



with sufficient capital and backing to give it a chance of success, we heartily wish it "God speed," for by the tone of the speeches at its opening it is evident that some such movement must be inaugurated if the English watchmaker is to remain in England and work at his old trade. We trust that it may have the effect anticipated of giving the English mechanic steady employment at a much better rate of wages than he has hitherto enjoyed.

**LEAVING OUR**—The Acme Silver Company, of this city, have just concluded the purchase of the building formerly used by R. S. Williams & Co., as a piano factory on Hayter St., Toronto, and propose to remove their business there as soon as the necessary changes can be made, which will probably be about the end of June. The new premises have 145 feet frontage, by 40 feet in depth, and are six stories high. Power will be furnished by an improved Corliss engine of seventy-five horse power, for which steam is to be furnished by a one hundred horse power steel boiler. The Acme Company have recently added to their plant an improved hydraulic press, capable of exerting a pressure of one hundred and fifty tons to the square inch, and with the addition of this and other machinery now in process of construction, they think that they will have one of the best equipped factories in America. When our readers call to mind that six years ago this Company started in on Church Street in a one-story building with only eight employees, and very little machinery, and now see the establishment and equipment they now run, they must confess that a great deal of energy and hard work has been expended in bringing the business to its present high-water mark. Not only does the Company do a large and ever-increasing business in Canada, but they are slowly building up an export trade, and now ship goods direct to England, the West Indies, New Zealand and Australia.

**DARING ATTEMPT AT BURGLARY.**—The jewelry stores in the city of Montreal seem to have had particular attraction for the burgling fraternity of late, there having been several successful and unsuccessful attempts to rob this class of tradespeople during the past month. At half-past two o'clock on the morning of the 13th February, watchman Prevost, while passing the jewelry store of Mr. Scott, 1561 St. Catherine Street, saw the form of a man crouching by the door of the large safe and quite unconcernedly boring a hole through the heavy door. The watchman immediately ran to the rear of the premises, seeing that entrance to the store had been gained that way. He encountered two of the fellows outside the window, and drawing his baton, dealt one after the other severe blows, finally knocking them into an excavation immediately behind the store. He now turned his attention to the fellow who was all this time boring away at the safe door. The constable was about to crawl in through the window when this daring fellow heard him, and with one bound jumped through the plate glass door, but not before receiving a blow from the aforesaid baton. The watchman went in pursuit. He found his two assailants had crawled away, and the third by this time was at a safe distance. About an hour afterward the same watchman, while on patrol, jumped on a man whom he took to be one of those connected with the burglary. His name was Côté. He was taken to the police station. Goods to the amount of \$100 were stolen, but had the safe been opened the robbery would have been most serious, as it contained \$7,000 in money and goods.

THE LONDON (ENGLAND) JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH does us the honor to re-publish our remarks upon the reasons why the jewelry trade of Canada prefer to buy their goods elsewhere than in the dear old land which we are all so proud of. The pith of the reason we gave was that English manufacturers would not make the goods our people wanted. Commenting upon this, our esteemed contemporary says: "If our readers will refer to the article in question, from which our esteemed contemporary quotes, they will see that we suggested the 'want of adaptability' on the part of home manufacturers only as a suppositious alternative cause for a falling off in or a standing still of our trade with Canada; the other cause, and the chief one, being 'failure on the part of English manufacturers to keep the Colonials informed of what they were doing, and of so educating the Colonial taste up to the home standard . . . of keeping English styles in the front place in Colonial markets by judicious advertisement,' etc." In regard to the above, we may say that our Canadian buyers are

thoroughly posted about the English novelties in jewelry, the trouble has been that they did not suit our Colonial tastes, and while our English brothers were trying to educate us up to their standard our Yankee cousins were quietly supplying us with the exact articles we desired. What the English manufacturers want to do, is not so much to expend energy and money in educating our vitiated Colonial taste, as to give us exactly what our people want. When they get over the educating fever and get the idea through their heads that we really know just what kind of goods we want, then half the battle will have been won, for there is not the slightest doubt that England can still manufacture a great many lines of jewelry cheaper than the same goods can be made in the United States, and of course Canadians, like everybody else, are desirous of purchasing in the cheapest market.

## WORKSHOP NOTES.

THE best method of cleansing watchmakers' and jewelers' brushes, is to wash them out in strong soda water. When the backs are wood, you must favor that part as much as possible, for, being glued, the water may injure them.

A GOOD black lacquer to put on opera and field glasses may be obtained by making a strong solution of nitrate of silver in one dish, and of nitrate of copper in another. Mix the two together, and plunge the brass into it. Now heat the brass evenly till the required degree of dead blackness is obtained.

METALLIC surfaces may be gilt by rubbing in the following mixture. Chloride of gold dissolved in pure water 36 parts, mixed with a solution of cyanide of potassium, (poisonous) 60 parts, in pure water, shake well and set by for 15 minutes, then filter. This liquor is thickened with a powder composed of prepared chalk 100 parts, cream of tartar 5 parts.

A BRIGHT gloss may be put on mother of pearl articles by going over them with pumice stone finely powdered, washed to separate the impurities and dirt, with which polish very smooth; then apply putty powder and water by a rubber, which will produce a fine gloss and good color. Vienna lime is likewise used, but the finish is produced by experienced skill rather than any special ingredients.

A GOOD process for oxidizing silver is to add four or five thousandths of ammonium sulphide or potassium sulphide to water, at a temperature of 160 to 180 degrees Fah. When the articles are dipped into this solution, an iridescent coating of silver sulphide is produced, which after a few seconds turns blue-black if allowed to remain in the liquid. Remove, rinse, scratch brush, and burnish when desired.

## WISE AND OTHERWISE.

"YOUNG man," said the minister impressively, "I can see you as you sat at the gaming-table last night, with a deep red flush on your face." "Excuse me, but you're wrong about that deep red flush. Bill Jenkins had it in his hand."

"My house was entered by a burglar last night." "Is that so? What did you do?" "Nothing but look at him." "Did he carry off anything?" "No; he saw that there was only wood stores in the house and not a particle of coal on the premises, so he went away."

SMITH—"That paragraph in the *Daily Herald* touched you up rather severely yesterday, Brown." Brown—"O, yes; I don't mind that sort of thing, however. The world will always contain fools, you know." "I suppose so. If there were no fools there wouldn't be anything for those fellows to write about, I suppose."

"Do you know," said a dignified-looking man, "that I never tasted whiskey?" "No," was the reply; "I know lots of fellows that gulp it down quick that way, but somehow I could always get more enjoyment out of it by lettin' it go down slow, unless it's clear pizen."

WIFE—"Why did you send home a ton of coal to-day, dear? We have coal enough to last until July." Husband—"I didn't order any coal, and I wish you wouldn't pay gas bills. I went to the office to-day to make a kick, and was told the bill was paid." Wife—"Why, I haven't paid any gas bills." Daughter (blushing)—"George is the responsible one, papa, and I think it was a very delicate thing for him to do."