

TIGERS EYE DIAMOND CAUSING SOME EXCITEMENT

Is the Largest of Diamonds With the Exception of the Kohinoor
—Weighs 16½ Carats and is Worth \$150,000— Was
Found by a British Army Officer in South Africa—Is of a
Golden Amber Hue and a Splendid Specimen.

(New York Sun)

The tigers eye diamond which is on exhibition in London, is causing no little excitement among dealers in gems and precious stones. London papers refer to it as the largest of diamonds except the Koh-i-noor. It weighs 16½ carats, is worth \$150,000 and is of golden amber hue. Experts declare it to be a perfect specimen. It was found by Capt. Thomas Leach, a British army officer in South Africa. It is so large that the owner has found it to be unsalable. He derives revenue from it by placing it on exhibition.

Those interested in diamonds will recall the Orloff in the sceptre of the Emperor of Russia which weighs 194½ carats and is cut in the rose form, with a flat face below, resembling in a measure his novel this bling half a pigeon's egg. It was sold to Count Orloff for 450,000 silver rubles in 1772. Wilkie Collins, it is stated, founded in a measure his novel

of "The Moonstone" or the history of this magnificent stone.

In 1854 a fine stone of 254½ carats was sent to London. It was an irregular dodecahedron, but of brilliant lustre and without a flaw. It is known as the "Star of the South", and since it has been cut it weighs about 124 carats.

Regent Finest Diamond

The Regent or Pitt diamond, considered the finest and most perfect brilliant in Europe, which was bought by Mr. Pitt, Governor of Madras, in 1702 for about £20,000, is the next largest. He bought it in London, had it cut out as a brilliant and sold it in 1717 to the Duke of Orleans for Louis XV for two and one-half million francs. It was sent to Berlin at the time of the first French revolution, but reappeared in the hilt of the sword of state worn by Napoleon I. This stone underwent two years of constant manipulation at the hands of gem cutters before it was complete.

The Florentine or Grand Duke, as it

is named, is the third in weight. It is of a fine yellow color, oblong and cut in. As the story goes, Charles the Bold lost the jewel at the battle of Granson and it was found by a Swiss soldier, who sold it for a few pence.

The world renowned Koh-i-noor, the largest belonging to the British Crown has an exceedingly interesting history. An Indian legend tells that it was found in one of the Golconda mines near the Krishna River and was worn 5000 years ago by Karna one of the heroes celebrated in the Mahabharata. After passing through many hands and numerous adventures, it came to Baber, the founder of the Mogul dynasty in 1526. His successor showed it to Tavernier the French traveller in 1665. In 1739 Nadir Shah the Persian invader of India got possession of it and named it Koh-i-noor or Mountain of Light.

It then fell into the hands of the successor of Nadir Shah and in 1813 to Runjeet Sing, the ruler of Lahore. On the annexation of the Punjab to British India, and in June, 1850, it was presented to Queen Victoria.

Cut to Increase Splendor

It caused great disappointment at the Crystal Palace exhibition in London in 1851 by its inability to develop its color refractions unless surrounded by vivid lights, and was, indeed, much inferior in appearance to its glass model in the Tower, consequently after much counsel and examination, it was sent to Amsterdam to be cut. Much fear was felt as to the success of the operation, but the most experienced cutters were so confident of a prosperous issue that the undertaking was made, after great preparations, and the Duke of Wellington himself went through the form of beginning the work. The result was successful, and now the Koh-i-noor really

MISSIONARIES AID CUPID IN CHINA

(New York Sun)

"We want wives with big feet and education."

This is the unique college yell which Chinese boys in a mission school composed recently. It was explained that the yell was designed not to bar forever from matrimony women with small feet, but to discourage foot binding, says a report received by the Interchurch World Movement through the social, economic and religious survey it is conducting.

The sentiment expressed in the yell is in line with recent marked changes in Chinese marriage customs. Once no man would have married a woman whose feet were not bound.

The college boys are not the only ones demanding "big feet and education." Men who have become Christians are insisting that the women they are to marry shall receive teaching and leave off foot binding. This latter demand, it is said, has had more to do with the lessening of foot binding in China than any Government orders.

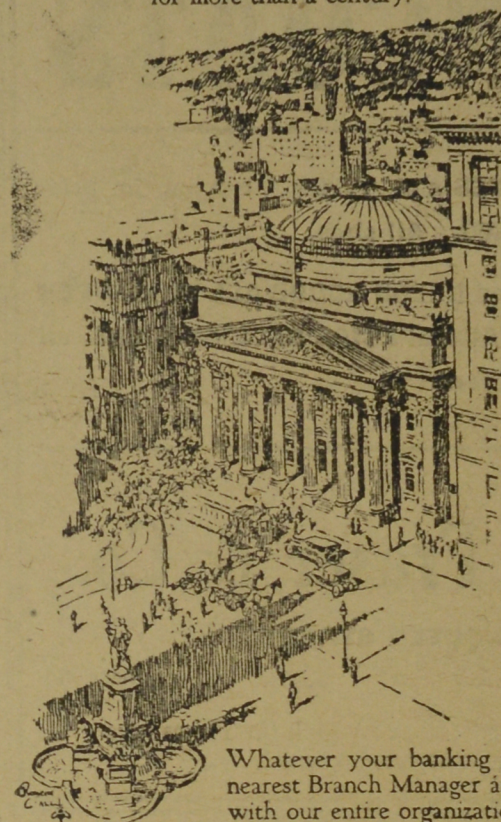
"We made ourselves miserable in the old days so that men would care for us," one philosophical Chinese new woman is reported to have said. "It is a new but blissful era when we can make ourselves comfortable and attractive at the same time."

