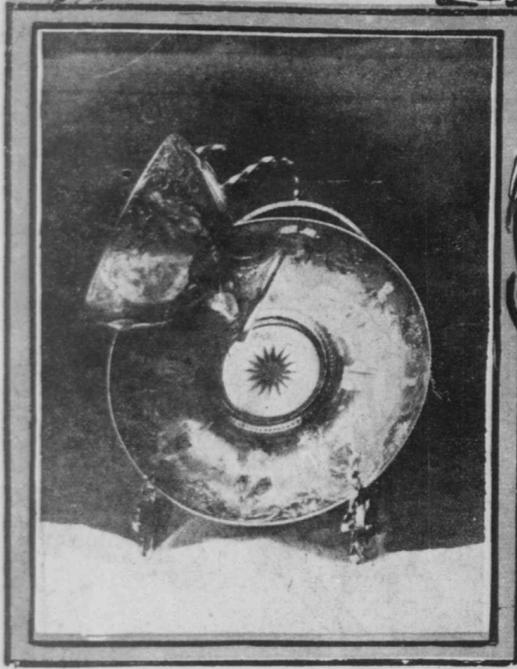


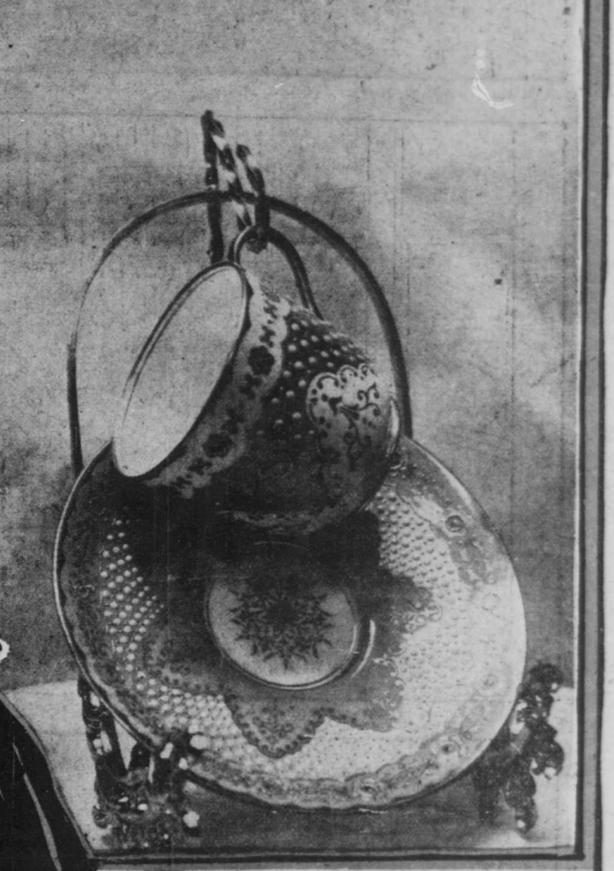
The Engagement Cup and all its Glory



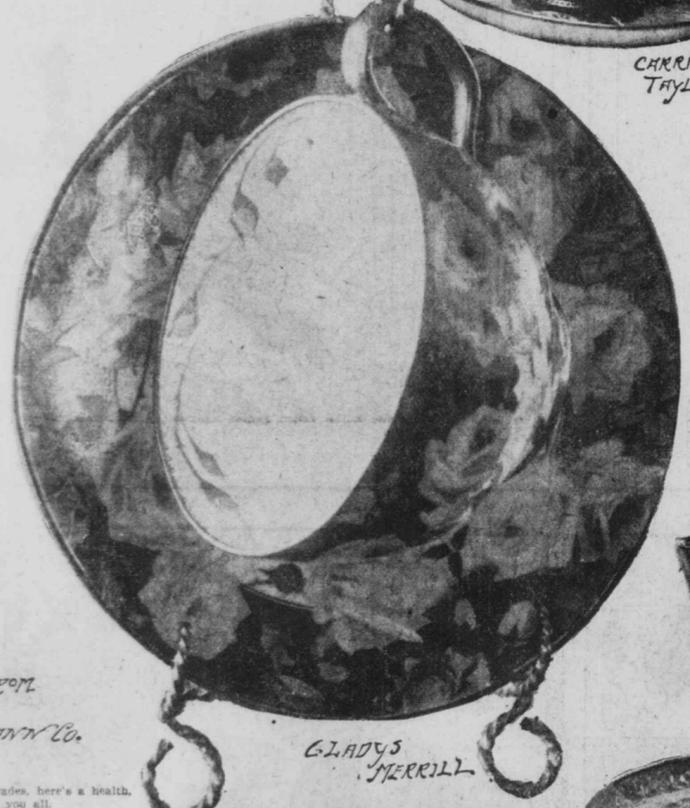
MISS GERTRUDE JOSSELYN.



