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THE TRADER.

"A Journal devoted to the interests of the Hardware and Jewelry Trades."

VOL. 2.

TORONTO, JUNE, 1881.

NO. 10



WALTHAM WATCHES!



LEE & CHILLAS,

TORONTO,

Wholesale Agents FOR Canada

Beget to notify The Trade that they have now in stock a full
assortment of all grades of

MOVEMENTS,

SILVER AND GOLD CASES,



AND CAN FILL ALL

ORDERS FROM STOCK.



LEE & CHILLAS, - WHOLESALE JEWELLERS,

4 Wellington Street West, Toronto.

P. W. ELLIS. R. Y. ELLIS. M. C. ELLIS.

P. W. ELLIS & CO.,**No. 31 KING ST. EAST, TORONTO,****Manufacturing Jewelers, Watchmakers
Engravers, Importers & Jobbers.**

AMERICAN JEWELRY,

**Watchmakers', Jewelers' and Engravers' Tools,
Materials, Lathes and General Supplies.**

SILK GUARDS, SILK ALBERTS, DIAMONDS, REAL & IMITATION STONES.

IMPROVEMENT OF MANUFACTURING FACILITIES.—We beg to announce, that in consequence of the constantly growing demand for our goods, we have again largely improved our facilities for manufacturing by addition of a Gas Engine running all machinery by Power, also have added several improved appliances to aid us in our finishing department which will enable us to have all work finished equal in every respect to anything produced.

ELECTRO PLATING AND GILDING.—We have just brought out from Birmingham a most experienced hand well versed in all branches of Electro Plating, Gilding &c., and, are now prepared to do work in that line in first-class style and at the lowest rates. As to Electro Silver Plating large articles we intend shortly to complete arrangements so that we will be prepared to solicit orders in that line as well.

GOLD CHAINS.—Our facilities now for production of Chains in every line in 10 and 15 kt. standard qualities is as perfect as machinery and skilled labour can make it. We have brought to our factory at considerable expense a first-class designer of patterns so that henceforth our goods will possess an entire originality of our own. All patterns for Spring Trade entirely new, many designs are very elegant; our prices will be the same rate per owt. for any design desired. All Qualities Guaranteed and Prices the Lowest.

AMERICAN JEWELLERY.—Our Mr. M. C. Ellis has just returned from New York, Providence and Attleboro Markets, where he has taken much pains in selecting the latest and newest goods to be found, all goods have been purchased for Cash thus commanding the closest prices in every line. Our stock is complete in Vest, Neck, and long Rolled Plate Chains, quality guaranteed, the best made same in Fire Gilt chains, also Bracelets, Locketts, New Acme Sleeve Buttons the latest improvement over the separable, Charms, Seals, Scarf Pins, Lace or Shawl Pins, Broaches, Earrings, Sets, Electro and S.S. Goods, and obtained sole control of the finest Onyx and imitation Onyx goods produced. Circulars will shortly be sent of the New East Lake Designs. Our stock of novelties in every line is very choice.

TOOL AND MATERIAL DEPARTMENTS.—We have just received the largest importation direct from Switzerland in this line ever brought to Canada, our stock will be absolutely complete in every department comprising the most complete stock of Silk Guards, Alberts, in pure Silk, Silk and Woollen, and Mounted Guards, also the only line of pure Woollen Guards in this market. White Metal Alberts in great variety, Morocco Cases from cheapest to most expensive goods for Rings, Sets, Locketts, Earrings, Broaches, Necklaces, Scarf Pins, Buttons Bracelets, Suits and Watches.

Our new improved Swiss Foot Lathe on the American principle, Nickel Plated with attachments for everything in Watch-making and at prices beyond competition, we have sole control in Canada for these goods. Universal Lathes 5 actions, slide rests and improved Cutters, Rounding Machines, improved Jacot Lathes to work with hand, and an endless variety of new tools of every description all Nickel Plated specially to Order. In Glasses we are complete in 1-16 and $\frac{1}{4}$ sizes of improved quality very fine. Concaves, Mi-concaves, Bulls Eyes for Verge Watches, high Lunettes and demi-dial. Our Stock is now without exception the largest and finest ever held in Toronto.

Our Mr. M. C. and C. S. Ellis, will immediately visit all our Customers East and West with such stocks as will well repay their waiting.

THE TRADER.

TORONTO, ONTARIO, JUNE, 1881.

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

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TORONTO,—PAST AND PRESENT.

Ever since the census enumerators completed their rounds, the people of Toronto have been speculating upon the city's growth during the last decade, and its present population. So far, any figures put forward are, of course, unofficial, and therefore merely conjectures, but enough has leaked out to fairly warrant its assuming that at the present time this city contains a population of 90,000 souls, or thereabouts.

Toronto is not by any means an old city, in fact it was little better than a village half a century ago, and its solid and rapid growth is one of the many things of which Canadians have right to be proud. The causes of Toronto's prosperity are not far to seek, however, and the more closely they are examined, the more abundantly do they redound to the honor of those good men and true, who saw, even in the early youth of "Little Muddy York," the germ of the future Queen City of the West.

With a prescience rarely equalled the early fathers of this city saw that to make it prosperous it required to be the commercial capital of the province in which it was situated, and to this end they pioneered and encouraged the building of railways and subsidized these indispensable auxiliaries with a liberal hand. To the magnificent railroad system which radiates from it in every direction on its landward side, Toronto owes no small share of its prosperity, for it has been the means of building up a wholesale trade and making it a distributing point second to none in this country. Twenty years ago the whole sale houses of Toronto could be counted upon the fingers of one's hands; to-day

they run close on to the four figures in numerical notation, and are increasing more rapidly than ever before.

Again the possession of one of the best harbours on Lake Ontario is of no small advantage to Toronto when the carrying trade of this province is in dispute. Between its railways and its magnificent water communications it is in a position to compete on more than equal terms with any other city in this province, and to this superiority of transportation its wonderful growth is in a large measure attributable.

We think Toronto has now reached a period in its history when its future is assured, and it only requires the continued persistance of its original liberal policy to make one of the largest and most influential cities on this continent.

The following table, showing the population of Toronto in 1824 and its subsequent growth will be found interesting.

Year.	Time since last census.	Population.	Increase.	Rate.
1824.....		1,625		
1831.....	7	3,069	2,094	135
1841.....	10	14,429	10,290	205
1851.....	10	30,775	16,226	115
1861.....	10	44,621	14,046	45
1871.....	10	56,092	11,271	22

THE BATTLE OF THE TARIFFS.

The commercial policy of Protection is not only selfish but aggressive, therefore we are scarcely surprised when we hear that another country has in self-defence been forced to join the ranks of those who support this theory of commercial or political economy.

In the United States, with twenty years of trial, protection has become so deeply rooted into the politics of the country as to have become part and parcel of the creed of both political parties. Canada, although only a recent convert to this system of commercial theology, has proved itself an apt pupil, and at present (so its upholders claim) presents a fine example of the benefits of this great panacea.

By the latest advices we learn that France, a country long regarded by political economists as one of the chief bulwarks of free trade, has gone over to the enemy, and now proposes to adopt the protective policy in its most extreme or advanced form. The great question of interest seems now to be, "how will this move on the part of France affect the free trade principles of England?"

