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F. G. & B. P., of N. B.-Messrs. Sellers, of Philadelphia are agents for and manufacturers of Giffard's boiler injectors. For the information you desire respecting T. Hunt's modification of the injector, illustrated on page 124, Vol. V. (new series) SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, you must address the inventor, at Crewe, England.

H. S. S., of Mass.—The metal magnesium is costly be se the processes for obtaining it from its natural salts are expensive. Perennial cotton is not considered equal annusl. Percussion shells are now cast with a portion of each neavier than the rest so as to insure its striking on the heavy side, otherwise there can be no certainty respecting their explosion.

. M. L., of Mass. —The "Tinman's Manual" is published by I. R. Butts & Co., Boston

O. P., of N. Y .-- The salts of tin, as you suppose, are crystals of the protocoloride of tin. Cast iron should be maileablized before it is galvanized or tinned. We have been informed that it is e before a thick coat of tin is put upon it, and vio versa. You will find it too expensive to employ the galvanic Process for tinning, or zincking cast iron.

D. C., of C. W.—Electro platers make their own wire

brushes with fine brush wire. The high polish of electro-plated goods is given with steel and agate burnishers.

T. B., of Phila.—We have been informed that Capt. Gowan of your city, is the American contracter who is raising the sunker vessels of Sevastopol. You probably can find some information respecting him personally at the Franklin Institute. We under-stand he uses the diving bell for submarine operations, stops all the leaks and boards up each vessel to exclude the water from the cra-dle thus formed, then he pumps out the water from the vessel until

G. M. G., of N. Y.—The "tuns burthen" of a vessel does not mean, as the term is commonly used, the amount of freight which a vessel can carry, but refers to the measurement of the vessel. A vessel registered for 1,200 tuns may be able to carry 2,000

C. D. L., of N. Y .- Prof. Rankine, has published a manua of the steam engine, in which he gives formulæ forcalculating amount of steam which should be condensed when working exp sively independent of the surface condensation by conduction of the

O. C. H., of Conn.—All paper becomes yellow in color by long exposure to the atmosphere. This may be caused by the absorption of smoke, dirt and add from the atmosphere. By scouring iron bright and dipping it into a strong solution of the sulphate of copper a thin skin of pure copper will be deposited, but it soon wears off. You cannot deposit a thick coat without using a battery.

J. H. C., of Mass.—The best way to dissolve isinglass is to allow it to stand all night in a vessel containing cold water, then put it on the fire next morning and stirlt until it becomes bot.

R. B. P., of Conn.—A breast wheel of 30 feet diameter

with 72'4 cubic feet of water per second is 164.44 hore power. Are you sure that you have such a great quantity of water

E. J. P., of Pa.—You will find an Engraving of Giffard's Injector in Vol. III. SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN (new series) page 260. You will find mention made of it in Vol. IV. pages 4 and 376.

E. Piper, of Camden, Me., wishes to know where glass cylinders sufficiently perfect for air pumps, of green glass, can be

M. Swain, of North Chelmsford, Mass., desires to correspond with G. W. W., of N. Y., P. H. W., of Me., J. F. C., of Mich., J. K. W., of Kansas, and a reader of the Scientific American, Pa. These parties will please address as above.

M. J. W., of N. Y.—You have no right to manufacture a patented machine in any county where the "right" is owned by another person, even if you do not offer the manufactured article for

C. E. W., of Kv., J. H. S. and R. W., of Ohio,-Your plans for armor plates for vessels are received. It is said that the Nav. Department has received over 1,500 of these plans, and when the best are selected we shall probably give illustrations of them. In the mean time unless something very movel and promising should be presented we shall all connects with the contract of presented, we shall fill our pages with othermatter

C. A. W., of Mo .- The power that forces water up the ort leg of a siphon is the weight of air resting upon the surface of the reservoir from which the water flows; consequently the water will rise to such hight thatits vertical column will be equal in weight to avertical column of the atmosphere of the same size. This at the level of the sea is a little less than 34 feet, but varies with the changes in the atmosphere. It rapidly diminishes as the sititude abo

T. M., of N. Y .- The American Pneumatic system for carrying mails, &c. through exhausted tubes is illustrated and described on page 265, Vol. VIII. (old series) SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. By consulting these illustrated descriptions of the pneumatic post system, you will obtain very full information on the subject.

