

CAUSE OF RUST.—The rusting of bright steel goods is due to the precipitation of moisture from the air. It may be obviated by keeping the air surrounding the goods dry. A saucer of powdered quicklime placed in an ordinary show case will usually suffice to prevent rusting of cutlery on exhibition therein.

ARTIFICIAL CORALS.—An admirably executed artificial coral has lately made its appearance in market, which cannot be distinguished from the genuine article, except when testing it with a file; they are made in Vienna and Paris, by mixing phosphate of alumina and phosphate of copper, and exposing the mixture to hydraulic pressure.

TO NICKELIZE IRON.—100 grams hyposulphate of nickel and ammonia and 50 g. salammoniac are dissolved in 4 quarts boiling water, and the bright iron pieces are boiled from one-quarter to one half hour in it. The evaporating water is to be replaced, and if the articles are not yet sufficiently coated, the process is to be repeated.

RED DYE FOR IVORY.—Dip the article first in the tin mordant used in dyeing, and then plunge into a hot decoction of Brazil wood—half a pound for a gallon of water—or cochineal, or steep in good carmine ink until sufficiently stained. For scarlet, use lac dye instead of the foregoing. Horn and bone may be treated in the same manner.

VARNISH FOR VIOLINS.—The famous Italian violin-makers used, it is said, the following sort of varnish on their instruments Rectified alcohol, half a gallon; six ounces of gum sandarac, three ounces of gum mastic, and half a pint of turpentine varnish. The above ingredients are put into a tin can by the stove and frequently shaken until the whole is well dissolved. It is finally strained and kept for use. If upon application it is seen to be too thick, thin with an addition of more turpentine varnish.

THE name of apthbite, or unalterable, is given to a valuable alloy made at Marseilles, and which closely resembles gold in color and appearance. Its production is accomplished by placing in a crucible copper as pure as possible, platinum, tungstic acid in certain proportions, and when the metals are completely melted they are stirred and granulated by running them into water containing 500 grains of slacked lime and the same of carbonate of potash for every cubic metre of water. This mixture, dissolved in water, renders the alloy still purer. The granulated metal is collected, dried, remelted, and a definite proportion of fine gold added. For jewellery the material is almost unsurpassed.

OTHER NOTES.

DURING the six months in which the battle of Tel-el-Kebir was fought the receipts of the telegraph company which forwarded press dispatches to London was \$290,000 more than in the half-year that followed. This fact is cited as an illustration of the extraordinary development of newspaper enterprise.

ONE of the three little machines which make most of the tiny screws used in American watches a man could carry under his arm without much difficulty. A wire fed through a tube into the

machine is carried forward by revolving teeth. As it appears a knife cuts away the surplus metal to make the stem for the thread, just as the chisel operates at the lathe of the wood-turner. As this is finished a small tube in which the thread is formed advances and clasps the stem, forms the thread at lightning speed and falls back. As this is done two knives cut that portion of the wire off, and the completed screw falls down. The wire again advances, and the process is repeated. The marvel of the machine is best grasped when the size of the screw formed is understood. The largest are an eighth of an inch in length, and it would require 200 of them to weigh an ounce. The thread on the stem is so small that it is scarcely discernible to the naked eye.

PUT IT ALONGSIDE THE THERMOMETER.—Brick Pomeroy, the well known newspaper publisher, was troubled in his town with a business man named Jones, who would not advertise in his newspaper but patronized every Cheap John advertising scheme which was started. His card was in fine gold letters in the hotel register, and he had a space in the theatre programme and very laudatory descriptions of himself and his business in the various book advertising schemes which were issued in the town, and yet he did not seem to draw trade. Then the "thermometer in the post-office" man came along and roped in Jones for a large amount. One day Jones received a consignment of goods of extra value, which he knew would sell like hot cakes if he could only let the public know about them; so he made up his mind to beat a local notice out of Brick Pomeroy. Accordingly he called at the newspaper office and told Brick what a fine lot of goods he had and how cheap they were, saying, "The people ought to know about this, and you will be doing them a kindness by writing up a strong local on the subject." Brick said, "Certainly," and taking up his pen, dashed off a magnificent notice which quite tickled Mr. Jones. "Yes, yes, that's just it; that will fetch them; I will never forget your kindness." Then Brick Pomeroy, handing him the notice, said, "Yes, I think that's pretty good. Now go and stick it up alongside the thermometer in the post-office where you advertise."

JEWELRY STOCK FOR SALE.

Tenders will be received until noon on the 1st day of April at so much on the dollar of the invoice value for the stock in trade and fixtures of the late Robert Shaw, of Clifford, Ont.

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