



Crawford 1703

MASON'S
COIN & STAMP COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

VOLUME I.

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MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

APRIL, 1867.

No. 1.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF
AMERICA.

In giving the history of American coins, it will be necessary for us to commence with the early coins of the American Colonies.

The first coin in America, of which we have any record, is reported by various authorities to have been the "SUMMER ISLAND SHILLING" struck in brass, in the year 1612. The coin presented on the obverse a Boar, and the inscription "SUMMER ISLAND, value "XII.;" while the reverse exhibited a sailing vessel, under full canvass, firing a cannon.

This coin, rarely seen in collections, is extremely valuable when found in *fine* condition. (It was confined chiefly to the Bermudas.)

In 1652, the Massachusetts Colonial Assembly coined the celebrated and novel "PINE TREE," and New England money; the latter had precedence in circulation, and was composed of pieces of silver, chipped to the right weight and size, and marked by hand upon one side with the Roman numerals to designate their value, such as xliid, viid, iiid, and upon the reverse the capitals N. E. were stamped.

These coins were termed New England Shillings, Sixpences and Threepences, and, although very rare, are frequently found in good condition among many of the collections of this country.

The "Pine Tree" money bears in appearance a slight resemblance to the ancient Roman silver coins. Pine Tree shillings, sixpences, threepences and two-

penny pieces were coined—all bearing a similarity of appearance. Upon the obverse a pine tree, enclosed by dotted double circles, within which are the letters MASATHVSETS IN; on the reverse, across the centre, 1652, and beneath the value expressed by XII., surrounding the date and figures, within a double dotted ring are the words NEW ENGLAND, AN DOM.

The New England and Pine Tree Coinage were in use from 1652 until 1685'6. These coins were issued from the same dies annually, so that collectors are unable to distinguish between the coins of 1686 and 1652. All genuine coins of these issues are valuable to collectors; their value being determined by their condition.

The Lord Baltimore Silver coins were circulated in Maryland in 1661. They consist of shilling, sixpence, fourpence and groat. The obverse of each coin presents Lord Baltimore's bust, with the legend "*Cecilius* DNS! TERRAE: MARIAE and CT.," (Cecilius, Lord of Maryland.) The centre of reverse contains the *coat of arms* of Lord Baltimore; the *value* upon each side of the crest, and surrounding the whole is the Scriptural injunction CRESCITE ET MULTIPLICAMINA (increase and multiply).

Coins of the above description are excessively scarce and command extraordinary prices.

ROSA AMERICANAS (BRASS COINS).—In 1722 and '23 these peculiar coins made their appearance, issued in England for circulation among the colonies of America.

ca. These coins are in size compared to our modern United States silver half dollar and the copper cent of issue prior to 1858. The large *Rosa Americanas* of 1722 have a bust of George III. surrounded with the inscription *GEORGIUS, DG. MAG. BRI. FRA. ETHIB REX*; the reverse a rose with the words *ROSA AMERICANA*, beneath the rose the legend "*UTILE DULCE.*" The large and small *Rosa Americanas* of 1723 have the rose surmounted by a crown. These very pretty coins are generally found in good condition, and are highly valued by Numismatists and collectors of relics.

(To be Continued)

[NOTE.—In the May number we shall give a history and description of the coinage of the Colonies, including the coins of Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, Kentucky, Georgia and the Carolinas.]

NUMISMATOLOGY.

The history and study of coins is one of the most interesting and useful employments that the youth of our country can devote their leisure moments to. Not only will the youthful mind inculcate a desire for information upon other subjects, by observing the rise, progress and fall of nations, through a proper study of a nation's emblems, but gain a knowledge (in an agreeable and easy manner) of the world's wonderful history.

As an entertaining amusement, collecting coins affords one of the most pleasing pastimes extant, and many persons can be pointed out, in our large cities, who have accumulated wealth, wisdom and knowledge, which the dry study of books would not have afforded in double the time devoted to this delightful employment.

Many persons who cannot acquire knowledge by the use of books, without a life time of laborious study, will find

that the collecting and study of coins will make them as familiar with history, in a remarkably short period, as though they had lived through the reigns of monarchs, potentates and presidents for a thousand years.

As a means of keeping our youth from spending their idle hours in the haunts of vice and dissipation, this study is certainly deserving of more attention from parents and guardians than it generally receives.

Foreign nations are far in advance of this country in Numismatics, and many works of rare ability have been published in Europe devoted to the dissemination of knowledge upon this most interesting subject.

AMERICAN COINS.

We have commenced, upon the first page, the publication of the history of the coins circulated in America from the year 1612 down to the present time.

It is our purpose to present a brief but succinct description of every coin; gold, silver, brass or copper, known to have been used or circulated in America.

In giving to our readers this completion of facts connected with the history of our coins it will be found necessary to refer to many old American publications to identify and secure for this record a correct account of *unique* coins, said to be in private collections in this country and Europe. We will be under many obligations for the use of any old pamphlets or newspapers containing articles in reference to American coins.—Also, for a description and impression of any of the *unique* coins of America.

COIN PRICED CATALOGUE.

We have a little catalogue of the prices paid for American cents, half cents, silver, &c., which we send by mail to parties at a distance for 25 cents, published and corrected semi-annually.

MEDALS OF AMERICA.

We shall commence the publication of a history of American medals as soon as the history of "Coins of America" is completed; and a history of the coins and medals of other nations; making the Coin Collectors' Magazine a valuable adjunct to the coin literature of the country or to those interested in Numismatography.

COME AND SEE US.

Coin Collectors from abroad are cordially invited to call at our office, when visiting the city, and examine the coins, medals and curiosities we have on exhibition, among which will be found some that are exceedingly rare.

CURIOUS COINS.

Persons having in their possession curious coins, medals, &c., can learn their history and value by mailing an impression in wax with description and size to our office. All letters promptly answered.

PUBLIC SALES OF COINS,
MEDALS, &c.

In a future number will appear an account of the different sales of coins, medals, &c., which have taken place in the United States, showing the varieties and prices paid by collectors and others at different periods, with a table of the increasing value of these interesting relics of our country.

By the way, can any of our friends or readers inform us of the correct date, &c., when the first public sale of coins (as a collection) took place. Mr. A. C. Kline, of Philadelphia, is believed to be the first collector who sold, by public auction, a good assortment of the coins of America.

PREMIUM FOR OLD COPPERS.

Every person having the old copper United States cent and half cent of dates 1793 to 1857 inclusive, should preserve them, as they are increasing in value yearly, and ere long the great surplus of coppers which formerly glutted the market will be used up by the United States Mint in the cheaper and more convenient copper two cent piece now extensively circulated.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANTIQUARIAN.—"Hearing that you were publishing a periodical and price catalogues of coins, I would ask if you buy all the coins you name, and at the prices named?"—Answer: *Certainly, we buy any thing and every thing in the coin and curiosity line, and pay prices according to condition in which we find them.*

SEND IN YOUR CARDS.

A complete list of the dealers in coins and relics in the United States and Europe is desired for our next number. We intend to publish the names (with address) of all dealers, *free of charge*, but "SPECIAL CARDS" will be admitted upon liberal terms.

1793, 1799, 1804, 1809 AND 1823.

United States cents of the above dates can be had at this office at prices varying from 25 cents to \$25 each.

FULL SETS OF U. S. CENTS.

Complete sets of United States copper cents, half cents and nickels can be had. Prices, \$5 to \$500 per set.

WANTED!

Coins, Medals, Books, Autographs, Army Buttons, Relics, Curiosities, &c. Parties wishing to buy, sell or exchange any of the above, will oblige us by sending their address to this office.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

In collecting coins, &c., the amateur should use the greatest caution to prevent the accumulation of a quantity of trash manufactured to imitate the genuine coins of rarity and value. Copper and lead electrotypes in exact imitation of the genuine abound in great numbers where coins are in demand, and are worthless to those who value and desire to collect and retain a good set of genuine coins.

COMMON TERMS OF COINS.

All coins, medals, &c., are divided into three distinct classes, viz: "CIRCULATED," "UNCIRCULATED" and "PROOF." The circulated coins are those that have been worn by abrasion or circulation, and become rubbed, scratched or injured in any way, thereby depreciating their fictitious value.

Uncirculated Coins are those that have been preserved, soon after being issued, and present a bright or perfect appearance without injury from rust, &c.

Proof Coins are those struck from polished dies, before the regular coinage is made, and before the die becomes worn. All *proof coins, medals, &c.*, have a mirror-like surface, and are valued in proportion to the beauty and brightness of the coin.

There are other terms used by collectors to designate varieties, condition, &c., but these three classes determine the generally accepted condition of coins.

TO COIN COLLECTORS.

Specimen numbers of the magazine sent to any address on receipt of 15 cts. All yearly subscribers enclosing \$1 will receive with the first No. a gift of a silver-plated United States Mint medal.

These medals are not in circulation and can be had only of the publishers. Price 50 cents each.

COMMUNICATIONS SOLICITED.

Our columns will be open to any well written articles upon coins, relics, autographs, &c., or upon any subject that interests the general reader.

A DELICATE HINT.

Will our friends at a distance please call the attention of coin dealers and collectors to our little monthly. Should we meet our expectations we will enlarge.

ACTIVITY IN THE COIN MARKET.

Coin collecting has received a fresh impetus in the recent sales which have taken place by public auction in this city.

On Monday, March 18, Messrs. Birch & Son sold by catalogue a collection of American and Foreign coins and medals consisting of 388 lots or pieces. Good prices were obtained for the entire collection.

On Tuesday, March 19, B. Scott, Jr., sold a very fine collection of 350 pieces, coins and medals. Prices obtained for the latter not so good as that of the former, although the coins and medals offered were in much better condition.

REMEMBER!

All the initial annual subscribers to this monthly receive, with the April No., a silver plated United States Mint medal as a gift.

WANTED!

Postage stamps in any quantity, used or unused, at a fair price.

GOLD.

A beautiful set of United States gold pieces for the year 1866, including the 20, 10, 5, 3, 2½ and 1 dollar piece (proof) can be had at this office at a very reasonable price. Also, a full set of United States Mint medals (Presidential).

SALE OF AUTOGRAPHS.

