

forms either in the rapidly changing phantasmagoria of delirium, or in the multiple vision of an over-stimulated brain. Exactly that which is chiefly conspicuous by its absence or its attenuation in all forms of hysteric disease, is personal identity, of which some of the pillars of the 'Society for psychical research' mistakenly hope to find the secret by studying the cases of those who pass their lives in disordered dreams.

#### SOME REMARKABLE GEMS.<sup>1</sup>

A FEW remarkable gems have been recently purchased by private buyers in the United States. One of these is a chrysoberyl cat's-eye weighing

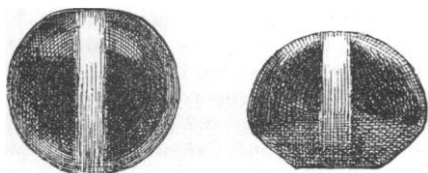


FIG. 1.

80½ carats. Its dimensions are 23 mm. long, 23 mm. wide, and 17 mm. thick. The color, which is very even, is a superb brownish golden yellow, and the line is as even and distinct as is possible in a gem of such size. The cat's-eye hitherto awarded the palm is part of the 'Hope collection' included in the Townshend bequest to the South Kensington museum (fig. 2). This famous gem

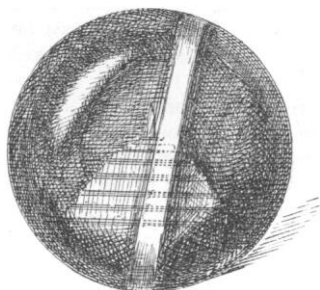


FIG. 2.

measures 35.5 by 35 mm. in its true dimensions (the Hope catalogue gives the length as two inches, but this is only the case when measured over the dome). It formed part of the crown jewels taken from the King of Kandy in 1815. The crystalline markings are so arranged that the lower half shows an altar surmounted by a torch. The line is not straight, but inclined about 15 degrees. The color is dark, and the line is not so strongly marked as it should be in a fine gem.

<sup>1</sup> From the Transactions of the New York academy of sciences, vol. v. No. 6.

Two of the largest known Ceylonese Alexandrites are to be noted. One of these weighs 28 23-32 carats, and its dimensions are 32 mm. by 16 mm. by 9 mm. In daylight its fine rich green color is tinged with red, but by gaslight it is a rich columbine-red, and scarcely to be distinguished from a Siamese purplish-red spinel. The other stone is the largest on record (fig. 3). It weighs

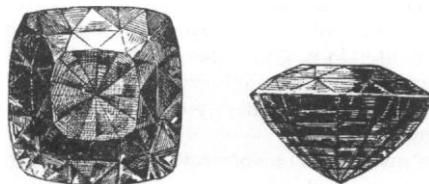


FIG. 3.

63½ carats, and measures 33 mm. by 32 mm. by 15 mm. It has a yellow grass-green color by daylight, but changes to a raspberry-red by artificial light.

The finest cut beryl (aquamarine) ever found in the United States is from Stoneham, Me. (fig. 4).

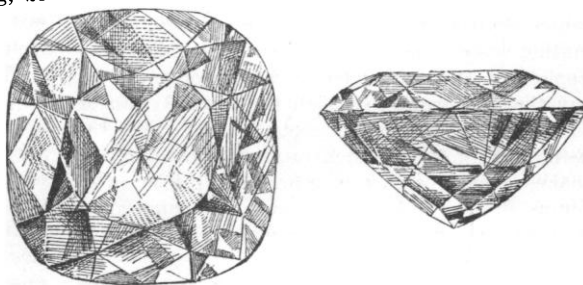


FIG. 4.

It measures 35 mm. by 35 mm. by 20 mm. It is a magnificent brilliant-cut, and weighs 133½ carats. The color is a rich bluish-green, and, with the exception of a few minute hair-like internal striations, is perfect.

A ruby cut *en cabochon* is exhibited from Franklin, Macon county, N.C., showing somewhat the asteria effect. It is of good normal color, and quite free from flaws. Its dimensions are 5.5 mm. by 4 mm., and its weight 1 1-16 carats.

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#### RACE AND LANGUAGE.

THAT the character of a people, like that of individuals, is indicated by their speech, is a common observation. We all understand that the French, the German, and the Italian languages have a certain consonance with the mental traits of the nations that speak those tongues; and this fact may reasonably lead to certain inquiries.