Magnesium Flash-Lamp.

A lamp for burning pure magnesium has been invented by Mr. E. M. Pine, one of the most successful of amateur photographers, whose flash-light photos were awarded the first prize at the Pittsburgh exhibition in 1888. Recognizing the danger attending the use of the various explosive compounds heretofore used for illuminating, Mr. Pine has succeeded in inventing a lamp for burning pure magnesium, as shown in the accompanying illustration, after much experimenting, and believes his lamp, for brilliancy, rapidity, and simplicity, as has been pronounced by professional photographers who have tested it, to be a most complete flash-lamp. Its construction is such as to make perfect combustion; and, as magnesium is non-explosive, absolute safety is assured. The lamp is so portable that it can be easily carried in the pocket, weighing about four ounces.

Paris Exposition and International Congress of Electricians.

James W. Queen & Co., Philadelphia, call the attention of college professors and others interested in scientific work, who are intending to visit the Paris Exposition this summer, to the following facts. They have most excellent representatives in Paris who have had the experience of many years in the selection and purchasing of scientific apparatus of every description for college use. In consequence of this, it has occurred to them that it might be a convenience to their patrons when in Paris to be supplied with letters of introduction to these agents.

By means of such letters, those professors who intend purchasing apparatus will have the assistance of competent persons, who are well acquainted with all the prominent makers, their apparatus, and prices. Thus much valuable time may be saved that might otherwise be spent in hunting up dealers and making bargains with them,—a rather unsatisfactory operation, especially to those not thoroughly conversant with the French language. Furthermore, it is often a great inconvenience and annoyance, after apparatus may have been purchased satisfactorily, to attend to the details of shipping and passing through the United States Custom-House "free of duty." James W. Queen & Co. will be pleased to relieve purchasers entirely of all this care, so that they need have nothing to do but select the apparatus.

Another advantage of this arrangement is, that there need be no expenditure on the part of colleges at the time of ordering apparatus. Apparatus ordered through these agents will be forwarded in the firm's weekly shipments as soon as a few pieces are ready, thus saving much time.

Those among the electrical fraternity who expect to attend the International Congress of Electricians will please note that they as well as college professors will find it to their advantage to advise with the firm's agents before buying apparatus for their institutions or for themselves personally. Messrs. Queen & Co. do not furnish professors or electricians, if they avail themselves of the offer of letters of introduction, to feel under obligations to purchase anything. They will also be pleased to furnish letters to their agents in England, Germany, and Switzerland, if desired.

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WORLD-ENGLISH:

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Every one has heard of the butcher who, after a long search for his knife, at last found it in his mouth; so speakers of English have been seeking for a universal language, when, lo! it is in their mouths. The intelligibility of English. This has been obscured by a dense mist of letters. This is now dispensed with. Melville Bell, who has already won a world-wide reputation through his invention of "Visible Speech," the great boon to deaf-mutes. Professor Bell calls this new discovery of his "World-English," and the result is a language which cannot fail to meet with acceptance, and at once supersedes the supposed necessity for "Volapük," or any other artificial language. No language could be invented for international use that would surpass English in grammatical simplicity, and in general fitness to become the tongue of the world. It is already the mother-tongue of increasing millions in both hemispheres, and some knowledge of the language is demanded by all educated populations on the globe. Social and commercial necessities require that the acquisition of this knowledge shall be facilitated, and it is believed that Professor Bell's invention has removed the last impediment to English becoming the universal language, for which vague desires have long been entertained, although hitherto futile efforts have been made.

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