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NOTICE.

Subscribers finding the figures 12 after their name will bear in mind that their term will expire at the end of the present month. Early remittances are desirable, as there is then no loss of any numbers by the stopping of the paper.

TWO AMERICAN GLACIERS.

The tops of very high mountains in the highest latitudes are covered with never-melting snows. As snow-storm after snow-storm drops its fleecy burdens on them, the superincumbent weight compresses and forces the snow and ice down the mountain sides. As it moves down slowly below the snow-line it thaws and freezes, until the mass is converted into ice, and coming within the sight of man, is known as a glacier, or river of ice. As these glaciers flow slowly on and down the valleys the temperature often becomes so high as to melt away the ice streams as fast as they arrive. Although they become narrower and flatten away towards the front, like a wedge, the point of this wedge is high, and furrowed with streams, which, composed of melting ice, pour down as mountain torrents, forming the nucleus of the grand rivers which may carry a nation's wealth on their bosoms.

In high polar latitudes, where the line of perpetual snow comes down to the sea level, glaciers are seen on the grandest scale. On Greenland's western coast the slope towards the sea is very gradual, and the whole country side seems to be composed of one immense glacier advancing and stretching itself into the western bay, where portions, breaking off in summer, float off and into the ocean as gigantic icebergs, towering above the highest vessel, even then giving but a slight idea of their size and magnificence, seven-eighths being hidden beneath the water.

Col. John Hamilton Gray, in an article in the *NEW DOMINION MONTHLY*, describes two remarkable glaciers which flow into the Stikine River, which forms the southern boundary line between the American territory of Alaska and British Columbia, or has its mouth in the former and source in the latter as future surveys may determine. The first of these, the "Grand Glacier," is three miles broad where it fronts on the river, the wall varying from three to five hundred feet in height. Between this ice wall and the river there is a moraine of gravel and boulders, which rise between one and two hundred feet above the river, and then sloping down towards the glacier, leaves a ravine between the two. Between the moraine and the river is a belt of land half a mile in width, and on the bank of the river are embedded large boulders of three and four tons in weight, which must have been borne and deposited there by the glacier from within, because the opposite bank of the river is simply of sand without rocks or stones of any kind. The intervening belt between the moraine and the river is covered with a growth of cottonwood and firs, rising eighty or ninety feet in height. Back of

the ice wall the glacier seems to spread out like a lake, sloping gently upwards, surrounded by great mountains, with its frozen river flowing in on a steep, distinct slope from between two on the right; the frozen current then turns and flows down to the river at an acute angle from its entrance.

The Dirt Glacier, farther up the river, in something closely resembles this, and one description would almost answer for both were it not that the moraine forms a complete embankment in front of the glacier, and is dirty and discolored from the rubbish brought down by it in its course.

ANECDOTE OF WHITTIER.

All people are not so intellectual or so grandly busy as to live entirely above the temptation of expensive fashion, and unconscious of its demands, nor can all expect to be. But there are none who might not feel the example and learn the lesson of a great man's modest wants. Mr. Whittier's simplicity of life and thought is illustrated by a story told by a writer in the *Boston Times*. She says:

A very elegant woman of Boston was walking with Col. Higginson. "I want you to come in to Osgood's with me," he said to his lady friend, "and see Whittier, who is there to-day."

They went in and found the poet. After a little while the conversation turned on a young girl with colored blood in her veins, who had a place in the freedmen's bureau at a small salary, and was rather petted by the philanthropists of a certain Boston clique. After a prolonged discourse on her virtues and social privations, Col. Higginson said,—

"And poor child, after her board and other expenses are paid, she has only \$50 a year for her dress!"

Whittier drew up slowly about his figure the gray woollen shawl that he wore. "Fifty dollars!" said he; "and does not thee think that is enough? I never spent more than that sum a year for dress in my life."

Looking at the Spartan simplicity of the Quaker poet, one could readily believe him, and Col. Higginson was at a loss for a reply. He did not point to his elegant companion, and say that sum would hardly buy gloves; and I suppose the poet accepted her splendor as a matter of course, and did not dream of the cost.—*Selected.*

THE PAPAL TIARA.

