

## Gems of the Orient.

The history of the gems in the East is the history of the governing Princes, for so often has the course of history in the Orient been affected by intrigues about precious stones that they assume a state importance. The traditional diamond in the East is the Great Mogul. The original weight of this stone was 787 carats, but by cutting it was reduced to 297 carats. The stone disappeared at the last Tartar invasion, when treasures to the value of \$350,000,000 were captured by the Nadir Shah. It is believed to be at present hidden away in some obscure fortress in Asia Minor, and it may be recovered at some future time.

Some idea of the abundance of precious stones in the East may be gained from the fact that when Mahmoud, in the eleventh century, captured Sumnat, an idol statue was broken open and found to contain three bushels of diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. Ala ud-deen obtained from the Rajah of Mahrattas fifty pounds of diamonds and rubies, and 175 pounds of pearls. Shah Jehan, the greatest of the Mogul sovereigns, left a treasure of incalculable value at his death, a throne valued at \$30,000,000 and a crown worth \$12,000,000. The throne was the celebrated peacock throne, so called from the images of two peacocks which stood before it, each made of precious stones so matched in color and in position as to resemble the natural colors of the bird. The throne was six feet long and four feet wide, of solid gold and encrusted with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. Steps of silver led up to it, while a canopy of gold fringed with pearls, supported by twelve pillars emblazoned with gems, surmounted the whole. On each side was a sacred umbrella made of velvet, embroidered with pearls, the handle being of solid gold inlaid with diamonds. It was the most costly work of art ever made. Its only rival was the cerulean throne of the house of Bahmenec in the Nisam. This was built in the seventeenth century, was nine feet long by three feet wide, was made of ebony covered with plates of gold encrusted with gems, and was valued at \$20,000,000.

A late traveller in the East, Mr. Eastwick, has recently given a graphic account of the magnificence of the Persian Crown jewels. In the jewel room he found treasures valued at \$35,000,000, among them the crown, a mass of diamonds surmounted by a ruby as big as a hen's egg. The King's belt is a wonder of barbaric magnificence, weighing about twenty pounds, and composed of a solid mass of diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. As Persia is the native land of the turquois, it is but natural that the finest stone of this description is to be found in its collection. This royal specimen is four inches long, perfect in color, and without a flaw. When the Shah was in Europe, some years ago, he wore a variety of diamonds and other precious stones that kept the detectives in a constant fever of fear lest he should be robbed of some of them, for one, even of the smallest, would have been a fortune for a half dozen thieves. The buttons of his coat were five in number, and each button was a diamond larger than the Kohinoor, while every part of his clothing seemed to be useful, not as a covering for his body, but as places to hang diamonds on.—[Augustus Hamlin.

## "The Place of Gold."

At Cuzco, in Persia, is a Temple of the Sun called Coricaucha or "The Place of Gold," one of the most magnificent edifices of the East. On the western wall, and opposite the eastern portal, was a splendid representation of the sun, the god of the nation. It consisted of a human face in gold, with innumerable golden rays emanating from it in every direction; and when the early beams of the morning sun fell upon this brilliant golden disk, they were reflected from it as from a mirror, and again reflected throughout the whole temple by numberless plates, cornices, bands and images of gold, until the temple seemed to glow with a sunshine more intense than that of nature.

## "LADIES' JOURNAL"

## Bible Competition No. 9.

CLOSING FEBRUARY 10th.

\$20,000.00.

During the year ending with September last, the proprietor of the LADIES' JOURNAL has given a very large and valuable lot of rewards to his subscribers aggregating an immense amount of money. We are sure that the Pianos, Organs, Gold and Silver Watches, Silver Tea Sets, Books, etc., etc., have given great satisfaction. A good deal of excitement has been caused by the advent of some of these costly prizes into the towns and villages of Canada and the United States. They have been sent to all parts almost, of the two countries, quite a number even going to England, and other distant places. Full lists of the winners are always published in the LADIES' JOURNAL immediately at the close of each competition, names of winners are given in full, together with the correct number, where possible, so inquiry can readily be made by those who are doubtful. There can be, therefore, no fraud. We can positively testify to the fairness of the matter ourselves, as we know every thing is carried out exactly as promised. For the benefit of those of our readers who desire to compete, we give the plan in detail.

To the fifteen hundred persons who correctly answer the following Bible questions will be given, without extra charge, except for freight and packing of goods, beyond the regular half dollar yearly subscription, the beautiful and costly rewards named below. We will give the Bible questions that require to be answered first:

## THE BIBLE QUESTIONS.

1. Where are horses first mentioned in the Bible?
2. Where are cattle first mentioned in the Bible?

They are not very difficult, but require a little study to look them up. So don't delay; the sooner you answer them the better. Here you have the list of first rewards. Number one in this list will be given to the sender of the first correct answer to these two Bible questions. Number two to the sender of the second correct answer, and so on till all this series of first rewards are given out.

