

## SOME NOBLE DIAMONDS.

GEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN VALUED AT MILLIONS EACH.

Strange Histories of Some of the Famous Stones—How They Have Been Saved in Times of Danger—The Largest Diamond in the United States.

Most of the great diamonds of the world have about them an atmosphere of romantic tradition, writes F. G. Knug. Objects of such rarity and value have attracted the avarice and ambition of Eastern rulers through centuries, and it has been truly said that almost every one of the great diamonds now the pride of royal treasuries, or of rare collections in Europe, has a history full of strife, contest, rivalry, and war. It is only their enormous money value, and the pride of possession which have made them objects of the most violent contention, but also the superstition investing them with all manner of fancied powers, which they are reputed to confer on their possessor. Out of all the great diamonds of the East hangs this cloud of mingled history, tradition, often hard to distinguish, rendering the real record almost unobtainable.

The celebrated traveller, Tavernier, first in 1670 and there saw many most remarkable diamonds. One of the famous Aurangzeb throne of the Mogul, the subsequent history of which is obscure. In 1739 the emperor, Nadir Shah, overran India and carried back with him diamonds estimated at seven millions of dollars, among which these jewels. After his death they were dispersed, and it is difficult to trace them. The diamonds of Europe are in many cases scattered plunder of

diamond ever known until it was described by Tavernier as the Great Mogul. Its weight was 862 1/2 carats, but by a Venetian lapidary, Jehan, from whom it was inherited, the stone had been cut into 280 carats, and nearly lost his head. It is said to have been taken to the Kistna River, in India, to have been thrown into the sea. It is said to have been taken to the Kistna River, in India, to have been thrown into the sea.

The supposed enormous diamond sent from Brazil to the King of Portugal in 1745 has never been seen by any one who was allowed to examine it or near enough to give an accurate idea as to what it really is. An illustration has come to my hand from the London Magazine of December, 1746, gives its form as egg-shaped, its weight 1,680 carats, and its value £224,000,000 (\$1,200,000,000). The form represented proves conclusively that it is not a diamond, but a rolled pebble of white topaz or rock crystal, as the diamond, from its extreme hardness, never occurs in a rolled form.

Of colored diamonds the most remarkable are the following: The hope diamond, 44 1/2 carats, of a brilliant sapphire blue, one of the most beautiful stones in existence, was in the collection of the late Mr. Hope of Amsterdam, who valued it at £32,000 (\$160,000), and has lately been sold to an English millionaire, Mr. Joseph Tasker, for £160,000 (\$800,000). The sale was cancelled because the purchaser said that he was drunk. The stone is doubtless the same as a blue diamond described by Tavernier, which was afterward sold to the French crown, and disappeared after the robbery of the French crown jewels from the Garde Meuble, in 1793.

The Green Diamond of Dresden, now in the celebrated Green Vault of that city, is a pear-shaped stone of 38 carats. It was purchased by Augustus the Strong, and is a remarkably beautiful green diamond.

The Florentine diamond, often called yellow, but really sherry colored, is the largest colored stone, and belongs to the Austrian crown. It weighs 133 carats, and is valued at 1,000,000 florins (\$540,000). Its history is mysterious; it was found on the battlefield of Granson, by a soldier, who sold it for 1 florin.

It finally came to the Duke of Milan, then to Pope Julius II., and by him was presented to the Emperor of Austria. The finest yellow diamond known, and the largest stone in this country, is the Tiffany diamond of 123 1/2 carats. It is a flawless double brilliant of a rich orange yellow, and is valued at \$100,000. It is an African stone, belonging to Tiffany & Co. of New York, and has never been offered for sale.

The Star of the South is a Brazilian stone of pale yellow, and nearly the same size, 135 1/2 carats. Its original weight was just about double. It has considerable fire and ranks among the finest stones known; it now belongs to the Maharajah of Baroda.

The Red Russian diamond is small (10 carats), but remarkable for its brilliant red color. It was purchased by the Emperor Paul I. for \$75,000 (100,000 rubles) and letters of nobility.

