

This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1913 Excerpt: ...turned into stone by wizards, p. 809. Preller thinks that Acteon, devoured by his hounds after being changed into a stag, is a symbol of the vernal year. Palaephatus (De Fab. Narrat.) holds that the story is a moral fable. Porman, p. 187. Without delaying longer among savage myths of metamorphosis into stones, it may be briefly shown that the Greeks retained this with all the other vagaries of early fancy. Every one remembers the use which Perseus made of the Gorgons head, and the stones on the coast of Seriphus, which, like the burners Samoa, p. 299. Samoa, p. 31. Op. cit., p. 34. Gill, Myths and Songs, p. 60. Codrington, Journ. Anthropol. Inst., February, 1881. STONE MYTHS. 153 stones near Western Point in Victoria, had once been men, the enemies of the hero. Also he slew the Gorgon, sings Pindar, and bare home her head, with serpent tresses decked, to the island folk a stony death. Observe Pindar's explanatory remark: I ween there is no marvel impossible if gods have wrought thereto. In the same pious spirit a Turk in an isle of the Levant once told Mr. Newton a story of how a man hunted a stag, and the stag spoke to him. The stag spoke? said Mr. Newton. Yes, by Allah's will, replied the Turk like Pindar, he was repeating an incident quite natural to the minds of Australians, or Bushmen, or Samoans, or Red Men, but, like the religious Pindar, he felt that the affair was rather marvellous, and accounted for it by the exercise of omnipotent power. The Greek example of Niobe and her children may best be quoted in Mr. Bridges translation from the Iliad:--And somewhere now, among lone mountain rocks On Sipylus, where couch the nymphs at night Who dance all day by Achelous stream, The once proud...

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