The Diamond

ITS HISTORY, IMPORTANCE AND VALUE

BY

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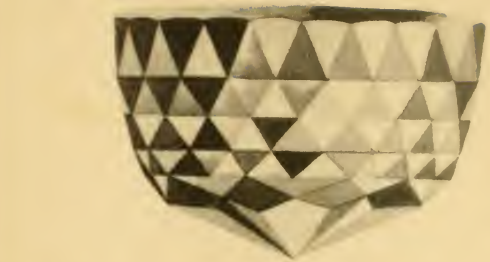
Introduction

DIAMOND, one of the elements of nature, is shrouded in a mysterious fascination which is not only peculiar unto itself, but which rivals any other scientific research. Its formation and variance in color are questions yet unsolved, while the important role which it has played, and is today playing, in men's lives and the world's history tends to increase its natural fascination and the desire to know more about it.

¶ Although not the most costly of the [illegible]ized precious stones, the diamond is witho[illegible]stion the most highly prized of all gems, [illegible]great transparency and brilliancy, combinin[illegible], the properties of the two most opposin[illegible] the transparency and purity of water an[illegible]y of fire; and it is this varying peculiarit[illegible]s the diamond its wide scope as regards its [illegible]alue. How [illegible]g about [illegible]o look [illegible]d refine[illegible]o tell anything about it, except as they [illegible] by its "size," which is really the last point that should be considered.

¶ This book, therefore, is written to arouse a keener interest in the diamond and for those who desire to know more about it without delving too deeply into a scientific examination.



KOHINUR AND GREAT MOGUL DIAMOND

The Diamond

I.

"A FOOL hath said there is no God," yet mortal man since the time of remote history has tried in vain to reproduce the diamond and, in failing, to give to the world a worthy substitute — yet without success, for nature cannot be reproduced.

¶ The diamond's beauty has been sung by poets, written of by sages and fought for by kings. The very choicest of its kind were bestowed upon the altars of the Gods as offerings of the earth's greatest treasures. What crime has not been committed in its name to win for itself's sake or for its dross worth! Temples have been profaned; palaces looted; thrones destroyed and families torn asunder, and of all the highly prized and famous diamonds of the world there is not one, save the Cullinan, which is not written in treachery and blood and yet withal has romance intertwined.

History

THE history of the diamond dates back many hundreds and even thousands of years, and it was probably known of and prized among the other gems in use during the ancient Babylonian civilization, 6000 to 7000 B. C. Diamonds at that time, however, were not as greatly prized as articles of ornamentation on account of their extreme hardness and the inability of man at that early date to find a means of cutting and polishing this stone. The pearl, therefore, at that time was considered the most precious of this world's goods. All through early history the diamond is seldom mentioned, except as when used as an amulet to protect the wearer from mental and bodily evils and to insure happiness. Garnets, topaz, jade, aquamarine, malachite, emeralds, opals and pearls were considered among the most highly prized gems for personal ornamentation on account of their being much more easily handled, and it was not until a much later period that diamonds really became the much sought for jewel. Biblical history tells us that the twelve tribes of Israel were designated by twelve precious stones, but the diamond is not included in the list, yet there is no doubt but that it was known of at that time.

¶ During the mad passion for precious stones which from the time of King Solomon and Queen Sheba

Cutting

THE cutting of the diamond at first baffled the ancient lapidaries and no real advancement was made in cutting until the fifteenth century. Previous to this time a diamond was not cut and polished as we know them today and, in fact, size was so highly prized by the Hindoos that very little was done in polishing in order to keep the stone as large as possible. This is so clearly shown in some of the world's large diamonds that I will speak of the famous Koh-i-nur, Regent and Great Mogul, and also show the original shape and size and how they appeared after the fact was recognized that a properly cut stone was far more valuable and desirable than mere bulk.

¶ The famous Koh-i-nur and Great Mogul diamonds (see page 8), which were found in the famous Indian diamond mine of Golconda along with the Regent and other famous diamonds, have a most interesting history. Just when these two diamonds were found is not known but, as they both appear and became famous through their association with the court of the Great Moguls (1526 A. D.), their history really dates from that time. The glory and splendor of the Great Moguls, who were enthroned at Delhi, rival any conception which the human mind can form or easily conceive. Descended from Timon the Tartar and through him direct descendants of the Sun, the