The sale by Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., of the immense collection of autographs belonging to the late J. K. Tefit, of Savannah, Ga., closed yesterday afternoon. Few persons uninitiated in the mysteries of autography, are aware of the interest excited among the fraternity of collectors by an extensive sale of this kind. As a matter of curious interest we append the prices paid for the autographs of some of the celebrities:—

A complete set of the Signers of the Constitution of the U. S...	\$210 00
A complete set of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence	625 00
Gen. Robert Howe, 2 signatures.	58 00
Gen. Sam Parsons, one of the Board who tried Major Andre	9 00
Wm. Penn, Hannah Penn and Lady Juliana Penn	15 00
Rev. Samuel Phelps, 1st Minister of Rowley	4 75
Gen. Andrew Pickens	5 50
Edgar A. Poe, a fine letter.....	11 00
Gen. Enoch Poor	6 00
Wm. H. Prescott, a piece of historical MSS.	9 00
Count Pulaski	22 00
Red Jacket, Indian chief.....	6 00
James Rivington, Tory Printer of Royal Gazette, 2 signatures	28 00
Count de Rochambeau.....	7 50
Dr. Benjamin Rush	5 00
John G. Saxe, MSS. "Sonnet to a Clam"	11 00
Baron Steuben, 2 signatures.....	6 50
Col. Tarleton, terms of capitulation offered by Tarleton to Col. Buford, May 29, 1780.....	19 00
Capt. Walker, the Texan Ranger	15 00
George Washington, A. L. S., a little stained.	25 00
Charles Lee.....	20 00
Ludwig Von Beethoven.....	13 00
General Braddock.....	23 00
Sir Egerton Brydges.....	5 25
General Burgoyne, 2 signatures..	28 00

Robert Burns, 5 signatures.....	70 00
Lord Byron, 2 signatures	75 00
Samuel Taylor Coleridge.....	11 00
Marquis Cornwallis	17 00
Count de Estaing.....	24 00
Napoleon Bonaparte, A. L. S. and 23 signatures of attaches...	48 00
Marshal Ney.....	7 00
Robespierre.....	9 00
Mirabeau	7 75
General Thomas Gage.....	28 00
Minister Genet... .. .	22 00

—New York Herald.

FOR SALE.

A collection of over 2000 foreign and American post office stamps uncanceled. Price, \$300. Call at our office.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT, April, 1867.

A description of the postage stamps of the world, to which is added the value of used and unused stamps, showing the prices paid for the stamps of all nations.

United States Post Office Stamps.

	Unused. Used.	
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1847.		
5 cents, rect, brown.....	40	5
10 " black.....	75	20
NEW YORK POST OFFICE.		
5 cents, large, rect, black... ..	75	40
1857.		
1 cent, rect, blue.....	2	1
3 " carmine.....	3	1
5 " brown.....	8	5
10 " green.....	10	3
12 " black.....	12	4
24 " lilac.....	30	6
30 " orange.....	35	8
90 " blue.....	1 00	35
Full set, 8 stamps	1 75	
1864.		
1 cent, rect, blue.....	2	1
2 " black.....	2	1
3 " carmine	3	1
5 " brown.....	5	2
10 " green.....	10	1
12 " black	12	2

	Unused.	Used.
	¢ cts.	¢ cts.
24 cent, rect, lilac	24	3
30 " orange.....	30	4
90 " blue.....	90	25

ESSAYS.

Various colors, same designs as 1857.....	40
Various colors, same designs as 1861.....	25

ENVELOPES.

1857.

3 cents, large oval, red.....	6	1
6 " " red.....	25	10
6 " " green....	25	10
10 " " green....	15	2
3 " small oval, vermil...	6	1
4 " " blue & " ...	25	
6 " " vermil...	50	
10 " " green....	15	6

1861.

1 cent, oval, blue.....	3	1
2 " black.....	4	1
3 " rose.....	4	1
6 " ".....	8	3
10 " green.....	12	2
12 " brown and red.	18	
20 " blue and red....	35	
24 " green and red...	40	
40 " red and black....	50	

Confederate States Post Office Stamps.

	Unused.	Used.
	¢ cts.	¢ cts.
1 cent, yellow.....	25	1 00
2 cents, red	4	10
5 " blue.....	5	10
5 " green.....	5	10
10 " green.....	2	10
10 " blue.....	2	5
17 " green.....	10	25
20 " green.....	10	20

(To be Continued.)

[NOTE.—This department will include the stamps of all nations, with retail value added until complete. Also, the essays, local and private stamps included.]

ILLUSTRATIONS.

We propose presenting from time to time a number of engravings, representing rare, unique and interesting coins, medals and stamps. Also, as we advance in age to increase the quantity and quality of reading matter.

CLUBS.

To the person sending us 10 subscribers, we will mail a copy of the magazine free for one year.

To the person sending us 5 subscribers we will send the magazine free for six months.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENTS,

To M. C.—*Mr. Edward Cogan, the amiable and gentlemanly Coin Dealer, formerly of 48 North Tenth St., has removed to William St., New York.*

TO STAMP COLLECTORS.

A larger space will be devoted to stamps in our next number, and many articles inserted of absorbing interest connected with this important subject.

STAMP COLLECTORS

Can be furnished with any rare stamp required by addressing a note to this office

COMPLETE SETS

Of American stamps, old and new issue, for sale.

TERMS:

\$1.00 per Annum in advance.

75 for 6 Months " "

50 for 3 " "

No advertisements inserted unless pertaining to coins, medals, stamps, relics, etc., for which 5 cents per line will be charged for each insertion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Boston, March 3d, 1862.

MASON & Co., Gents. :—

"Understanding that you are about publishing a coin magazine, I would like to know if it relates to foreign as well as to American coins. I am a collector of coins of all nations, and among those I purchased abroad I found three of the Republic of Berne; one 5 francs dated 1798, with the figure of a man holding a sword on the obverse, and on the reverse a bear. On the other, a 1 franc, the same designs, dated 1811; and one with the bear on the reverse, on the obverse a man planting flowers.

"I never saw the duplicates of those I have, and can get no specific history of the Republic of Berne. Please give me, as far as you know, the history of how long the Republic of Berne existed, and when it entered in the confederation of the Republic of Switzerland, and

Oblige yours, respectfully,

C. M. WILKINS,

81 Washington St., Boston, Mass."

[The above letter, from Boston, came to hand just as we were going to press, and regret that we cannot reply fully in this number to the enquiry of our correspondent. If any of our readers have duplicates of the Berne silver coin of 1798 and 1811, we should be pleased to hear from them in time for the May No.

If C. M. W. will continue his correspondence, and describe such foreign coins as possess interest and value, we shall take great pleasure in publishing the same.—ED.]

100,000 STAMPS WANTED.

Never destroy the stamps on your letters. All stamps, used or unused, are worth something.

We send all the stamps in common use, such as the 1, 2 and 3 cent stamps cancelled, to England, and receive the common stamps of that country in re-

turn; thus making the defaced stamps, so common in this country, of value to stamp collectors abroad.

FINE COLLECTION OF STAMPS.

Prof. Wyman, the celebrated Ventriloquist, formerly of this city, now of Burlington, N. J., has the reputation of possessing the best and largest collection of uncanceled stamps (foreign and American) in this country.

We had the pleasure of seeing this collection, numbering between two and three thousand, and pronounce it a superb and valuable one; and if it can be equalled or excelled by any one we should feel proud to publish the lucky competitor's address.

Prof. Wyman is, as far as we know, the stamp champion of America.

EUROPEAN DEALERS.

Should this Magazine reach our coin and stamp cousins across the big pond, we should be gratified to hear from them and establish a little trade in the way of exchange.

U. S. STAMPS, FIRST ISSUE.

Sets of the first issue of American stamps, uncanceled, from the one cent stamp to the 90, (8 stamps.) for sale at \$1.50 per set.

APOLOGETICAL.

An apology is due to our numerous friends, who have aided us with their subscriptions, for the lack of matter in this, the initial number of our little monthly. Our motto is *multum in parvo*, and we hope, in time, to make this periodical more valuable for the *quality* of its contents than the quantity.

MASON & CO.,

No. 434 Chestnut Street.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

COIN & STAMP DEALERS.

HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR

Coins, Medals, Autographs, Books, Relics, Letters,
and Curiosities in General.

MASON'S

COIN PRICED CATALOGUE,

SHOWING PRICES PAID FOR

AMERICAN COPPER AND SILVER COINS, &C.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

CORRECTED AND ISSUED SEMI-ANNUALLY.

Coins Bought, Sold and Exchanged.

NO. 434 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

MAY, 1867.

No. 2.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF
AMERICA.

(Continued from April No.)

In 1694, during the reign of William and Mary, a coin was struck in England for the use of the Colonies of Carolina, and is now termed the "Elephant Cent," although, more properly, an English Half Penny. The obverse presents an Elephant facing to the left, (plain field, dotted edge); reverse, the legend "God preserve Carolina, and the Lords' Proprietors," "1694."

This coin is of brass, and of great rarity in America. An English Half-penny, having the same obverse, with shield and cross of St. George on reverse, should not be confounded with the Carolina Elephant Cent.

Louisiana Coppers were coined in 1721 and '22, having on the obverse two capital L's, surmounted with a crown; inscription around the outer edge, "SIT. NOMEN. DOMINI BENEDICTUM;" on the reverse, "COLONIES FRANCOIS," { 1721 }
{ H. }

There are several varieties of the "Louisiana Cent," as it is termed,—all struck in copper. One, as late as 1767, having a wreath surmounted by a crown, with the capitals R. F. in a circle struck in centre of wreath on observe, while reverse presents two batons crossed, and tied with a ribbon in centre. On the left side letter L.; on the right XV., signifying Louis XV of France, who ordered these peculiar coins for the Colony of Louisiana.

In the year 1737 the "Granby Copper" (by some collectors termed the "Highley Copper"), was issued in Granby, Conn.

These pieces were struck in very soft copper, and good specimens are excessively rare. The "Granby" bore on the obverse a deer, surrounded by a circle; around the rim the legend "Value me as you Please: reverse, three sledge hammers, each surmounted by a crown; around the border the words "I am Good Copper."

There were some six or seven varieties of the "Granby Copper." One presented on the obverse a broad axe, with the legend "I Cut My Way Through." The others bore a similarity to those above described.

Florida issued a Coin, or Medalet, about 1760, of silver,—by some collectors believed to be a piece for presentation to the Indians, instead of being a regular coin of the country. The obverse shows the bust of Charles III. of Spain,—hair long and curly, hanging loosely over the neck; lower portion of bust in costume. Legend CARLOS III. D. G. HISPAN. REX. On the reverse a large rose and bud, with stem and leaves; legend JUAN ESTEVAN DE-PENA. FLORIDA, 1760.

During the year 1773 the Virginia coin made its appearance. This piece was struck in England, for use in the American colonies. It is in appearance far more beautiful than any which preceded it. There are two varieties: one the size of the U. S. Copper cent, the other somewhat smaller; and generally found in good condition.

(To be Continued.)

[NOTE.—The pressure of other matter upon our columns has compelled the omission of several other colonials, intended for this number.—ED.]

OUR SECOND BOW.

The first number of our little experiment has been received by coin and stamp collectors, everywhere, with acknowledgements of praise, and substantial tokens of unmistakable appreciation. Need we say that the Magazine is a success—a gratifying success to its publishers? It is more! The publication has proven that an interest in the collection of coins and stamps exists in the minds of many who cannot be classed as either coin collectors or amateurs.

Many of the April numbers were purchased, at the office, by those who, for the first time, have had their interest awakened in the subject of Numismatology.

Another favorable and significant omen of success is furnished in the fact that among those who have made application for the Magazine, in person, were young ladies and gents, fresh from the school room, who have, in many instances, commenced collecting coins immediately after perusing the Magazine.

We have received many communications, accompanying subscriptions, and a large number of enquiries concerning rare and curious coins. Some of our correspondents will pardon us for abbreviating their queries, and condensing their descriptions of coins, &c. In another column will be found replies to correspondents.

For those who have manifested so kindly an interest in our behalf, and others who have aided us in a more substantial manner, we return the heartfelt thanks of the publishers.

