2,682.—W. H. Towers (assignor to W. S. Bard), of New York City, for Improved Broom:
I claim embodying and securing in the central part of the broom below the handle, a curved, rkid strip or plate, C. and divergent body or bodies of Tampico grass, South American bass, or other like material substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

or bodies of Tampico grass, South American bass, or other like material substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2,683.—Ferdinand Witterich (assignor to himself and J. M. Hathaway), of New York City, for Improvement in Machines for Making Cigars:

I claim, first, The pointing Collers, P. P., for pointing a cigar, by pressing and rolling upon the head or point of it while the wrapper is being rolled on, as described.

Second, Making pointing roller, P, to open, for the greater convenience of putting in the bunch or filling and taking out the cigar after it is completed, as described.

Third, A movable pointer to press upon the bead or point of a cigar, and form it while the wrapper is being rolled on, and the cigar is being made, as described.

Fourth, Cutting the wrapper after it is rolled upon the cigar up to, or upon, the point by means of shear knives, T and W, placed at or near the point of the cigar, as set forth.

Fifth, Cutting the wrapper after the cigar, by means of die cutters Y and X, when placed in proper position, as described.

Sixth, The hinged pattern or shape, Z, to be used as a pattern to shape the wrappers to form the point of the cigar, by means of die cutters Y and X, when placed in proper position, as described.

Eighth, Placing roller or rollers, N N, in the pocket of a cigar machine and holding them there by adjustable strip or strips, M, for holding the cigars while the pointer presses upon and finishes the point, as described.

DESIGN.

-Gardner Chilson, of Boston, Mass., for a Design for 122



- C. C. B., of N. Y.—We know no reason why a smooth bore should not send a globular projectile as faras a rifle. As a cylindrical or conical projectile would be kept end foremost throughout its flight by the rotary motion imparted to it by the rifle, it would have a greater range than if fired from a smooth bore.
- A. D., of Ind.—You will find all the information we pos sess respecting a position as engineer in the Navy, upon page 198, Vol. IV. (new series) SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. The information then was obtained from a former Engineer-in-chief of the Navy, and is therefore reliable.
- E. M. B., and G. W. L., both of New York .- On another column you will find a notice of a work on drawing.

 A. F. M., of New York.—B. H. Horn, No. 212 Broadway,
- has compound microscopes at \$2.50 each. The object glass of these has a focal length of about one inch. The mounting is simple, but good enough. He has others with two additional object glasses at \$3.50 and \$4. They are sufficiently powerful for showing infusoria.
- C. W., of Mass.—Fulminating mercury is probably the material which is put into the caps that are used in the Prussian rifles : at all events this substance would be suitable.
- O. D. B., of Pa., asks the following questions: machine patented. B buysone of the machines with a shop license.