THE MOST POPULAR FORM OF CUTTING DIAMONDS, KNOWN AS THE BRILLIANT CUTTING, SHOWING TOP, BACK AND SIDE

Great Moguls were worshipped as divine beings. Being such in the minds of their subjects, the most costly of the world's treasures were none too good for these mighty rulers. Their court, therefore, as can well be imagined, left nothing to be wished for in the way of splendor. Entering the main gateway of the palace along a magnificent avenue, which led into the main square, were stationed the bodyguards, wearing wonderful turbans and rich cloth stuffs of finest texture; flanking these guards were rows of lavishly caparisoned elephants displaying the peculiar banners of the Moguls, which were of silver and gold. Continuing on past the many beautiful flower beds and splashing fountains to the great assembly hall, or Durbar, as it was known, the eye is fairly astounded at the rich hangings and tapestries in the royal colors of gold and purple, with the mystic symbols of the Sun wonderfully interwoven, which overhang the great marble walls. Here was the court of the Moguls and the famous throne, the most elaborate the world has ever known. The throne itself was fashioned entirely of pure gold, thickly set with the most precious stones, and reposed under a canopy of gold cloth supported by silver poles. Two majestic peacocks, the symbol of the Sun and worshipped by the Hindoos, also made entirely of pure gold and embellished with precious stones to closely resemble the living colors of the sacred bird, stood one on either side, while these were flanked

by numerous large gold vases filled with flowers cleverly fashioned in gold, whose leaves and petals were precious stones.

¶ The great Mogul himself, when he ascended the sumptuous royal throne, even rivaled this vast display of riches. Gowned in gold cloth which was covered with heavy gold braid studded with gems, his turban was of the royal gold and purple, made of finest silk and likewise set with stones. Around his neck and shoulders hung long rows of immense pearls and diamonds; his arms, wrists and ankles were covered with bands of gold, richly set, and even the coverings for his feet, his saber and belt flashed back the light of day in the resplendent colors of many jewels.

¶ Here was the home of the great Koh-i-nur diamond (see page 8), the priceless possession which was to be so instrumental in the destruction of all this glory. The fame of the Moguls was world wide and caused many an envious Rajah to attempt the capture of Delhi; but none were successful until Baber in April, 1526, slew the last of the great Moguls at the battle of Paniput and the much prized Koh-i-nur diamond was bestowed upon the Sultan's favorite son, Shah Rokh, along with other famous diamonds. Shah Rokh, however, was seized and blinded by the Aga Mohammed in a vain effort to have him produce the coveted Koh-i-nur and, in failing, he shaved his vic-

tim's head, and circled it with a ring of paste to hold boiling oil, but even this torture failed to produce the diamond. The Koh-i-nur later passed to Shah Zaman, who was imprisoned by his brother Shuja to force the surrender of the gem and, in failing, he put his brother's eyes out, but even this failed to make Zaman disclose the hiding place of the diamond which he had hidden in his prison.

¶ When Shuja finally came into possession of the diamond, however, he was blinded by a third brother, Mahmud, and only yielded up the priceless stone to Runjeet Singh to save his family from a death of the greatest agony. After the sack of Delhi the Great Mogul (see page 8), which had shared all the glories of the Koh-i-nur at Delhi, is supposed to have been split into three stones, while others claim that the Orloff diamond, owned by the Czar of Russia, is none other than the Great Mogul; but Streeter is of the opinion that the Great Mogul diamond has never come to light. The Koh-i-nur, however, remained in the possession of Runjeet Singh, who on his deathbed wanted to give the Koh-i-nur as a gift to the Gods to atone for his sins, but, being too weak to sign the necessary papers of delivery, the stone passed to his son, who possessed it until the Indian mutiny, when it was seized by the English forces and on June 3, 1850, this famous diamond, which had caused so

TWENTIETH CENTURY CUTTING, SHOWING DIAMONDS ENTIRELY FACETED

much suffering and bloodshed, was presented to Queen Victoria, and was later re-cut and placed among the crown jewels.

¶ The diamond is the hardest of all known substances and upon which the strongest acids have no effect. It will cut not only every other stone, but hardened steel as well. As is known, the diamond is carbon, which has been changed through intense heat and pressure into pure crystalized carbon, and is found in almost all forms of the isometric system, but more often in the octahedral or dodecahedral forms. Two pyramids with triangular sides and a common base make up the octahedral. Twelve faces or rhombs of lozenge shape form the dodecahedron. It was commonly supposed by Hindoos of the early time that diamonds grew like onions or carrots and that it took 15 to 20 years for them to obtain a medium size. Others, again, believed them to be fragments of celestial bodies, fallen to earth; while still others claimed them to be solidified dewdrops. This last belief no doubt can be traced to the old traditional belief that crystal was snow frozen so hard that the action of the elements had no effect upon it. This strange belief has given rise to the present-day saying, "diamonds of the purest water."

