plate work, by means of eyelets or their equivalents, substantially as
set forth. Third, The empioyment of a skeleton flexible insulator for unitin
the several sections of articulated galvano-electric plate work. 1,287.-Jesse A. Crandall, of New York City, for Improved Rocking Toy. Patented May 17, 1859 : I claim the combination of the body, A, whether made in the form
of a hoby horse 0 of a toy of other description of the class described
with the base of a hobby horse $\mathbf{O}$ o of a toy of other description of the class described
with the base, $B$ B, and a spring or springs, C, for producing a rock-
ing movement, as and for the purpose described.

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London, Edinburgh, Nortir British and Westminster Reviews. These periodicals, with " Blackwood's Mag-
azine," are re-published by Leonard Scott \& Co., No. azine," are re-published by Leo
54 Gold street, New York City.
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the ieding mind of England, and they exercise a potent intuence on




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On filing each Caveat.i............................................ 10
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G. W. S., of Pa -The question of pointed projectiles for piercing armor plates has been much discussed in the Scientific american and other papers.
B. W. T., of Ill.-Hydraulic cement is spoiled by being wet unless it is used immediately. You can easily try yours by wetting a little and cementing two stones together with it. Any bar of iron or steel standing for a long time in a vertical position becomes magnetic. We have tried many old pairs of tongs with a compass and always found that one end would attract the North pole and the other the South. We should like a more minute account of the of the tacks of which you speak.
F. E. M., of Mass.-We recommend Wells's Chemistry as an excellent hand book.
A. C. D., of Mich.-The number of pounds required to hold your scow against the current would depend very much on the form of the scow.
T. A. H., of Ill-If a cylinder 12 inches in diameter with its upper end open, has a piston fitted into it airtight, and a weight is placed on the piston, the cylinder below the piston being filled with water; the water will be forced out of an opening an inch square in the lower end of the cylinder with a force just equal to the pressur
friction.
T. J., of Ind.-We have had considerable experience with cement pipes, and like them very well for small aqueducts, but do not believe they would answer for , 10,000 gallons per àay under a pressure of 60 feet head. We presume cast iron would be the only suitable material in such a case.
W. B., of Pa .-If the invention to which you refer as having been patented and described in the Scientific American is an old and well known device then surely the patent is of no value and any one can use it with impunity. We do not admit the right of parties ordinarly to attack the validity of a patent in our columns. It would be unjust to the patentee and lead to abuses dangerous to the interests of inventors.
G. E. M., of N. B.-Quite a number of amalgamators have been illustrated and described in former volumes of the Scientific American. Consult these and write to the patentees of such machines, respecting their price, \&c.; also.to.J. \& E. W. Barker, of altimore, Md., on the particulars of the amalgam
G. W. L., of N. Y.-We are not acquainted with any other treatise on watch making but the "Clock and Waich Maker's Man ual," excepting Reid's treatise on Horology which would be of no use to you for the repairing of watches
J. R., of Wis.-We think that the pendulum question is about exhausted.
H. C. R., of N. Y.-If a cannon pointing due south is discharged while it is moving due west with velocity equal to that of the ball, the direction of the ball will not vary appreciably from a southwest course in the extent of its range. If it should go a thousand miles its course would curve a little to the west in consequence of the surface of the earth at the equator, moving more rapidly than at the poles.
. B. S., of Conn.-We cannot advise you to substitute a wind-wheel for a steam engine of 10 -horse power to be emplosed in grinding tan bark. A wind-wheel of such power would be verylarge and its action very irregular.
C. A. D., of N. Y.-India rubber boats were used on the first Arctic expedition of Dr. Kane, but we do not know how much they weighed.
S. P., of N. Y.-The soles of boots and shoes have been provided with metallic guards arranged in various ways. We have some doubts of the patentability of your particular plan of applying them, as we cannot see that it differs essentially from many others.

