## A DIAMOND MARKET.

EXPERTS IN PARIS WHO KNOW ALL THE PRECIOUS STONES.

A Place Where a Stranger Would See No Traces of Buying or Selling-Millions of Dollars Represented in One Day's Stock Carried in Queer Places.

It was the Abbe Hany who subjected diamonds to the roughest treatment. He used to take a hammer and smash them He did the same with emeralds, rubics and sapphires, just as if they were worth nothing. By this heroic treatment the venerable abbe discovered that the broken particles of all precious stones have particular forms which establish their genuineness beyond all doubt. Before his time it was almost impossible to tell a diamond from a brilliant or a piece of rock crystal.

But now nobody breaks precious stones. Any dealer can take, with an indifferent air, the diamond that is presented to him for examination, and say without the least hesitation, "That weighs so much; it is a little fellow; it is worth so much."
And he is never deceived. At the present time everybody is somewhat of a dealer, and the consequence is that everybody can distinguish a real diamond among a thousand bogus stones.

On the second floor of a cafe in the Boulevard Montmartre the market or bourse of precious stones is held, always in broad daylight. Very few strangers to the trade can penetrate this sanc-tuary, not because the access to it is difficult, for the door is always wide open, but because the portfolios close and the stars disappear the moment an unknown face appears at the threshold.

Instead of animated traders the stranger only finds a few dull eyed Jews, carelessly playing a game of bezique. Ah, but there is a Turk there, too; the Turk that looks so much like Coudere, of the Opera Comique, except that he is yellow and wears very loose trousers, but these trousers are full of diamonds Don't believe for a moment that these good Jews, the merchants in precious stones, are afraid of robbers. That is the smallest thing that bothers them. What they dread is to let the profane, and especially the small jewelers, know the real value of their goods.

As soon as the stranger departs the arms stretch out and the portfolios reappear. The greater number of these ortfolios are made of tin and are closed with a lock and key. In a moment the tables are covered with little bundles of white paper formed like those in which the druggists put rhubarb or sulphate of magnesia. These packages are opened, and in less time than it takes to tell it all the tables, including the billiard table, are covered with precious stones that might startle the king of Persia. A strange spectacle is presented by those sordid old men quietly taking from their pockets three or four millions' worth. Each one of perhaps 10,000 packages contains so many brilliants. After they are disposed of the rare stones are introduced. Here there are sapphires as big as nuts. There lies a black diamond almost as large as the twelve pearls that surround it. Here again is a necklace made of fifteen emeralds that would make as many snuffboxes, certainly not big enough for M. Hyacinthe, of the Palais Royal, but too big beyond a doubt

for the nose of Mile, D.
"Here is a rare bargain," shouts one of the merchants, "one of the finest pieces of ancient jewelry known! It is a necklace that belonged to Madame la Princesse de Guemenee. Mounting, diamonds and all are ancient. Prince Proisetoiloff refused 75,000 francs for it

twenty years ago.

The necklace is passed from hand to hand. The merchants gaze at it with attention. The eyeglasses come into play. Indecision and doubt are painted the necktace passed to Michel. He is the great dge. He takes the thing, weighs it in his hand, looks at it with an indifferent air and says, "The two brilliants are ancient. They come with their mounting from the Countess de Prejean. The two others, still finer, once formed part of a necklace which was stolen in Venice in 1804 from Mme. Morosini. This necklace belonged later on to Lady Temple, whose husband purchased it at Candaar of Isaac Lieven. Lady Temple gave it to her daughter, who sold it three days after her marriage. As for the sapphire in the center, that comes from the sale of Mile. Schneider. The rest is new and comes direct from Hamburg. But, after all, it is well preserved, and 75,000 francs does not seem to be too much for

As extraordinary as it may appear there are now living five or six individuals who know all the costly diamonds and all the rich jewels in the world, and they are able to recognize them after a lapse of thirty years, even when they had first only seen them a moment, as certainly as a tailor would recognize at thirty paces the customer that forgot to pay him.

When a robbery is committed in the house of a well known jeweler, a thing which often happens in Paris, London, Vienna and St. Petersburg, if there is among the objects stolen a stone of more than ordinary value it is sure to be found again, although it may take many years to bring it back to its owner.—Figaro.

A Word to Young People.
You must be willing to bear reverses, or must expect disappointments. You not be ready to meet ill luck and to due poverty if need be. Don't excet things to make themselves unless a help them. Whatever you have not be worked for, and if it is worth wing it is righly worth working for,—udgate Weekly.

What an Epicure Is. term epicure means only the per no has good sense and good taste

A machine has been invented which separates ashes from boiler fires into three portions. Unburned fuel, called breeze or cinders, which can be mixed with coal and burned over again, or for blacksmiths' fires, being the finest material procurable; fine dust, useful for builders in place of sand; clinkers, use-

ful for roadmaking, paths, etc.

The machine consists of a tank or compartment kept full of water. The ashes or breeze to be cleansed rest on a grating, which is covered by a fine perforated copper plate. A free passage of water is allowed, and at the same time the breeze or fuel is prevented from falling.

The separation is effected by an agi tator worked by a crank shaft. At each downward plunge of the agitator the water is forced upward through the perforated copper bottom, causing the ma-terial to rise. The rubbish, owing to its greater specific gravity, is precipitated to the bottom on the return stroke; at the same time the breeze, or unburned fuel, being lighter, works to the surface.

At each stroke of the crank a body of water and a quantity of clean breeze is carried to a plate, which is also perforated, so as to allow the water to fall into the machine and thence through a valve to be used over again, and the clean breeze is swept by a revolving brush over a ledge. The clinker ac-cumulates on the perforated copper plate, and from time to time is allowed to escape by a valve in the body of the machine, whence it is raised by an ele-vator and discharged.—Pittsburg Dis-

Love Making on the Stage.

