

gross. When set and worn, their resemblance to the real gems is such that they are likely to be mistaken for them by all but experts. The latter, however, cannot be deceived, as there is a peculiar light in the flash of the true diamond which even this imitation does not reproduce.

GERMAN WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS.

The old church at Lubeck is considered to contain one of the most ingenious specimens of early clockwork that has been preserved. It represents the changes of the heavenly bodies until the year of 1875, and when it strikes twelve, a number of automaton figures are set in motion; the electors of Germany enter from a small side door, and perform the ceremony of inaugurating the Emperor, who is seated upon a throne in front. Another door is opened, and Christ appears, when, after receiving His benediction, the whole cavalcade disappears midst a flourish of trumpets by a choir of angels. On each side are bas-reliefs illustrative of passages in the life of our Saviour. In that of the Last Supper a mouse is seen peeping from beneath the white table cloth, and this animal represents the armorial bearings of the once puissant city of Lubeck.

The English and the Augsburgians became famous for their clocks and watches, and made many of the latter, as well as clocks, which showed the hours, phases of the moon, and the days of the month. At Augsburg were also constructed most of the clocks and watches with moving figures, such as a moon, a monkey blowing a trumpet, and similar toys moved by clockwork concealed within them. These toys were chiefly made and used for presents from the ambassadors of Christian countries to Oriental princes and barbarians. It is stated that a miniature silver army of cavalry and infantry was made at Nuremberg which moved their limbs, went through their exercises and fired, by clockwork within them. In the cities of Augsburg, Nuremberg and Ulm, clock and watchmakers were obliged to observe certain ordinances; and also, as a proof of their skill and ability for a masterpiece, to make a horizontal square or hexagonal table clock; masters' sons were free to choose which, and eight months' time was given

them to complete the work. The artists of Augsburg and Nuremberg used to take their clocks and watches in great numbers to the fair at Leipzig, and thus they were spread abroad over Europe. Nicholas Rugendas was a celebrated clock-maker of Augsburg in the fifteenth century.—*Ext. of Correspondent.*

Jean Mouchel was the proprietor, in 1819, of an estate in Normandy that had been in the possession of his family since 1715. A foundry was on the estate, and he was fortunate enough to discover the secret of an alloy that produced the finest brass yet known, which is still prized in the market, and called Mouchel brass after its inventor. The foundry and estate have descended to J. O. Mouchel, whose exhibit of brass at the Paris Electric Exposition did honor to his family name. One coil of copper wire was shown that only weighed four kilogrammes, and yet it was 60,000 meters in length. A German silver wire was also exhibited one millimeter in diameter and 10,000 meters in length. The Mouchel establishment furnishes platinum wire, when desired, only a fraction of a millimeter in diameter—a difficult job—besides every variety of metal in every conceivable shape.

The Besancon Chamber of Commerce in its annual report states that the total number of watches made in that town last year was only just short of 500,000, or nearly 50,000 more than in 1881, when the total was 448,080, the average for the preceding five years having been 440,000. The proportion of gold to silver watches throughout this period has been about one of the former of two of the latter, and taking the average value of the gold watches at £3 8s., and that of the silver watches at £1, the Chamber of Commerce estimates the total value of the goods manufactured last year as a trifle over £900,000. The number of watches imported from abroad is diminishing every year. In 1881 there were imported 82,156 gold and 60,554 silver watches, but last year the total had fallen to 28,218 gold and 48,704 silver watches, and nearly all of these came from Switzerland. In other words the total number of watches sold in France last year was 568,722, of which 86 per cent. was made at Besancon.

A VALUABLE CLOCK.

Some time ago a well-known native of Bombay offered to give a new clock and obolimes to the University of Bombay, and deposited a large sum of money with the authorities to carry out his generous intention. The gift has been manufactured in London and is about to be shipped to Bombay. Doubtless it is such a time-piece as India never saw. The dials, of opal glass, are thirteen feet in diameter; it is fitted with an apparatus enabling it to telegraph its time daily to the observatory and to correct all the other clocks in the city, and connected with it is a chime of sixteen bells which can play automatically, sixteen tunes and 150 changes.

A NOVEL EXHIBITION.

A steamboat of 8,000 tons, named the "Viceroy," has been been equipped in London, for carrying a portable exposition, and is to receive a large variety of English exhibits. It will make the tour of the world, and stop in the principal ports of the different countries. The aim of this entirely novel enterprise is to bring before the eyes of foreign buyers the specialties of the manufactories of London, Birmingham, Manchester and other great centres of industry, and thus save to foreigners the trouble of a voyage to England. The cabins and all available space will be transformed into exhibition rooms.

Herr Charles Reuge, watchmaker, of St. Croix, has invented a pocket watch which is a master-piece of art. It shows hours, minutes and seconds, and contains miniature musical works with two tunes. It plays only every hour, but by pressing a little spring it can be made to play at will.

BUSINESS CHANGES FOR APRIL.

W. Sanderson, jeweler, Peterboro, Ont., stock damaged by fire; "Derby Silver Co., Toronto, Ont., have closed their Canadian branch factory, John A. Moore, crockery, Winnipeg, Man., assigned in trust; Arthur Chown, hardware, Kingston, Ont., admitted A. F. & O. Chown as partners, style now A. Chown & Sons; Thompson Bros. & Forest, jewelers, Winnipeg, Man., dissolved, C. F. Forest continues alone; Pollock & Co, jewelers, Winnipeg, Man., stock in possession of the Customs authorities; John M. Campbell, hardware, Drummondville, Ont., sold out; G. M. Welton, hardware, Mount Forest, Ont., sold out to H. R. Welton.