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MY LADY'S RING.

FACTS AND FANCIES CONCERNING MANY HOOPS OF GOLD.

The Engagement and Wedding Rings and the Fingers They Adorn-Superstitions and Omens Connected with Them-The Poy Ring of the Sixteenth Century.

The origin of the circlet that adorns my lady's hand is obscure, though very ancient. There is a tradition which assigns the invention of the ring to Tubal Cain, and the old Latin author who gives circulation to the story, in speaking of the wedding circlet, says: "The form of the ring being circular—that is to say, round and without end—parteth this much, that mutual love and hearty affection should roundly flow from one to the other, as in the circle, and that continually forever."

The hands of female mummies found in the tombs of Egypt are profusely decorated with rings, thus proving that ring wearing was an established custom at a very early day. The wealthy ladies of Egypt wore rings on nearly every finger—and costly rings they were, too. Their poorer sisters used less costly circlets, and with rings formed of bronze, glass and pottery with unusual mottoes were their finger friends.

BETROTHAL AND MARRIAGE RINGS.

Marriage by the ring is common in many countries besides our own. The Russians have two rings, which are changed three times. In the first place, the man places the ring on the woman's finger, then the priest changes the man's ring and puts it on her finger, and then priest and man join and give her the ring for life.

Wedding rings have not always been made of metal. Necessity has caused the invention of some singular ones. On several occasions a piece cut from the finger of a kid glove has answered for the wedding circlet. When the gallant Duke of Hamilton married Miss Gunning almost on the spur of the moment, one night say for the courtship was of but two days' duration, I believe, no proper ceremonial ring was at hand. The archbishop refused to act without a ring, and the lord and his lady were for a while distracted. But at length the knot was cut in an ingenious manner and the young couple were married by the ring of the dead curd, which no doubt cut a curious figure on the white hand of the fair damsel.

Among the Armenians children are subjected to early betrothal by ring ceremony. This is done by the mothers, who make the occasion a very solemn one, and at any time years afterward the man can claim his bride. But once a year from the date of the betrothal the prospective bride is entitled to receive an Easter dress from the hands of the future husband. Customs similar to this one prevail in various countries of the east, and the ring is made to play a very important part in the woman's life.

In Roman epicals, mentions Macrobius, the man gave the woman a ring by way of pledge, and the woman put it on the third finger of her left hand, because it was believed that a nerve ran from that finger to the heart. The Egyptians ascribed the possession of this important nerve to the fourth finger of the same hand. Coming down to later belief and usage, we find that Madame de la Tour, writing of my lady's ring, says that if the lady is willing to marry, the circlet should be worn on the index finger of the left hand; if engaged, on the second finger; if married, on the third; but if she has no desire to wed, then on the little finger.

The sign language of the ring is varied and quaint. For instance, we are told that a ring on the forefinger indicates a haughty, bold and overbearing spirit; on the long finger, prudence, dignity and discretion; on the marriage finger, love and affection; on the little finger, a masterful spirit.

One would not think that rings were once worn on the thumb, but such was one of the customs that prevailed from the Fourteenth to the Seventeenth century. We are quite familiar with Falstaff's extravagant boast that, when young, he was slim enough to "creep into any alderman's thumb ring." But thumb rings never came into general use among the ladies. They preferred to keep the ring on the tapering fingers, where it could be worn with more ease and to better advantage.

Wedding rings in all ages have been regarded sacred. In many parts of the world, one of the beautiful and unfortunate heroines of history, was forced to dispose of her jewels she kept as most precious to her wedding ring. Dr. Samuel Johnson kept his wife's ring as a sacred treasure, and the keepsake most valued by Victoria is known to be the ring placed on her finger by Albert on their wedding day. There is a story told of a Russian prince who, on being searched previous to a life long exile in Siberia, begged to be allowed to retain a plain gold ring which kept alive the memory of a happy marriage. And the story goes, I am glad to say, that he went to the mines with the treasure next to his heart.