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Improved Tent.
Serious inconvenience is found to result in tents made of canvas from the contraction of the cloth when it is wet, and its corresponding expansion when dry. At one time the canvas hangs in a loose state, flapping in the wind, and at another it is either torn by its contraction, or the pins which secure its lower edge are drawn from the ground. To remedy this evil tent poles have been made so that they could be lengthened or shortened, at the will of the occupants. The accompanying engraving illustrates an improved plan for extension tent poles, together with an improvement in the mode of ventilating tents.
out from the side of the tent to admitair, or allowed to fall against it at will. To this end two sticks, $j j$, are connected by a pin joint, and sewed into the hem in the lower edge of the flap. A cord, $k$, is attached at its ends to the outer ends of the sticks, with its loop hanging within the tent, so that by pulling this loop the $\bullet$ uter ends of the sticks are drawn toward each other, and the joint at the middle is bent outward, bowing out the lower edge of the flap. 'The ventilator is closed by pulling the cord, $l$, which is fastened to the sticks at the joint. Suitable pockets protect the flap at its edges.
This ventilator is a simple one, involving little, if


## TOWNSEND'S ARMY TENT.

The tent pole, A, Fig. 1, is made of suitable length, with a screw upon it at the proper hight to be within convenient reach of a man's hand. Fitting loosely around the outside of this screw is the band, $a$, which is rigidly connected with the band, $b$, at the top of the tent, by the rods, $c c$. The canvas is secured at the summit to the loose ring, $d$, which rests upon the band, $b$, from which arrangement it will be seen that the canvas may be tightened by raising the bands, $a$ and $b$, and thus lifting the ring, $d$, or it may be loosened by lowering these parts.
The band, $a$, with its connections, is raised or lowered by means of the ring, e, which fits loosely around the screw upon the tent pole, but is connected with this screw by the pin, $f$, the end of which enters between the threads of the screw. Thus, by turning the ring, $\rho$, around the pole, the band, $a$, is raised or lowered.
The pin, $f$, is attached by a pin joint to the lower end of the lever, $g$, the upper erd of which is pressed outward by the spring, $h$, to hold the pin, $f$, in place. But in taking the tent down, the upper end of the lever, $g$, is pressed inward to the pole, thus withdrawing the pin, $f$, from between the threads of the screw, and allowing the band, $a$, and its connections to fall.

In pitching the tent, the pins at the outer edge are first driven into the ground, the pole is then inserted into the ring, $d$, and the ring, $e$, is lifted till the pin, $f$, catches into the screw ; when, by a few turns of this ring around the pole, the canvas is tightened to any desired degree of tension.
For ventilating the tent, apertures are made at the desired hight in its sides, which are covered by flaps, so arranged that their lower ends may be pressed
any, additional expense, and enabling the occupants of a tent to regulate its ventilation withou.t exposing themselves to the weather outside.
The patent for this invention was granted, through the Scientific American Patent Agency, March 4, 1862, and further information may be obtained by addressing the inventor, George O. Townsend, at No. 30 Avery street, Boston, Mass.

## Conservatory in the Central Park.

One of our cotemporaries states that the Central Park Commissioners have contracted for the construction of a grand conservatory, the largest in the United States, upon the Park grounds. The building is to be a "Crystal Palace," of iron and glass, 200 feet long, 70 feet wide, and about 50 feet high. Its base will be a parallelogram, and there will be three storics, curving in ward like the successive folds of a turba. The conservatory will front Fifth avenue; its center being opposite Seventy-fomth street ; and directly in its rear will be a beautiful little pond, with walled sides of a symmetrical shape, which will be built during the coming two years. When the Fifth avenue is graded to its proper hight, it will be on a level with the second story of the proposed conservitury ; and the main entrance to the edifice will therefore be on that story. Stairs and balconics will give access to every portion of the building. The contract provides that the grantees must erect the building entirely at their own expense, after the plans already agreed upon; that they must place in it nothing but flowers, or rare trees or plants; that they shall be allowed to sell bouquets, \&c., to visitors; that the public shall always be admitted free ;
that good order shall always be maintained inside, at the expense of the grantees; and that the work shall be completed by the 1st of January 1864. The specifications of the contract are minute and are believed to cover the objections which might be made to the granting of a mcnopoly of such a character. The grantees, on their part, agree to pay a rent which will add considerably to the revenues of the Park. 'The conservatory will cost about $\$ 50,000$.

Great Product of Iron.-Blast furnace No. 3, of the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company, at Scranton, Pa., made, during four weeks, the largest amount of iron ever produced in that length of time by a single furnace in the United States, and probably in the world, the yield of the last week amounting to $375 \frac{1}{2}$ tuns. For the week ending January 25, 356 tuns; for the week ending February 1, 342 tuns; for the week ending February 8,357 tuns ; for the week ending February 15, 375 tuns-average, $357 \frac{1}{2}$ tuns. This furnace is 50 feet high, 19 feet in diameter at top of boshes, and is blown through 18 tuyeres, with seven pounds pressure of blast.

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