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### Remarkable Old Watch.

A loan exhibition of ancient timepieces, collected by Moryd Fleisher, has just been placed in one of the U.S. museums.

Mr. Fleisher spent forty years in gathering the watches, which tell a historical story. The oldest of the collection was made in the fifteenth century.

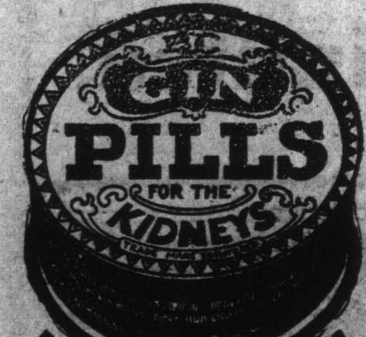
"The first instrument for reckoning time," said Mr. Fleisher, "was the sun dial, then the candle, followed by the water clock. These led up to the mechanical contrivances with weights and springs. Watchmaking is a refinement of clockmaking, which was taken from the Chinese. The early watches were made of bronze, and were either circular or striking watches. At first they really were portable clocks. It is quite probable that the Puritans, with their prejudice against display, were responsible for concealing their watches in their pockets."

In the collection, which numbers 125 examples of the early watches, will be found those made by the Chinese, with movable figures and inclosed in oblong cases; others set in rock crystal and semi-precious stones; watches with one hand, two hands, and no hands at all; watches so heavy and bulky that it was impossible to carry them in the pocket, so they were hung about the neck with a cord or suspended from the waist or from the wrist—the original wrist watches.

There is one timepiece known as the "resurrection watch," because it is a standing figure whose outstretched arms designate the hours of the day. Another has nine dials, 10 of which show the Persian calendar of twenty-nine days and the Arabic calendar of thirty days, besides others indicating the changes of the moon and astronomical phenomena. Watches that strike the hours and those with raised figures, which can be read in the dark, and others shaped after the form of musical instruments, skulls and books, testimony of the ingenuity, taste, religious and artistic feeling of the makers.

### Oldest Watch Made by Blacksmith.

The oldest watch in existence, which is exhibited in this collection, was made by Peter Henlein, a Nuremberg blacksmith, about the date when Columbus was laying his plans for his first western voyage. The watch is about two and one-third inches in diameter, one inch thick, and weighs seven ounces avoirdupois. The case is bronze gilt, and may have been produced by casting, by press die and roller die, and finally hand-tooled. The dial is of brass, sunk in the centre, in which cavity is a revolving disc with a pointer which indicates the hours engraved up to 12 and repeated on the opposite half, making the dial a day and night indicator. Outside the hour numerals are four circles, marked with minutes, fifteen to each circle. The hour indicator makes one revolution in twenty-four hours, and the double-ended minute hand one revolution in fifteen minutes. The materials of the movement are iron and steel through-



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FOR THE KIDNEYS

out, with the exception of the brass bushings of the pivot holes. The workmanship is excellent.

Henlein, the inventor of this watch, was persecuted for witchcraft, when he withdrew from his companions to work out his invention. He finally was put in prison, where his watch was perfected. After some time he retired to the convent of the Carmelites, where he was allowed to manufacture watches on condition that he give the proceeds to the order. He died in 1540, at Nuremberg, the scene of his persecutions, where a monument has been erected to him.

### Her New Dress Cost Few Cents.

"Diamond Dyes" Make Faded, Old, Shabby Apparel Colorful and New.

Don't worry about perfect results. Use "Diamond Dyes," guaranteed to give a new, rich, fadeless color to any fabric, whether it be wool, silk, linen, cotton or mixed goods—dresses, blouses, stockings, skirts, children's coats, feathers, draperies, coverings. The Direction Book with each package tells so plainly how to diamond dye over any color that you can not make a mistake.

To match any material, have druggist show you "Diamond Dye" Color Card.

### Manna of Bible Found.

Belief that it has discovered one of the constituents of the Manna of the Bible is agitating the U. S. Federal Bureau of Chemistry. Be that as it may, it certainly has found and secured several pounds of melezitose, a form of sugar extremely valuable in scientific experimentation and hardly more plentiful than radium. The supply never has been sufficient to come anywhere near meeting the demands of scientists in laboratory work.

Melezitose is the original honey dew. It gets its name from the French word melez, which means larch tree, on which it first was found in minute amount rarely met with quantities. It seems that bees and peculiar summer weather in Central Pennsylvania recently conspired to lay up a lot of this unusual saccharine substance in numerous hives, where it crystallized and dealt death and destruction to so many bees when they tried to live on it, that special inquiries were held to find out the cause of this wholesale mortality among the busy workers. It was found to have been too rich for their digestion, and that they literally starved to death.