¶ These various beliefs, while to us today seem ridiculous in the extreme, we must not lose sight of

the fact that they originated at a time when mineralogy and chemistry were not advanced as far as they are today and that India, "the Home of the famous diamonds," was a country saturated in superstition. And it was not until savagery was on the wane and civilization began more and more to dominate its sway that diamonds were cut and mounted in gold and silver and prized for their beauty's sake. The rising of the modern art of cutting diamonds can, without question, be marked from the time of Louis de Berguen, 1456, and was later given impetus by Louis XIV, who took a great delight in the study of the cutting of diamonds. Diamonds gradually advanced from their barbaric usage to be highly prized as artistic articles of adornation, but it was also found that, in order to obtain the full beauty of a diamond, it had to be cut mathematically correct. This truth became more apparent as the art of diamond cutting progressed, so that eventually all of the world's great diamonds were recut, even at a great loss in weight, but which resulted in an equal advance in beauty and value.

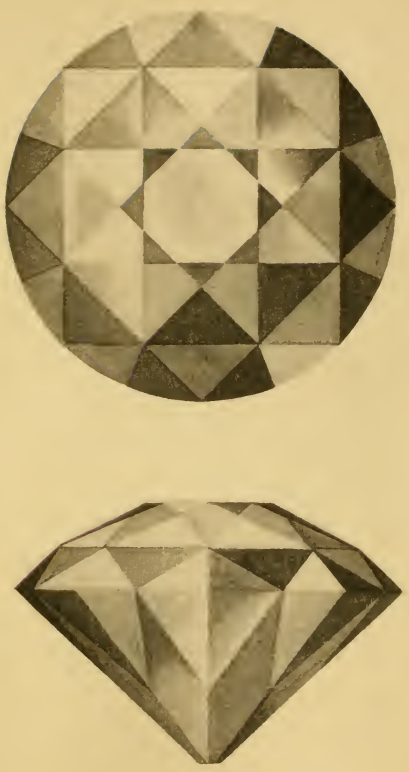
¶ A diamond, to be of correct proportion, should be one-third above the girdle and two-thirds below (see page 18) and the faces, or facets, so cut that total refraction of the light rays takes place. I might explain that, unless the facets of a diamond are cut about 24° 13′, a ray of light, instead of striking an inside facet

and causing total refraction, is divided, half being reflected and half passing through the stone. This is because the angle of reflection is always equal to the angle of incidence and both the incident and reflected ray are perpendicular to the surface of reflection. A diamond, if properly formed, a ray of light, entering is split up into its component parts and instead of the white light which entered there is given off various delicate shades of light, as may be seen in a rainbow.

¶ While it is of the greatest importance that a diamond should be correctly formed and cut mathematically correct, it takes an experienced cutter to produce a perfectly-cut stone; hence, diamonds which are generally sold as bargains are defective in cutting, if not in color, for the finest grades of diamonds are cut so accurately that the girdle is brought to a knife edge and finely polished.

¶ The advancement made in cutting during the time the Koh-i-nur was found, and the Regent, is very noticeable (see page 23). The Regent was also found in the mine of Golconda in 1701, by a slave who, upon discovering it, cut a gash in his leg deep enough to conceal his prize and then, wrapping a bandage about his wounded limb, hastily made his way to the seacoast at his earliest opportunity, where he embarked in a British sailing vessel. After he was safely at sea, he, during a very thoughtless moment,

disclosed his good fortune to the captain of the vessel and in so doing sealed his doom, for the knowledge that the possessor of such a valuable diamond was solely in his power proved too great a temptation to the captain, who threw the slave overboard and sold the gem to an Indian diamond merchant, from whom it passed into the possession of Thomas Pitt, then governor of Ft. St. George. The diamond, weighing 410 carats, was at that time one of the four largest known diamonds and this very fact so worried Pitt that his very existence became a burden to him lest he should be murdered, and, during all the time it was in his possession, it was never out of his sight. He finally sold his treasure to the Duke of Orleans, who was at that time Regent of France during the minority of Louis XV, for $675,000. So it came into the possession of the Bourbons and was held by them until the French Revolution, when, in 1792, it was stolen by robbers who, not knowing how to dispose of it after they had secured it, threw it into the ditch along the Champ Elysees, where it was found and again restored to the Crown. Later it was held in pawn by a merchant named Trescow, when it again was restored to royalty and formed the center stone in the hilt of the sword of Napoleon I, where it remained until the overthrow of the Empire. So the Regent, while not having as livid a history as many famous diamonds, passed through the stormy days of France, which made



A NEW FORM OF DIAMOND CUTTING, KNOWN AS THE SUN RAY CUTTING

and unmade kings and emperors, and now reposes as one of the government's treasures in the Galerie d'Apollon in the Louvre.

