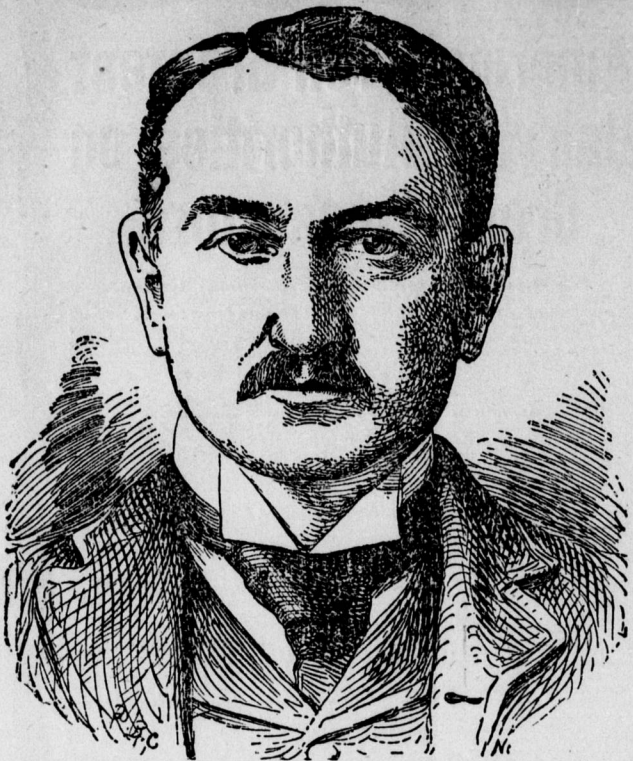


CECIL RHODES, SOUTH AFRICA'S "UNCROWNED KING."



The Diamond Mines of Kimberley.

Cecil Rhodes Controls the Richest Prize in All South Africa.



In this country and in Great Britain attention has been strongly attracted of late to the city of Kimberley, and this time the interest has been martial; for Kimberley is the home of Cecil Rhodes, the Grand Young Man of Africa. The Boers, according to some accounts, at the beginning of hostilities were anxious no less for the blood of Rhodes than for the rich booty of the mines.

Cecil Rhodes is often described as "the man who made South Africa." Mr. Rhodes was formerly Premier of Cape Colony, and is certainly the most prominent and powerful man in South Africa. He has achieved that place in twenty-six years. In 1873 he left Oxford because of a serious lung trouble, and went to the Cape in search of health. He is the youngest son of an English clergyman, and was born at Bishop Stortford, on July 5, 1853. He did not go to South Africa to seek diamonds, but because his physician had ordered a change. He continued his studies while living in Natal, and returned to Oxford each

war and the defeat and death of King Lobengula. The Jameson raid across the Transvaal border was probably due to the influence of Cecil Rhodes, for he has never denied complicity with it, and as its result he resigned in 1896 as Prime Minister of Cape Colony.

Kimberley is the diamond region of the world, far surpassing those of Brazil in richness. Kimberley is not a city in the modern use of the word. It is a great camp in which men's passions rise and fall as the treasures of the earth are uncovered or not found. The camp is in what is called the Vaal Basin, the wash ground of the river which divides the Transvaal from the Orange Free State. The first diamond discoveries there were made about 1870, but it was ten years later when Englishmen and others realized that the spot was the most valuable of its kind in the world.

By 1881 the mines which had been opened had yielded gems to the value of \$20,000,000. By 1887 seven tons of diamonds had been taken out valued at \$250,000,000. This record placed the Brazil diamond mines in the shade and made Kimberley world-wide in its fame. The Cecil Rhodes syndicate, known as the De Beers, came into control of all the mines after much negotiation. This syndicate capitalized for \$75,000,000 and pays interest at the rate of 5 1/2 per cent. per annum and an annual dividend of 20 per cent. Since Cecil Rhodes came into control of the mines they have given out 2,500,000 karats of diamonds. To get at these it has been necessary to wash 2,700,000 loads of the blue earth in which they are found. In the working of these diamond

small iron trucks to the levels. Upon these levels the blue ground is worked until the gems within are extracted. The process of extracting takes from three to six months. The stones found vary in size from a pin-head to the largest ever found—428 1/2 karats. This largest stone when cut weighed 228 1/2 karats. It is one of the experiences of the mine owners that they lose from ten to fifteen per cent. of their product each year through the thefts of employes, who, although closely watched, still manage to get away with their loot. The punishment for stealing a diamond is fifteen years' imprisonment. All diamonds except those which pass through illicit channels, are sent to England, the weekly shipments averaging from 40,000 to 50,000 karats. The greatest outlet for stolen diamonds is through the Transvaal to Natal, where they are shipped by respectable merchants.