 Now if B sells the machine to C, is there any law to prevent C's

 using it?" Ans.—C has no right to use the machine unless B sold the shop license with it.
- J. N. E., of Mass.—There is no illustrated paper published in this city called the "Building Guide."
- J. G., N. J.—Aich's alloy is composed of copper, 60 parts, zinc 38.20 parts, and iron 1.80 parts. It is darker in color than com mon bran; it bends at a red heat, is ductile, takes a high polish and can be worked with a hammer almost like wronght iron,
- J. B. Z., of N. T.—Pewter is composed of tin 100 parts, aniimony 8 parts, copper 4 parts; bismuth one part. Fuse the whole together in a crucible—the copper first, then the other metals. The cheapest kind of pewter is composed of tin 4 parts, lead one part In an elaborate report of a French commission appointed several years since to examine into the character of alloys, it is stated tha pewter containing more than one part of lead to five of tin is dan gerous to use. A paste composed of borax, soda, and ground glass, will form a good glaze for your bricks. They should be first dipped into this paste, then dried slowly and afterward burned in the kilin
- J. C., of Va.—Your suggestions in regard to rifles have been elaborately discussed, and many of them tried
- M. H. B., of Mo .- Benzole is manufactured by distilling naphtha at a temperature of from 176° to 194° Fah. It is frequently sold under the name of benzine, and is very useful for cleanin, solled gloves, sliks, &c. It vaporizes at a low temperature and ma be burned like common coal gas.
- E. D. H., of C. W .- The gloss on shirt collars and bosoms is put on by friction with a hot iron. Use starch containing a small quantity of white wax or spermaceti, and the table upon which you perform the ironing should have a hard smooth surface. Clean pasteboard, of which calender rollers are made, is the best material can use for covering the table.
- M. C. D., of N. Y.—All the information which we possess rning the Henry rifles was given with the illustration on page 44 of current volume of Scientific American. Many of our nen use bullets containing a small portion of tin. lieved that they are not so liable to strip as those made of pure lead You will find an article on American and English rifles on page 265,
- H. C. S., of Mo.—The process of concentrating sweet milk is not a secret, but is secured by patent to Gail Borden, ir. The milk is concentrated in a vacuum pan, similar to saccharin
- W. M. W., of Mass.-In order to secure attention to your theory of two forces to produce the motions of the planets, you must compare it with Sir Isaac Newton's calculations based on the theory of one force, and see which explains all the phenomena in the most satisfactory manner. We have recently received a long communication contending that all the inhabitants of the earth and ther planets are living in the insides of the globes instead of upon

- B. M. of N. Y.—To enable us to give you proper advice ting your ventilator, werequires sketch and the plan you desire to patent. If your model is ready you had better bring it to our office whenever you are in the city.
- W. S. K., of N. Y.—Mr. Meigs, the contractor of the Valpa raiso and Santiago R. R., has no office in this city, so far as we know We presume his headquarters are at Valparaiso
- J. T. E., of C. W.—We are informed that Morrison's grammar and dictionary of the Chinese language are suitable for your purpose. Write to C. S. Francis & Co. of this city.
- H. P., of Mo.-Kaolin is the most suitable substance from which to obtain aluminum, though labradorite is frequently used The usual method is to decompose the chloride of aluminum with the chloride of soda. You will find a minute description of the process in Gregory's Chemistry, and other modern works. Two new processes are described on page 345, Vol. II. (new series) Scientific
- J. M., of Mich.—Byrne's Cyclopedia of Engineering has a pretty good description of the glyphographic process. We have used a good deal of india ink but never heard of any process for rendering it when very black, more fluid than the aqueous solution.

Money Received

At the Scientific American Office on account of Patent Office business, during one week preceding Wednesday, Nov. 20

H. C. H., of Ill., \$20; M. and M., of Ohio, \$20; J. S., of N.Y., \$20; T. L., of Conn., \$28; M. C. ., of Me., \$25; P. and C., of Conn., \$25; J. J. M., of Conn., \$25; W. B., of N. Y., \$20; F. J. F., of Pa., \$15: S. E. and P., of Wis., \$20; C. and P., of Me., \$15; G. H. S., of Iowa., \$15; J. W. C., of Mass., \$15; S. D. K., of N. Y., \$15; L. and W. of N. Y., \$25; A. B. H., of Conn., 40; A. M., of Ohio, 15 I. H. S., of R. I., \$25; S. G. B., of Conn., \$15; M. E. L., of N. Y. \$25; J. S., of N. Y., \$40; G. K. W., of N. Y., \$25; R. S., of N. Y. \$25; A. H., of Minn., \$20; W. F., of Iowa, \$45; J. A. DeB., of N. Y., \$49; H. K., of Pa., \$30; N. McC., of N. Y., \$25; R. W., of Conn., \$15; J. N., of Ind., \$15; R. S., of N. Y., \$35; M. W.W., or Conn., \$15; J. N., of Ind., \$15; R. S., of N. Y., \$35; M. W.W., of Ill., \$25; C. M. S., of Conn., \$15; G. K., of Pa., \$25; N. B. J., of Mass., \$10; C. and G. M. W., of N. Y., \$100; E. and R., of N. Y., \$15; C. B. L., of Mass., \$15; T. and E., of Pa., \$15; d. J. S., of N. Y., \$25; G. W. R., of Ind., \$15; F. J., of N. B., \$15; S. I. B., of N. J., \$25; F. C. P., of N. Y., \$25; T. J. B., N. B., \$15; S. I. B., of N. J., \$25; F. C. P., of N. Y., \$26; T. J. B., of N. Y., \$28; R. R., of N. Y., \$40; H. & Son, of Ohio, \$15; E. T., of Pa., \$20; E. R. O., of Ohio, \$15; J. K. A., of Ohio, \$15; S. P. O., of Conn., \$20; A. McG., of N. Y., \$15; E. C., of Mass., \$15; J. V. N., of N. J., \$12; L. S. H., of Cal., \$25; S. H., of Iud., \$15; J. B., of Cal., \$25; C. R. T., of Oregon, \$20; W. B., of N. Y. A. B., of N. Y., \$40; J. H. F., of N. Y., \$40; W. W., of W \$25 ; F. G. W., of Mass., \$30 ; P. and S., of N. Y., \$25

