

were so prevalent in San Francisco at that time. The missing man had abundant means, and left behind him a piece of mining property worth \$80,000 or \$40,000, which, by the lapse of time and the local mining laws, passed into other hands, showing conclusively that at least some accident had overtaken him. The owner of the watch mourned the loss of his friend, and regretted the missing time-piece. After some years he moved to San Francisco, where in time the above incidents became to memory as a dream. A few days ago he was conversing with a friend in a jewelry store, when a stranger stepped up alongside of him, laid a watch on the counter and asked the proprietor to purchase it, and, to the astonishment of our masonic friend, he recognized at the first glance the time-piece he had lost 21 years previously, and immediately claimed it. The stranger explained that he was disposing of the watch for a lady in destitute circumstances, and naturally insisted upon having some proof of the claimant's ownership before recognizing the claim. The two, by agreement, went to another jewelry establishment, the proprietor of which had formerly been in business in the same interior town with the claimant, and who had cleaned the watch once or twice twenty odd years before. The watch was handed him, and before any thing had been said in reference to it he said, "Why,—, this is your watch; the one you lost." Another friend who had last seen the watch in 1856 recognized it at first sight. Subsequent investigation revealed that about 1861-2 a gentleman of San Francisco purchased the watch of a man, possibly one who had murdered the visitor from the interior, for \$850 and had carried it up to the day of his death, which occurred in the Tucson, Arizona, about a year and a half ago. In the settlement of his estate the watch was appraised at the low valuation of \$125, and the sister of the deceased, knowing it to be valuable, took it as a portion of her interest in the property. Becoming reduced in circumstances, she put it in the hands of a friend to sell for her, with the result as above told. Not wishing to involve the lady in legal proceedings, and sympathizing with her destitute condition, the pleased owner of his newly found treasure magnanimously paid her \$100 for the return of his property, which was found to be in as good condition as the day it was bought.—*Exchange.*

CURIOUS TIMEKEEPERS.

An American traveler once saw a rare Japanese timekeeper, which had been described in an old record. This clock, in a frame three feet high and five long, represented a noon landscape of great loveliness. In the foreground were plum and cherry trees, and rich plants in full bloom; in the rear a hill, gradual in ascent, from which flowed a cascade admirably imitated in crystal. From this point a thread-like stream glided along, wandering in its windings rocks and tiny islands, but presently losing itself in a far-off stretch of woodland. In the sky turned a golden sun indicating as it passed the striking the hours, which were all marked upon the frame below, where a slow creeping tortoise served as a hand. A bird of exquisite plumage resting by its wing proclaimed the expiration of each hour. When the song ceased, a mouse sprang from a grotto near by, and running over the hill, hastily disappeared.

In the South Kensington museum, at London, is a small watch about one hundred years old, representing an apple, the golden case ornamented with grains of pearl. Another old Nuremburg watch has the form of an acorn, and is provided with a dainty pistol, which, perhaps, serves as an alarm.

In London in an eagle shaped watch, within which, when the body of the bird is opened, a richly ornamented face is seen. They are sometimes found in the form of ducks, geese and skulls.

The Bishop of Ely had a watch in the head of his cane, and a prince of Saxony had one in his riding saddle.

A watch made for Catherine I. of Russia is a repeater and a musical watch. Within is the holy sepulcher and the Roman guard. By touching a spring the stones move away from the door, the guard kneels down, angels appear, and the holy women step into the tomb and sing the Easter song that is heard in all the Russian churches.

King George III of England had a watch not larger than a five cent piece, which had 120 different parts, the whole not weighing quite as much as a ten cent piece.

Clocks and watches must usually be wound up every day, though some clocks will run eight days without winding, and a few even longer than that. But there was a century clock at the great Centennial exhibition at Philadelphia. The man who made it says it will run a

hundred years without winding, though it is hard to believe this.

There was another curious kind of a clock at the Centennial. It was fixed in a carriage, and tells just how many times the wheel turns round on a journey, and how many miles have been traveled, and how long the carriage has been in making the trip.—*Exchange.*

PRECIOUS STONES AS SYMBOLS.

The months, like the apostles, are symbolized by precious stones:

January, the jacinth or hyacinth, sometimes the garnet. The garnet stands for health and joy, and is also an emblem of constancy.

February, the amethyst, emblematic of sobriety and peace of mind. It is dedicated to Venus, notwithstanding its sober tendency. In the zodiac it stands for Sagittarius, and in metallurgy for copper.

March, the blood stone, emblem of courage and presence of mind.

April, the sapphire, and diamond standing for repentance and innocence. The first stone was thought to produce somnambulism and inspire the wearer with holy faith in all sacred things. In the zodiac it represents Leo. The second stone gives us spiritual ecstasy, trance and visions. In the zodiac it belongs to Virgo.

May, the emerald, success in love. In the zodiac it stands for Cancer.

June the agate, emblematic of health and long life. The agate was believed to quench thirst, and when held in the mouth, to allay the violence of fever. The ancients declared that it would render the wearer invisible. In the zodiac it represents Scorpio.

July, the cornelian, symbolizing a contented mind and a good memory.

August, the sardonyx or onyx, emblematic of conjugal felicity. Rabbi Benoni, of the fourteenth century, tells us that the onyx is a dangerous stone, for it contains a little demon which comes out of it at sunset and fills the mind of the wearer with disturbing dreams. The parings from the nails of Venus fell into the Indus and were changed to onyx.

September, the chrysolite, emblematic of *Mens sana in corpore sano.*

October, the aqua-marine, opal, and beryl, standing for hope.

November, the topaz, emblematic of fidelity and friendship.

December the turquoise or ruby,