¶ In the history of all of these diamonds, the fact that cutting plays such an important part should deeply impress upon the reader this very important feature which makes a gem desirable, and in no instance is this brought more forcibly to the attention than in the history of the Sancy diamond (see page 11), which was also found in the world famous mines of India. When found, this stone attracted much attention owing to its size, which weighed about 100 carats. It was left, however, to the artist, Louis de Berguen, to bring out its many virtues by recutting it, which he did in 1456. The diamond, although now weighing but 53¾ carats, immediately sprang into fame for its exquisite beauty and fire and became the property of Charles the Bold, who wore the glittering jewel at the battle of Nancy, 1477, where it was lost during the rout that took place, and was picked up by a Swiss soldier on the field of battle after the fight. This beautiful diamond was to him, however, only a piece of glass of unusual glitter and he was glad to sell it to a priest for one florin, or about 40 cents. The priest, however, knew as little of its real value as the soldier and was glad to make a franc, or 20 cents, by selling it to the Burghers of Berne. The diamond there dis-

appears for nearly 100 years, during which time it was changing hands through private parties, when it ultimately came into possession of the King of Portugal. The King, however, being in need of money, secured a loan through M. de Sancy, treasurer to the King of France, on this beautiful stone and it was later purchased outright by M. de Sancy for 100,000 francs, or $20,000. Upon Sancy being appointed ambassador to Solothern, Henry III required him to send him the gem as a pledge. Accordingly, M. de Sancy, giving the diamond to a messenger dispatched him to his sovereign. The messenger was, however, murdered en route and the diamond supposed to have been lost. By the order of M. de Sancy the body of his messenger was later dug up and the diamond found in his stomach. It was then raised from the grave to be worn by Queen Elizabeth of England, and later taken by James II in his flight to France, from whom it was bought by Louis XIV and so again came into French possession and was highly prized among the crown jewels, until it was stolen along with the Tavanier and Regent diamonds in 1792, when all trace of it is lost until it reappears in Russia in the possession of a noble family, from whom it passes to London merchants and then finds its way back to India into the possession of the Maharajah of Puttiala, with whom it now rests. So ends the romantic tale of another of the world's famous diamonds, whose beauty brought it to fame through the skill of Louis de Berguen, whose recutting has made this stone known as one of the most beautiful in existence.

Color

I HAVE tried to show how important it is to have a diamond properly cut, in order to have it show its full worth, and I will now speak on the color of diamonds, which many people look upon too lightly.

¶ Diamonds are found in many colors, such as blue white, brown, green, red, yellow, blue, violet, white, black and many bicolors of these already mentioned, the rarest shades, however, taken in their order, being red, green, blue, pink and mauve.

¶ The only *red* diamond known to jewelers is the Halphen red diamond, which weighs one carat and was sold for $8,000 several years ago. Blue diamonds are equally as scarce, but four being known to history, and these are supposed to be one and the same identical stone, that is, the four stones recorded represent the original Tavernier Blue diamond (see page 11) and its three parts, into which it is supposed it was cut. The history of this diamond is very interesting, and I will try to briefly outline it.

¶ This famous diamond, found in India in the famous Golconda mine, already mentioned, was purchased by Tavernier in about the year 1640, who took it with him on his return to Europe and sold it to Louis XIV in 1668. Its color was described as a beautiful violet

DIAMOND ORNAMENT BY JOHN KAY AND COMPANY,
USING ABOUT 15 CTS. OF DIAMONDS

and weighed 112¼ carats in the rough and 76 carats when cut. If figured later in an historic scene, as told by Edwin Streeter, F. R. G. S., M. A. I., in 1715, when the old monarch, Louis XIV, who was about to be visited by the Persian ambassador, exerted all of his strength to be sumptuously bedecked for the occasion. He, therefore, dressed in a black suit, which was ornamented with gold and embroidered with diamonds, and suspended from a light blue ribbon was this wonderful blue diamond. It is stated that the King at this time wore jewels to the value of £12,000,000, or $60,000,000. This stone was later seized in August, 1792, along with the rest of the French regalia and deposited in the Garde-Meuble, from whence it was stolen in September of the same year. From that time the whereabouts of the great Tavernier blue diamond became a mystery and up to this time, was the only blue diamond known in existence. So when, in 1830, a blue brilliant came to light without a history and, although weighing only 44½ carats, a strong suspicion was aroused that this was none other than the Tavernier diamond, recut, since about the same time two other blue diamonds appeared as mysteriously, which weighed, however, considerably less but which, from their peculiar forms, would go to make up the original shape and weight of the Tavernier diamond.