It is said of the Rhodes interests in the mines that they take good care of their workmen. They have built a model village called Kenilworth within the precincts of the mines. In this village are cottages for the white workmen. A clubhouse has been built for their use and there is a public library. The equipment of the mines is something remarkable. Each mine has ten circuits of electric lights. They consist of fifty-two arc lamps of 1000 candle power each and 691 glow lamps of sixteen and sixty-four candle power each, or a total illuminating power of about 64,000 candles. Thirty telephones are located in each mine and over 100 electric bells to each for signaling. The lives of the workmen are insured and every precaution is taken to make their condition tolerable.



TYPE OF THE NATIVE DIAMOND MINERS.

The rate of wages runs from \$2 to \$8 per day unskilled labor receiving the lower price. What effect the closing of the mines by war have on the world at large is hard to say. Diamonds have already risen in price, but there is a large stock on hand in English and French hands.

The Great Corn States.

"The great corn States, according to the statistics of last year," writes John Gilmer Speed, in Ainslie's, "are in the order named, Iowa, Illinois,

OLDEST PICTURES OF MANKIND.

Earliest Known Drawings of the Human Profile Discovered in Egypt.

Long centuries ago, in the "early dusk and dawn of time," at a period which was ancient in the days of the Pharaohs, some primeval artist in the



OUR RACE'S FIRST PHOTOGRAPH.

land which is now Egypt scratched upon a potsherd the picture of a man and a woman.

Pleased was his tribe with that image—came in their hundreds to see—Handled it, smelt it and grunted: "Verily, this is a man."

A few months ago, when excavations were being made in a little unexplored part of Egypt, one of the relic hunters came upon this potsherd. Little was thought of the find at the time, but the finder, an archeologist of Berlin, was showing it the other day, along with his other Egyptian relics, to a German savant, who at once became interested in it. The savant begged to be allowed to take the potsherd home and study it more closely. His request being granted, he did so, and now he has given his opinion that the drawings on the potsherd are the oldest representations of mankind in existence. He believes that they are at least 300 years older than anything of the kind discovered before. The Egyptologist who owns this relic calls the pictures "The First Man and Woman."

A reproduction of the pictures is given here. It will be noticed that the man wears a "goatee" and that the woman in the case has a prominent nose. They were evidently people of standing in their day and generation, leaders of society, or king and queen, perhaps, when they sat for their portraits to the Egyptian Ung.

Stored Energy.

"You didn't act with your usual fire and enthusiasm," said the acquaintance.

"No," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes, "an actor sometimes finds it necessary to husband his powers for a supreme effort. I was saving myself for the argument with the manager when the box office receipts are counted."

The Bad Penny.

Again the Bad Penny turned up. "I'll make you look like thirty cents!" cried the other, losing all patience.

"Wouldn't that be counterfeiting?" insinuated the Bad Penny, with a malignant leer.

Of course the end did not justify the means, particularly in the federal courts.—Puck.

For the Fair Automobillist.

Paris may properly be called the home of the automobile. There can be no doubt that it has won its way into the heart of the Parisienne, who misses no opportunity to take long rides around Paris and into the country. Even stormy weather will not deter her from venturing out, and in order to have protection against the rain the smart tailors of the French



A PARISIENNE'S MOTOR CAR COSTUME.

capital have designed a very serviceable costume. A fair idea of it can be had from the illustration. The costume has a military appearance. It is made of dark gray waterproofed covert coating with stitched leather strappings.

The most costly leather in the world is known to the trade as piano leather.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

A Health Alphabet.

