- O A., of Ind.-If you employ a half-inch or even a NEW BOOKS AND PERIODICALS RECEIVED. quarter inch iron rod, extend it ten feet above your chimney. con. nect it perfectly by sockets, and carry it into the moist grou d, you need not have any apprehensions of danger. If your house is large, use a rod at each end, and connect the two by a lateral branch. Be sure and allow no large mass of metal to be near the rods, and make them fast with cleets of dry varnished wood. Copperis the best conductor. Any mechanic or farmer can put up his own lighting rod by following the above directions, of course, the thicker the rod the better the conductor.
- W. G. R., of Mass.-We have no reliable data as to the use of zinc coated iron pipes being superior to lead pipe, for conveying water to be used for domestic purposes. Pure zinc is a very oxydizable metal and is more readily decomposed with water than iron; but when combined with iron by the galvanizing methad, it may resist the action of water in a very superior manner. Experience alone can settle this question, and some of our readers maybe able to solve it.

H. C. F., of Mass .- French polish is made by dissolving 5 pounds of pale shellac and 1/2 pound of mastic in alcohol

F. T. W., of Ala.-Asphalt dissolved in hot linseed oil and thinned with turpentine makes a good cement for painting a leaky tin roof, without injuriously affecting the water that may fall upon 1t. White lead thinned with oil and made into the consistency of soft putty, with fine sand or ground glass, makes a most enduring cement for leaks in roofs, but before it becomes perfectly dry, it is liable to affect the rain-water injuriously, if used for cooking

W. B. G., of N. Y .- Be pleased to give us your ideas on the best form of ships. There are so many different opinions among nautical men on this point that it appears to us they have no recognized principles to guide them.

- T. S. H., of N. C.-The article on balancing machinery was credited to the London "Journal of the Society of Arts." Pulleys may be balanced by removing the surplus metal from the heavy part. Although an iron or wooden pulley may be turned perfectly true, some parts of it may be more dense than thers, and of course it will be unbalanced. All pulleys or wheel should be spun on a free spindle, to ascertain if they are truly balanced, before they are put on.
- T. S. B., of N. Y.-There is an engine operated by compressed air which has been working in a coal mine near Glasgow, Scotland, for several years. The airis compressed by a steam en-gine at the top of the pit, and forced down through a tube. The object of this arrangement is to obviate the use of fire in the mine. If you can render your method of operating an Ericsson engine with compressed air economically practicable, you should do it as n as possible
- T. F. C., of Mass.-We have frequently heard of sulphur being found on the surface of the ground in Virginia and other places after thunder-storms, but we cannot account for its presence. In the case at Amesbury, Mass, it is supposed to have been de-posited from the rain; in other cases, it is supposed to have been brought from the interior of the earth to the surface of the ground by lightning
- F. S., of C.W.-A colored person might obtain a patent for his invention, but it is a matter of doubt about his bein ıg able to sustain it against infringers, in view of the Dred Scott decision. We are not prepared to answer the question fully, as there is no adjudicated case which rettles this exact question. We suppose We suppo the Commissioner of Patents, if addressed upon the subject, would give the advice you seek.

MONEY RECEIVED

At the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business, for the week ending Saturday, July 7, 1860 :--

