



Minerals and their uses; In a series of letters to a lady

Julian R. Jackson

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1849 Excerpt: ...enamel teeth, or any vitreous substance, however hard. Cameos and intaglios are also cut by its means, as well as all our seals. All the gems are cut and polished by means of diamond-powder, which is likewise used for cutting rock-crystal for those superior spectacles called pebbles. The Diamond itself, at the suggestion of Dr. Goring, has been fashioned by Mr. Pritchard into microscopes that are esteemed superior to any others. I was once shewn by her Serene Highness the Princess Z---a ring bearing the miniature of the Empress Catharine, which was covered with a plate of Diamond by way of a glass. That the Diamond is used by glaziers for cutting glass, you are well aware; but perhaps, like many others, you imagine that this is effected by the point of a Diamond; but this is not the fact. The Diamonds used by glaziers, though very small, are uncut stones, so set that the curved edge, formed by the meeting of two of the contiguous curved facets of the stone, shall be exposed. The line to be cut on the glass must present a tangent to this curved edge, and the Diamond be so held that the two opposite surfaces of the Diamond present the same inclination to the surface of the glass. The better to secure this position, glaziers' Diamonds are now mounted in a manner that a perfect tyro may use them with success. The depth of the line cut is about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch. It is asserted that Sapphires and Spinel, ground into the form of the Diamond's edge, will also cut glass, but they soon wear out. The glaziers themselves are obliged to use Diamonds of different quality for the different kinds of glass they have to cut. If I have dwelt upon this technicality more perhaps than might seem necessary upon this occasion, it has 22-1 METHODS or rnsrmo-rnn DIAMOND. been b...

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