

**ANTIQUES OF WATCHES.**

Broken Springs Said to Follow a Display of the Aurora Borealis.

Decidedly the watch is a very queer thing. It possesses some unaccountable peculiarities. Some time ago, when there had been a succession of fine displays of the aurora borealis it was estimated that in a single night in New York the mainsprings of not less than three thousand watches broke. This estimate is based on actual inquiries.

First, sensitive watches are particularly liable to be affected by electrical atmospheric disturbances. During the months of June, July and August, where these phenomena are most frequent, there are more mainsprings broken than during all the remaining months of the year. They break in a variety of ways, sometimes snapping into as many as twenty-seven pieces.

It is a fact that since the introduction of the electric light has become so general a large number of watches, some of them very fine ones, have become magnetized. While in this condition they are useless as time-keepers. This defect used to be considered incurable, and because of it thousands of watches have been thrown away, after much money had been spent on them in vain attempts to persuade them to keep good time. Among the methods resorted to were washing the parts in tartaric juice, refinishing and passing them through the fire. But all these devices were entirely failures, or only in part effective.

There are occasions when it is a very serious matter to have your watch magnetized. The captain of an Atlantic steamer, before putting to sea on a recent voyage, was invited to inspect an electric dynamo machine, and examined its parts closely. Soon after getting on board the steamer he noticed that the compass became strangely affected whenever he approached it. Whether he stood on the right or the left, or immediately in front of the compass, the needle would invariably point to him. The compass was worse than useless when he came near it. It was dangerous, and might wreck the ship. The phenomenon alarmed and puzzled the captain not a little. At length he recalled his visit to the dynamo machine, and the true solution of the eccentric behavior of the needle flashed upon him. His watch had become magnetized. When he removed it the needle resumed its constancy to the polar star.

Watches frequently get magnetized in iron mines or machine shops where they are immediately brought near swiftly running belts.

It is a well-known fact among horologists that no watch will keep the same time with two people. The cause has not yet been definitely ascertained, but it would seem that in some mysterious way a watch is affected by the temperament of the wearer. The mere physical difference in gait and movement between different people is not sufficient to account for all the variations that have been observed.—Boston Globe.

**THE WAYS OF DOMESTICS.**

Mrs. Bacon—"How do you like your new girl?" Mrs. Egbert—"First-rate; she lets me go out nearly every day."—Yonkers Statesman.

Too bad.—Mrs. Smith (to the nurse)—"Bosa, you must really take better care of the children. Here you have gone and let poor little Arthur bite his tongue again."—Etiopie Blatter.

"How do you like your new hired girl?" "Very well. She is the most careful girl I ever had. She is so careful of my dresses that I would never have known she wore them if I hadn't happened to meet her one night when she had one of them on."—N. Y. Press.

"How long did you remain with your last mistress?" asked the housewife of the applicant for employment. "Only three weeks, ma'am. There were great deal by heavy work about the house; in sure the mistress was so delicate that I had to let the place go."—Washington Star.

**FASHIONS FOR MEN.**  
FANCY handkerchiefs are among the fixtures at present taboos by well-dressed men.

The London vogue of wide cuffs does not find favor here. The snug fitting type imparts a dressy and much tidier finish.

The rain coat, for all that appearance tells of its mission, might be a jaunty cape traveling coat made from the latest pattern of fabric in the market.

The high-backed turnover has ceased to be the positive rage that it was, and has settled down as one of the staples of the men's furnishing vocabulary.

For afternoon and morning weddings the gray coat with gray satin lapel lining has been the ultra fashionable garment, while some of the extreme efforts have had the notched collar and lapel of the evening coat done in silk.

**SPEAKING ENGLISH.**  
Nor "I feel bad," but "I feel badly."  
Nor "I am real ill," but "I am really ill."  
Nor "Hain't ought," but "Shouldn't have."  
Nor "I am through dinner," but "I have finished dinner."  
Do not say "He speaks bad grammar," but "He uses poor English."  
Do not say "I'm not going, I don't believe," but "I'm not going, I believe."  
Do not begin all remarks with an exclamation such as "Well," "Say," "Boy!"  
Nor a "fave pass," but a "pass," not "new beginners," but "beginners," not "elevated up," but "elevated."—The Home.

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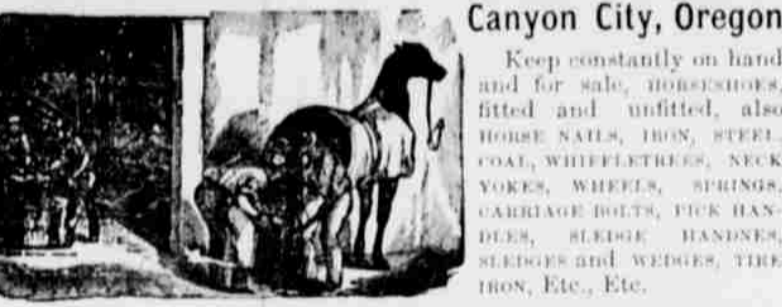


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