Specifications and drawings and models belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded ent Office from Nov. 13, to Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1861:—

T. L., of Conn.; R. R., of N. Y.; J. A. D. B., of N. Y.; A. J. A., of Wis.; J. V. N., of N. J.; J. J. M., of Conn.; M. C., of Me.; P. and C. of Conn.; N. McC., of N. Y.; J. K. A., of Ohio; G. K. W., of N. Y.; Dr. Conn.; N. Nec., of N. I.; J. R. A., of Onlo; G. R. W., of N. I.; L. S. H., of Cal.; G. K., of Pa.; J. B. R., of Conn.; P. N., of France; F. C. P., of N. Y.; W. B., of N. Y.; T. J. B., of N. J.; H. W. B., of N. J.; L. W. P., of Mass.; L. and W., of N. Y.; P. and S., of N. Y.; R. S., of N. Y.; W. W., of Wis.; F. G. W., of Mass.; M. E. L., of ., S. J. B., of N. J.

New Books Received.

A MANUAL OF ELEMENTARY DRAWING.—By S. Edward Warren, C. E. Published by John Wiley 56 Walker street, New York.
This little work is designed for use in high schools, academies, engineering schools, &c., and for the self instruction of inventors, artizans, &c. It seems to be an excellent work.

ZARS, &C. It seems to be an excellent work.

THE HARBINGER OF HEALTH, Containing Medical Prescriptions for the Human Body and Mind. By Andrew Jackson Davis. Published by A. J. Davis & Co., 274

Canal street, New York. Price \$1,00.

We observe some good extracts in the book from Mirabeau, Emerson, Scientific American, and other well-known anthorities. The work is designed for popular circulation, but we confess that we have not much faith in such books. They usually contain a mixture of sense and nonsense as is the case with the work before us. We have no doubt of the fact that Mr. Davis is a man or talent, but it strikes us that he is out of his element as a medical adviser.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Thirty Cents per line for each and every insertion, payable in dvance. To enable all to understand how to calculate the amount they nust send when they wish advertisements published, we will explain vords average one line. Engravings will not be admitted our advertising columns; and, as heretofore, the publishers reserve to themselves the right to reject any advertisement they may deem ob

THE CHEAPEST MODE OF INTRODUCING INVENTIONS.

INVENTORS AND CONSTRUCTORS OF NEW AND useful Contrivances or Machines, of whatever kind, can have their Inventions illustrated and described in the columns of the SCIENTI FIC AMERICAN on payment of reasonable charge for the engrav

No charge is made for the publication, and the cuts are furnish the party for whom they are executed as soon as they have been used. We wish it understood, however, that no secondhand or poor engrav-ings, such as patentees often get executed by inexperienced artists for printing circulars and handbills from, can be admitted into these pages reserve the right to accept or reject such subjects as are pre sented for publication. And it is not our desire to receive orders for engraving and publishing any but good Inventions or Machines, and such as do not meet our approbation in this respect, we shall decline

For further particulars, address-

Publishers SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

CHANGE IN THE PATENT LAWS.

