SCIENTIFIC CORNER

MECENT INVENTIONS AND DIS COVERIES OF IMPORTANCE.

A Mechanical Flower Invented by Pennsylvanian - A Convertible Fire Escape - An Experiment for Home Amusement-Frenk Pottery.



MECHANICAL novelty for window show or advertising purposes has been patented by John E. Wenger, of Paradise, Pa. The spring power, which operates the device, is in the casing beneath. Each petal of the

dower works on a wire, the whole converging to a common center, where they are attached to the perpendicular cod that connects them with the spring or power. As the mechanism moves, the flower assumes all the intermediate positions from a bud to a full blossom, making a very interesting display.

The Non-Refillable Bottle Again.

An item in the New York Ledger has aroused a good deal of discussion on the subject of a non-refillable bottle. A number of inventors claim to have patents that cover this idea, but, as far as they have been examined, they are all faulty, and do not stand the test of practical use. As a sample of the work that has been done in this line, the following criticism from the Wine and Spirit Circular may be interesting: "There have been so many devices submitted for approval, and invariably objected to for one reason or another, that the trade seems weary of being importuned, and it is gradually beginning to consider the idea impracticable, and to regard the inventors as 'cranks,' while the glass manufacturers, having been surfeited in the matter of making trial samples, are free to admit they prefer not to be troubled by such work, I throw off the mattress, haul the bedand if they can be prevailed upon to springs to the window, hook one side to do the work at all, they do it at their | the sill and throw the rest out, which own convenience, which may mean a | would immediately elongate in the form delay of weeks or months." From all of a ladder, upon which a safe descent of which it appears that the trade does | could be made. not consider this want by any means met.-New York Ledger.

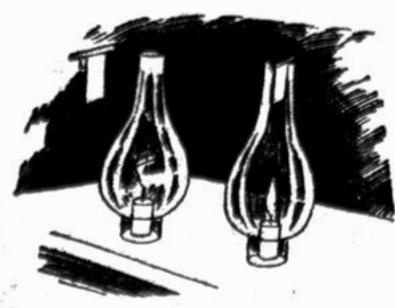
The Influence of Winds on Vegetation. A meeting of the International Meteorological congress—a report of which has recently been publishedconsiderable attention was given to the effect of winds. It states that the destruction of the forests is responsible for many of the cold waves which we experience. Special mention is made of the disappearance of peach trees from Michigan, which is said to be traceable directly to the deforestation of the state and the uninterrupted rush of cold winds. The hot, sweeping winds of the plains, known as dessicating winds, are held accountable for a loss of something like 21,000,000 bushels of corn in the state of Kansas alone The absence of timber belts and windbreaking forests allows these dessicating winds to sweep over many miles of cultivated land. These winds may reach a temperature of 108 or 109 degrees, with humidity not over 20 or 25 per cent at the outside. This report recommends extensive planting of timber as the best protection against cold waves and hot winds.

A New Bicycle Rlus

Among the improvements in bicycles may be mentioned rims of aluminium. These rims are said to be extremely rigid and durable, and, of course, are very light. A new cyclometer is shown which weighs but one and three quarter ounces, and is warranted accurate and reliable. A combined clock and eyclometer is another novelty. With this attachment the rider can set time and stop it again, thus taking his own speed with the utmost accuracy. seems that all of the talk about increase of weight in the 1896 wheels has ended in nothing. Tires in some cases ar thicker and stronger, consequently are very slightly increased in weight; but this is made up for in many instances by lighter construction elsewhere,

For Home Amusement.

A lighted candle may be protected may over it, as shown in the accom-



canying illustration, but in a little while the fame will grow pale and, perhaps, co out. This is because the carbonic acid (gas) given off in the combustion accumulates at the bottom of the chimney and thus prevents the flame from

setting a necessary supply of oxygen. Now, very few readers need to procost a candle flame in this way, but we may turn the arrangement into a very pretty experiment to show a printcple rentilation. Of course the trouble might be avoided by placing the lower md of the chimney upon three or four dight supports, which would allow the to come in at the bottom and thus pierced with holes in order to liberate | dull? care the steady combustion of the ndle, but that is not the experiment

et we allade to. Place a piece of wire horizontally the top of the chimney-a hairinternal diameter of the chimney, and | WOMAN'S CORNER. about two inches in depth, bend one end of this and hang it over the wire so that it will divide the interior of the chimney into two equal parts.

