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THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONT., DEC., 1883.

Sent free to every Jeweler and Hardware Merchant in the Dominion of Canada.

Advertising Rates.

Full Page.	\$20 00	each issue
Half Page	12 00	"
Quarter Page.	8 00	"

Small Advertisements, 8 cents per line.

A discount of 25 per cent. will be allowed from the above rates for yearly contracts. All advertisements payable monthly.

Business and other communications should be addressed to

THE TRADER PUBLISHING CO.,
13 Adelaide Street East, Toronto.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To ensure insertion, changes or new advertisements must be sent to the office not later than the 20th of each month.

Editorial.

WARNING.

In our "Trade Notes" this month we are sorry to have to chronicle two of the most daring and successful jewelry robberies that have ever taken place in Canada. Mr. G. L. Darling, of Simcoe, and Mr. James Trotter, of Galt, are both jewelers of the very highest standing, and carried large stocks of fine goods, which, although confined in fire proof safes, were not sufficiently protected against the skillful scoundrels who burglarized their premises almost under the noses of the watchmen employed to look after them. These two burglaries following so closely upon each other, prove that we have in our midst at the present time a regularly organized gang of scoundrels, not only skillful enough to laugh at the protection afforded by an ordinary fire proof safe, but daring enough to hazard their liberty and even their lives to make a haul whenever they can find things to their liking. As most of our readers well know, nearly all the safes used in Canada by jewelers are simply the ordinary fire-proof safes. They are good as far as they go, but the trouble is they don't go far enough. They were never intended to withstand the operations of a skillful burglar and are not so guaranteed by the makers. If all of our jewelers were possessed of real fire and burglar proof safes, such as are made by J. & J. Taylor, of this city, they

might sleep soundly and let these scourges of society do their worst, but the trouble is that not one jeweler in a hundred has a safe that can by any stretch of imagination be considered burglar proof. If they could afford it we should certainly advise every one of our readers who has a valuable stock of goods to invest in a real burglar proof safe; this, however, is beyond the means of most, and we therefore throw out a few hints regarding the protection of premises and stocks of this kind, that may be of value to some who have never before given this matter serious thought.

In the first place we think every jeweler should place his safe as close to the street window as possible, and have it in such a position that any passer by can see it plainly and tell at a glance if anything is wrong about it.

Secondly, a strong, clear light should always be left burning close to it every night. This will enable the watchman outside, or any passer by, to see it as easily as in the daytime. If there are any two things that disagree with burglars they are light and publicity. A good strong light in a store at night is about as good a watchman as you can get.

Thirdly, unless you can afford to employ a regular watchman, a good sharp dog is no mean substitute for one. Burglars don't like dogs, especially those that have a habit of putting their teeth into trespassers. Even if they should not be biters, a dog that will make a lot of noise and raise an alarm is not well considered by them.

The above are very simple, and, we think, very effective, and we are of the opinion that it was owing in some measure to the lack of such simple precautionary measures as these, that the two burglaries which we have to report this month were made possible. THE TRADER warned its readers about this very thing over two years ago, and we now repeat the warning in the hope that it may be of benefit to some of our readers.

In connection with this subject a few words on the improved methods of operation pursued by our modern burglars may not be out of place, as it may help to convince our readers that the danger of which we warn them is more real than perhaps they are disposed to believe.

"During the past few years the art of burglary has made rapid strides, keeping pace with the march of science. Evidence which has been ferreted out through Pinkerton's detective agency shows that

the latest scientific aids have been used in the burglar's art. According to the new method safes are opened with greater celerity than heretofore, and the artists work so noiselessly that a person in the adjoining room will hardly be disturbed. The use of powder is dispensed with, and there is hardly any safe so obstinate that it will not yield its contents to experts who handle the new tools in less than half an hour.

A safe recently gone through exhibited evidences of very masterly and peculiar skill in the burglarious art. It had been opened by boring a half inch hole between the combination and the handle. After boring the hole a thread had been cut in it, and an instrument had been inserted that forced off the wards of the lock, and, breaking it in two, forced it into the inside of the safe. This plan of forcing in the lock is something novel in burglary. It may be called the pushing system, in contradistinction to the pulling system.

By the new system upwards of fifty jewelry safes have been opened in the States during the past few months, in most of which the thieves have got off with hauls ranging in value from \$2,000 to \$15,000. Chas. H. Mayhon and John Moore, two notorious burglars, were recently captured in New York, and at their lodgings were found a couple of sets of the new tools which are so handy and so light that they can be carried with ease in the pocket, each set not weighing above three pounds. In fact the thieves have termed the set of tools, "the pocket edition." At the lodgings of the man Mayhon was also found complete machinery for making these new tools along with the portion of the door of a safe covered with very hard steel for the purpose of proving the drills and other instruments. It is just probable that a branch of the gang who formerly operated in New England is now working Canada, and with these new appliances. This appears more likely from the fact that Pinkerton has information showing that a number of burglarious experts have made their way northward."

COMMON SENSE BUSINESS.

We have had put into our hands a circular purporting to emanate from a London (Ont.) retail jeweler, which is not only unique in its grammatical construction and general get-up, but characterized by a display of egotism that fortunately very few merchants care about displaying to the public. Apart altogether from the numerous misstatements with which this circular abounds, we notice the writer has apparently endeavored to impress the public of London with three things: (1) That he is the *only* man in London, and we should think in Canada, who is a thorough, practical

watchmaker and can do a good job; (2) that he is the only honest watchmaker in London; (3) that he will sell goods to the public as low as any other dealer in London can buy them.

In reference to the first proposition, we are not in a position to dispute his claim to being the best or only good watchmaker in the city he lives in. True, we have heard some people who ought to be posted about his abilities as a workman give him a poor name, but this has probably been the result of envy more than anything else. We would remark for his benefit, however, that as a rule "self praise is no commendation," and that were he as good a workman as he claims to be, and lived as long in the same city in the same business as he has done, that his merits as a mechanic would be so generally recognized that he would have no need to sound his own praises in the self-satisfied way he does, neither would he be compelled to cut on regular trade prices fifty per cent. in order to keep his mighty energies employed. A good watchmaker, who does first-class work, can always get all he can do at regular trade prices, no matter what his opposition may be, and our experience is that it is only the third-rate workman who has to slaughter prices. We should think, and we imagine the public naturally think the same way, that a watchmaker is generally the best judge of his own value, and if he considers his own work only worth half the regular price, that is sure to be about its real value.

In regard to his being the only honest dealer, and having the only honest goods in London, this is an inference to which we must decidedly take exception. Our acquaintance with the London jewelry trade has extended over a period of nearly twenty years, and as a class we have always regarded them as upright and honorable, and we fail to see why we should at this late day change our opinion; certainly the perusal of so bitter an attack as is contained in this circular would have no effect in altering our opinion. This phase of the circular reminds us very much of the English traveler's description of the Chinese city of Shanghai, whose streets abound with such signs as the following. "No cheating here; don't deal with the man across the street, he is a cheat, but come to me and get the only genuine rat's meat at cost price." The public are always justly suspicious of a person who is constantly declaim-

ing about his own honesty, and this feeling of distrust is intensified when to this evidence of bad taste is added the worse one of running down everybody else who may be in opposition.

In regard to the third declaration that he sells his goods at other dealers' cost, we are more concerned than in any of his other statements. If this is as he claims, then it argues a smaller amount of business capacity than we had expected from a general perusal of the circular. It may be that the writer of the circular is a man of independent means and sells goods simply for the public benefit. If so he has got into a trade that will tax his energies to the utmost, and at the same time give him little or no thanks for it. The public generally believe that but few, if any, merchants do business for the pure love of it. As a rule merchants do business to make money, and the public expect to pay them a reasonable profit for their work.

If this gentleman is not, as we suspect, a person of independent means, then certainly he is pursuing a very "dog-in-the-manger" policy by doing business in the way he proposes. Every business man of experience knows that it takes a certain percentage of profit to run any business, and if that profit is cut down too low, the balance sheet will show a loss instead of a profit. From the figures this gentleman gives in his circular, we should venture the prediction that his business will not show a profit at the year's end, and that it is only a question of time when he has to advance his prices or go under. His whole attempt looks to us as though he was unable to make money himself in business, and was unwilling to let anyone else make any. The jewelry business is peculiarly one of confidence and good will, and if the public have confidence in a merchant in this line, he can get a reasonable profit on his goods and still retain their confidence and trade. People don't buy jewelry because they know whether it is cheap or dear, but simply because they want it, and even if every retail jeweler in London were to sell at cost, as our friend professes to do, it would make no perceptible difference in the amount sold. We can see no good whatever in such a suicidal course as this, for it simply demoralizes the trade without doing the person practicing it any good.

Did time and space permit we might

write much more fully concerning this production, which is calculated to do harm both to himself and the trade in the city of London and vicinity. We have no personal knowledge of the writer, but we certainly think that if he honestly intends to run his business upon the lines laid down in his circular, the sooner he gets out of the jewelry business and gets an appointment as manager of some charitable institution, the better for himself and all concerned.