We trust an improvement will be recognised in our present issue, and can promise renewed efforts, in the future, to make the Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine a journal worthy of a place in the library of the scholar, the parlor of the fastidious, or the hands of the relic-loving connoisseur.

HEAVY LOSS OF RARE COINS.

Our esteemed friend and brother collector, J. J. Mickley, Esq., of this city, has been made the victim of the burglarious brotherhood. On Saturday night, April 13th, Mr. Mickley's private residence was entered by burglars, from the roof, and \$10,000 worth of rare gold and silver coins abstracted from his extensive collection. The sympathies of Numismatists in America and Europe will be extended to Mr. Mickley, who, without doubt, is one of the oldest and ablest collectors of coins in this country. Let every coin dealer and collector unite their energies in ferreting out the rascals who committed this gross piece of villainy.

THE STUDY OF COINS.

"The history and classification of coins, technically known as Numismatics, is a most pleasant and profitable recreation. Many persons can be pointed out, in our large cities, who have accumulated wealth, wisdom and knowledge, which the dry study of books would not have afforded in double the time. Mr. Mickley, our eminent townsman, whose establishment was robbed a short time since of one of the most valuable collections of coins in the world, was an enthusiastic numismatologist, and such was his reputation that his name was better known in London than in Philadelphia. The best years of his life were devoted to making the collection, which possessed a high exchangeable value. Philadelphia *Evening Star*, April 18th."

The above, clipped from the *Star* of this city, deserves a passing notice, exhibiting, as it does, the lively interest manifested by the press in the subject of numismatics. The reader will be curious to know why a collector of such rare ability and extensive researches, as Mr. J. J. Mickley,—whose recent loss of coins we have alluded to in another column,—

should be "without honor in his own country."

In Europe, coin collecting amounts almost to a *mania*,—all classes of citizens being engaged in the collection and classification of coins, medals, &c. Magazines, pamphlets, newspapers and books, of almost endless variety, are published in many of the large cities of Europe, and dealers are counted by hundreds, while customers are enumerated by the tens of thousands.

In this country, how very different.—With the exception of some few dealers and collectors in New York, Boston Philadelphia, and some few other large cities, there can scarcely be found sufficient interest manifested to warrant a newspaper boy in opening a penny stand at a street corner.

It is a lame apology to say our country is new: our coins are modern, and few in numbers. It is not so! We have the most beautiful coins in the world,—gold, silver, nickel and copper,—and Navy, Army, Presidential, and miscellaneous medals by thousands.

Is our country's history, to the scholar, of less interest and importance than the nations of the old world? Have we lost the desire to perpetuate the glorious days of our forefathers? What is the cause of our apathy? Why is it that we allow a few half empty shelves, drawers and cases in the rooms of the various historical societies, to be the only depositories of our national emblems,—and there to lay molding, dust covered and unobserved—secreted from the great mass of humanity, and seen by a few, only, of a philosophical turn of mind, who have the *time* and *means* to pay a visit to these lonely but useful institutions.

Every house and home of Americans, rich and poor, should be a depository of some relic or relics, which point, unerringly, to the origin, struggle and existence of our young republic. Every parent should instruct their prattling children, when first lisping their early school-

day lessons, of the importance of studying the coins and emblems of their country. Start the little ones with anything,—coins, stamps, or whatever exhibits the change or progress of a nation. Parents would be astonished to see the interest children take, after a few lessons and the accumulation of a few emblems, in this matter, and it is gratifying to know that, during the past few months, several of the leading papers of the country have inserted items concerning coins, &c., and recommended, to the public, a more general interest in Numismatography.

Our advice is, to old and young, of whatever condition in life, *save the coins! Study the coins!* Age adds value to the most common coin now in circulation: and, when *profit* and *pleasure* are combined with the *knowledge* gained, the study affords an occupation of great usefulness and importance to all.

ORIGIN OF POST-OFFICES.

THE FIRST POST-OFFICE was established in France, in 1464; in England in 1581; in Germany in 1641, although one authority attributes the authorship of the modern postal system to the Emperor Maximilian of Germany, for the purpose of facilitating an espionage over his subjects through the medium of their correspondence, and also for the purpose of enriching himself by the profits of the enterprise. The first post office in America was established in New York, in 1719, under the Colonial Government. In 1789 the direction of the postal business of the country was conferred on Congress by the terms of the Constitution. At that time there were but 75 Post-offices in the Union; in 1825 there were 5677. At the commencement of 1859, there were 28,573.

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.

Can any of our readers furnish us with a few duplicates of the following stamps,

at dealers' prices, *canceled or uncanceled*:—

Canada $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 6d., and 6d. sterling, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cy, 10d., 12d., old issue.

New Brunswick 3d., 6d., 1 shilling, old issue, and 5c. Connell stamp.

Nova Scotia 1d., 3d., 6d., 1 shilling, old issue.

Buenos Ayres, first, second and third issues.

Cuba, first and second issue, water-marked.

Montevideo, first, second and third issues.

BONNER ON COINS.

L. G. C. The old English penny which you dug up out of the earth, and which bears the date of 1315, might be considered valuable by collectors of old coins: but as you live so far from the "big cities," it is doubtful if you can find any means of disposing of it to advantage.—From *N. Y. Ledger's* "NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS, April 27."

[If Bonner had referred "L. G. C.," to some Coin Dealer in New York,—say Mr. Cogan, of Williams St.,—he would have had the happy satisfaction of unearthing a very valuable and, perhaps, *unique* coin. The annexed article from a N. Y. paper, will give some idea of the great value of English coins of the Alfred and Henry the Third's reigns. The Lord Baltimore penny referred to is now in the collection of Mr. Mickley, of this city:—

PRICES OF OLD COINS, from Rev. Mr. Martin's Sale, London, England.—A great sale of old coins, by auction, has recently taken place in London, and enormous prices were obtained. Three Anglo-Saxon pennies, of different types, were sold in one lot for \$150! Pennies of Alfred's time sold for from \$50 to \$80 each; and one half-penny of great rarity brought more than a hundred dollars! A good penny of Henry the Third, of the highest rarity, sold for upwards of \$600.

Among the coins struck for America may be mentioned the Lord Baltimore penny, said to be *unique*, \$362, a New England half-penny, \$75. The fifty-shilling piece of Oliver Cromwell, \$225; gold five-shilling pieces of Charles II., \$146.

AUTOGRAPHS.

Can any of our friends, or friends' friends, inform us what became of the celebrated collection of Autographs of the late Dr. Raffles of England? It was understood, in his lifetime, that he possessed the best, if not the only complete, set of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. It has been stated that it is now in the possession of Queen Victoria. Cannot Dr. Shelton Mackenzie (of *The Press*) give us the information?

"\$25 FOR U. S. CENT OF 1799."

The above startling announcement, to those not familiar with the fictitious value of rare coins, has led many persons to suppose the above a mere catch-penny advertisement. It is not so, however; the cent of above date, when in an uncirculated condition, free from bruises, scratches and corroding marks, is worth twenty-five to thirty dollars to any good collector; and we will pay this price for cents of this description,—as will be seen by an advertisement on the last page.

COLONIAL CENT OF NEW JERSEY.

In 1787, New Jersey caused a coin to be struck, and put in circulation for the convenience of its inhabitants, on the obverse of which was a 'heart-shaped shield' around the field the legend *E Pluribus Unum*. On the reverse, the plow, horse head, (coat of arms of the State,) with the inscription *Nova Cesarea*. The inscription on the reverse is in allusion to the ancient name of an island off the southern coast of England, from which

New Jersey derives its name. In other words, the island of Jersey in the British Channel was anciently called *Cæsarea*; and New Jersey assumed it as her classical name when she issued the coin under consideration.

SALES OF COINS.

We have the authority of Mr. Cogan, Coin Dealer of New York, for stating that the first public sale of coins, in America, dates back to June, 1828.—Since that time nearly or quite two hundred coin sales have taken place. In a future number we shall commence a publication of the above named sales, giving the price that each coin realized.

OLD AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS.

The first paper published in Philadelphia was issued in 1719, and the first in New York in 1725. The first paper published in Boston was in 1704, and was called the *News Letter*. It was published for seventy-two years, until after the commencement of the war of the Revolution. The *Boston Gazette* was next established, and the third was the *New England Courant*, by the elder brother of Benjamin Franklin, and on which the philosopher was first engaged as an apprentice. A press was established in 1639, at Cambridge, near Boston. The *Freeman's Oath*, a work of great utility, was issued from this press. There was a press in Philadelphia in 1686, but pamphlet printing constituted most of the business.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE PRESS.

The kind notices received from the newspaper press throughout the country are too numerous for insertion in this number, and we can only thank the fraternity in a body for their condescension and generosity in calling public attention to the first number of this Magazine. Special thanks are due the *Inquirer, Ledger, Dis-*

patch, Mercury, and our wide-awake luminary, the *Evening Star*, all of this city, for complimentary notices.

COIN ITEMS.

The nickel pennies of 1856 are in demand among coin fanciers.—Phila. *Ledger*, April 8th.

An old Canadian cent, at a recent sale in Montreal, went for \$10.—Phila. *Ledger*, April 6th.

NICKEL CENTS OF 1858.

Quite an interesting debate has recently sprung up in the public press throughout the country, in relation to the issue of nickel cents of 1858. The following article, from the *Daily Evening Star*, of this city, has led many of the uninitiated to suppose each cent of the common issue (Eagle penny) of 1858 worth 25 cts.; and thousands are now engaged in the unprofitable pursuit of collecting immense quantities of this cent, with a view of making money by selling them at their supposed fictitious value. The article below, and its subjoined reply, should be read by every one, to correct the erroneous impression abroad:—

A RARE NICKEL.—Has anybody a nickel penny of 1858? There's an active search for them, and they are considered worth 25 cents each, because they have been almost wholly withdrawn from circulation, and will be very valuable by-and-by, in completing collections. The penny will be remembered as bearing on one face the representation of a nondescript broken-backed bird, supposed to represent the American eagle.

THE 1858 NICKELS.

Editor Evening Star:

DEAR SIR:—An item in your enterprising little daily of yesterday has reference to the 1858 experimental nickel cent,—by some coin dealers dubbed the "Buzzard-Eagle '58." It is rare, and

valued at 50c. when in good condition. The experimental coins are those issued from the United States Mint previous to the adopted coinage, and merely as an experiment of durability and usefulness. These coins are generally seized upon by Numismatists for their rarity,—there being, usually, but few experimental or pattern pieces struck from the dies. There are twelve or thirteen varieties of the 1858 nickel cent. Yours, truly,

MASON & Co., Coin Dealers.

NUMBER OF CENTS AND HALF CENTS,

Struck at U. S. Mint from 1793 to 1867.

(Prepared expressly for Coin Dealers and Collectors)

	CENTS.	HALF CENTS.
1793.	112,212	31,934
1794.	918,521	81,600
1795.	82,000	25,600
1796.	929,700	115,480
1797.	897,510	107,048
1798.	868,700	none coined
1799.	1,015,580	12,167
1800.	2,822,175	211,530
1801.	1,362,837	none coined
1802.	3,435,100	14,366
1803.	2,471,353	97,900
1804.	756,838	1,055,312
1805.	941,116	814,464
1806.	348,000	356,000
1807.	727,221	476,000
1808.	1,109,000	400,000

(To be Continued in June No.)

