

found out that his extra cheap watch was just out, but that plenty more were *en route*.

AN IMPORTANT JUDGMENT to commercial men was delivered in the Superior Court at Montreal last month by Mr. Justice Johnson. Some time ago James Murray, a dry goods merchant there, finding himself in financial difficulties, made an assignment of his estate to assignees for the benefit of his creditors. Subsequently a party to whom he was indebted to a small amount sued and got judgment. A seizure was then immediately placed on the assets in possession of the assignees, when the latter applied to the court to set it aside. The court had the case under deliberation for some time, but has at last decided that there is no law in that province to prevent a creditor getting his own. The seizure was upheld and the assignees condemned in costs. This decision will cause great confusion when an insolvency takes place, as it will devolve on every creditor to take care of his own interests. If the judgment is confirmed, then an insolvent law for the distribution of assets becomes an absolute necessity, or otherwise estates will be swallowed up in law costs or sheriff's fees.

SEIZURE OF SMUGGLED JEWELRY.—Messrs. O'Hara, pro-collector of Customs, and Mr. Sidmark, landing waiter, last month made a seizure of \$1,500 worth of gold watches in Montreal, which had been smuggled across the border. The valuable consignment has been confiscated, but no prosecution, it is said, will be instituted. It would appear that notwithstanding the vigilance of the Customs officials for a considerable time past and the many attempts at smuggling that have been detected such fraudulent dealing cannot be suppressed. Heavy penalties on the offenders should be imposed as well as the confiscation of the goods. It is well known that a jewelry firm in that city in the course of some years made an immense fortune out of the most systematic smuggling, and that all the government could get out of them ultimately was \$12,000 or \$15,000 for their operations for twelve or fifteen months, only before they were defeated by Mr. O'Hara, who has again signalized himself in this seizure.

WORKSHOP NOTES.

To DRILL holes in glass, take a good steel drill and wet with a saturated solution of camphor in oil of turpentine. It is said that holes may be rapidly drilled in this way through the thickest plate-glass.

WAX or EOO, heated to 212 degrees, and kept there a while, will become dry, shrunken and horny. If the heat is carried a little further, it becomes converted into a substance which is so hard and tough that a valuable cement is obtained by simply smearing the edges of the article to be cemented with white of egg, and heating it to a little above 212 degrees. You can test the heat by a touch of your finger if you think best.

TO TEMPER LAMP CHIMNEYS.—A Leipzig journal gives a method which, it asserts will prevent lamp chimneys from cracking. The treatment

will not only render lamp chimneys, tumblers, and like articles more durable, but may be applied with advantage to crockery, stoneware, porcelain, etc. The chimneys, tumblers, etc., are put into a pot filled with cold water, to which some common salt has been added; the water is well boiled over a fire and then allowed to cool slowly. When the articles are taken out and washed they will be found to resist afterward any sudden changes of temperature.

OTHER NOTES.

At Krupp's celebrated foundry mountain guns are finished in two months after work on them is begun, while two years are required to manufacture a 16-inch gun of 35 calibres length. This apparently long time is made necessary by reason of the large surfaces that have to be worked over on a steel cannon of this description 55 feet long and weighing 121 tons.

The temple of Jerusalem, writes a Paris correspondent of the Boston Pilot, is to be rebuilt by the combined efforts and contributions of twelve American millionaires, two of whom have already gone to Palestine to study on the spot the most efficient means of putting into execution their gigantic and costly project.

PARIS is regarded as the foremost in the absolute provision for manual training in connection with primary schools. Over a hundred schools in the French Capital are now provided with workshops. At present they turn out articles of wood from planing benches and lathes. It is proposed soon to add iron to the material to be operated upon. This manual training is an addition to the ordinary studies of a primary school, the boys appear to like it, and it gives a new form of activity to their minds and valuable exercises to their muscles.

AT A RECENT MEETING in Boston, Dr. Bowditch, of Harvard College, exhibited a series of magnified impressions made by the finger-tips belonging to different persons. It was shown that the finger-tips are as distinctive as the face, and that they change less than the face in a given period. Dr. Bowditch showed impressions made with his own fingers fifteen years ago, and they differed but little from those freshly made by him. It is suggested that if every family would preserve impressions of the finger-tips of its individuals, they would be valuable for purposes of identification in the event of a disappearance and a subsequent dispute as to identity.

WHAT WILL BURST A GUN.—Some strangely twisted pieces or gun barrels in a window on Chestnut street exhibit in most interesting fashion the vagaries of overtasked gun barrels. These specimens are part of some guns burst by Captain Heath, of Philadelphia, during some protracted experiments with various weapons. Five of the barrels were burst because a ball was "stuck" over the muzzle in each case, two gave way because about four inches of snow was put in the muzzle, two were burst by reason of having some wet sand at the muzzle. Sportsmen often scoop up a little mud or sand unconsciously, bang away at game, and are then astonished to find the gun with a ragged and shortened barrel.

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