

## AFRICA'S DIAMOND FIELDS

WHEN AND HOW THE FIRST JEWEL WAS DISCOVERED  
ON QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS.

Commemorative Poem by the Comptroller of the Mint.

The recent important discoveries of diamonds in South Africa draw attention to an industry full of romance, even than that of gold mining; for the story of South African diamond discoveries is crowded with happenings more startling and dramatic than most fiction.

The story of the finding of the first diamond has often been told—how a man of the name of O'Reilly, traveling south from the Orange River, sought a night's rest at the farmhouse of one Nicker, in the Hopetown district; how the farmer produced for his guest's inspection a handful of pretty pebbles picked up by his children; and how O'Reilly discovered among the pebbles a diamond which he sold at Grahamstown for \$2,500.

This is old history, but much that is equally romantical the history of South African diamonds is remembered now, by few, than was only two years later—in 1869—that a stroke of rare luck came Farmer Nicker's way, when a native chanced to throw him a large pebble, looking like a lump of alum, which, profiting by his former experience, he recognized as a diamond of considerable value. He purchased it for \$2,000 worth of his farm stock, and a day or two later had drawn \$30,000 for it from a Hopetown firm. This stone, known the world over as "The Star of South Africa," eighty-three carats is now valued at \$125,000, and is the most treasured of all the jewels of the Countess of Dudley, vicereine of Ireland.

### THE ONLY TWO.

It is a striking illustration of the irony of luck, that these were the only two diamonds of any value that were found near Hopetown, although a little later ten thousand miners when ransacking the banks of the Vaal river, sacrificing their lives by hundreds through disease and hardships in the futile quest for more. Stars of South Africa, in 1871, wealth far beyond the dreams of avarice was tapped on De Beers farm, near Dutoitspan, and diamonds were being picked out of the walls of a barnhouse near the once famous Buffontein mine. De Beers farm, even when it was known that it held a treasure of precious stones, was sold for \$30,000, and later exchanged hands for \$5,000,000. How excellent a bargain it was even at the larger price can be told from the fact that it has since yielded nearly \$2,000,000 worth of diamonds in a single year, and that its original value has been estimated at more than \$50,000,000, or nearly seventeen thousand times the price originally paid for it.

The homestead beneath which was the treasurehouse of the Kimberley mine actually changed hands at one time for eight sovereigns, while within fifteen years the mine had produced diamonds of the value of \$100,000,000. Surely never in the history of the world was better value given for a sovereign. Even when these diamond mines got into the hands of companies vast fortunes were made by many of the lucky shareholders, seeing that the original 50% shares of the London and South African Explorations' Company, which owned the Buffontein and Dutoitspan mines, were later saleable at \$800,000—representing the gratifying return of \$300 for every sovereign originally invested.

### HOW MANY ARE STOLEN.

In spite of the marvelous harvest yielded by these South African diamond companies, it is stated that fully a fourth of the stones found never come into the companies' possession at all, but, in spite of the most diligent and most strenuous searching of the natives, are stolen. This leakage does not appear to be due to any want of generosity in treating the natives, for a sum of 75 per cent. of the value of the stones discovered is offered to the finders.

Some of the very finest diamonds in the mines have never produced, having been recovered from the bowels of the earth, and the most strenuous searching of the natives are stolen. This leakage does not appear to be due to any want of generosity in treating the natives, for a sum of 75 per cent. of the value of the stones discovered is offered to the finders.

The most interesting feature of this discovery was that the stone was found on the very day on which the contract of the syndicate whose property it became, expired.

### DISEASES AND SEASONS.

Physicians say that certain diseases follow the changing seasons with almost as clockwork regularity. Thus acute rheumatism prevails from February till April; inflammation of the lungs from March till May; stomach and intestinal complaints in August and October; and cholera from August to October. On this basis some physicians classify diseases into summer, autumn, winter, and spring diseases. This classification is supported by many facts which show that weather changes really exert powerful influences upon health and disease. To cope successfully with these changes and their harmful influences, daily exercise in the open air, in all kinds of weather, and at all seasons of the year, is the best preparation. This strengthens the system, and is as once prevention and cure.

Isn't It Worth While  
ASKING FOR

# USAIDAY!

CEYLON NATURAL GREEN tea when it costs no more than the commonplace Japan and is infinitely superior, being absolutely pure and as delicious as the famous "Salada" black tea.

Sold only in sealed lead packets, 25c. and 40c. per lb. By all Grocers.

### LAMBETH PALACE.

Historic Palace's Crumbling After Eight Centuries.

Lambeth Palace, the London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, is now undergoing extensive repairs, the older portions of the palace having become decayed. Already some progress has been made with the renovating of Norman Towers, which before the close of the twelfth century was selected as the princely town residence of the primates. It contains specimens of almost every style of architecture that prevailed during the intervening years. Norman, and early English, with its spacious arches, and the most conspicuous external features of the high irregular structure. Two immense Norman towers face each other. In the centre there is a magnificent stone archway and postern. The arch is pointed, beautifully groined above, and apartment cells, etc., are built around it, until

and surely, is of unpractical turn given to undervaluing things that the majority of people count as of most consequence. She is fastidious and aesthetic, destined never to make much show in the world. The sort of girl to make a good helpmate for a man is she whose organ of taste is alert as her other faculties who eat in a noticing, discriminating way that implies her recognition of the importance of matters usually considered trumpery. She does not hesitate to interrupt the most interesting talk by asking for another helping or for some condiment she lacks, and shows plainly her belief that the embroidery of life should be subordinate to the main material.