V. B., of Pa.—The most perfect method of preventing from evaporating from bottles and glass vessels preserved insects, reptiles, &c., is to use ground glass stoppers, and fuse some glass with the blow pipe around the seams. Scaling wax is the best plastic substance known to us for sealing such glass ves-sels, but it is slightly perous, and alcoholic vapor will slowly escape from vessels coated with it.

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Immediately after the appointment of Mr. Holt to the office of Post-master Gene. In the Inited States he addressed to us the subject of the United States he addressed to us the subject.

master Gene i of the United States, he addressed to us the subjoined very grateful testimonial:—

very grateful testimonial:—

MESSRS. MURN & Co.:—It affords me much pleasure to bear testimony to the able and efficient manner in which you discharged your duties as Solicitors 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 fidely in perfurning your prefessional engagements. Very respectfully,

Your obetient servant, J. HOLT.

Masses. Munn & Co.—Gentlemen: It gives me much pleasure to tay that, during the time of my holding the office of Commissioner of Patents, a very large proportion of the business of inventors before the Patent Office was transacted through your Agency, and that I have ever found you faitful and devoted to the interests of your clients, as well as eminantity qualified to perform the duties of Patent Automays ith skill and accuracy. Very respectfully, WM. D. BISHOP. Communications and remittances should be addressed to Publishers, No. 57 Park-row, New York.

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CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR MACHINES—MESORS, AS—pinwall & Woolsey's patent—George B. Hartson, No. 111 East Furty-second street, continues to execute orders, and gives his personal attention to the erection of the above machines, and will also furnish plans and estimates for complete sugar refineries, with all the atest improvements.

A MESSIEURS LES INVENTEURS AVIS IMPOR-tant. Les inventeurs non faraitiers avec la langua Anglaise e qui préféreraient nous communiquer leurs inventions en Français, pen vent nous addressardais leur inangenataile. Envoyes nous un dessin et uue description concise pour notre examen. Fontes communica-tions seront régres en confidence. MUNN & OO., SCHRATTERE ARBRIGAN ORICE NO. 37 Parkerow, New York.

Bur Beachtung für beutiche Erfinber.

Die Untereichnen baben eine Anseitung, die Erfinder. Die Untereichnen baben eine Anseitung, die Erfindern bas Berhalten angibt, um fich ibre Patente zu sichern, berausgegeben, und verabholsen seiche grafis an diefelben. Erfuher, weiche nicht mit ber englischen Sprache Besant find, fönnen fore Wittheilungen in ber beutschen Sprache machen. Sitzen ben Erfindungen mit furgen, bentlich geschriebengen Beschreibungen bestebe man zu abbrefften au Minns & Co., 27 Parl Row, Rew-Bort. Dafelift is an haben

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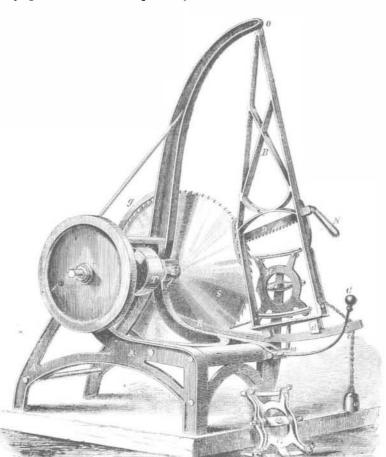
Improved Shing le and Heading Machine.

The accompanying engraving represents a machine which will saw either shingles or headings, cutting the timber with the grain, and thus materially obviating the objection which is brought against sawed shingles.

