

NOTICE TO AMATEURS
of the USEFUL and PLEASANT

of a

**NEW MANUFACTURE OF WATCH-
MAKING,**

that

CHRISTIN and VIALA

**Established in the city of PFORTZHEIM,
in the Margraviat de Bade, Dourlach.**

by CHRISTIN.

PFORTZHEIM,

MDCCLXXI.

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FOREWORD.

The works which I have the honour to offer to the public, are partly productions whose research has already been the subject of the application of various artists. I have endeavoured by entering the same career to imitate what I found good, and I undertook suitable research to improve those which appeared to me to need it. Similar work led to new discoveries. I made several both in watchmaking and in other aspects of mechanics. For a long time I prepared many compositions on various objects, and I am currently in a position by the arrangement of my factories, to carry out promptly, a certain number of works of a new taste, as well of pendulum clocks as of watches.

I do not limit my study only to the machines which are used to measure time, but I still work to invent all the things which appear to me to be useful, and which derive from the mechanics, of which I have made a particular study.

I decided that my establishment being new, it is necessary to make it known by this small booklet, that people of taste are requested to read with indulgence.

ARTICLE I.

Mechanics in General.

Mechanics in general is one of the sciences most useful to the men. It is from the repeated experiments that it produced, that we owe the most clever discoveries, even more useful to our preservation, either in the preparation of commodities, or in the manufacturing of things both necessary and superfluous.

Architecture could not do without mechanics, and navigation owes to it most of the advantages which it has. It is, finally, the principle of most of the known instruments, and it is with the help of these instruments that we know the distances of the globes which comprise the universe.

Manufactures of all types draw their great advantages from mechanics. Will it be believed by seeing a large number of machines suitable to accelerate the work of men, or to satisfy their curiosity, will it be believed I say, that mechanics has arrived at its greatest period? Undoubtedly not; it is even possible that it will never have bounds, or that they will be fixed by those of the universe.

It appears by the progress of all arts that mechanics will develop with the same speed proportional to that which it has had since its first flowering. It is by it that several problems, difficult to solve, were reduced to axioms. Using mechanics the weakest man can move things a hundred times above his forces. The assistance that it gives to mathematics in general, and to physics in particular, are sufficient to establish its utility, and to encourage all geniuses who are dedicated to make further efforts to improve it by means of inventions already known, and to discover new ones.

It is probable that the secrets of nature are still only partly revealed. Why should not the centuries to come have the same advantages, of which the previous centuries were favoured in such a bright way? The invention of the compass, the discovery of electricity, would not have been thought possible, if they had not been demonstrated. It will be the

same for all that the spirit of mechanics continues to produce, compared to those of which men do not yet have any concept. Are not the great geniuses, whose works speak in praise of our time, an answering proof of this truth for the times to come? The likelihood should conclude in favour of the affirmative, and it is in order to fulfill a plan, a laudable imitation of the principal cities of Europe, that the manufactures of Pfortzheim reunify in the same establishment, all the professions which are proper, watchmaking and jewellery making being two essential parts. Even files and the tools necessary to these various branches are manufactured there. There is also a special establishment for manufacturing hardware in works of steel, such as the chains of watches, buckles etc. and generally all the articles which are produced in England, of this type, which the English have thus far been the only source.

The little known town of Pfortzheim, though very old, is not limited solely to these new establishments, of which we make mention. It also unites together in its center several manufactures, both of wool stockings and various fabrics, and the export abroad of which is rather considerable.

ARTICLE II.

Advantages of the Locality of the Town of Pfortzheim.

The manufactures established in the Margravate of Bade Dourlach, and particularly in Pfortzheim, enjoy several advantages which put them in a position to make good goods at a moderate price.

First, by the particular protection of His Serene Highness, who supports all the establishments suitable to increase trade in his states.

By the abundance of all the things necessary to life, grains, wines, and fruits of all types and of very good quality.

By the industry of the inhabitants, who naturally have all the dispositions requires to become good artists.

By the franchises and privileges which all the individuals who are attached to trade enjoy, proportionally to their utility. The people who have funds are assured to find there all possible approvals, without being overloaded with taxes.