Years ago doctors were in the habit of claiming that baths were injurious. Now they declare tonsils are.

deserves the name Mountain of Light which it never did when in possession of Nadir Shah, who gave it its resonant baptism.

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CAREER WAS FULL OF GLORY AND ROMANCE

(New York Tribune.)

Of the trio of unhappy empresses of the nineteenth century the career of Eugenie of France was by far the richest in color and romance, in brilliant lights and deep shadows. If there be tragedy in old age counting the endless days and hours of its own forlorn superfluity, brooding over the choices of youth which wisdom, mature and merciless, no longer blames on the blindness of impersonal destiny hers was the most tragic fate of the three. Elizabeth of Austria lost her only son in the unexplained tragedy of Mayerling. Bound by none but a formal tie to the husband whom she once had married for love, she sought escape from the gnom of her Wittelsbach mind in travel and in Heine's poetry, until the dagger of Luccheni opened the way to the final escape. The tragedy flight from court to court in search of help for her beloved Maximilian, was consummated on the morning when Aztec soldiers fired the fatal volley below the wall of Quere-

taro. From that moment her soul, if not her body, was dead. The castle of Bouchot may still house her earthly frame; her mind has found refuge from that unbearable haunting picture in the element twilight of insanity. Neither escapee was granted to Eugenie de Montijo. She lived to taste death in life. "I have lived—I have been. I do not desire to be anything more, not even a memory. I live, but I am no more—a shadow, a phantom, a grief which walks." No words more pathetic than these were ever uttered by one who has gained the highest prizes this world can yield. Yet the test of a life is, after all, whether one would, if the choice were given, live it over again and pay the price once more. The chances are that Eugenie would not refuse. No heroine of romantic fiction ever was endowed by her Creator with a career so full of glory and romance and reward as was her life; no fairy tale has more wonders to offer than had her reality. The story of Cinderella looks pale and commonplace in comparison. With all the infinite sadness of her later years, in her heart of hearts she must have known that she had once been a happy woman.

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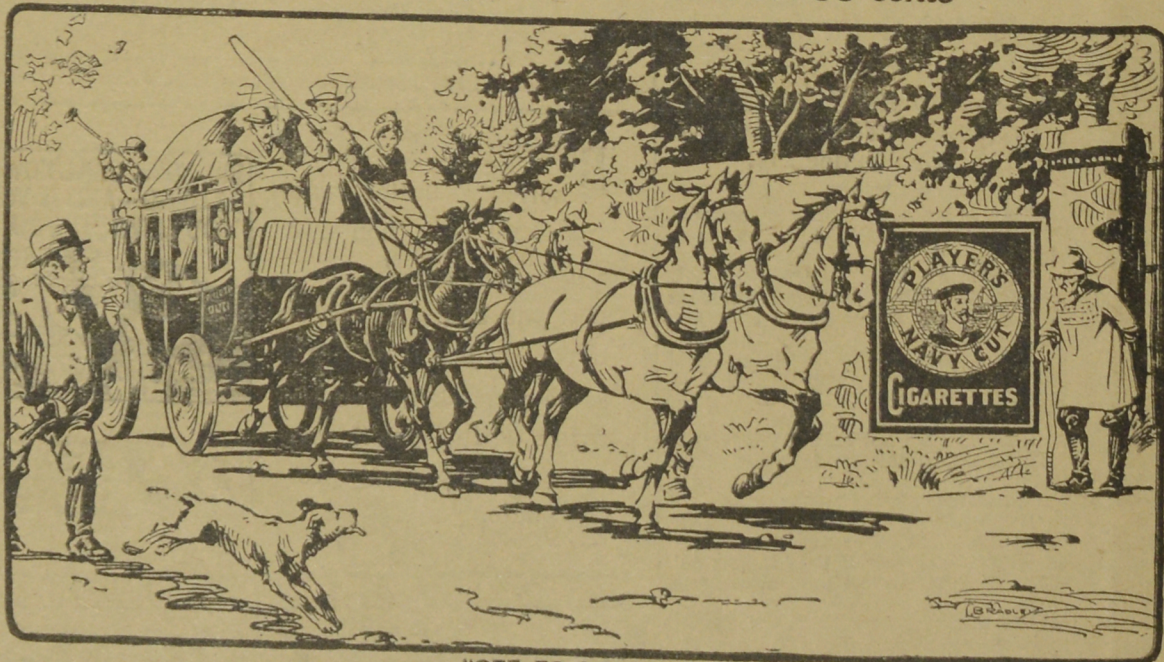
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