- A—soon as you are up, shake blanket and sheet;
- B—etter be without shoes than sit with wet feet;
- C—hildren, if healthy, are active, not still;
- D—amp beds and damp clothes will both make you ill;
- E—at slowly, and always chew your food well;
- F—reshen the air in the house where you dwell;
- G—arments must never be made too tight;
- H—omes should be healthy, airy and light;
- I—f you wish to be well, as you do, I've no doubt;
- J—ust open the windows before you go out;
- K—eep your rooms always tidy and clean;
- L—et dust on the furniture, never be seen;
- M—uch illness is caused by the want of pure air;
- N—ow open the windows be ever your care;
- O—ld rugs and old rubbish should never be kept;
- P—eople should see that their floors are well swept;
- Q—uick movements in children are healthy and right;
- R—emember the young cannot thrive without light;
- S—ee that the cistern is clean to the brim;
- T—ake care that your dress is all tidy and trim;
- U—se your nose to see if there be a bad drain;
- V—ery sad are the fevers that come from its train;
- W—alk as much as you can without feeling fatigue;
- X—erxes the king walked many a league;
- Y—our health is your wealth, which your wisdom must keep;
- Z—eal helps a good cause and the good you will reap.

—Troy Free Press.

How to Dress a Doll.

There are many simple ways of dressing dolls whose clothes are not made to be taken off and on, and when dolls are to be given to quite young children such clothing will be quite as much liked as that of a more elaborate kind.

A very easy way of dressing dolls for the little ones is by using wadding as the material in chief. Take a straight piece of wadding of suitable size, and buttonhole it along the bottom edge with red or blue worsted or Berlin wool. The former is the more pleasing color, though a pale blue will look well if there is sufficient depth of tint in the blue. Join the ends neatly and sew the skirt as it now is on the doll.

To form the bodice, take a smaller straight piece of wadding and ornament it with buttonhole stitch as before. Make holes for the arms to be put through, and stitch the bodice neatly on the doll.

For sleeves, take two very small, straight pieces of wadding, form into cylinder shape, after buttonholing at the wrist end, and join these neatly to the armhole portion of the bodice.

The simplest way of providing outdoor garments to match this dress is to shape a piece of wadding to form hood and cloak all in one. Buttonhole this round the edge to match the dress, and tie it on by a bow of baby ribbon round the doll's neck.

A pretty muff will complete this somewhat wintry looking costume and will be made in a similar manner to the sleeves, with a large piece of wadding. This way of dressing a doll is useful, economical and effective, while there is little finery to spoil or get out of place.—Trenton (N. J.) American.

Something About Giants.

Old chroniclers tell wonderful stories of the giants that used to walk the earth, even as we read in the Bible of Goliath, who was slain by the youth David. In later days perhaps the most interesting book on giants was written by a French scholar named Henrion in 1718. This book asserted that Adam, the first man, was 123 feet 9 inches tall, and that Eve was only five feet shorter. After Adam man began to lose height rapidly. Noah, says M. Henrion, was about 27 feet tall, and Abraham measured not more than 20. Moses reached only the poor height of 13 feet, and finally man had to be contented with feeble little frames from four to six feet in height.

Many huge human skeletons have been found, according to report. It is said that the skull of Chevalier Rinceon, whose remains were discovered in 1502 at Ronen, held a bushel of wheat. The shinbone was four feet long, and others in proportion. Many other similar skeletons were found, one in Sicily that measured 300 feet in length. In the present century, however, it has been shown that these skeletons were not of humans, but of prehistoric beasts.

One of the world's famous giants was Patrick Cotter O'Brien, who was born at Kinsale, in Ireland, in 1761. He was eight feet three inches tall, and was the greatest giant of his day. He died in 1804. In the museum of Trinity college, Dublin, is the skeleton of a giant named Magrath, who was seven feet eight inches high.

It is an interesting fact that giants as a rule are both weak of body and of mind, while dwarfs are usually keen-witted and healthy. A story is told that the Empress of Austria in the seventeenth century had all the giants and dwarfs of the Germanic empire assembled at Vienna. They were quartered together, and fear was expressed that the giants would terrify the dwarfs. The contrary proved to be the case. The dwarfs tormented and robbed the giants to the extent that with tears in their eyes the giants begged to be protected from them.

The usual circus and museum giants of today are rarely over seven feet in height, but they wear high-heeled boots and high hats that add a foot or more in height to their appearance.—Chicago Record.

The Southern Cross.

A halo of romance, says Miss Mary Proctor, in St. Nicholas, has woven itself about the stars of the Southern

Cross—one of the most picturesque objects in the southern skies. At one time these stars formed part of the constellation named the "Centaur," which was once included under that called "Argo," the Great Ship, but towards the end of the eighteenth century the Southern Cross became a constellation on its own account. Nevertheless, its resemblance to a cross must have been observed long before this time, since an Arabian globe has been found on which an outline of a cross is marked about this group of stars.