A diamond weighing 457 1/2 carats was brought from the Cape in 1884. It has been cut into a brilliant of 180 carats, the largest in the world, and is valued at £200,000 (\$1,000,000). The finding of this stone is involved in mystery; it was, evidently, surreptitiously taken from one of the mines. The name "Victoria" was given to it, in honor of the Queen, and from 1888 to 1893 it was the finest brilliant known. It is also called the "Imperial."

## World Weary.

Lea-Highy is the most utterly blasé fellow I ever met! Does not believe in man, woman or the world.

Perrins—Let's see; he's pretty near twenty now, isn't he?

## BRITONS WITH LUGGAGE.

THEIR STYLE IMITATED BY SOME AMERICANS.

Articles Carried on a Journey in England Which Are Rarely Seen on this Side of the Water—Some of the Things Which Are Odd Sights in America.

As the travelling Briton is known in this country by his luggage, so the American woman was once hated in Europe because of her Saratoga trunk, says the N. Y. Sun. The world has escaped the general adoption of the Saratoga trunk, but a worse thing seems possible, as British luggage threatens to become international. Even now you may buy in this town all the impedimenta with which the travelling Briton cumber himself and bedevils the rest of mankind. A Broadway trunkmaker has for some years past undertaken to fix the thrall of these things upon his fellow countrymen and women, and many travelling Americans, especially the wealthy and fashionable, are to be recognized by the multiplicity of British impedimenta that they carry to and fro in their frequent journeys between the Old World and the New. More curious still, those clever and imitative Japanese have begun to produce British luggage identical with the original in the minutest details, even down to hand-sewed straps on leather trunks, portmanteaus, and the like; but, drolly enough, the whole outfit is merely a paper counterfeit of the real thing.

American imitators of things British, lacking the fine humor of the Japanese, have made no substitution of light material for heavy, but have taken on the full burden of ponderous British hat boxes, portmanteaus, rugs, bags, holdalls, and even bathtubs. It was a travelling American who gave to the world an account of a refreshing scene on board a Mediterranean steamer bound to Tangier, or some such Mohammedan port of North Africa. A British passenger with his bathtub had nearly pestered the life out of a meek, coffee-colored Mohammedan, who accepted the Briton's curses without a sign of reproach; but when, in the course of getting the luggage ashore the precious bathtub fell overboard and sank like lead, the harmless follower of the Prophet was seen to pause in his work and dance gleefully upon the deck, exclaiming in triumph: "Oh! Mr. Goddam, Mr. Goddam!" It is since that incident that travelled Americans, in their aping of British ways, have accepted even the burden of the bathtub.

A study of baggage at a steamship wharf or even at a large railway station in New York is an instructive lesson as to the cosmopolitan character of the city. There is one article of British luggage that seldom survives more than one journey within the limits of the United States, and sometimes gets no further inland than the New York hotel at which the traveller makes his first stop. This article is the little trunk or box of Japanese tin, much used by traveller in Great Britain. The flimsy trifle hardly survives the first encounter with the American baggage handler, and after the first journey of 600 miles in this country is battered out of all resemblance to its original rectangular self. It is an article of luggage not suitable to the exigencies of American travel. A pathetic feature of the baggage at the railway stations that are doorways to the West is the immigrant's luggage. Sometimes it is a mattress, from the steerage, wrapped about the few belongings of the new-made American. Again, it is the corded box of the Irish, English, or Scotch immigrant. It will be recalled how important a preliminary to Charlotte Bronte's journeyings out into the great world from her Yorkshire home was the cording of her box. The corded box is as rare among the luggage of an American traveller as the old hair trunk, though both are occasionally seen. The seaman's locker, rectangular for stowage, and strong against accidents, figures in the luggage at steamship wharves. One knows instinctively its contents of old clothes, photographs, curios, tobacco, and long-treasured letters from home, and the array of pictures from the illustrated papers pasted on the inside of the lid.

