been pure acid sufficient to fill the retort with cyanogen, marble, or glass. Another method from the { it would have produced a peach-colored flame one above, is to use beeswax and white resin which in this case was not obtained. This mixed together in equal quantities instead of experiment was repeated on the following the compound pitch cement, and which on its Monday, and, during the intervening time, being infused in water very warm, will make the retort was carefully corked. Then witness washed the solid portion left in the cloth. The washing having been added to the liquid before in the retort, from the whole there was now distilled nearly an ounce of transparent liquid. This was treated with nitrate of silver, which produced the curdy precipita te before described. This precipitate was dried, and placed in a glass tube an inch and a half in length, sealed at one end. and drawn out to a capillary tube at the other. On heating the precipitate, thus enclosed, cyanogen escaped from the capillary extremity, which instantly ignited, producing a distinct peachblow flame. This flame is produced only by pared with other parcels and judged of by its cyanogen gas, which is the base of Prussic acid. These tests are the ordinary and approved tests of Prussic acid. The first test applied was sulphate of iron. Hydrocianic acid is a compound substance. The substance that produces the blue color is cyanide of iron. Cyanogen is derived from Prussic acid. There is no other combination of the to mix on account of its hardness and is elements present that will give this color. Cannot say how long the tests now used for the discovery of narcotic poisons have been employed-know that there is no other combination of iron that will produce this color as well as he knows any other principle in science. The odor of Prussic acid owes its peculiarity to neither of the elements independantly but to the elements in their compound state. There is an odor to cyanogenwitness had experiments with it. It is always gas. The silver test produces a curdy precipitate which must be a compound of silver. Pure cyanogen will produce the peach blow flame It will combine with other substances

The above experiments will be read with

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. O. of N. Y."-The reaction wheel would be the best for your purpose. We have been informed that Mr. Ross's improved reaction wheel is the best in use, but it is difficult for us to tell, as there is wanting a table of experiments to guide us. We have endeavored to get a table but cannot, except for Parker's which is now in our possession. A good plan for manufacturers to pursue would be to advertise for proposals, stating the work to be done, the fall and the amount of water.

"S. H. A. of N. Y."-We have not a draft of Mr. Egan's invention, and we have puband must be poured off with it into another stomach of Mr. Matthews, murdered at Hal. lished in the article you refer to, all that we vessel. The quantity of water must be then lowel, Maine. The most volatile poison is know of it. A caveat we believe has been filed for it, but we do not know of an applicasecond, or third time and as the mass appears first. He strained the substance through a li- tion for a patent. We shall be happy to receive your description and sketch. When any 1794.—Reizen made use of the electric stiried in the manner of kneading with a glass The fluid was placed in a retort, and heated, discovery is made the best thing the inventor Thus a witness is had for the invention.

"E. A. D. of Madrid."-- We shall give you

" L. W. D. of N. Y."-Your letter has just come to hand and we will attend to your reacid, though not with positive certainty. He quest. The Balance is good because simple

small quantity of potassium, then a solution ing finished as soon as possible. You perceive of iron, and a drop of sulphuric or muriatic the true way to let your invention be known. acid. The potassium produced no effect—the The benefit you will yet experience. As you sulphate of iron showed a turbid yellow-the have observed, " how can our people, now acid showed a deep blue color. This indica. numbering 20 millions, know about machines

arless publicly made known to them, and what vehicle like the Scientific American with its well known unexceptionable character and wide circulation."

"H. S. of Mass."-It is the best thing you can do to get an engraving of your machine published in the Scientific American. It will cost you only \$6, and the cut will be yours and materials as are generally used by those classes. afterwards.

"S. H. of N. J."-The use of the copperplatina pointed rod in connection with the steam boiler has been tried in experiments by Mr. Wall, in England, and with success in obtaining powerful shocks. We do not know that it has ever been applied to prevent explosions

"H. C. D. of Va."-You can obtain a patent for the discovery of any new improvement, or for a new style of painting. The distinction must be clearly pointed out in the specification.

"J. S. D. of N. H."-The Music Box could N not be patented, as numbers of the same des-Ph cription are already known. We have no doubt, however, but it is original with you.

" M. R. of Pa."-The claim of Mr. Adams is not in our possession It can be got by application at the Patent Office and by payment for the amount of words that is required to transcribe it. His address also can thus be obtained. We should have been happy to have supplied the necessary information free of expense, but cannot at present.

" A. H of Maine."-Applications for patents made last July are only now in the course of examination. This is the fault of Congress not the Patent Office. There have not been enough of Examiners. No more than three months ought to transpire after application before a patent is issued for a new invention, allowing time too, for all necessary corrections.

" L. M. of N. Y."-The inventor ought distinctly to understand his own business. If he does not, who is to blame ? He surely cannot expect another to do his business and assume his responsibility-this would not be honest nor just.

"A. H. of N. Y."-We regret exceedingly that we cannot furnish you with those odd numbers which you seem so much to desire, as we have not a single one of them.

" D. S. M. of N. H."--The kind of pumps you speak of have been long known and cannot now be covered with a patent. Mr. Fulton, of Baltimore, has lately applied it to boats but with what success we cannot tell.

" B. F. G. of N. Y."-Your letter with the two drawings, &c. have been received.

"E. L. of Va."-The answer was to Mr. Nevins of this State.

"J. H. A. of Mobile."-We sent to you a copy of vol. 2, bound, and all the numbers of the present volume by the bark Pilgrim, which sailed from this port March 23d.

"R. & C. of Pa."-We have received the money for a copy of the patent laws and sent one, but if Mr W. has not received it we will send another .--- Please inform us.

"E. A. 3. of Vt."-We cannot furnish the first Nos. of 701. 2, unless you order a whole volume.

"C. O. R. of Mass."-The information you require will cost you \$5.

" J. L. F. of Va."-We have answered you by mail. Also A H. of N. H.; D. of R. I., and D. W. of Vt.

To CORRESPONDENTS. -Be pleased to write plain, brief, and clear. If in some instances an answer has been neglected, our subscribers will be pleased to consider it not intentional, but an overlook which must frequently happen with the best, and more often where the amount of correspondence is so large as ours

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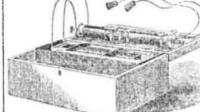
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Improved Magnetic Machines. 10



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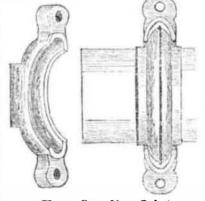
IC MACHINES. IT is now universally admitted by the learned and scientific, that the mysterious power called Galvanism or Magnetism, is in fact the FRINCIPLE OF VITALITY OF LIFF, and that Disease in many of its most painful forms is entirely owing to the absence of this Galvanic or Magnetic power in its healthy proportions If then we can readily supply this won-drous power, when it is thus deficient, we can suc-cessfully combat disease ; and this has been fully and perfectly attained by the present beautiful and scientific instrument.

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