### BABY'S FIRST TOOTH.

Every mother knows how much baby suffers while cutting teeth. Swollen, tender gums cause a feverish, fretful condition sometimes seriously affecting baby's health. This can be overcome, and the teething process made easy by the use of Baby's Own Tablets. Proof of this is given by Mrs. J. Peckover, New Liskard, Ont., who says: "I am the mother of six children and I can truthfully say that Baby's Own Tablets is better than any other medicine I have ever used for the ills of little ones. I can especially recommend them for teething children, and would advise all mothers to use them."

The Tablets cure all the minor ills from which infants and young children suffer, and are guaranteed to contain no opiate or harmful drug.

Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail, at 25 cents a box, by writing direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

### A CALL FOR THE POLICE.

Sequel to the Cruelties in the Congo Free State.

If "murder will out" in the individual sense, so, too, it will in the national sense. For years rumors of hideous cruelties perpetrated by the natives of the Congo Free State have filtered through to the outside world. The tales came "first from missionaries, and attracted little attention;

but other travellers" confirmed them and added to them.

Finally, a young English army officer, who knows the country and the conditions, by personal experience, wrote a book which shocked all England by its revelations. Other men besides missionaries are roused when they hear of eighty human hands drying over a single fire native hands severed, as penalty for not bringing in enough rubber.

Now the British government has moved in the matter. His majesty's minister to Belgium has handed to the Belgian foreign minister a copy of a note addressed by Great Britain to the signatory powers of the Berlin act. The note calls attention to practices in the Free State which are contrary to the spirit of the act such practices as compulsory labor and military service, and the abuses which go with the system of monopoly known as domain privage. It is, of course, impossible to tell what the outcome will be, but some alleviation of the condition of the natives is probably.

The incident is interesting from a political as well as from a humane point of view. The Congo Free State is really the creation of the powers. Before 1884, the only government was a commercial association founded by King Leopold of Belgium to exploit the Congo basin. His project, however, was threatened by the energy of Portuguese, French and other explorers and in order to confirm his power he was instrumental in calling together what has since been known as the Berlin Congress.

International recognition of the Free State as a sovereign government was thus secured, but only in consideration of promises which made for civilization and the safety and happiness of the natives. The breaking of these promises gives to the signatories a power of interference such as not often exists in international affairs.

### How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Cutarral that cannot be cured.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and

his firm to be a honest and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

To Dr. O. WALDEN, Wholesale Druggist, Toledo, O.

MARVIN—Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Cutarral Cure is taken internally and directly applied to the skin and mucous surfaces of the system.

Testimonials sent free. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Their engagement was rather romantic, was it not? "Yes, rather."

"They went in bathing, got beyond their depth and were completely carried away with each other."

So you are engaged to Dr. B.—?

said one of those old ladies who are always taking medicine to a young friend?" "It must be very nice to be engaged to a doctor." Every time he calls you know, and, of course, that must be very often you feel us if you were getting for nothing what everybody else has to pay for."

### Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

You say Biggins has gone in for writing verse? "Yes, scared to death."

"Getting bald, and has heard that poets all have long hair."

### Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

BARGAIN HUNTERS IN PARIS.

Time-Honored Customs in the City of Fashions.

It is a rule with many retail houses in Paris to run several square meters of pavement in front of their premises for the better display of stock in trade, and as additional selling space, and at sales times the public pavement in front of some of the large drapery establishments is transformed not only into a shop, but into a "try-on" department.

Customers of both sexes think nothing of taking off their own hats to try on others, and getting into jackets ticketed at five francs, or four francs "peignoirs" before the eyes of the world.

The scene is typically French, and passers-by see nothing unusual in it, as, indeed, there is not, on the other side of the Channel.

Passers-by, in fact, take to the guitar when the rush for bargains is great enough to entirely block the way.

It is not only, however, the buyers and sellers of apparel who block the way.

Others who reserve plenty of space for their own uses are the children in the Champs Elysees and they are often pretty enough to be forgiven, though they do dig up with impunity many square feet of earth and gravel daily for their mud piles.

With their nurses and the latest English innovation, i.e., the perambulator, are masters of the situation.

Enough that these, with the exception of the perambulator, are time-honored customs.

They are not, however, such excellent institutions as those domestic servants who can cater as well as she can cook, or her husband, who can do housework as well as she can, or the happy method of keeping the gutters full of running water so fresh that the horses may drink it, or again, the good old practice to be seen any day at the hawker's, of free gifts of bread to the Sis for the poor or sick.

### WAS INCURABLE.

BUT IS CURED.

JOSEPH BOONE AT WORK AGAIN AFTER SEVEN YEARS ILLNESS.

Discharged From the Hospital as Incurable, He Used Dodd's Kidney Pills With Splendid Results.

Cottage Grove, New Bay, Nid., Oct. 10. (Special)—After being for seven years a hopeless invalid, unable to work and racked by aches and pains, Joseph Boone of this place is back at his old work as a fisherman.

His kidney disease was the most

famous case of "Kidney Disease" in the world.

At a dinner given to Lord Roberts a few weeks ago, at a small but exclusive club, the butter on the table was moulded in the image and likeness of the gallant and noble guest,

an example which was followed by

the guests.

Reproducing the bust of some particular friend or other in this way is done at small social gatherings, but at the more ambitious "meets" the custom of reproducing Britain's greatest celebrities obtains.

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