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**Safety Dynamite.**—One of the most fruitful sources of accident in the use of dynamite is the thawing process which has to be resorted to in cold weather, as dynamite solidifies and becomes frozen at a comparatively high temperature. Miners and quarrymen are, or should be, always provided with simple apparatus for safely thawing frozen dynamite, but, unfortunately, they are greatly addicted to the reprehensible practice of placing it on the hob of a fireplace or in the oven, in order to save time and trouble. The result of these malpractices are but too frequently premature explosion and loss of life. If, therefore, dynamite could be rendered uncongaleable by removing the freezing point, the thawing process would not have to be resorted to, and accidents from dangerous and prohibited methods of carrying it out could not occur. This is exactly what Herr von Dahmen has done in the safety dynamite invented by him. By the addition of a very simple substance, itself an explosive, he has succeeded in rendering dynamite uncongaleable, and therefore in causing it to remain permanently plastic; and this is effected without diminishing its explosive force after having been subjected to exceedingly low temperatures. Safety dynamite is slightly more powerful than ordinary dynamite, owing to the ingredient which prevents it from freezing being an explosive. In some experiments lately carried out with the two kinds of explosives, cartridges of each were exposed to a temperature of minus 15° to 20° Centigrade for twenty four hours—minus 15° Centigrade corresponding to zero Fahrenheit, or 32 degrees below freezing. At the moment of use the two explosives had a temperature of minus 15° Cent. The ordinary dynamite was frozen as hard as a piece of wood, so that the capped fuse could not be inserted in it, but was tied to the bare dynamite. Only the detonator exploded, scattering the inert dynamite about in fragments. The safety dynamite, the same temperature, remained perfectly soft and plastic, and the capped fuse was easily inserted in the body of the cartridge. The explosion and its results were similar to those of similar charges of safety dynamite which had not been subjected to the action of the freezing apparatus. A cartridge of safety dynamite taken from the freezing apparatus and having the capped fuse tied to it (as in the case of the ordinary dynamite when frozen hard) was exploded with perfectly satisfactory results. These experiments prove that Herr von Dahmen has succeeded in eliminating the freezing point from dynamite, or at least in so far lowering it that it cannot at present be reached. By so doing he has greatly enhanced its safety and practical value. Time will not have to be expended in thawing it, nor will dangerous practices have to be resorted to by the thoughtless and toolhardy in carrying out that process in the rash hope of saving a little of that time. In addition to this, safety dynamite can be used with full useful effect at temperatures at which ordinary dynamite is inert and useless.—*Times.*

**Compressed Fuel.**—We are informed that a machine has been designed and patented to make coal dust into fuel in an entirely novel form, and at a very low cost. The first machine, which is the property of a strong Liverpool syndicate, is now in process of construction, and it is computed that it will compress and turn out ready for use about 30 tons of fuel per day. It is intended to form a limited company to work the invention, and they anticipate a very large sale, both for the machines and for the fuel, which, it is stated, will be considerably cheaper than ordinary coal.—*Colliery Guardian.*

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