

JEWELLERS' AND WATCHMAKERS' NOTES.*(From the Horological Review.)***RESTORING TEMPER OF SOFT WIRE.***To Secretary Horological Club :*

The advertisement of "Jenkins" Patent Pin Point, in the March number of the *Circular*, suggests the use of the following method of restoring the temper of any kind of wire after having been hard soldered. For pin tongues, fasten the point securely in the pin vice. Hold the point end with a pair of flat plyers. Turn the vice, thus twisting the wire, which will give it a spring temper without injury to the form of the wire.

EBSOLE.

Mr. McFuzee said that when the wire was not too soft, this would give considerable elasticity, although not equal to draw or roll temper. If the tongue showed roughness after twisting, it could be removed by burnishing.

DEFECTIVE DETACHED LEVER ESCAPEMENT.*Secretary of the Horological Club :*

I shall be thankful for any detailed information you may give me, through your Club, pertaining to grinding off locking faces of club escape-wheel teeth; the best manner of moving pallet jewels forward and adjusting them accurately in their slots; and how to turn down an eccentric pallet arbor. This information is desired to learn best practical mode of remedying too shallow pitched escapements, and rounded front corners of club-wheel teeth. I have a small American lathe. O. M. K.

Mr. Uhrmacher said that the teeth should not be ground off at all. By grinding them back far enough to square up the rounded front corners, the length of the incline on the ends of the teeth would be shortened, and the impulse angle of the escapement lessened by that amount. The proper remedy for a defective wheel is to replace it with one which is properly formed and perfect.

It will also be easier to fit a new wheel than to turn an eccentric pallet arbor, to remedy a shallow escapement. In most cases, however, the pallets can be moved forward on the arbor enough to correct a shallow pitching. Directions for doing this, and also for moving and adjusting the pallet jewels, are given in Excelsior's articles on the detached lever escapement, published in the *Circular* about two years ago. It is seldom advisable to move the pallet jewels, as it produces a radical change of the entire wheel-and-pallet action. But if they have become loose, they must of course be adjusted in position, and Excelsior's articles tell how it should be done. Every workman should study them carefully, both for the practical information and processes given, and also for the knowledge of the principles on which the escapement is based, and which should govern our operations, that is conveyed.

REMOVING TARNISH AND BLUEING.*Secretary of Horological Club :*

Will some of your honorable body state the best receipt for removing tarnish from the bright parts of a watch *quickly*, without injuring the surface of same? Also, for removing blueing from a pinion that has been heated? S. E. G.

Mr. O'Lever said there was no way of brightening the gilded parts without affecting the surface at least a little. But with proper care, the injury would be very slight. The most common way is to dip the tarnished pieces in a weak solution of cyanide of potassium. If dirty or greasy, they should first be washed with soap and water, and a brush more or less stiff, according to the surface, and the thickness and nature of the gilding. Some scour the pieces in soap and water containing enough of ammonia to give it a strong smell. Spots could be removed by applying a little of either cyanide or ammonia solution to them, with gentle rubbing. Care must be used, as, if the plating is thin, either solution will take it all off, if used too strong or too long. The ammonia process is preferable when there are steel parts on the pieces, which are inconvenient to take off, as the cyanide is liable to rust them.

Blueing is generally removed by weak muriatic acid,—say one drop of acid to five of water. The piece is either dipped in this, or rubbed with a bit of peg-wood wet with it. As for himself, he did not favor the use of acids for that and other purposes, so much as many workmen seemed to. He thought it better to polish off the pinion with fine oil-stone dust, and finish up with sharp or hard rouge, used on a slip of boxwood with oil,—being careful, of course, not to grind the pinion leaves any more than enough to take the color off, as too much scouring would alter their shape.

WHAT TO DO WITH A MAGNETIZED WATCH.*Secretary of the Horological Club :*

Please inform me, through the columns of the *Circular*, what course to take with a watch that has become magnetized? I know of a fine English lever watch, that was magnetized by the owner holding a magnet near the balance-wheel. Is it ruined for correct time? A. E.

Mr. Horologer replied that a magnetized watch was worthless for keeping time. No dependence could be placed on its correctness, nor could it be told in what direction its error would show itself. His own opinion, as was well known to the Club, was that there was no way to thoroughly demagnetize steel parts, which had unfortunately become charged with magnetism, except to heat them red hot. That view was also taken by so excellent an authority as "Excelsior," in his book. Others, however, were confident that it could be done without heating. This subject has been discussed at different meetings of the Club, some three years ago, and reports would be found in our proceedings, published in the *Circular* at that time. Mr. E. could try the methods there given, if he choose, and satisfy himself as to their value.

Secretary of Horological Club :

Will you please tell how Morrison's gold and silver solution, for electro-plating without a battery, can be made more durable? I have used it according to directions, and the process does as recommended, but seems easy to wear off. It don't seem as hard as it ought to be. There is probably some one of your members who can give me some light in regard to it. It is highly recommended for small jobs, but don't seem to last long. W. W. J.

Mr. Electrode suggested that perhaps Mr. J. did not get on a coating thick enough to be durable. If the directions were well followed, there could be no trouble but that, and that could be remedied by longer exposure in the solution.

BAD TEMPER AND INSANITY.

Passionate people—the hasty kind—who flare up in a blaze, like fire to tow or a roal to powder, without taking time to inquire whether there is any ground for such pyrotechnic display, and then get more furious when they find out there was no cause for their fiery feats, may learn a useful as well as a serious lesson from an item in Dr. Blanchard's report of the King's County Lunatic Asylum, that "three men and three women became insane by uncontrollable temper."

We all feel a sympathy for one who has become demented from loss of kindred, from disappointment, and from a hard lot in life; but we can have no such feeling for quarrelsome, ill-natured, fretful, fault finding, complaining, grumbling creatures, the greater part of whose every day life tends to make those whose calamity it is to be bound to them as miserable as themselves. Bad temper is a crime, and like other crimes, is ordained in the course of nature to meet, sooner or later, its merited reward. Other vile passions may have some points of extenuation—the pleasure, for example, which may attend their indulgence; but ill-nature—that is a fretful, fault-finding spirit, in its origin, action and end, has no extenuating quality; and in the application of the old principle, "with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again," will find a most pitiable end. Therefore, with all the power that has been given you, strive and strive for life, to mortify this deed of the flesh. Watch hourly, watch every moment against the indulgence of a hasty temper, as being offensive to yourself and contemptible in the eyes of your fellow man—contemptible because for the person who possesses it, and knows it, yet indulges in it, and makes no effective efforts to restrain it, no human being can have any abiding attachment or respect, founded as it is in low morals, or low intellect, or both.

SAWDUST mixed with blood, or some other agglutinative substance, and compressed by powerful pressure in heated dies, is formed into door-knobs, hardware, furniture trimmings, buttons, and other useful and decorative articles; oyster shells are burned to make lime; the waste of the linseed oil manufacturers is eagerly sought after as food for cattle; the waste ashes of wood fires are leached for potash; river mud is mingled with chalk, and burned and ground to make the famous Portland cement; the finest glue is made from the waste of parchment skins, and even the slag that has served for years only to decorate the hillsides around mining camps is now cast into paving and building blocks.