The site is advantageous by the proximity of the fairs of Frankfurt and those of the main cities of Germany.

The workmen employed in the various branches of commerce can be accommodated, nourished, and maintained at a cheap rate. Consequently they can work there for a lower wage than if they were subjected to greater expenses, and can give more perfection to quality of their works.

The young professionals of other nations who want to learn the German language, have the facility to get this advantage without paying anything for it, while improving in their professions, because the factories always provide skilful workers from Paris, London and Geneva.

All these advantages combine to give hope for a happy success of this new company, which only seeks to attract a good reputation, and above all to deserve it.

ARTICLE III.

Painting.

Painting should be considered with reason as one of the most beautiful arts, because it animates fabric in some way, by the objects which it represents there. The demonstration, which the masters from every part of the world make, is enough to establish its utility and to speak in praise of it. Mechanics appears for its part, to give life and movement to matter. These two sciences must mutually contribute to improve the works where they are employed. In particular painting in enamel was introduced into the manufacture of watches in Pfortzheim, to be employed both on watch chains and on gold cases and other articles of jewellery. To bring this industry to a degree of sufficient perfection, an academy of design has been established in which public lessons are given every two days, where all students come to practice, as much as those who are dedicated to engraving as those who are called to some other branch of watchmaking. The emulators who succeed best in Painting, will be solely attached to this art. Care will be taken that they work with skilful painters, excellent engravers, good jewellers and other artists necessary for the good of the establishment. Care will be taken, when the emulators intended for painting or engraving are rather advanced, to make them draw from nature, using all the rules of this art, as it is practiced elsewhere, which cannot fail to meet the needs of this establishment.

ARTICLE IV.

Engraving

Engraving is amongst the skills whose origins go back to distant antiquity. It was initially used to transmit the fabulous history of the Gods and of men for posterity. Did it already exist when the various significant characters were still in the cradle, and how much has it improved since this time? Engraving is not neglected in our new factory. This necessary science is naturally related to all those which are used to decorate jewellery and watches. Engraved work in four-colour gold is executed very well, and consequently all the other genres which preceded them. New things are also made there, on steel as well as on silver, the addition of variously engraved gold, used as trimmings on buckles, buttons, watch chains for men and women, mementos, cases, and generally all the articles which can be made of gold. Every day it gives birth to several species of jewellery of new taste, in which engraving often finds its niche. The amateurs who are curious to know about the new productions which leave here, and which cannot be had elsewhere, can contact the entrepreneurs of the factories, or those people appointed by them in the main cities of Europe. We have a duty to satisfy them punctually, by giving them the status of all the new articles which will appear annually, and the prices at which they will be able to get them.

ARTICLE V.

Clocks and Watches.

Clocks and watches can only be regarded as useful in so far as their accuracy answers the needs of the purchaser. The entrepreneurs of the factories of Pfortzheim, like the teachers they established over their students, take the greatest care of this essential part, as much by constructing on good principles as by giving all the necessary perfection to the

execution. Consequently one can have French style clocks, with all the ordinary functions, complicated clocks, that is to say with moving figures, organs, carillons, and generally all the various known and new types.

Clocks with long lines, with seconds, and others, according to the best established principles by the best authors who wrote on horology.

Moving spheres, representing the courses of the stars, and their positions compared to our Earth.

Moving pictures, more or less complicated, according to the taste of amateurs.

Magic mirrors of a new construction.

Fantasy table clocks of all kinds in skilfully worked ways.

Watches engraved in four-colour gold and furnished with brilliants or other precious jewels.

Various kinds of watches with new escapements.

Watches going eight days which show the seconds.

Modern watches, where the interior can be seen through dials of crystal or others.

Watches beating seconds.

Watches with ordinary repeaters, à toc, gongs, and silent.

Various other kinds of repeaters of a new taste.

Various fantasy watches such as:

Turkish watches.

Watches with double dials.

Jump watches.

Watches wound by the push piece without a key.

Several kinds of calendar watches.