'The art of making love on the stage is one that few actors acquire," said an old Thespian. "A woman naturally clings to a man with grace, grasping his arm with deverly implied passion or tenderly nestling on his boson. But a man doesn't get on to the æstheticism of the thing with the same ease and grace. Harry Lacy was a dream of a lover, though. He had a trick of weaving his arms about a woman with a sinuous, seductive movement that brought a little lump into the throat of every woman in the audience. He always preferred approaching a woman from behind and then drawing her back into arms that seemed made for that purpose. Holf isn't a bad lover by any means. Ask the St. Louis girls if they don't think he makes very few false moves.

"Funny thing, while on this topic, but you know when Barrymore was supporting Langtry they hated each other worse than poison. He declares she would put pins in her bodice to stick him, and they kept up a regular quarrel the whole time they were billing and cooing and embracing in most ardent fashion. 'Don't hold me so tight, sir; you have evidently never had your arms around a lady, Langtry would say in a whisper. 'If you knew how thoroughly distasteful this is to me you would never accuse me of getting near you, he would reply. Do people ever make love on the stage? Not that 1 know of: it is all purely business."— St. Louis Republic.

A Phalanx.

A phalanx in the military affairs of Greece was a square battalion or body of soldiers formed in ranks and files compact and deep with their shields joined and pikes crossing each other so as to render it almost impossible to break it. At first the phalanx consisted of 4,000 men, but this number was after ward doubled by Philip of Macedon, and the double phalanx is hence often called the Macedonian phalanx. Polybius describes it thus:

"It was a square of pikemen, consist-ing of sixteen in flank and 500 in front. The soldiers stood so close together that the pikes of the fifth rank extended three feet beyond the front. The rest, whose pikes were not serviceable owing to their distance from the front, couched them upon the shoulders of those who stood before them, and so locking them together in file pressed forward to sup-port and push on the former rank, by which means the assault was rendered more violent and irresistible." The spears of those behind also stopped the missiles of the enemy. Each man's pike was twenty-three feet long. The word phalanx is also used for any combination of people distinguished for solidity and firmness. A grand phalanx consist ed of 16,384 men.-Brooklyn Eagle.

fook Big Chances for Twenty-five Dollars. A Captain Blondell at Oxford, Als., affered twenty-five dollars to any one who would get into a boat and allow it o be blown up with dynamite so that Blondell might show his lifesaving nethods. A young man named Neely eccepted the offer and was blown about orty feet into the air unhurt, but on his eturn to the water's surface he alighted m the fragments of the wreck and resived a fractured leg and other injuries.

Gray Hair Turning Black.

Just across the Berkeley county line at Cedar Grove, Va., lives Jacob Lanck. He is sixty-five years old, and one year ago he possessed a heavy suit of snow white hair. Since then his hair has by legrees turned to its original color— black—and there is only an occasional spot of white remaining. Mr. Lanck as been in perfect health, and is unable in account for the strange change.— Hartinsburg (W. Va.) Letter.

Bound to Get His Money.

A man at Peak's island, Me., dropped a nickel into the slot of a phonograph me day last week, but the machine 'ailed to give out the promised music. Thereupon the man became enraged and smashed the phonograph into bits to resover his money.

The reverend gentlemen who are en-oying their several vacations are much a luck to find "sermons in stones." The rest of us are obliged to lose more r less time when we go pleasuring.

The quality of the Swedish matches n many cases is so bad that the state in-ands to resume the manufacture, and computes that the profits will produce a

A Much Traveled Vallet A valise was received at the United States express office at Jackson, Miss., several days ago showing from the hun-dreds of stamps and tags on it that it had been in most of the express offices in the country. It was stuffed full of hundreds of odd and queer articles, including a human skull and the left foot of a female graveyard rabbit.

A Child with Two Brains. A few years ago, in 1881, a child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kuerwitz, of Spring Creek, near Hebron, Neb., that had two well developed brains, the second and useless adjunct being in a sac attached to the back of the real head by a ligament six inches in length. The child lived but two days,-St. Louis Re-

No Sunday Work in the Transvant. The Boers have emailed a law which stops Sunday labor in the The gold output, it is declared, will be seduced by one-revers, neuring a loss of \$375,000 n motels, but President Kruger replies that he will not sell the Lord's day for milli

The centennial anniversary of Fryeburg academy, at Fryeburg, Me., was celebrated a few days ago. Daniel Webster is reputed to have begun his study of law while in this institutution and made his first public oration while principal of the academy.

The fact that man has been able to produce many great changes on the face of the earth is a tribute to his industry and ingenuity. But it is possible that he is bringing about effects of equal importance without intending them.

A safety surfbout, with deck, sides, bottom, stern and keel all made out of one piece of metal and so constructed as to have but one seam, and that running flown the erals along the bottom, is the invention of a New York genius.

The smokestacks of our ocean steamers are much larger than is generally supposed. They range from fourteen to eighteen feet in diameter. Those of the Etruria are over the latter figure.

A dwarf residing at Shigaken, Osaka, is thirty-six years old and but seventeen inches high. He is well educated and gains a livelihood by teaching penman-

Benedict VI was strangled in the castle of St. Angelo by order of his successor, Boniface VII, who a few months later was deposed and died in exile.

## PEOPLE FIND

That it is not wise to experiment with cheap compounds purporting to be blood-purifiers, but which have no real medicinal value. To make use of any other than the old standard AYER'S Sarsaparilla—the Superior Blood-purifier - is simply to invite loss of time, money, and health. If you are afflicted with Scrofula, Catarrh, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Eczema, Running Sores, Tumors, or any other blood disease, be assured that

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