There can be no doubt whatever, that the adoption of a protective policy on the part of France will mean a very

considerable decrease in their purchase of English manufactures, which last year reached the enormous figures of \$77,500,000. Whether this loss of trade will affect the latter's free trade principles is a question that time only can solve, but there can be no question whatever that it is shaping the popular mind in the direction of a retaliatory policy in the matter of tariffs. Indeed we can hardly doubt but that before many years have elapsed, England will, in self-defence, be compelled to put a protective duty upon foreign manufactures entering her ports for consumption within her borders, for it can hardly be expected that she will allow the world at large to compete on equal terms in her home market, the only fair field of this kind she will then have left, while other nations deliberately frame their tariffs, so as to exclude her goods from their home markets. We say that it must come to this sooner or later if protectionist principles spread as they have been during the past decade, for year by year England is finding her markets greatly curtailed from this cause.

When that time comes we suppose that each country will manufacture for and have possession of its own home market, and export to foreign countries only such articles as those which by its natural advantages it is enabled to produce without fear of competition. In such a case we think the nations will be just about as well off as if they had no tariffs at all, and the inevitable result of such a policy will be another transition from extravagant protection to its free trade antithesis, in order to escape the financial panics which periodically disturb nations, no matter what commercial policy reigns supreme.

In the meantime the commercial duel between England and France will attract almost universal attention, and its result will have no small share in shaping the future commercial policy of the nations at large.

PARCEL POST.

We think the Post Master General would confer a great boon upon the general public if he would inaugurate a better system of delivery by parcel post. The present arrangement is good as far as it goes, its only fault is that it does not go far enough, and if the head of the post-office department could manage to

make some improvements in the direction of cheapening the rate, and carrying larger parcels, it would be a great boon to the public in general and the jewelry trade in particular. We think the time has come in Canada, when a ten and twenty cent parcel post might be introduced with advantage to the public, and profit to the department.

The charges made by the Express Companies, who have a monopoly of the small carrying trade, are so exorbitant that it would be but a simple act of justice on the part of the post office department, to deliver the public from their clutches in this particular at least. We understand that Mr. Fawcett, the English postmaster general, is introducing a cheap parcel post system in the English post offices, and, as the mother country leads the van in all such economic reforms, it is to be hoped that, if the experiment is successful, a similar system will be tried here. In the jewelry trade, such an arrangement would be highly appreciated, on account of the many small and valuable parcels that are continually passing between the wholesale and retail merchants, and it would at once form a safe and inexpensive method of transit for such parcels, that they do not now possess. The present rate of express charges, from twenty-five to forty cents, is a decided imposition, and the only way we can see of putting a stop to it, and giving the public a fair show, is for Government to take some such step as we have suggested above.

ENGLAND'S MANUFACTURES OF SILVER.

It is somewhat of an anomaly that a free trade country, such as England is supposed to be, should have clinging to the ship of State, such a barnacle as the duty or excise which is levied on her manufactures of sterling silver.

Not only is such a tax a direct violation of England's free trade principles, but it is a drawback to this branch of manufacture of the most serious description. Indeed, so seriously has this tax affected the plate trade, that Mr. Gladstone recently proposed the gradual abolition of the duty, year by year, until it was entirely extinguished. This proposal has been the cause of several meetings of the principal silver manufacturers of England, the result of which has been that acting in accordance with their representations, Mr. Gladstone has agreed

to withdraw the measure entirely for the present. The conclusion reached by these gentlemen, and in which the Premier seems to have concurred, was, that the gradual remission of the tax would prove unjust in its operation and incidence, both as regards the manufacturers and purchasers, whilst, at the same time there need not be the slightest difficulty either in granting a proportionate annual rebate, or in abolishing the charge at once and finally. The latter course, they all think to be the fairest and most advisable course to pursue, but, as Mr. Gladstone could not see his way clear to abolish it altogether, they preferred to have it remain as it was, to have any tinkering with it. One brief glance at the figures below, compiled by Mr. E. J. Watherson, of London, the well known advocate of the freedom of silver plate from taxation, shows that that trade is on the decline:

"The drawback, we may state, is allowed on plate exported. Prior to year 1710 no duty was paid on this class of plate, so that antique plate properly so-called was in no degree depreciated by the proposed alteration. From 1719 to 1758 the duty was 6*d.* per ounce. From 1758 to 1784 it was free. In the latter year the 6*d.* duty was reimposed, and was raised to 1*s.* in 1797, to 1*s.* 8*d.* in 1801, and to 1*s.* 6*d.* in 1825, since which time it has remained stationary."

Year ending March 31	Weight on which Duty was paid	Weight on which Drawback was allowed	Year ending March 31	Weight on which Duty was paid	Weight on which Drawback was allowed
	Oz.	Oz.		Oz.	Oz.
1855	991,260	129,440	1875	664,492	120,240
1856	663,423	120,453	1876	470,247	104,612
1857	504,707	141,240	1877	738,206	109,261
1858	663,440	165,147	1878	783,151	83,345
1859	601,640	116,146	1879	740,259	85,121

A further serious decline is shown by the returns to March, 1880 -viz., to 688,023 oz.; and Mr. Gladstone's statement in the House of Commons from which the amount of silver which has been paid to March 31, 1881, is 600,000 oz. Hence, therefore, in 20 years the amount has fallen by 400,000 oz., representing a wholesale trade of about 200,000*l.* per annum.

Comparing this declining exhibit of the silver trade in England, with the healthy and increasing trade of the United States, where the manufacture is free, we are forced to the conclusion that the time honored policy of England in regard to a government tax, and stamp,

is not only worthless as a guarantee of quality, but a serious drawback to the manufacture, without adding much to the revenue.

It has been fully demonstrated that under the American system, professional pride and self interest, are as reliable a guarantee as to quality, as any government trade mark in existence, while its freedom from taxation has given it an advantage over its English competitor, in the open market of the world, by cheapening the cost of production, that American manufacturers have not been slow to take advantage of. If English manufacturers even expect to be able to compete with their American competitors in this branch of industry, they will not only have to have the tax abolished, but to adopt a more modern system of manufacture and keep abreast of the times. If they can succeed in accomplishing these two things, they may expect a revival in their silver trade, for it is an established fact, that a country's consuming power for fine goods increases with its wealth, and, there can be no doubt but that the wealth of England is steadily increasing.

THE LONDON HORROR.

The terrible accident at London on the Queen's Birthday, by which nearly two hundred and fifty souls were hurried into eternity, is an event so appalling as to call forth at once our sympathies for the bereaved families, and our maledictions upon the avaricious wretches whose greed of gain made such a dreadful calamity possible. Both in respect of the number killed, and the dreadful circumstances attending their death, this London horror stands unparalleled in the history of Canadian accidents, and while it is our melancholy pleasure to offer our sympathies to the grief stricken mourners, it is also as much our duty to demand that justice be done upon those whose carelessness caused the bereavement, and that the law be so amended as to prevent as far as possible such an occurrence in the future. From the accounts given thus far, it is quite apparent that a great want of foresight was shown, or intentional risk was incurred in allowing so small a vessel to leave her dock with almost double her registered number of passengers.

In this respect the "Thames Navigation Company" are pretty much like all other corporations of a similar kind,

they are willing to take the risk, provided they can make money by so doing.

As far as Mr Parish, the Company, or the Captain of the ill-fated steamer, are concerned, we think the law may be safely left to vindicate itself in respect to their share in this dreadful affair; but, so far as the country at large is concerned, it has a lesson to draw from it which should not be thrown away.

In the first place, the number of passengers that pleasure boats are allowed to carry, should be plainly indicated by the Government inspectors, and the particulars posted up in some conspicuous place about the vessel itself, or the dock from which she starts.