CARRIE TAYLOR.



MARY NICHOLS



CUPS FROM NATHAN JOHANNY CO.

GLADYS MERRILL



AGNES JEFF-FENWICK



ETHEL KITTRIDGE

Old friends, old comrades, here's a health. A cup of greeting to you all.

Twenty-five dollars for a scrap of eggshell china! A good round sum for a cup of rare Minton or a fragile Dresden or Sevres that fairly shivers at a breath.

Yet such is the case. And we pay the gold, eye, gladly part with the glittering pieces to pay the price which capricious Cupid demands and which Dame Custom smilingly sanctions.

The engagement cup is very much in evidence. Name a bride that cannot show a wealth of money stowed carefully away on the innermost shelf. And what of it? What if the pretty bride-to-be values as highly a fragment of art in that tiny form as she would the small bronze, the crystal or the thousand and one pretty keepsakes which might be bestowed upon her by admiring friends.

Who among you dares to put a price on art in any of its forms where Cupid is concerned?

Not many of the great throng of admirers of handsome cups, particularly in loving cups, knows that tradition credits a royal personage with the invention of

The Leopard's Spots.

BY THOMAS DIXON JR.

The tenderest love tale, the most dramatic war story of the age, now running in the **Sunday Call.**

Will be followed by Emerson Hough's great story of the vampire-like influence of Washington society:

The Thirteenth District.



MARY STUBBS.

them. Kings, as a rule, are not noted as inventors. They are quite too busy attending to court matters to waste valuable time finding out the whys and wherefores of things.

Henry V of England or Henry IV of Navarre, tradition wasn't quite sure which it was, went out hunting one day. During the chase he became separated from his companions and rode alone for some little time. The day was warm and when Henry's wanderings brought him out upon the highway, in the neighborhood of an inviting inn, he realized that he was thirsty. The little maid who answered the imperial call was so embarrassed by the exceeding condescension of his Majesty that she spilled some of the wine upon the royal glove.

The King went on his way contemplating. The soiled glove didn't appeal to his august highness. Suddenly the idea occurred to him that if the cup had been provided with two handles such an accident couldn't possibly have happened. Accordingly he ordered that a cup with two handles be made by the royal pottery and sent to the tavern.

The next time the King passed that way he went in out of sheer curiosity, not because he was warm or thirsty. The same maid served him again, but so fearful was she of ruining another pair of the King's gloves that she grasped the two handles as tightly as she could. Again his imperial Majesty lost another pair of gloves. This time he reflected that if the cup had possessed three handles he certainly

could have got hold of one of them. The royal pottery again had a commission and Henry was not annoyed in this fashion again.

The cup as we know it certainly was preceded by the wassail horn, which was a most convenient thing to possess, as it was used as a trumpet one minute and the next as a drinking horn. But when Christianity came upon the rough heathen most of the fierceness in battle and bout was subdued, and the character of wassailing was entirely changed, taking on a religious aspect.

The drinking horn gave way to the wassail bowl or cup, which was used in all the great monasteries under the Latin name, "poculum charitatis"—grace, or the loving cup.

Since that time the name has clung to the many varieties of drinking vessels designed to be passed around to each member of a group in pledges of friendly feeling.

While the ordinary cup has but one handle there is almost an endless variety of fancy ones which boast of two and not infrequently three. The lovers of art in ceramics are ever searching for something new and, while the true merit is not always discerned at first glance, still the odd shapes are many times the most pleasing and the most fetching.

China and porcelain by the efforts, the skill and the taste of such men as Wedgwood has entered in the field of art, and day after day they are winning permanent places for themselves. Not to even hint that the art is a new one by any manner of means, for in the time of Assyria and Babylon the potter had achieved marvelous success.

But china has reached a place where all may have and enjoy, a few pieces at any rate, and there is scarcely a person, however lowly, who cannot purchase designs molded from Sevres and Dresden patterns, and this opens a gate for all to pass through to the cultivation of true taste in form and color.

The offerings which all girls who have a sparkling new ring on the third finger of the left hand receive as a matter of course are dainty bits of workmanship. One of the most costly

is comprised chiefly of raised work. A pattern is beautifully laid out in blue, pink and gold raised dots, and the entire cup and saucer is well covered, even to the inside of the cup. The colors are exquisitely blended and the proud possessor of such a piece of Chelsea pays anywhere from \$12.50 to \$25 for it.

Another favorite is a perfectly round cup, uniform in size and of a dark color. A rich red, a deep blue or a vivid green outlined heavily with gold. But the chief attraction is a lovely Josephine wrought in dainty colors, which stands out clearly against the dark background.

