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Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping.

THE undersigned have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's Register, London, their resident Surveyor for the Province of Nova Scotia. Shipbuilders and Ship Owners in Nova Scotia requiring to have their vessels surveyed for classification in the Register Book of this Society will please make application for the present at the Office, Windsor, N. S., where copies of the Society's Rules and any necessary information can be obtained.

JOSEPH I. TUCKER,

Dec. 17.

Lloyd's Surveyor.

HALIFAX, N. S. FEBRUARY 4, 1864.

GLASS.

The probable origin of the word Glass is to be found either in the ancient Gaelic name for amber, *glassum*, or in the Latin name of ice, *glacies*. When or how the art of glass-making was first discovered is unknown; but it is certain that this art is of the highest antiquity, having long preceded the Christian era. Beads and other ornaments of glass have been found adorning the bodies of Egyptian mummies, which are known to be upwards of three thousand years old.

The manner in which the discovery of the art was made, has been the subject of much speculation—but these speculations are so various that little or no dependence can be placed on their conclusions. That the discovery, like many others, was the result of accident, is extremely probable; and this is all that can be conceded on the subject.

The first manufactories of glass of which we have any account were erected in Tyre, an ancient Phœnician city on the coast of Syria. The art afterwards extended to Sidon and Alexandria; but for many centuries the manufacture was confined exclusively to mere ornaments. By degrees the art extended to the manufacture of drinking-cups or glasses; but

these were long of such value as to be fit only for the table of a king. A sum equivalent to £50,000 sterling was paid by the Roman Emperor Nero for two drinking cups of this precious ware. At this period the Romans imported all their glassware from Alexandria, which were chiefly of an ornamental kind, such as beads, amulets, &c. They were beautifully coloured to resemble precious stones, and were worn as jewels in the adornment of their persons; and a string of glass beads which no girl would now wear, was considered an ornament to which the son or daughter of a patrician only could pretend.

From Syria the art of glass-making found its way to Greece and from thence to Rome. At what period it extended to the making of window glass is not known; but there is reason to believe it was as early as the year 422, as glass windows are distinctly mentioned by St. Jerome who lived about that period. They are again spoken of by Johannes Phillipanus, who lived about the beginning of the seventh century. The seat of the art of glass making in process of time changed from Rome to Venice, where it was brought to great perfection, particularly in the making of mirrors, from whence the whole demand for Europe was for many years supplied.

From Venice the art of glass making found its way to France; and glass windows, according to Bede, were first introduced into England in the year 674. Another authority attributes the introduction to Bishop Winifred jun'r. who died in 711. Previous to the beginning of the eighth century, and for many centuries afterwards, the use of window glass was confined entirely to buildings appropriated to religious purposes. Until the close of the twelfth century, when glass windows became common in England, the windows of private houses were filled with prepared oil paper, or wooden lattices, fixed in frames called casements, from which is derived the word casement.

There is reason to believe that glass was made in England so early as the beginning of the fifteenth century, from a

contract dated 1439, between John Prudde of Westminster and the Countess of Warwick, in which Prudde is bound to use "no glass made in England, but glass from beyond the sea."

In 1557 the finer sort of window glass was manufactured at Crutched Friars in London. The first plate glass for mirrors, coach windows, &c. was made at Lambeth in 1673, by Venetian workmen brought over by the Duke of Buckingham. The introduction of the art of glass making into Scotland took place in 1610.

The art of simply staining, tinging, or colouring glass is believed to be nearly coeval with the first discovery of the manufactory of the article: it was certainly known in Egypt several thousand years since. The art of combining the various colours, so as to produce pictures, is of more recent origin. The colours are incorporated with the glass by fusion, and the invention is ascribed to a painter of Marsilles, who went to Rome during the pontificate of Julian II. It was further advanced by Albert Durm and Lucas of Leyden.

The first painted glass done in England, was in the time of King John; but as early as the reign of Henry III. England boasted of several eminent artists in glass-painting.

There is no substance that will cut glass so well or last so long as the Diamond—the glazier's diamond is selected from pieces that are too small to be cut, or of a bad colour, and consequently unfit for ornamental purposes. The smooth, deep, effective cut, necessary to divide glass, can only be produced by a natural point of the diamond.

Family Department.

A LITERARY AND MUSICAL CURIOSITY.—In the Musical Herald for December there is a literary and musical curiosity, a song without an E, both words and music being without that letter, though each verse contains all the letters of the alphabet except E, and each bar every note of the scale except E.