In order to prevent overcrowding, the part of the dock where the boats take on their passengers should be fenced off, and the people admitted by a turnstile, so that when the necessary number have got inside the enclosure, the rest can easily be kept back until another boat comes along. This method is found to answer well at the New York and Brooklyn ferries, where they have twenty passengers to every one we have in this country.

Again, each vessel should be provided with a sufficient number of life preservers to give one to each passenger in case of accident, and these should not, as is commonly the case, be put away in almost inaccessible places, but be put in such positions upon all the decks that they can be made instantly available by the passengers.

In addition to a liberal supply of life preservers, each vessel should be compelled to carry upon her hurricane deck a number of "life rafts," so constructed that if she met with a sudden accident, they could be tumbled overboard without any loss of time, or danger of sinking. Any one who has ever seen a crew trying to launch a small boat in a heavy sea, knows how dangerous and uncertain the job is, but the launching of a raft is not only a speedy, but a safe thing, no matter what kind of a sea is running.

A further argument for the use of rafts on our pleasure boats is, that they are very hard to overturn, and if made of cork or other very light material, will float as many as can hold on to them. This is not the case with the life boats, so-called, that are commonly used upon our excursion and passenger vessels, and as was proven a few years ago, in the case of one of the Allan Mail Steamers,

running between Toronto and Montreal, so infrequently are they used, and so little do their crews know about working them, that in case of an emergency, (even upon smooth water), they are practically useless.

If those lessons can be practically taught by the recent disaster, it will not have been altogether unproductive of good results, but it is sad to think that the use of such ordinary safeguards as we have suggested above, have to be forced upon us by such a fearful sacrifice of human life.

Selected Matter.

WHERE AND HOW LANCASTER WATCHES ARE MADE.

Lancaster is justly proud of her industries, and among them all not one has carried her name further or established it more firmly than her watch factory. It was established and incorporated in 1874 as the Adams and Perry Watch Company of Lancaster, but from a variety of causes not necessary to detail in this connection it was reorganized on September 1, 1877, as the Lancaster Watch Company. The Company was a limited one, and on April, 1, 1879, the present organization was effected, and how well that organization succeeded will appear further on. An additional sum of \$100,000 was subscribed, swelling the aggregate investment to \$300,000. The present organization is officered as follows: President, John I. Hartman; Treasurer, John D. Skiles; Secretary, J. P. McCaskey; Directors, C. H. Bitner, A. Bitner, H. S. Gara, B. P. Miller, L. S. Hartman, D. G. Baker, J. B. Kauffman and B. Frank Breneman. These gentlemen are among the leading merchants and professional people of the city, and a wiser selection was never made by man than when they selected Mr. A. Bitner for Manager. Equally fortunate were the management in securing the services Mr. C. S. Moseley as Superintendent; an experience of thirty years in the leading watch factories of the world, many of which were spent as foreman at Waltham and Elgin, fitted him pre-eminently for this work.

THE FACTORY.

The Lancaster Watch Factory is built on a plot of ground comprising three and a half acres, situated on the western suburbs of the city, in close proximity to Wheatland, the former home of ex-President James Buchanan. The main building is a grand

and imposing structure, 140 feet in length, 85 feet in depth, three stories high in the wings, four stories in the centre, and surmounted by a symmetrical tower 70 feet in height. Although this tower is intended for a bell, the bell has not yet been hung and the employees are called to their work by a steam whistle. The entire building is of brick, painted drab, and is admirably lighted and ventilated. It is surrounded by a magnificent lawn, and the visitor to this section is at a loss which to admire the most—the umbrageous trees of Wheatland or the clean-out lawn of Lancaster's leading industrial establishment. The basement is occupied by the machine department, where all the delicate and intricate machinery used in the establishment is made, by the punching department, and by the pattern-making and gilding departments. The first story is subdivided into four departments as follows: The plate, screw, flat steel and train departments. The second story is occupied by the balance, the escape, the damasceening, the jeweling, the motion, the springing and the adjusting departments, and the third story (or fourth floor) for the finishing department. The dial manufacturing was formerly on the third story, but this is now found in a wing recently erected, and of which we shall write further on. The power is supplied by a thirty-horse-power engine and two boilers. The offices of the factory, two in number (one on each side of the main entrance), are beautifully papered, and for a distance of several feet from the floor wainscoted in north Carolina pine and walnut. They are richly furnished, have handsome gas fixtures, are heated by steam (as is the entire factory), and have communication by speaking trumpet with every room in the large building. In every part of the building, with the exception of the corridors and offices, the entire walls and ceilings are wainscoted in Carolina pine, completely excluding all dust.

It should be understood at the outset that only the movement of the watch is made in this factory. Originally, under the present organization, nine grades of watches were made, as follows. Stem-winding—Lancaster, nickel; Melrose, nickel; Lancaster, gilt; Keystone, gilt; Fulton, gilt; Franklin, gilt. Key-winding—Keystone, Fulton, Franklin. Now fourteen grades are made, the five following having been added. Stem-winding—West End, New Era; Record. Key-winding—West End, New Era. All of

these additions, except the Record, are gilt and that one exception is nickel.

ITS PRESENT AND ITS FUTURE.

There are at present three hundred employees in this factory, consisting of men, woman, girls and boys. Girls and boys are not taken under the age of 16 years, and a more intelligent, better kept or more tidy set of hands cannot be produced in the country. One-third of the employees are woman. On Thanksgiving Day it became necessary to put in an additional boiler, and when your correspondent visited the place this week he found a brick wing, fifty feet in length in course of erection in rear of the main building. During December 70 watches (or movements) were produced daily; this month they are averaging 100 movements daily. They cannot supply the demand, being now ten months behind their orders, and one order from England has remained unfilled for eighteen months. In the early spring other additions will be made to the main building, and by July 1 they fully expect to employ 500 persons, and by the 1st of January next 1000. These may look like big figures, but the demand for the watch warrants the estimate, and Manager Bitner has the judgment and nerve to carry it to a successful conclusion. It is the ultimate purpose of the present Managers to produce one thousand watches daily, and they will consummate it before another New Year dawns upon us.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

One of the secrets of success in this great industrial establishment is the reciprocity of good feeling which exists between the employers and the employed. The men, women and young folks feel as great a pride in the success of the works as do the Managers themselves. They make it their boast that they work in the Lancaster Watch Factory, and if the watches score a victory anywhere they, too, rejoice in it. And why should they not? Is it not by their skill, coupled with the good judgment of the management in getting the wares into a good market, that these successes are achieved? On Christmas Day Manager Bitner presented the foreman of each department in the factory with a handsome testimonial. It consisted of a neatly-printed congratulatory address to the employees, and pledging himself and the management to their interests so long as they should continue faithful to the interests of the Company. The testimonial was printed on white satin, bord-

ered and fringed with gold, and the affair created an era of good feeling that will be great and lasting in its beneficial results.

In addition to circulating hundreds of thousands of dollars annually among our merchants and trades-people, the watch factory has been the means of building up the western suburbs of the city. The Messrs. Bitner have not only built a beautiful villa, now tenanted by employees of the works, but all the streets leading to the vicinity of the factory have been built up within the past two years. Houses have sprung up as if by magic, and the western "addition to Lancaster," through the instrumentality of the watch factory, has come to be one of the most important factors in the city's enlightenment and consequent prosperity.—*Philadelphia Press*

THE DRUMMER.