PATENTS GRANTED FOR SEV-ENTEEN YEARS.

The new Patent Laws enacted by Congress on the 4th of March, 1861, are now in full force, and prove to be of great benefit to all parties who are concerned in new inventions.

The duration of patents granted under the new set is prolonged to investigate years, and the government fee required on filing an application for a patent is reduced from \$30 down to \$15. Other changes in the fees are also made as follows :- "

On filing each Caveat	3 10
On filing each application for a Patent, except for a design	\$15
On issuing each original Patent.	š 20
On appeal to Commissioner of Patents	\$ 20
On application for Re-issue	8 30
On application for Extension of Patent	\$60
On granting the Extension	8 D()
On filing Disclaimer	\$10
On filing application for Design, three and a half vears	\$ 10
On filing application for Design, seven years	\$ 15
On filing application for Design, fourteen years	5 30

The law abolishes discrimination in fees required of foreigners, ex pt in reference to such countries as discriminate against citizens o the United States—thus allowing English, French, Belgian. Austrian Russian. Spanish, and all other foreigners except the Canadians, te njoy all theprivileges of our patentsystem (exceptin cases of designs) on the above terms.

During the last sixteen years, the husiness of procuring Patents for new inventions in the United States and all foreign countries has been conducted by Messrs. MUNN & CO., in connection with the publication of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN : and as an evidence onfidence reposed in our Agency by the Inventors throughout the buntry, we would state that we have acted as agents formore than FIFTEEN THOUSAND Inventors! In fact, the publishers of this paper have become identified with the whole brotherhood of Inventors and Patentees at home and abroad. Thousands of Inventors for m we have taken out Patents have addressed to us most flatter testimonials for the services we have rendered them, and the wealth which has inured to the Inventors whose Patents were secured through this Office, and afterward illustrated in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, would amount to many millions of dollars i We would state that we never had a more efficient corps of Draughtsmen and Specification Writers than are employed at present in our extensive Offices, and we are prepared to attend to Patent business of all kinds in the quickest time and on the most liberal terms

Testimonials.

The annexed letters, from the last three Commissioners of Patents. mend to the perusal of all persons interested in obtaining Pat-

eats:—
Mesers. Munn & Co.:—I take pleasure in stating that, while I held the office of Commissioner of Patents, more than one-pourth of all the Susinges of the office came theough four hand. I have no doubt that the public confidence thus indicated has been fully deserved, as I have always observed, in all your intercourse with the Office, a marked degree of promptness, skill and fidelity to the interests of your employers.

Yours, very truly,
CHAR MASON.

Immediately after the appointment of Mr. Holt to the office of Postmaster-General of the United States, he addressed to us the subjoined very gratifying testimonial:

Messer, Munw & Co.:—It affords me much pleasure to bear testimony to the able and efficient manner in which you have discharged your duties of Bolicitors of Patents while I had the honor of holding the office of Commissioner. Your business was very large, and you sustained (and, I doubt not, justly deserved) the reputation of energy marked ability and uncompromising fidelity in performing your professional engagements.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. HOLT.

MESSES. MUNN & Co.:—Gentleman: It gives me much pleasure to that, during the time of my holding the onice of Commissioner of ents, a very large proportion or the business of inventors before the ent Office was transacted through your agency, and that I have found you faithful and devoted to the interests of your clients, as as eminently qualified to perform the duties of Patent Attorneys skill and accuracy. Very respectfully,

WM. D. BISHOP. The Validity of Patents.

Persons who are about purchasing Patent property, or Patentees who are about erecting extensive works for manufacturing under their Patentees. ents, should have their claims examined carefully by competent attorneys, to see if they are not likely to infringe some existing Patent, before making large investments. Written opinions on the validity of Patents, after careful examination into the facts, can be had for a nable remuneration. The price for such services is always settled upon in advance, after knowing the nature of the invention and being informed of the points on which an opinion is solicited. For further particulars, address MUNN & CO., No.37 Park-row, New York.

Extension of Patents.