The elaborate dressing cases that some Americans and all well-to-do Englishmen used to travel with are going out of fashion. It is almost a necessity that the traveller, with this pretty piece of luggage take along a valet, for the thing weighs like so much lead, and is too precious to be trusted to the tender mercies of the baggage department. The travelling desk also has nearly disappeared, though some ingenious trunk makers now produce trunks that open so as

to form desks. The luncheon hamper that used to accompany every traveller across this continent in the days before dining cars came into use has almost entirely disappeared. The California millionaires of early transcontinental travel carried enormous and richly laden hampers, and dispensed often a princely hospitality to their fellow travellers. The dinner hour on board a transcontinental train was a picturesque incident of travel in those days. The travelling Briton in Europe still, sometimes, carries his luncheon hamper, and it is often one of the nuisances of European travel.

Some of the English theatrical companies have become so used to travelling in America that they have adopted our methods with baggage. They accept with grace the great American trunk, dispense with the bathtub, and bathtub, the rugs, shawls, and the rest, and calmly se their belongings carted off by a stranger, who leaves behind as evidence only a bit of brass bearing a few letters and numbers. It is a great triumph for American methods that this should have come about, for the travelling Briton clings to his luggage as to magna charta and the bill of rights. He stows it all about him in the compartments of his own railway coach, and keeps a jealous eye upon every individual scrap of his queer belongings. His things are under the seat and over his head. He fights with his neighbors for the last inch of space, growls at the least encroachment from any other man's luggage, and as night comes on opens up and lights his personal travelling lamp and buries himself in the latest issue of the London Times. The exigencies of transatlantic travel have taught some things to those travellers not rich enough to buy great chunks of hold space. The single requirement that no trunk above 3 feet long by one foot 9 inches wide and 1 foot 3 inches deep shall be carried in the ordinary stateroom has done a vast deal toward emancipating the ordinary traveller from the thrall of impedimenta.

There are some bits of European luggage seldom seen in this country. The metallic case for the triangular cocked hat of a General officer in the British army and the sword cases of other officers are rarely seen on American railways, because British officers do not travel in this country with military accoutrements, and our own little army cut only a small figure in the great mass of travel. The respectable jipanned despatch boxes of Ambassadors and their messengers, constantly seen in Continental Europe, are almost unknown by sight to the American travelling public, and are as strange as those British official envelopes conspicuously labelled, "On her Majesty's service."

## Like the touch of Magic.

Desperate Itchings of the Skin Alayed by Chase's Ointment—The Recognized Skin Specific

It is only a few months since Dr. Chase's Ointment was brought prominently before the public, principally by its cures of stubborn and long standing cases of Itching Piles that had defied all other treatments. To-day it is recognized from ocean to ocean as an infallible cure for Itching Piles, Eczema, Eruptions and all Itching of the Skin. Its cures have rendered its sales larger than those of all other preparations for such ailments combined. People use Dr. Chase's Ointment with confidence, because in every community someone has been benefited like Mr. Simpson, Berlin, Ont., who, under date of Feb. 8, '95, writes that for a number of years he was troubled with Itching Piles; they caused intense suffering, and although dozens of advertised remedies were used, none of them did any good although some of them had long and thorough trials. Here are his own words quoted from his letter: "Last fall I got a bottle of Chase's Ointment from Mr. Landreth's drug store Berlin. I applied according to directions and soon found it was what I wanted. Only used part of one box when I was well as ever in my life. Once in a while since I have felt slight symptoms of its return, but one application of the Ointment and all is right again."

Such expressions as this from those who use Chase's account for its popularity. Price 60 Cents.

## Oldest Tree in England.

A chestnut tree at Turworth, the residence of the Earl of Ducie, near Bristol, is probably the oldest tree in England. It is 1,000 years old at least, and measures fifty feet in circumference until it branches into three limbs, one of them over ten feet in diameter.

