

tolerably sure indication of a first growth. Notwithstanding the assertions of many people to the contrary, the process of covering land with dense forest is by no means a slow one. A field allowed to go without being cultivated becomes in a few years covered with a new growth of saplings. Mr. Robert Ridgway, in a late paper, after referring to the cutting off of timber, and also to its encroachment on prairie land in Illinois, says: "The growth of this new forest is so rapid that extensive woods near Mount Carmel (Illinois), consisting chiefly of oaks and hickories (averaging more than eighty feet high, one to nearly two feet in diameter), were open prairie within the memory of some of the present owners of the land." * Taking this fact into consideration, and remembering that the largest tree found on this ground was not over two hundred and fifty years old, the time of the abandonment of the cemetery can not be more than three hundred years ago. This would take it back to less than one hundred years after the discovery of America by Columbus. The present State of Ohio was then probably occupied by a tribe of Indians known as the Eries, who were totally exterminated in 1656, and it is possible we have in this cemetery one of the burial places of this tribe of Indians.

Catlinite pipes were unknown to the mound-builders, yet some made of this material are found in this cemetery. Hogs rooting in the ground find sufficient nutriment in the bones to eat them greedily, and probably there would be fewer bone implements found if they had not been buried in ash-pits. Everything, therefore, tends to show the comparatively recent date of this cemetery, and I would state, as a reasonable conclusion, that the remains are those of a tribe of Indians, perhaps the Eries, and were deposited not more than three hundred and perhaps only two hundred and fifty years ago. — *Popular Science Monthly.*

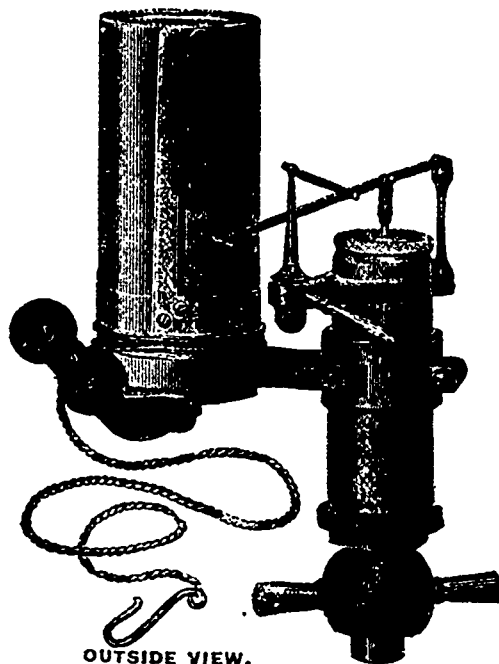
THE THOMPSON IMPROVED INDICATOR.

The Richards Indicator, for many years an important adjunct of the steam engine, has been found to require several important changes in order to adapt it to the high-speed engines which have come into general use during the past few years. The changes consisted for the most part in the reduction of the number and weight of the moving parts, thereby reducing to a minimum the vibration which is necessarily introduced by the rapid movements of the modern engine making from one to three hundred revolutions per minute; and were worked out, a few years ago, by Mr. J. W. Thompson, who, at the same time, made provision for working the instrument with pressures as great as five hundred pounds to the inch. It should be added that the Thompson Indicator will work equally well when attached to low-speed engines, and is therefore gradually superseding the older forms of indicators which give very uncertain results for engines making more than about eighty revolutions per minute.

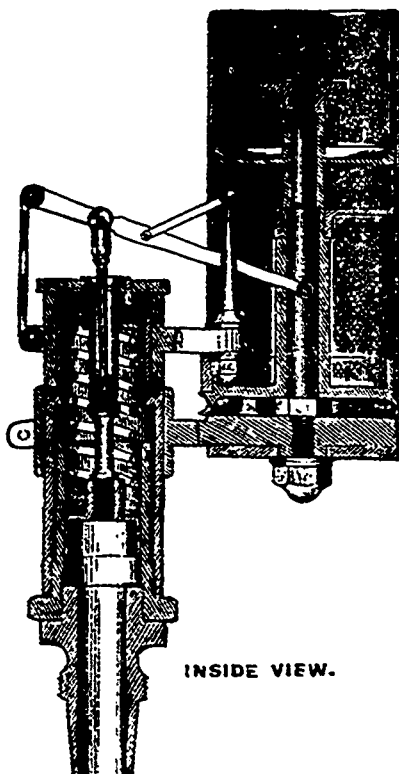
The American Steam Gauge Co., of Boston., the manufacturers of the Thompson Indicator, have recently presented one of these instruments with several accessories (including an Amster Planimeter for measuring the diagrams,) to McGill College. The collection forms a most important addition to the Museum of the Faculty of Applied Science.

SULPHUR IN PARIS.—M. Daubr e has drawn attention to the occurrence of sulphur in the recent excavations in Paris for public works. The crystallization of the sulphur is evident to the eye, and under the microscope the crystals are seen to be octahedral. In some places the sulphur is in sufficient quantity to pay for extracting. M. Daubr e supposes it to be formed by organic matters, such as manure, leather, bones, and vegetables, acting on the sulphate of lime.

* "Notes on the Native Trees of the Lower Wabash and White River Valleys in Illinois and Indiana," printed in "Proceedings of the United States Museum," 1882, p. 54.



OUTSIDE VIEW.
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INSIDE VIEW.