

per cent. profit are past, and we are living in an age when things are down at hard pan. If one dealer is content to sell at ten per cent profit while another wants one hundred, it is natural to suppose the cheapest man will get the bulk of the trade whether he makes any money out of it or not. This method of selling watches does not cause any more to be sold than if those selling them made a fair living profit, and is only another proof of the necessity of an organization amongst the retailers themselves, to force such dealers to sell at a fair price. The remedy lies entirely with the trade themselves, and they must make up their minds either to organize and effect this desirable reform, or sell at the same prices on the smaller profit.

WORKSHOP NOTES.

Gold ink, as it is called, is made of gold leaf crumbled into gum arabic water. When dry it will take a fine polish by gentle friction, a fact not generally known.

To make brazing solder, ordinary brass is mixed or melted with about one-sixth its weight of zinc. Pour out of the melting pot, cool, and granulate by crushing with a hammer.

A paste formed of whiting and benzine will cleanse marble from grease, and one made of whiting and chloride of soda, spread and left to dry, in the sun if possible, on the marble, will remove stains.

A VERY USEFUL CEMENT FOR CAOUTCHOUC.—Macerate pulverized shellac in ten times its weight of strong aqua ammonia. When not in use keep air tight. If allowed to stand in hot water a few moments the mass becomes liquid.

Doors are now made of paper in imitation of mahogany and other expensive woods. They are quite as cheap as wooden doors, better because they do not shrink or swell with the heat or weather, and are lighter and more durable.

To cleanse soiled chamois skin rub soft soap into the leather, then soak for two hours in warm water containing a small amount of soda, then rub it until clean, and rinse in a very mild solution of soda, soap and warm water. Never rinse in clear water, as that will leave the leather hard. After rinsing wring well in a coarse towel and dry quickly.

A thin film of tin can be put on iron, say iron wire, and it will have a resemblance to silver. First put the wire in hydrochloric acid, in which is suspended a piece of zinc. Afterward place it in contact with a strip of zinc in a bath of tartaric acid, two parts of which are dissolved in one hundred parts water and to this is added three parts of tin salt and three parts soda. Let the wire remain for about two hours in this bath and then polish.

OTHER NOTES.

The watch carried by Louis XIV. was so small that it was set in on of that luxurious monarch's finger rings.

In Cannon Ball Creek, Dak., are millions of peculiar stones rounded by the action of the water so that they look like bombs. Some of these natural cannon shots would weigh a ton.

Ladies' bustles are used so extensively as a means of smuggling that the Bernese customs officers have published a notice declaring that "these appendages must henceforth be searched, though with the necessary politeness."

If, says The Railroad Gazette, 282,240 pounds of coal will propel a ship and cargo weighing 5,600,000 pounds 3,380 miles, an ordinary letter burned in the boilers will generate sufficient energy to transport one ton of freight one mile.

Right in the midst of a political campaign intellectual Boston is trying to find out whether an air-tight box, filled with air and containing a goose, will weigh as much when the goose is flying as it will when the goose stands on the floor of the box.

Edward I died in 1307, and 463 years after his body was not decayed. Canute's body was found fresh in 1766, and he died in 1017. In 1369 three Roman soldiers were dug out of a peatmoss, and were found fresh after about 1,500 years. Many other instances like these are related.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

"A little nonsense now and then
Is relished by the wisest men."

WHEN you spill soup on the table cloth set your tumbler on it when your wife is not looking, and trust to providence for the thereafter.

HANGING brass clocks, eight day time, have been introduced with great success. They are genteel and modest, with their hands always before their faces.

A BEAUTIFUL example of the force of habit is to see a blue ribbon man fill his glass with water, and dreamily blow the froth off the innocent water before drinking.

DEGUY: "Ah, Toggle, old boy, how do? What are you doing now?" Toggle: "I'm living on my father just at present." "You are—I thought your father died long ago?" "So he did, but I have a new one—Government pap."

"THAT's a great watch, Hobs. I paid only \$2 for it and it keeps time to a minute." "Ah, indeed! Why, it's four o'clock, Nobbs, and your time-piece says it's only 12.39." "Well, that's the minute it keeps." This must have been a *Globe* watch.

"PLATES six inches thick are rolled at Pittsburgh," read Mrs. Litteral in her paper. "My gracious!" was the good lady's comment; "what do they want with such clumsy plates? The last I got were not an inch thick, and Bridget has only broken two in a month."

A YONGE STREET auctioneer's buggy happening, the other day, to obstruct for the moment the private carriage of a prominent Toronto personage, an occupant of the latter desired the auctioneer to clear the way, at the same time calling. Mr. ———, your buggy is a-going, a-going, it's gone!

A ROBBER met a coal-dealer on a lonely road and stopped him "Your money or your life," said the robber. "Who are you?" asked the coal-dealer. "I'm a highwayman," replied the man. "Good enough," continued the coal-dealer, "I'm a low-weight-man. Shake. We should be friends." And they were.

A GASCON and Provencal were each extolling the productiveness of their native provinces. "At Bordeaux," said the former, "you drop a match in a field next year you will see a forest!" "At Mar. seilles," rejoined the other, "you drop a brace button; a week after you have a ready-made pair of trousers."

WHY, how wonderful lifelike," said Mr. Derrix, gently caressing a bumblebee which reposed among the artificial flowers and insects of his wife's new bonnet. "If it was a garden flower I'd swear it was al—G-r-e-at Caesar!" he suddenly shrieked, inserting a wounded finger in his mouth and dancing around like a whirling dervish. "Why, the blamed thing is alive!"

"REBECCA, you shall nod shepeak mit dot Moses Levi vonce more!"

"Oh, fadder, you preak mine heardt; ve vas almost engaged. Vy shall I not shepeak of him?"

"He haf sheated me. He half sold me a paste diamond for a shenuine shtone."

"Oh, fadder, dot should recommend him to you as a son-in-law. If he can fool a vise man like you, see vat a fortune he haf in der chewelry piziness."

"Vell, Rebecca, you vas schmarder as I thought. Get married yen you like. I am ankchious to go in bartership with mine son-in-law."

BY TENDER.

JEWELRY BUSINESS FOR SALE The undersigned are prepared to receive tenders for stock and fixtures of the estate of Simeon Schreck, St. Thomas. Stock about \$3,000. Tenders received up to the 10th January. Stock and Sheets can be seen at St. Thomas, or Stock Sheets at the office of the undersigned.

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