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During the last sixteen years, the business of procuring Patents for new inventions in the United States and all foreign countries has been conducted by Messrs. MUNN $\varepsilon$ CO., in connection with the publication of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN : and as an evidence of the contideuce reposed in our Agency by the Inventors througbout the 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 whom we havetaken out Patents have addressed to us most flattering testimonials for the services we have rendered them, and the wear th which has inured to the Inventors whose Patents were seciured through this Office, and afterward illustrated in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, would amount to many millions of dollars! We would state that we never had a more eflicient corps of Draughtsmen and Specification Writers than are employed at present in our extensive in the quickest time and on the most liberal terms.

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 The advice we render gratuitously upon examining an invention doesnotextend to a search at the Patent olice, to see if a like invention has been presented there, but is an opinion based upon what 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 description, we have a special search made at the United States Patent Office, and a report setting forth the prospects of obtaining a Patent cc., made up and mailed to the Inventor, with a pamphlet, giving instr wefions for further proceedings. These preliminary examinations
are made through our Branch Office, corner of $F$ and Seventh-streets, Washine through our Branch Office, corner of $F$ and sevenh-le than 5,000 such examuations have been made through this office during the past three years. Address MUNN \& C©., No. 37 Park-row, N. Y. 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 ts a chemical production, be must furnish samples of the ingredients of which his composition consists, tor the Patent Office. These should be secirely packed, the inventor's name marked on them, and sent, with the government fees by express. The express charge should be prepaid. Small models from a distance can often be sent cheaper by mail. Thesafest way to remit money is by draft on New York, payable to the order of Munn \& $\mathrm{C}_{0}$ Persons wholive in remote parts of the country can usually purchase
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We areprepared to undertake theinvestigation and prosecution of reiected cases, on reasonable terms. The close proximity of our Washington Agency to the Patent Olice affords us rare opportunities for the examination and comparison of references, models, drawings, dncuments, \&c. Our success in the prosemtion of reiected cases has been
very great. The principal portiom of our charge is generally left de very great. The principal po
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mand and manufacturers, carefully prepared and placed upon the records at the
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It would require many columns to detail all the ways in which the Inventor or Patentee may be served at our ofices. 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 rigets of Patentees, will be cheerfully answered. Communications and remittances by mail, and models by express (prepaid), should be addressed to MUNN \& CO., No. 37 Park-row, New Vork.