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. MCGUIRE & Co., WASHINGTON, D. C.—April magazine mailed. Subscription received and name booked.

T. G. VILLIARD, WASHINGTON, D. C.—If your coins were here, where they could be examined, we could fix a price. Condition of coins vary so much that it is next to an impossibility to set a price

for a collection without an examination.

AMATEUR.—There are but *three* genuine "Sommer Island" coins known to be in existence:—one in England, one in Mr. Mickley's collection in Philadelphia, and one in the Historical Society's Rooms New York.

H. A. M., BOSTON, MASS.—Only three silver U. S. dollars of 1804 known at the present time. Mr. Mickley has one; U. S. Mint one, and one in the possession of M. A. Stickney, Salem, Mass. Value of this dollar variously estimated—say from \$100 to \$500.

P. E. GRUBB, WASHINGTON, D. C.—Answered by mail.

E. COGAN, 101 WILLIAMS ST., N. Y.—Sent you a letter next day after M. left New York. Will try and attend sales of coins. Magazine all serene. Coins in great demand, and offering freely, with plenty of buyers for good pieces.

E. P. S., BOSTON, MASS.—Your "Bar Cent" is a *fraud* of the most unmitigated description. Do not be imposed upon, but show the "U. S. A." cent to any collector, who will immediately detect the deception. Dealers in counterfeit and altered coins are not much above the lower grades of counterfeiters who inhabit our strong "State defences."

ANTIQUÉ.—It is certainly a Washington piece, but of a very common description. If the *reverse* was distinct, you would see "Unity States of America, 1783." It is of brass, and valued at 25 cents.

C. R. SCOTT, MORTONVILLE, PA.—Yours received. Call in and see us when you visit the city, and bring your coins along at the same time. Have written you.

W. M. BOWMAN, BUCYRUS, OHIO.—Sent you April No., and booked your address for one year. Cash received.

ROBERT SHERWOOD, NORWICH, CONN.—The nickel 1856 cent with eagle, worth from 25 to 50 cents. Common nickels of 1858, worth their face value only.

M. ENNIS, NEW YORK.—Please enumerate your collection, and send list.

J. KENNA, N. Y. CIRCUS, NEW YORK.—Will call on you about the 25th, and examine the pieces.

B. OTHERMAN, JR., NEW BEDFORD, MASS.—Have mailed a letter with particulars.

C. G. DESHLER, COLUMBUS, OHIO.—Send your coins to a friend here and get a valuation. The only safe way with very rare pieces.

H. MILLER, 35 E. BROADWAY, N. Y.—The coin you have sent an impression of is called a Colonial penny. It was issued in New Jersey 1787 and 1788. Value 25 cts. to \$1.

G. M. P.—Yours of 23d received. You have done nobly in circulating the *Magazine* in your vicinity. We will "price" and send you the two Philadelphia catalogues *free gratis*. Pardon any neglect on our part—busy as BB.

E. COGAN.—Please save us a copy of each of the coin Priced Catalogues of last sales in New York. Have not heard from you about the N. Magazines. We have applications for them, and would like a small margin on sales.

M. B. W., ALEXANDRIA, VA.—Rec'd the set of currency all right. Shall be pleased to serve you at any time.

S. B. S., CHILICOTHE, O.—A rank counterfeit.

"STAMPOLOGIST."—Prof. Wyman, is without doubt, the greatest expert in detecting counterfeit stamps in this country. His collection of uncanceled stamps ranks A. No. 1. Can send you the stamps for \$10 each, in gold.

E. F., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—Have mailed your April No., and entered your name for one year. We want some California gold halves and quarters. Can you accommodate us?

B. P. C.—Certainly we pay the catalogue prices for the coins; but the value depends entirely on condition of pieces.

ED. ANDREWS, KENSINGTON W. ENGLAND.—Send us all the names and addresses of coin and stamp dealers in your vicinity. We have a few but not all.

COIN DEALERS.—Your advertisements crowded out. 15 cts. a line, each insertion. Other statement about price of advertisement, an error.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT, May, 1867.

Priced Catalogue.

AUSTRIA.

"Adhesive Stamps."

Unused. Used.
\$ cts. \$ ctr.

1850.—Arms.

1	kreuzer, rect, orange.....	v. R.	4
2	" " black.....	"	4
3	" " red.....	"	4
6	" " brown.....	"	3
9	" " blue.....	"	3

1858.—Head to left.

2	kreuzer, rect, yellow.....	18	8
3	" " black.....	8	4
3	" " green.....	8	4
5	" " red.....	12	4
10	" " brown.....	18	4
15	" " blue.....	18	4

1861.—Head to right.

2	kreuzer, oval, yellow.....	5	2
3	" " green.....	5	2
5	" " red.....	8	4
10	" " brown.....	12	4
15	" " blue.....	15	2

1863.—Eagle.

2	kreuzer, oval, yellow.....	5	2
3	" " green.....	5	2
5	" " rose ..	8	2
10	" " blue.....	12	2
15	" " cinnamon ..	15	2

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1861.—Head to right.

3	kreuzer, oval, green.....	8	4
5	" " red.....	10	4
0	" " red brown ..	12	4

	Unused. \$ cts.	Used. \$ cts.		Unused. \$ cts.	Used. \$ cts.
15 " blue.....	18	4			
20 " orange.....	20	6			
25 " dark brown..	35	10			
30 " violet	45	18			
35 " light brown.	55	18			
1863.—Eagle.					
3 kreuzer, oval, green	8	3			
5 " rose.....	10	3			
10 " blue.....	15	3			
15 " brown.....	18	3			
25 " violet.....	35	6			
NEWSPAPER STAMPS.					
1857.—Head of Mercury.					
Square, blue.....	25	4			
" yellow	55	25			
" pink.....	55	25			
1858.—Head to left.					
Rectangular, blue.....	18	5			
" lavender.....	18	5			
1861.—Head to right.					
Rect, gray.....	8	4			
Arms.					
1 kreuzer, square, blue	6	4			
2 " brown.....	8	4			
2 " green	18	9			
2 " red	10	5			
4 " brown.....	18	10			
1863.—Eagle.					
Rect, lavender.....	8	4			
AUSTRIAN ITALY.					
"Adhesive Stamps."					
1850.—Arms.					
5 centes, rect, orange.....		5			
10 " black.....		5			
15 " red.....		5			
30 " brown.....		4			
45 " blue.....		4			
1858.—Head to left.					
2 soldi, rect, yellow.....	8	4			
3 " black.....	18	5			
3 " green.....	10	5			
5 " red.....	25	5			
10 " brown.....	35	5			
15 " blue.....	35	4			
1861.—Head to right.					
5 soldi, oval, red.....	18	5			
10 " brown.....	18	5			
1863.—Arms.					
2 soldi, oval, yellow.....	6	2			
3 " green.....	8	2			
5 " rose.....	12	3			
10 " blue.....	18	3			
15 " brown.....	25				
ENVELOPE STAMPS.					
1861.—Head to right.					
3 soldi, oval, green.....	8	4			
5 " red	8	4			
10 " brown.....	15	5			
15 " blue.....	18	5			
20 " orange.....	25	6			
25 " dark brown....	30	3			
30 " violet	35	10			
35 " pale brown.....	45	18			
1863.—Arms.					
3 soldi, oval, green.....	8	4			
5 " rose.....	10	4			
10 " blue.....	20	6			
15 " brown.....	20	6			
25 " violet	25	10			
AUSTRALIA, (South.)					
"Adhesive Stamps."					
1 d., rect, green.....		8			
2 d., " red		8			
2 d., " orange.....		8			
6 d., " lilac.....		8			
6 d., " blue.....		8			
9 d., " gray.....		10			
1 s., " yellow		10			
1 s., " brown.....		10			
AUSTRALIAN, (Western.)					
"Adhesive Stamps."					
2 d., oct., brick red.....	45	18			
4 d., " blue.....	35	15			
6 d., " bronze.....	35	18			
1 s., oval, brown	45	18			
1 d., oblong, black, red.....	25	12			
1 d., " carmine, straw..	25	12			
2 d., " orange, blue,					
yellow.....	30	12			
4 d., " rose, red.....	35	15			
6 d., " green, violet....	35	15			
1 s., " green.....	55	12			

Unused. Used.
\$ cts. \$ cts.

ANTIGUA.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1 d., rect, red.....	8	4
6 d., " green.....	25	12

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1860.

5 centavos, rect, carmine....		
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1861.

5 centavos, rect, vermilion...	20	12
10 " green.....	40	20
15 " blue.....	40	25

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1862.

5 centavos, rect, rose.....	18	12
10 " green.....	35	25
15 " blue.....	50	40

1864.—Bust of President.

5 centavos, rose.....		12
10 " green.....		18
15 " blue.....		20

CORRESPONDENCE.

Washington, D. C., Apr. 13, 1867.

Your Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine received for April, and I enclose the amount of subscription for one year. There is much truth in the statement, in No. 1 of your Magazine, to the effect that a country's history may be very effectually and correctly gleaned from a correct understanding of a history of her coins.

M. B. W.,

U. S. Treasury Department.

Bucyrus, Ohio, April 15th, 1867.

Gents:—I was so much pleased with the first number of your magazine that I enclose \$1 for the year.

Yours, &c., W. M. BOWMAN.

Philada., April 20, 1867.

In answer to your query as to the first sale of coins:—The first sale of coins was made at Moses Thomas' Auction Store, at the N. E. corner 3d and Chestnut St., Philada., about 30 years ago, and purchased by the late John Rodman Cox, M. D., Professor in the University of Pennsylvania. They were, principally, copper pieces.

COULTON.

Troy, N. Y., April 17th, 1867.

MESSRS. MASON & Co., *Coin and Stamp Dealers, &c.* Gentlemen:—I have seen, I have read, your April, or *First*, No. of the "Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine." I like it! I like it so well that you will find enclosed "stamps" enough to pay for the subscription for one year. So please send along the *Medal* and April number of Magazine, which is like the *Ledger* stories,—*"to be continued."*

To business. Gentlemen: I am a collector of coins. It is but three months since I have commenced to collect anything and, at present, I have two full sets of U. S. Cents, besides many duplicates. I have, also, many cards and tokens, both foreign and domestic. I am trying to enlarge my circle of acquaintance with Coin Dealers, and all those desiring to purchase.

G. W. P.,
Troy, N. Y.

RARE NEWSPAPERS.

There can be seen, at this office, original copies of the following very rare American newspapers:

"*The Pennsylvania Gazette, June 8th, 1749, published by Benjamin Franklin (Post Master) and D. Hall, at the New Printing Office near the Market.*" For the city reader's information, we would

say the "Market" alluded to extended from Front St., in Market or High St., to Letitia Court.

"*The Boston Gazette and Country Journal, March 12th, 1770,*" containing the Funeral Ceremonies of the First Massacre of the Revolution, with engravings of four coffins, inscribed with initials of the victims.

"*Pennsylvania Journal and the Weekly Advertiser, Sept. 6th, 1775.*" Upon the title page is an engraved representation of a Snake, cut in parts,—each separate part representing one of the original States, with the motto beneath "UNITE OR DIE."