The bolt or block being placed on end upon a sor of shelf at the bottom of the swing, at d, is fastened by bringing the dog, D, down upon it by means of the handle, N. Continuing to push upon the handle, N, the swing carrying the bolt is vibrated past the 1858, and further information in relation to it may

effecting a great saving of timber. The sawdust being in long fibers burns rapidly, so that with a good boiler the dust will furnish steam enough to run the machine if cutting pine. The power is not consumed in the operation of small contrivances, which are always getting out of order, but is applied directly to the

The patent for this invention was granted through the Scientific American Patent Agency, to the inventor, Robert Law, of Portage City, Wis., January 5,



TREVOR & CO.'S COMBINED SHINGLE AND HEADING MACHINE.

saw and a slab piece cut off; returning, the dog is | be obtained by addressing the manufacturers of the raised, and with the left hand the bolt is pushed against the gage, M, which determines the thickness and shape of the shingle; the dog is again brought down and the operation repeated. The saw, when properly filed, draws the bolt forward almost without effort on the part of the sawyer, and a small weight attached by a chain or cord to the swing, and passing over the sheave in the end of the slide, at e, assists in returning it.

The gage, M, is vibrated to cut shingles, alternately points up and down, by the handle, C, placed conve piently for use by the loft hand, while the right is pushing the swing forward and returning it. When sawing heading the gage remains stationary. The thickness and shape of the shingles are altered in any degree necessary by set screws in the gage, M, which is more distinctly shown, deteched and turned round at G.

The change from shingles to heading is made without the addition or removal of any part, by a simple adjustment of set screws. The frame, A A, is of cast iron, thoroughly bolted and braced. At its highest point, O, is a wrist, upon which is hung the swing, B, which is guided in its vibrations toward and from the saw, S, by the slide, R, without, however, resting uponit.

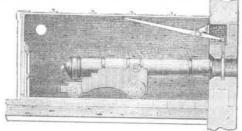
The manufacturers of these machines say the arbon upon which is the saw, S, pulley, T, and balance wheel, E, is of cast steel, finished in the best manner, and supported in babbetted boxes of long bearing, firmly bolted to the frame. The pulley, if desired, can be placed outside of the flywheel. The saw is supported and stiffened by a collar on the outside not shown. The guard, G, with an arrangement below, not shown, for separating the chingles and saw dust, renders it periectly safe to the operator.

The saws are made to order, and ground down to No. 16 gage, thus consuming but little power and gress of water to any extent while firing. Mr. Page

machines, Trevor & Co., at Lockport, N. Y., to whom the patent has been assigned. [See advertisement on another page.]

SUBMARINE GUNS.

As the part of a war vessel most dangerous to be struck is under the water line, several plans have been proposed for guns to fire under the water into the hull of an enemy's vessel when ranged alongside The accompanying engraving represents a gun pro-



posed to be operated for this purpose, by Thomas Page, C. E., London, and described in the Mechanics Magazine. Each gun is to be placed in a chamber below the water level. This chamber is made watertight, and air is forced into it by a pump through a tube. The air pressure is greater than that of the water at the depth at which the gun is placed below the water level. Each gun chamber is connected with a reservoir in which a plentiful supply of condensed air is maintained. The gun being loaded, placed and trained in position by suitable apparatus, a port is opened in the ship's side below the water level, and the gun is fired through such port, which is again immediately closed. The pressure of air in the chamber causes a rush of air outward, and prevents the inproposes to bring the guns into sufficient proximity to an enemy's ship and fire it below the water level; the projectile will therefore pass through the water, strike and enter the enemy's ship below the water line and so contribute to its destruction. Guns so situated may be worked by the men in the ordinary way, they being in the pressure chamber.

Guns worked and discharged in compressed air chambers, according to this invention, would in most cases, be fired point blank, and would not in any case require to be elevated, but in very close quarters with an enemy they might be depressed with advantage. In practice, however, the gun might always be maintained at a uniform level, in which case the port or hole in the ship's side may be made of a size to correspond somewhat in diameter to the muszle of the gun. The gun having been loaded and brought into position, the supply of compressed air is admitted to the gun chamber, the port is opened by the lever and the gun discharged.



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