

A BURGLARY WITH A MORAL.—Early on the morning of Dec 3rd, burglars effected an entrance into the jewelry store of John Brodie, on Richmond street, London, and succeeded in blowing open his safe and carrying off its contents, to the value of \$500. The burglary was not discovered until the opening of the store at 9 o'clock. The affair seems to have been most deliberately carried out. The burglars after prying up the rear window and getting in dragged the safe from the store, where it was in full view of the street, to a rear room, and then pinned a coat across the glass door that intervened. Holes were drilled into the door of the safe near the lock and powder placed therein. The amount of powder used must have been considerable, as the heavy iron door was wrenched from its hinges and torn in pieces, the inside of it parting from the remainder, and the screws and bolts in every part being rent in two. As a result of the explosion inside only a few shattered shelves were left. Once inside the burglars helped themselves to the booty. Eighteen gold and silver watches belonging to customers were secured, together with \$63 in cash and a lot of gold jewelry, consisting of chains, etc. A desk in the place was also carried into the back room and ransacked. The cheap lines of jewelry left in the show cases were passed by. There is an amusing side to the affair. The police knew the burglars were in the city, knew when they arrived, and were laying for them. The men were warned to lay low on their beats for these fellows, and did so. But in spite of this one of the neatest burglaries ever committed in London was perpetrated.

A strange thing in connection with this is that only a day or two before he was robbed, Mr. Brodie was canvassed by a jewelry traveller in order to induce him to join the Jewelers' Security Alliance. Had Mr. Brodie joined at once, although the robbery might still have occurred, still he would have had the best detectives in the U. S. and Canada after them at once and a fair chance of getting the goods back, and all this at the expense of the Alliance. As matters stand, the Alliance is some hundreds of dollars in pocket by his not having joined, as its benefits are only for paid up members.

WORKSHOP NOTES.

ALUMINUM SILVER.—The following alloy is said to receive a high lustre and polish. Copper, 70 parts, nickel, 23, aluminum, 7.

SOLDER FOR ALUMINUM. The following alloys are recommended for the purpose. Melt 20 parts of aluminum in a suitable crucible, and when in fusion add 80 parts zinc. When the mixture is melted, cover the surface with some tallow, and maintain in quiet fusion for some time, stirring occasionally with an iron rod, then pour into moulds. 2. Take 15 parts aluminum and 85 parts zinc, or 12 parts of the former and 88 parts of the latter, or 8 parts of the former and 92 parts of the latter, prepare all of them as specified for No. 1. The flux recommended consists of 3 parts balsam copail, one of Venetian turpentine, and a few drops lemon juice. The soldering iron is dipped into this mixture.

ALUMINUM SILVER.—This is made by smelting together 1 part of silver with 3 or 4 parts of aluminum, and is very valuable for articles in which one of the main objects is to obtain lightness, such as the instruments used for marine observations. Octants and sextants of this alloy have been received with great favor by practical navigators. Those parts of such instruments which, if made with other metals, would weigh 4 pounds will, when made of the above alloy, only weigh 1 pound. Mechanics like to work this alloy, as it can be turned and filed away, which is not the case with pure aluminum, it being too soft, and, as no doubt all know who have worked this interesting metal, it has the objection-property of sticking to the file.

TO POLISH ALUMINUM.—Emulge equal parts of rum and olive oil, by shaking these liquids together in a bottle. When a burnishing stone is used the peculiar black streaks first appearing should not cause vexation, since they do not injure the metal in the least, and may be removed with a woollen rag. The object in question may also be brightened in potash lye, in which case, however, care must be taken not to make use of too strong lye. For cleaning purposes, benzole has been found best. Objects of aluminum can be electroplated without any difficulty, and a bright white lustre can be imparted to them by passing them successively through a weak bath of hydrofluoric acid and aqua fortis. The effect obtained is quite surprising, it is said.

GOLD BLACK PICKLE FOR BRASS.—All hitherto known black and grey pickles possess the defect that they give different colors with different copper alloys, while in the case of certain alloys they refuse to act altogether. For instance, carbonate of copper dissolved in ammonia gives to brass a handsome, dark-grey color, while it does not in any way attack various other alloys; therefore it is little suitable for instruments. A dark-grey pickle, which almost indiscriminately stains all copper alloys a handsome grey, resembling in color the costly platinum, is composed by dissolving 50 grams arsenic in 250 grams hydrochloric acid, and adding to the solution 35 grams chloride of antimony and 35 grams finely pulverized hammer scales. The articles to be pickled are rinsed in a weak, warm soda solution, prior to, as well as after immersion, to be followed by continued rinsing in water. The receipt is simple, and has been repeatedly tested with uniformly good results.

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