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WEIRD JEWELS

Owls' Heads, Snakes and Goblin-Like Fish Among Designs.

[London Leader.]
Jewelry of the most original kind is occupying the attention of Paris; queer-shaped rings and brooches are being eagerly sought after, and the old-fashioned gold filigree work promises to be in great favor. Among the most unique designs is a plaque de cou shaped to the neck about four inches long and one-half wide. It is of gold filigree work, rather sparsely spaced, the interstices being filled in with strange translucent enamel exactly of the shade of green sea water. Inlaid upon this are two weird goblin-like fish—one dark green, the other pale violet—their scales outlined in cloisonné gold, the eyes and the head being studded with irregular shaped pieces of pearl, opals and chrysoprases. There are several other combs of wonderful design also. One is formed of two dull silver storks craning their necks upward around a large slab of mother-of-pearl taken from the edge of part of an oyster shell, and called a soufflé de perle, in which three incipient pearls are seen to be forming. The teeth of the comb are of carved ivory. Another ivory comb has a hydra rising angrily in a golden spray of seven snakes' heads.

There are also strange and wonderful rings of various kinds. One is wrought in designs of owls' heads, of angels with folded or outstretched wings, or of huge, uncanny spiders, set with pearls, turquoises, amethysts, or moonstones in exquisite fantasy of colors. There are brooches, too, and buttons in sets of transparent sea green enamel, across which lines of silver seaweed, waving in the tide, are represented encircling some precious pearl. A brooch representing a golden fan studded with five large, round opals, forms a gorgeous ground to the design of a snake, an Egyptian slave, carved out of black onyx. There are many other designs, representing fantastic heads of women with riotous hair, or angels with purely closed wings. There are even umbrellas handles representing a hippocampus in strange gilded silver, with chrysoprase eyes. There is a hatpin with a large pearl forming the heart in the center of some violet enamel with pale gold veining. There are buckles formed of huge flamingoes with twisted legs and wings tinted in all tones of silver and gold, and there is a huge breastplate of dull silver set with amethysts and chrysoprases, from which are pendant long chains of graduated pearls which reach upward toward two shoulder pieces to match.

"Green Goods" Fossils.

One of the most remarkable books ever published is the Lithographia Wirceburgensis, written by Wilhelm Wirceburg, a naturalist, in 1786. Probably very few copies are in existence, as the author destroyed all that he could get possession of soon after the book appeared. It had been victimized by some practical joker, who had made a great variety of artificial "fossils" and hidden them in a quarry, to which they then enticed the professor. The book was overjoyed to find a find and had no suspicion of the trick, although many of the fossils were of a very grotesque character. He took his treasures home, made elaborate drawings of them, and wrote a minute description of each, as well as an exhaustive commentary filled with ingenious and plausible theories. When he had published the book the professor did his utmost to suppress the work.

The first surgical operation ever rendered painless by ether was performed only 55 years ago in Boston, Mass., by Dr. Morton.

OSTRICH LOGIC.

"When I can't see danger there is no danger." That's the logic of the ostrich which hides its head and exposes its body to the hunter. There are not a few people who seem to have gone to the ostrich to learn logic. The most dangerous enemies of humanity are the enemies which can't be seen, the disease breeding microbes which infect the blood. It is harder to keep the microbe out of the blood than to keep it out, but Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery does both, by purifying the blood and then keeping it pure.

If there are eruptions on the skin, boils, pimples, sores or other signs of impure blood, use Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which will purify the blood and cure the eruptions which come from it.

"My blood was all out of order, and I had to go to the doctor," writes Mrs. James R. Moss, New London, Steady. "He gave me medicine which helped me for a short time. In the winter of 1895 I got worse than I had ever been. My bowels were enlarged and my neck swollen all out of shape; my throat was sore and I could not eat. My husband went for the doctor, but he gave me no encouragement. He helped me a little, but it did not last long. He attended me for twelve months, and I heard of a lady whose condition was like mine, who was taking your medicine and was getting well. So I secured some of your medicine and began taking it. In one week I was able to do my cooking. When I began taking the medicine I could sit up only a few minutes at a time. Now I can sit up all day, and I can sleep only a little while at a time. My throat was so sore at times I could not even swallow sweet milk, and my bowels were full of little eating sores. My left side was swollen out of shape and I could hardly get my breath. The doctor said I would not get well, but three bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, three bottles of his 'Pelllets' (three bottles of Dr. Sage's Cathartic) and the use of salt water did the work and cured me."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation and its consequences.