STANDARD TIME

The change in the system of counting time which came into operation on all the railroads in North America on the 19th of November, is a real step forward in the direction of a universal system of time keeping. As probably all of our readers know, the idea is simply to divide the North American continent, for time purposes, into five belts, each belt being fifteen degrees wide. Within the limit of each belt one standard time is to rule, and between each two adjoining belts there is a "jump" of an hour, that is that the time of each belt is exactly one hour slower than the belt east and one hour faster than the belt west of it. While this may seem strange at first, a little reflection will convince almost any one that the change is a practical one, and well adapted for the travelling public, while to those who never go away from home, after the first day it won't really make any difference. Any one who travels much will certainly appreciate it, for instead of never having to correct local time, or having to alter his watch in every place in order to get it, his watch, once set right, will be exactly right anywhere in Canada or the United States between the confines of the belt for which it is set. Then again should he happen to go east or west sufficiently far to go into other belts, how much easier to compute the correct time by adding or subtracting an even hour for each belt, instead of, as formerly, adding or subtracting a certain number of minutes or seconds which varied with every mile travelled. The thickly settled part of Canada will at present be comprised in three belts. The maritime provinces and the eastern part of Quebec in the Eastern; the western half of Quebec and Ontario in the Centre, and Manitoba in the Western. The time in the maritime provinces will then be an

hour faster, and that in Manitoba an hour slower than Ontario time. The centre belt practically extends from Quebec to Sarnia, and the following alterations may be interesting as showing the difference between the local and standard time at some of the principal points, and how they will have to alter it in order to make it correspond :

	Minutes.
Quebec puts the clock back about	15
Montreal " " " "	6
Ottawa " " " forward	3
Kingston " " " "	7
Toronto " " " "	17½
Hamilton " " " "	19
London " " " "	24

As this new time has already been adopted by all the principal places we would advise our friends in the jewelry trade everywhere to conform to it as quickly as possible. If not they will find their local time about the "meanest" time possible, especially if they ever have to do any travelling. By all means get the new standard time and keep to it.

Selected Matter.

THE QUEEN'S PRESENT TO CAPTAIN SHAW, OF THE LONDON FIRE BRIGADE.

Her Majesty the Queen has recently presented Captain Shaw with a bracket, or table clock. The case is of black marble, about fourteen inches high, square-sided in shape, standing upon four golden balls, and having a Corinthian pillar upon each side of the dial, which latter is black with gold figures. The surmounting of the case is very appropriate, and tells its own story. There is a helmet of gold resting within the line, formed by a beautiful-executed bronze imitation of the fireman's belt and hatchet. This may be called the crowning of the design, and most harmoniously in keeping with the character of the gift it appears. The movement is that of a French pendule clock, striking the hours and half-hours upon a spiral gong wire. Underneath is the following inscription upon a golden plate: "Presented to Captain Eyre M. Shaw, C.B., Superintendent of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, by Victoria R.I."

The R. I. signifies REGINA IMPERATRIX; that is, Queen and Empress. A large number of ladies and gentlemen have, by the courteous permission of Captain Shaw, inspected the handsome present, and given utterance to their admiration in very gratifying terms. It is rather

difficult to say who has the right to be the best pleased at the incident, Her Majesty, or Captain Shaw. The first-named on account of the kindly expressions and loyal feelings which it has called forth towards herself; or the latter at the distinguished, social honour and heir-loom which has been conferred upon him. I will slightly paraphrase a line of Byron about Moore, the poet, and fitly apply it to the happy recipient here:—

"He won it well, and may he wear it long."
"C. STUART, in the
"Jeweler and Silversmith."

THE SIDEREAL DAY.

ASTRONOMICAL AND SOLAR TIME—WHY THE STANDARD IS ADOPTED.

The following memorandum, which will at this juncture interest some of our readers, has been furnished by Mr. S. E. Roberts:—

"Time is a measured portion of infinite duration." A measured portion between the immeasurable past and future. For measuring this portion we may adopt any standard we please. It has been found most convenient to use the time of the rotation of the earth on its axis as the standard of reference in all cases. Let a telescope be pointed to a star, and then clamped in position, and the time noted when the star crosses a wire in the centre of the field; the interval occupied by the earth rotating upon its axis, before the same star again crosses the wire, is called a sidereal day, and is divided into twenty-four hours. This is the astronomical standard. For civil purposes it is more convenient to use solar time. But the sun is not a fixed point in the heavens; he travels round the entire circle of 360 degrees in 365 days, or very nearly one degree in every day, and as one degree is equal to four months, it will take the earth four minutes to overtake the sun after it has passed the star in sidereal time. This is known as apparent solar time. But, from causes which I must not now stop to explain, the motion of the sun is not uniform. The elements of the irregularity have been grouped together, and tables prepared which are known as "the equation of time." The time given by these tables is sometimes added to and sometimes taken from apparent solar time, and we then get the "mean solar time," by which one day is regulated. A meridian

may be defined as an imaginary line passing through both celestial poles, the zenith and the nadir; the plane of this great circle must therefore pass through the observer's place and the earth's centre. From this it is manifest that every place on the earth must have its own meridian, and it is noon by apparent solar time when the sun crosses the medium of that place. The earth rotates from west to east, and consequently the meridian of Montreal will pass beneath the sun about half an hour earlier than the meridian of Toronto, while places west of Toronto will be later in the same proportion. Hence we have been accustomed to speak of "Montreal time," "Toronto" and "Chicago time."

THE NEW STANDARD TIME

simply proposes to adopt the mean solar time of the 75th meridian for general use in all places lying between 67½ degrees and 82½ degrees of west longitude, and thus avoid the confusion arising from the use of the meridian lines of different places. The central meridian of this district, i. e., the 75th, crosses the St. Lawrence a few miles west of Cornwall, and passes northward east of Ottawa. On this line the new standard will make no change; to the east of this line noon will be given a little earlier, and west of the line later than the general local time.

It will make almost no sensible difference to our social life, while it will greatly facilitate our movements in travelling and in many other ways.

AN ELECTRIC WATCH.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Jewish Chronicle* writes:—A Jewish young man, nineteen years old, named Salomon Schisgal, and coming from Berditschew, a Jewish centre in Southern Russia, has for some time been the hero of the day in this city. In commercial circles and in journals of every shade of opinion, the current topic is the genius of Herr Schisgal, who in outward appearance is a mere youth, and no words are sufficient to praise his invention, for which he has already received a patent from Government, and which he is carrying into execution in association with one of the most influential of Russian wealthy aristocrats. This invention is a watch which goes by electricity, and with scarcely any movement; it is therefore simple in construction, and easy to handle; it is cheap,

and above all, keeps correct time. It attracted the attention of the well-known Professor of Physics at the University of St. Petersburg, Herr Ohwolson (son of the renowned Orientalist of that Committee of *Savants* at the Ministry of the Interior has written an article on the subject in the *Neirosti*, from which I extract the following particulars: 'In its remarkable simplicity this invention can only be compared with the Jablochkoff system of electric lighting. The watches are without any springs and consist solely of two wheels. Besides being true they have the advantage of the second hand moving in single momentary leaps, as is usually the case only in very costly watches, and which is of the utmost utility for astronomical observations. These watches can also set in motion a certain number of watches of the same construction, so that they all keep exact time. The invention has convinced me that the watches can be used for the purpose of telegraphy. After naming several other advantages, Professor Ohwolson describes the invention as a wonder which will cause an entire revolution in the manufacture of watches. Herr Schigal is the son of a Jewish watchmaker in Berditschew, where he commenced his studies at the Realschule. He subsequently left for Kieff in order to enter the Gymnasium, but the Anti-Jewish outrages which raged there two years ago, aroused in him a determination as it did in so many other Jewish students, to leave Russia and seek a new home in another land. But before quitting the country he resolved to thoroughly master his father's profession, and with this object in view he returned home. There, besides learning how to make watches, he occupied himself with the study of physics, and especially of electricity, and he turned his attention to the desirability of bringing the latter into relations with his occupation. This kept him engaged for about two years, until he hit upon the idea of his invention, which took him three months to work out and perfect. Several prominent persons have evinced the utmost interest in him and have made splendid offers to enter into business connections with him. From far and near, especially from military circles, he received telegrams congratulating him on having conferred so great an honor on his fatherland, the senders evidently being unaware that he is a Jew. As I have al-

ready stated, he has concluded a contract on most favorable terms with the well-known Cræsus, M. Paschkow, and as he is still a minor, his elder brother has arrived here in order to complete the necessary legal formalities for the constitution of the firm. The Governor of St. Petersburg has granted the young inventor the right of residence in that city until he obtains this right, *eo ipso*, as an artisan."

COSTLY CLOCKS.

The Philadelphia *Record* publishes an interesting article on the subject of quaint clocks, and how Mr. G. W. Childs, the distinguished philanthropist, takes note of time to the value of some \$90,000. The writer says that when General Grant returned to Philadelphia after his great tour around the world, he brought to his friend, Mr. Geo. W. Childs, a large hall clock, which he designed as a companion piece to two remarkable time-keepers then in Mr. Child's possession—one had ticked for more than two centuries in an Austrian cloister, and had rung out the signal which daily roused the monks to their devotions; the other is the most complex and the most complete piece of time-measuring machinery that can be found in America. To look at these curiosities a reporter visited the private office of the *Ledger* publisher, on Sixth street, below Chestnut. The apartment is patterned somewhat after a room in Coombe Abbey, Warwickshire, which one of its lords had fitted up for the reception of Queen Elizabeth. The quaint open fireplace, high wainscoting, the plaster ornaments of the ceiling, the Flemish stamped leather for wall papering, and the tile flooring are in perfect accord with the style and traditions of these massive timepieces.

Meantime a glance around the room revealed clocks in every place where such heavy articles could be put. On Mr. Child's writing desk were three odd looking timepieces. On the top was a clock made with lapis lazuli case, one foot high and ten inches broad. Stone as it is, the clock case is worth more than its weight in solid gold, and is the highest priced article in the room.

Immediately below is an odd looking ornament, consisting of two uprights supporting what at first glance appears to be a ball, but which is a Japanese clock, the dial completely covering the front

half of the sphere, and curious hands pointing out Japanese scrawls to denote the hours. The works inside rock like a cradle. There is a third clock on Mr. Child's desk, an ornamental steeple clock, which is set in a stand, that indicates the day and date of the month.

Over the old fashioned fireplace, where the grate is suspended by heavy iron crane, there is a basso-relievo, wherein a winged Cupid is depicted bearing an hour-glass, to typify the flight of time, while on the mantle immediately overhead is a bronze and Marble French clock of beautiful design and exquisite finish, and of such fine workmanship that it does not vary hardly more than a minute in a year. It has a perpetual calendar attachment, at a cost over \$800.

On either side of the mantle, under life-size pictures of Messrs. Childs and Drexel, are clocks marking two periods in French history. One has a case of tortoise shell inlaid with bronze scroll work, such as was fashionable in the time of Louis XIV.; the other is in the Rococo style, which was popular during the time of Henry IV. The bronze case, nearly three feet high, is profuse in decoration of a debased style that succeeded the first revival of Italian architecture.

