

and he would look around at us as innocent as could be, and ask our pardon, and then go out and damn the porter. Once I felt somebody feeling about my berth, and I asked what was the matter, and the fellow said he was looking for my wife's shoes to black. Then about every fifteen minutes the conductor would open the curtains and hold a red lantern in and ask for our tickets. I think they punched my ticket sixty-five times. Anyway it looked like a pious plaster when I got up in the morning. I think it was the travelling men who were playing conductor, but I was sleepy, and I thought the best way was to let them punch it. Well, about 8 o'clock in the morning somebody punched us and said it was time to get up, as all the passengers were up, and we would have breakfast in fifteen minutes. And then we hustled around and got dressed the best we could, lying on our backs and kicking our clothes up in the air, and catching them on ourselves when they came down. I got my pants on wrong side before and lost everything out of my pockets, and my wife lost her hair and had to tie a handkerchief around her head, and then we had our berths made up and sat up till daylight, and the porter found my wife's hair and pinned it to the curtains of a berth occupied by a preacher from Oshkosh, and he kicked, and got mad and talked about it, and wondered how it came there, and he swore about it, and I think he travels for an Oshkosh carriage factory. O, I never had such a night, or two such nights, in all my life, and what I want to know is if I can be quiet here, and get a little sleep, and not be annoyed."

The hotel man told him if anybody came around to bother him, to knock them clear down stairs and he would be responsible, and the bridegroom took his satchel and his wife, and the colored man showed them a room, and they have not showed up since. It is confounded mean in travelling men to get snowed in and form a syndicate to have fun. They will cause themselves to be disliked if they keep on.—*Pek's Sun.*

CURIOUS LETTER SENT BY A QUAKER TO HIS WATCHMAKER.—"I send thee once more my erroneous watch, which wants thy speedy care and correction. Since the last time he was at thy school, I find, by experience, he is not benefitted by thy

instruction; thou demandest the fourth of a pound sterling, which thou shalt have, but let thy honest endeavours first earn it. I will board him with thee a little longer, and pay for his table if thou requirest. Let thy whole endeavours and observations be upon him, for he has mightily deviated from the principles of truth. I am afraid he is foul in the inward man—I mean his springs. Prove and try him well with thy adjusting tools of truth, that if possible he may be drawn from the error of his ways. By the index of his tongue he is a liar, and the motion of his body is ever variable and uncertain. I presume his body is foul, as I before observed; therefore brush him well with thy cleansing instruments from all pollutions, that he may vibrate with regularity and truth, admonish him friendly and with patience, and be not too hasty and rash with thy correction, lest, by endeavouring to reduce him from one error, thou should'st fling him headlong into another, for he is young and of malleable temper; he may, with due correction, be brought into the path of truth. To fine, let him visit often the motion of the sun, and regulate him by his table of equation; and when thou findest them agree, send him home with thy bill of moderation, to thy friend TOBIAS GO-WELL."

THE WATCH.

The word is derived from a Saxon word signifying "to wake." The first watches were about the size of a modern tea saucer; it had weights and was called "the pocket clock." The earliest known use of the modern name occurs in a record made in the year 1542, which mentions that Edward VI., of England, had "onne larum or watch of iron, the case being likewise of iron gilt with two plummettes of lead." The first real adaptation of a timepiece to the pocket was when Peter Hele, in 1550, substituted the spring for weights. The earliest springs were not coiled, but were either straight or slightly curved to suit the shape of the case. Early watches had only one hand, and required winding twice a day. The dials were of metal, generally of silver or brass; they had no crystals in front, and were four or five inches in diameter. A plain watch cost the equivalent of \$1,500 in our currency, and when an order was given for one, it took a year to make it.

BUSINESS CHANGES FOR DECEMBER

John Binns, Hardware, Oshawa, dead. T. J. Carroll & Co., Wholesale Jewelers, Hamilton, assigned in trust. Thos. Legalle, Hardware, Essex Centre, sold out. Kelly & Gillespie, Tins, &c., Orangeville, dissolved, Jacob Kelly continues Wm Filmer, Hagersville. Tins, &c assigned in trust. Bullock Hardware Co Otterville, assigned in trust. M. Morn, Jeweler, Trenton, assigned in trust. Joseph Dennison, Jeweler, Huntingdon, dead. John H. McVean, Hardware, Dresden has taken his brother James H. into partnership under style of McVean & McVean Carder, Benton & Co., Wholesale Hardware, St. Thomas, assigned T. Shallcross, Jeweler, Streetsville, selling stock by auction. J. W. Fralick, Tins, &c., Newmarket, assigned.

BUSINESS NOTES.

WE understand that Mr. S. P. Kleiser has taken out an auctioneer's license, and now plies his new calling on his own and other stocks every evening. It seems to us that such a policy is suicidal to any good watch business, and if Mr. Kleiser does not very soon give up his regular business, it will give him up, if he keeps on at the auctioneering.

CHRISTMAS TRADE.—Advices from all parts of the country indicate that although the holiday trade has not been quite as good as last year, still it has been fairly up to the general average and much better than many had anticipated. The number of sales appear to have been about as large but the articles not so expensive as in the flush speculation years. We suppose our jewelers should be thankful, however, and say like the clergyman collecting for the missionaries, "Small favors thankfully received, large ones in proportion."

MESSRS. ZIMMERMAN, McNAUGHT & LOWE'S warehouse narrowly escaped being burned about two weeks ago, on account of a fire breaking out in the up-stairs part of the next building. The fire originated in one of the rooms occupied by Mr. J. R. Hughes, as a paper pattern emporium, and owing to the combustible nature of the stock, spread with dangerous rapidity. After the arrival of the fire brigade the flames were quickly got under control, and the damage to the building will not probably amount to more than \$1,000. The principal loss arises as usual from water, the offices below being badly deluged. Messrs. Zimmerman, McNaught & Lowe also got a share of it, although fortunately it came down into their offices instead of amongst the stock, in which case their loss would have been heavy. As it happened their loss would not exceed fifty dollars.

IN *Shields v Kleiser* the plaintiff sued for \$1750 the amount paid by him for a gold watch. The action was taken on the strength of a document which guaranteed the chronometer to be a gold enameled watch, and warranted it to keep good time for five years. Four visits to the defendant's factory failed to make the watch a good timepiece. An expert stated that