The manner of preparing the Cement, is as follows.

The stone is calcined in kilns, then ground to a powder, and mixed with clean sand, in various proportions, usually by equal measure. The cement should be ground, soon after it is calcined, and kept so that no wet, or damp, be suffered to come in contact with it; nor should it be much exposed to the air before it is used. The cement and sand, should be mixed together dry, and then, as little water added as may be necessary to form the mortar into a uniform paste, when it is well beaten. If the cement be mixed with sand, by equal measure, it will require about $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, to construct a cubic yard of masonry.

S. GUILFORD.

Note by the Editor.—Our correspondent P. informs us, that a patent has been taken out by Mr. Guilford, for the Hydraulic Lime. We are at a loss to know, for what discovery, or improvement, in the nature of the materials, or in the mode of using them, the exclusive right is claimed; so far as appears in the papers before us, there is not any thing new in either; and, excepting there is something special, which is at present out of sight, we cannot perceive how a claim to an exclusive privilege, could, in the present instance, be sustained. any more than it could for common mortar, made from a newly discovered bed of lime-stone. We do not pretend to much knowledge in the law, but apprehend, that the “discovery,” contemplated in the patent law, is not the discovery of minerals, deposited by the hand of nature, under the surface of the earth. These remarks, are made with deference, as the respectability and intelligence of the persons concerned, are such, as to induce us to suppose, that we may have fallen into the common error, of judging, without a sufficient knowledge of all the premises.

*On Burnishing.**

To burnish an article, is to polish it, by removing the small eminences or roughnesses, upon its surface; and the instrument by which it is performed, is denominated a BURNISHER. This mode of polishing, is the most expeditious, and gives the greatest lustre to a polished body. It is made use of by gold and silversmiths, cutlers, locksmiths, and most of the workmen in gold, silver, copper, iron, or steel. It removes the marks left by the emery, putty of tin, or other polishing materials; and gives to the burnished articles, a black lustre, resembling that of looking-glass. The burnisher is an instrument, the form and construction of which, is extremely variable, according to the respective trades; and, it must be even adapted to the various kinds of work, in the same art. We shall point out the principal ones. In general, as this tool is only intended to efface inequalities, whatever substance the burnisher is made of, is of little consequence to the article burnished, provided only, that it be of a harder substance than that article.

* From the *Dictionnaire Technologique*.