There are few, indeed, outside of the commercial world, who are intimately acquainted with the seemingly brilliant life of the average travelling salesman, and none without practical experience can realize the most essential qualities necessary for success on the road. Notwithstanding, the general impression prevails that any one, with ordinary business capabilities, may readily become a successful drummer. That this idea is wholly incompatible can be seen from the fact that not only must a drummer be an excellent judge of human nature, at the same time possessed of much ready wit and a smooth tongue, but above all, great discretion in knowing when and how to use them.

In engaging a representative for the road, the utmost care is exercised in selecting a man who can fill the following requirements: neatness, honesty, sobriety, perseverance, patience, and besides, what is of greater importance, amiable under all circumstances. In fact, as near perfection as it is possible for a human being to attain. Hence the limited number, among the great army of drummers, who are in any way competent to represent a firm on the road and assume the responsibilities.

The average drummer, and more especially the young men, are careless and extravagant, and even regarded by many as being privileged characters, devoid of principle, whose only ambition, and in fact sole occupation, consists in sitting in a large arm-chair in front of some hotel, with a cigar in his mouth, and winking at the pretty girls.

Whatever faults the drummer possesses can be attributed to the influence of temptation such a calling affords. A man continually travelling has no home life, and everywhere he makes himself at home. Many imagine the life of a drummer a pleasant one. True, there is a certain charm in going from place to place and coming in contact with various kinds of people. Many incidents are encountered, and travelling abounds with adventures. After a few years of roaming, however, the charms disappear. All that was interesting or amusing begins to wane, and the drummer's life grows monotonous. It is then that he appreciates the comforts of a permanent home, and only pursues travelling in order to satisfy his appetite and passions.

The drummer seldom waits for an introduction, and when one drummer meets another they exchange cards, and, providing they are not in the same line, become friends. As a rule, the drummer is a jovial, good-natured, entertaining fellow, but, withal, he frequently suffers abuse and humiliation at the hands of uncivil merchants, who take delight in treating him with indifference, and even contempt, informing him in the most abrupt manner that "mercantile tramps" are not welcome, and a few go so far as to announce their meanness on a placard hung up in some conspicuous place. The experienced drummer gives not the slightest notice of such rebuffs, for he holds that forbearance is the sublimest courage, and tenacity the greatest virtue.

Not long since business called me to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where I had never had an occasion to stop before. On entering the store of a prominent merchant, I was informed by one of the clerks that the proprietor sat in the rear, perusing a paper. I advanced towards him, and on seeing me he deliberately arose, adjusted his eye glasses, scrutinized me from head to foot, sat down again, and resumed reading. I approached, wished him a good morning, and expressed my surprise at his conduct.

"I knew you were a drummer," was the reply.

"Pardon me, kind sir; a commercial tourist, if you please."

"Well, what do you intend to bore me with?"

"Sir, I am a stranger in a strange city. I am the representative of one of the largest and most extensive drug manufacturers in America, and have taken the liberty to call in hopes of being

welcomed to your beautiful city, and also to make a few inquiries regarding several parties who desire to purchase our wares, but if my presence is annoying I beg a thousand pardons for the intrusion."

"My young friend give me your hand, and forgive me; but really these drummers (commercial tourists, if you please), have so provoked me of late that I swore they ought to be exterminated. Pray be seated, and if I can atone for my rudeness by being of any service to you I shall consider it an honor. Do you anticipate remaining in Council Bluffs over Sunday? If so, I should be most happy to have you visit me, and I will endeavour to make it as pleasant as possible for you."

"I regret exceedingly to decline your kind invitation, but I am booked for Omaha, where letters await me."

"Oh, but I insist upon your remaining, and will have your letters attended to. Come, now, what do you say?"

"Well, I will consent on one condition, and that is if you will promise to purchase a bill of shirts from me."

"But you informed me that you were selling drugs."

"Pardon me, I will explain. I did not think my line was drugs until arriving in the city, when I learned, to my sorrow that the merchants had just returned from market and had purchased their stocks, and that shirts were indeed a drug. Now, sir, you can be of service to me by walking to the hotel to inspect our patent new fangled, self-ventilating, concave and convex, double seam, re-enforced—"

"Stop, young man; I have been in business during the past twenty years, and this is the first time I have been taken in. I will go to the hotel with you and purchase a bill of goods, although I am overstocked. Come and take a drink."—*J. W. F. in Hatter and Furrier.*

THE INVENTOR.

HOW HE PLAGUES THE LIFE OUT OF HIS POOR WIFE.

"It is very well to talk about working for the heathen," said one, as the ladies of the circle put aside their sewing, "but I'd like to have some one tell me what I'm to do with my husband."

"What's the matter with him?" asked a sympathetic old lady.

"William is a good man," continued the first, waving her glasses in an argumentative way, "but William will invent.

He goes inventing round from morning till night, and I have no peace or comfort. I didn't object when he invented a fire escape, but I did remonstrate when he wanted me to crawl out the window one night last winter to see if it worked well. Then he originated a lock for the door that wouldn't open from midnight until morning, so as to keep burglars out. The first time he tried it he caught his coat tail in it, and I had to walk around him with a pan of hot coals all night to keep him from freezing."

"Why didn't he take his coat off?"

"I wanted him to, but he stood around till the thing opened itself trying to invent some way of unfastening it. That's William's trouble. He will invent. A little while ago he got up a cabinet bedstead that would shut and open without handling. It went by clockwork. William got into it and up it went. Bless your heart, he stayed in there from Saturday afternoon until Sunday evening, when it flew open and disclosed William with the plans and specifications of a patent wash-bowl that would tip over when it got just so full. The result of that was I lost all my rings and a breast-pin down the waste pipe. Then he got up a crutch for a man that could also be used as an opera glass. Whenever the man leaned on it, up it shut, and when he put it to his eye to find William it flew out into a crutch and almost broke the top of his head of."

"Don't any of his inventions amount to anything?"

"He says they do. Once he invented a rope ladder to be worn as a guard chain and lengthened out with a spring. He put it around his neck, but the spring got loose and turned it into a ladder and almost choked him to death. Then he invented a patent boot-heel to crack nuts with, but he mashed his thumb with it and gave it up. His coal scuttle has made more trouble than anything else. It was riveted to the grate, and when the fire got low it would turn over and pour on coal. The rivets got rusty so he couldn't get it off, and I just sit up in bed and listen to that scuttle all night. Then he arranged a corn popper so it would wiggle itself, and now he can't stop it. You can hear that popper going around in the closet, and he won't let me throw it away, because he wants to invent something to hold it still. Why, he has got a washtub full of inventions. One of them is a prayer book that always

opens at the right place. We tried it one morning at church, but the wheels and springs made such a row that the sexton took William by the collar and told him to leave his fire-engines at home when he came to worship. The other day I saw him going up street with the model of a grain elevator sticking out of his hip pocket; and he is fixing up an improved shot tower in our bedroom."

"Does he make any money out of his inventions?"

"He doesn't appear to. The other night a man came down and wanted William to get up a patent umbrella fastening. Since then he has wrecked all the umbrellas and parasols in the house. We haven't a thing to use if it should rain. Now he's at work on a combined cat and rat trap. The cat and rats go in at different ends and eat each other up—at least he says they will; and after that he is going at a pair of pantaloons, in which a man can fall down without spraining his leg. William means well, but he's got that mania for inventing, and I don't know where it will end." And the old lady sighed as she started for home to see what new inconvenience her ingenious husband was preparing to perpetrate.

SMALL ARMS vs. ARTILLERY.