¶ This diamond which appeared in 1830 passed into the possession of the late Mr. Hope, and became known as the Hope diamond, and later it passed into the possession of a New Yorker, where it remains today, mounted as a brooch and surrounded by twenty-one carat blue white diamonds (see page 11).

¶ These colors, however, are rarities and not to be met with every day. So that, while considerable interest is connected with them, to know something more about the color of diamonds which we come in daily contact with is of greater interest.

¶ Diamonds are assorted into groups, or grades, at the mines, according to their purity, color and size, and their value and selling price determined before they are shipped to the Syndicate's offices in London and Amsterdam, where they are given into the hands of the cutter. The following are the various grades into which they are divided, and the percentage of such diamonds mined:

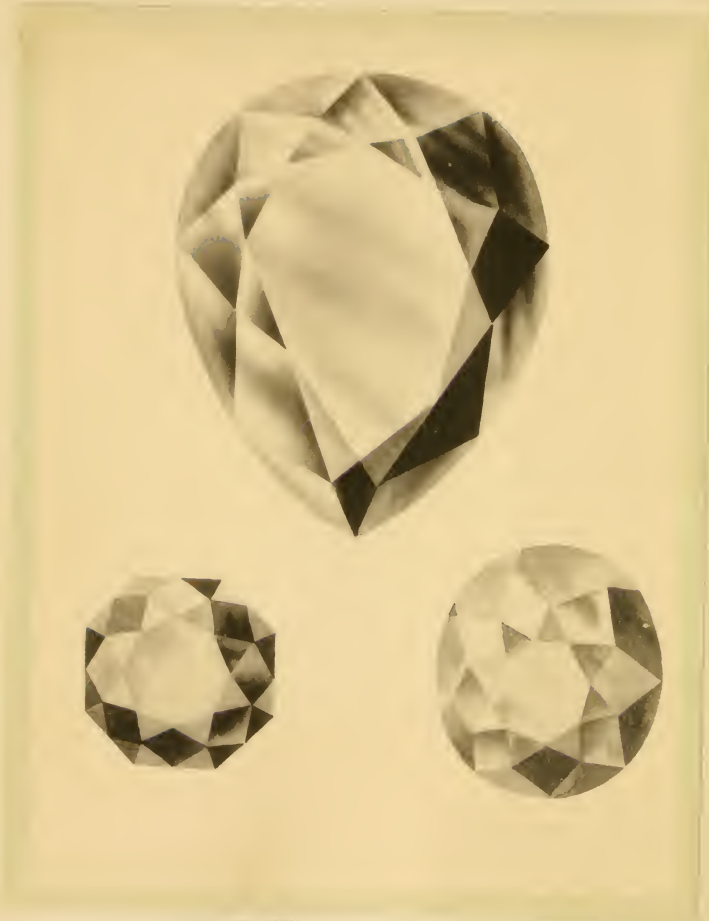
Pure Stones—	Close goods, stones over 1 kt.	8.2%
	Irregular Shapes of all sizes	3 %
	Melee of all sizes under 1 kt.	3.1%
	Brown Stones of all sizes	3 %
Spotted Goods, all sizes		12 %
Cleavages, pure and spotted, over 1 kt		31.3%
Chips, pure pieces under 1 kt.		3.3%
Chips, spotted pieces under 1 kt.		8 %
Massles and Flat Stones, pure and spotted, all sizes		4.3%
Rejections		11.4%
Bort—diamonds not suitable for cutting		12.4%
		100%

¶ These are the percentages taken from the leading diamond mines of today, the De Beers, Premier, Kimberly, and Jagersfontein mines. It will be seen by these figures that pure stones form only about 8% of the diamonds mined, and of this 8% only a small percentage of what is known as blue white diamonds are produced.

¶ Blue white diamonds are today greatly sought after on account of their great brilliancy and purity, but it is only by constantly watching the diamond shipments from the mines to the cutters in Amsterdam, London and New York that importers are able to secure this much sought quality of color. The percentage of blue white diamonds mined is so small compared with the great demand for this extra quality of color, that their value will advance greatly within the next few years.