This simple device will establish ventilation in the chimney and the candle will burn steadily and brightly. The principle is that the dividing of the chimney into two parts makes a current of cool air flow into it on one side of the card, while the products of the combustion flow out on the other side.

To test the flow of the two currents, you may hold a lighted match over the top of the chimney; on one side of the card the flame of the match will be drawn towards the opening; on the other side it will be driven away.—Ex

New Idea in Railway Tracks.

The annovance of wheels slipping on tracks, especially in up grades, and the tremendous resistance experienced, has led to a new invention. The rail is provided with an edge or rim covered with cogs or teeth, and the wheel has similar cogs which engage with them. These cogs are set on diagonally, inclining downward, and are less likely to accumulate dust and dirt.

Convertible Fire Escape.

One of the most novel and useful inventions that has recently come to our notice is the combined spring bed and fire escape. It consists of a plurality of bed-spring sections formed by U-shaped metal springs, which are rigidly secured at their ends by longitudinal strips, said sections being joined together at alternate ends. 80 that when straightened out the whole arrangement forms a continuous ladder, the central portion of the springs serving as steps. All a person would have to do in case of a fire would be to



The Gulf Stream.

The curious point is made by a writer that if a channel of sufficient size and depth were cut from the Carribean sea to the Pacific ocean the gulf stream would no longer flow across the Atlantic and warm the shores of Europe, but would pour into the Pacific ocean. The islands forming the Carribean sea act on the principle of a breakwater or dam, holding the water that has been forced into the sea by the tides and trade winds and cause the water to be higher In that sea and turn it into the Gulf of Mexico, which becomes the reservoir or fountain head, whence the gulf stream flows like a river from a lake, being the equalizer of water as well as heat and making its way in the direction of the greatest deficiency of that element. Further, the warmth of this wonderful stream is accounted for by the fact that its waters are supplied from the tropics, the tide waves acting on the principle of an eddy, so it has counter-currents, also, this theory resting upon the assumption that the water is higher on the east than on the west side of the isthmus of Panama, and the continent of America being the great dam in the ocean that forms the gulf stream, by placing the continent of America so that it would lie east and west, there would be no gulf stream. -Scientific American.

Danger in Mineral Wook

Mineral wool is made by blowing powerful jets of steam or hot air through iron, slag or certain sorts of rock. That this substance has possible dangers has for some time been evident to scientists. It is said that these extremely fine fibers get into the skin, under the nails, into the eyes and are breathed into the lungs, producing serious hemorrhages. They are in reality closely akin to glass, especially those of slag, and this material should be handled with great caution. It is largely used in building for filling partitions and floors as a deadener of sound. It is also useful for packing pipes and many other purposes. Men who work from the wind by placing a lamp chim- in it use sticks and various implements for handling it, taking care not to touch it. In using this mineral wool it is well to observe whether there are currents of air strong enough to lift it up to breathing level. If so the worker may to advantage tie a fine but thin handkerchief over his mouth and nose.

Freak Pottery.

Under this heading an eminent scientist describes what he calls freak pottery. In explorations and investigations of the mounds of Florida very large quantities of pottery are found. It is evident that they were broken before being buried with their owners, and that there must be some reason for breaking them. The freak, or ceremonial pottery, the latter name being supposed to describe the articles more accurately, appears to have been made for the purpose of burying with the dead. They are pierced with holes before they are baked, and were evidently useless for the purpose of ordinary dishes. According to traditions existing among some of the tribes, it is believed that the vessel had a sort of spirit, and that it must be broken or the spiritual essence. This accounts for the broken pottery and vessels so frequently found in Indian tombs.

What do you suppose angels think will do and having provided a bit when they see a preacher looking for eardboard of the exact width of the an easy place?—Ram s Horn.

