

USE OF IMITATION JEWELRY.

Showing Demand for Artificial Brilliance in Fashionable Flurry of Modern Times.

The range of jewelry has widened of late to include a host of knickknacks which, though not of precious stones or metals, are so ornamental that even the wealthy consider it admissible to wear them.

Belt slides and buckles, skirt clasps, hair fasteners, hat and veil pins and various safety pins for attaching swathes and rosettes, are among those belongings that women now count necessary.

All the brilliant green stones, peridot, emeralds, olivines are successfully duplicated. The foundation is the paste which forms the basis of mock diamonds.

The fine chemical emerald in the hat pin that holds on a tongue of rich lace or fur gives out a ray almost as pretty as the gem it mocks.

The jacinth, hyacinth, amethyst and aquamarine, the crystal, clear stones whose coloring seems to depend on lights that come from the bottom, are readily counterfeited.

WIRELESS MESSAGES.

Explanation in Plain Terms of How Carriers of Electricity Cross the Atlantic.

When a wireless message is sent across the ocean an electric spark is made to snap between two brass balls.

The number of waves which stream from a Marconi pole is from 500,000 to 2,000,000 per second.

Wireless telegraphy waves travel not by means of the atmosphere, but through the far more intangible substance, ether.

Many years ago it was found out that electricity passed through the space separating two long parallel wires.

The waves which fly from the transmitting station almost instantly reach the distant receiving wire.

The coherer consists of metal filings which remain separate from one another and offer resistance to a current until the waves strike the aerial.

IN THE BILL.

Lawyer (to grumbling client). Well, have you at last decided to take my advice and pay this bill of mine?

Very well, Thomas, just add six-and-eightpence to Mr. Smith's bill for further advice.—London Tit-Bits.

THE MURDEROUS SHRIKE.

Kills Many of the Smaller Birds of the North Which Visit City Parks in Winter.

People who dislike the English sparrow can see that fighter and marauder punished by spending an hour in any big city park when snow is on the ground.

The shrike is a bird which knows nothing except to kill. In the lumber camps of the north woods it is called the moose-bird, and is noted as a thief as well as a fool.

The mode of operation is both simple and interesting. Its claws are long, but do not reach the dignity of talons and have not great prehensile strength.

When its victim has been selected it darts forward with great rapidity, grasps it and strikes the bill down once.

If it is very hungry it eats the sparrow. Most often, however, it hangs the sparrow up upon a thorn or splinter, if it can find one.

Of all the gems pearls are likeliest subjects for the duplicator's art. Even the nacre, the peculiar fluid of the oyster from which the pearl is evolved, has been chemically reproduced.

Stones of a kind that old-fashioned people had set in paste to be brought out only on the occasion of masquerades and frolicsome parties are now set in rolled gold or more or less thickness and value and as part of a design that is intrinsically pleasing and appropriate.

THIS TOAD WAS WISE.

Senator Hoar Tells of the Venerable Batschian's Adventure with a Big Spider.

Among the favorite stories of Senator Hoar is a tale of a remarkable toad, possessed of intuitive knowledge of antidotes.

"I was out in my garden one day," said the senior senator from Massachusetts, "and noticed a toad hopping along toward the veranda.

The young man took from his hip pocket a whisk broom and brushed a spot on the carpet until there was not a trace of dust remaining thereon.

"Then he pulled up his trousers legs at the knees and knelt carefully upon the freshly brushed spot.

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"You, Algernon, of course I will. Don't you know I had been wondering when on earth you were really going to get up the courage to say it.—Baltimore American.

Too much recreation falls to recreation.—Chicago Daily News.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

A map of Delaware county, N. Y., drawn by Jay Gould and bearing his signature, has been discovered in the possession of a family at San Bernardino, Cal.

Asked when he had last washed, a small boy told the Crediton (England) magistrates that he had a bath last summer. The father was ordered to prison for his neglect.

A St. Louis girl drank a quantity of lye, and the alkali burns, in healing, caused the membranes of the oesophagus to grow together.

Miss Penelope Agatha Smith, is a bright child aged eight years living in St. Augustine, Fla.

Justice of the Peace George F. Seymour sat in his Hoboken office when a young couple entered carrying with them the usual and unmistakable evidence of desire to be made one.

Shortly after the marriage of Herbert W. Bowen, now United States minister to Venezuela, he and his wife were seated on the piazza of their residence in Caracas, enjoying a cigar and she busy over some fancywork.

The result of this savage industry is that two or three shrieks will clean out the trees of many acres of a park in a morning, and there will be no sparrows around there until next day.