Valuable Patents are annually expiring which might be extended and bring fortunes to the households of many a poor Inventor or his family. We have had much experience in procuring the extension of Patents; and, as an evidence of our success in this department, we would state hat, in all our immense practice, we have lost but two cases, and these were unsuccessful from causes entirely beyond our control.

It is important that extension cases should be managed by attorneys

of the utmost skill to insure success. All documents connected with extensions require to be carefully drawn up, as any discrepancy or untruth exhibited in the papers is very liable to defeat the application.

Of all business connected with Patents, it is most important that extensions should be intrusted only to those who have had long experience, and understand the kind of evidence to be furnished the Patent Office, and the manner of presenting it. The heirs of a deceased Patentee may apply for an extension. Parties should arrange for an application for an extension at least six months before the expiration of

For further information as to terms and mode of procedure in obtaining an extension, address MUNN & CO., No. 37 Park-row, New

Preliminary Examinations at the Patent Office.

The advice we render gratuitously upon examining an invention does not extend to a search at the Patent Office, to see if a like invention has been presented there, but is an opinion based upon whal knowledge we may acquire of a similar invention from the records in our Home Office. But for a fee of \$5, accompanied with a model or drawing and escription, we have a special search made at the United States Patent Office, and a report setting forth the prospects of obtaining a Patent

&c., made up and mailed to the Inventor, with a pamphlet, giving instructions for further proceedings. These preliminary examinations are made through our Branch Office, corner of F and Seventh-streets, Washington, by experienced and competent persons. Over 1,500 of these examinations were made last year through this Office, and as a measure of prudence and economy, we usually advise Inventors to have a preliminary examination made. Address MUNN & CO., No. 3 Park-row. New York.

How to Make an Application for a Patent.

Every applicant for a Patent must furnish a model of his invention If susceptible of one; or if the invention is a chemical production, he must furnish samples of the ingredients of which his composition consists, for the Patent Office. These should be securely packed, the inventor's name marked on them, and sent, with the government fee by express. The express charge should be prepaid. Small models from a distance can often be sent cheaper by mail. The safest way to remit money is by draft on New York, payable to the order of Munn & Co. Persons who live in remote parts of the country can usually purchase drafts from their merchants on their New York correspondents; but, if not convenient to do so, there is but little risk in sending bank bills by mail, having the letter registered by the postmaster. Address MUNN & Co., No. 37 Park-row, New York.

The Examination of Inventions

Persons having conceived an idea which they think may be pater able, are advised to make a sketch or model of their invention submittt to us, with a full description, for advice. The points of novelty are carefully examined, and a reply written corresponding with the acts, free of charge. Address MUNN & CO., No. 37 Park-row, New

Caveats.

Caveats.

Persons desiring to file a Caveatcan have the papers prepared in the shortest time by sending a sketch and description of the invention. The government fee for a Caveat, under the new law, is \$10. A pamphlet of advicer egarding applications for Patents and Caveats furnished gratis on application by mail. Address MUNE & CO., No. 37 Park-row.

Rejected Applications.

We are prepared to undertake the investigation and prosecution of rejected cases, on reasonable terms. The close proximity of our Washington Agency to the Patent Office affords us rare opportunities for the examination and comparison of references, models, drawings, documents, &c. Our success in the prosecution of rejected cases has been very great. The principal portion of our charge is generally left dent upon the final result

All persons having rejected cases which they desire to have prose cuted are invited to correspond with us on the subject, giving a brief history of the case, inclosing the official letters, &c.

Foreign Patents.

We are very extensively engaged in the preparation and securi Patents in the various European countries. For the transaction of this business, we have offices at Nos. 66 Chancery-lane, London; 29 Boule vard St. Martin, Paris; and 26 Rue des Eperonniers, Brussels. think we can safely say that THREE-FOURTHS of all the European Patents secured to American citizens are procured through our Agency.

Inventors will do well to bear in mind that the English law does not

limit the issue of Patents to Inventors. Anyone can take out a Patent

Circulars of information concerning the proper course to be pursued in obtaining Patents in foreign countries through our Agency, the requirements of different Patent Offices, &c., may be had gratis upon application at our principal office, No. 37 Park-row, New York, or eithe

Assignments of Patents.