Above a huge ebony cabinet filled with curios of every variety, stands an antique English clock, with square ebony case. It is very plain and very old, the seconds being measured by a verge escapement, which was supplanted more than 200 years ago by the pendulum.

Another expensive clock on the walls has a case of malachite ornamented with bronze. This is Russian work. The clock stands on a neat bracket of malachite and bronze, that was made in this country to Mr. Child's order, at a cost of \$250.

The glance around the room from desk, and mantle, and bracket, and cabinet, now strikes three hall clocks—the dearest treasures of the collector. The "convent" clock, which came from an Austrian cloister, is over 200 years old, is roughly made, and is exceedingly crude in its mechanism.

General Grant's present, sometimes known as the Grant clock, and often named the Klingenburg clock (after its maker, John Klingenburg, of Amsterdam), is of great value. But, precious as are these two time-keepers, they are commonplace as compared with the Rittenhouse clock, which occupied an hon-

ered corner in the magnificent office. For ingenuity, and accuracy, and beauty of workmanship, it is believed to exceed any clock in America. David Rittenhouse, a famous Philadelphian, after whom Rittenhouse square was named, made the clock in 1767, for Joseph Potts, who paid \$640 to Rittenhouse. This timepiece was much sought after in the early days of the republic, 125 guineas having been offered for it by Lord Howe, when he was holding Philadelphia under occupation. Later on, the Spanish Minister of the United States wanted to make a substantial present to his sovereign, and offered \$800 for this clock. It however, fell into the possession of the Barton family, who retained it until it was bought by Mr. Childs in October, 1879. The intricacy of its mechanism is wonderful. It contains seventy-two wheels, with 5,685 teeth. It is operated by three weights, aggregating 100 pounds in weight. In addition to the timepiece, it has a musical attachment, and a limited planetarium in miniature. On the face are six dials. The main dial in the centre has four hands, indicating seconds, minutes, hours and days, the last being so set as to run perpetually, with due provision for leap year and all the other vagaries of the calendar. The phases of the moon are also shown. The second dial accurately represents the movements of Venus, Jupiter, Mars, Mercury and the earth around the sun, each of the planets being represented by a small gold ball that makes its orbital revolution around the central sun with wonderful precision. Thus far the gold ball marked Jupiter, has made only nine and a half revolutions since the clock was made—114 years ago. The rim of the dial is marked with the signs of the zodiac, thus showing the location of each planet.

Equally curious is the dial in the upper left hand corner, which describes the moon's phases in its course around the earth. The moon is portrayed by a ball, half white and half black, which slowly traverses around another ball representing the earth, the moon being made to revolve on a pinion in such a manner as to give the correct view of it when in its various stages of reflection. The lower left hand dial shows Saturn slowly crawling along its twenty-ninth-year course around the sun. Another atmospheric feature of the clock is its sundial, which shows sun time, fast or slow,

in comparison with mean meridian time. The movement necessary for this dial is exceedingly intricate and rare. The sixth dial reveals a combination of chimes, which play at every quarter, half and full hour. A hand is turned to one or ten numbers, and when the quarter point is reached a peal of choral music is heard, lasting for a minute. A gentle push on a little knob on the dial brings a repetition, and the twenty tiny bells gush out their sweet melodies.

It was while the scribe was glancing at this atmospherical wonder that the State House bell tolled out its heavy mid-day clang, and almost at the same instant a flood of music deluged Mr. Child's office. Each of the seven clocks, excepting the antique "English" struck the hour—the atmospherical clock in deep, rich tones; the convent clock with a high tingling sound; the mantle clock with a softness that is characteristic of French timepieces; the Louis XIV. clock on a highly toned bell; the Rococo clock with a healthy, loud sound, and the lapis lazuli with a pleasing jingle. Then the chimes struck up, and for another minute sweet concord pervaded the room. The effect was thrilling. The products of two continents were brought into an array that pictured distinct successive periods of progress in handicraft and scientific attainment. It was a blending of time and peoples, of history and art.

These clocks in Mr. Child's office could not be bought for any money. They cost over \$10,000, while \$80,000 will hardly cover the cost of all his clocks, numbering fifty, the others being divided among his summer house at Wooten, his Long Branch residence, and his mansion at Twenty-second and Walnut streets. Every room in each of these domiciles has its clock, and each clock has its peculiar merit. In the library at the corner of Twenty-second and Walnut streets is a heavy clock, rich in design and finish, that was once owned by Prince Napoleon; while in the parlor, between the two front windows, stands what is perhaps the most costly parlor clock to be found in the world. It weighs two tons, and stands nine feet high, onyx and verde antique forming a base of two feet square and four feet high. On this pedestal poses a life-size figure in silver of a woman, her raised arm poising a circular pendulum which operates the machinery in the base. The clock has a quiet history. It won universal admiration, as

well as the grand prize, at the Paris exhibition of 1867, when Le Grand Lookwood bought it, after a sharp bidding with the Emperor of Russia, and placed it in his palatial home in Norwalk, Conn., where it remained until Lookwood's riches had been squandered, and the auctioneer mounted the block to sell off the effects for what they would bring. Mr. Childs had visited the place eleven years ago, when studying designs for his Walnut street house, and upon announcement of the auction sale, the *Ledger* publisher went to Norwalk, and there encountered A. T. Stewart's agent in competition. The price was started by Mr. Childs at \$1,000. Mr. Stewart's man bid \$2,000, and Mr. Childs bid \$8,000. Tapping the *Ledger* publisher on the shoulder, the representative of Stewart said, with surprised tone:

"Mr. Child's, I am bidding for Mr. Stewart."

"I can't help it," said Mr. Childs, "I want that clock."

"Four thousand dollars," exclaimed the agent, turning to the auctioneer.

"Six thousand dollars," said Mr. Childs, and to him the clock was sold.

WENZEL JAMITZER.

PRODIGALITY OF THE MIDDLE AGES—SUMPTUARY LAWS.

The native city of Albrecht Durer—Nuremberg—had, in the 16th century, become the brightest star in the constellation of prominent German cities. Although Augsburg attempted to be a worthy rival, Ulm, Eslingen, Strassburg, Frankfort, essayed to vie with it, nevertheless, Nuremberg sounded the key note. Both Emperor and Empire has tacitly acknowledged it by fixing upon Nuremberg as the seat of the Imperial treasury, and the ancient German royal crown was guarded in its walls since the year 1428. Pope Martin affirmed it by a special bull, confiding to the city "the perpetual care of the paraphernalia of State," and, indeed, they remained there until the German nation was no longer a Roman Empire, and these insignia had to be conveyed to a place of safety, to protect them from Napoleon's cupidity. A patriotic professor of Wurzburg kept them hidden in his trunk for eight years, and only delivered them in 1815 to the Austrian treasury.

Nuremberg's goldsmiths were especi-

ally noted for the wealth of their original and artistic conceptions, united with the highest skill and harmony of execution, with which they wrought perfect works of art. The spirit of Albrecht Durer hovered for another century in their midst, and many a one showed himself worthy of following his footsteps.

Wenzel Jamitzer was the chief of all.

He was a scientific goldsmith, especially famed for his several inventions in mathematical instruments, and their use; he wrote several excellent treatises on the subject; he was also one of the most famous clock makers of his times, constructing several complicated movements, etc., and other works.

The great prodigality which had become customary among the nobles, and in different counts, with regard to personal ornamentation, since the day of the crusades, proclaimed the high self-estimation entertained both by knighthood and principedom, and which also passed over to the free, wealthy citizens of the country. "Gold was the word, gold was desired by all." The goldsmith had good customers, and his work was the representation of the period. At first he laid more stress on the solidity of his wares, while gradually, when the people became more refined, he also became more ambitious, stimulated by the growing culture and refined taste, of producing the most admirable masterpieces. Table service proclaimed the wealth of a family, together with gigantic beakers and drinking cups, and overload of ornamentation in attire, necklaces, rings, spangles; the knights were encased in gold and silver armors, beautifully engraved with the most delicate interlacings of arabesques, or inlaid with gold. This prodigality in dishes and personal ornaments was fully sustained by the sumptuousness in eating and drinking.

When Duke Charles the Bold, of Burgundy, in 1478, travelled to the diet at Trer, his suite consisted of 5,000 well armored and mounted men. He himself was dressed in a gold dress, studded with pearls, estimated at \$200,000. He invited the Emperor, Charles V., to St. Maximin, and Hans Sachs, the chronicler of the festivity, says that at the dinner entertainment, all the dishes were of silver, and the beakers and cups were resplendent with jewels and pearls. Four courses were served, the first of which consisted of fourteen, the second twelve, the third ten costly covers; for the fourth,

thirty gold vessels were served with spices and confectionery; the largest dish was estimated at about \$2,000.

Berlepsch says that Electro Moritz caused four hundred and fifty pounds of silver to be weighed out from his treasury, to be manufactured into dishes, intended for the marriage of his son, the future King August of Poland, with a Princess of Denmark.

King Sigismund of Poland and Sweden, in 1606, presented to his bride a dinner set of pure ducaat gold (22.8 karats); the cost of the manufacture alone of the basin with water can (for washing the hands after meals) was valued at \$8,000. The attire of the bridal pair represented a value of \$700,000; the king wore fine diamonds, estimated at \$1,000,000, in his diadem.

The citizens of Paris presented to Charles VI., and his young spouse, Isabella of Bavaria, golden dishes and vessels of a weight of 450 marks, and to the Duchess of Touraine a dinner set 200 marks in weight. So says Froissart.

Berlepsch relates the almost incredible story that toward the end of the 16th century, the prodigality in gold and silver vessels was so great in Spain, that a man called himself poor if he did not possess at least 800 dozen plates and 200 dishes of the noble metals. It is said that many households had as many as 1,200 dozen of heavy plates and 1,000 dishes. The treasures of the recently discovered America was assimilated in this manner in European luxury. According to the chronicles of Sevilla, the Spaniards brought 1,386,000,000 ounces of gold into Spain between the years 1519 and 1617.

