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SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.

Additional evidence on the subject of  
the supposed heat from the sun's rays is  
furnished by an experiment recently re-  
ported in France. A balloon, with register-  
ing instruments, was sent up a distance of  
ten miles above the earth's surface, where  
the temperature registered was found to be  
104° Fahrenheit.

An ingenious inventor has provided him-  
self with a pair of bicycles for his feet. The  
wheels are about four inches in diameter  
and are strapped to his feet like skates.  
They have rubber tires and glide over the  
concrete pavement with great ease. They  
are very superior to the common roller  
skates and the owner moves along almost  
as fast as the bicyclist.—*Scientific Ameri-  
can.*

There is now in operation at the Gov-  
ernment proving grounds at Sandy Hook,  
at the entrance to the outer bay of New  
York, the largest search-light in the world.  
The estimated force of the light is 194,000,-  
000 C.P. It is claimed that its rays can be  
seen at a distance of nearly 100 miles, and  
that vessels can be detected at 20 miles.  
The light was made by Schuckert & Co., of  
Nuremberg, Germany, and was exhibited  
at Chicago last summer.

According to a German scientific journal,  
a material called "flexible glass" is made  
by dissolving four to eight parts of gun-  
cotton in one part of ether or alcohol, and  
adding to the solution two to four parts of  
a non-resinous oil, and four to ten parts of  
Canada balsam. The mixture is spread on  
a plate of glass, and dried in a current of  
air at a temperature of 50°. The residuum  
is a hard, flexible, transparent mass, resist-  
ing alike acids, alkalies and salts.

The passage by the House of Representa-  
tives at Washington of the bill for the legal-  
ization of electrical units can be regarded as  
a recognition of the influence of the Ameri-  
can Institute of Electrical Engineers and of  
the National Electric Light Association.  
The units thus legalised are those adopted  
at the Chicago International Electrical Con-  
gress—the ohm, volt, ampere, coulomb,  
farad, joule, watt and the new unit of in-  
ductance the henry.—*Electrical World.*

The hospital-car is the newest thing in  
railroad enterprise. The car is divided into  
to compartments and supplied with cots,  
stretchers, medicines of all sorts likely to be  
needed and the usual appliances of an emer-  
gency relief corps. One of these cars is now  
in service on the New Jersey Central Rail-  
road. It is only a question of time when  
such cars, fully equipped, will be placed on  
all lines and made available for immediate  
use in case of accidents.—*New York Led-  
ger.*

A new anthropometric test of sensitiv-  
ness has been designed by Dr. Galton. A  
band of color, showing all the 65 shades of  
blue, is slowly passed before the eyes, and  
the subject makes a dot for every shade de-  
tected. As far as experiments have pro-  
ceeded, only about 20 shades are generally  
discovered. In one case, however, a dyer  
detected about 40. Some curious light will  
be thrown on different colored eyes, and  
perhaps on the relative sensitiveness of the  
sexes, by these novel experiments.—*London  
Public Opinion.*

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tions entitling the winners to free tuition are annual-  
ly open for competition. Winter Term begins Jan-  
uary 8th.  
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An interesting locality known as the King-  
ing Rocks, about three miles from Potts-  
town, Pa., is being made accessible by the  
construction of an electric road from that  
place. In a patch of woods near the sum-  
mit of a hill is an oblong pile of boulders,  
perhaps 200 feet long by 50 feet wide, evi-  
dently the terminal moraine of a small  
glacier. They are all of a fine-grained  
igneous rock unlike that of the immediate  
vicinity, and very many are sonorous, yield-  
ing under the stroke of a hammer sounds  
varying in pitch, and ranging in quality  
from the metallic clank of an iron casting  
to a clear tone like that of a bell.

Professor Liversidge, the Australian  
geologist, in experimenting upon the reduc-  
tion of gold from solution, found that the  
gold in many cases presented the peculiar  
crystalline appearance familiar in tin-plate  
and galvanized iron, and known technically  
as *moire-metallique*. The crystals were  
much more regular and rectangular than  
those seen on tin, and very small, the major-  
ity being less than one millimeter square.  
The appearance may be obtained by boiling  
pure gold foil or plate in hydrochloric acid.  
Professor Liversidge suggests that it may be  
employed for decorative purposes on jewelry  
and other articles of gold-plate.

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