The assignment of Palents, and agreements between Patentees and manufacturers, carefully prepared and placed upon the records at the Patent Office. Address MUNN & CO., at the Scientific American Patent Agency, No. 37 Park-row, New York.

It would require many columns to detail all the ways in which the Inventor or Patentee may be served at our offices. We cordially invite all who have anything to do with Patent property or inventions to call at our extensive offices, No. 37 Park-row, New York, where any questions regarding the rights of Patentees, will be cheerfully answer

Communications and remittances by mail, and models by express (prepaid), should be addressed to MUNN & CO., No. 37 Park-row, New

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GREAT STORY, BY A POPULAR AUTHOR .-A GREAT SAULT, Will be commenced ON THURSDAY NEXT,

IN THE NEW YORK WEEKLY,

the greatest story and sketch paper of the age, a new and thrilling nistorical romance, entitled

THE SEXTON OF SAXONY; or THE BRIDE'S BURIAL,

From the pen of Francis S. Smith, author of "Eveleen Wilson," "Florence O'Niel, or the Rebel's Daughter," "Lilian. the Wanderer;" "Maggie, the child of Charity;" "Galenus, the Gladustor," &c.

BARREL ROLLS—GUN BARREL ROLLS. Gun Barrel Manufacturers can be supplied with rolls for bending, welding and tapering gun barrels, by addressing HALL & ADAMS Portamouth, Scioto Co., Ohio. Post office Box 158.

GOSSYPIUM ARBORIUM—PERENNIAL Cotton Tree. OSSYPIUM ARBORIUM—PERENNIAL Cotton Tree. We have received a small consignment of this seed grown in the northern part of Peru. Mr. R. C. Kendal, who has successfully grown the cotton tree in Maryland from seed brought from southern finit, advises that the plant produced from this seed be protected from frost during the first winter of its growth. A specimen of the cotton frow during the first winter of its growth. A specimen of the cotton grown in Maryland by Mr. Kendal, and a colored drawing of the tree in full bearing, can be seen at our office. As an ornamental tree the Perennial Cotton has few equals. Its growth is compact and symmetrical, foliage dense and variegated as the silver maple, flowers prouse, delicately and distinctly odorous. The seed can be obtained in small papers bearing full printed directions at our warehouse. A pamplet by Mr. Kendal is in print and will shortly be for sale by us, demonstrating the importance of the american farmer may be profitably directed.

MAPES & LOCKWOOD,
Agricultural Warehouse, 23 Courtland street, New York.

A series of articles on this subject by Mr. Kendal will appear in the Working Farmer and U.S. Journal, published monthly at 23 Courtland street.

UN FORGING,—PECK'S PATENT DROP PRESS forgun and other forging. Manufactured by MILO PECK New Haven, Conn. 1910* GUN FORGING.-for gun and other f

MANUFACTURERS WANTED FOR BALL'S OHIO Mower and Reaper, the most popular, where introduced, and best in the world. Also for his light mower, having all the paculiar features of the large one. J. A. SAXTON, Canton, Ohio. 214

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qui préféreraient nous communiquer leurs invendons en Français, peu
rent nous addresses dans leur langue natails. Envoyes nous un desein
et une description condése pour notre examen. Toutes communiontions seront reques en confidence.

BURY à OO.,
SOURTIFIC AMBRICAT O'ECE, NO. 57 PARLOW, NEW YORL.

NEW YORK OBSERVER FOR 1862.—IN ASKING the aid of all who may desire to extend the circulation of the New York Observer, it is proper for us to state distinctly the position it occupies with reference to the present condition of public affairs in

Having always maintained the duty of good citizens in all parts of the land to stand by the Constitution, in its spirit and letter, when that Constitution was assailed and its overthrowattempted, we accord ingly at once gave a cordial support to the Government in its patriotic endeavor to assert its lawful authority over the whole land. Believing secession to be rebellion, and when attempted, as in this case, without adequate reasons, to be the highest crime, we hold

1. That the war was forced upon us by the unjustifiable rebellion of ding States.

2. That the Government, as the ordinance of God, must put down

the seceding States.