Beside goldsmithing, also the working in tin attained its perfection in those wealthy times; a goldsmith, Jean Davet, of Langres, also called Danet, or the Master of the Unicorn, from his stamp, flourished as an engraver of tinware. But as an offset to the luxury of western Europe, all the art pursuits had retrogressed so far in England that the barons had not ever tinware upon their tables, but drank out of wood or leather vessels, wherefore it was said in irony, that "the English got drunk out of their boot shafts."

The goldsmiths of western Europe, above all, the French, sought to commingle with this taste for luxury in dishes, an excessive indecency, and combined their productions with voluptuous repre-

sentations, especially their large drinking cups and goblets. Truly wonderful works of their lascivious taste could be found in the court circles of the middle ages. Only to give one instance, Philipp the Good, of Burgundy, caused a female statue of gold to be made, from whose breasts issued the wine at table, and a young girl of enameled gold, in nearly the posture of the Venus of the Capitol, a fountain of the purest wine, caught in a transparent vase, issued from under her modestly folded hands. Other show and drinking vessels were more ingenious and artistic. A bell figure, for instance, held a smaller beaker at a poise, revolving around its axis if it was tipped over to drink therefrom. Else it consisted of a female silver figure, richly enameled with lower dress seam, jacket and head-dress gilt; she held, raised above her head, the drinking cup. A similar beaker of Wurzburg prebendary contained hidden wheel, to be wound up with clock movement; the lady moved from place to place, when set upon the table.

Finally, the extreme was met. The Emperor and the country, the individual princes, knights, nobles and city governments, all resolved to counteract this senseless dissipation and luxury with strict laws. The nobles had generally become impoverished thereby, and they resolved in 1479, at the 28th great tournament held at Wurzburg, to adopt a sumptuary law, by which all gold ornament, both in attire and armor, was prohibited; neither the women were excepted. Charles V. issued a law in 1580, under heavy pains and punishments, with provision forbidding the country people for wearing any jewelry whatever; the citizen might wear a gold ring, without jewel, of the value of five or six florins (35 cents apiece)—and their wives, a girdle up to ten florins; merchants' wives one of 20 florins; their daughters and unmarried ladies, a head-dress, at 10 florins; rich city councilors and particians could sport a ring of 50 florins; noblemen could adorn themselves with a chain of 200 florins, and real knights, up to 400. Counts and gentlemen might expend 500 florins therefor, and their spouse as much as 600. The goldsmiths also were prohibited from employing the noble metals uselessly for articles of ornamentation, nor could they sell valuable articles to persons of low degree.

Of course, these stringent laws fell



JAMES BOSS GOLD WATCH CASE,

is the best protection for the Movement that has ever
been put on the market.

IT IS STRONGER, STIFFER, MORE COMPACT AND CLOSER FITTING

than any other, and is the only case containing a

DUST BAND.

This dust band encircles the inside of the case in such a manner as to

Prevent any Dust or Dirt

FROM WORKING INTO THE MOVEMENT,

and is the greatest improvement ever adapted to

Watch Cases.

In Finish and Ornamentation the Jas. Boss Case is unapproached.
They are sold by all Canadian Wholesale houses.

The Canadian trade will remember that this case is recognized
by the Jewelers of the U. S. as the standard, and is the only Filled
case that has given entire satisfaction through all time.

short of their aim; the goldsmiths had a large noble patronage for their masterpieces, and German art articles were sought everywhere. Wenzel Jamnitzer is the most illustrious representative of the art producers of that age. He enjoyed a high renown, and was the court goldsmith for four successive German Emperors: Charles V., Ferdinand I., Maximilian II., and Rudolph II. This circumstance placed him above the sumptuary laws, and unhooded, he manufactured the costliest gold and silver vessels.

His style was especially distinguished by the delicate embellishment of large, tasteful articles with animals, insects, flowers and herbs in silver, of so delicate a construction that when the breath was blown against a blade of glass, it moved. The art collections of Dresden, Berlin, Vienna and other cities pride themselves at the present day on enclosing one or more pieces manufactured by him. We can do no better than describe one piece he wrought for the city of Nuremberg, and which for many years constituted the chiefest ornament upon the gala tables at festivities and receptions. It is of silver, about three feet high, and at its broadest part measures about eighteen inches. In the most ingenious manner does he represent in this construction, nature as the bountiful giver of everything in excess than man consumes, either prepared in the highest culinary art or in its original shape—and not alone the donor to man, but also to animal, frog, lizard and snake, worm and insect, that appears to glide around the silver leaflets and haulms of the work of art.

A scenery of mountain and forest arises from an admirably represented meadow, the former adorned with flowers, bushes, snow bells, and other plants handsomely executed in enameled colors. Latin inscriptions are worked through the vegetation and among the animals, at the foot of the mountain:

"The heavy bunches of grapes are as little burthensome to the vine as the fruit is to the green branches."

"Thus is carried the powerful castle by the rocky support of the earth."

"Easy the burthen that a rejoicing heart easily bears."

From among this luxury, Nature, surrounded and enveloped by its creations, arises in the shape of a handsome woman, of antique form, of silver, with hair and dress of gold. She holds a cornucopia with both hands above her head;

four small angels' heads adorn it, with two inscriptions.

"Why I, a delicate woman, bear so heavy a load of fruits, or what goddess I am, do you ask?"

"I am the earth, the mother of all, laden with the costly load of fruits engendered by me."

The cornucopia widens into a broad mouth, opening from the leafwork, as it were, and entwined with a hundred forms chased in silver, or cast, such as flower stalks, rose buds, meadow flowers, berries and haulms. Three winged genii arise from its midst to support the bowl, which surmounts the whole. Inscriptions are again introduced, upon small shields above the genii:

"Glory ye the Lord with songs of praise, oh grateful spirit mortals."

"Whatever the fertile earth bears, are but donations divine."

"But we, servants of the Lord, stand mute at the great divine bounty."

The bowl itself is gilt, and interlaced by leafwork in gold and enamel, through which wind snakes and lizards. The interior of the bowl is extraordinarily rich with all the emblems of fertility, and interwoven with animal and ornamental figures in an ideal combination; an excellent relieve, from which, as uppermost ornament, issues a bouquet of bell flowers, lilies, parsley, carrot leaves, and a wealth of bloom in mat silver, so delicate, light and graceful that it expresses the master's highest conception of art.

Wenzel Jamnitzer died at the age of 78, on December 15, 1583:—*Jewelers' Circular*.

HIGH-PRICED BEANS.

Tom Watrous, commercial traveller, stopped off at the Marshal, Mich., eating house several years ago. He was not very hungry and called for a plate of beans, which he received. He inquired the price, and was informed that it was seventy-five cents.

"That's a thundering price for beans," said Tom.

"That's the price," said the proprietor. The train was just starting. Tom paid the bill, and the coaches bore him and his indignation on toward Detroit.

This was on Sunday. On Monday, Gilmore, the eating house man, received a telegram, collect on delivery, \$1.25, which he paid, and read on opening it:

"A thundering price for beans."

Thirty days from that date a neat express package was handed to Gilmore C. O. D., who paid 90 cents for the privilege of opening it to discover a lot of sawdust, on the top of which lay a slip of paper with the cabalistic symbols: "A thundering price for beans!"

Two months from this Gilmore was summoned to Chicago to meet a former business partner, and the hotel clerk handed him a letter conveying the pleasant information: "A thundering price for beans!"

During Gilmore's absence his son paid for two telegrams and one express package, directly on the subject of 75 cents being "a thundering price for beans!" Cost of these articles, \$9.80. A genuine telegram from Gilmore's mining share broker advising him to sell was refused, and the loss of it entailed an actual damage to Gilmore of \$1,500.

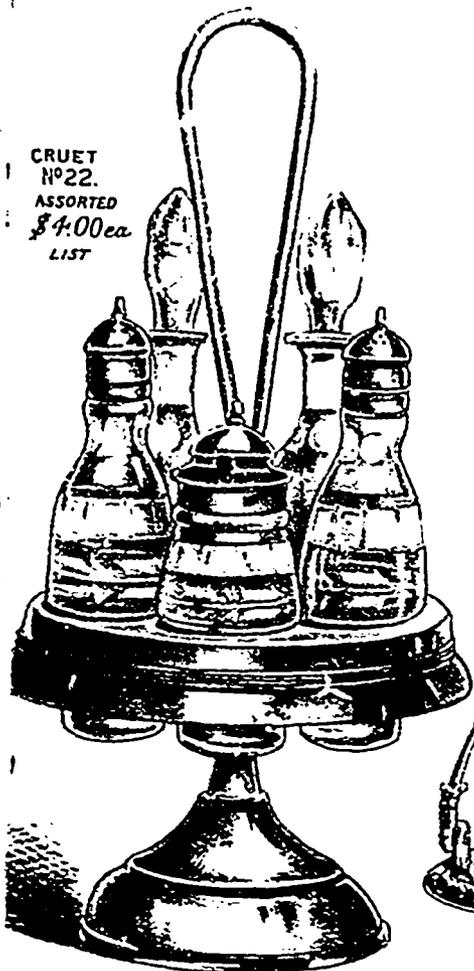
A year rolled away. Gilmore ordered a case of Mackinac trout from Detroit. They came C. O. D., \$18.88; when opened he found every fish had been removed from the ice and sawdust, and a shingle met his eyes, marked with a blue lead pencil: "A thundering price for beans!" Trouble arose between Gilmore and the Detroit fish house, and they went to law, Gilmore winning the suit, \$25 damages, and all at a cost for the attorney's services of \$86.00.

Gilmore grew dejected. Life looked gloomy. Letters poured in on every one of his family at regular intervals from all parts of the world, bearing the unpleasant information that it was "a thundering price for beans."

