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ELECTRIC SEARCH LIGHT APPLIED TO MINING.

An electric search light, which has been applied to pit sinking near Paisley, was described by Mr. James Baird in a paper recently read by him before the Mining Institute of Scotland. The apparatus is suspended over the pit's mouth and consists of an arc lamp, a lens, and a mirror, the whole being encased in a sheet-iron case, 4 ft. 9 in. x 1 ft. 8 in. x 8 in. A sliding shutter on each side of the case gives access to the lamp, the light being focussed or adjusted by a screw outside on top of the case, and when occasion requires the lamp can be adjusted to diffuse light throughout the whole shaft or be concentrated at the bottom, where the men are working. The mirror is hung on its center, and can be moved in a vertical direction, so as to deflect the rays of light to where they are wanted, after which a thumb-screw holds it in position.

THE INVENTION OF EXPLOSIVES.

The employment of high explosives in the naval service would seem to have reached its limit. Cordite has been used for guns of large calibre, but it is found that the combustible destroys the inner tubes of the heavy naval ordnance. It has been found that a pressure of 10 tons is required to push a 12lb. projectile through the bore of the breech loading gun. This alone is held to be sufficient to account for the deterioration of the guns and for the many accidents that have occurred on ships of war. It is said that so ominous is the danger that the Admiralty meditates appointing an official committee to consider the whole question of powders afresh. Science does not appear as yet to have discovered a compound of the maximum of propulsive power, combined with the least amount of local expansion.

A Frenchman has discovered a process by which eggs can be kept indefinitely and retain their freshness of taste for more than a year. According to this man, who is a chemist, it is useless to paint or render air-tight the outside of the shell while air remains within the egg. Each egg contains within its shell a little air chamber, containing sufficient air to decompose the albumen even without the aid of any which might filter through the pores of the shell. This is the reason that all attempts at present known have been failures. The chemist drives out the air by injecting into the egg a solution of salt and water. When the air is exhausted the tiny opening is hermetically sealed with a drop of sealing wax. Then the egg will keep its fresh taste any length of time. If this proves to be a practical method of preserving eggs, it will make quite a change in the business, equalizing as it will the supply of that commodity.

W. J. STEIN,

Chartered Accountant and Auditor,

513 COLUMBIA ST., NEW WESTMINSTER,

—AND—

P. O. Box 636, VANCOUVER.

ALLICE & AULT,

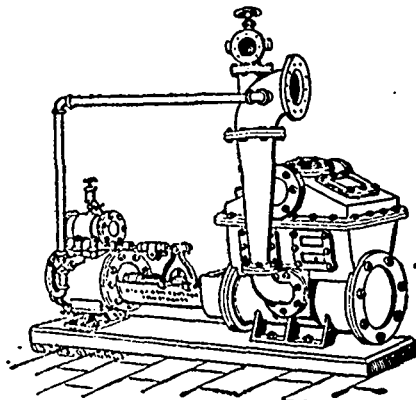
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