"*Ulster Co., Gazette, Jan'y 4th, 1800.*" Published at Kingston, N. Y. Columns hung in black, and containing funeral ceremonies of Gen. Washington.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In consequence of a heavy pressure, in the way of matter upon our limited columns, and at the urgent solicitations of

coin collectors, dealers, and other subscribers, we purpose enlarging the Magazine, and adding a number of Coin and Stamp illustrations. To do this satisfactorily will increase the expense materially. We therefore announce that all subscriptions received prior to July 1st, will be taken at the rate of \$1 per annum:—after the above date, the price will be increased considerably. The beautiful 50c. medal is given to all subscribers, *free gratis.*

EDITORS, TAKE NOTICE!

All newspapers containing a notice of this Magazine—either complimentary or otherwise—will be booked for one year's subscription, *free of charge.*

We want the candid opinion of the press—a *puff* or a *kick*—either will give us a start.

It shall be our aim to deserve *compliments*, and profit by the *other arrangements.*

POSTAGE AND FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF THE U. S.

4 Pieces,	50, 25, 10 and 5 cents,	perforated edges.
4 "	50, 25, 10 and 5 cents,	plain edges.
4 "	50, 25, 10 and 5 cents,	Head of Washington,
1 "	50 cents,	vignette, Goddess of Liberty. (new issue).
1 "	50 cents,	Red Back.
1 "	60 cents,	Autographic Signature.
1 "	25 cents,	Vignette, Head of Fessenden.
1 "	25 cents,	" " " (Red Back.)
1 "	10 cents,	Head of Washington.
1 "	10 cents,	" " (Red Back.)
1 "	10 cents,	" " (Autographic Signatures.)
1 "	5 cents,	Head of Clark.
1 "	5 cents,	" " (Red Back.)
1 "	3 cents,	Head of Washington.
1 "	50 cents,	Head of Spinner.
1 "	50 cents,	" " (Red Back.)
1 "	50 cents,	" " (Autographic Signatures.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

JUNE, 1867.

No. 3.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF
AMERICA.

(Continued.)

In 1778 the "Chalmers" Annapolis "Shilling" "Sixpence" and "Threepence" appeared. These coins, struck in silver, by J. Chalmers, of Annapolis, Md., are rare, and comm. and good prices. Specimens are found in excellent condition.

The *obverse* bears the name and residence of its author, J. CHALMERS, ANNAPOLIS:- on the outer edge, in the centre, two hands joined; the latter surrounded by a small wreath. *Reverse* two birds in centre, above which are three waved lines; surrounded by a dotted circle; around the rim of the coin the numerals and words as follows: 8. ONE:- SHILLING, 8. 1788.

The "Pitt Token," which is not generally named among an ordinary series of American coins, although possessing interest and value from being in circulation as a medal to fix the period of the detestable "Stamp Act," which so incensed the colonies against the "mother country," made its appearance in Massachusetts in 1766. The *obverse* presents the bust of Wm. Pitt, Earl of Chatham, surrounded by the legend, THE RESTORER OF COMMERCE NO STAMPS, 1766. The *reverse* presents a ship, the hull, of the "Chinese Junk" pattern, on the left side; under the bow of the vessel is the word AMERICA; around the whole, the legend, THANKS TO THE FRIENDS OF LIBERTY AND TRADE. This piece is of brass. Vermont issued a large number of copper coins from 1778 to 1788. One variety

bears the inscription "*Vermon Auctori*," another "*Vermontensium Respublica*, 1786." The V. A. coins bear a close resemblance to George the III. half-pennies. The V. R. variety has on the *obverse* a representation of the sun rising above a range of mountains, at the foot of which a plough is seen. The reverse has an eye in the centre with diverging rays, interspersed with 13 stars; surrounding which is the inscription, "*Quarta Decima Stella*."

The Colonies of Connecticut, and New Jersey can lay claim to the largest quantity and variety of coins ever issued in America. The former coins were of copper, and resemble on the *obverse* the English half-pennies of George III.—all the varieties known presenting a bust on the *obverse*, and the reverse a seated figure (female) with an olive branch in the right hand and a staff in the left. Inscriptions on the *obverse* vary, as follows: *Auctori Connee*; *Auctori Connee*; *Auctori Conn*; *Auctori Connee*; &c. On the reverse there is the same variety found in the legends, *Ind, Et. Lib*; *Inds. Et. Lib*; *Inde—Ellib*, &c. Dates 1786, '87 and 1788.

These Connecticut coins are very common, and it seems almost impossible to get a complete set of them, so numerous are the varieties. The value of these coins has been greatly reduced, during the past ten years, by the great quantity which have been found. The "nigger-head" variety seems to be the coin most sought after by numismatists.

(To be continued.)

THE COIN TRADE.

BY E. M., JR.

There have been several communications of late, inserted in numismatic publications in reference to the origin, and progress of the "Coin Trade" in this country. One writer, ("A. B. S.") through the columns of the *N. Y. Numismatic Journal*, claims that the discussion of coins, during the year 1857, in the *N. Y. Sunday Dispatch*, between "Gus" and "Numismatist," awakened an interest, and brought many members into the numismatic field; while Mr. Cogan of N. Y., asserts his claims as having given an impetus to coin collecting and dealing, through "Lottery" sales which took place in his store, in this City, Nov. 1858, and to the change in the character of the Mint coinage from copper to nickel. The writer having taken a very active interest in the collection of coins in 1858, and having been a Coin Dealer in 1860, in this City, feels no little interest in this discussion of the "Coin Trade." It is our opinion, that the active trade and multiplication of coin collectors, during the years 1857, '58, '59, and '60, arose from a concatenation of circumstances, some of which are correctly enumerated by A. B. S., and Mr. Cogan in the different communications which have recently appeared over their signatures; but as there are other influences inseparably connected with the "successful period"—if we may so term it,—of the coin mania we propose to give them.

First—The change of coinage in 1857, from the large cumbersome coppers to the more convenient and small nickels, led, as Mr. Cogan aptly argues, to the desire of many persons to possess a complete collection of the copper coins of the United States.

Secondly—The communications appearing in the *N. Y. Sunday Dispatch*, in 1857, (about the time of the change in coinage, lent an additional interest to coin gathering, although in a measure, local in its influence.

Thirdly—The sale that occurred in Mr. Cogan's store in this city in 1858, and the subsequent publicity given to it, through the press, both North and South—as well as the *then* extraordinary prices obtained for coins—gave the coin trade permanence, and it became 'a thing of life.'

Now, in addition to the above claims put forth, we propose to name a few other causes which kept the wheel in motion. During the years 1857, '58 and '59, the writer was connected with a very popular exhibition, travelling from North to South, and visiting all the important cities and towns *en route*. While thus engaged, we made it a daily practice to visit all the old junk shops, confectioners, bakers, grocers, &c., and collect all the old and curious coins we could find—at the same time leaving a card, with address, to establish future trade; and this practice led to a very general hunt, in the places aforesaid, for coins, and in many instances we were surrounded at the opening of the Exhibition with men and boys eager to dispose of large quantities of old cents, &c. In one instance while passing through N. C., we purchased ten thousand copper pieces; in another at Norfolk, Va., sixty-four brass Washington tokens of 1783, and forty-six Connecticut coins, besides a large quantity and variety both Foreign and American. These coins, or the best of them, were disposed of to Mr. Cogan and Mr. Dickeson of this city.

The gathering of coins afforded us an agreeable pastime, as well as a profitable occupation; and the constant accumulation of coins led us to enter the field as a dealer in this city, in 1860. While thus occupied we advertised very extensively in the large cities offering, what appeared to be fabulous prices for rare U. S. cents. Many of our friends will remember the advertisements, headed with glaring capitals "\$25 PAID FOR U. S. CENTS OF 1779." The public manner in which we made known our wants, induced many persons to send us packages

of coins by express, and we were obliged to obtain an assistant for the purpose of opening and examining these packages.

We refer to this matter, as one of the many influences which gave the "Coin Trade," a permanent existence in this country. The reader would naturally suppose that many rare and valuable coins must have passed through our hands. Such was the case, and many of our customers will cheerfully bear witness to the truth of these statements.

While upon the subject of the "Coin Trade," we would call attention to a few of the Coin Collectors of the *times that we read of*, which by some inadvertance have escaped the recollections of A. B. S. and Mr. Cogan.

No doubt, the class of collectors known to be wealthy and persevering in their search for coins, deserve a proper tribute for their industry and energy, but why omit the poorer class; the deserving and honest mechanics, who labored so incessantly, upon limited facilities to obtain rare coins, when these same pieces were snapped up by the rich and the credit of "gunning them up" unceremoniously credited to the *possessor* instead of the *finder*.

We will now enumerate a few "collectors" who are not to be "left out in the cold" in the enumeration of Numismatists of the times alluded to. Each of these persons labored assiduously to collect *rare* and *fine* pieces; and several of them aided materially in making such names as Mickley, Bushnell, Hall, Coffin, Stickney, Chilton, Allen, Davis, Taylor, etc., famous for the possession of choice specimens. How many of our wealthy collectors are indebted to Faet, Levick, Kline, Idler, Mason, Davids, Kolloch, Carpenter, Wallace, Hodge's, Cauffman, Gronberry, Zehnder, Humphries, Harvey, Breichman, Hildeburn, Warner, Nevil, Few Smith, and Hill, for their valuable and finest specimens? If these persons, all of this city, were, in most

instances young, and labored daily for a subsistence,—employing their evenings indefatigably in the search for coins—is it any reason why they should not be considered even "Amateur Collectors?" *Amateurs*, indeed! Had Faet no fine pieces? We know from personal acquaintance that Mr. F. had a splendid collection. How about Gronberry, whose collection of cents were the finest in this country? Hildeburn also had some of the finest and rarest pieces, as early as 1857; Levick had many pieces of the highest rarity in 1858; Mason in 1857: Wyman in 1856, and many others we have alluded to, were certainly entitled to be termed "collectors," or "numismatists."

We do not call in question A. B. S. or Mr. Cogan's statements, as far as wealthy numismatists are concerned; but we do believe that in 1858 in this city alone, we could have drummed up a goodly array of "the boys," who if not able to possess a valuable and complete assortment of coins, were certainly worthy of a place in the list of Numismatists of the U. S. At some future time we shall give *our* "recollections of the Coin Trade."

ANCIENT COIN—A CURIOSITY.

"We have been shown by Israel Silver Atkinson, of No. 204 N. Gay street, Baltimore, a small coin, made during the reign of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, who was the 15th Emperor of Rome, beginning his reign in the year of our Lord 161, and continuing Emperor until his death, in the year 180. The coin has on the obverse a remarkably well executed head of the Emperor, surrounded by the words "Antoninus Aug. Imp. X. V.," and one or two other letters not perfectly legible. On the reverse is seen the Goddess of Justice, holding the balance in her right hand. In her left hand she holds something that is probably intended to represent the horn of plenty. Around this figure we find the letters "MPVIVON, or S," and several

others not entirely perfect. This coin, now about 1700 years old, is probably the oldest Roman coin, in a good state of preservation, to be found in the hands of a private individual in the United States."

The above copied from a recent Baltimore paper exhibits a pretty old coin, but we can give Mr. Atkinson 1000 years and beat him at that! We have in this office a Roman piece made of the metal called "As" in a good state of preservation. It is in size as large as a nickel cent, made of zinc, and was coined, or cast 900 years B. C.

LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

Can any person inform us who purchased the original Emancipation Proclamation written and signed by the late President Lincoln? We are informed that it was sold at the Sanitary Fair in Cincinnati, O., during the war, where it had been sent by Pres. Lincoln, and brought the small sum of \$250. As this document is second only to the Declaration of Independence in value as a relic of our country's history, we feel some interest in ascertaining its whereabouts.

ANOTHER 1804 U. S. DOLLAR.

Col. Cohen of Baltimore is the fortunate possessor of an 1804 dollar; making the *fourth* piece of this date known in the world. The price of this dollar is estimated as high as \$1000. Mickley's 1804 dollar has passed into the possession of W. Elliott Woodward, Roxbury, Mass. Mr. Woodward has purchased the whole of the "Mickley Collection," so celebrated for containing several *unique* pieces, as well as the finest coins, American and Foreign, known in America. Lucky Woodward! We feel a little pride in stating that Mr. W. called at our office and exhibited the aforementioned U. S. dollar, besides letting us have a private peep at a "Lord Baltimore," "Highley"

"Elephant," "Confederatio," "Sommer Island," and several other specimens selected from Mickley's extensive and beautiful collection. Mr. W. did two sensible things while in this city; one was the purchase of Mr. Mickley's collection at \$14,000; the other was leaving his subscription for this Magazine for one year.

SOMMER'S ISLAND AND CAROLINA COINS.

Several communications have been received in reference to the "Sommer Island" coin, and "Elephant Cent," of N. C. In the "History of Coins of America," we have invariably followed the various authors on coins of America in stating that the above coins were composed of *brass*, although we have had *genuine* specimens of each to guide us—and those we have examined appeared to be *copper*, or a composition resembling this metal.

Dickeson's Work on Coins pronounces the "Sommer Island" brass; Prime's Work does not give the metal, but refers to the pressing wants of the colonists for *copper* coins. Snowden does not allude to these two coins in his "Manual of Coins of all Nations."

Will some Numismatist please inform us if specimens of the "Sommer Island" and "Carolina" coins are *extant*, struck in brass?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A great many letters received contain nothing in the way of stamps to prepay replies; and as the expense of answering several hundred letters per week is considerable, and the information sought is of more value to the correspondent than to us, it becomes necessary to convert all such communications into waste paper. A word to the *unwise* is sufficient.

NUMBER OF CENTS AND HALF CENTS,

Struck at U. S. Mint from 1793 to 1867.

(Prepared expressly for Coin Dealers and Collectors.)

	CENTS.	HALF CENTS.
1809	222,867	1,154,572
1810	1,458,500	215,000
1811	218,025	63,140
1812	1,075,500	none coined
1813	418,000	patterns.
1814	357,820	none coined
1815	none coined	"
1816	2,820,982	"
1817	3,948,400	"
1818	3,167,000	"
1819	2,671,000	"
1820	4,407,550	"
1821	389,000	"
1822	2,072,339	"
1823	855,730	"
1824	1,262,000	"

(To be Continued in July No.)

NUMISMATICS AS A HOBBY.

The time has never been in the civilized world when men did not follow some particular pursuit or another for the mere pleasure of the following. We have no question but that there were collections of rare poetry at Pompeii, and of *bric a brac* in the halcyon days of Cuzco and Lima, under the Incas. In Rome, men brought together statuary and *basso relievi*, in the time of the Cæsars; and tessellated pavements, mosaics, and arabesque paintings were preserved as curiosities before the Moors entered Spain, and consecrated the advent of heathen Africa into Christian Europe, by the erection of the Alhambra.

There have been collectors of every conceivable thing—bijouterie, marqueterie, potchomanie, buhl, ormolu, orfèverie, Sevres china, and laces of Valenciennes, Florentine mosaics, and Swiss carvings in wood. Wherever the eye perceives beauty, the heart indicates de-

sire of possession, and so spring up what are popularly termed hobbies, on which men ride for a lifetime—some to satiety, some to fruition, some to ruin.

Now, when the desire for the collection of coins first grew to be fashionable is unknown. Probably it has existed to some extent ever since the introduction of coinage as a fine art. The desire to possess specimens of this new and important manufacture must have been strong in the breasts of the early Greeks and Romans, and we can readily imagine Pliny, Aristophanes, Catullus, Ovid, Livy, or even Cicero, with their coin cabinets, over which they must have enjoyed peculiar satisfaction, as inaugurating a new pastime in a new science. But it is all imagination, after all, for we find no record of the early collection or existence of any such cabinets.

The oldest Numismatic Societies in Europe are modern in their date; and no records existing, we have to depend on probabilities or tradition for any knowledge we may obtain on the subject. But certainly Numismatics, while, no doubt, an expensive hobby, is the most harmless, and the most educating and refining in its influences, that one could pursue. Ennobling, by leading one to pursue his investigations into history and the arts, it is engrossing and all pervading.

The numismatist thinks of nothing but rare coins, muses on them, dreams of them. His enjoyment involves all species of pleasure and mental excitement. He is a sportsman, a gamester, an artist, a detective, a critic, an expert. He follows the scent of a rare coin as a hound does that of a rabbit, and is never satisfied till he has traced it to its burrow. The passions excited are ambition, hope, desire and envy, but never to any extent to be injurious.

Your true Numismatist is usually a man of gentlemanly instincts and scholarly attainments. His associations are with men who think, reason, compare,

sift evidence and judge. He is little likely to be gulled, being always on the lookout for counterfeits; still less likely to deceive others, having a wholesome contempt for base fabrication. On the whole, this hobby is one which should be encouraged, because it leads the workings of the mind into proper channels, trains the faculties, and educates and encourages a sound, healthful taste for the æsthetic.

\$25 FOR U. S. CENT OF 1799.

Wanted Cents of 1791, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, and up to 1823, in *good* or *poor* condition; also all later dates, if *in uncirculated condition*.

MASON & CO.,
No. 434 Chestnut St., Phila.

NEW STAMPS.

We are indebted to S. Allen Taylors beautiful little sheet the *Stamp Collectors' Record*, for April, for the following description of new issues in the stamp line:—

GUATEMALA. A stamp or a series of stamps, we are at present unable to say which, has been issued by the Republic of Guatemala. The design of the only one which has come under our notice is somewhat analogous to the Costa Rica and Nicaragua stamps, being a mountain landscape view with a bay in the foreground with a vessel of the style of the fourteenth century at anchor.

This forms the vignette which is enclosed in a circle and at top the words Guatemala and at the bottom *Correos cinco cent.*, a dim looking sun is depicted in each of the corners. The stamp is evidently of American execution and is doubtless executed by some of the New York or Philadelphia Bank Note Engravers. The colors we believe will be green like the current Peru of the same value.

NEW GRANADA. An entire new set, the various designs of which are too elab-

orate for description have been emitted. The values and colors are 5c. orange, 10c. lilac, 20c. blue, 50c. green, and 1 peso red.

SWITZERLAND. A new stamp of similar design to the present issue, value 50 centimes of a purple color, has been emitted.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Two new stamps values and color fourpence purple and two shillings red, have been issued, these are very poor imitations of the Nova Scotia 1c. as regard designs and in point of execution are vastly inferior. Somehow or other the engravers of the old world cannot produce postage stamps to bear any comparison with those of the new world *i. e.* that portion thereof bounded on north by Bhering Straits and on the south by the Gulf of Mexico, and known by European geographers as the United States. Steel engraving is an art in which the Americans engravers are hitherto unequalled.

It is probable that the State of Panama in New Granada, will declare itself independent and probably will issue stamps of its own ere long. It is possible that the stamps of Luxemburg will shortly be superseded.

It is probable that Great Britain will seize the Phillipine Islands and that the face of her Catholic Majesty will be superseded by that of the Majesty of that broad domain on which the Sun never sets, and it is very likely that new stamps with Russian characters thereon, will be issued for the convenience of our Cossack fellow citizens on the Asiatic Frontier.

"CANCELED STAMP MANIA."

Under the above title an extensive article is going the rounds of the press, the substance of which can be condensed in a few words: "A wealthy gentleman offered to give some poor orphan girl of Connecticut a complete education, provided the said orphan obtained for the afore-mentioned wealthy gent, one million canceled P. O. Stamps!"

The expected result of this extensive "advertisement" has been obtained. A shrewd Yankee has accumulated a large quantity of stamps, and the "poor orphan" cannot be found!

The whole thing was a swindling dodge put out by some heartless stamp collector to fill his album with rare stamps, and make money by the sale of his duplicates. "Honesty is the best policy," and we advise those who have a surplus of duplicate stamps to send them to us and get the cash for them.

STAMP COLLECTORS ALBUMS.

HILL'S BOSTON ALBUM, third edition, containing headings and divisions for over 3000 stamps, including spaces for the U. S. Revenue Stamps, rearranged and corrected to November 1866, by Harold Barnard and S. Allen Taylor, beautifully bound in cloth. The latest and most complete Postal Album published, Price \$3; by mail, \$3 50.

THE EXCELSIOR ALBUM [1865], bound in morocco, with gilt back, containing heading for all countries using stamps to date of publication—oblong shape. Price \$3; by mail \$3 50.

THE NONPAREIL POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, ruled to contain over eleven hundred stamps, with descriptions of the current issue in English, French, and German, bound in heavy embossed boards, with gilt edge and title. Price 75 cents; by mail \$1.

LALIER'S ALBUM [1866], entirely rearranged. The most complete work of the kind published, containing panels for 2000 stamps, bound in cloth, with clasp. Price \$6; by mail, \$7.

APPLETON'S ALBUM [1863], published by Messrs. Appleton, of New York, with flags printed in colors, and the most complete and accurate letter-press description of the U. S. stamps to be found in any work published, containing places for all stamps issued to date thereof. Price \$2 50; by mail \$3.

Either of above albums mailed on receipt of price.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT, June, 1867.

Priced Catalogue.

BADEN.

"Adhesive Stamps."

Unused. Used.
 \$ cts. \$ cts.

1850.—Figure.

1	kreuzer, square, buff.....	10
3	" yellow.....	5
6	" green.....	6

1855.—Figure.

1	kreuzer, square, white	10
3	" blue..	6
3	" green	6
6	" yellow... ..	5
9	" rose..	5

1860.—Arms, (shaded disk.)

1	kreuzer, square, black.....	5	2
3	" blue..	8	3
6	" blue, orange	18	3
9	" brown, rose	25	3

1862.—Arms, (white disk.)

1	kreuzer, square, black.....	5	3
3	" rose..	10	3
6	" blue..	15	4
9	" stone.....	20	4
18	" green	30	6
30	" orange.....	45	6

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1857.—Head to right.

3	kreuzer, oval, blue.... ..	18	5
6	" yellow.	25	6
9	" rose..	30	6
12	" brown.....	35	8
18	" red.....	45	12

1862.

3	kreuzer, oval, rose..	5	3
6	" blue.....	12	5
9	" stone	20	6

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

1	kreuzer, yellow.....	5	3
3	" "	8	4
12	" "	18	8

BAVARIA.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1849.—Figure.

1	kreuzer, square, black.....	75	20
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1851.—Figure.