GULF STREAM RAN BACKWARD

Turned in Its Course and Bunched Up All the Water.

Vagaries of Mighty Ocean Current As Described By One Who Witnessed Them.

"It was an Ancient Mariner, and he stoppeth one of three—By the long grey beard and glittering eye, Now wherefore stoppeth thou me?"

Capt. Jonathan Glibton of the bark Moonshine, just returned from a trip to the West Indies, is one of the Gulf Stream's wonderful stories of things happening in the Gulf, in which all the ordinary laws of tides and winds and specific gravity seemed to have been treated with contempt and to have been played and fooled with, as a boy plays and fools with a young hornless goat, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat. Before these stories were published in the newspapers Capt. Glibton, like an amiable and up-to-date ancient mariner, stopped every one he saw to tell about his most remarkable experiences with the erring Gulf stream, the truant winds and the agile waves; but yesterday he was the pursued. Every body who had read the morning paper wanted to know more about these strange tricks of nature—and in fact, some of the friends of Capt. Glibton were sceptical.

The following about the disturbances had appeared in the morning papers: "Marvelous stories are told about disturbances in the Gulf Stream. Vessels report that nature seems to be turned upside down. The Gulf Stream, which has for centuries been flowing in a certain direction, turned round and went the other way, and the waves, instead of beating on the shore, receded from it and met together in the middle of the Gulf and formed a large bunch of water." Capt. Glibton was very much disturbed and indignant because his assertions had been treated with the slightest trace of doubt. When seen yesterday he was in the Marble Hall of the custom house, having just transacted some business at one of the windows. The eyes of the captain were flashing, he was breathing hard, and, like a thunder god, he was replying to the nagging questions put to him by a number of doubting Thomases.

"Now, captain," said one gentleman, "do you really mean to say that the waves did not beat upon the shore, but receded and formed a big bunch of water in the middle of the Gulf?" "Yes, sir," roared the captain, "by the blood of me, I do mean to say it. That was not the most remarkable part of my experience. Not at all. Why, sir, I have been in the Indian Ocean in the whirl and disturbance of a typhoon and have seen waves piled on top of another like sardines—forty feet high, sir."

"But how could the Gulf Stream possibly turn around and go in another direction?" "Why? Why? Why?" stormed the captain, "how do I know? I don't run the Gulf Stream. I tell you my experience."

"Now, captain, I don't mean to offend," exclaimed his questioner in a mollifying tone; "only I would like to hear your experience in full. Certainly, by there are at all times in the world wonderful things that we cannot understand, and it is far from me to question your integrity just because you have come across something a little outside of the usual course."

"Yes, tell us your experience," chimed the chorus of voices. "Well, gentlemen," replied the captain, in a gentle voice, "since you have asked me in this polite way I will accede to your request, though my recital will be short and concise. Last Tuesday night the Moonshine was just about cutting the Gulf. There was a gentle breeze, and we were gliding along under full sail. Suddenly a sweeping storm came down upon us. We reefed quickly and only tipped a sea. In a short while, however, the storm passed away, and we had already begun to set sail, when suddenly we saw the same storm coming again, bidding us to reef. We reefed before it came again, and again we careened until my sailors looked like flies walking on a wall. Now, no sooner had the storm left us a second time when my first mate yelled to me: 'What's the matter with the Gulf Stream, captain?'"

"I did not have time to answer him, because I was thrown flat on my deck. All my sailors were lying down, and all were praying to beat the band. The Moonshine was whirling round and round, like a top. Gentlemen, the Gulf Stream had deliberately turned around, and we heard it going away in the opposite direction, muttering loudly to itself. In a little while our rotary motion ceased, and we were about to proceed on our way again, although my men were very much frightened. Suddenly, however, we began to go a hundred miles an hour toward the center of the Gulf. It was discovered that the Gulf Stream had caused a declivity in the Gulf, and that we were sliding down this declivity just as fast as we could go. The chattering of our teeth sounded like castanets. When we reached the center of the Gulf we saw a big bunch of water made by the piling up of the waves. By this time our motion had moderated, and we were able to steer around it as if it had been a mountain. Naturally, with the leaving of the Gulf Stream the waves would rush to the center, so this pile of water was really nothing very remarkable, although my statement with reference to it has caused a little comment. However, be that as it may, I have told you my experience and my mate's. And men could prove it to you, and I would have them do so, gentlemen, were it not that they are very much upset by our experiences and have been drunk for two days and two nights—which I think no man will censure, when it is considered what they have been through."