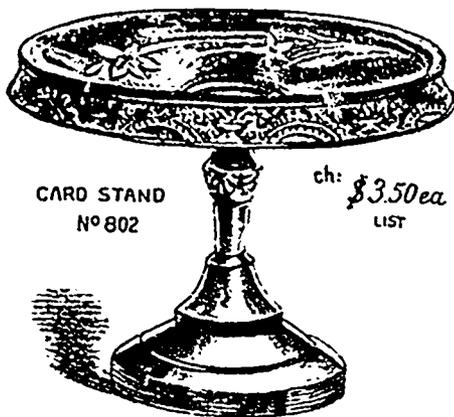
At last Gilmore sold the Marshall eating house and moved to Chicago. He carried his deep affliction along with him, gnawing like a cancer at his vitals. The persecution never ceased. Gilmore drooped, faded and finally died. The terribly afflicted family followed him to his last resting place, and the widow, with what little money she had saved from the expense of bogus telegrams and express packages, erected a plain marble slab to the memory of the tortured Gilmore.

The following Sabbath the mourning family went out to the cemetery to plant some violets on Gilmore's grave. Arriving on the ground, they observed in silent horror that another legend appeared above the name of Gilmore on the tombstone. It was chalked on a small blackboard and read; "A THUNDERING PRICE FOR BEANS."