¶ Color in a diamond is impossible for a novice to carry in his mind in order for comparison, so that my advice, gained through 30 years of the study of diamonds, during which time millions of dollars worth of diamonds have passed through my hands, to any who anticipate purchasing a diamond is to deal with a firm of established reputation, who are in touch with the diamond cutters of the world, who carry only the finest grade of goods and who know a stone of fine quality when they see it. To such a firm you can trust yourself entirely, but above all suggestions I would

impress on a buyer is, "Whatever you buy secure the best, even if it is not quite as great in size as you intended at first," for any responsible firm will allow you in full what you pay, if at any time in the future you wish to add more to your original purchase and secure a larger stone.



THE GREAT CULLINAN DIAMOND AS IT WILL APPEAR WHEN RECUT INTO THREE PARTS

Purity

I HAVE spoken about the cutting and color of the diamond, and the next and final consideration is purity, which, coupled with the two preceding conditions, go to make *Le gem perfect.*

¶ Cutting, color and purity are often sacrificed for size by many diamond buyers. This in itself is grossly erroneous, since such a stone has absolutely no virtue by which to claim recognition, it being by far better to have a blue white stone or white stone with a slight carbon speck or flaw than a much larger stone which has no points of quality whatever.

¶ The Cullinan, the latest addition to the world's great diamonds, while being of excellent quality is, however, flawed; yet it will rank as the greatest of all diamonds, for the Cullinan or Premier diamond, weighed in the rough 3,032 carats, or 1¾ pounds, and is now being cut for King Edward VII, to whom it was given as a gift from the Transvaal in recognition of his granting a constitution to the Colony. This great diamond was found in the Premier mine in 1905 by a Mr. Wells, an old employee of the company, who, making his accustomed rounds, noticed the diamond's gleam and picking it up hurriedly put it into his pocket and, in a still greater hurry, he rushed to the company's offices where he proudly and excitedly

displayed his find to the officers of the company, who, after recovering from their great astonishment, quickly sent the news of the finding of the "*world's king of diamonds*" to the four corners of the earth. So was the greatest of diamonds heralded into the world, to play a part how important no one can foretell, but in ages to come, when all else so vivid in our minds now shall have faded to insignificance, the world's greatest diamond will continue to gleam in glory undiminished, and who would dare to forecast from the livid careers of other world famous diamonds what will be the history of this wonderful stone. The Cullinan diamond is white and in the rough measured 4" x 2½" x 1" or 2". Owing to some slight flaws, the great stone will be split up and cut into three diamonds (see page 32), so as to eliminate as much as possible all defects. The larger diamond will weigh, when cut, between 500 or 600 carats, and will be placed among the crown jewels. Even this will be larger than any other diamond, while the other two will be somewhat smaller but nevertheless ranking among the great diamonds of the world.

¶ When found, the Cullinan diamond had four cleavage planes, which has led experts to believe that the great stone is but a part of a much larger body which, no doubt, still lies somewhere in the Great Premier mine. Just when this will be brought to light and

what crowned head shall be its proud possessor remains for the future to unfold. Until then the great Cullinan diamond shall rest with the well guarded royal jewels of England, and itself the king of diamonds and most prized among the priceless.

NAPOLEON'S JEWELED SWORD SHOWING FAMOUS REGENT DIAMOND SET IN HANDLE

Diamond Mines

SINCE history does not tell when or how the first diamond was found or in what part of the world it was first known, it has been taken for granted that India was "the home of the first diamond" and that district of production lay along the Kistna and Godaveri rivers and was worked by hand in the most crude fashion. Tavernier states that during his visit to the mines of Golconda in 1640, the country embracing the rich mines was known as the district of Golconda, and that in one mine alone there were 60,000 natives employed in digging, breaking and assorting the diamond-bearing ground. Holes were dug straight down in order to tap the rich strata of conglomerate which carried the diamonds, and the mines were worked in this way. At times during the rainy season the laborers were forced to work in water up to their waists, so that diamond mining was very slow and dangerous, owing to the frequent caving in of the sides of these pits, or shafts. However, this district became famous as a commercial center and attracted men from far and near seeking fortunes, as well as merchants of all nationalities. Thus this district flourished for many years until the mines became more difficult to work and its supply to decrease.