. C. of N. Y., and S. J. B., of N. J.-A deed of transfe of a patent should be pot on record within threo months after its date. The purchasershould pay the reconding fee muless there is a ascement to the comrary.
T. T., of N. Y...We think you are on the right track. Submarine vessels must yot necupy im impontant place in the destruction of navalvessels. The subject is worthy of mach attention, and other parties are at worktrying to derise some effectiv vessels of this character.
A Miller, of Ohio.-Your reply to "A"Young Miller, is re ceired, but as the same ground has been taken before yon, we do not pablish it. We have alreaty publishest enongh on the subject. C. B., of Conn.-We are impressed favorably with you projectile, and showld think a patent might be obtained tor it. M. F., of Ill.-Your shel! filled with chloroform and cayenne pepper would be a very harmless affair:
W. H. S., of Mass.-There are projectiles in the service formed on your plan of cast iron with a steel face
J. C. A., of Mass.-We have bushels of communications, ancl when one is exmined and passell upon, it goes to the pape makers, and we can see it no more. A patent could probably be obtrinum for your cormposition.
C. F. W. S., of Wis.-It takes one-horse power to raise $33,000 \mathrm{lbs}$. one foot high per minute. A cubic font of water weigh $62 \%$ ibs., and the area of the cross section of a pipe 6 -inches in dam eter is 28,274 inches. We shouk want to know the velocity of vom stream in order to answer your question ; but from the above data yon can make the calcniation by the simple rules of arithmetic.
A. S. S., of Pa.-Magnetic electric machines produce a current of electricity which, passing through a helical wire, induces magnetism in a picee of soft iron in the core. No acid or otherliquid is need, but power is required to turn the machine. See illustration of heartislee's magneto-electric machine on page 353, Vol. V. Solen tific Ambrichan, ,
city in relation to
it.
C. M. B., of Me.-The substance that yousend us is kaolin, and if you have a large bed of it of a quality eftial to this sample it is
B., of Wis.-The idea of exlausting the air from the bove of a gon is a very old one and not patentable.
H. I). B., of N. Y.-The operating of a melodeon bellows by means of a weight insteal of by the foot wontd not be patentable : neither would the use of a spring, firm the fact that both plans are in uer in other analogous pieces of mechanism.
2. II., of Mass.-Your thermometer appears to be new and useful, and we think a patent can be ohtained on it. A model is necessary, and when you send it state as nearly as possible the
propertion hetween the heat of the air in the air chamber proportion between the ha
L. W., of N. Y.-You will find the Fourneyron and Jonval Wheel described onpage 232 present Vol. Somentific Amprocan The Fonney
the Jonal.
. $S_{\text {: }}$ of N. Y.-.It would recpuire a considerable amount of power to wind up a spring to churn a large guantity of milk but a small churn, we think, may be continually operated by a spring. Yom can easily make the experiment without incurring much expense.
W. F. R., of R. I.-You state that in your opinion plaited wire of "sufficimt hickness" would resist shot and shell. We have no doulto of it, but what do you require as a"sulficient thick J. C. C., of Ill.-A bullet shot vertically will return to the murzie of the musket with the same force with which it left it minus the luss of foree sustained by the resistance of the atmo
sphere. The spaces pasced throngh by falling bodies are propor limal to the squares of the times, 16 feet the first second, 64 feet the second, and so on. A feather and a plece of metal will fall with the sume velocity in a vacuum.
T. A. McD., of Mich.-The manufacturers of "oreide.' an imitation of gold which does notreadlly tarmsh, are Messrs Holmes, Booth and Hayden, of Waterbury, Conn. They have Homes, Bonth and Hayden, of Waterbury,
F. D. P., of Wis.-The largest importer of music boxes known to us is Marins. J. Paillard, 21 Miaiden Lane, this city. He has instruments which play from $t w o$ to thirty-six tunes and the prices vary from $\$ 2$ to $\$ 1,000$ aceording to the number of tomes, and quality of the instrument
H. M. D., of Ohio.--A series of paddles secured on an padless chain and passing over two grover pulleys on the side of a steambant, is an old mode of propulsion. Yon will find this system Ilhastrated on page 152, Vol. V. (old semes) Schextifio Ambions. Yon will also find Ramsey's mode of propeiling, by egerting a aurrent of wates from the stern of a boat illustratol on page 112 *ame olume.
B. \& Co., of Mass.---Iron may be coated witl copper by first corering it with a skin of tin. After being timned, the iron diped into a bath of molten copper, the surficen of which should be covered with a layer of gromed glass or sand.
L. P. B., of Ind.-A very dark blue may be dyed on wool With me otmee of the mansiate of potash, half :m onnce of the sulpounds of chip logwool to 5 lhs . of wonl. Poilatl together tor three quarters of an hour:!
J. P. J., of Wis.--We have given our reasens in former volumes of the Scmaveic Anericas, why hot-air engines are net adaptef for lucomotires and large moturs. Small air enginas are very convenient for some purposes.

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$\$ 25$; L. H., of Hungary, $\$ 43$; B. T., of 111 , $\$ 45$; T. B. B., oi N. Y. $\$ 25$; L. H., of Hungay, $\$ 43$; B. T., of Mn., $\$ 45$; T. B. B., of N. Y.,
$\$ 22$; G. H., of N. Y., $\$ 20$; H. W. S., of England, $\$ 40$; W. C., nf O.,
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 \$15; W. B. B., of Conn., \$ 45 ; T. sund R., of Ind., \$20; J. N. B., of Iowa, $\$ 25$; P. D., of Mich., $\$ 50$; W. and F. K., of N. J., $\$ 25$.

Specifications and drawings and models belonging to parties with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Oflice from May 7 to Wernesday, May 14, 1862 -
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## Improved Ventilator for Houses.

The annexed engravings represent a device for ventilating houses, which, from its simplicity, is very little liable to become disarranged, while it is operated with great facility.
Fig. 1, shows the ventilator turned down in a horizuntal pusition, Fig. 2, is a back view in its normal position, and Fig. 3, is a perspective. A circular opening is cut through the wall, and is covered by the wheel, B , which is fixed rigidly in place. The central portion of this wheel is crossed by radial arms, and half of the segments between these arms
silvering looking glasses. Lead and mercury unite readily in various proportions. An amalgam of 3 parts mercury, 1 of lead, and 1 of bismuth, is remarkable for its fluidity, and it may be squeezed through leather without separation of the elements. It is employed for silvering the interior of hollow glass spheres, previously made clean and warm. All amalgams may be decomposed at a moderate heat. Advantage is taken of this property in what is called water gilding, or gilding metallic articles, such as brass buttons. A small portion of gold is dissolved in a large quantity of mercury, the brass articles to


