

**A MEMOIR ON
THE DIAMOND**

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A memoir on the diamond by John Murray

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BY

JOHN MURRAY, F.S.A., F.L.S., F.H.S., F.G.S.

Member of the Meteorological Society of London, and of the Wernerian Society of Edinburgh; 'Honorary Member' of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Hull, of the Medical Society of Inverness, of the Philosophical Societies of Sheffield and Hull; and of the Mechanics' Institutes of Exeter, Devonport, Portsmouth, Hull, York, Halifax, and Bristol: 'Corresponding Member' of the Northern Institution, the Horticultural Society of Edinburgh, &c. &c.

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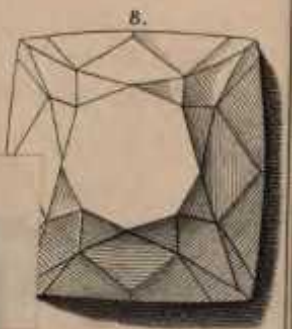
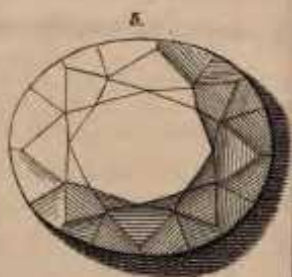
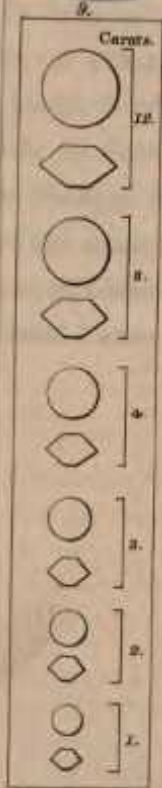
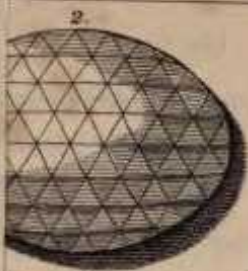
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ADVERTISEMENT.

I am indebted to a great variety of sources for the materials which form this Memoir. Among the Works consulted, have been—"Jefferies on Diamonds," "Mawe on Diamonds and Precious Stones," "Mawe's Travels in the Brazils," &c.: but the greater part is obtained from notes and memoranda collected from numerous insulated channels of information, at various times. I am also much indebted to the personal communications of private friends for some of my remarks connected with the history of individual Diamonds.

The diamond is a gem altogether unique—itsself alone, and separated from all other precious stones by peculiar and distinct characters, physical as well as chemical. Though thus distinguished, it has had

few separate chroniclers, yet it surely merits a particular memoir. The private history and adventures of this imperial and princely gem have been often curious, and connected as they have occasionally been with state machinery, and the vicissitudes of private fortune, may sometimes "point a moral, or adorn a tale." I have endeavoured to be as little diffuse as possible. My information has been drawn from the best authorities I have had access to; and only regret that the materials are so limited. Its natural, commercial, and economical history are themes of interest and curiosity.



EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

- Fig. 1. Superficies of the Diamond of the Rajah of Mattan.
2. Ditto of the Austrian yellow Diamond.
 3. Ditto of the Diamond of the Sceptre of Russia.
 4. Ditto of the Nassac Diamond belonging to the East India Company.
 5. Ditto of the Piggott Diamond.
 6. Ditto of the largest Diamond in the British Crown.
 7. Ditto of the fine blue Diamond worn at the Coronation of GEORGE the FOURTH.
 8. Ditto of the "Regent Diamond," the largest and finest among the Crown Jewels of France.
 9. A Scale of the comparative sizes of Brilliants, 12, 8, 4, 3, 2, and 1 carats, exhibiting the girth of each taken round the "girdle," and the *depth*; the lower figures representing the latter—taken from a Diamond gusge.

Note.—The Figures represent the several Diamonds, of their *real* size, copied from a series of correct and beautiful models in the author's possession.