INTERESTING READING WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Some Current Notes of the Modes -- A Proper Costame for the Bicycle Show -The Summer Girl on Hand Again-Household Bints and Fashion Notes.



DISCUSSING bloomers versus skirts we have missed the knickerbockers. English cousins have adopted them and to our shores they come, in perfected shape and material. Firstly.

the jersey, with tight-fitting band over the hips, falling add emphasis to the shortness of the with little fullness and fastened with a band about the knee. Suitable especially for cycling and skating on the colder days.

Secondly, tailor-made tweed or cashmere knickerbockers fitted over the hips and closed on each side with buttons. Falling full over knee and fastened under band. For riding or golf. Thirdly, the black satin or silk and the shot taffeta knickerbockers. These

are made to match the skirt lining and are very handsome affairs. The material used is soft, that the appearance of the figure may not be marred. Under lace and ribbon they fasten about the knee. Such knickerbockers are worn by my lady when walking to facilitate easy movement.

Fourthly, and lastly, the accordeonplaited knickerbocker, or divided skirt, for this is the connecting link between knickers and skirts. A tight-fitting yoke is about eight inches in depth. Then the knickerbockers are fulled, or. rather, plaited on. They are much longer than others and are made to almost resemble a dancing skirt, so fine is the silk used and so voluminous .-

Notes of the Modes

White satin and silk are made into collars, collarettes and cuffs to wear with thin dresses.

ribbon, which goes so well with Dolly the shoulders flimsy muli of some solid

has been given much, but unto you shall be the greatest glory. To them has the power to steal hearts only been the right to demand."-The Latest, in

It is only fair, after so long a period of swan-waisted creatures, with belts pulled half way down over the natural line of the hips, that "things should take a turn," and the fetching little round-waisted - yes, short-waisted woman should have a show. Under this new regime even the rippled basques do not dismay her. They only



waist and give a dash and chic to the figure. And now that the siceves are less enormous, another item in her favor, she looks anything but "dumpy."

belt, one that will tend to lessen the appearance of the natural size, instead of, as so many unfortunate belts do, make it look much larger than it really is. It is neither safe nor good taste to wear too light-colored a belt upon a Collarettes and fronts of green taf- dark gown. A black belt is always the

Varden effects. Make your sleeves at \$1 a bushel; \$2 a bbl. of 11 big tight-fitting and drape over them and color. Then you may be prepared to

"Welcome, girl of '96. To thy sisters given, but unto you has been granted Chicago News.

Gowns of Lilac Cloth.

The waist must always be trimly built and encircled with a well fitting



feta are much admired, and will be more kind friend, so far as worn with dresses of almost all sum- compass goes. Light ones, however, mer materials.

die are made up with ruffles, trimmed with narrow Valenciennes lace, with a scalloped edge.

Heliotrope and orange is a new combination. It is just tolerable if the proper shades are placed together. If not, it is atrocious.

A girl's hat has a wide brim, peaked over the front and faced with velvet. The Tam O'Shanter crown is of velvet, and there are loops and quill feathers at the side.

96 Sammer Girl. Hall!

What are the fair dames buying? Linens, a great deal. The coming season will find at least one grass linen or linen batiste gown in each wardrobe. Linen may be dull, but one must not get the idea that these gowns will lack any of the gorgeousness so rampant now. Imagine a thin linen. be blue, or green, or pink, and the lin-



en may be varied with a tiny colored stripe. Think you such a gown is

For the sake of argument we admit it is duil. Then, why not have an organdle, with immense flowers bunched over it? As to colors, it matters not. A delicate ground color it needs, but galore. Trim your gown with Dresden | stands in the corner in disgrace.

are comparatively safe when worn with Skirts of lawn and dimity and organ- a light-colored gown. Then the contrast will not be so noticeable. The girl with the wasp walst may wear the white or gilt belt to her heart's satisfaction, but who would exchange with her, for she has grown awfully passe?