WILLIAMS'S VENTILATOR FOR HOUSES.
are tilled with plates of window shass ; cach alternate serment being glazed and the others left open.
'through the axis of the wheel, $B$, a spincle is passed, and upon the outer end of this spindle a second wheel, $A$, is huug in immediate contact with the wheel, B. 'This outer wheel has its alternate segments glazed in the same manner as its fellow, and it will be scen that when the wheel, B, is turned so that its open segments are opposite the open segments in the wheel, $A$, the air may pass freely through both wheels; but when it is se turned that its glazed begments are opposite the open segments of the wheel, A, then no air can pass.
The wheel, $B$, is usially kept in position to close the ventilator by a weight, $D$, fastened upon one side, and swinging in a recess or slot made for the purporic in wheel, A.
To facilitate the opening of the ventilator, a cord, a, is attached to a projection, $\bullet$, on the wheel, 1 , and passed around pulleys, $c c$, into the room. By pulling this cord, the wheel, $B$, is turned upon its axis; and a stop is provided to arrest the turming at such point as will cause the open segments of the two wheels exactly to coincide. The cord may be wound around a pin or otherwise secured to hold the ventilator open.
'This ventilator works very freely and smoothly, and it is not likely to get out of order.
The patent for this invention was granted september 17,1861 , and further information in relation to it may be obtained by addressing the inventor, Samuel W. Williams, at Centreville, N. Y.

## Amalgam Applications.

Mercury pessesses the quality of uniting with a number of metals, forming a class of metallic compounds called amalgams, some of which are brittle, others soft. Under ordinary circumstances, iron and mercury do not unite, therefore the fluid metal is transported, and kept stored in iron flasks. An amalgam of tin is easily formed by triturating the two metals together in a suitable mortar, or by fusion at a gentle heat. This is the amalgam which is used for

心 gilt, being made perfectly clean, are anointed with the amalgam, and then placedin a furnace and heated. The heat drives off the mercury, leaving the gold adhering to the brass in a thin, frosty film. The luster is developed by burnishing. Brass articles may be silvered in the same manner. Cast iron, wrought iron, steel, copper or brass may be tinned with a soft amalgam of tin and mercury. The articles are scoured bright with acid, sand or emery. No oxide, or grease must be on the surface of the article to be tinnea. The amalgam is then rubbed on with a piece of coarse cotton cloth, moistened with dilute hydrochloric (muriatic) acid. All the parts of the brass, or whatever other metal it may be, thus treated become thoroughly coated with the amalgam.
Iron may be coated with zinc by a peculiar amal gam process, patented several years since, in England, by Mr. Mallett. It was invented fur the purpose of being applied to iron ships, to prevent their corrosion. The iron is first immersed in a cleansing bath, formed of equal parts sulphuric acid or hydrochloric acid and water, used warm. The metal is then hammered and scrubbed with emery and sand, to detach the scales of oxide, and to produce a thoroughly clean surface. The metal is next immersed in a preparing bath, consisting of a saturated solution of hydrochlorate of zinc and sulphate of ammonia; and, lastly, it is transferred to a metallic bath, composed of 202 parts mercury and 1,292 parts zinc, both by weight. To every tun weight of this alioy is added 1 B . of potassium or of sodium, the latter being preferred. As soon as the cleaned iron has attained the point of fusion of this triple alloy, viz., $680^{\circ}$, it is removed, and is found to be thoroughly coated with zinc. The affinity of this alloy for iron is so intense that at the fusing heat of $680^{\circ}$ it will dissolve a plate of wrought iron one-eighth of an inch thick in a few seconds. When the articles to be covered are small, or the parts minute, as for example, wire, nails or small chains, it is necessary before immersing them to permit the triple alloy to dissolve, or combine with some wrought iron, in order that its great affinity for the articles may be partially diminished.

A good amalgam for the use of the electrical ma chine is formed of 4 parts mercury, 2 parts zinc and part tin. The zinc should be melted in an iron ladle, the tin added, and afterward the mercury, previously heated in another iron ladle, stirring the mixture with an iron rod. The am:algam should be poured ust before it solidifies, into a wooden or iron box, and be constantly agitated, by shaking until cold. It should then be triturated in an iron mortar, and sifted through a small muslin sieve, so as to obtain an extremely fine powder: this being rubbed up with a little lard, is to be spread on the rubber of the electrical machine with a pallet knife.

When a sheet of white paper is moistened with benzole it becomes temporarily transparent, and any iines may be traced through it. In a few hours the benzole evaporates, and the paper becomes opaque, as before.


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