Possibly a flock of sparrows by simultaneous attack would be able to whip one shrike, which is not a big bird, but they have not the nerve to attempt it.

"Speaking of the relative meaning of words," said an observant man, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat, "reminds me of a curious calculation I made the other day in order to demonstrate that the word 'up' had no absolute meaning except in so far as it meant out from the earth's surface, or from the center of gravity.

"The illustration is a very simple one, but will teach us a very complex lesson, and one of much value.

"Suppose we assume that we can wedge a man of ordinary size into every foot of this surface on a line around the earth, and suppose we should ask each one of them to point up.

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Should the creditor persist, he will be required to deposit a substantial sum on account of costs, and, in all likelihood, before the matter has proceeded beyond the preliminary stage, it will be found that he has unconsciously run counter to some incomprehensible Russian law, either in the mode of delivering the goods or in some other particular connected with the case, which will afford the debtor a loophole of escape.

"Say," asked the red-faced man in the hotel waiting-room, "How do you spell 'unmitigated'?"

"Why," replied the stranger next to him, "it's un-m-i-t-i-g-a-t-e-d, my friend, I wouldn't advise you to call a man a liar of any sort in a letter. You'll get yourself in trouble."—Philadelphia Press.

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"What should he have said?" "Feeding those molasses—of course."—Kansas City Journal.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

Engaged Now.—He: "Time and tide wait for no man." She (coyly): "No, but a woman will."—N. Y. Sun.

"This is an elegant piece of embroidery. It is over 50 years old." "Deu-sit!" "Did you make it?"—St. Paul Dispatch.

"Little boy, what have you tied that tin can around that dog's neck for?" "Aw, gwan. Can't you see he's bob-tailed?"—Kansas City Journal.

She Resigned.—Mr. Krusty (her employer): "Miss Uglimugg, you are late this morning. What detained you?" Miss Uglimugg: "My clock stopped, sir." Mr. Krusty: "I guess you looked at it."—Detroit Free Press.

"Hollie—I went down to a rather informal affair last evening, dear boy, and, gwanicool! I was compelled to witness a speaking engagement." "Horrors! What was it?" "A fellow without evening dress eating breakfast food for supper!"—Baltimore Herald.

Carroll: "Oh, by the way, Miss Westcott, there was something I wanted to say to you. Now what was it?" Ethel: "Can't you think?" Carroll: "Wait a minute! Oh, yes, I remember now. Will you marry me?"—Sacramento Journal.

"He's forever running down architecture." "Nonsense! Why, that's his own business. He's an architect." "Yes, but he's learning to operate an automobile. Perhaps I should have said he's running up against architecture."—Philadelphia Press.

The Observant Youth.—The pompous new resident had been having a set-to with the smart boy of the neighborhood. This was the youngster's parting shot.

"Of all countries, Germany probably offers the greatest facilities to foreigners for the recovery of money owing to them by her subjects.

The way of the foreign merchant in Italy, seeking to enter into his own by judicial methods, is full of vexations in the shape of exorbitant demands for translation and other mysterious fees, every forward step of the slow-moving legal machinery calling for ample lubrication from the pocket of the unfortunate creditor.

In Spain, the impediments in the way of debt recovery by foreigners are on a par with those of Italy. In the commercial court costs run up to 200 or 350 pesetas, and are recoverable from the defendant only if the judge is satisfied that he has acted in bad faith; that, when ordering the goods, he had no intention of paying for them unless compelled to do so.

Before an advocate in Russia can take any legal steps to validate the rights of his foreign client, he has to be furnished with (1) a lengthy paper of attorney drawn up in the Russian language, certified by a notary and vice by the Russian consul; (2) an extract containing particulars of the claim from the creditor's books, accompanied by a statement, in Russian, from the notary to the effect that the extract is a true copy of the entries in the books, which are found to be kept in good order and in accordance with the English law.

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TALKING SOMETIMES FATAL.

Physical Strain in Ordinary Conversation of Which But Few Persons Are Conscious.

Talking is an unprofitable business in more ways than one, said a man who is inclined to take the serious view of life, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

There are times when a man can turn talking to good account, as when he speaks some word of good cheer and encouragement at an opportune time, or when he is opposed forcibly against the wrong or in favor of the right.

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EGYPTIAN ENGINEERING.

Even the Great New Nile Dam is Rivalled by Marvels of Ancient Times.

When the "laudator temporis acti" wants to silence the engineer, he says: "After all, Egypt can show the biggest engineering works in the world, and they are all 4,000 years old."

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