The last report of the Chief of Ordnance is strengthened in the direction of the uselessness of the bayonet when the results of the trials of military small arms undertaken by Col. Benton and Capt. Greer are examined. The more small arms are improved the greater will be the tendency to fight at "long bowls." When, as these officers show, the service rifle, with service cartridge, is amply sufficient to disable, and possibly to kill, up to nearly 8000 yards, and that a 500-grain bullet fired from any rifle with a twist sufficient to give the necessary rotation will range nearly 8700 yards, and that with a specially prepared cartridge a longer range can be obtained, the efficiency of powder and lead can be better understood. Of course this is too long a range to be effective, but still it is on record that when fighting the Russians the Turks used their American-made arms effectively at 2500 yards, and that they went into action with from 100 to 150 cartridges to the man. Can, however, a target at 3000 yards be hit at all? Capt. Greer gives to Mr. R. T. Hare, of the national armory

at Springfield, the enviable distinction of being the only person in the world who has ever hit the bull's-eye, 6 feet in diameter, at 2500 yards, with three different rifles, and who has once even hit the same-sized target at 3200 yards. This is indeed long-range shooting. In this shooting the gun was held under the arm, a muzzle-rest being used. The elevations under such circumstances may interest our national guardsmen who try their hands at Creedmoor. At 2000 yards, with the Springfield service rifle, elevation was $11^{\circ} 58'$; with the long range Springfield, $8^{\circ} 16' 2''$; with the second arm at 3200 yards it was $10^{\circ} 51' 87''$. The exact penetration of the ball at this immense range was not studied, but its force was quite positively determined to be sufficient to kill; still, after the ball has flown half its distance its penetration decreases. Now, this brings us to the much-mooted question of the use of small arms at these extreme ranges. The ordnance officers tell us that they can find men in the ranks who will throw all their 10 shots in close proximity, every ball falling within a few feet of the other. "Presupposing a knowledge of the distance and some means of observing the effects of shot to correct elevation, it is evident that even among a small number of troops many would be struck." Of course, for every man killed a large amount of ammunition would have to be used, but still, indifferent to the cost, the Turks fired away at these long ranges and many a Russian was killed. There seems to be something preposterous in the idea of the economy of anything in war, and if you want to kill largely and copiously, since war is waste, paradoxically there can be no waste.

KEEP YOUR STOCK WELL ASSORTED.

Under this head the Chicago *Industrial World* gives the retail dealers some very sound advice. Different views are entertained in regard to the desirability of carrying large stocks of goods, some contending that it is better to buy in moderate lines and frequently, while others assert that the presence of a large stock helps to sell it. Be that as it may, one thing is sure and that is, that stocks, large or small, should be kept well assorted. Whatever view the dealer may take as to keeping a large quantity of any one kind, it is always a matter of good business judgment to keep as full and

complete a stock as is possible. We frequently find merchants who think that it does not pay to buy goods which are not in constant demand, and if a thing is not called for every day, it is dead stock and should not be kept. If such a dealer happens to live in a town where there is an active competition, he will find his customers hard to hold and that every now and then he loses one in a mysterious manner. The wide awake dealer will buy and keep a little of everything that his customers may call for, in order to accommodate them, to keep them from going to other stores to do their trading, and to assure them of the fact that they can have their wants supplied at his store, without the necessity of going elsewhere. Customers do not like to be obliged to run from one store to another to pick up the articles they need. They like to feel that they can send any time to the store where they do the bulk of their trading and get such things as they desire.

Many merchants now-a-days keep memorandum books handy and instruct their salesmen to put down every article called for which they do not have in stock, and these they send for forthwith, in order to keep everything they can and thereby prevent their customers from going to trade with their competitors, and in this they display wisdom. Such dealers are likely to retain a firm hold upon their trade, and all else being equal, are the ones that make the most money and sell the most goods.

BUSINESS CHANGES FOR MAY, 1881.

D T Lowes, Hardware, selling out. W Sanguines, Manufacturers Rakes, Cambray, removed to Islay. J F. Young, Hardware, Orangeville, removed to Gravenhurst. Hamilton & Massey, Hardware, Montreal, dissolved; James Cowan, Hardware, London, admitted son and nephew into Partnership. A Labelle, Hardware, Saul, Q., failed. McGillivray Bro., Tins and Hardware, Caledon East, dissolved; Jno. McGillivray continues; S Walkingshaw, Fancy Goods, St Catharines, sold out by Bailiff. E E Hendersen & Co., Hardware, Lindsay, has sold out to James Wetherup.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

MR. MCGILLIVRAY, of Maccabees fame threatens an action for \$10,000 damages against Dr McColloch of St. Mary's for defamation of character.

THE name of Samuel L Clemens ("Mark Twain") occurs in the list of stockholders of the Independent Watch Company, of Fredonia, N Y. We are inclined to think that Mark will find less money in running a watch company than in writing novels.

THE \$50,000 stock of the Winnipeg Street Railway, put upon the market a few days ago, was subscribed, mostly by the citizens in one hour.

A TELEPHONE has been melted down in New York city by having the current from an electric light turned into it through the accidental contact of the wires.

THE Belgium telephone company have made arrangements so that any of the subscribers leaving word any evening may be awakened at any hour the next morning by means of a powerful alarm.

THE enumerators have completed the taking of the census of the city of Winnipeg, the population of which falls about 100 short of 10,000. The rural districts will take some time longer to complete the enumeration.

"WHAT'S in a name?" Ah! William, you didn't know every thing, that's certain. Salt can be bought for a few cents a quart, but call it chloride of sodium, and the apothecary will mulct you to the tune of half a dollar for one poor scruple.

AT a public meeting held in the town hall at Cayuga a few days ago, it was resolved that the village council be authorized to offer a bonus of \$10,000, with exemption from taxes, to a suitable manufacturing establishment to be located there.

A FRENCH inventor has improved India-rubber and gutta-percha by the addition of a distillate of birch bark, which, it is claimed, greatly increases the durability of the rubber, the new mixture not being acted upon by the air or by acids.

THE bell-punch fraud man has been found in Philadelphia. He had worked his dodge successfully with the conductors four years, the companies having lost some \$10,000. The trick was to break a portion of the machinery so that about one fare in ten was lost.

AFTER being in the retail hardware business for a couple of years past, in London East, Mr. Dawson Kerr has assigned in trust. He had but little capital, and being anxious to sell goods, he did entirely too much business on credit for his means. His liabilities are not large.

MESSRS MOODIE & Co., purchasers of the "Diamond Hall," and "London and Paris House" jewelry stocks, have pulled up stakes and gone west to Manitoba. They intend running off the balance of their bankrupt stock in the city of Winnipeg.

THE Pennsylvania railroad engineers say that the "Lancaster" is the best watch made for railroad use. There is probably no employment so hard on a watch as railroading, and if a watch will give a railroad engineer satisfaction, it ought to be good enough for anybody.

As a sign of returning business prosperity in Switzerland may be noted the fact that the watch trade has lately become so active that manufacturers are raising their prices for unfinished watch movements by eighty per cent, and for finished watches thirty per cent. This has probably been brought about by the burning down at Beaucourt, in the French Jura, of one of the largest watch movement factories in Europe, whereby Swiss manufacturers have greatly benefitted.

THERE is evidently a boom among our inventors this year. The number of applications for patents received at the Patent Office at Ottawa during the month of April was 195. During the month \$5,016 was received in fees for patents, trade marks and copyrights, being the largest amount ever received in any one month.

