

FIND MIRROR 2,400 YEARS OLD

British Museum Gets Beautiful Bronze Specimen of Greek Metal Workers' Art.

A Grecian bronze mirror 2,400 years old has been added to the British museum's collection of Greek antiquities. Its age has been deduced from a comparison with other early Greek bronzes found in the Acropolis excavations. According to a bulletin of the Copper and Brass Association, the mirror dates from earlier than 470 B. C.

It measures seven inches in diameter across the disk, which is plain, except for an egg-and-tongue molding and beading around the delicately worked edge. Marvelously well preserved, it bears witness to the greatness of the ancient Greek metal workers, as indeed to the enduring qualities of the material in which they wrought, says the New York Times. The disk rests on a base forming an arc of a circle, with a voluted palmette in the center supporting it. Below are the figures of a winged youth and winged maiden, springing apart, one on either side, as though for flight from a central lotus flower. Under the flower is a spike which was probably fixed originally in some kind of a pedestal, as the whole work seems too large and heavy to have been used as a hand mirror.

The figures themselves are molded in the round, but the rest of the group is in flat relief. The girl, whose figure is draped, is shown holding a fold of her skirt, while the boy, who is nude, carries a wreath. It is believed that they represent Agon (Contest) and Nika (Victory).

The earlier bronzes found in the Acropolis excavations allowed less freedom to the forms. The new statue is, in fact, a later modification of the "kneeling run" pose, as the feet of the figures are brought closer together than had been the former custom of the bronze metal workers.

BANKS ARE RICHLY HOUSED

They Spend for Buildings About One Dollar in Seven of All Their Resources.

A million dollars still seems to many people a large sum. Multiply that million 1,100 times and you have the value of the homes in which American banks do business.

Next to United States government departments American banks are better housed than any other institutions of any kind in the world, says "Gardner" in the Philadelphia Inquirer. The banks have put about one dollar in seven of all their capital, surplus and undivided profits in buildings. A decidedly solid, even if not a liquid asset!

In the procession to keep the banks in front Philadelphia is in the van. New bank buildings in process of completion here exceed in value \$10,000,000. When erected, the old United States bank building in Chestnut near Fourth street, now the custom house, was generally described as the most beautiful building in America. Huge as it then appeared to be, it would be too small for some of our banks today.

It is hard to overestimate the moral effect of beautiful bank buildings.

Japanese "Movie Fans."

Recently compiled statistics by Japan's minister of education show that the motion picture is the most popular form of amusement in that country; next comes the public story teller, and, third, the theater. It is less than ten years since motion pictures were introduced into Japan and now there are 300 theaters devoted to "movies." The most popular foreign films are the ones with much swift action, Wild West scores, hair-breadth escapes, cowpunchers and bad men of the wild and woolly West. Strange, indeed, must be the idea gleaned by the Japanese stay-at-home of the American civilization they portray.

Cremona Varnish Re-Discovered.

A maker of stringed instruments in Italy has discovered the secret of the renowned varnish of Cremona violins which used to give to the old instruments their marvelous sonority. He found the secret in an Italian manuscript dated 1716 and states that it is made with certain resinous substances and is not soluble in alcohol. The varnish was invented by the brothers Van Eyck and used by their Flemish successors. From Holland the secret of its making was brought to Italy by Antonello da Messina, and it became known to the Cremonese through some painter in the sixteenth century.

Loose but Harmless.

An Englishman was paying his first visit to Scotland. He arrived at a small town and began to question the porter. "I suppose you have a probosc here?" "Aye," said the porter. "And does he have insignia like our mayors?" "Have what?" "Insignia—well, for instance, does he have a chain?" "A chain?" said the astonished porter. "Na, na. He gans loose; but dinna be feared, he's quite harmless."

Just Like All Men.

The baby was bawling. Pa stood it as long as he could and then ventured to make inquiry. "What does the baby want?" "He is like most men," snapped ma. "How is that, my dear?" "Doesn't know what he wants, but keeps yelling for it!" she returned. "He will make a great statesman," said pa, discreetly.

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WAS NAMED ISLAND OF GOLD

New Guinea Was Discovered by Portuguese and Later Divided Among Powers.