POY AND MOTTO RINGS. Poy rings came into vogue with the Sixteenth century. These were motto rings, and they form one of the most interesting chapters of ring lore. It is said that the famous ring which Queen Elizabeth the First kept by the Countess of Nottingham, but which the willful woman did not deliver until after the duke's death, was a poy. These rings were common between lovers and friends all over Europe. They bore rhyming mottoes and affectionate sentiments, and the lady without a poy ring was looked upon as forlorn and with few hopes of marriage ahead.

Shakespeare knew the poy ring, for in the "Merchant of Venice" he makes Gratiano and Nerissa say: Gratiano—About a hoop of gold, a paly ring. That she did give me, whose poy was, For all the world like cutler's poetry Upon a knife, "Love me, love me not." Nerissa—What talk you of the poy, or the value? You swore to me when I did give it you, That you would wear it till your hour of death. Some of the mottoes on the old poy rings are beautifully quaint. The list of them is entirely too long to be embodied in this article, but I cannot refrain from giving a few: "In thee my choice, I do rejoice." "May God above increase our love." "Not for a day, but one till life is done." "My heart and I until I die." "As gold is pure, so love is sure." "As long as life your loving wife." "Love is sure where faith is pure." "Love is heaven, and heaven is love." "Not for a day, but love, for aye." "Love is heaven, and heaven is love." "When this you see, then think of me." "In gold I'm cast to bind two fast." "My heart is true, true love of mine."—T. C. Hartough in Pittsburg Bulletin.

Including policemen, postoffice officials, marketmen and women, care takers, hospital nurses and newspaper writers and printers, it is estimated that fully 100,000 of the inhabitants of London are night workers.

A NAME FOR THE BABY.

From this list of names you, maybe, Can get one to please the baby.

- Agnes, Celia, Adelaide, Anna, Blanche, Agatha, Constance, Hannah, Charlotte, Claudia, Barbara, Thelma, Elizabeth, Mabel, Frances, Hebe; Caroline, Catherine, Eva, Cora, Corinne, Beatrice, Lilly, Flora; Augusta, Dorothy, Doris, Helma, Grace, Louise, Letitia, Ellen; Georgia, Gertrude, Ruth, Estella, Julia, Rosalie, Arabella; Lucy, Winifred, Portia, Laura, Eloise, Prudence, Patience, Clara; Myra, Myrtle, May, Malvina, Amanda, Emil, Rose, Selma; Antoinette, Rosalind, Ann, Cornelia, Rosamond, Nanette, Jean, Cordelia; Mary, Margaret, Edith, Ida, Penelope, Emma, Aileen, Ada; Johanna, Opheila, Olivia, Jane, Regina, Sarah, Sophia, Elaine; Harriet, Louisa, Kate, Elvira; Pauline, Louisa, Lucretia, Almira; Hypatia, Eunice, Henrietta; Euphonia, Sybil, Alfredetta; Charlotte, Millie, Maud, Matilda; Theresa, Adelaide, Pearl, Clotilda; Marion, Miriam, Josephine; Victoria, Florence, Imogene; Virginia, Magdalena, Isabella; Eliza, Isabel, Cinderella; Felicia, Alice, Gladys, Bertha; Eleanor, Ursula, Clarissa, Martha; Juliet, Adella, Venus, Amelia; Georgianna, Rosamond, Violet, Adella; Daisy, Ethel, Bridget, Annie; Eve, Eliza, Clothilde, Fanny; Angela, Mercy, Angelina, Nancy, Gwendolyn, Christina; Arnold, Anthony, Peter, Paul, Christopher, Isaac, Robert, Saul; Clement, Conrad, David, Elias; Dennis, Richard, Francis, Cyrus; Edmund, Edward, George, Adolphus; Edgar, Edwin, Luke, Augustus; Ferdinand, Henry, Harry, Rudolf; Julian, Julius, Gerald, Adolph; Hiram, Eben, Kenneth, Giles, Nathan, Reuben, Percy, Miles; Frederick, Everard, Felix, Justin, Eustace, Ernest, Evan, Austin; Percy, Owen, Grever, Victor; Gregory, Hilary, Jacob, Hector; Francis, Elijah, Benjamin, Thomas; Alphonso, Alexander, William, Morris; Augustus, Samuel, Abraham, Abram; Arthur, Alfred, Albert, John; Mathew, Mark, Mathias, John; Columbus, Cyril, Jonathan; Basil, Robert, Theodora, Horace; Raphael, Simon, Asa, Maurice; Ferdinand, Solomon, Ezra, Lewis; Gustavus, Goddard, Harold, Lucas; Jasper, Joseph, Allan, Elias; Jonah, Titus, Hugh, Tobias; Roderick, Charles, Theobald, Herman; Roger, Roland, Rodney, Aaron; Sebastian, Stephen, Guy, Cornelius; Theodore, Tracy, Ralph, Theophilus; Jacob, James, Jerome, Job, Geoffrey; Reginald, Philip, Raymond, Humphrey; Walter, Reynold, Randall, Joshua; Richard, Richard, Michael, Esau; Patrick, Philibert, Lucian, Andrew; Leonard, Orville, Frank, Bartholomew; Nicholas, Oliver, Martin, Godfrey; Manuel, Daniel, Eben, Jeffrey; Eugene, Ebenezer, August, Albert; Simon, Gilbert, Hubert, Herbert.