A charming gown of lilac cloth, with a rough surface, has trimmings of fine round black cord, set on in rows. The skirt is severely plain, though full of whirls and godets and smartly stiffened to set out about the feet. The ripple jacket opens in pointed fashion across the front to show a vest of white satin overlaid with closely set rows of black cord. The lower arm of the sleeve is also decorated with rows of the cord.

Cycling Dress.

Dalsy Dean asks what is the most appropriate cycling dress, and of what should it be made. Answer: The most Beneath it gleams yellow satin. Lace sensible and becoming cycling costume edges the gown and yellow ribbons is a moderately short skirt, shirt waist, adorn it. On the combining color may blazer or jacket and well-fitting high shoes, or, if low shoes are worn, a pair of trim overgaiters. A corset waist should be worn, as, of course, the regular corset is not approved by any good authority. One sensible wheelwoman wears opera-length hose of black, a short petticoat of black satin, moderately full and buttoned together in the middle so as to give the effect of full trunks. The skirt and jacket are of rough-surfaced Priestley cravenette. There is a vest of black satin provided to wear with it, also shirt waists and blouses, when desired. A sailor hat and thick gloves complete what is voted as one of the most practical outfits of the season. One advantage of the material is that it is strictly rain-

Household Hints.

The doll of the period is an interesting and complicated creature. She has her toilet, her down-sitting and uprising outfits, her indoor and out-of-door equipments, her carriage and her servants, and recently an ingenious designer has got out a full-rigged schoolroom for dolls. There are benches and blackboards and maps, pictures, desks and doll school-ma'am. Nothing for the blossoms, let them have colors is omitted, even to the bad doll who

BLISS TRIUMPH POTATOES pecks; 8 bbis. for \$5. No potato is earlier; or one-half barrel of Triumphs and one-half barrel of late for \$2.25; 3 bbls for \$6. To get these low prices

Cut This Out and Soud the Money along to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and get Salzer's Pedigree Potatoesat above cheap prices! wn

Germans Like Us.

America has far more attraction for a German emigrant than the colonies of Germany in Africa. Thus far only 700 Germans, including 250 officials, have taken up their residence in Cameroon and German East Africa. Even English emigrants, by a large majority, prefer the United States to the English colonies.

All About Western Farm Lands. The "Corn Belt" is the name of an illustrated monthly newspaper published by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R. R. It aims to give information in an interesting way about the farm lands of the west. Send 25 cents in postage stamps to the "Corn Belt," 209 Adams St., Chicago, and the paper will be sent to your address for one year.

Benjamin Franklin used the first lightning rods, 1752.

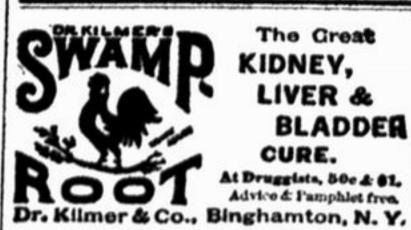
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Medicine was introduced into Rome from Greece, 200 B. C. Hegeman's Camphor Ice with Glycerine. The original and only genuine. Cures Chapped Hands and Face, Cold Sores, &c. C. G. Clark Co., N. Haven, Ct.

First electric telegraph, Paddington

o Brayton, Eng., 1835. If the Baby is Cutting Teeth, So sore and use that old and well-tried remedy. Mgs.

Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething. The Chaldeans were the first people who worked in metals.



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Patent. PATRICE O'FARRELL, Washington, D. C.

Spring Medicine

Your blood in Spring is almost certain to be full of impurities - the accumulation of the winter months. Bad ventilation of sleeping rooms, impure air in dwellings, factories and shops, overeating, heavy, improper foods, failure of the kidneys and liver properly to do extra work thus thrust upon them, are the prime causes of this condition. It is of the utmost importance that you

Purify our Blood

Now, as when warmer weather comes and the tonic effect of cold bracing air is gone, your weak, thin, impure blood will not furnish necessary strength. That tired feeling, loss of appetite, will open the way for serious disease, ruined health, or breaking out of humors and impurities. To make pure, rich, red blood Hood's Sarsaparilla stands unequalled. Thousands testify to its merits. Millions take it as their Spring Medicine. Get Hood's, because

Hoods

Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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