A Snow Drift Party.

An ingenious hostess provided no little amusement for her guests by what she called her "snowdrift party." This is how it was arranged:

First of all select a good book of quotations or proverbs 20 sentences applicable to snow. Write these 20 verses on 20 cards, one verse to each card, and number them with the numbers from 1 to 20. Now get together a half-dozen pasteboard or wooden boxes and fill these with flakes of cotton-wood or white paper torn into small pieces. Hide the quotation cards away in the snow thus formed. Each guest receives a wooden teaspoon, tied with ribbon, a notebook and pencil. The boxes are distinguished by letters or numbers painted upon them and lots are drawn to determine in which "snowdrift" each guest shall dig. The



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In the home nest every little one requires an ever watchful eye and when a trace of illness is noticeable the remedy should be promptly applied. The little ones are frail. Their hold upon life is slight. The slightest symptom of trouble should be met by the proper corrective medicine.

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Every mother should use them for the very good reason that they do not contain opiates or stupefying drugs.

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Ask the druggist for them. If you do not find them, send 25 cents direct to us and we will forward a box prepaid.

THE DR. WILLIAMS MEDICINE CO.,

BROCKVILLE, ONT.

WHEN CLOCKS WERE UNKNOWN

Various Ways of Keeping Track of the Flight of Time.

Some Queer Methods of Measuring the Hours by Sun Dials, Water-Clocks and Other Devices.

In the United States the oldest time-piece is the famous Endicott sundial, made in London, in 1630, and it was brought to this country the same year by Governor Endicott at the time he brought the fleet of ships laden with immigrants to settle in and around Salem, says a writer in the Boston Globe.

The dial stood for a great number of years in front of the Endicott mansion in Salem, and was in the hands of the family until sixty or seventy years ago, when it was placed in the care of the East India Marine Society, of Salem. The society held it in trust until 1869, when it came into the possession of the Essex Institute, where it now rests in a glass case in the museum.

Being unable to reclaim the original, members of the family have on different occasions had replicas made in bronze and placed near their residences.

The sundial of King Ahaz, who lived 742 years before Christ, is the first dial on record in the world. This dial was a graduated instrument having degrees of some kind which showed the daily course of the sun. The Old Testament tells us it was known in Jerusalem as early as seven centuries before Christ, and the manner of its construction indicates that it was a novelty in that city at that time. The sundial took many forms. The art of dialing involved mathematical problems of considerable complexity, and it is very likely that this contributed to the knowledge of mathematics which the world possessed at that early period. Imperfect sundials were common in Rome about a century and a half before the Christian era, so common indeed, that as new inventions nowadays afford material for the paragraph, they were targets for the funny men of that period.

The Romans later perfected a sundial suitable to their latitude, which was much more accurate. The dial was a circle with a gnomon, and the hour lines were marked by the shadow of a vertical rod.

A dial, or rather a series of dials of every conceivable description forming a structure, was erected in Whitehall, London, in 1669, by order of King Charles II. It was the invention of Francis Hall, a Jesuit and professor of mathematics at Liege. Vertical dials, inclining dials and dials for showing time, as computed by various nations at different periods, were all included and ranged on platforms. Being some bowls or brackets appear to have been the most attractive. One on the first platform to show the hour by fire, consisted of a little glass bowl filled with clear water. This bowl was placed in the middle of another sphere, about six inches in diameter, consisting of several rings or circles, representing the hour circles in the heavens.

The hour was known by applying the hand to these circles when the sun shone, and that circle where the hand fell burned by the sunbeams passing through the bowl filled with water showed the true hour.

King Alfred measured time by burning candles marked with circular lines to indicate the hours. Ingenious devices were adopted to prevent draughts from striking the flame, and thus, as it were, make "time speed on its flight" by melting the tallow of the candle before it was burned, but this was a very imperfect method of time-keeping.