We are exceedingly sorry to learn that Mr. Galbraith, jeweler, of Shelburne, was robbed, a few days ago, of nearly a thousand dollars worth of jewelry. The burglars succeeded in breaking into his store during the night, and secured about sixty watches and a miscellaneous lot of rings, brooches, ear rings, &c. As usual, there is no clue to the burglars.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S gold and silver plate, which is kept at Windsor, is said to be worth \$15,000,000. When the Queen entertained the late Czar, shortly after the marriage of his daughter to the Duke of Edinburgh, gold plate to the value of \$10,000,000 was used on the table. The custodianship of the gold-pantry at Windsor is considered an office of great trust.

J. A. GAUTHREUX was charged with the theft of nine gold watches and some jewelry from J. S. Coolican of the London and Paris House, Toronto. Mr. Bigelow appeared for the prisoner. A large amount of evidence was taken and the accused committed for trial. The same prisoner was charged with stealing jewelry from Waltz Bros. and was committed for trial on this charge also.

A SYSTEM of lighting railroad cars with gas has been tried on the Baltic Railway. The gas is made on the cars by the action of sulphuric acid on zinc, the resulting hydrogen being carburetted by being passed through naphtha-vapor. It is said that this gas has very little odour, that its flame is bright, white and constant, and that it is cheaper and gives better results than stearine candles.

A GERMAN has recently patented a mixture of metallic salts, which, when exposed to direct sunlight, to the electric or magnesian light, and then brought into a dark place, gives off a yellow or a bluish-white light. If the dial-plates of watches are coated with this composition, and then with a colorless varnish, the figures may be seen in the dark at some distance, if they have been previously exposed to diffused daylight.

SCIENTIFIC men have proved by actual measurement that most of the great silver mines lie 10,000 feet above the present sea level, and, among the richest are some which lie 2,000 feet higher still. Very rich mines have been found as high as 16,000 feet. It is a notable fact that as a rule the richest silver mines lie over 10,000 feet above the sea level. The mines on Ruby Hill are between 8,000 and 9,000 feet above the level of the sea.

A MECHANIC of Rochester, N. Y., has, according to his own statements, just completed a duplicate of the celebrated astronomical clock of Strasburg, in which city he was born and lived for many years. The only difference between the two clocks is in their size and in the form of the astronomical portions. The case of the main part of the Rochester clock is ten and one-half feet high, while it is in all particulars exactly proportionate to the clock seventy-five feet high, which it imitates.

HERR SIEMENS and Herr Halske, well-known Berlin electricians, have constructed an electric railway about six miles from the Prussian capital, and gave a public trial lately. A simple tram-car with an electric battery concealed between the wheels was propelled over the rails resembling the ordinary ones on railroads, thirty-nine inches apart, and which were connected with an electric battery at the sending station. The greatest speed obtained was eighteen English miles an hour, but a greater rate of speed could be obtained if necessary.

JOHN HOLLAND, of Cincinnati, has made an important discovery of a process for fusing and molding iridium, a metal which has hitherto been practically incapable of being formed into bars. The discovery consists in applying phosphorus, when the ore is brought to a white heat, and afterward eliminating the phosphorus by lime applied with great heat, the new metal has the appearance of steel, but is much harder, being next in hardness to the ruby. It will not rust and cannot be injured by acids.

A SUDDEN and unexpected announcement was that of the death of Mr. Wm. Robinson, of the manufacturing firm of Robinson, Howell & Co., of Preston. Mr. Robinson has resided in Waterloo county forty years, and has been councillor and Mayor in Galt, as well as a merchant and a manufacturer. Beginning life, we believe, as a blacksmith, he had qualified himself for a number of honorary positions, which his integrity procured him at the hands of his fellow-townsmen, and he died respected and regretted by the community.

MR. W. S. SMITH, of Guelph, has commenced business in that city, on his own account, as a jeweler. Mr. Smith is well known in Guelph, having been in the employ of the Savage's, father and son, for the past seventeen years, a training that should not only make him a thoroughly competent workman, but a first-class man of business. We wish Mr. Smith the success which he deserves.

THE "Canada Clock Co.," of Hamilton, are now turning out a very fine line of fancy walnut clocks, which they are putting upon this market through the agency of the jobbers houses. They claim to make as fine a clock movement as any factory in the United States, and expect, under their new management, to secure a large share of the home trade. As they have a protection of 35 per cent. duty, we cannot see why they can't undersell any imported goods of a similar kind.

THE pyramid of Pueblo, in Mexico, is larger than the great pyramid of Cheops, in Egypt. The latter covers but fourteen acres, while the Mexican one covers forty acres of ground, and originally was 600 feet high. It is made of sundried brick, and is supposed to have been built 3,000 years ago, but by whom none can say, nor for what purpose. The investigation by Charney, under the auspices of Mr. Lorillard, of New York city, of the "Lost Cities" of Central America, may throw some light on this marvellous Mexic civilization, and possibly give the key that will unlock its mystery.

HEVEENOID is the name of a new substitute for vulcanized India rubber now manufactured in New York. The latter is an imperfect mechanical mixture of rubber and sulphur, the former is a perfect chemical combination of rub-

ber, camphor, sulphur, and vegetable germs. Heveenoid can be made hard, semi-hard, and soft, like rubber. The hard takes a natural and beautiful polish, and the soft possesses many attractive qualities. It is claimed, too, that the substitute can be manufactured at a cheaper rate than ordinary vulcanized rubber. Specimens of this new compound certainly seem to justify the claims made for it by the manufacturers.

THE first two steamers to Prince Arthur's Landing took up twenty-nine commercial travellers. As these gentlemen had only about half a dozen customers to sell to, people may guess what a delightful time they all had until matters were settled. After business, and while waiting for the homeward boat, the travellers accepted a challenge from the local cricket club to play a match at the noble game. The result proved that that the travellers could play cricket as well as sell goods, for they beat the Prince Arthur club by 19 runs. The latter say that even in fun, the travellers are bound to get the best of their customers.

MR. JOHN FIELD began store keeping in Aurora over twenty years ago, and did a very large credit business. In September last he claimed to have a surplus of over \$12,000. However, as the sequel has proved, he certainly was worth much less than this sum. His family, becoming tired of a quiet village life, removed to the city some years ago, and lived in a fine house, nicely furnished. This involved additional expenses—travelling. Heavy expenses and bad debts are the chief causes of his present financial embarrassment. Meantime he has left Aurora.

THE LATEST and most trustworthy statistics of the population of the earth have just been given to the public by Herren Behm and Wagner, the distinguished German geographers. The world is being peopled at the encouraging rate of nearly a million a month. The total population of the globe is now 1,455,923,000, 16,778,000 greater than it was nineteen months ago. Considerably more than half of the people of the earth are gathered in Asia. That continent is reputed to have a population of 834,707,000; Europe, 315,929,000; Africa, 205,679,000; America, 95,495,000; Australia and Polynesia, 4,031,000.

MR. JAMES TURNER, of Hamilton, late president of the Hamilton and Lake Erie Ry., was pleasantly surprised on Monday last. After the last of the affairs of the old Company had been wound up, a few friends met in his office and on behalf of the directors, presented him with a handsome chronograph gold watch, one of the best procurable in New York. Mr. Turner, it is well known, had worked with his usual faithfulness in the interest of the road, and it is pleasant to find his connection with it made the occasion of so agreeable a *souvenir*.