## THE FIRST REWARDS.

1. Six Hundred Dollars in Gold Coin..... \$ 600
2. One Grand Square Piano, by a celebrated maker..... 1,000
- 3 and 4. Two Grand Square Pianos..... 600
- 5 and 6. Two Fine Tones, 10 Stop Cabinet Organs..... 750
- 7, 8 and 9. Three Fine Quadruple Plate Silver Tea Services—six pieces and One Fine Clock Tea Service..... 300
- 10 to 15. Six Gentlemen's Solid Gold Stem-winding and Stem-setting Genuine Elgin Watches..... 600
- 16 to 20. Five Ladies' Solid Gold Stem-winding and Stem-setting Genuine Elgin Watches..... 450
- 21 to 30. Ten Honoured Williams' Singer Sewing Machines..... 600
- 31 to 40. Ten Gentlemen's Solid Hunting-case or Open-faced, Coin-silver Watches..... 300
- 41 to 50. Ten Solid Quadruple Silver Plate Cake Baskets, elegant designs..... 200
- 51 to 100. Fifty Dozen Sets of Heavy Silver Plated Tea Spoons..... 400
- 101 to 310. One Hundred and Thirty Elegant Bound Volumes of Tennyson's Poems..... 300
- 311 to 500. One Hundred and Ninety well-bound volumes of World's Encyclopedia Library in 1001..... 570

Then follows a series of middle rewards which will be given in this way: At the close of the competition all the answers received will be counted by three disinterested persons, when to the sender of the middle correct answer (of the whole list) will be given number one of the middle rewards. To the next correct answer following the middle one will be given number two, the next correct one number three, and so on till all these middle rewards as enumerated below are given away. Here is the list of

## MIDDLE REWARDS.

1. Seven hundred and fifty dollars in gold coin..... \$ 750
- 2, 3 and 4. Three magnificent Grand Square Pianos, by a celebrated maker..... 1,650
- 5, 6 and 7. Three Fine-toned Cabinet Organs, by a celebrated maker..... 750
- 8, 9, 10 and 11. Four Ladies' Solid Gold stem-winding and stem-setting Watches..... 400
- 12 to 17. Six elegant quadruple plate Hot Water or Tea Urns..... 850
- 18 to 20. Thirteen Elegant, Heavy Black Silk Dress Patterns..... 620
- 21 to 30. Twenty Elegant Black Cashmere Dress Patterns..... 240
- 31 to 50. Ten Pairs Fine Lace Curtains..... 100
- 51 to 90. Thirty Quadruple Plate Crystal Stands..... 320

- 91 to 257. One Hundred and Sixty-seven Elegant Rolled Gold Brooches..... 500
- 258 to 300. Three Hundred and Forty-three beautifully bound volumes, Shakespear's Poems..... 1,020

After these follow the Consolation Rewards, when, to the sender of the very last correct answer received in this competition will be given number one of these Consolation Rewards named below. To the next to the last correct one will be given number two, and so on till all these are given away.

## THE CONSOLATION REWARDS

1. Five Hundred Dollars in Gold Coin..... \$ 500
- 2, 3 and 4. Three Fine Grand Square Pianos..... 1,600
- 5, 6 and 7. Three elegant Cabinet Organs, by a celebrated maker..... 750
- 8 to 10. Three Fine Quadruple Plate Tea Services..... 300
- 11 to 14. Eight Ladies' Solid Gold Hunting-case genuine stem-winding and stem-setting genuine Elgin Watches..... 800
- 15 to 20. Eleven Heavy Black Silk Dress Patterns..... 550
- 21 to 30. Forty-one Fine Black Cashmere Dress Patterns..... 442
- 31 to 150. Sixty dozen sets silver-plated Tea Spoons..... 360
- 151 to 200. One hundred and forty elegant rolled gold brooches..... 560
- 201 to 400. One hundred and ten fine silver-plated butter knives or sugar spoons..... 110

