

matics in a Western college, at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a year, and her board. *Then*, when she was able, she remembered her family at home, and sent them freely more in one year than poor Lillie could earn in three. Because she respected herself, they respected her and themselves; and every one of her brothers and sisters studied diligently and turned out well. Mr. Cary was soon relieved from the pressure of all his debts, and had the satisfaction of owning his home before he died.

And next, after three years of successful, noble labor, Cornelia married a State Senator, and became a devoted, model wife and mother. She had a beautiful ideal home, and exerted a grand, elevating influence in social, educational, and church circles. Constantly increasing her loveliness and usefulness, she grew younger instead of older, until it could be truthfully said of her, that her last years were her best.

One day, Cornelia visited her old-time friend at the Home. Little was said by either, as they sat, side by side, clasping each other's hands, their eyes filled with tears.

"You see I was right," whispered Cornie, in a choking voice, "no one ever thought of calling *me* selfish. I only lived out my own life, day by day, as the way seemed to open before me. And my brothers and sisters are guiltless of the sin of ingratitude. I did my own duty and they did theirs."

"Lillie, Lillie," called Cora, "it is half-past six. Tea's ready!"

Lillie sprang to her feet, and glanced at the little clock on her mantelpiece. She had thrown herself across the foot of her bed, and slept just one hour.

The revulsion of feeling almost made her faint. She sank upon her knees, and exultingly cried, "Thank God, I am saved!"

"Are you coming, Lillie?" asked Cora, outside.

"Yes," answered Lillie, following her sister. Where's Willie? Willie run right down the street, and tell Cornie I'm going to Swarthmore."

"Why, she knows it, don't she?" queried the boy, wonderingly.

"No matter," returned Lillie, excitedly. "Go, tell her! She'll understand what I mean!"

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## The Wearing of Amulets.



HO wore the first amulet it would be impossible to say; but the adoption of a talisman to ward off evil is of very ancient origin.

Phylacteries, the Greek word for amulets, were worn by the Jews, to which allusion is made in the Scriptures. These phylacteries were a narrow strip of parchment, on which were written passages from the Old Testament. This strip was placed in a small leathern box, and bound to the left elbow by a narrow strap. There was a smaller phylactery for the forehead, the box for which was about an inch square.

The word amulet is of Arabic origin, and implies a thing suspended. Amulets were of various kinds. The moon-stone found in the desert of Arabia was worn as a talisman against enchantment by the women, who suspended it around the neck. It was a white transparent stone, the time of searching for it being midnight.

In India a variety of gems and stones are used as amulets. The most common is the *salagrama*, a stone about as large as a billiard ball, and which is perforated with black. This is supposed to be found only in the Gandaki, a river in Ne-

paul. The person who possesses one of these stones is esteemed highly fortunate; he preserves it in a clean cloth, from whence it is sometimes taken to be bathed and perfumed. He believes that the water in which it is washed, if drunk, has the power to preserve from sin. Holding it in his hand the dying Hindoo expires in peace, trusting in a stone rather than in the living God.

The modern Egyptian is a believer in the Evil Eye, to avert which he hangs around the neck charms supposed to possess a magic power. These are usually worn by children, and consist of little tin or leather cases, which inclose words either from the Scriptures or Koran, if the children are of Moslem parents.

Even the Romans were not without their charms. They hung little cases around the neck which contained a charm, generals not disdaining the same. Augustus thought it would bring him good luck to wear a piece of the sea-calf, and, therefore, never went without this talisman.

In Greece the priests sell the sick charms consisting of pieces of paper, on which is written the name of the disease from which the person is suffering, and these are nailed to the door of the chamber. Pliny tells us that any plant, gathered by a river before sunrise by a person, if unseen, tied on the left arm of an ague-patient, without his knowing what it is, will cure the disease.

Queen Elizabeth, during her last illness, wore around her neck a charm made of gold which had been bequeathed her by an old woman in Wales, who declared that so long as the queen wore it she would never be ill. The amulet, as was generally the case, proved of no avail; and Elizabeth, notwithstanding her faith in the charm, not only sickened but died. During the plague in London, people wore amulets to keep off the dread destroyer. Amulets of arsenic were worn near the heart. Quills of quicksilver were hung around the neck, and also the powder of toads.

It was not at all unusual for soldiers and others who were exposed to danger to wear talismans by way of protection. A story, which gained credence, is told of a soldier in the time of the Prince of Orange. He was a Spanish prisoner, and, on being condemned to be shot, it was found that he was invulnerable. The soldiers stripped him to see what kind of armor he wore, when it was discovered that he was not protected in that way, but an amulet, on which was the figure of a lamb, was found on his person. This was taken away from him, and the shots took effect. During the Prussian war of 1870, after the battles, the field was frequently found full of amulets which had fallen from the dying grasp of the soldiers. It was ascertained that the more ignorant the Russian soldier, the more he clung to the belief in the protective power of the amulet.

In 1838 a beautiful locket, forming a small padlock, was found in digging a grave in a churchyard at Devizes, in Wiltshire, England. This was a charm, and, being valuable, was buried with the owner.

Louis Napoleon, who believed himself, even amidst exile and poverty, destined to that throne which the prestige of his name and his cunning *coup d'etat* enabled him to reach, was not without his superstitions. In his will he says, "With regard to my son, let him keep as a talisman the seal I used to wear attached to my watch." This talisman had no power to turn aside the fatal balls of the Zulus; and the young Napoleon met a sadder fate than his father's worst fears could have imagined for him.

What were known as anodyne necklaces, which were beads made out of the root of the white bryony, were hung around the necks of infants to ward off convulsions. The Chinese wore pearls as a charm against fire; and in some countries the agate formed an amulet that was supposed to protect from disease.