The longer bar of the cross points nearly to the south pole, the situation of which in the heavens is not marked by any brilliant star, but which is about four and a half cross lengths from the foot of the cross. For this reason Alpha and Gamma are sometimes called the "pointers." In fact, the Southern Cross may be looked upon as the hour-hand of the great clock, which goes around once in twenty-four hours, moving in the same direction as the hands of a clock, unlike our Great Bear or Dipper in the northern heavens, which appears to go round the northern pole in a direction contrary to the hands of a clock. This is because the observer's face, when looking at the northern pole, is turned in a direction contrary to the face of an observer in the southern hemisphere turned towards the southern pole.

Near the Southern Cross is an almost vacant patch of sky, which is named the "Coal-sack" by early navigators. In the Coal-sack only one very small star can be seen with the unaided eye, but the telescope reveals many stars in that seemingly deserted region, proving that the striking blackness is due simply to the effect of contrast with the brilliant ground surrounding it on all sides. On the northern edge of the Coal-sack is a star of ruddy hue, known as Kappa, but too small to be seen with the unaided eye. Even a small telescope fails to make one realize the splendor of the star; but when Sir John Herschel turned his twenty-foot reflector in its direction, he was surprised to find Kappa the centre of a cluster of over one hundred stars of all the colors of the rainbow, contrasting wonderfully with one another. He compared it to a superb piece of fancy jewelry, while Flammarion describes it as "a casket of glittering gems."

Rabbits as Pets.

When about to keep rabbits you must not think that any old box will do for a hutch, for boxes that are badly put together, or made of thin boards, will not do at all. First as to size. Buy a nice sound box not less than two feet square, and it might be even larger with advantage—in fact, it must be larger if required for breeding purposes.

The drainage of the box must be attended to. Place it on a stage, slightly sloping from the front; and at the back of the box make a number of small holes. Each hutch should have two compartments, one of which should be open at the front with wire, and there should be two wire doors. Let hutches be at least a foot from the ground, and do not place one above another. Let them also be where sunshine can reach them. Give an abundance of clean, dry bedding.

As it is necessary to keep your pets warm and dry, you should have a good thick covering to put over the wire front of the hutch in winter and wet weather, but be careful not to exclude the air entirely.

Regularity in feeding is very important, both as to hours and to the quantity of food given. You must have a fixed feeding-time; then you will be less likely to forget the helpless creatures dependent on you. The morning meal should never be given later than 8 o'clock; never feed them at noon as that is the time for rest and sleep; the second meal should be given about sunset, and this is the principal meal, as rabbits eat with the greatest appetite during the night. You may give them turnips and other root vegetables, oats, peas, beans, poliard, meat, bran and acorns. Then in green food they will eat almost anything, but the best to give are cabbage, lettuce, spinach, clover, milk thistle and dandelion leaves. Apples and pears, or the peel of these, they are very fond of. Fresh green grass is very good for them, also carrot and turnip tops and potato parings. Do not give wet green food, after heavy rain the green vegetables should be well shaken or dried; they must never be fed entirely on bran or corn. As a rule, rabbits do not require as much drink as many animals, but water should be kept within their reach, especially when there is a scarcity of green food.

You should often give your rabbits the pleasure of a scamper. Exercise is very beneficial to them, and also a great delight, keeping them in a healthy and happy condition. If they are allowed to run on an open piece of grass they must be watched, lest they should stray; but they seldom run off, and are easily caught again if gently approached. Do not let them run on grass that is wet with dew or rain; the main point is to give them exercise; therefore, a yard, or any enclosed space, will answer the purpose, and an hour's run twice in the week will do them a world of good.