2. That the Government, as the ordinance of God, must put down rebellion and uphold the Constitution in Its integrity.

3. That every citizen is bound to support the Government under which he lives, in the struggle to resistablish its authority over the whole country.

4. That the Constitution of the United States is the supreme lawof the Government as well as of the people; that the war should be prosecuted solely to uphold the Constitution and instrict subordination to its provisions: and the war should be arrested, and peace concluded, just so soon as the people now in revolt will lay down their arms and submit to the Constitution and laws of the land.

The distinctive features of the Oberver are,

1. It is printed on a double sheet, so as to make two complete newspapers, one deviced to secular and the other religious matters; and these may be separated so as to make two complete oursals, while the price for both is no greater than is charged for many papers smaller than either one of the two.

2. It gives every week a complete synopsis of the most interesting evenus in all the denominations, including those that are called Evangelical and those that are not; as every intelligent Christian wishes to be well informed respecting all of them.

3. It gives a well-digosted epitome of the News of the Day, Foreign and Domestic, prepared with great labor and care, so that the reader is sure to be put in possession of every event of interest and importance to the public.

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A LCOTT'S CONCENTRIC LATHES—FOR BROOM Hoe and Rake Handles, Chair Rounds, &c.—Price, \$25; and a other kinds of Wood-working Machinery, for sale by 8'lem S. C. HILLS, No. 12 Platt-street, New York

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Improved Skate.

The paculiarities and advantages of this skate will be readily perceived from the illustration. Dispensing with the objectionable and troublesome use of screws and straps in adjusting the skate, the fastening combines ease and comfort with strength and simplicity.

Fig. 1 is a view of the skate fastened upon the foot Fig. 2 of the skate alone, and Fig. 8 of the bottom of the boot as prepared to receive the skate. Two plates are secured to the sole of the boot, one upon the ball and another on the heel. The plate, a, upon the ball has two slots formed in it of a pear shape, as shown, the slots being broadest toward the toe. Screw heads, projecting from the upper surface of the plate, b, Fig. 2, of the skate, enter these slots at their broad forward ends, but cannot pass through the narrower portions in the rear. To the bottom of the heel of the boot is secured a narrow plate, c, Fig. 3, which is

bent at right angles and extends up as high as the heel. This plate is perforated to receive the spike, d, which projects upward from the heel plate of the skate, the heelalso being bored for this purpose. Rising upward from the back edge of the heel plate of the skate is a spring catch, e, fitted with a bevel projection which catches into a slot cut in the heel plate of the boot to receive it.

The skate is fastened to the boot by passing the screw heads through the broad forward part

of the slots in the sole plate, and then drawing the ing facilitated by light, especially by direct rays of the skate back to bring the screws to the narrow part of the slots, which effectually secures the forward part of the skate to the boot. The heel is then pressed up, introducing the spike, d, into the hole in the heel of the boot, and as the catch, e, enters its slot it secures the heel. The skate is taken off by pressing the catch, e, from its hold, dropping the heel so as to withdraw the spike, d, and slipping the skate a little forward to allow the screw heads to fall from out the slots. A round plate, f, upon the toe piece of the skate supports the toe of the boot, forming one of the most novel features of this invention.

It will be seen that this skate may be either put on or taken off in an instant. Its skeleton form gives it a highly elegant appearance when on the foot, and its lightness is, for ladies especially, an important recommendation. As the screw heads do not enter deeply into the sole, this skate may be worn with the thinnest soled Boots.

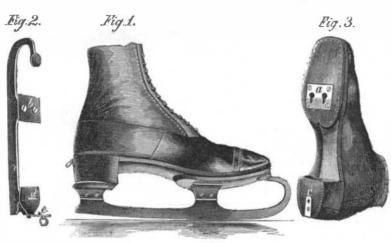
The patent for this invention was granted through the Scientific American Patent Agency, April 9, 1861, and further information in relation to it may be obtained by addressing the patentees, J. A. de Brame and B. Gurney, at 707 Broadway, New York.