Encouragement.



"What a pity you don't have looking glasses all along the walls—then one could see oneself as one went round, you know."

"Why, miss, if you was to see yourself in a looking glass just now, you'd never get on a horse again!"—Punch.

Human Nature.

Conversation twenty years hence—Young Man—Father, I suppose you witnessed the great parade at the time of the Washington centennial celebration?

Mr. B.—My dear Mrs. Croesus, may I not put your name down for tickets to Professor Pundit's course of lectures on Buddhism?

Mr. C.—Oh, by all means! You know how passionately fond I am of flowers.—Nursery World.

The Way He Felt About It. Visitor—So your sister is off on a visit, Willie. I suppose you feel very lonesome without her?

Five-year-old Willie (dubiously)—Yes, I feel lonesome—but I'm good deal more comfortable.—Chicago Journal.

Only Three. The conversation turned upon a certain gentleman who is not what you may call a brilliant speaker. "He has only three faults," a friend apologetically remarked: "1, he reads his speeches; 2, he reads them badly; 3, they are not worth reading."—La Caricature.

Too Fraternal. "You're a nice editor, Chubb!" "What's the matter now?" "Why? you say 'the publisher of the Daily Voice is an unmitigated ass.'" "Well, he is!" "But you add: 'We advise our brother journalist to reform his stupid ways!'"—Chicago Ledger.

Speaking of Cats. Cornelia—I'm undecided as to how to wear my hair. Can you suggest a becoming way? Cornelia—Why not originate a new roll for it, and call it the "bankrupt twist"? It's certainly short enough.—Judge.

Too True. Plenty of men can tell you what the score of today's ball game was and be at the same time utterly unable to say anything about their own scores at the corner grocery.—Merchant Traveler.

He Betrayed Himself.



Manager—I'm very sorry, Mr. Clark, but I'm afraid you won't do as my stage manager. I can't have a man who's had no experience.

The New Stage Manager—What makes you think I've had no experience, sir? Manager—Why, I noticed that you took off your hat to the leading lady when you came on the stage this morning. (He left at the end of the week.)—Judge.

The Modern Idea. For some years past there has been a craze for the old fashioned time pieces that stood in the hallways of our grandfathers and are familiarly known as grandfather's clocks.