The triple crown or Papal tiara is, like the crowns of sovereigns, sumptuously adorned with precious stones, the most prominent of which is a splendid diamond. Rich as it is, however, it is far from equalling those, about ten in number, which were possessed by the Vatican. The numbers of these tiaras had been going on increasing since Pope Boniface VIII., and each surpassed its predecessor in value. Financial difficulties more than once forced the popes to sell the jewels set in these crowns, in order to pay their debts. At the accession of Pope Pius VII. there was only one left. The only Papal tiara at the Vatican was a pasteboard one, with imitation jewels. After the Concordat, about 1801, Napoleon I. made Pius VII. a present of a new tiara. It is the same that is now used and was valued at 220,000 francs. Its cupola consists of eight rubies, twenty-four pearls, and one emerald. The cross is composed of twelve brilliants. The tails are studded with rubies and pearls. Two gold cords serve to fix the tiara on the head of the Pope—who, by the way, scarcely ever wears it. This tiara was carefully concealed

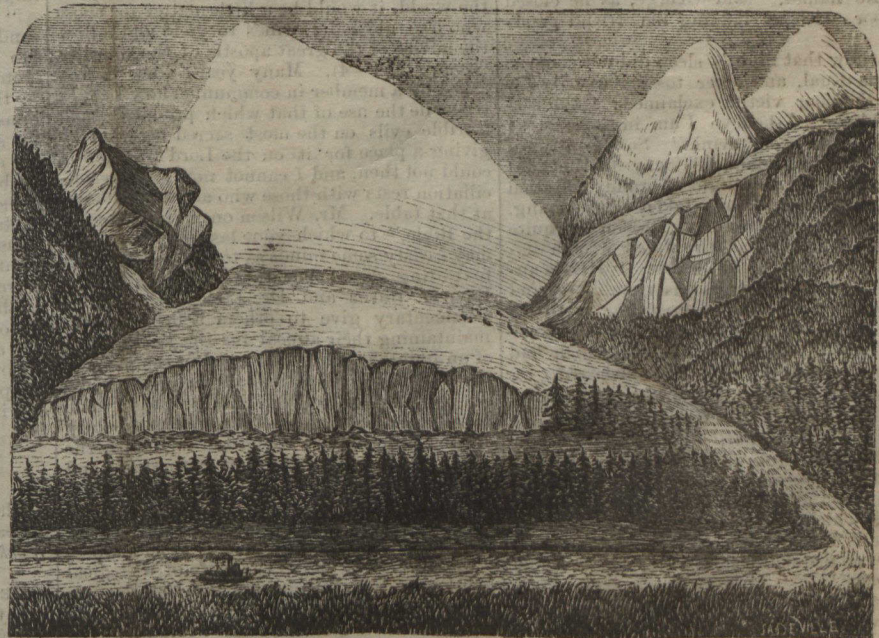


THE GRAND GLACIER.

in 1874, and only taken out of its hiding-place after the French troops had entered Rome. The principal diamond of the Papal tiara has a history attached to it, which begins with the Duke of Burgundy. This prince had a passion for jewellery, and there was not a wealthier man than he in the fifteenth century. Whenever he was engaged in a campaign, his gold and silver vessels, his diamonds and jewels, invariably accompanied him. Now, having been beaten by the Swiss at Grandson, he fled, leaving his treasure on the field of battle, and among them three beautiful diamonds. The first was discovered by a soldier, under a cart. It was the largest and most valuable, having been sold to the Duke of Burgundy by the Great Mogul. The lucky finder, not having the slightest idea of the value of the stone, flung it into a field; but, repenting of his act,

picked it up again and sold it for a crown (*scu*) to a priest, who resold it for three to a Bernese citizen. The latter, who was better informed, disposed of it for 5,000 ducats. It passed through other hands for 7,000, and was purchased for 14,000 by the Duke of Milan, Ludovico il Moro, who sold it to Pope Julius II. for 20,000 ducats. The second diamond is the well-known Sancy, and the third adorns the crown of Austria, and is valued at 3,000,000 francs.—*N. Y. Tablet.*

—The *British Medical Journal* urges upon consumptives the consideration that it is living in the open air, in a fine climate, that is really beneficial for consumption, and not the mere climate of itself.



THE DIRT GLACIER.