1	kreuzer, square, rose.....	10	4
3	" blue	12	2
6	" brown.....	18	2
9	" green.	20	2
12	" red	30	6
18	" yellow.	30	6

1862.

1	kreuzer, square, yellow... ..	4	1
3	“ rose	6	2
6	“ blue... .. .	10	2
9	“ stone.	18	1
12	“ green	20	2
18	“ red	25	2

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

3	kreuzer, square, black	8	5
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REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. M. P., TROY, N. Y.—Have received nine subscribers from you, and mailed April and May Nos. with medals, to each. Go on with the work, and be assured your efforts are appreciated. Mint Medals can be furnished you at the prices charged at that institution. There are but *two* “Immune Columbia, 1783’s” known,—struck in silver.

C. F. H., BINGHAMTON, N. Y.—Have sent you the prices we pay for modern autographs. Can fix prices more definitely by personal examination of documents. Autograph letters are more desirable than signatures.

H. C. McC., GEORGETOWN, D. C.—The price we pay for coins varies in value according to condition of the coin. All cents from 1814 to 1857 must be extremely perfect,—free from bruises, scratches, rust, or injuries of any kind. All cents from 1791 to 1814 we buy in any condition, where the date is to be seen fairly, paying according to condition. A perfect cent is always more desirable than an imperfect one, and collectors will always pay a higher price for such coins. You can send several specimens in a letter and we can then post you up.

This answer will suffice for a large number of correspondents who have solicited information in reference to the catalogue prices paid for coins. On the 1st of June we shall issue an improved and enlarged Priced Catalogue, at 25 cts., showing prices paid for all.

E. T. FARMER & Co., CLEVELAND, O.—Should like to purchase your 1799 U. S. cent at \$25, if perfect; but if injured

by wear, its value is greatly depreciated. Poor 1799 cents range in value from \$2 to \$5. Can sell them at that price.

ROBT. NELSON, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—The “silver quarter” you have is evidently a “pistareen,” and only worth its value in old silver. 1798 and 1800 U. S. cents, 3 cts. to 50 cts.

S. H. S., N. Y.—Silver pieces of scarce dates must be either uncirculated or proof, to command good prices. Common dates, when worn or rubbed, are worth but little, if any, over old silver.

J. ALLEN, GREENCASTLE, IND.—Eagle of 1799, circulated, worth gold price only. 17,483 Eagles were struck in this year.

H. W. GEDICKE, 205 WILLIAM ST., N. Y.—Will call and see your collection when we next visit the “Bridge City.”

D. A., JR., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Sent your order next mail after receipt of letter. Can supply you regularly with all kinds of coins and stamps.

M. A. BARR, N. Y.—Send list of what you have. We want all dates when good.

O. L. C., NEWARK, N. J.—Send on the relics.

J. B. CLEMENS, ST. LOUIS, MO.—The five subscribers received. Do so again. Send us names of dealers and collectors.

J. N. O'MEARA, WASHINGTON.—We buy all kinds of coins, and sell coins at a small advance on catalogue prices.

W. W. T., SAG HARBOR, N. Y.—Sent the pennies you ordered. Can send you some uncirculated cents of common dates.

JAMES A. PETRIE, ELIZABETH, N. J.—Have you any duplicates to spare? Please send Mr. Haines' address.

E. C. C., PORTLAND, ME.—We will take the medal at \$10. It is called a “Washington Medal;” struck in France in 1778,—designed by Voltaire. Your friend can have it for \$12, at any time, if

notice is given within one month from date of your letter, (May 3rd).

J. F. H., BOSTON.—Received \$12.30 all right. Send on more orders. Will sell good pieces cheap.

E. C. FALES, FOXBORO', MASS.—Of course we buy Continental Currency, or paper money.

A. R. T., MONTREAL.—Impression you send presents a Queen Elizabeth shilling in a poor state of preservation,—worth 75 cents.

J. P. WILLTSIE, NEWBURG.—Subscription received, medal sent. Aid us all you can. It is a good cause, and will keep many a wild youth out of mischief.

G. M. P.—See our Improved Coin Priced Catalogue, just published, at 25 c. You will find Stamp Price List in the Magazine commencing with April.

BOOKWORM.—“Can you inform me what coins, if any, were in use by the Dutch and Swedes in the early history of Philadelphia?” The coins, so far as used, were those of Holland and Sweden, which the emigrants brought with them; but these being quite insufficient, the settlers used wampum or sewant in all transactions with the Indians, and in many operations among themselves, where it was certain that the wampum could be disposed of to the Indians. The *Upland Record* contains many entries in which the value of wheat and other articles is regulated as mediums of barter by the value of the quantities in guilders.

E. C.—The price paid for Mickley's collection is said to be \$14,000

NEW GREENBACK.

There is an experimental 15 cent note with a green back, in the hands of the Treasury Department at Washington, designed, if accepted, for general circulation. We hope, in the absence of specie, to see this note in circulation before many days. We shall take special pains to procure

specimens of the 15 cent greenback for our friends at a distance.

EXTENSIVE COIN SALE.

The sale of Briechnan's Collection of Coins will commence, at Birch & Sons', in this city, on June 6th, at 4 P. M., and continue three days. Parties at a distance will receive a Catalogue by sending their address, with stamp, to this office; and the editor of this Magazine will receive bids for any piece in the Catalogue, and make no charge for services. As we intend to be present at the sale each day, Coin Collectors will please take notice, and make early application.

MASON'S COIN AND STAMP COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE, for May, is on our table. It is replete with information for those interested in Numismatics, and the collection of Medals, Autographs, Stamps, Books, Letters, and Curiosities. This business is still in its infancy here, but in the old countries of Europe furnishes employment to many dealers.—*Philada. Age*, May 4th.

MASON'S COIN AND STAMP COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE, for May, published by Mason & Co., 434 Chestnut Street, is received. It contains much rare information. The History of the Coins of America is alone worth the subscription price of \$1.—*Evening Star*, May 2d.

AT A COIN SALE in New York, last week, a silver dollar, coined in 1794, brought \$42 50. A half dime, dated 1795, was purchased for \$9, and a cent, dated 1799, sold for \$20.—*Philada Ledger*, April 25th.

ERRATA.

On the last page of the May No. under the head of “FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF U. S.” there is a Sixty cent note enumerated with *autographic signature*. This is a typographical error, it should have been “50 c.”

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTO-
GRAPHS.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed; A L S, Autograph Letter Signed; D S, Document Signed; S, Autograph Signature; A N S, Autograph Note Signed; A F, Autograph Frank; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter; Env. F, Envelope Franked.

- Ainsworth, W. H., Novelist, A L S, 1 page, 4to. \$1.
 Armstrong, General John, A L S, 2 pp., 4to. Valley Forge, May, 1778, to Gen. Lacey. Interesting. \$5.
 Armstrong, Gen. John, L S, 2 pages, 4to. Postscript in handwriting of Gen. Armstrong, Dec. 23, 1777. \$3.
 Arnold, Dr. Thomas, of Rugby, A L S, 1 page, 8vo. March, 1841. \$1 50.
 Arnold, Matthew, Professor of Poetry, Oxford. A L S, 5 pages, 8vo. \$1.
 Adams, John Quincy, S. 50 cts.
 Adams, John Quincy, S. 50 cts.
 Adams, John Quincy, S. 50 cts.
 Agassiz, Louis, A L S, 1 p., 8vo., April, 1863. 50 cts.
 Alexander, James, Surveyor General of New Jersey, A D S, March, 1742. 75 cents.
 Alexander, James, A L S, 1 page, 4to., May 1, 1775. \$1 50.
 Alexander, James, A L S, March, 1743. \$1 50.
 Alexander, James, D S, October, 1753. \$1 50.
 Alexander, James, D S, 1755. \$1 50.
 Alexander, Mary, D S, 1759. \$1.
 Arbuthnot, Admiral, S. 50 cts.
 Amherst, Lord, L S, 1 page, 4to, May 1, 1794. To Mayor and Corporation of Leicester. Fine. \$2.
 Aston, Peter, Jr., A L S, 1 page, folio, March, 1778. 50 cts.
 Astor, John Jacob, A L S, 1 page, 4to., August, 1812. \$1.
 Astor, John Jacob, D S, 1817. 75 cts.
 Astor, John Jacob, D S, 1816. 75 cts.
 Argyle, Duke of, S. 50 cts.

- Argyle, Duke, S. 50 cts.
 Argyle, Duchess, S. 50 cts.
 Agassiz, Louis, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., February, 1859. \$1.
 Adams, John Quincy, S, with direction on letter. 50 cts.
 Alexander, Dr. R. C., English Botanist, A L S, 4 pages, 8vo., May 1858. \$1.
 (*To be continued*)

VALUABLE STAMP COLLECT'NS.

Mr. Stewart, Merchant of New York, is said to possess a complete collection of uncanceled stamps of all the nations in the world. It is rumored among Stamp Collectors that this gentleman purchased his valuable collection in France, at a cost of \$5000 in gold (?).

Mr. A. C. Kline, of Philadelphia, has a collection said to be nearly complete, valued at \$1000.

Verily we say unto you, reader, stamp gathering is not such an unprofitable pursuit as many suppose.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

[A few Coin and Stamp Dealers' cards will be inserted in this column at 15 cts. per line, each insertion.]

EDWARD COGAN,

Dealer in Coins, Medals, &c.

No. 71 WILLIAM STREET,
New York.

WM. IDLER,

Gold, Silver and Copper Coins, Medals
Autographs, Minerals, Continental Paper
Money, bought, sold and exchanged.

No. 109 S. 11th St., Phila.

CHAS. K. WARNER,

DEALER IN

**American and Foreign Coins and
Medals,**

No. 326 Chestnut St., Phila.

CHAS. DeF. BURNS,

DEALER IN

Autographs & Continental Paper Money.

104 Wall St., N. Y.

Autographs bought, sold or exchanged.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN

POSTAGE STAMPS,

FOR SALE BY

A. FOUNTAIN, MIDDLETOWN, CONN.

Send for Price List.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

JULY, 1867.

No. 4.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 1.

BY E. M., JR.

There are many very amusing and interesting incidents in the life of a Numismatist, and few Coin Collectors have reached the goal of their wishes without committing many egregious blunders, and having, unwittingly, been made the victim of many a laughable joke.

Nothing seems so ludicrous to the able coin collector as the attempts of would-be collectors and beginners to use the language of coins, and show off their learning by speaking of the "Washington Cents," and displaying the treasures they have collected,—generally consisting of counterfeit Washingtons and Card Tokens, interspersed with the usual variety of Uncle Sam's copper mediums of trade.

But, however much we may smile over the crude efforts of the Numismatic novice, we must all confess to having traveled the same road, committed the same ridiculous blunders, and been victimized by similar unlooked for circumstances.

We propose to relate a few disconnected incidents and humorous anecdotes relating to the coin collecting fraternity, and trust the reader will pardon any discrepancy in the way of dates, as most of these hastily sketched lines are traced from the memory of other days. Every collector of coins is made such by some peculiar circumstances: one has a desire for wealth; another notoriety; a third simply as a matter of curiosity.