CRUET
No 22.
ASSORTED
\$4.00 ea
LIST



CARD STAND
No 802

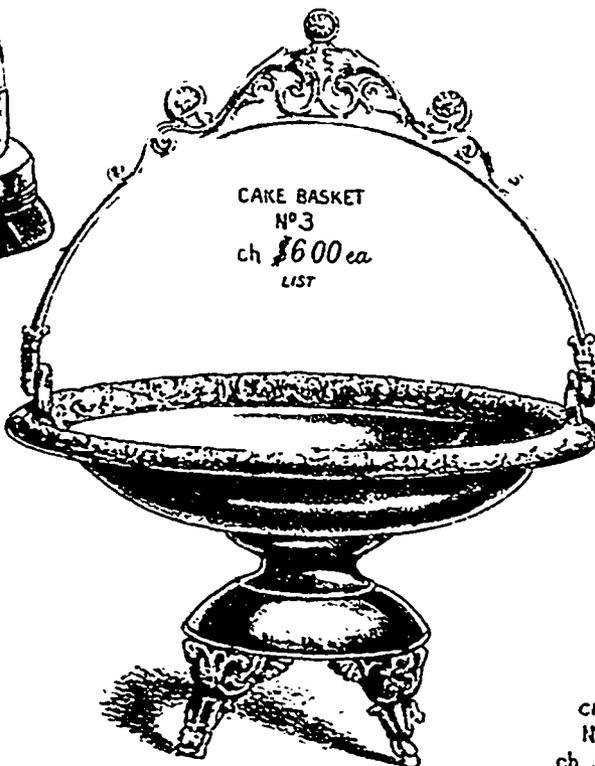


ch: \$3.50 ea
LIST

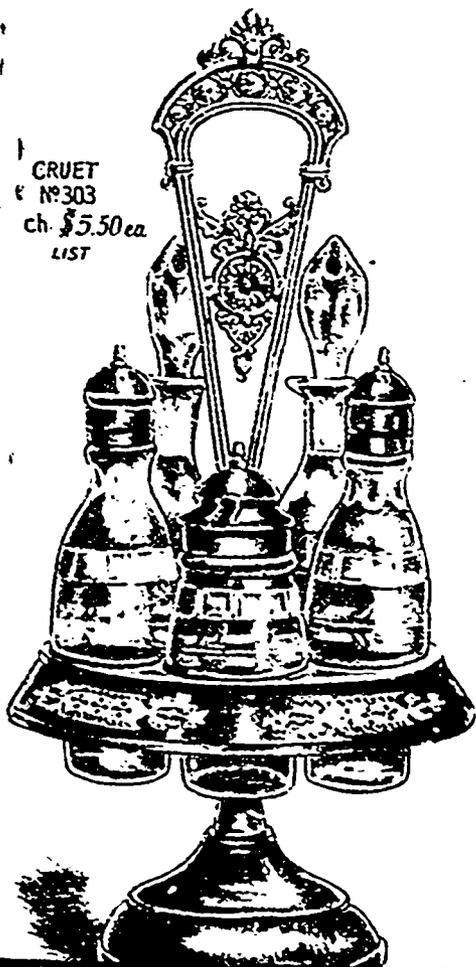
CRUET
No 209.
\$4.50 ea
LIST



CAKE BASKET
No 3
ch \$6.00 ea
LIST



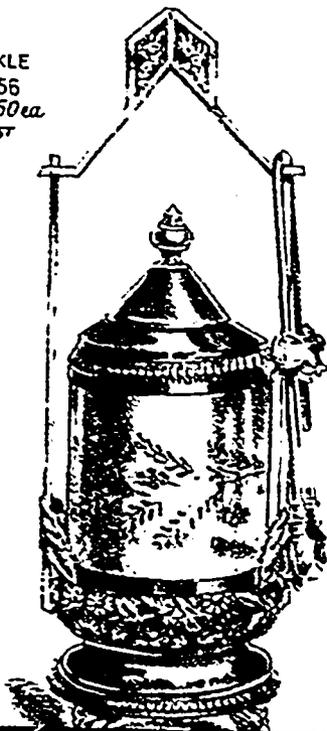
CRUET
No 303
ch \$5.50 ea
LIST



CRUET
No 404
ch \$5.50 ea
LIST

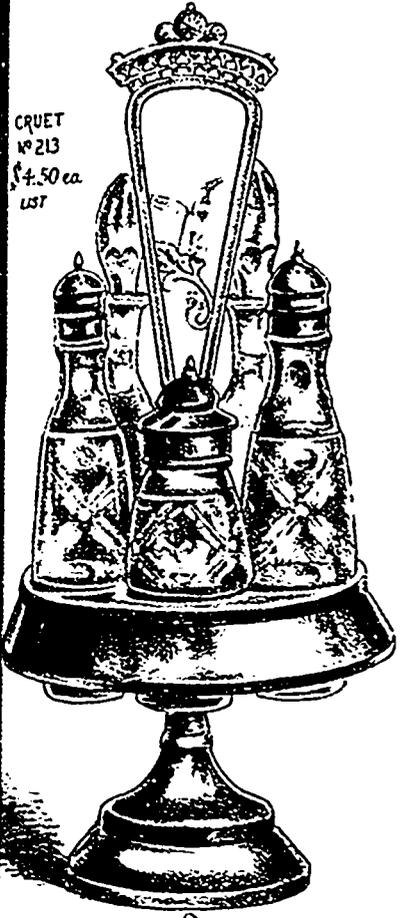


PICKLE
No 56
\$7.50 ea
LIST



SPECIAL GOODS FOR SALE BY
ZIMMERMAN McNAUGHT & LOWE TORONTO

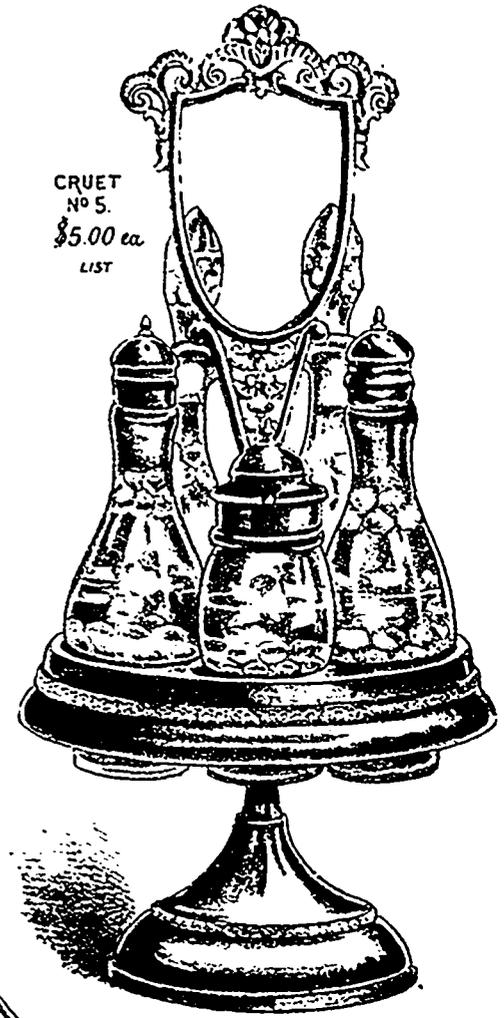
CRUET
No 213
\$4.50 ea.
LIST



PICKLE
No 58.
\$4.00 ea.
LIST



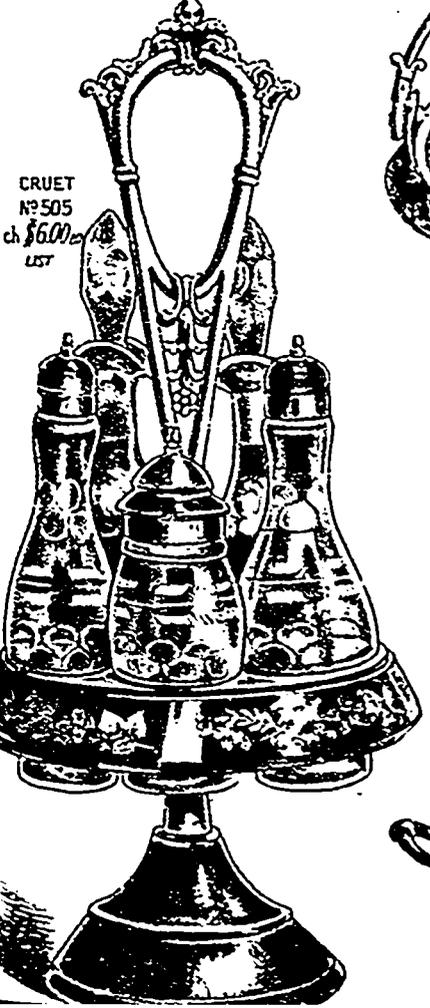
CRUET
No 5.
\$5.00 ea.
LIST



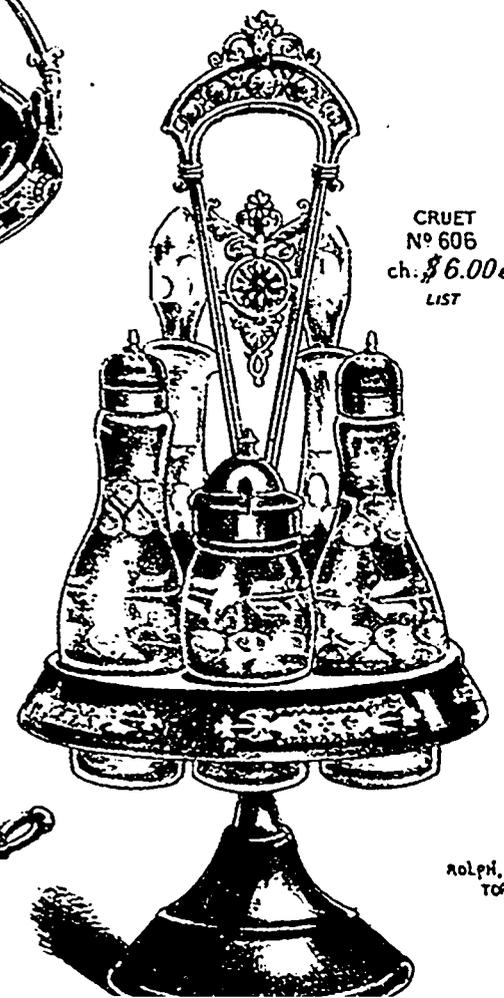
CAKE BASKET
No 4.
ch. \$5.00 ea.
LIST



CRUET
No 505
ch. \$6.00 ea.
LIST

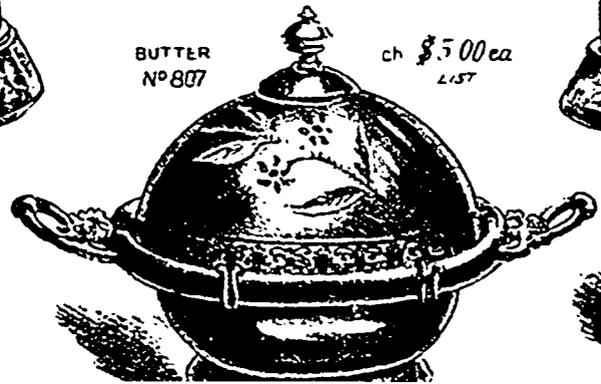


CRUET
No 606
ch. \$6.00 ea.
LIST



BUTTER
No 807

ch. \$5.00 ea.
LIST



SOMETHING NEW IN GOLD CASES

We would call the attention of the Trade to our

10 Karat Gold Cases.



These goods are made in every Style and Size to fit the Waltham Movements, and are manufactured in the following way. The outside, or wearing surface, is 14 karat gold. The inside, or not exposed surface, is 8 karat gold, and when taken together the case will assay 10 karat. Thus possessing every quality of a much higher grade of case, and for Style, Finish and Durability are FAR SUPERIOR TO ANY OTHER THAT IS OFFERED TO THE TRADE AT THE SAME PRICE.

FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING JOBBERS IN CANADA.

Robbins & Appleton,

SOLE AGENTS,

New York. Boston. Chicago. London, E. Sidney, N.S.W.

CURIOUS DIAMOND STORY.

Rubies and diamonds may be bought too dearly at Rome. In March, 1879, Count Telfener paid a Roman jeweler 55,000 francs for a necklace of diamonds and rubies, the latter being valued at 800 francs the karat; but when the Count went to Paris he found, to his surprise, that the rubies were only worth 200 francs the karat. He accordingly taxed the jeweler with deceit, and demanded the restoration of his money. The jeweler consented to take back the necklace, and to give promissory notes at three months' date for the money to be refunded, with the condition that the bills should be renewed if the necklace was not sold before maturity. At the expiration of the three months, the bills being unpaid, were protested, and Count Telfener took legal proceedings against the jeweler. These proceedings failed in the Tribunal of Commerce, and the Count was sentenced to pay the costs. He then tried the criminal side, and failed again, for the magistrates, after ordering the necklace to be impounded, decided that there was no punishable offence committed. The jeweler, thus far triumphant, next brought an action against Telfener for compensation for the damages, moral and material, suffered in consequence of the protest of the bills, the criminal action, and the impounding of the necklace, and he succeeded in obtaining a decree of 12,000 francs, in compensation for the moral injuries caused by the protesting of the bills and the penal action, the damages for the impounding of the necklace being reserved for a separate trial. Upon the hearing of the case by the Court of Appeal, the sentence of the inferior tribunal was set aside on the ground that the jeweler had himself to blame in part for the inconvenience he suffered, and that the sequestration or impounding of the necklace was the act not of Count Telfener, but of the magistrate. The jeweler pays the cost of the last, and the Count pays that of the earlier trials, Count Telfener remains without the necklace, and, for some time at least, without his 55,000 francs.—*Er.*

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE TRADER.

DEAR SIR.—In one of the numbers of THE TRADER you invite correspondence from the trade, which is my excuse for trou-

ling you with my grievances; for be it known that I am a man with a grievance, as the following will show.

Be it known that our village contains nearly two thousand inhabitants, we are blessed with the following amount of business, viz.: two foundries, three mills, one tannery, two sash and door factories, two undertakers, two watchmakers, two druggists, two butchers, two shoemakers, four taverns, four blacksmiths, two waggonmakers, one tinmith, two book stores, and two bakers, also eight general stores. Some of them are stores who sell everything from a plug of tobacco to a ladies or gent's gold watch, which constitutes the grievance. Now, sir, I would like to know if there is not some way that can be adopted to prevent our business being so much cut up. It is impossible to live. One druggist sells electro-plate ware and fancy goods, the other sells jewelry. One general store keeps electro-plate ware and jewelry, another grocer keeps electro-plate ware and cutlery, and if he knows of any member of his church who wants a watch, he will try to sell him one. Among the other stores there are three or four who sell more or less jewelry.

Now, sir, what I want to know is, if there cannot be some means devised to keep the trade more in the hands of regular dealers. I do not know that it would be any use to boycott those wholesale houses who sell to any one. But I think it would be a good plan to form a league and petition the government to put a license on all who sell clocks, watches and jewelry. Will you please give us some advice in THE TRADER, and will not some one else speak, for it is time, in my opinion, that something was done, as I suppose other places are just as bad as we are. Hoping you will forgive my trespassing on your valuable space.

I remain yours, &c.,

THE MAN WITH A GRIEVANCE.

BUSINESS CHANGES FOR NOVEMBER.

Mrs. Diesfeld, jeweler, Port Perry, burned out. Laing & Meharry, hardware, Port Perry, burned out. Horsman & Co., hardware, Winnipeg, out of business. Price & Glover, hardware, Aylmer, dissolved. Glover continues. R. Rutledge & Co., jewelers, Montreal, dissolved. Birks, Henry & Co., jewelers, Montreal, style, now-Birks & Co. C. J. Armstrong, hardware, Aurora, given up business. "Bullock Hardware Co.," Otterville, assigned in trust. Ward & Crawford, hardware, Arkona,

dissolved. A. Ward continues. Gardner & Craddock, hardware, Watford, dissolved. W. A. Gardner continues. John Woltz, jeweler, Winnipeg, stock sold by sheriff for 56 cents on the dollar. R. Shaw, jeweler, Clifford, dead.

BUSINESS NOTES.

"TELEGRAPH BLUE" is a new color. It is the shade of a man's face when he gets a despatch from his broker asking for more margin.

THE many friends of Mr. A. S. Murray, the well-known jeweler, of London, Ont., will be pleased to know that he is able to be out again, and is now attending to business as usual.

NOVEMBER trade has not been so good as was anticipated, probably on account of the bad state of the roads. It is, however, thought that December trade will be lively enough to make up for it.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. W. P. Cooke, jeweler, of Port Arthur, who has been prostrated with a severe attack of typhoid fever, is up again and expects to be as well as ever very soon.

WE had a flying visit from Mr. C. M. Fogg, of the firm of C. N. Thorpe & Co., makers of the Keystone and Boss cases. Mr. Fogg reports trade in their line booming in the United States, and that they are unable to keep up with their orders.

THE Allan line steamer, *Peruvian*, on Saturday, 24th November, was the last of the Allan line mail steamers via the St. Lawrence this year. After this the mail steamers will sail from Portland every Thursday, and will call at Halifax every Saturday for the passengers and mails.

THE Otter Sweeper Co., of Otterville, is in difficulties, and shareholders think of winding up its affairs and distributing the assets. Outside liabilities are not large. The company manufactured bicycles, children's carriages and carpet sweepers. The trouble is attributed to inefficient management.

WE learn that in the case of Stewart, Dawson & Co., whose consignment of imported watches was recently seized by the local Customs Authorities, the Minister of Customs has decided that the goods were undervalued by twenty per cent. In addition to paying this amount of extraduty the firm are mulcted in a fine of fifty per cent. on the entire value of the consignment for the undervaluation. Later on we may have something further to say about this class of traders, their goods, and their method of doing business.

IN spite of our warning two months ago many American Manufacturers and Exporters neglect to write across the foot of their invoice "certified correct" and sign the firm's name below. In some cases this arises from ignorance, in others from carelessness, but from whatever cause it may arise, the result is the same to the importer, he can't pass his goods through the Customs until the invoice is thus certified by the shipper. American trade journals who want to do something for their patrons in the manufacturing line should draw their attention to this alteration in the Canadian Customs regulations.

SAYS the *Montreal Times*, "There is a mix-

SIMPSON, HALL, MILLER & CO.,

WALLINGFORD, CONN.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

Artistic and Useful Hollow Ware,

ELECTRO PLATED UPON FINE HARD WHITE METAL.

There is nothing in Designing, Ornamentation or Manufacturing which our artists and workmen cannot produce.

