



B. F., of Ohio.—The yellow scales in the sand which you sent us are mica.

E. H. J., of R. I.—We do not know of any work by Septimus Plesse other than the one mentioned by you. To make tar from pine wood it is essential that the wood should be distilled in a retort.

J. McD., of Ohio.—White lead is a carbonate of lead. It is usually made by exposing thin sheets of lead to the fumes of vinegar. It may also be formed for experimental purposes by adding a solution of carbonate of potash to a solution of the acetate of lead (sugar-of-lead). The precipitate thus obtained is the carbonate of lead.

E. G., of Ill.—Iron may be effectually prevented from rusting by coating it with asphalt varnish, then baking it in an oven, but such an application cannot conveniently be made to the iron-plates of ships, and such large masses of iron. Red lead is a good paint for iron, but it requires to be applied with care in order to render it durable. The first coat should be put on thin, then allowed to dry, and the iron should then receive two subsequent coats.

D. M., of Ohio.—The subscription price for *Silliman's Journal* is \$5 per annum. Address Silliman & Dana, proprietors, New Haven, Conn.

J. De Z., of Mo.—Iron patterns may be coated with copper, and oxidation prevented by first cleaning them perfectly, coating them with asphalt, then preparing the surface with plumbago, and afterwards submitting them to the galvanic battery in a trough containing the sulphate of copper in solution. The process would be troublesome and too expensive for you to practice.

INvariable Rule.—It is an established rule of this office to stop sending the paper when the time for which it was pre-paid has expired.

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At the Scientific American Office, on account of Patent Office business, from Wednesday, June 10, to Wednesday, June 17, 1863:—

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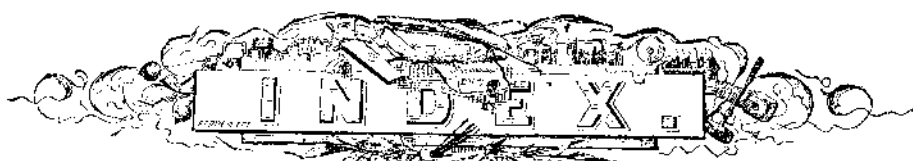
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