TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. D. S., of Conn.—We are not acquainted with what you want; but it appears to us that it would be no difficult matter to gear a loom to accomplish

J. D. C., of Pa-Your self-acting Fire Alarm is essentially the same as one described in volume 3, of this journal; Invented by Messrs. Tomlinson &

J. J. S, of N. Y .- We cannot furnish the information about the matter which you desire.

E. D. W., of Montreal. - We are not acquainted with a better publication upon Drawing than Minifie's work. Chapman's book, when finished, will be an excellent work; but he is now abroad and will not complete it for some time to come. J. S. Redfield, of this city, has published three or four num

H. A. B., of Brooklyn.-The person on the car in motion It makes no matter how swift he is capable of jumping, he must do so along with the train, or he will find it difficult to pick himself up afterwards

W. H., of Mass.-It makes no matter if a man has obtained a patent, he cannot prevent you from employing the same process, if that process is old and well-known. If it has been in use in a foreign country, the patent can be sustained, if it has never been patented, or published; but if it has, in either case it will nullify the patent. To be upheld by law a patent must be for a "new and useful" invention. We will look up the cases with which you are very intelligently acquainted.

J. C., of Ohio.—We will do as you have requested Your opinion about the Hillotype, corresponds with our own. We have never seen a statement made by anv one who had seen the whole process.

D. C., of Me.-Your's will receive attention.

C. W. F., of Me.-Your's is under consideration. A. W.T., of Mass.-Brass tubing is made from sheet metal, by cutting up the sheet in long strips and bending them round a central coil or mandril, whose thicknes equals the intended internal diameter of the pipe. The two opposite edges are made to lap over each other, and in that state are soldered together. When soldered, the tube is cleaned and brightened by means of diluteacid, and is then ready for drawing. The drawing is effected by a mandril being passed through the tube, which is drawn for cibly through a circle smaller than its external diameter, and being pressed closely on every side its internal and external surface become regular and smooth.

J. J., of Pa.-Your's will receive attention. The question had nothing to do with momentum, merely the revolution, as we stated; if the small wheels slide over its surface, in every revolution, how much does it roll? the whole revolution which will make it to describe a line as long as the large wheels H. L., of Ga.—Gutta Percha is hardened by mixing

it with black lead. It can be obtained in this city, of Armstrong & Co., "the Gutta Percha Co."

A. A., of Md.—You might, perhaps, sell your eagle to Barnum, if it is a good specimen; but you would not earn a day's board by exhibiting it here three mon'hs. The rent of Castle Garden is about \$100 per day; so you can calculate yourself what the probable chances would be for making monsy in exhibiting your eagle at that place, as you suggest.

J. B. C., of Tenn.-Our opinions are unchanged The force of the artisan did not cease before the effect was produced; but his effort did. If you call a medium which carries the force, inertia, then you are right; but we do not view it in this light. "Inertia is that quality of matter by which it is inca pable of spontaneous change." This is the best definition of it, if it is a resisting quality, than it is active, and very badly named; and should be called the law of "repulsion."

Money received on account of Patent Office business for the week ending Saturday, Nov. 20:-

A. H. B., of N. Y., \$200; G. W. W., of N. Y., \$30; W. C., of Conn., \$20; B. F. C., of N. Y., \$30; C. F. B., of R. I., \$20; S. K., of N. Y., \$50; G. P., of N. Y., \$20; J. E. A., of Ct., \$20; H. B. G., of N. H., \$25; D. & L. C., of Conn., \$25.

Specifications and drawings belonging to partie with the following initials have been forwarded to the Patent Office during the week ending Saturday

J. B. A., of Pa.; R. & S., of Pa.; W. C., of Conn.; I. A., of N. Y. . C. F. B., of R. I.; J. C., of N. Y.; L. B., of Ohio; T. M., of Pa.; J. E. A., of Conn.; I. B. G., of N. H.; D. & L. C., of Conn.; W. G. H.,

A Chapter of Suggestions, &c.

CHEAP POSTAGE.—The postage on the Scientific American, to subscribers residing within the State of New York, will be but 13 cts. per annum henceforth, instead of 13 cents per quarter as formerly, and will be delivered at the most remote parts of the United States for 26 cts. per annum, whereas the postage formerly demanded at distant offices was \$1,20 per annum. The saving produced by the reduction of newspaper postage under the new the sizes on the face of the Letters. Also, Gothic Style—Size, 1-4 and 1.2, Price 3 cts. each; — (Roman Style) Branding Irons—1-4, 3-8 and 1-2 in. (Roman the reduction of newspaper postage under the new statute, is no inconsiderable item, and many who could not afford to subscribe for the Scientific American, under the old law, can now withstand the expense.

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To Correspondents—Condense your ideas into as brief space as possible, and write them out legibly always remembering to add your name to the com munication. Anonymous letters receive no attention at this office. If you have questions to ask, do it in as few words as possible, and if you have some invention to describe, come right to the business at the commencement of your letter, and not fill up the best part of your sheet in making apologies for having the presumption to address us. We are always willing to impart information if we have the kind solicited.

Patentees—Remember we are always willing to execute and publish engravings of your inventions, provided they are on interesting subjects, and have never appeared in any other publication. No engravings are inserted in our columns that have appeared in any other journal in this country, we must be permitted to have the engraving executed to suit our own columns in size and style. Barely the expense of the engraving is charged by us, and the wood-cuts may be claimed by the inventor, and subsequently used to advantage in other journals.

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tion of the Metropolitan Mechanics' Institute will be opened on Thursday, the 24th of February, 1853, in the new and splendid hall of the east wing of the Patent Office, one of the largest and most magnificent rooms in the United States, being 275 feet long by 70 feet wide. To this exhibition the manufacturers, mechanics, artists, and inventors, from all portions of the Union, are cordially invited to contribute. The hall will be opened for the reception of goods on Monday, tha 14thof February, and the exhibition will positively close on or before Thursday night, March 17. Circulars, containing detailed instructions, will be forwarded and any turther information given, on application (post-paid) to the Corresponding Secretary, Charles F. Stansbury, to whom all communications on the business of the Institute should be addressed

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47tf

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