

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. S. G., of Phila."—You will see that we used your favor. Be pleased to accept our thanks.

"J. W. K., of N. H."—Your favor containing \$4 came safe. We cannot furnish you with number 28, vol. 4—nor send the paper from the Boston office, all the papers are mailed from this office.

"I. H., of Md."—We know of nothing having been arranged like your improvement on sawing, and have no hesitation in stating that it is patentable in one of the arrangements, in the moving of the log, but you will see the other arrangement illustrated in page 316, vol. 3, Scientific American.

"H. S., & R. L., of Md."—We will publish about the patent leather next week.

"M. K., of Mass."—If you are satisfied of the practicability and utility of your plan, we should advise you to patent it. It had better be thoroughly tested.

"A. M. T., of Va."—The earliest account of electricity, artificially excited, of which we have any record, is carried back as far as 600 years before the birth of Christ, when Thales, the Milesian, observed that amber, after having been rubbed, possessed the power of attracting light bodies, such as feathers, &c. The person who first contributed essentially to its promotion was Dr. Wm. Gilbert, who published a book of electrical experiments in 1600. We are indebted to Dr. Franklin more than any one else for developing this subject.

"G. W., of Pa."—Mr. W. resided in Cambridgeport, Mass., at the time the communication was made. We have not heard from him since—and do not know that he has ever constructed one of his instruments.

"W. F., of N. Scotia."—Such binding as you want will cost \$1.50 per volume.

"A. L., of N. Y."—The first 32 numbers of volume 4 cannot be supplied complete.

"G. S., of N. Y."—The model of your churn has been examined. We do not discover any new feature in it. Churns worked by a crank, and having a perforated dasher have long been in use. Several references could be given.

"J. W. S., of Ill."—Excuse the delay, our business is so extensive. We would say, that no such invention for plumbing wheels is in use to our knowledge, and we believe it to be patentable, but first of all try it, before going to any other expense. The old plan of wedging up the wheels and plumbing them by the spirit level alone, has always been held to be the best.

"J. C., of N. Y."—The meaning of melting the composition, and working it in cold water, is to grind in cold water after it is melted and then lay it on. After it is laid on it should be dried in a very hot stove room. If a small quantity of alum is used along with it there is little danger of it crumbling. It is waterproof, but the exact expense we cannot tell.

"M. K., of N. Y."—It would seem from your description that the principle is the same as the syphon; if so it could not be patented. We can tell much better by having an opportunity of examining a drawing or a model. \$2 received.

"D. P. C., of N. C."—The price of the book you ordered is \$2.50. It cannot be sent by mail unless you authorize us to take the covers off. Can it not be forwarded by express so as to save the covers. Please answer by return of mail.

"S. N. B., of Ohio."—Thomas Blanchard resides in Boston, Mass., by writing to him you can without doubt obtain all the information you require in regard to his wood bending machine.

"G. L. C. D., of Miss."—The invention you refer to is an English invention, and has not been introduced into this country. If any one has a good machine for covering wire and will let us know by letter post-paid we will inform you.

"J. H. C. of Pa."—If you can wait, we intend to treat the subject fully in our next volume.

Answers to Correspondents.

Owing to the great length of our invaluable index, answers to many correspondents is necessarily delayed till next week. Our attention to correspondents will receive a still greater share of our labors than heretofore—great though that has been.

Scientific American for Binding.

As this number closes volume 5, we would suggest to those that desire to have their numbers bound to send them to this office and have them executed in our usual manner, for the low price of 75 cents.

You can depend upon having your volumes well bound by sending them to this office, as they will be executed to conform in style with hundreds that we have bound for ourselves and the trade.

Important Notice to us!

Whenever any of our friends order numbers they have missed—we shall always send them, if we have them on hand. We make this statement to save much time and trouble, to which we are subjected in replying, when the numbers called for cannot be supplied.

To Correspondents.

Friends, we return to many of you our sincere thanks for the valuable information we have received from time to time. You have not only done us but "the State some service." Knowledge is truth, and your labor to diffuse knowledge has been to advance truth, and every man who does this, is a benefactor to his fellow-man.

To all correspondents who have asked for information, we have endeavored to give it to them in all candor. Many have written unto us, whom we could not answer, the reason in every case being good. Some could not get an answer because of the too great length of their letters, and some, we must say, we could not read, not owing to bad composition apparently, but to carelessness in the writers. Many of our correspondents may have been overlooked unintentionally. We endeavor to be careful in this respect, but when we have so many as 50 letters on an average per day, and some of them very long, it is impossible to prevent oversights. It is our intention, however, to employ a greater force and to labor more attentively for the benefit of our correspondents, than heretofore. We hope you will endeavor to extend the circulation of volume 6, and we will endeavor to return you equal favors.

Patent Claims.

Persons desiring the claims of any invention which has been patented within fourteen years can obtain a copy by addressing a letter to this office; stating the name of the patentee, and the year the patent was granted (adding the month of the year when convenient), and enclosing one dollar as fees for copying.

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