¶ Activity in diamond mining was then transferred to Brazil, where they were discovered in the year 1727

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USING ABOUT 10 CTS. OF DIAMONDS

and where many very fine stones were found, the most famous of which was the Star of the South, which later found its way into the possession of the Gaikwak of Baroda. The Brazilian mines are worked today, but on a much smaller scale, owing to the great cost entailed in working.

¶ The scene again shifts from the new to the old world, where, in 1867, the diamond was discovered in South Africa. Precious stones and minerals were sought hundreds of years before in this part of the world, first by the Portuguese in the twelfth century and later by the Dutch, who hoped to discover the mine of Solomon and the rich storehouse of the Queen of Sheba. The meager knowledge of this part of the world, the inaccessibility to transportation and the opposition of the ferocious and warlike tribes of blacks baffled all attempts and prevented the settling and exploration of this wild and rugged country, and the opening up of this rich country, which now comprises the Orange River Colony, the Transvaal and Natal Colonies, was left to the intrepid and God-fearing Dutch pioneers, or Boers, who by untold suffering persisted in pushing up further inland and, finally defeating the blood-thirsty and treacherous Zulus, came into possession of this country, which they looked upon as the "Land of Promise," given into their hands by the Almighty.

¶ A traveler, chancing to stop at the home of one of these sturdy pioneers, noticed a little boy playing with what the little fellow supposed to be merely pebbles which he had picked up, but among which the shrewd eye of the traveler recognized a diamond of unusual size. Giving the boy a few coins for his prize, the man returned to Hopetown and later sold his purchase for a large sum. This was then the signal for a stampede to the district which was destined to produce such vast wealth and, incidentally, the largest diamonds the world has ever known, as well as stones of the finest quality. Owing to the peculiarity of the diamonds found in South Africa, their quality can be judged more accurately in the rough than those found in any other part of the world.

¶ The mines are now controlled by a syndicate embracing the most important properties, the Kimberly, Premier, Jagersfontein, and De Beers, which are worked almost entirely by machinery and have reached a depth of about 3,000 feet. Instead of employing the vast army of workers as was done in Golconda, only about 14,000 men are employed, which total is made up principally of blacks. The average of diamonds mined are estimated at about 20 carats per 100 loads of dirt taken out, the laborers receiving an average of 75 cents to $1.25 per day.

¶ Australia likewise has produced some exceedingly fine diamonds and the richness of the ground has

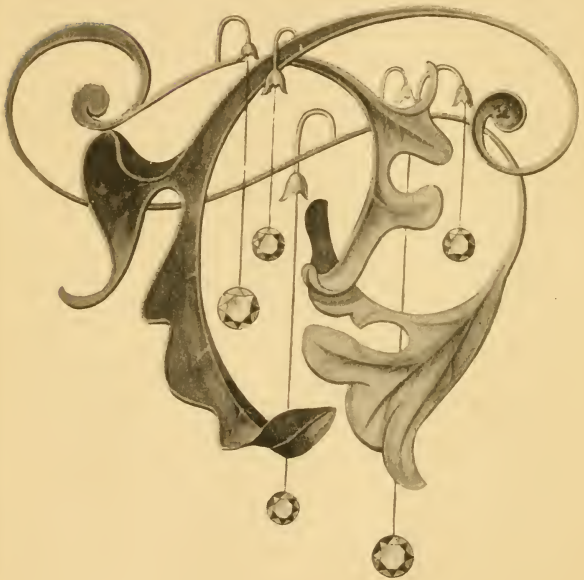
astounded mineralogists. It has been estimated that the wash dirt in the Monte Christo mine would yield about 30 carats of diamonds to a load of 27 cubic feet, while one barrow load yielded 146 diamonds, but owing to the more or less limited area of production, this country has never been seriously considered as a diamond-producing country.

¶ The United States has also contributed to the world's supply of diamonds, but in a very meager way, as the diamonds which have been found have been from a widely scattered area, the latest diamond find being reported from Arkansas, but to date has not assumed any importance. Arizona, which contains considerably more than its share of Meteorites, has furnished one theory for the solution of the finding of a few diamonds here and there broadcast over the United States. The late Dr. A. E. Foote, of Philadelphia, who upon cutting into one of these iron masses discovered certain hard particles, the exact nature of which he was unable to determine; he, therefore, submitted these to Prof. G. A. Koenig, who, upon careful examination and testing, declared them to be diamonds. This discovery was later verified by dissolving meteorites with acids and thereby liberating the diamonds. These experiments have therefore given rise to the theory that meteorites, which have fallen in various parts of the United States, have become dis-

solved through means of the action of the elements on the iron, converting it into rust and liberating the diamonds. So that, after all, the old Hindoo idea that diamonds were particles of celestial bodies might in some instances be true.

