METHOD TO HARNESS THE SUN IS FOUND

The Engineer Says That Frank Shuman of Philadelphia Has Solved the Problem.

PRACTICAL IN THE TROPICS

Engine Develops 32-Horsepower During Hottest Part of Day—Result of Many Years' Experiments.

By Marconi Transatlantic Wireless Telegraph to The New York Times.

LONDON, Dec. 2, (by telegraph to Clifden, Ireland; thence by wireless.)—After many years' experiments it is stated that a method has at last been discovered of harnessing the power of the sun. In the current number of The Engineer there is an account of a "sun engine," the invention of Frank Shuman of Philadelphia.

The engine, it is said, develops thirty-two horse power during the hottest part of the day, which gradually decreases as the afternoon passes.

"Of course," says The Engineer, "every one recognizes, and no one more than Mr. Shuman, that it has a limited scope. No one expects to see sun plants in use in England, or even in Europe, but in tropical regions, say for twenty degrees on either side of the equator, it becomes a practical proposition, for, in that area, not only may plenty of sunshine be relied upon, but oil and coal are expensive, and, where coal or its equivalent cannot be purchased for less than 10 shillings a ton, a sun power plant has its chance.

"Another thing is also to be remarked. Sun power, like wind power, being inconstant, the most profitable use to which it can be put is pumping, and, in tropical countries, a great need for water-raising machinery for irrigation purposes exists."