New Guinea was first reported by two Portuguese mariners, Antonio Abreu and Francisco Serran, in 1511. They were the earliest westerners to land in New Guinea; but one Dom Jorge de Meneses, the Portuguese governor of the island of Ternate, is said to have landed there in 1523. Alvaro de Saavedra, a Spaniard, who was kin to Cortez, the discoverer and conqueror of Mexico, coasted the island in 1528 and 1529, trying to get back home to Spain, says Adventure Magazine. He found traces of gold on the northern coast and promptly labeled the island Isla del Oro, or Island of Gold.

The island was left to meditate—while the anthropophagi cheerfully raided each other and did their best to eat one another—until the great powers had annexed or stolen all the available land in the western hemisphere. Then they remembered New Guinea. An agreement between the nations of England, Germany and Holland partitioned the island amongst those governments in 1884.

Germany lost her section in 1914 when a force of Australians captured the colony, which is now administered by Australia under mandate from the League of Nations. Australia also owns the territory of Papua (formerly British New Guinea); the Dutch still hold their section, about one-half of the whole island.

DAMASCUS A BEAUTIFUL CITY

Horns, Hama and Aleppo Also Are Among the Near East's Attractive Places.

Damascus is considered one of the most beautiful cities of the East. All along the road from Beirut to this ancient city in the desert there are camel trains, almost in a continuous line, carrying the grain of the plains to the sea and bringing back the produce of the Western world. The bazaars of Damascus are the most interesting in the Near East, although they are not so extensive as those of Constantinople. After Damascus, Homs and Hama, on the road to Aleppo, attract attention, set as they are in the midst of wild, desert country, but refreshed by never ending water. Homs is the center of a great grazing country, and Hama, with its ancient waterwheels pumping water in primitive fashion, is the center of an important silk industry and market. Aleppo is a source of delight, for her bazaars are more primitive than those of any other city in the country and for the same reason full of charm. One can buy any produce of the Near and Farther East from these merchants, the produce of the looms of Persia, the silk of China, brought thousands of miles by caravan, and wonderful brass and inlay work.

Church on the Roof.

A roof garden has been installed on the top of the new \$250,000 Methodist Episcopal church at Austin, Tex. Lacking the lawn which usually surrounds churches in cities the size of Austin and smaller, and on which the night services of summer may be held, the board of stewards decided to build a roof garden where the congregation may worship in the outdoor breezes. Over the four-foot parapet wall, which will surround the roof garden, the congregation will look on the east into the grounds of the state capitol. Special electric fixtures, attached to the walls, will illumine the garden. Movable seats will be installed, and special arrangements made for seating the choir of the church.

Judged by Effect.

A small boy visiting his indulgent aunt partook heartily of cake and jam. When asked if he hadn't had all that was good for him, he replied that he didn't know yet.

"Well, you're a funny boy," said his aunt. "When will you know?" "In half an hour. If I'm not ill in half an hour, I'll be sorry I didn't take more; and if I'm ill I'll be sorry I took so much. That's the only way to tell that I know of."

Shifting Conditions.

"Your constituents say your speeches are not as convincing as they used to be."

"Perhaps they are right," replied Senator Sorghum. "It's dangerous to convince a crowd of voters so thoroughly that you won't be able to make them follow a new line of argument in case circumstances render it necessary for you to change your mind."

New Guinea's Wonder Woman.

The majority of people, except those who are residents in Australasia, have never heard of Mrs. Elizabeth Mahony, yet she is one of the most wonderful women in the world. Trader, engineer, builder, farmer, stock breeder, shipowner and mine owner, she is the uncrowned queen of an island known as Sudest, near New Guinea, where she has lived for the past 33 years.

A Good War Horse.

A farmer sold a horse to a cavalry officer, warranting the animal to be a first-rate war horse. Some time afterward the officer came to the farmer in a rage and said: "You call this animal a good war horse? Why, there's not a bit of go in him! A good war horse indeed!" "So he is," replied the farmer. "Sure, he'd rather die than run!"

Of this Wonderful Natural Remedy will do wonders for you.

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COMMON DUST USED IN MINES

When It is Mixed With That From Coal the Combination is Nonexplosive.

Dust is generally regarded as an enemy rather than a friend, and housewives have always declared relentless war on the little particles of matter that accumulate on their shelves, but some people deliberately collect dust and pile it high on shelves.

When a slight explosion occurs in a coal mine there may be no immediate damage done; but the rush of air caused by this small upheaval stirs the fine coal dust on the floor of the mine, whips it into the air and leaves it suspended; and coal dust, suspended in the air, is a deadly menace, for nothing promotes the spread of an explosion more quickly; in fact, the suspended dust becomes itself an explosive mixture, which, if ignited, could easily wreck the entire workings and cause a frightful calamity, observes the New York World.

