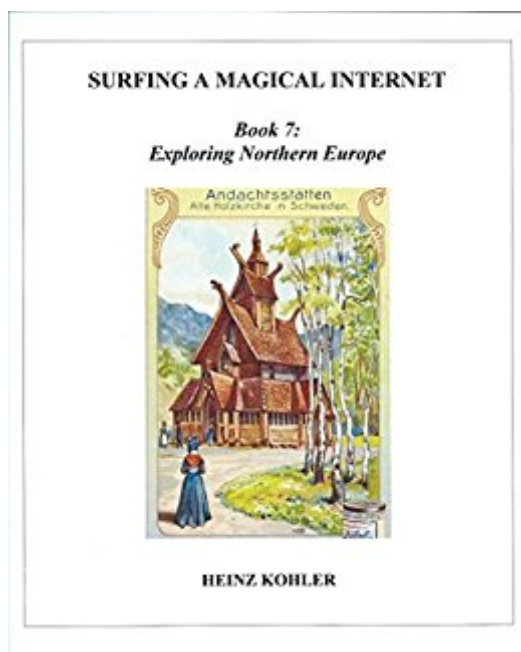


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Exploring Northern Europe (SURFING A MAGICAL INTERNET Book 7)



Synopsis

Some 150 years ago, the newly formed Liebig's Extract of Meat Company rewarded loyal customers with gifts of colorful picture cards. Each card was a work of art; before long, thousands of them were circulating. Their beautiful images and associated commentary captivated people and new editions were eagerly awaited. As a group, they told fascinating stories about every conceivable aspect of life on earth and, similar to what the internet might do in our time, came to embody the sum total of human knowledge. With the help of these cards, collectors could travel the globe, meet people from any country on earth and learn about their customs. They could visit lost civilizations, too, or marvel at natural and man-made wonders around the globe. They could study up on plants and animals or the evolution of commerce and transport, learn about geography and history and natural science. They could discover the secrets of agriculture, forestry and fishing or trace the origin of new inventions that were transforming industry and life in general. They could familiarize themselves with music and literature, great art and architecture, with famous men and women of all ages and, most importantly perhaps, with children's favorite world of giants and dwarfs, elves and gnomes, riddles and fairy tales! As a result, strange as it may sound, the company's most important contribution, perhaps, was not to the kitchens of the world, but to the education of millions of people of all ages who could not go to school or afford books! The author's grandmother was one of them and, many years later, when he was a child, she used her large collection of Liebig cards, as one might the modern-day internet, to satisfy his urge to find out everything about the big wide world. This book resurrects a portion of grandmother's magical internet. It is Book 7 of the SURFING A MAGICAL INTERNET series and includes 72 images, along with translations of associated commentary. It takes us on a trip through Northern Europe as it appeared to travelers a century or more ago. When joining those travelers to visit places like Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Iceland, several of which were not even independent countries at the time, we enter something like a time machine, which makes for an especially intriguing trip. Unlike the real thing, it is much less scary, too. In fact, in the process, we can safely travel to an even more distant past and have fun by learning about a time when Norse gods ruled the world!

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