

WORKSHOP NOTES.

ENGRAVERS' BORDER WAX.—Beeswax, 1 part. pitch, 2 parts, tallow, 1 part, mix. Engravers' cement: Resin, 1 part; brick dust, 1 part; mix with heat.

POLISHING POWDER.—An excellent polishing powder for gold and silver consists of burnt and finely-pulverized rock alum, 5 parts, and levigated chalk, 1 part. Mix and apply with a dry brush

GUM FOR BACKING LABELS.—Mix pure dextrine with boiling water until it assumes the consistency of ordinary mucilage. Apply with a full evenly-made camel's hair brush. The paper should not be too thin or unsized.

TRANSFERRING PICTURES, ETC.—If you desire to transfer pictures from paper to wood, for re-engraving, soak the print in a saturated solution of alcohol and white caustic potash, to soften the ink, then transfer to the block under roller pressure.

EXTRACTING SILVER FROM WASTAGE.—Mix your refuse with an equal quantity of wood charcoal, place in a crucible, and heat to a bright red, and in a short time a silver button will be found at the bottom. Carbonate of soda is another good flux.

TO RENEW OLD OIL PAINTINGS.—The blackened lights of old pictures may be instantly restored to their original hue by touching them with dentoxide of hydrogen, diluted by six or eight times its weight in water. The part must be afterwards washed with a clean sponge and water.

METAL LETTERS ON PLATE GLASS.—It is often necessary to attach glass or metal letters to plate glass. Use the following binder: Copal varnish, 15 parts, drying oil, 5 parts; turpentine, 8 parts; oil of turpentine, 2 parts; liquefied glue, 5 parts. Melt in a water bath and add 10 parts slaked lime.

SCIENCE AND OTHER NOTES.

SILVER coin was struck at the English mint last year to the value of \$5,021,615. The profit to the Government was \$469,110. Besides this coinage, the mint struck about \$90,000 worth of bronze pieces. In 1881 worn coin of the nominal value of \$1,600,000 was withdrawn from circulation. The recoinage of the light gold in circulation in England, computed at \$250,000,000, cannot be deferred much longer, in the judgment of competent observers. Besides the expenses of recoinage, there will be found an actual deficit of precious metal of \$3,250,000, if the process be undertaken.

To imitate old artistic productions made of solid silver, the ground work and hollow portions not subject to friction are covered with a blackish red earthy coat, the parts in relief remaining with a bright lead luster, mix a thin paste of finely pulverized plumbago with essence of turpentine, to which a small proportion of red ochre may be added to imitate the copper tinge of certain old silver ware; smear this all over the articles. After drying, gently rub with a soft brush, and the reliefs are set off by cleaning with a rag dipped in spirits of wine. Old silver is easily renewed and the brightness

of the metal restored by a hot solution of caustic potash, cyanide of potassium, or benzole. To give the old silver tinge to small articles, such as buttons and rings, throw them into the above paste; rub in a bag with a large quantity of dry fir-wood sawdust until the desired shade is obtained.

THE case of two clever English rogues, Fulton and Watson, came on for hearing in the city of Paris yesterday. It was they who last winter stole from a jeweler, Mme. Chauvet, in the Rue des Capucines, diamonds to the value of 250,000 francs. The robbery was perpetrated in the following daring fashion. A man, calling himself Caston, presented himself in Mme. Chauvet's shop and requested to be shown some diadem diamonds, necklaces, etc. His manners were so good, and his dress so elegantly correct in every respect, that the merchande had no hesitation in spreading before her customer her most valuable gems. Of these the swindler made a lavish choice, and asked Mme. Chauvet to place them in a small black hand-bag he had brought on purpose. In payment, the pretended Colonel offered a check on a foreign bank, which was refused. "Wait a moment," cried the blackleg. "I will get it changed at the bank and bring you the notes. Keep the hand-bag; I shall be back directly." So saying he disappeared. Almost immediately he had left the shop a respectably-dressed woman entered and requested to be shown a certain ring in the shop window. While Mme. Chauvet was occupied in getting the ring, the "Colonel's" accomplice succeeded in adroitly substituting an absolutely similar hand-bag for the one left on the counter. This done, she quickly chose her ring and left. When evening came without her customer returning, Mme. Chauvet opened the bag—which she thought was the same one that "the Colonel" had left—and discovered that she had been robbed. When Fulton and Watson were arrested in Belgium for other diamond robberies, several stones stolen from Mme. Chauvet were in their possession. Fulton was yesterday sentenced to four years, and Watson, the pretended Colonel, to five years' imprisonment.—*London Standard, August 27.*

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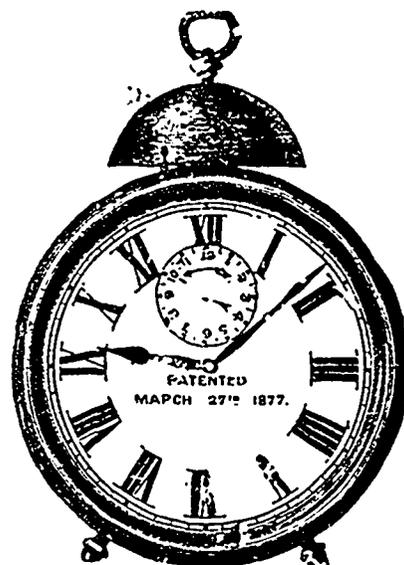
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