

NOTE ON A HENRI-DIANE CASKET.

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BY

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THE casket is of wood, and bears the well-known monogram of Henri-Diane in the Gesso work, together with the double D's in the Gesso work on the lid. The initial letter "H" of Henri II of France, surmounted by the Crown, may be seen on the silver mountings at the angles of the box, and the *fleur-de-lis* may be seen on the silver mountings at the angles of the lid.

When the box came into the possession of the present owner, the underside of the bottom of the box was covered with a piece of old leather, now preserved between two sheets of plate glass. As this leather did not appear to be of the same period as the box itself, it was removed, and on the original leather at the bottom of the box a very fine monogram of Henri-Diane was discovered surrounded by four bows emblematical of the goddess Diana, together with four groups of interlacing crescents.

In the silver work of the box may also be discovered the bows, and the interlacing crescents appear in the silver panels both at the front and back of the box. The suggested reason for the semi-oriental appearance of the casket was accounted for by the authorities at the Louvre in Paris in the following manner: The box was originally made in Paris, and was then sent out probably to Venice, where Oriental workmen had instructions to complete and decorate it.