¶ In following the history of the great diamonds of the world, the evolution in the art of cutting and the great care exercised by the mines today in grading them as to their purity and color, all tends to show the high favor diamonds are held in and that a diamond combining the points of merit, as herein stated, is ever an object of increasing admiration and pleasure.

¶ To quote the eminent diamond expert, Edwin B. Streeter, "A diamond should be a real possession, affording pleasure to the wearer and the spectator, and with fair usage retaining its intrinsic and marketable value, undiminished by lapse of time and, if *fine*, rather increasing in value than otherwise."



GOLD AND DIAMOND ORNAMENT BY JOHN KAY AND COMPANY

The Carat Weight

¶ The word carat is derived from the name of a bean, the fruit of the Erythemia, which grows in Africa. This tree is known to the natives as "Kuara," meaning Sun, as both the blossom and fruit are of a rich golden color. When dried this bean is nearly always of the same weight, and in the early days was used in Shangallas, the principal market in Africa, as the standard weight for gold. Later these beans were imported into India and used in weighing diamonds.

¶ There are 58 facets on a diamond, 33 on the top and 25 on the bottom.

PROPERLY CUT DIAMONDS

1. Sharp edge girdles.
2. Perfectly round.
3. Facets evenly laid.
4. Table 2/5 of spread.
5. Spread twice the thickness, which gives 1/3 above and 2/3 below the girdle.

CHEAP DIAMONDS

1. Poor color.
2. By cutting a rough diamond either too thick or too thin.
3. Not round.
4. Thick girdle.
5. Badly flawed.
6. Uneven facets.

¶ Diamonds found in Australia are harder than those found in any other part of the world.

¶ Diamonds found in South Africa differ from those found in other parts of the world, in that they are brighter and free from incrustation, which allows the detection of any defects while in their natural state.

¶ The most important collections of precious stones in Europe are in the National Museums in Vienna, Amsterdam and Moscow.

FAMOUS DIAMONDS AND THEIR WEIGHTS

	Original Weight.	Present Weight.
Kohinur	793 carats	106 carats
Shah		95 "
Egyptian Pascha		49 "
Polar Star		40 "
Hope Blue	112¼ "	44¼ "
Empress Engenie		51 "
Nassah		82¾ "
Great Mogul	787½ "	279 9-16 "
Sancy		53 12-16 "
Orloff		194¾ "
Regent	410 "	136 14-16 "
Florentine		133⅛ "
Piggott		82¼ "
Star of the South	254½ "	124 9-16 "
Cullinan	3032 "	
Excelsior	971 "	

BIRTH STONES

JANUARY

By her who in this month is born,
No gems save Garnets should be worn,
They will insure her constancy,
True friendship and fidelity.

FEBRUARY

The February born shall find
Sincerity and peace of mind,
Freedom from passion and from care,
If they the Amethyst will wear.

MARCH

Who on this world of ours their eyes
In March first open shall be wise,
In days of peril, firm and brave,
And wear a Bloodstone to their grave.

APRIL

She who from April dates her years,
Diamonds should wear, lest bitter tears
For vain repentance flow. This stone.
Emblem of innocence is known.

MAY

Who first beholds the light of day
In Spring's sweet, flowery month of May,
And wears an Emerald all her life,
Shall be a loved and happy wife.

JUNE

Who comes with Summer to this earth,
And owes to June her hour of birth,
With ring of Agate on her hand
Can health, wealth and long life command.

BIRTH STONES

JULY

The glowing Ruby shall adorn
Those who in July are born;
Then they'll be exempt and free
From Love's doubts—anxiety.

AUGUST

Wear a Sardonyx, or for thee
No conjugal felicity;
The August born, without this stone,
'Tis said, must live unloved and lone.

SEPTEMBER

A maiden born when Autumn's leaves
Are rustling in September's breeze,
A Sapphire on the brow should bind,
'Twill cure diseases of the mind.

OCTOBER

October's child is born for woe
And Life's vicissitudes must know;
But lay an Opal on her breast
And hope will lull those woes to rest.

NOVEMBER

Who first comes to this world below,
With drear November's fog and snow,
Should prize the Topaz's amber hue,
Emblem of friends and lovers true.

DECEMBER

If cold December gave you birth—
The month of snow and ice and mirth—
Place in your hand a Turquoise blue;
Success will bless whate'er you do.