Our Facilities for Executing Fine Work are Unexcelled.

Our Assortment is Suitable for the Best Trade.

We carry a stock of manufactured goods sufficient to meet the demands of the largest trade.



Spoons, Forks, etc., plated upon the Finest Nickel Silver in

Extra, Double, Triple, and Sectional Plate.

Full lines of over

Forty Staple and Fancy Pieces

in each Pattern in Geneva, St. James, Countess, Windsor, Oval Thread, etc. Made under the supervision, and quality guaranteed, and controlled by Wm. Rogers, formerly of Hartford and Meriden. (Wm. Rogers, Sr., died 1873.)

WM. ROGERS,
Wallingford, Conn

No connection with any concern in Waterbury, Meriden or Hartford using name of Rogers in any form

FACTORIES: WALLINGFORD, CONN., U.S. AND MONTREAL, CANADA.

ture of simplicity and check about the letter which we print below, that is entertaining. It is printed in the New York Times as an unsolicited letter received the other day by a firm in St Joseph, Mo. "I would like to travel and sell glassware for you. I am sixteen and a half years of age. I have got the cheek to sell goods. The way to sell goods is to show the man your goods and tell him your price. Write soon and state salary that you will give and expenses, and tell me what section of the country you want me to work in." It appears to us that this youngster is pretty much the same as a lot of jewelry trunk-peddlers who are cropping up in Canada at present. They certainly have the cheek and about as much knowledge as this young man was nonest enough to boast of.

H. VINEBURG, who ran clothing stores in Cornwall and Arnprior, had the idea that any person could run a jewelry business and therefore started that branch in connection with his other. The result, however, has again proved the folly of a man going into a business he doesn't understand, for, without doing the regular local jewelers, who thoroughly understand their trade, any harm, he has been "hoist with his own petard" and become a bankrupt. His stock was lately sold out and will only pay some 21 cents on the dollar. We understand a prominent Montreal jobbing jewelry firm is in for some \$600, and it is needless to say they have not much sympathy amongst the local jewelers.

THE age moves slowly after all. They have had twenty-four hour clocks in Italy for many years, and on this side of the ocean people are only now approaching the subject, and even that they are doing with marked hesitation. One of the Detroit papers has adopted the twenty four hour system, but the change will be apt to mystify its readers, who have to make a mental calculation as to what fifteen and sixteen o'clock mean. Much of the difficulty in making the change would be avoided if it were begun by having the figures up to twenty-four painted under the other figures on the dials of the watches and clocks. But it is likely that the people of this country will go on in the old fashion of distinguishing the hours by A.M., and P.M. It would sound simply terrible if a person were to stay out till twenty-three or twenty-four o'clock.

THE fire in Port Perry, Ont., last week, seems to have been a most disastrous thing for that town, and proves once again the necessity for adequate protection against the ravages of this devouring element. The experience of recent years has been that in small towns, built mostly of wood, when once a fire gets fairly under way a general sweep, is made, and this holds good in the case of the Port Perry fire, probably more than half of the places of business being destroyed. Mr. W. H. McCaw, jeweler, was fortunate enough to escape, owing to the presence of a lane between his store and the fire, and the fact that the wall of the burning building next the lane fell inwards instead of outwards. Mrs. Diesfield was not so fortunate, as she lost her shop, valued at \$3,000, insured for \$2,000, and all her stock, on which it appears there was no insurance. This latter

fact is to be very much regretted, and although it was a costly oversight on her part, Mrs. Diesfield will have the sympathy of the entire trade.

BURGLARY.—We are sorry to learn that Mr. G. L. Darling, the well-known jeweler of Simcoe, had his safe blown open and its contents, amounting to about \$12,000 abstracted. From the skillful way in which the burglars went about their business it is probable that they are experienced cracksmen from the United States, who, finding their own country too hot for them, are trying to make their enforced stay in Canada as profitable as possible. We trust that before they go much longer some good citizen will, with the help of a revolver, let a little Canadian daylight through them, or that they may find their way down to Kingston penitentiary for a term of years. Mr. Darling has the sympathy of the entire trade and we sincerely trust that the scoundrels may not only be brought to justice, but that Mr. Darling may be successful in getting the goods back. So far this does not seem probable, for although three fellows have been arrested on suspicion, it is questionable whether the police are on the right track or not.

MR Mackenzie Bowell, the Minister of Customs, having returned to Ottawa, will probably stir up Mr. Johnston, his deputy, and Mr. Fraser, the appraiser, and instruct them to do less cheese-pairing in dealing with the goods brought in by importers. It is a mistake to deal with the wholesale merchants of the country as if they were a band of smugglers, intent on getting everything into this country without paying the customs duty. Mr. Johnston is described as being a fussy old official, ripe for superannuation, and Mr. Fraser is accused of not understanding the duties which he is called upon to perform, and giving decisions that are directly opposed to each other. Mr. Bowell appears to think that if there are any grievances they grow out of the customs laws and these cannot be amended except by parliament. The importers however think differently, contending that the officials at Ottawa who interpret the laws are to blame, and that vexatious and conflicting interpretations are made, the result being to seriously interfere with the importation of goods without in the least benefiting the public treasury. The Ottawa officials will no doubt get a stirring up.

ANOTHER BURGLARY.—We are also sorry to report that on the night of the 17th November the jewelry store of Mr. James Trotter, Galt, Ont., was entered by burglars, and goods consisting of gold and silver watches, sets of jewelry, rings and chains to the value of about \$7000 stolen, also \$120 in cash. Entrance was obtained from the rear of the store by boring a number of auger holes in the outer and inner doors, knocking a piece out, making a hole sufficient to admit a man's body. The door was drilled and the lock punched on the safe, which contained the money and the most valuable property, all of which was taken. The burglars outside operations were hidden by a building in a back lane, with an entrance to the back part of the store. The door of this building was locked by the burglars from inside, preventing suspicion on the part of the night watchman, who tries all the doors every

half hour. Their inside operations on the safe were well-screened by the counter and show cases. Following, as this one does, so closely upon the heels of the Simcoe burglary, it is quite apparent that the gang of burglars now in Canada are bound to make a clear sweep of every valuable jewelry stock they can safely manage. Mr. Trotter's store was apparently well-protected, and his safe was a large, fire-proof one, of first-class make. The result however shows that when skillful burglars have a chance to operate in quiet, they can very easily secure goods thus protected. With the trade generally, we sympathise with Mr. Trotter in the loss of his honestly acquired wealth, and we trust that the perpetrators may speedily be brought to book.

SIMON P. Kleiser, the well-known retail jeweler of Toronto, has succeeded in acquiring a considerable amount of unenviable notoriety lately. It appears that someone owed Simon P. an account, and that either not being able or willing to pay it in cash, induced him to take a faro table and appertenances, for the amount. Having got the material for a faro bank, S. P. seems to have been persuaded by some friend that all he had to do to secure a fortune was to run his "little machine" and become its banker himself. As pictured by the persuasive tongue of his friend, it was a soft thing, and like Col Sellars, S. P. became intoxicated with the idea that there was "millions in it." Well, the bank finally got under way, and several young fellows about town who were known to have money and not averse to "putting it up," were invited to patronize the establishment and try their fortunes. Strange to say these people won every night until at last Simon P.'s furls ran dry and the bank broke. This almost unprecedented ending of a presumably prosperous speculation seems to have brought Simon to his senses, for we very soon find him invoking the aid of the police magistrate to help him in getting his lost money back. If the breaking of the bank was strange this was a stranger incident, for it now became apparent to the curious public that instead of plucking the pigeons as he had intended, the pigeons plucked him. The true inwardness of the matter seems to have been, that the friend who advised and helped him to start the bank really stood in with the pigeons, and that poor Simon P., instead of making a tool of them was himself made a tool of. As the case appeared at the Police Court, Kleiser cut but a sorry figure in the transaction, a would-be gambler, without either nerve or experience, he has made himself a laughing stock for the public benefit. It is to be hoped that Mr. Kleiser has learned a practical lesson by his experience in the gambling line, and that in future he will give it a wide berth.

THE ALLEGED CUSTOMS FRAUDS in Montreal are creating a good deal of excitement among business circles in that city at present. We give below an account of the seizure, given by the *Asst's* Montreal correspondent, without endorsing it in any way, as we are up to the present time without full information regarding it. We trust, however, that Messrs. Jones & Co. may be able to clear themselves fully from the charge now made:—"There is a great

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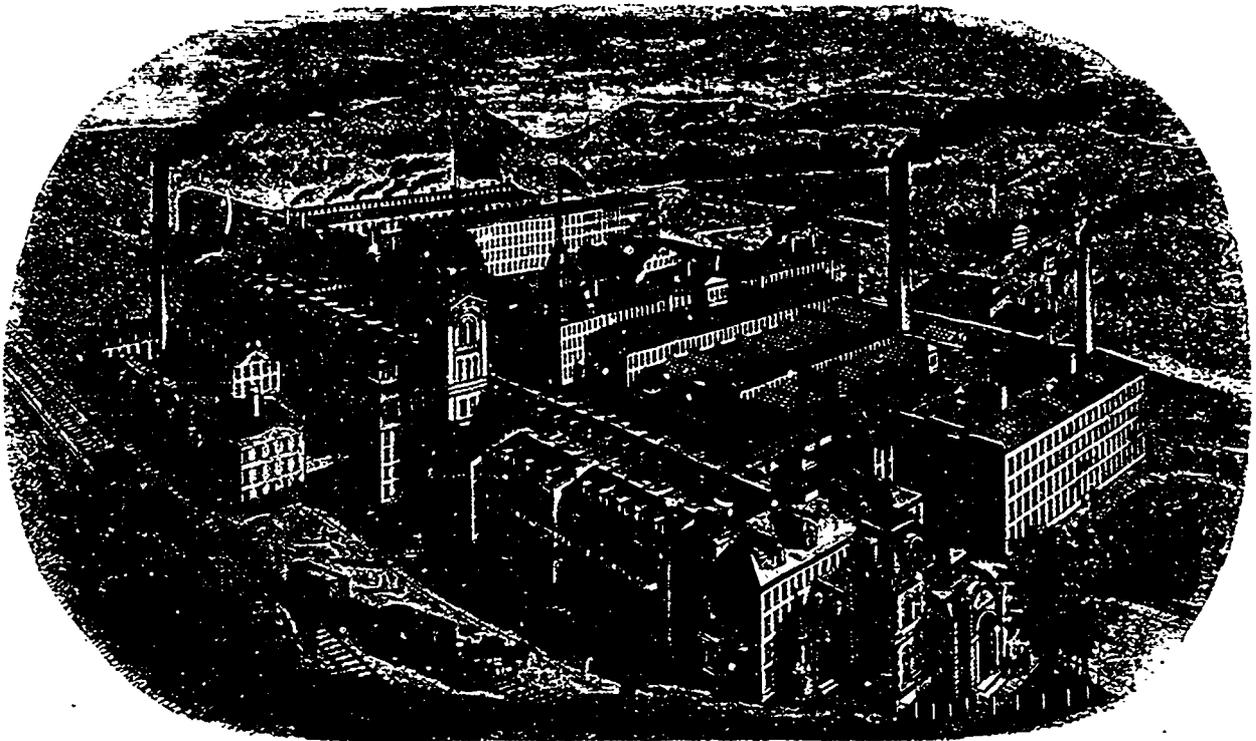
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WAREHOUSES: Chicago, Ill., San Francisco, Cal., London, Eng.