The gnomon, the predecessor of the sundial, was probably one of the earliest devices for the reckoning of time, and it may reasonably be concluded that the Egyptian pyramids, with their great altitude, formed part of a device for time-keeping by the shadow thrown on the desert sands. The obelisk, too, in all probability, served the purpose, for as a matter of history an obelisk at Rome was actually used for a sundial in the time of Emperor Augustus.

The rising and setting of the sun and the changes of the moon were undoubtedly the first records of time kept by man, the shepherd of the early ages reckoning time by full moons. The lengthening of a tree's shadow gave warning that night was approaching, and another day or period of time would be at an end.

If we could step on board of a Malay prau we should see a floating bucket of water, a coconut shell

having a small hole in the bottom through which the water by slow degrees finds its way into the interior. The hole in the shell is so proportioned that the shell will fill and sink in an hour, when the man on watch calls the time and sets it afloat again.

The Chinese have a water clock in use at the present time which invention they ascribe to Hwangti, who lived, according to their chronology, more than twenty-five centuries before Christ.

A water clock, or time-recording machine, very similar to the Chinese instrument, and named the clepsydra, was used by the ancient Greeks in determining the amount of time speakers in court should take to make their arguments. The machine was in the form of a spherical vessel with a minute opening at the bottom and a short neck at the top into which the water was poured.

The running out of the water could be stopped by closing the neck. The familiar association of this device with the courts of that time is shown in many ways. In important cases of great moment to the state each party was allowed 10 amphorae, in about 50 gallons of water, as the time for which to make their arguments.

Demosthenes showed the value he placed on the time allotted him to speak, for during an interruption in one of his speeches he turned to a court officer with a premonitory: "You there. Stop that water." The time system of early Rome was of the rudest character. The day and night each were divided into four watches, the periods of which were roughly determined by observations of the course of the sun and stars.

The Accensus watched for the moment when, from the Senate House, he first caught sight of the sun between the rostra and the Curia, and then he proclaimed publicly the hour of noon. From the same point he watched the declining sun and proclaimed its disappearance.

On the mantel in the trustees' room of the Boston public library stands a clock which was bought in Paris and sent to this country in 1890 at a cost, it is said, of \$1,000, to be set up in the present building of the library which was at that time under construction.

The reproduction in bronze by M. Planchon of a celebrated design of Jean Gossart, an artist of the early part of the sixteenth century, now in the museum at Brussels. The whole structure of the clock has been chased by hand and no duplicate has ever been made from it. The bronze is richly gilded and the wings on either side of the face, which are in reality doors to protect the face of the clock, are colored.

It was exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of 1889, and the design was considered one of the finest works of art of its kind exhibited.

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Has Been a Marvelous Success and Has Proved a Blessing in Our Canadian Homes.

The men and women, the boys and girls who regularly enjoy full digestive vigor, active brain, physical strength and sweet natural sleep, are, in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, users of Malt Breakfast Food. It certainly behooves the users of oatmeal and other starchy and indigestible grain foods to give immediate attention to their present handicapped condition—poor digestion, heated blood, stomach derangements, skin eruptions and loss of bodily energy.

Malt Breakfast Food, predigested, free from every trace of insoluble starch and other properties that retard digestion, is building up thousands of weak and run down people. Dyspeptics who have made it their sole diet for a week or two have banished their troubles. Try it in your home. All grocers.

COACHING IN OLD DAYS.

[London Chronicle.]

On Dec. 21, 1843, the "Prince of Wales," the last of the coaches running between London and Bristol, was taken off the road. The decay of coaching had set in about four years earlier, and one by one the coaches had given place to the railway, after enjoying palmy days lasting about 20 years. It was on the Bristol road that the first mail coach was driven, the institution being due to the enterprise of Mr. Palmer, M. P. for Bath. The coach started from London, on Aug. 3, 1784, at 8 a.m., and reached Bristol at 11 o'clock in the night, the coaches previously driven taking from Monday to Wednesday to reach Bath. Other routes were opened in the following year, and the regulation pace of six miles an hour gradually increased to ten, when the railway entered into competition, carried the first mail in 1825, and killed coaching.

Minard's Liniment Cures La Grippe.