

philosopher's stone develop an extraordinary passion for beautiful jewels, the possessing and wearing of which seems to act as a narcotic upon other desires. And yet again, such things are the emblem of vanity, so that even one who professes to have a peculiar kind of Socialist, looks with interest and a certain reverence on the jeweled crowns which have been worn by the kings and queens of his country for centuries.

The fan, that pretty weapon of woman's coquetry, born possibly with the palm leaves of the eastern beauty, was wielded with the most consummate skill by the fashionable society of the nineteenth century. At any rate, it is always with them one associates its most dangerous and intelligent uses. We may be sure that Mme. de Pompadour used hers as a passed-matress in the East, and that the same device was practiced there when he made "Cousin

Pons place a fan that had once belonged to the charming Marquise in the hands of the narrow-minded, shrewish, bourgeois Mme. de Marville. And she, one not picture again the lovely Mme. Descaudon hiding a smile behind hers, when that great littérateur was heard to say, as he sat between her and Mme. de Staël: "Here I am, well pleased between wit and beauty!" while Mme. de Staël behind her concealed a look of open contempt and vexation.—*Pull Mall Magazine.*

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