



and belts and all sorts of dark and out of the way places, until he considers it safe to bring them to the light and dispose of them at an added and illegal profit. That is, if he is not "cotched" beforehand. In the case of smuggling diamonds into the United States, the reward of success is 10 per cent., the penalty of failure is confiscation, a fine of twice the value of the property, and, further, the chance of imprisonment. All this is preliminary to the little story of Max La Sar, a diamond "merchant" not unknown in New York and Europe, who recently, it is charged, tried hard to smuggle about \$100,000 worth of diamonds across the border, and failed in the attempt. Had he been successful, his 10 per cent. extra profit would have netted him about \$10,000, a very tidy sum; as he has failed, however, he loses about \$300,000, and incurs the risk of becoming a regular lodger in the penitentiary; so that, really, taking everything into consideration, the game does not appear to be worth the candle. That the plot failed is to be attributed to the shrewdness and the good memory of Mr. E. H. Twohey, Deputy Collector of United States Customs, in Montreal. Among Mr. Twohey's duties is that of a general supervision of the passengers arriving in port by the large transatlantic liners, and therefore he was on hand when the Dominion line steamer "Dominion" steamed into the harbor on Sunday night, June 10. The usual bustle ensued when the steamer had tied up at her wharf and the gangways were let down, and the usual crowd was present, either out of curiosity or awaiting the arrival of friends and relatives. Mr. Twohey had no one to see in particular, but he kept an eye upon all the passengers, on general principles, and in the way of business, and presently he was rewarded. His reward came in the person of Mr. Max La Sar, with whose reputation as a skillful "carrier" of diamonds Mr. Twohey was perfectly well acquainted. Mr. La Sar, of New York, was accompanied by a friend, and these two, after securing their baggage, drove to the St. James Hotel. Mr. Twohey followed them. At the hotel they registered as J. Max, of Boston, and D. P. Vandandaigne, of Eastman, Que. As "Max" hailed from New York, and as Vandandaigne's baggage described him as belonging to Coaticook, the deputy collector's suspicions were confirmed and he determined not to lose sight of them. On the Monday morning, the pair left for Toronto, and Mr. Twohey sat next them in the car, presumably fast asleep. He was never, however, more wide awake, and, as his next door neighbors whispered rather indiscreetly, he "overheard things." The result was that, upon arriving in Toronto, he met Mr. E. C. Lewis, special agent of the United States Treasury Department, and thereafter Mr. Lewis followed the scent, and ran the pair to earth at Niagara Falls. Mr. Lewis challenged them after they had passed the Custom House without declaring anything, and upon being searched, there was found in a belt around La Sar's body a quantity of diamonds of a value in the neighborhood of \$100,000. La Sar was arrested, and "Dr." P. Van Dandaigne is under "observation." Two other persons were also arrested who have not previously figured in the story, these were Mr. Victor Pilon and his wife, who only met La Sar on the journey, and who almost certainly played an innocent part in the trickery of one or both of their travelling companions. Mr. Pilon is a son of Mr. J. B. Pilon, with

whom he is in partnership in an undertaking business at 2515 Notre Dame Street, Montreal. Mr. Pilon and Miss Blanche Depatie were married on the Monday morning, and immediately left on a trip to Toronto, Niagara Falls and Buffalo. While in the station, the father of the bride became acquainted with La Sar and Dr. Van Dandaigne and he introduced them to the newly-married pair. They left on the same train, and La Sar told them he had a present to make them, but as he wanted the nature of it to be a surprise, he did not want them to open the package containing it until they had reached the United States. The arrest of this unfortunate couple was rather an inauspicious beginning to a honeymoon, but time will smooth the unpleasantness of the remembrance, and the lesson not to be too confiding with strangers is not likely to be lost. The arrest of La Sar will probably have the effect of checking diamond smuggling between Canada and the United States, for a time, at least. This "industry" is said to have been in an exceedingly flourishing condition of late.

A demand of assignment has been made upon Mr. Noe Roy, jeweler, St. Remi, Que.

The American Eye Glass Institute has opened an office at the corner of St. Catherine and Cadieux Streets, Montreal.

Mr. W. J. Clarke, the proprietor of the novelty and fancy goods stall on the summit of Mount Royal, has just published a most attractive souvenir of Montreal. It contains one hundred illustrations of the best class, and an interesting historical introduction by Dr. W. H. Drummond.

It is officially announced that No. 7610, Private G. H. Bolt, Royal Canadian Regiment, died of enteric fever at Naauwpoort, on June 1. Private Bolt was a member of No. 3 Company of the Victoria Rifles, and was a great favorite with all his militia comrades. He was an excellent shot, and had won several prizes at the ranges and at the Provincial meets. He was the son of Mr. J. T. Bolt, the well-known jeweler of St. Catherine Street, and was a fine athlete. His death has caused very general expressions of regret, and his father and relatives have the deep sympathy of the public. He was a gallant son of the Empire and he has laid down his life for it.

The Hon. Senator J. R. Gowan, of Barrie, Ont., has recently had manufactured by Messrs. Henry Birks & Sons, of Montreal, a very magnificent solid silver challenge cup standing eighteen inches high and of massive and graceful style. This cup is to be competed for annually by the regiments of Military Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, during the annual training, on conditions of competition approved by Major-General Hutton, C.B., lately commanding the Canadian militia. The name of the ex-commander of the forces appears on the cup owing to its having been arranged for during his term of office. The cup was ordered last December, but owing to Senator Gowan being ill, was not completed until recently.

At the annual meeting of the Dominion Lighting and Heating Co., Mr. R. A. Dickson, jeweler, of Montreal, was elected a director.

Mr. Joseph B. Tasker, of the Joseph B. Tasker Co., assayers, gold and silver refiners, Toronto, paid a visit to the Tom Tiddler's ground of Montreal recently, and, as usual