Watches with moving figures, and generally all that is related to finished works in watch-making.

ARTICLE VI.

Watchmaking Supplies.

In addition to finished works, all watchmakers and artistes will be able to buy from our factories, at moderate prices, all the supplies and tools necessary to their professions.

Clock cases made to the Parisian style, painted or all one colour under a very beautiful varnish, with the necessary ornaments.

A new kind of trimming is also made here, which is not known elsewhere, and whose gild-

ing is much more beautiful than those cast and embossed. It is a type of material which hardens after being worked, which has great consistency, and which every one will take for cast ornaments. The enamel dials for clocks and watches are also made at our place with much perfection, as well as hands, gongs, and generally all that is necessary for the workmen who work in these two branches.

By means of a large number of machines, many of the pieces particular to movements are manufactured, both the large and the small, that workmen can buy in dozens, and who will get them much cheaper than if they took the trouble to make them, which greatly facilitates the making of a clock or watch.

ARTICLE VII.

Jewellery.

Jewellery making must be annexed to watchmaking in a factory, accompanying it, like painting and engraving, because various pieces necessary to watches, such as chains, keys, charms etc. are the work of jewellers, and it is necessary that the exterior of these various works, that relates to painting and engraving, are perfectly matched to that which the case of the watch presents. It is for this reason that we united all the necessary professions in the same establishment, not wanting to neglect anything to fulfil the goal of giving fame to this new company, and to be in a position to satisfy people with the most delicate taste.

We must also have jewellery manufacture in order to be able to make the works in jewellery and watchmaking, for which we need diamonds and other jewels suitable to increase the price and the beauty of them. All these types of professions should meet in the same place, since all must contribute to the perfection of the one object. The establishment of this factory, thus generalized, was the work of almost four years. It was necessary to bring these various professions to the land, to be sure of keeping them there: this has been done by accepting young people of the place who have the inclination and the taste for these professions. They are distributed to each branch according to their dispositions. There is no doubt, that of the great number there are some who will succeed, and whose works will honour the nation over time. The gathering together of all the particular professions that contribute to making various jewels, by joining them together, consequently gives rise to many works which depend only on each one of these branches, like portraits, rings, bracelets, plumes, pommels of Cannes, outer cases, and quantities of other articles.

ARTICLE VIII.

Various Works.

The large number of professions united and gathered in our factories, give me the facility to work on various mathematical objects. There one can see a small model of a machine suitable to beat grain, by means of which, when made full size, one man can do the work of six, which would be advantageous to the amateurs of agriculture if it were known. Also seen there are several designs for hydraulics of various kinds and with various uses. There are machines to write from two to six copies at the same time, and a quantity of other instruments for the use of mathematics. Finally, amateurs of new inventions, by proposing only questions, can have everything made to their taste, in small scale to be used as model,

and they can be assured that the execution will be handled in the most solid and simplest way at moderate prices.

ARTICLE IX.

Consequences.

It results from all that I have said of the establishment of our factories, that one cannot doubt the goodness and the beauty of the works which are made here currently, and that it will result in an even greater perfection. All precautions have been taken to prevent everything could cause the least loss to the purchaser. Consequently the standard of purity of the silver and gold is regulated in accordance with that which it is done in Geneva. All the parts that are not enamelled, which are not intended to be charms, will be of 18 carats. Each part will be marked with the punch of the state, the hallmark of the material, and the letters C. and V., the name of the entrepreneurs, who will subsequently always be responsible for the quality of all that will leave their stores. The entrepreneurs themselves provide the material to all the masters of the various professions dependent on them and they take care to frequently make an exact test of it. There will even be very serious trouble inflicted on those who would be at fault in this respect.

Thus there remains nothing more to do, to deserve the confidence of the public, but to try to generally satisfy the purchasers, with regard to the price, as well as the quality of the goods, and to that everyone can be assured that the greatest application will be given. It will even be very easy to reach this desired point, by the particular incorporation of this company, as it was shown in Article II. Experience has confirmed this truth from the beginning of the establishment until this day, which is sufficient proof for the future.

END.