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OBSERVE
 this Trade Mark is stamped on all Hollow
 Ware of our manufacture.

TRADE OBSERVE
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The A I Goods are Standard Heavy Plate, and XII signifies that in addition the articles have an extra quantity of Silver on all the parts most exposed to wear.

The Meriden Britannia Company have been awarded the highest premiums wherever exhibited, from the WORLD'S FAIR, 1863, to the PRESENT TIME, and the high reputation of our Goods throughout the world has induced other makers to imitate our Trade Marks and name as well as our designs, and as many of our patrons have, through a similarity of names, purchased inferior goods under the impression that they were our manufacture, we are compelled to ask especial attention to our Trade Marks.

THE FACT THAT OUR NAME AND TRADE MARKS ARE BEING SO CLOSELY IMITATED SHOULD BE A SUFFICIENT GUARANTEE TO THE PUBLIC THAT OUR WARES ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

WE RE-PLATE OLD WORK AND MAKE IT EQUAL TO NEW.

deal of interest taken here by manufacturers and wholesale firms engaged in paper, clock, and fancy goods manufacturing and importing in the late seizures made by the Customs authorities of a consignment of paper from Springfield, Mass., and clocks from Waterbury, Conn. In interviews with members of those trades here to day your correspondent elicited a good deal of interesting information as to how difficult it is to prevent the Americans flooding this market to the prejudice of local manufacturers and honest importers with their goods got in surreptitiously. This appears to be done by the most disreputable tricks and manipulations by the Yankee manufacturers, with the aid of unscrupulous importers and dealers here, who become leagued together to throw dust in the eyes of the Customs officials and thereby grossly defraud the revenue. With respect to the clock seized in Messrs. John H. Jones & Co.'s establishment, and which the local papers say are only worth three hundred dollars, I am assured on the best authority they are worth more than \$1,000, and besides, there is a further claim made by the Customs for \$8,000 additional for consignments which the firm received during the present year, and which have been similarly entered to the last consignment, far below the domestic value in Waterbury. The *modus operandi*, I am credibly informed, by which the Dominion Government has been systematically defrauded on clocks for years past coming in here, is one of the boldest and most unblushing schemes that has ever been resorted to anywhere to steal a march upon the officials of the Customs of any country. It is the custom in America for each manufacturer of clocks to publish a catalogue with an engraving of each clock manufactured, stating its name, giving all particulars with the price attached thereto. As a matter of course the clocks get celebrated through being advertised under their particular names, and are eagerly sought for by those who are wanting to purchase such useful articles. Now the mode adopted to conceal the actual value of the clocks at Waterbury, intended for export in Canada, is to change the names of the clocks by placing printed slips over the headings in the catalogues, giving entirely different names, and by this means throwing the appraiser of the customs into the dark as to the actual value of the clocks, as they are guided by the catalogues. Of course false invoices at much less than the domestic price across the border are supplied to the accomplices in the Dominion for passing the entries in the Customs.

It is stated that the Government has the authority to go back on the importers' consignments for three years past, which is the legal limit for claiming unpaid duty, but in the case of Messrs Jones & Co., they have resolved on making the firm account for only one year, as it would be difficult to trace the goods at this distance of time. It is said by the most responsible authority that the customs has obtained documents written by the importer exposing fully his part in the profitable play that has been carried on successfully so long. It will be a matter of greatest satisfaction to the local firms who have been conducting their business fairly and squarely if this unjust competition is put an end to altogether."

WORKSHOP NOTES.

TO RESTORE BURNT STEEL.—Borax, 3 ozs., sal ammoniac, 8 ozs., prussiate of potash, 3 ozs., blue clay, 2 ozs.; resin, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; water, 1 gill, alcohol, 1 gill. Put all on the fire and simmer till it dries to powder. The steel is to be heated, dipped in this powder, and afterward hammered.

POLISHING WHEELS.—Take a flat burnishing file, warm it over a spirit lamp, and coat it lightly with bees-wax. When cold, wipe off as much of the wax as can readily be removed, and with your file thus prepared, polish the wheel, resting the latter while polishing on a piece of cork. The finish produced will be equal to the first buff polish, while there will be no clogging, and the edges of the arms and teeth will remain perfectly square.

CROCUS POLISHING POWDER.—Culinary salt sulphate of iron (iron vitriol) are well-mixed in a mortar. The mixture is then put into a shallow crucible, and exposed to a red heat; vapour escapes, and the mass fuses. When no more vapour escapes, remove the crucible and let it cool. The colour of the oxide of iron produced, if the fire has been too high, it becomes black. The mass when cold is to be pulverised and washed, to separate the sulphate of soda. The crocus powder is then to be submitted to a process of careful elutriation, and the finer particles reserved for the most delicate work. An excellent powder for applying to razor strops is made by igniting together in a crucible, equal parts of well-dried green vitriol and common salt. The heat must be slowly raised and well-raised, otherwise, the material will boil over in a pasty state and be lost. When well-made, out of contact with the air, it has the brilliant aspect of black lead. It requires to be ground and elutriated, after which it affords, on drying, an infallible powder, that may either be applied on a strop or smooth buff leather, or mixed up with hog's lard or tallow into a stiff cerate.

OTHER NOTES.

The question of what becomes of pins has often been mooted but never answered. Yet it certainly is peculiar that an article of every day use which is manufactured in numerous quantities, should disappear in equal proportion. It is estimated no less than 50,000,000 pins are daily manufactured in England and Dublin, and that out of this number 37,000,000 are produced in Birmingham alone, thus leaving 13,000,000 for the production of Dublin, Stroud and London. The weight of wire, both iron and brass, consumed for this purpose is 1,275 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons every year.

A new and curious application of the science of photography has been made at the royal gun factories in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, where some very successful plates have been taken showing defects in the bores of guns sent back for examination after trials. The electric light powerful lenses, and mirrors are employed for this purpose. Minute flaws in the metal undetected by the usual gutta-serena impressions have been rendered clear to the eye by these photographs, and they are likely to prove of essential service.

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STONES POLISHED & MOUNTED

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of all kinds in Stock.

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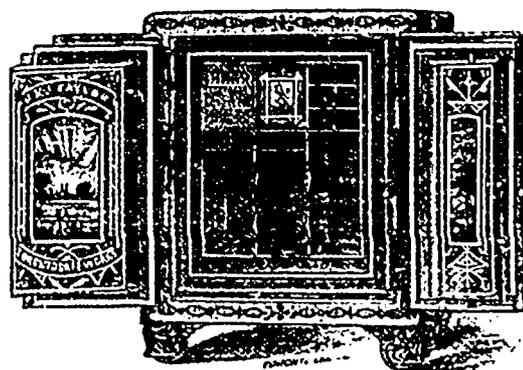
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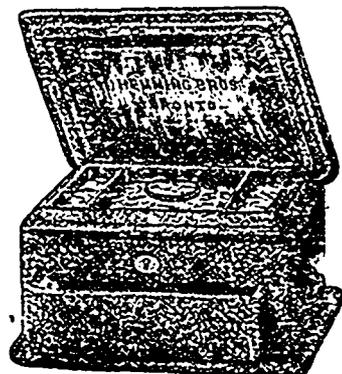
PLUSH, VELVET

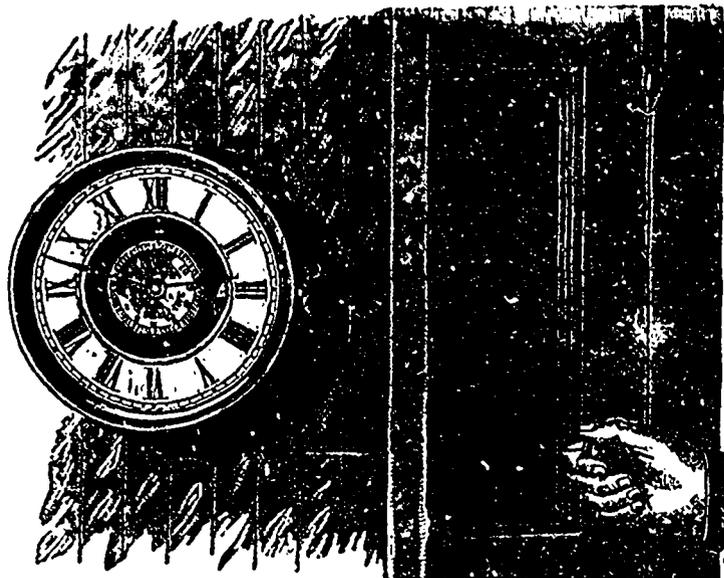
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