

all differences by the existence of such a court, and injustice need not be submitted to on account of the dread of the expense, loss of time, and delay of an ordinary suit.

2nd. The expense is shillings, where it is pounds in the ordinary courts.

3rd. And the time occupied is hours where it is now days.

When we look at our courts all loaded up with cases, at our overworked judges, utterly unable to keep up with the mass of work required at their hands, and finally, at the fact that often after a suit has been running its expensive course in the courts for weeks, it is suddenly discovered that it can better be settled by reference to experts, it must be the anxious thought of every merchant. How can we prevail upon our Legislature to grant us the great boon of Tribunals of Commerce in this Canada of ours?

W. H. HOWLAND, in *The Merchant*.

#### SUMMARY OF WATCH-CLEANING.

The greatest care is necessary in taking the watch down and separating its parts. First, remove the hands carefully, so as not to bend the slight pivots on which they work; next, remove the movement from the case, and take off the dial and minute wheels; then let down the mainspring by placing your bench key upon the arbor, or winding-post, and turning as though you were going to wind the watch, until the click rests lightly upon the ratchet; then with your screwdriver press the point of the click away from the teeth and ease down the spring, next, draw the screws, or pins, and remove the bridges of the train, if a bar movement, or the upper plate, as the case may be; then remove the balance with the greatest care, to avoid injuring the balance spring. The stud, or small post, into which this spring is fastened, may be removed from the bridge or plate of most modern watches without unkeying the spring, by slipping a thin instrument, like the edge of a blade-knife, under the cover of it and prying upward; this will save much trouble, as you will not have the balance spring to adjust when re-setting the balance. If the watch upon which you propose to work has an upper plate, for instance, an American or an English lever, loosen the lever before you have entirely separated the plates, otherwise it will hang and probably be broken. The watch being now taken apart, brush the dust away from its different parts and subject them

to a careful examination with your glass. Assure yourself that the teeth of the wheels and leaves of the pinions are all perfect and smooth; that the pivots are all straight, round, and highly polished; that the holes through which they work are not too large and have not become oval in shape; that every jewel is smooth and perfectly sound, and that none of them is loose in its setting. See also that the escapement is not too deep or too shallow; that the lever or cylinder is perfect; that all the wheels have sufficient shake to avoid friction, but not enough to derange their coming together properly; that none of them works against the pillar plate, that the balance turns horizontally and does not rub; that the balance spring is not bent or wrongly set, so that the coils rub on each other on the plate, or on the balance, in short, that everything about the whole movement is just as reason would teach you it should be. If you find it otherwise, proceed to repair in accordance with a carefully weighed judgment and the processes known to you, after which, clean; if not, the watch requires only to be cleaned, and, therefore, you may then proceed with this manipulation at once.

If you do it with benzine, we would highly recommend to you a home-made improved benzine jar, which is made as follows:

Take a circular piece of finely perforated metal, a coffee strainer answers very well. Then fit it inside your benzine glass, rivet in five or six wire feet, not more than a quarter of an inch long, so that you will have a small space between the perforated metal and the bottom of benzine jar, fill the jar with the best benzine to be had—the spirit must at least be a quarter of an inch above the perforated metal; lay the watch plates, etc., in this perforated metal, and the benzine, which holds the thick oil and other impurities in solution, will speedily precipitate them to the bottom, and their further contact with the work is prevented by the perforated plate, and when dried they are perfectly clean. Or, take a small, wide-necked bottle, fit a cork, and insert a brass wire; turn up the end like a fish-hook, so that it will dip half an inch into the benzine, hook on the wheels, balance, and small pieces, and immerse them into the spirit, which will operate as before described. A little attention to small auxiliaries is often the difference between a quick workman and a slow one.

Workmen of equal industry and ability often produce widely different results from the neglect of a small outlay in useful tools.—*Exchange*.

#### THE ANTIQUE ORAZE.

The collecting of "antique" and works of art has become a fully developed mania on the continent, and we fancy that our shoddyites are not exempt from it. A well defined and full equipped branch of art has, for the last few years, sprung into existence; old objects of art have been multiplied by electro-plastic, copying, etc., until they are almost worn out in the process, and the imitations flood the market. The most eminent European artists have left off producing modern objects of art, for which they receive nothing, and engaged in the manufacture of the antique, for which they are paid double and triple.

Under the heading of "Old Enamel," one of our Amsterdam exchanges brings the following anecdote, which may be of interest to collectors of objects of art and antiquities, to enjoin on them an extra amount of caution.

The enamel manufacturer, Soyez, of Paris, made the following remarkable statement about "old enamel" a few days ago, to the committee of inquiry. "It is daily ordered of me, and I make it under one condition, that I be permitted to state upon it from what original it was copied. This is generally refused, however. The originals are then sent to Amsterdam where they are copied, and come back to Paris to be sold at art auctions, and sometimes they fetch wonderful prices. Such a copy was not long ago brought to me for repairs; it represented the murder of the Duke de Guise. "Can you repair the piece?" I was asked. "Certainly," I responded; "I will repair it in the same manner in which I made it originally." "You? I bought it for 10,000 francs; it was begrimed and dirty all over, and you do not believe the trouble I had to clean it." "I know that; but in order to fully convince you I will show you the design from which I made it." I know a collector of antiquities in Amsterdam, who owns perhaps two million francs' worth of snuff boxes and enamels of Limoges, Leonard Limousin and Pierre Raymond. In order to complete a dozen, he paid for one plate of the latter 3,000 francs, and the same plate, which bears the name of my firm, was made by me, and I sold it for 150 francs.

Verily, the fools are not all dead yet!  
*Exchange*.