"This rare sugar," says Dr. E. T. Wherry, of the bureau, "also occurs in a honeyed incrustation or manna on a leguminous tree in Persia and adjoining countries. Recently it has been found by the Bureau of Chemistry in a similar product on the Douglas fir in British Columbia. And now it has turned up in Pennsylvania, stored away in honeycombs in ordinary hives. As nearly as we can tell, the origin of this still scarce sugar is due to the attacks on the scrub and, more rarely, other species of pine by a plant louse and a certain scale insect. In the course of their activities these creatures produce a honey dew which is rich in melezitose."

"In dry summers after the white clover flowers have ceased to yield honey, the bees turn to this honey dew and collect it, but it crystallizes as fast as they store it away. This occurred in 1917 and 1918. In the winters following the beekeepers sustained considerable losses when their swarms tried to live on it."

"In 1910 the summer was so moist that during July no melezitose was gathered by the bees at all. But it probably will be collected in the future whenever the summer is dry. Melezitose will not help out any in the general shortage of sugar, but it is of great scientific value to know that the honey of Central Pennsylvania may afford a permanent source of a sugar previously so rare as to be only imperfectly known. It can be distinguished from other sugars by certain peculiarities of crystallization observable with the polarizing microscope. The Bureau of Chemistry extracted considerable quantities from honey in 1917 and 1918, and is making extensive experiments with it. There is a large and definite demand for melezitose for use in all scientific laboratories."

### The King's Gold and Silver Sticks.

Before the war we frequently read in the papers that Lord So-and-So had been appointed Gold Stick in Waiting to the King, and Colonel Somebody-Else Silver Stick. Fresh appointments were made at the end of each month, notification of which appeared in most of the London and provincial newspapers; so that everybody in time grew accustomed to the repetition of these appointments appearing so regularly. But familiar as the titles became, few people knew the origin of the appointments or had any knowledge of the nature of the duties attached to them.

Away back in the seventeenth century the Life Guards constituted three troops, each troop being separately commanded by a captain who held the rank of colonel in the Army, a duality of ranks which does not exist now, having been abolished some years ago. One of the most important duties imposed on the Life Guards in those days was a very close attendance on the King when he was on foot. No matter in what direction His Majesty's steps strayed, he had to be attended in this manner the duty beginning when he rose in the morning, and only finishing when he sought repose at night. The officers selected for the performance of these very onerous duties were the three captain-colonels commanding the Life Guards troops, each taking it in turn to attend the King's person.

In order to distinguish him, and to confer on him special powers of authority, he was given an ebony staff mounted with a gold head on which was engrossed the King's crown and cipher. This staff or stick he invariably carried about with him as his badge of office, and from this he was styled "Gold Stick in Waiting," a title which has continued in force up to now. The representatives of the three old-time troops are the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, and the Royal Horse Guards, and the three respective colonels will once more take it in turn, month about, to perform this ancient and honored office.

When the appointment was first instituted it was deemed necessary at the same time to appoint an assistant, who might at times relieve the Gold Stick if required, or act for him in his absence. But it was at the same time decided that the appointment of this assistant should also be limited to the three Life Guards troops, and so three officers of lesser rank were chosen, each taking it in turn for

duty in the manner of the Gold Stick. To this officer was assigned an ebony staff with a silver head, also inscribed with the King's crown and cipher and, like his senior, this officer took the title from his baton and became the "Silver Stick in Waiting."

### The Mystery of "J" and "W".

It is a fact, not so well known but that it may be said to be curious, that the letters of J and W are modern additions to our alphabet. The letter J only came into general use during the time of the Commonwealth, say between 1649 and 1658. From 1630 to 1646 its use is exceedingly rare, and you will not find a book printed prior to 1652 in which it appeared.

In the century immediately preceding the seventeenth it became the fashion to tail the last I, when Roman numerals were used, as in this example: viij, for 8 or xij in place of 12. This fashion still lingers, but only in physicians' prescriptions. Where the French use J it has the power of S as we use it in the word "vision." What nation was the first to use it as a new letter is an interesting, but perhaps an unanswerable query.

In a like manner, the printers and language makers of the latter part of the sixteenth century began to recognize the fact that there was a sound in spoken English which was without a representative in the shape of an alphabetical sign or character, as the first sound in the word "wet."

Prior to that time it had always been spelled as "vet," the v having the long sound of u or of two u's together. In order to convey an idea of the new sound they began to spell such words as "wet," "wealth," "web," etc., with two u's, and as the u of that date was a typical v, the three words above looked like this: "vvet," "vvealth," "vweb."

After a while the typefounders recognized the fact that the double u had come to stay, so they joined the two u's together, and made the character now so well known as the w. In one book three forms of the w are given. The first is an old double v (vv), the next is one in which the last stroke of the first v crosses the first stroke of the second, and the third is the common w we use to-day.

Frocks of gingham often have waists of plain material.

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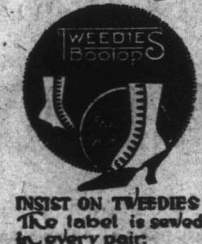
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