

**A TREATISE ON GEMS IN
REFERENCE TO
THEIR PRACTICAL
AND SCIENTIFIC VALUE**

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A Treatise on Gems in Reference to Their Practical and Scientific Value by Lewis Feuchtwanger

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LEWIS FEUCHTWANGER

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En. Geol. Lit.

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Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1938, by
LEWIS FEUCHTWANGRR,
in the Clerks office of the District Court of the Southern District of New York.

YRANGLI UROTMATZ

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, }
New York, 26th March, 1838. }

SIR :

I have, at your request, perused the manuscript of your Treatise on the Gems. It gives me great pleasure to be able to bear my testimony to the care and labour with which this treatise has been compiled. The work is one which may be usefully employed by teachers of Mineralogy, and particularly in its useful applications. To the practical man it cannot fail to be of great value, from its opening sources of information which, in this country, are as yet confined to but few persons, and from the reputation of the authorities whence you have drawn your facts. It is, however, in reference to the native minerals and rocks of the United States, that I conceive your treatise to be most likely to be eminently useful. I observe that you have collated the descriptions and localities of American specimens, which are now to be sought in scientific periodicals, or in the transactions of learned societies. For such searches practical men have not the opportunities, and scientific men, although well aware of the value of our native treasures, are rarely so circumstanced as to be able to render them objects of commercial speculation. This part of your task has been laboriously and faithfully accomplished.

I am aware that you have experienced a difficulty in being compelled to write in a language which to you is foreign. On this head, however, you need not feel discouraged. The language of science is universal; and as I have found no difficulty in understanding every portion of your manuscript, I do not doubt that it will be equally clear and intelligible to your readers, when it shall appear in a printed form.

JAMES RENWICK.

Dr. LEWIS FEUCHTWANGER.

P R E F A C E.

Among the many publications of the present day on the various subjects of Natural History, a practical work on mineralogy, as applied to the Arts, has been much needed in the English language. Of this general subject the history of the Gems, in reference to their mineralogical, chemical, and physical characters, and with a view to serve as a guide to the lapidary, the jeweller, and the amateur, is one of the most important branches.

The author of the following Treatise has, at the solicitation of his numerous friends, consented to fill with his feeble means that vacancy in our literature. Should he therefore have been so successful as to realize their wishes, and to contribute in guarding against deception and ignorance, and in pointing out those theoretical and practical cautions to be observed in the treatment and purchase of Gems, he would feel satisfied that his humble and imperfect efforts are amply rewarded. He has considered the Gems in their most extended sense, and not treated of the mineral productions generally called by that name alone, but has included the Corals, Pearls, and such Rocks as promise to prove ornamental and useful to architecture. He has drawn the attention of the reader to those specific characters which distinguish the true Gems from all other minerals and false stones, the last of which are now in such general use, and are palmed upon the ignorant as precious gems, which in truth are remarkably good imitations, and often require a practised eye to distinguish the false from the true. The former are now worn by all classes, either from ignorance or from the more moderate price at which they can be afforded, and often present nearly the same appearance as real Gems. In order to encourage the artist in the manufacture of those pastes, the author has described the mode of manufacturing them, according to the best information, and from his own experience.

The author has been very particular in describing all the localities of the various Gems and mineral productions suitable for

ornamental purposes, and particularly those of this country, upon which the unbounded blessings of Providence have been spread in the most liberal manner, in order to awaken the mind of the young observer to those rich treasures of Nature which are yet principally hidden beneath the surface of the earth, or which may be left for his future investigation. It is, however, not at all surprising that those rich natural productions with which the American soil abounds, are not yet sufficiently known, or even appreciated, because neither the naturalist nor the student has, in this country, the opportunity of examining cabinets of specimens of these rich treasures.

It was the author's intention to accompany this work with plates in illustration of the lapidary's wheels and tools, as well as of the forms in which all the Gems and minerals originally crystallize. He likewise proposed to prepare coloured prints, representing all the colours of the Gems, such as have been given by Mr. Mawe, in his *Treatise on Diamonds and Precious Stones*, printed in London in 1813. He would at the same time have extended this work to nearly double its present volume. He has, however, deferred this task to a future occasion, when, after this essay will have received the sanction of an enlightened public, he may feel encouraged to issue another edition. In the arrangement of the following Treatise, the author has followed the plan of a small work, published in 1832, by Dr. Blum, in Germany; but he has drawn other references from the following works:—

Haüy des Pierres Precieuses,
Brard Mineralogie Appliquée aux Arts,
Dumas Chemie Appliquée aux Arts, 1821,
Hitchcock's Report on the Geology of the State of Massachusetts,
Comstock's Mineralogy,
Leuch's Waarenkunde,
Sillimann's Journal.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. This section also outlines the various methods and tools available for tracking and documenting data, ranging from traditional paper-based systems to modern digital solutions.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the legal and regulatory requirements that govern record-keeping practices. It details the specific rules and standards that organizations must adhere to, including data retention policies, access controls, and security protocols. This section highlights the consequences of non-compliance and provides guidance on how to ensure that all operations are conducted within the framework of applicable laws and regulations.

3. The third part of the document addresses the challenges and risks associated with record-keeping. It identifies common pitfalls, such as data loss, corruption, and unauthorized access, and offers strategies to mitigate these risks. This section also discusses the importance of regular audits and reviews to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the records over time.

4. The final part of the document provides a summary of the key points and offers recommendations for best practices. It encourages organizations to adopt a proactive approach to record-keeping, ensuring that all data is properly managed and protected. The document concludes by emphasizing the long-term benefits of a robust record-keeping system, including improved decision-making, enhanced compliance, and increased operational efficiency.

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