



cheap skilled labor, not only have held their own in the colonial markets, but largely increased instead of diminished their trade. They have lost ground almost entirely on account of their own want of foresight, and, like every other business, they will find that it is very much easier to drive away trade than to regain it once that is done.

A HANDSOME PRODUCTION.—We were shown a few days ago, by Mr. Geo. T. Gorrie, of this city, a copy of the calendar which he is importing from Europe for the firm of Levy Bros., the wholesale jewelers of Hamilton. It is printed in over fifteen colors, and is without doubt one of the most artistic things of the kind that has ever been brought into this country.

THE CALENDAR sent out to the trade by E. Scheuer, of this city, is not only thoroughly original in design, but executed in a very superior manner. It contains first-class portraits of Mr. Scheuer and the head men of his staff, done by the newly patented photogravure process, which are almost equal to the best photography. It is a very pretty and appropriate souvenir of the season, and will no doubt be highly prized by the trade.

NOT EASILY KNOCKED OUT.—While the Intercolonial train was being made up at the Bonaventure station in Montreal on the 4th of last month, the heating apparatus in the Pullman exploded, wrecking the end of the car. The colored porter was severely hurt by the flying timbers, iron and glass, and had to be conveyed to the hospital. The only passenger injured was Mr. Benno Strauss, Eastern representative of Edmund Scheuer, of this city, who, although knocked down and stunned, very soon recovered sufficiently to be able to proceed on his journey. It was a narrow escape for him.

WORKSHOP NOTES.

ARTIFICIAL CORALS.—Can be made from four parts yellow resin and one part vermilion, melted very fine.

IMITATION SILVER.—Silver, one ounce; nickel, one ounce, eleven dwts.; copper, two ounces, nine dwts. Or silver, three ounces; nickel, one ounce, eleven dwts.; copper, two ounces, nine dwts.; spelter, ten dwts.

TO DRILL PEARLS.—The easiest way to hold pearls, in order to drill and otherwise cut them, is to fit them loosely in holes bored in a piece of wood. A few drops of water sprinkled about the holes causes the wood fibres to swell and hold the pearls firmly. When the wood dries they fall out.

WASHING SILVERWARE.—Tell your customers never to use a particle of soap on their silverware; it dulls the lustre, giving the article more the appearance of pewter than of silver. When it wants cleaning, rub it with a piece of soft leather and prepared chalk, the latter made into a kind of paste with pure water, for the reason that unclean water might contain gritty particles.

TO MAKE GOLD AMALGAM.—Eight parts of gold and one of mercury are formed in an amalgam for plating by rendering the gold into thin plates, making it red hot, and then putting it into the mercury while the latter is also heated to ebullition. The gold immediately disappears in combination with the mercury, after which the mixture may be turned into water to cool. It is then ready for use.

TO FASTEN THE BALANCE SPRING.—The inner coil of the balance spring around the collet must be at a sufficient distance from the latter, so that there is no danger that it will either touch this or the place of fastening in the folding of the spring. This contact, which betrays itself by a jerking similar to the cracking of a whip, would cause an acceleration of the large vibrations.

PATENTED IMITATION SILVER.—Messrs. Ruolz & Fontenay have compounded and patented the following alloy, which may be used for almost all purposes for which silver is usually employed: silver, 20 parts; purified nickel, 28 parts; copper, 52 parts. Melt the copper and nickel in the granulated state, then introduce the silver. The flux to be employed is charcoal and borax, both in a state of powder; and the ingots obtained are to be rendered malleable by annealing for a considerable time in powdered charcoal.

ON MAINSPRINGS.—The mainspring is a very essential part in a watch, and it is necessary to treat of it at more length than of other parts of less importance. In watches, for instance, like those made in this country, where the spring can be procured already cut to the proper length, sized, and provided on the outer end with a fastening to suit the different grades, re-springing is a job that requires but little skill; but when one has to select and adapt a spring to a watch of foreign make, to be successful, certain rules must be understood. In their manufacture the springs are drawn out at length and rolled up like ribbon, of the various widths and thicknesses, to suit all the different grades and sizes of watches in the market. These ribbons are cut up in pieces of a given length, one end being punched and prepared. They are coiled up in the shape usually found in the market, the outer end being left blank for a watch repairer to cut and fit for the barrel in hand. If it is run to the full length, it is likely to be too long; in such event, if thick, it will be crooked and certain to break in attempting to wind it up. The springs, however, are never too short, but are intended to be adapted in length as well as in width and strength. As an invariable rule in Swiss and English watches, this adaptation devolves upon the repairer, and as before stated requires an unusual degree of skill. Many watches have come to our hands that were but really refitted with mainsprings by workmen of fair reputation, but upon examination it appeared that all the rules governing a correct adaptation had been entirely ignored or overlooked. Breakage, want of winding capacity, too much or too little force, are faults usually to be found in such cases. The watch may in some manner go for a time, and the owner, through ignorance, may conclude his watch is at fault and replace it with a new one, sooner or later to meet with the same fate. This, it may be remarked, adds to the interest of the manufacturer and dealer, proving the old adage: "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good."

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

It's a cold day when the iceman can't sell his ice.

THE expenses of cigars should be put down as among "losses by fire."

SOME people use a joke as they would a whip; they can't snap one without hurting someone.

THE fate of a gaoler is not an enviable one. He always has a good many felons on his hands.

IT is a lucky boy who is taller than his father. He does not have to wear his paternal ancestor's old clothes.

"This is milk of the very first water," remarked the milkman to a customer, and when he realized what he had said his face assumed a chalky hue.

ON the 19th of this month M de Lesseps was eighty-four years of age. What a busy, worrying, struggling life to look back upon.

WERE the great pyramid of Egypt on the moon it would only seem to us as a speck, which an artist who was making a sketch at the telescope would indicate by a dot with his pencil

What does little birdie say
In his nest at peep of day?
In his nest at morning's peep
Birdie pipeth, "Talk is cheep."

IN certain districts of Washington the street numbers are badly mixed up. It is said that when the colored people move, as they frequently do, they generally take the door number with them, and put it on their new house.

THE *British Medical Journal* learns that the immediate cause of Father Damien's death was an attack of malarial fever, which his constitution, undermined by leprosy, was unable to resist, and for which he could not be induced to take any remedy.

THE genuine eagerness of the colored people to acquire an education is indicated by the fact that the attendance at Hampton Institute is larger this fall than ever before, nearly eight hundred and fifty