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC MACHINE ON A LARGE SCALE .-In our next number we shall publish a beautiful engraving, explanatory of Beardsley's electro-magnetic machine, which is now in extensive use at College Point, Long Island, for electro-plating on an extensive scale, by means of steam power instead of by the galvanic battery. It is also used at College Point for making the magnetic tack hammers which we recently noticed, which pick up tacks as well as hammer them down. It will be accompanied with an interesting article, clearly explaining the principles of magneto-electricity,

THE WAY BANK NOTE PLATES AND HARDENED .- TO harden an engraved steel plate, and to prevent it from warping or in the process a peculiar method must be adopted. The mode practiced by our bank note companies is to bury the plates in animal charcoal in a May crucible and expose them to red heat for about two and a half hours, and then cool them by pressing them into cold lead. By this process all of the most delicate lines of the engraving are preserved in the most perfect manner, without the alightest distortion

On page 298 of the current volume we published an extract from the Photographic News, giving an account of a new blue dye obtained in France from cotton seed oil. The writer expressed the opinion that indigo and prussian blue had found a formidable rival in this new blue.

We find in L'Investion an article by M. Kuhlmann, giving a report of an elaborate series of investigations on the new substance, the result of which is very discouraging to the prospect of its industrial application. M. Kuhlmann says :- "The matter being soluble in alcohol, this solution served me as a bath for the dying. Several immersions in a warm alcoholic solution, allowing the stuffs to dry between each immersion, communicated an intense blue color, which soon however, became green, and then changed to a yellowish brown. This result is evidently due to an oxydation in contact with the air, the oxydation be-



DE BRAME'S PATENT SKATE.

sun. The colors proved much more permanent in the dark, and more still in an atmosphere of carbonic acid. As the new substance plays the part of an acid rather than of an alkali, I sought to fix it on stuffs in a state of combination with various oxides. Some cotton, woolen and silk stuffs, prepared with a mordant of alumina, were dyed in the warm alcoholic lution, but the color preserved its great alterability. The application of alum, after the direct coloring of the stuffs, or mordant of the sesquioxide of iron, gave the same results. No better success attended the use of stannate of soda, followed by a bath of dilute sulphuric acid; nor a bath of perchloride of tin, followed by a dilute solution of hypochlorite of lime. The oxides of lead and of mercury gave no more permanent color."

We give these facts as a guide to our chemists who choose to experiment in the inviting field of making this cheap substitute for indigo practically useful, by fixing the color. The mode of preparing the blue is described on page 298.

Sulphur in California.

The refining of sulphur has been commenced as a business in Santa Barbara county, Cal. Twenty miles south-eastward of the town of Santa Barbara, and seven miles back from the Mission of San Buenav tura, which is upon the sea shore, is a great bed of native sulphur, deposited in remote ages by the vapors and waters of sulphur springs. The country in the vicinity bears strong marks of volcanic action. The sulphur deposits back of San Buenaventura have long been known, but only lately has it been rendered valuable. Messrs. Davidson, Spence & Co. g nenced about the first of this year, to open the mine

The Daily Alta, says that there were then some half dozen men at work in the mine, and this sulphur is so abundant and accessible, that the time is perhaps not far distant when it will be shipped to Europe. The crude deposit is stated to comprise 80 per cent of sulphur.

Two or three instances of the perforation of lead by insects have recently been brought under the notice of French naturalists. In one case which happened in the Crimes during the Russian war, the balls in several packets of cartridges had been rendered entirely

Comparative Extent of United States The following table shows the company of the canals and locks of the United States :-

16 15 15 17 20 100 80 100 10 100 22 100 15 16 210 .-24

The Delaware and Raritan canal has been navigated by steamboots, since 1844. The steamers which run on this and the Chesapeake and Delaware canal are propellers ranging from two to three hundred tuns burden, and they are from one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet in length.

*Width at surface



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