Increased Facilities for Passengers Going East over the Rock Island Route. The Council Bluffs and Chicago Limited Vestibule Express, in addition to new and elegant day coaches, Pullman Palace Sleeping Chair Cars from North Platte, Neb., through to Chicago via Omaha, stopping at all important intervening points.

Horace Greeley's Adage. It was maintained by the late Horace Greeley, that "nothing succeeds like success." If this be true, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will always be popular, as it never fails.

Cleanliness Next to Godliness. To the residents of Lincoln, Neb.: This is to notify you that the undersigned have purchased the right and title to the business heretofore conducted under the name of the Crystal Steam Laundry, and organized into a corporate body in accordance with the laws of the state of Nebraska, under the title of the "Capital Steam Laundry and Office Supply Company," of Lincoln, Nebraska.

A Baseball Man Has a Victory. Ralph Staples, first baseman for the Greenstockings, and Maude Keen, a dining room girl at the Reynolds house, bought a twentieth ticket in the Louisiana State Lottery in partnership, and at last Tuesday's drawing got \$15,000, or \$7,500 each.—South Bend, Ind., Weekly Times, April 19.

SEWING MACHINE FOR SALE—Entirely new of popular make, with all attachments, will be sold at a big bargain. Enquire at this office.

HEYMAN & DEICHES, 1515-1520 FARNAM ST., NEW PAXTON BLOCK, OMAHA, - NEB. THE LARGEST CLOAK, SUIT and FUR HOUSE. IN THE WEST

Are we not introducing many new novelties in Spring and Summer Wear, and re-

Drive out to Cushman park Sunday and get one Brown's famous dinners.

White goods and French satens—H. R. Nissley & Co.

Buy your coal of the Whitebreast Coal and Lime Co., and it will always be well screened, full weight, best quality and at right prices.

We have just received a full line of the Burt & Packard shoes at Webster & Rogers' 1043 O street.

For underwear, hosiery and kid gloves—H. R. Nissley & Co.

Take that prescription to Wilson & Green's pharmacy 139 south Tenth street, where it will be accurately compounded and prices will be reasonable.

"Taken by Siego" will begin in the COURIER of June 1st and continue through several issues. It is a love story of powerful interest, written by a New York journalist from his own experiences. The heroine is supposed to be Clara Louise Kellogg.

FOUR OF THE WON.

Col. Tanner Tells How Four of Five Tickets in the Louisiana State Lottery Drew Prizes.

"Yes," said Col. W. A. Tanner, at 308 Nicolett avenue this morning, as he invited all callers to partake of a splendid lunch which was spread out on the tables of his store, "this comes from the Louisiana State Lottery."

Col. Tanner is the well known proprietor of the "Elite," and takes his good fortune without any more ado than he would display in heating John Flammigan out of a cigar at a game of dice. He said this morning that he had bought lottery tickets at various times during his life, but doubted if he had invested \$200 in all his life.

Pumps and Wells. Dean & Horton have made contracts with well men to leave orders at their office for Drive, Bored or Tubular wells. All work guaranteed or no pay.

Help Wanted. For the benefit of the ladies who may have to pass through the common struggle of securing help, the COURIER will receive want advertisements for publication in the Daily Call want columns. Parties desiring help situations, boarders, or to rent rooms or rent houses can leave their advertisement at this office and they will be promptly delivered to the Call for publication. One cent a word per day is the expense.

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LADIES Should call our Goods and Spring Novelties and Ornaments for the head. All the latest shapes in Bangs Switches, etc. 1144 O St.

Just what Lincoln Needs Oliver Maggard with his customary enterprise has put on his Transfer Line, a huge Furniture Van! For moving Household Goods and other Goods that require careful handling, The best care is always taken and all orders entrusted are attended to by experienced workmen. Leave Orders, or Call up Telephone 114 Office with L. D. T. Co., Cor. Tenth and O Streets.

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Miss Ethel Howe. Teacher of Singing Room 131 Burr Block. Hours, 10 A. M. to 6 P. M.

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