S. B. L., of Pa., \$25; S. W. M., of N. Y., \$110; J. S. B. R., of N. J., \$25; J. H., of Mich., \$30; L. & L., of N. Y., \$25; A. J. K., of Jowa, \$30; F. M., of Miss., \$30; L. A. F. De C., of N. Y., \$325; C. B. M., of Wis., \$25; L. C. H., of N. Y., \$20; H. & S. E., of Iowa, \$30; F. M., of Miss., \$30; L. A. F. De C., of N. Y., \$325; C. B. M., of Wis., \$25; L. C. H., of N. Y., \$20; H. & S. of N. Y., \$30; H. P. C., of Mich., \$15; N. S., of III., \$30; J. W. of N. Y., \$25; M. L. C., of N. Y., \$25; J. L. N., of N. Y., \$30] J. H., of Pa., \$30; J. B. C., of Ohio, \$30; G. K. P., of Mass., \$25; E. D., of Mass., \$25; J. P. M., of III., \$25; F. Z. N., of Conn., \$30; T. H. B., of N. Y., \$15; J. S. S., of N. Y., \$30; J. W., of N. Y., \$25; R. C. B., of N. Y., \$43; W. T., of N. Y., \$25; J. C. G., of Mass., \$55; C. & B., of Mass., \$30; W. R., of N. Y., \$25; P. K., of R. I., \$30; J. B. T., of III., \$45; I. G., of Pa., \$30; O. F. B., of N. Y., \$10; W. H. R., of N. Y., \$20; W. E. McI., d Mass., \$25; B. R., d Ga., \$30; J. R. McD., d Mo., \$25; F. E. of III., \$25; W. & F., of Tenn., \$100; L. W. N., of N. Y., \$25; J. R. H., of Maine, \$30; S. G., of III., \$30; M. B., of Ohio, \$25; J. R. H., of Maine, \$30; S. G., of III., \$30; J. B. & J. E., of N. Y., \$25; D. C. T., af Y., \$25; A. P. C., of III., \$30; D. & C., of N. Y., \$30; R. H. of N. Y., \$25; J. R. M. N., of N. Y., \$25; F. W., of N. Y., \$30; J. B. D., of N. Y., \$50; C. D., of Mass., \$30; E. J. F., of Mo., \$30; J. B. D., of N. Y., \$50; C. D., of Mass., \$30; E. C., of La., \$30; G. L. T., of N. Y., \$50; C. D., of Mass., \$30; E. C., of La., \$30; G. L. T., of N. Y., \$50; C. D., of Mass., \$30; E. C., of La., \$30; G. L. T., of N. Y., \$50; C. D., of Mass., \$30; E. C., of La., \$30; G. L. T., of N. Y., \$50; Y. M. S., of N. Y., \$25; J. H. W., of N. J., \$30; X. & O. P., of Mich., \$30; H. N., of N. Y., \$25; J. B. L., of Conn., \$35; W. W. S., of Iowa, \$25; F. G. w. S., of III., \$30; M. & C., of III., \$30; W. F. J., of Pa., \$260; W. P. of Mich., \$30; M. & C., of III., \$30; W. F. J., of Pa., \$240; W. P. of Mich., \$25; D. S. H. of N. Y. \$255; H. W. S., of Iowa, \$240; W. P. of Mich., \$30; M. & C., of III., \$30; W. F. J., of Pa., \$240; W. P. of Mich., \$30; M. & C., of III., \$30; W. F. J., of Pa., \$240; W. P. of Mich., \$30; M. & \$25; F. G., of Mich., \$30; M. & C., of Ill., \$30; W. F. J., of Pa.
 \$40; W. H. R., of N. Y., \$12; D. S. H., of N. Y., \$25.

Specifications, drawings and models belonging to par ties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent ending Saturday, July 7, 1860: Office during the week

Office during the week ending Saturday, July 7, 1860:--J. W., of N. Y.; W. R., of N. Y.; C. B. M., of Wia.; W. T., of N. Y.; J. C. G., of Mass.; F. S. B., of N. Y.; H. P. C., of Mich.; J. C. R., of Pa.; H. N., of Ky; E. D., of Mass.; J. P. M., of Ill.; W. H. P., of N. Y.; D. S. H., of N. Y.; S. B. L., of Pa.; J. S. B. R., of N. J.; C. D., of Mass.; J. S., of N. Y.; L. & L., of N. Y.; W. S. L. of Mich.; J. R. McD., of Mo.; L. S. & J. E., of N. Y.; J. B. L., of Conn.; W. W. S. of Iova; R. C. B., of N. Y.; W. T., of N. Y.; L. W. N., of N. Y.; M. C., of Mass.; W. E. McI., of Mass.; M. L. C., of N. Y.; P. K., of R. I.; M. B., of Ohio; E. E., of Mich.; C. V. S., of Ill.; G. K. P., of Mass.; M. A. W., of Cal; D. C. T., of Wis; F. W., of N. Y. Cal.; D. C. T., of Wis.; F. W., of N. Y.

- MILCH COWS AND DAIRY FARMING : Comprising the Breeds, Breeding and Management in health and disease of dairy and other stock, the selection of milch cows, with a full explanation of Guenov's Method, dc.; the production of milk, butter, and cheese; with a treatise upon the dairy husbandry of Holland; to which is added Horsfall's system of dairy manage-ment, by Charles L. Flint, dc. Liberally illustrated. Crosby, Nichols, Lee & Co., Boston; W. J. Pooley & Co., New York.
- Nichols, Lee & Co., Boston ; W. J. Pooley & Co., New York. GRASSES AND FORAGE PLANTS: A Practical Treatise, comprising their Natural History, comparative value, methods of cultivating, cutting and curing, dc. By Charles L. Flint, Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, dx., with 170 illustrations. Fifth edition, revised and enlarged. Crosby, Nichols, Lee & Co., Boston ; W. J. Pooley & Co. New York. The above two works are thoroughly practical, and worthy of all praise. We heartify commend them to the attention of all those who feel interested in those subjects.

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