But science has found that when coal dust in the air is mixed with other dust it becomes harmless. Therefore in the mines are shelves, and on the shelves are piles of dust collected from outside—ordinary dust, such as housewives sweep away. When a rush of air stirs the deadly coal dust it also stirs this harmless dust and mixes it with the coal; so that the air is no longer a source of danger. Inspectors visit the mines and take samples of the dust in the air and if the mixture is too nearly pure coal dust the owners are warned to put in more of the common article.

CENTIPEDES FROM TRINIDAD

London Zoo is Given Two Specimens, Each More Than One Foot Long.

A pair of unfriendly looking centipedes from Trinidad have been presented to the London zoo. They are each more than a foot long, and at the broadest part nearly half an inch across. They are dark brown, with rings on the long feelers and on the legs, a pair of which projects from each flattened segment of the body. These tropical centipedes live in shady places, hidden under bark, stones or dead leaves, moving chiefly at night. It has been shown that the whole of the body of these centipedes secretes a volatile venom, so that even the wounds made by the sharp claws are extremely painful. Under the surface of the head it carries a formidable pair of poison fangs, the venom of which escapes by a pore in the claw, being formed by large glands at the base of the claws. The venom is an acid opalescent liquid, hardly miscible with water. When injected into the veins of rabbits it produces instantaneous paralysis, with coagulation of the blood; when injected under the skin enormous abscesses are rapidly formed. The bite is very painful to human beings, but has not been known to be fatal, although it causes insomnia, local swelling and occasionally ulcers.

Regrets Passing of Parsing.

It is said that English grammar as we studied it has been discarded, writes Mitchell Brook in Scribner's. I certainly have found nothing resembling it in the school work of my own children. The more's the pity!

A language has its anatomy, which must be mastered in order properly to manipulate that language. How we used to take apart and put together again and pound the meaning out of "Paradise Lost" and the selections from Shakespeare given in the back of "Brown's Grammar"—that grammar that was the law and the prophets of English language study in those days! "Parsing" it was called. But so the English speech became a wonderful and living, albeit useful, thing to us.

Rifle Has Done Its Bit.

When a private stationed at Fort Benning was engaged in cleaning a rifle which he had just drawn, he pushed out a small roll of paper which contained the following message: "This rifle was used by Private Frank Webster 2010213, I Co., 125th Inf. I fired this point-blank at seven Germans, Oct. 7, 1918, in an attack on the Kriemhilde Stellung during the Meuse-Argo offensive. On Oct. 11, 1918, I fired with this rifle 115 rounds while in the third battalion, 125th Inf. Gassed in the Death Valley near Geaves, France. Whoever draws this rifle can know it has done its bit."

Big Cats Like Catnip, Too.

We have all heard that cats like catnip. It remained for government scientists to apply this knowledge practically to the big cats. They found the hunting of mountain lions and bobcats with dogs and guns to prevent destruction of Western cattle was an expensive proposition. Then they thought of catnip. Large quantities of this aromatic herb were raised. From this chemists extracted the oil which gives it its odor. Now it is no longer necessary to look up the lions. They walk right into traps scented with catnip oil.

Why He Was Sad.

"Why do you look so sorrowful, Dennis?" "I just hear-d wan man call another man a liar, and the man that was called a liar said the other man would have to apologize, or there would be a fight."

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"Jehu."

Jehu as a colloquial name for a coachman, or for one who drives recklessly, is derived from a biblical source. II Kings, 9:20. "The driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, for he driveth furiously."

A Doubtful Compliment.
At a New Hampshire wedding a friend of the groom remarked him closely during the ceremony, and when it was over he haste to the happy man and said: "Bill, ye done fine! I had an idea ye would be skittish while ye was bel'n' tied up, but by zosh, ye look as bold as a sheep!" —Boston Transcript.

That "V" Shaped Vest.
The V-shaped opening of a waistcoat is really a piece of vanity, giving the wearer a chance to show what sort of shirt he wears. It originated in the days when linen was first worn, and the man who could sport a linen shirt was considered something of a "swell." He had the opening cut in his waistcoat so that all could see his elegance.

Also With Gloves.
A magazine article is headed, "How to Treat Slick Bees." For our own part, we always treat bees with respect, sick or well.



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