IT was demonstrated, if the cable reports are true lately, that telephoning through a submarine cable was successfully done between Calais and Dover. It is said that conversation was kept up without interruption across the channel by means of a new kind of telephone, which has been patented under the name of the electrophone, this, too, when the other wire of the cable was in continuous use transmitting

telegraph messages. The inventor maintains that it is as practicable to talk across the Atlantic as between the points mentioned.

✓ CHAS. RILEY, who has been secretary of the Commercial Travelers' Association of Canada, decamped a few days ago, and is at present sporting himself in Uncle Sam's dominions. It is reported that his books are in a very muddled condition, and his cash short to about the tune of one thousand dollars. Riley has been drinking very hard for some years past, and it was only because of his personal good qualities that the association retained him in the office. Now that he has himself cut loose from the Association, it is to be hoped that they will elect to the office a man of ability, and temperate habits, and one, moreover, that will do the Association's work as it should be done. We think there is plenty of room for reform.

THE revenue of the Dominion for the month of April (exclusive of British Columbia) amounted to \$2,284,560, an increase of \$315,461 over the same month last year. The following table shows the increase of revenue in the respective months over the same months last year:

July.....	\$ 509,541
August.....	837,799
September.....	693,165
October.....	448,945
November.....	480,607
December.....	467,992
January.....	600,993
February.....	374,218
March.....	320,157
April.....	315,461
Total.....	\$5,048,878

MR. HARRISON STEPHENS, a former merchant and well known citizen of Montreal, died in that city on Monday last. He first came to Montreal in 1828, and for a number of years previous to 1849 was a partner with the late Hon. John Young. It is related of him in a local journal that in 1830 the Bank of Montreal refusing to discount his paper, he proved he was not in its power by drawing \$150,000 in silver, which he took with him to New York on two sleighs. His action was not relished by the Bank and he only desisted from drawing specie at the request of Mr. John Torrance who waited upon him at the instance of the directors, and came to terms. Mr. Stephens was reputed to be worth at his death, several millions of dollars.

THE Vanderbilt party, including a number of Canada Southern officials, left Detroit on a special train for Buffalo. After crossing the river at Amherstburg the Fontaine engine, with Engineer Clapp at the throttle, was coupled to the train, and at 12:38 o'clock the flyer pulled slowly out of the depot. The run was made to St. Thomas without a stop, and was a marvel of speed. The distance is 111 miles, and it was compassed, the managers of the road claim, in the unparalleled time of 98 minutes. The train left St. Thomas at 2:35 o'clock, and reached Victoria at 5:08 o'clock, the distance is 118 miles, and five stops were made. The run was made in 153 minutes; sixteen minutes is deducted for time lost in making the five stops, which leaves the running time from Amherstburg to Victoria, a distance of 229 miles, in the superb time of 2:35 minutes.

THE rapid growth of English trade in American clocks must be very gratifying to the manu-

facturers. Mr Edward Rigg gives in the April *Horological Journal* some carefully prepared tables from which we learn, that England imported in 1867 one hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred American clocks the value of which was \$261,235. In 1879 the trade amounted to three hundred and seventy-six thousand clocks at a cost of \$669,280. The statistics in regard to American watches could not be very accurately obtained. All American watch movements are imported as watch material, since they are without cases. The American Watch Company sent out about twenty-five thousand watches to England in 1880, valued at \$200,000.

BANKING circles in Canada will learn with regret of the death, after a brief illness, of Mr. J. G. Harper, agent in New York of the Bank of Commerce. For a number of years Mr. Harper was connected with the Commercial Bank in London. He went from that city to Toronto as manager of the Bank of Commerce and then to Montreal where he established a branch of that bank, in charge of which he remained two years. It is now almost ten years since he was placed in charge of the New York business of the Bank of Commerce. The *New York Post* says:—"Mr. Harper was a man of high character and of great experience and ability in his line, and his death will be a loss not only to the institution which he so ably represented, but to the business community here, of which he was a respected and influential member."

LONDON papers, in noticing numerous large orders for locomotives given out in the last few months, remark that the use of iron and steel in the under frames, and even in the bodies of railway cars, seems to be extending, and the American method, which has been adopted by some of the leading English companies, of supporting long passenger carriages on "bogies trucks," is likely to become more general. We certainly hope so. The American system of passenger car construction is incomparably better than the English, as experience with American cars on English roads has shown. The English railway carriage, when thrown from the rails, usually goes all to pieces, photographs of such wrecks showing that they commonly consist of a confused pile of panels and doors, with broken iron-work and shattered framing. A good American car, honestly built, can be thrown against a solid obstruction at a speed of 25 miles an hour without breaking up; and if it were not that the passengers are thrown about and brought in contact with seat backs, and the hanging work on the ceiling and sides, an accident of this character would rarely be attended with serious consequences, whatever the speed.

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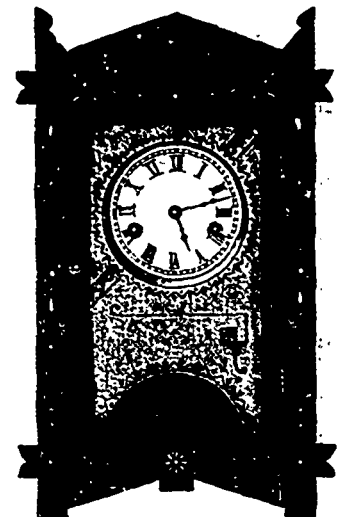
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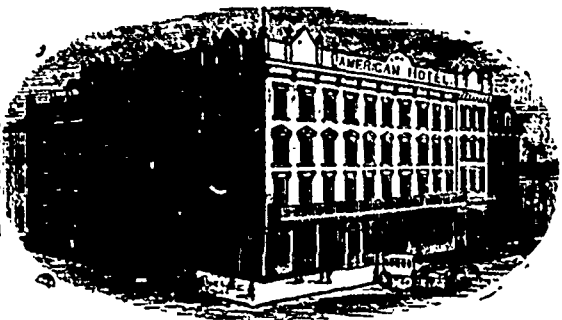
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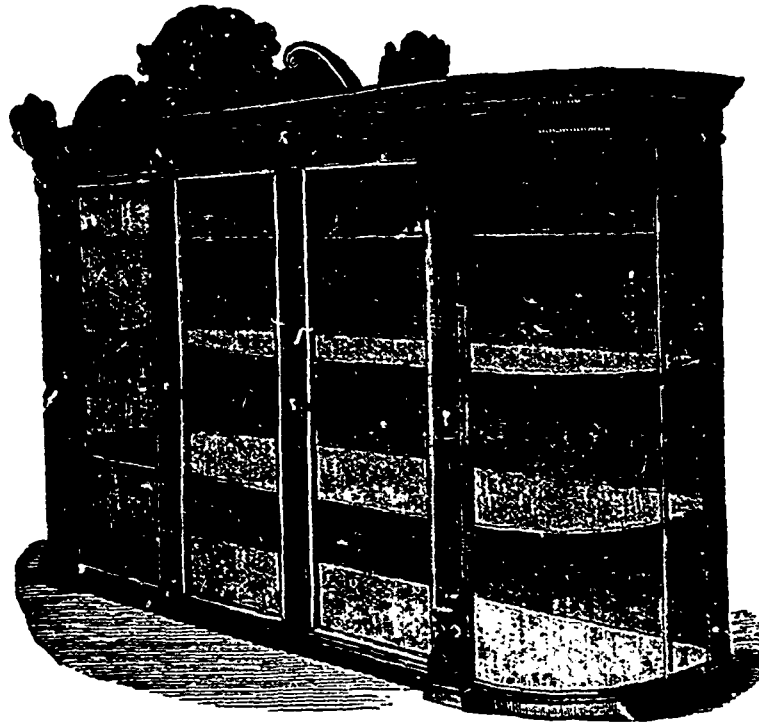
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We would respectfully call the attention of all dealers in Plated Ware to the above cut, shewing our new design of Wall Case for Plated Ware. They are the handsomest and most attractive Wall Case made. We get them up in Square and Circle ends, with Nickle Silver doors, either to slide or open out. Size from 6 to 12 feet long and 6 feet high. Prices given on application. All styles of Counter and Window Cases in Silver and Wood and Silver jointed to order. Prices as low as quality of work will warrant. Send for our Illustrated Catalogue.