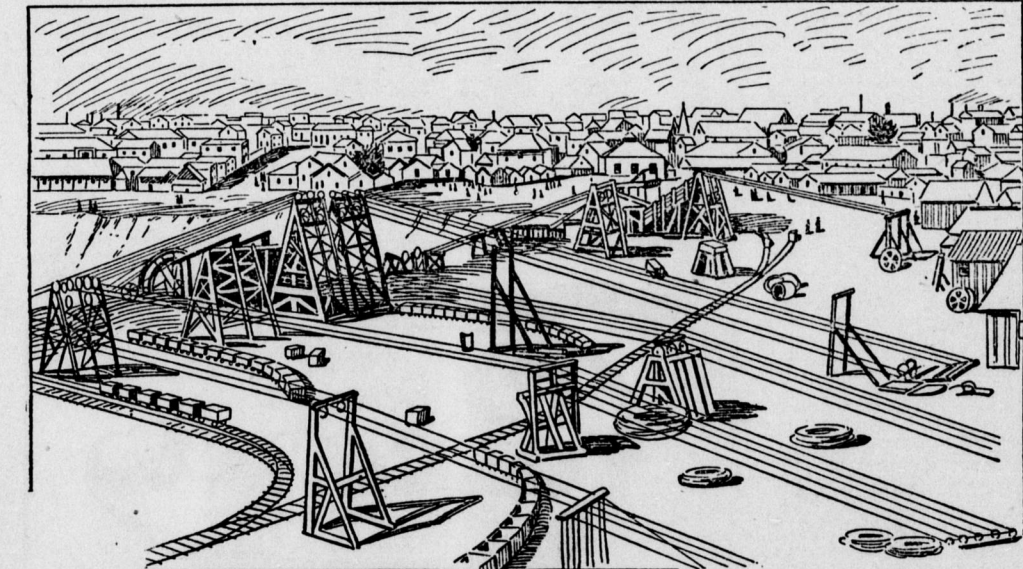
In lifting your rabbits to and from the hutch, grasp both ears firmly with one hand, and with the other support the hindquarters.

Put His Foot In It.

Miss Nice—What do you think of the new woman, Mr. Fair?

Mr. Fair—I detest the bold, shrieking creature. How much more lovable is the old woman, like you!

Miss Nice—Sir! He tried desperately to explain, but she would not hear.



KIMBERLEY, SOUTH AFRICA'S GREAT DIAMOND CAMP.

year until he took his degree at Oriel College.

It is hardly too much to say that Mr. Rhodes has made his fortune in diamonds. Diamonds had been discovered in South Africa a few years before he got there. Finally he, too, caught the fever, and it was not long before he had staked all he had in a few claims. These he shared with his brother, Herbert, who later relinquished his share and went to the north, where he met his death while hunting elephants. Cecil plodded away in the diamond fields, where he superintended his gang of Kaffirs. He was successful in his ventures, and it was not long before he found himself the possessor of some \$5,000,000. He was elected to the Cape Parliament, and by his political adroitness was made Prime Minister in 1890. He sought and won riches, but it is unfair to assume that he has done so solely for his own aggrandizement. With the advancement of his personal fortune he has also striven to realize an early dream of bringing Africa under British dominion.

"That's my dream—all English," he said, many years ago, moving his hand over a map of Africa up to the Zambezi. Coupled with the acquisition of wealth, he has labored toward that end.

One of the results was the Matabele

mines there are employed about 1500 white men and 6000 natives. The greater proportion of these men are employed in the De Beers and Kimberley mines, the two biggest holes which greedy man has ever dug into the earth. The De Beers mine has an area at the surface of thirteen acres and a depth of 450 feet. The mines are worked from shafts sunk some distance from the original holes and



KAFFIR POLICE AT THE DIAMOND MINES.

penetrating to the blue ground by transverse drivings at depths varying from 500 to 1200 feet. The blue ground, when extracted, is carried in

Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Indiana, Texas and Ohio. Each of these States grew in excess of 100,000,000 bushels, while the total of Iowa was 254,999,850 bushels. This year we are promised from Kansas alone in excess of 350,000,000 bushels. Montana, among the now States, grew the smallest amount of corn last year, and Rhode Island among the old States. In Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Washington all of the corn grown was consumed at home, practically none of it being transported beyond the county in which it was produced. The other States, according to the amount grown, shipped corn to other parts of the country and abroad. In price the corn on the farms realized all the way from sixty-six cents a bushel in Montana to twenty-three cents in Iowa, the general average throughout the country being 28 7-10 cents per bushel. In 1897 this general average was 26 3-10 cents; in 1896 it was 21 5-10 cents; in 1895 it was 25 3-10 cents, and in 1894 it was 45 7-10 cents. In the latter year (1894) the production was short, being somewhat more than twenty per cent. less than last year.

It is a singular fact that Washington and Oregon have yet no iron or steel works within their borders.