This altogether forms one of the most attractive and reasonable plans we have ever seen. The aim of the proprietor of the Ladies' Journal is of course to increase his circulation. In fact, he says so, but adds that he also hopes to encourage the study of the Bible, but frankly states that this part of the plan is not his sole aim, and goes on to explain that he has lost so much money by dishonest agents, and has spent so much in valuable premiums to encourage them to send large lists, that hereafter he has decided to give all these things direct to subscribers, for answering these Bible questions. Aside from the rewards offered you are sure to be pleased with your half dollar investment, as the Ladies' Journal consists of twenty pages of the choicest reading matter, and contains the sum and substance of many of the high priced fashion papers and magazines published in the States, and all for the low price of half a dollar, or one year's subscription. It also contains two pages of the newest music, short and serial stories, household hints, fashion articles by the best authorities, finely illustrated. In short it is about the best monthly publication we know of anywhere for fifty cents, and is as good as many at a dollar. Be sure to remember that everyone competing must send with their answers fifty cents by post-office order, scrip, or small coin. They therefore pay nothing extra for the privilege of competing for these costly rewards, as fifty cents is the regular yearly subscription price to the Journal. The competition remains open only till sixteenth February next, and as long as the letter is post marked where mailed either on the day of closing (16th February) or anytime between now and then, it will be in time and eligible to compete. You answer this promptly now, and you may doubtless secure one of the first rewards. If you answer anytime between now and fifteenth of February, you may secure one of the middle rewards, and even if you answer on the last day (16th Feb.) and you live a good distance from Toronto, fifteen days being allowed after date of closing for letters to reach the office from distant points, you are almost certain to secure one of the consolation rewards. At all events we most heartily recommend it, and trust many of our readers will avail themselves of this excellent opportunity of securing at once an excellent publication and a possibility of a piano, organ, gold watch, silver tea set, or some other of the many rewards offered. The address is Editor of the Ladies' Journal Toronto, Canada. Don't delay attending to this but do it now, and you'll not regret it, you may depend.

## Consumption Cured

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 149 N. 2nd St., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Every master has found his materials collected, and his power lay in his sympathy with his people and the love of the material he wrought in.

## About Mount Vesuvius.

*Apologies of the present disturbed state of Spain by earthquakes, Truth gives the following sketch of Mount Vesuvius from "Picturesque Europe." A little more than eighteen centuries since the form of the mountain was totally different; its height was probably some hundred yards less than it is at present; its outline a blunt truncated cone, having a wide crater at the summit. No eruption in the memory of man had disturbed the district; scarce a tradition of such an occurrence appears to have lingered. The floor of the crater was overgrown with brushwood and trees; its walls were festooned with ivy and wild vine. Once only does it become prominent in history; when 'the Capuan gladiators sheltered themselves for a while in this natural hill-fort from which, under the command of Spartacus, they escaped to begin the servile war. In the year 79 of the present era there was a change; earthquakes agitated the neighbouring districts and at last the imprisoned fire broke forth. From the crater of Vesuvius a huge dark cloud rose into the air, spreading itself out like a great pine-tree; presently a hail of red-hot scoria came rattling down over the flanks of the mountains, and as night fell the cloud grew larger and darker and the shower of stones became thicker, heavier and more widely spread. All night long the darkness for many a mile was rendered blacker still by this thickly falling scoria, though illuminated at intervals by the lurid gleam from the mountain and rendered yet more awful by the incessant earthquake shocks. Morning dawned at last and the still air cleared; half the great crater wall had vanished, leaving the fragments that now bears the name of Somma, while beneath its ruins Herculaneum, Pompeii, and Stabiae lay buried, and the ground even at Misenum was white as snow with fallen ashes.*

Miss Mary Campbell, Elm, writes: "After taking four bottles of Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspeptic Cure, I feel as if I were a new person. I had been troubled with Dyspepsia for a number of years, and tried many remedies, but of no avail, until I used this celebrated Dyspeptic Cure." For all impurities of the Blood, Sick Headache, Liver and Kidney Complaints, Costiveness, etc., it is the best medicine known.

New styles of putting on braid this spring mark the difference between last and this season's cloth and flannel suits.

## To our Readers.

If you suffer from headache, dizziness, backache, biliousness or humors of the blood, try Burdock Blood Bitters. It is a guaranteed cure for all irregularities of the blood, liver and kidneys.

Mastic and gold are combined in spring hats, the straw being in mastic shades, the trimming of mastic and gold braid.

THE FACE WEARS A YELLOW-ISH tinge, pimples appear upon it, sick headache, vertigo, morning nausea, and pains in back, side and shoulder blade, are experienced when bile enters the system and poisons the blood. Expel it from the circulation, and direct it into its natural channel, the bowels, with Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Great Blood Purifier, which has widely superseded mineral drugs having dangerous reaction. Indigestion, Constipation, Impurity of the Blood, and Kidney Complaints are entirely overcome by its use.

Ridley's plaided and plain flannel suits for early spring wear are already on the form in the suit department.

No other medicine is so reliable as Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for colds, coughs, and all derangements of the respiratory organs leading toward consumption. In all ordinary cases it is a certain cure, and it affords relief for the asthmatic and consumptive, even in advanced stages of disease.

Braid is no longer worn in floriated or inflated patterns on dresses, but in geometrical forms of simple but ingenious design.

## A Good Record.

Among the many thousand bottles of Yellow Oil sold annually in Canada, not one has ever failed to give satisfaction. It cures rheumatism, colds, and all painful complaints and injuries.