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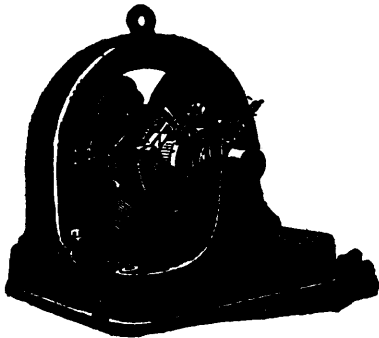
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and prices are easy. Glazed kid and other kinds of upper are selling well, and the market has again been cleaned up on belting butts. Tanners of oak harness leather have made an advance of one cent per pound.

SOME NEW USES OF GLASS.—Glass, which is one of the most fragile of materials when thin, is in some respects one of the strongest and most resisting when made thick or cast into blocks. Among the many new uses of this substance a large number are based on this property, so that glass may cease to be a synonym for fragility. Our descendants may not be able to understand the proverb about "those who live in glass houses, for they themselves be living in houses of glass that are more substantial and lasting than our present stone dwellings. So at least we are told by M. F. Fardiau, who writes on the subject in *La Science Illustrée* a translation of which is given in the *Literary Digest*. He says:

About ten years ago, M. Vinterhoff, of Cologne, devised a method of replacing lithographic stones by plates of glass from which proofs of extraordinary fineness were obtained by a secret process. The method does not yet seem to have been very successful, however, notwithstanding its cheapness.

It has also been proposed to replace the copper sheathing of ships by glass plates. An Italian vessel thus protected put in at Marseilles several times in 1882. Here, too, the success of the plan does not seem to correspond with the advantages claimed for it, among which are freedom from oxidation and wear, and the absence of those incrustations which, accumulating in the course of long voyages, end by impeding the vessel.

We should also mention here the glass casks for the manufacture of which Hubert took out a patent in 1860. They have, aside from their fragility, which makes them unfit for transportation, incontestable advantages over wooden casks—neatness, ease of cleaning, and transparency, which last quality enables the owner to see exactly how much wine or beer they contain at any given time.

Among interesting minor uses we should note that of glass bearings for machinery of small power. These support a light, rapidly rotating axle very well; they heat little, do not wear, and need little lubrication. Notwithstanding all this, it would seem that they are not perfectly safe in all circumstances.

Complaint is made continually of brass weights when used in kitchens. These complaints have been met in Switzerland by the governmental authorization, in 1897, of weights made of a special kind of glass, almost unbreakable. They are conical and end in a knob on which the value is engraved.

It is well known that the developing fluids used in photography spoil very soon in contact with the air, and that they can therefore be preserved only in full bottles. It is thus necessary to decant them as fast as they are used into a series of smaller and smaller bottles. M. Gaumont, head of the well known firm, has devised a plan by which glass balls are put into the bottle, one by one, to keep it full.

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