## Dread Kidney Disease Quickly Removed.

To every bunch the many words of praise written of South American Kidney Cure would consume large newspaper space. But take at random a few: Adam Soper, Burk's Falls, Ont.: "One bottle of South American Kidney Cure convinced me of its great worth." Michael McMullen, Chesley, Ont.:

"I procured one bottle of South American Kidney Cure, and taking it according to directions got immediate relief." D. J. Locke, Sherbrooke, Que.: "I spent over \$100 for treatment, but never received marked relief until I began the use of South American Kidney Cure." Rev. James Murdoch, St. John, N. B.: "I have received one hundred dollars worth of good from one bottle of South American Kidney Cure."

## Timely Warning.



The great success of the chocolate preparations of the house of Walter Baker & Co. (established in 1780) has led to the placing on the market many misleading and unscrupulous imitations of their name, labels, and wrappers. Walter Baker & Co. are the oldest and largest manufacturers of pure and high-grade Cocos and Chocolates on this continent. No chemicals are used in their manufactures.

Consumers should ask for, and be sure that they get, the genuine Walter Baker & Co.'s goods.

WALTER BAKER & CO., Limited, DORCHESTER, MASS.

Use

## SURPRISE

Soap

on wash day.

It Saves

money.

READ the directions on the wrapper.

## Use Only Pelee Island Wine Co's. Wine

OUR BRANDS: DRY CATAWBA, SWEET CATAWBA, ISABELLA, "SS. AUGUSTINE" (Registered), CLARET.

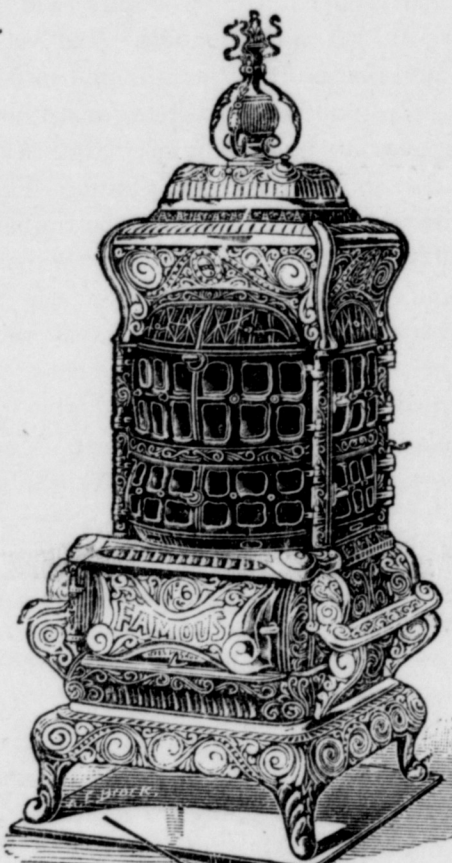
THEY ARE PURE JUICE OF THE GRAPE. MARCH 16TH, 1898

E. G. SCOVIL, AGENT PELEE ISLAND GRAPE JUICE, ST. JOHN, N. B. DEAR SIR.—My family have received great benefits from the use of the PELEE ISLAND GRAPE JUICE during the past four years. It is the best tonic and sedative for debility, nervousness and weak lungs I have ever tried. It is much cheaper and pleasanter than medicine. I would not be without it in any house. Yours, JAMES H. DAY, Day's Landing, Kings Co.

E. G. SCOVIL Tea and Wine Merchant, Telephone 523, 62 Union Street, St. John, Sole Agent for Maritime Provinces

## "Famous" Baseburner

The Handsomest and Best Working Stove of this Class in America.



The construction of the flues gives it a greater heating capacity than any other. Entire base radiates heat. Made in two sizes, with and without oven. Oven is made with three flues same as a cooking stove. Double heater attachment by which heat can be carried to upper rooms. Beautifully nickeled.

A Triumph of Art and Utility.

THE MCCLARY MFG. CO. LONDON, MONTREAL, TORONTO, WINNIPEG, VANCOUVER.

If your local dealer does not handle our goods, write our nearest house.

The Best... Advertising Medium.

Let "PROGRESS" Advertise Your Holiday Goods.

PROGRESS