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OLD CLOCKS.

At a meeting of the Archaeological Institute held on March 1st, 1861, and also at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries held on June 20th in the same year, Mr. O'Morgan exhibited a miniature clock in the form of a square tower surrounded by a dome, on which stood the figure of a boy playing on a lute. The height of the clock without the dome was only one inch and three-quarters. The case was of silver gilt, the works of steel. It went twelve hours, struck, and had an alarm. Mr. Morgan believed it to be of German work, and placed its date about the year 1600. It was the smallest striding clock he had ever met with. And at a meeting of the same Institute held on December 7, 1855, the same gentleman exhibited two clocks of novel design and construction. One was in form of a griffin, bearing an escutcheon, on which was the dial; the animal constantly rolled its eyes whilst the mechanism was in movement, and it opened its mouth when the quarters struck, and flapped its wings at the striking of the hour. The other was in the form of a crucifix; the hours were shown on a globe, which revolved on the top of the cross. The date of this strangely shaped clock was the early part of the seventeenth century. In the South Kensington Museum is another clock arranged as a crucifix. It is of ebony, silver, and gilt, and enameled bronze. It is of French or Flemish manufacture of the seventeenth century. Its height is fourteen inches and a half.

The Hon. W. B. Warren Vernon has a clock of gilt metal in the form of a turret, with a pinnacle top, upon a stand of ebony; it has chased silver ornaments, and is of the seventeenth century. And of French manufacture. In the South Kensington Museum is a medallion clock, in a rock crystal case, supported on a baluster-

shaped crystal stem; it is dated 1609; its height is seven inches and three-quarters, and it was purchased at the Bernal sale for £14. Mr. A. J. B. Beresford-Hope has a gilt metal clock with columns and pinnacles at the angles, engraved dial, and square repoussé stand; it was made at Strasburg in 1614; also a gilt metal table-clock of hexagonal shape, with glass panels, resting on six terminal figures; it is of the seventeenth century.

In 1605 a clock was put up in the cathedral at Frankfort. It consisted of three parts or divisions. In the lowest, which looked like a calendar, where several circles, the first of which showed the days and months, the second the golden number, with the age and change of the moon, and the third the dominical letter. The fourth and fifth circles represented the ancient Roman calendar. On the sixth were the names of the apostles and martyrs, the length of the days and nights, and the entrance of the sun into the twelve signs of the zodiac. The seventh and eighth circles exhibited the hours and minutes when the sun rose and set. In another circle the divisions of the twelve signs of the zodiac, the four seasons, and the twelve months were marked. A circle in the centre showed the movable feasts. The figures which struck the hours represented two smiths with hammers in their hands. This piece of mechanism was repaired for the first time in 1704.—*Curiocities of Clocks and Watches.*

ASSIGNMENTS IN TRUST.

Assignments made in trust for the benefit of creditors being, under the law now in force in this Province, the only means of effecting a rateable distribution of the assets of insolvent debtors, should meet with every encouragement from creditors and courts. So long as there is a real intention on the part of the debtor to give up everything, to be divided proportionally among all creditors entitled to participate, as little effect as possible should be given to technical objections to the particular form of assignment made. This is apparently the

course approved of by the wholesale trade generally on this subject, but there appears to be exceptions. Fortunately, our judges do not seem disposed to look favorably on litigation, having for its object the defeat of such assignments honestly made.

An instance in point has arisen quite recently in the case of one Cornish, a retail boot and shoe dealer of this city, who made such an assignment to Mr. Badenach, formerly an official assignee for this county. One of the Montreal creditors, having obtained judgment against Cornish, insisted on his stock being sold out by the sheriff, and the validity of the assignment tested in court. The interpleader issue directed for this purpose came on for trial before Chief Justice Wilson, of the Court of Common Pleas, at the present Toronto Assizes. One of the objections taken was that the deed was void because it permitted the trustee, if he saw fit, to employ the insolvent in the winding up of the estate. Another was that the deed was void by reason of a provision contained therein that the trustee should incur no personal liability except for his own wilful acts and defaults. These and other objections, all being of a similar kind, were promptly over-ruled by His Lordship, without even calling upon the opposite counsel for any argument upon them. The only authorities cited in support of the objections made, were some American decisions, which the learned Chief Justice, thought were not applicable under our law.

We understand that the assignment made by the Wellington Oil Company, of Guelph, is being questioned, in the interest of one of the London creditors, on somewhat similar grounds. It is more than probable that the objections made in that case will meet with the same treatment when they come before the court as those made to the Cornish assignment received. This would be a matter of congratulation to every one interested in securing an equitable distribution among all creditors, of the effects of bankrupt debtors.—*Monetary Times.*



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" This is to certify that the accompanying case No.— was manufactured under James Boss' patent of two plates of solid gold overlaying a plate of composition metal, and is warranted to wear 20 years."

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They are now FOR SALE BY NEARLY ALL THE WHOLESALE HOUSES IN CANADA, and dealers should be sure that they get none other, as Boss' Patent is the only case made with Two Plates of Solid Gold.

Any regular dealer in Watches and Jewelry will be furnished with handsome Advertising Cards, Catalogues and Signs, upon sending his business card through the Jobbers of whom he buys, or direct to the Manufacturers.

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THE BEST WATCH IN THE WORLD

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IN reference to the merits of the Lancaster Watch, the following testimonial from J. P. Wickersham, Esq., Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Pennsylvania, speaks for itself. It reads as follows :

LANCASTER, Nov. 1st, 1878.

A. BITNER, ESQ.,

General Manager, Lancaster Watch Factory.

DEAR SIR :—In answer to your inquiries of Oct. 28th, I have to say that I was absent on my recent European tour just four months. I carried with me a watch made at the Lancaster Watch Factory. Before starting I set it to the time of the Pennsylvania Railroad. It was never changed during the entire trip, and, upon my return, IT WAS ON THE MINUTE WITH THE SAME RAILROAD TIME

When at Geneva, Switzerland, with a dozen or more American friends, I visited the celebrated Watch Factory of Patek, Philippe & Co., whose American agents are the great house of Tiffany & Co., New York. After being shown through the factory, we were conducted to the salesroom, where our attention was called by the Superintendent to a large number of very fine watches, the product of the establishment. He also gave us his reasons for thinking that better watches could be made in Switzerland than in America. When he had concluded, I handed him my Lancaster Watch and asked him what he thought of it. After examining it with the eye of an expert, and with marked interest, he replied, speaking at brief intervals : "I have never seen this watch before. . . It is a good watch. . . It is better than the Waltham. . . It is the Best Watch made in America." What adds force to his opinion is the fact that he had carefully studied all the finest American watches exhibited at our Centennial Exposition. All my friends heard the remarks above quoted, and will vouch for the accuracy of my report of them.

Yours truly,

J. P. WICKERSHAM."

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