Such a cup is showy for a china closet, but it is by no means an ornament of no value excepting its intrinsic worth. These cups are more generally used for chocolate than tea and right happy should a girl be who has enough to serve six or eight friends.

Unfortunately nine out of ten such cups are not steady. They are clasped as the footcup and the slender little stem rests on a pedestal, which in turn fits in a shallow groove. They are immensely pretty, but the slightest touch of a sleeve upsets them and \$17.50 is gone forever.

What is so commonly called "hand-painted" china is extremely popular. While every possible design and flower are used—and more or less successfully—the rose in the red and pink tints and the violet shading from the palest lavender to a rich purple are by far the most effective.

It is singular how the brides-to-be seem to run to one thing. Gladys Merrill, for instance, has been showered with rare Minton, and the rose in its varying colors has been its chief decoration.

Agnes Duff-Fenwick has a fine assortment of Copeland, and not a few Josephines grace her festive board. These cups are of a peculiar shape, very tall and slender and with the very smallest stem possible. A number of cups in the same color would not be especially pretty, as the idea of sameness would spoil

the effect, but when the cup is green, a red, a yellow or some equally strong color, the tinting is ideal.

Carrie Taylor runs to a quaint English pattern. The cup is a foot-cup, slender and graceful, and the china is inlaid with gold, and now and then the most charming court ladies and gentlemen grace the scene in their clothes fashioned in the time of Henry VII.

Mary Stubbs has a collection of maidens by the name of Daphne. This cup is vastly different from any of its family, inasmuch as it is absolutely the same size from top to bottom.

Gertrude Josselyn has a row of Josephines and court ladies, besides some in violets. Her friends have been most generous, and it certainly should be a long day before she need enter a crockery shop to pay hard money for cups.

Mary Nichols has something entirely different. The majority of her fragile tea servers are incrustated gold, pink and blue. To be sure, there is a pattern, but so closely are the colors harmonized that the general outlines are somewhat vague.

Ethel Kittredge has a variety of rare cups. The bluest of roses are garlanded around the edge of the cup, and saucer, and they seem to be held in place by a rope of raised gold. What makes their design particularly appropriate is the heart feature. Hidden away under posies and gold are two little hearts of

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Watch for the exciting chapters in the third installment in next **Sunday Call.**

And then look out for Emerson Hough's story of the strange fascination of Washington social life.

The Thirteenth District.

true metal, "warranted not to tarnish." Now and then some fortunate girl receives a bit of royal Copenhagen. It is something good in a fine, hard porcelain. A ware of a dazzling white, with forms simple to severity and with colors delicate and sweet.

One peculiar thing about this porcelain is that absolutely no gold is employed, while the colors used are a pale blue, a light green or a dainty gray, with here and there a touch of violet or amber. Naturally such a ware is wonderfully satisfactory, as it blends to a nicety with all things.

Of course, a great deal of care must necessarily be taken in the cleaning of china on which gilt forms a portion or all of the decoration. Strong soap, soap powders and other washing compounds should never be used. Only a small amount of homemade or pure old-fashioned soap is allowable, if any is used at all. In fact, for the finest pieces it is much better to use none at all, which is quite possible if the water is moderately hot and the china washed and dried quickly. In this way the gilt on china, be it fine or otherwise, will last for years and will always be as bright as new.

A curious old English custom of 500 years ago is now being revived—that of presenting a "fitch" of bacon and a loving cup to any person in England who would go to Dunmow, in Essex, and humbly kneeling on two stones at the church door claim that for twelve months and a day he had never had a household brawl nor washed himself unmarried. That old custom probably will reach here if we wait long enough, for all things English do eventually, but the question is, "How many cups would be given away?"

The cup well deserves the favor in which it is held, for there is no gift more expressive of fine sentiment, love, goodwill and fellowship, whether given as a token of friendship or a mark of honor. It is always given with—

A hand to you and a health to you,
And a golden memory's wealth to you,
For the old days,
For the old, care-free days.

Photography has been put to many uses, but the latest and most original use is to ornament dresses. The first appearance of a photograph garment takes the shape of one of those charming collars which are now so fashionable. This collar is a beautiful confection of black and aluminum braiding and raised white braid flowers, and has long pointed pieces of white silk on which are beautifully photographed clusters of small field flowers. The effect is dainty, and once the photographic idea is started it needs but little stretch of the imagination to picture entire dresses on which photographed groups of flowers, or even views of scenes, may be introduced. The woman of the future may become a sort of peripatetic cinematograph, illustrating the most remarkable events of the period.—Montreal Herald and Star.