It is related of Mr. Mickley, the cele-

brated Numismatist of Philadelphia, that about the year 1823 he became desirous of obtaining a coin bearing the date of his birth, 1799; and being of an economical disposition, concluded a copper U. S. Cent of that date would answer his purpose. After searching for many years and finding all other dates but the one wanted, he finally obtained a fair specimen of the 1799 cent. This simple circumstance produced the finest collection of coins in this country, and gave Mr. Mickley an enviable reputation in Europe and America as a Numismatist.

Another circumstance, quite as simple in its origin, produced a very fine collection in Boston. Some years ago the celebrated Mr. A., merchant of Boston, was making a purchase in a store in Washington Street, when he overheard the following conversation between a customer and the proprietor of the store:

PRO. (to Customer.)—"I picked up a pretty old cent, to-day, at the Quincy Market."

CUS. (pricking up his ears.)—"What date?"

PRO. (exhibiting the coin.)—"1799, and I believe it is considered valuable."

CUS.—"I would like to be the owner of that cent."

PRO.—"You can, sir, for a consideration."

CUS.—"Name it!"

PRO. (pointing to the customer's breast,)—"Give me that diamond pin in your shirt bosom and the copper is yours."

CUS.—"It's a bargain, sir!"

And it was a *bargain*, to the great surprise of the proprietor, and an equal amount of gratification to the purchaser. The diamond pin, valued at \$40, was handed over for a copper cent! Mr. A., who had witnessed the strange trade between the two gentlemen, said that the proprietor was a lunatic, and the customer a fool! The latter, however, was informed that the cent was worth \$50; and if he, Mr. A., would accompany him to a coin dealer he would convince him of the truth of the statement.

A visit to a neighboring coin dealer proved the value of the cent; and from that circumstance dates the commencement of Mr. A.'s fine cabinet of coins.

(To be Continued.)

INDIAN RELICS.

Stone implements were the first used by man, so far as our knowledge extends. There was an age when the inventive genius of mankind taught him to fashion the stone into implements of war and aids to industry, and that state of civilization and progress was exhibited all over the world. It was followed by the second era—the age of bronze; and by a third—the age of copper; and by a fourth—the age of iron.

On Friday we were looking over a collection of these stone instruments, made and used by the primitive inhabitants of this country, which Dr. Perkins is preparing for presentation to the Peabody Museum of Archæology and Ethnology at Cambridge. He has a large number of them, very curious and interesting, obtained from the heirs of the late Dr. Balch of Amesbury, and Dea. John P. Pearson, Charles R. Sargent, C. M. Hodge, I. H. Knight, A. Osgood, and Wm. B. Little, who have been interested in preserving such relics of the past. Some are from Illinois, some from Kentucky, some from New Hampshire, but chiefly they were found on the banks of the Merrimac, the Parker, and Powow rivers, with a

few from Ipswich and Topsfield. They consist of war clubs of different sizes; axes, from the rudest to one very choice specimen, exhibiting taste and skill; sinkers for lines and nets used in fishing; the tool for making the lines; the mortar and pestle for grinding corn; spearheads and arrowheads, some rough, and others barbed and nicely made; gouges of various descriptions for cutting and scooping out their canoes; with other things of use of which is not so clear. Some of them had been picked up on the surface of the ground, one arrowhead in a field that had been cultivated two hundred years, and others deeper down—one taken from a clay bed eight feet deep.

THE "CONFEDERATE" NOTE.

[The following lines were found written upon the back of a Confederate note in the possession of Dr. Thos. Addis Emmet:]

Representing nothing on God's earth, now,
And nought in the water below it;
As a pledge of a nation that's dead and gone,
Keep it, dear friend, and show it!
Show it to those that will lend an ear
To the tale this paper can tell—
Of liberty born, of the patriot's dream,
Of a storm-cradled nation that fell!
Too poor to possess the precious ore,
And too much a stranger to borrow,
We issued, to-day, our "promise to pay,"
And hoped to redeem on the morrow.
Days rolled by, and weeks became years,
But our coffers were empty still;
Coin was so rare, that the Treasurers quaked
If a dollar should drop in the till.
But the faith that was in us was strong, indeed,
And our poverty well we discerned;
And these little checks represented the pay
That our suffering veterans earned.
We knew it had hardly a value in gold—
Yet as gold our soldiers received it;
It gazed in our eyes with a promise to pay,
And each patriot soldier believed it.
But our boys thought little of price or pay,
Or of bills that were over-due;
We knew, if it bought our bread to-day,
'Twas the best our country could do.
Keep it! it tells all our history o'er,
From the birth of the dream to its last,—
Modest, and born of the angel Hope,
Lik; our hope of success it passed.

AN ITEM FOR NUMISMATOLOGISTS.

A San Francisco journal says that a firm in that city have, perhaps, the only complete set of American coins in the hands of private individuals in the United States. They have the American silver dollar for every year from 1794 to 1866, half dollars from 1794 to 1867, quarter dollars from 1796 to 1867, dimes from 1796 to 1861, half dimes from 1794 to 1867, cents from 1723 to 1867, three-cent pieces from 1851 to 1867, two-cent pieces from 1863 to 1867, and half cents from 1793 to 1857.

This collection has occupied more than fifteen years of Mr. Repiton's time, and cost about twenty thousand dollars. As an instance of the rarity of some of the coins, we will state that the silver dollar of 1801 cost \$950, and Mr. Repiton had, before he succeeded in finding one he could purchase, made an unsuccessful tender of \$1500 for one in possession of a gentleman residing in Salem, Mass. Of the silver dollars of 1838 only eighteen were minted, and, consequently, they are very rare. The silver dollar of 1852 is also very rare, and is rated by numismatologists at from \$300 to \$500. Besides this collection of American coins, they have specimens of the coins of nearly all nations, and some coins over two thousand years old. The coins are a great curiosity, and their owners could readily sell them for \$50,000.—*Phila. Evening Telegraph*, May 20th.

The above article, now going the rounds of the press, contains a number of errors. Mr. Repiton may have a complete collection of the coins of America, but he does not possess U. S. silver dollar of each year from 1794 to 1866, for the very good reason that none were coined from 1805 to 1835, inclusive. There are no dollars of 1836, '37, '38, '39, excepting pattern or experimental pieces. 1852 U. S. silver dollars are rare, and worth from ten to fifteen dollars each.

Half dollars were not coined in 1796, '97, '98, '99 and 1800, excepting "patterns," and but few of the latter.

Quarter dollars were not coined in the years 1798, '99, 1800, '01, '02, '03, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '17, '26, '29 and '30.

Dimes were not coined in the years 1797, '99, 1806, '08, '12, '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19 and '26.

Half Dimes were not coined in 1797, '98, '99, 1804, '06, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '22, '23, '24, '25, '26, '27 and '28.

The dollar of 1801, for which \$1500 was offered, is worth from \$5 to \$10. No doubt this was an error of the printer's, —it should have been an 1804 dollar.

We are inclined to believe that there were more than "eighteen dollars of 1838 minted," as we have had a view of, at least, double that number—not counting those re-struck since 1838. We envy Mr. R. his valuable collection, and, if "report" speaks truly, it is certainly worth \$50,000.

TO COIN COLLECTORS.

When you have decided to make a collection, or set of coins, be sure and select the best specimens. Get *uncirculated* coins, if possible; but do not let the scarcity of this description of coin dishearten you.

After getting a small cabinet made, to contain 10 or 12 drawers, sufficiently large to place within a complete set of cents and half cents, commence your series. No matter whether you commence with the first or last issue. Get one good coin to begin with, and the desire for more will certainly follow.

Never scrub a coin, as the copper will certainly be injured by so doing. If the piece is dirty and black, it may be placed in oil for a few days to loosen the dirt, and then washed carefully in suds. If

brushed at all, it must be done with a very soft brush.

All proof coins should be wrapped carefully and tightly in smooth, stiff paper. Avoid the trashy electrotypes which flood the market. They can readily be distinguished from the genuine by the *sound*. The genuine coin rings like pure silver; the copper and lead copies have a dull, dead sound, readily noticed.

Always keep a few duplicate coins of all kinds on hand for trading purposes. By observing these simple rules much labor and inconvenience can be avoided. In a future article we shall give other instructions of value to all who wish to possess a good and valuable collection of coins.

CLEANSING AND BRIGHTENING COINS.

As an evidence of the injury coins sustain by cleansing and polishing, we refer to the recent sale of coins by Messrs. Davis & Harvey, of this city, where a fine set of American Cents brought, at public sale, but \$145!

This set of coins, formerly the property of the late Mr. Brechemin, were originally *uncirculated*, and possessed a beautiful, natural bronze, which was brushed off for the purpose of giving the cents that bright appearance they possess when fresh from the dies.

Had this set of cents—numbering 70 pieces—remained in their original condition they would have sold for \$1000; for many of them were the finest specimens in the country. What a warning this should be to collectors having a predilection for brushing and cleaning uncirculated coins. The set above alluded to was purchased by Mr. Long for his museum in this city.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

Contains a collection of American coins struck for this purpose at the Mint in this city, by order of the Government.

The collection embraces specimens of all the coins supposed to be in actual use at the present time. They are of gold, silver and bronze. They were all struck in polished matrices, and every piece is in perfect condition. They bear the date of the present year, and are set on a mat of blue velvet with a mount of red around each coin.

NUMBER OF CENTS AND HALF CENTS,

Struck at U. S. Mint from 1793 to 1867.
(Prepared expressly for Coin Dealers and Collectors.)—*Continued.*

	CENTS.	HALF CENTS.
1825	1,461,100	63,000
1826	1,517,425	234,000
1827	2,357,732	none coined
1828	2,260,624	606,000
1829	1,414,500	487,000
1830	1,711,500	none coined
1831	3,359,260	patterns
1832	2,362,000	12,200
1833	2,739,000	154,000
1834	1,855,100	120,000
1835	3,878,400	141,000
1836	2,111,000	patterns
1837	5,558,300	none coined
1838	6,370,200	none coined
1839	3,128,661	none coined
1840	2,462,700	patterns
1841	1,597,367	patterns.

(To be Concluded in August No.)

UNIQUE LOUISIANA CENT.

We have been shown a Colonies Fran-coises Half-penny, date 1721. Beneath the date is the capital B; upon the left side of date, a treefoil; on the right, a spade-shaped figure. In other respects it is similar to the ordinary Louisiana cents of 1721. This piece is supposed, from its variety, to be *unique*. No mention of it is made in any of the coin manuals.

**SUPERB FOREIGN COLLECTION
OF AMERICAN COINS.**

We have received, by steamer from England, a private catalogue of Dr. Chas. Clay's collection of American coins, medals, &c., and we do not hesitate to pronounce it, with few exceptions, equal, if not superior, to any collection of American coins within our knowledge. Nearly all of the choice pieces in Dr. Clay's cabinets are of the finest description,—many being proofs.

We have not the space to enumerate the coins in the present number of our journal, but will simply call attention to a few coins claimed by Dr. Clay to be *unique*.

NEW ENGLAND SHILLING, (Pine Tree)—Size 18. Tree large and leaves very large. *Obv.* MASATHVSETS: IIN, (in lieu of IN,) *Rev.* NEW ENGLAND, AN. DOM.

NEW ENGLAND PENNY, (Scrub Oak Variety)—Size 8. Date 1662; weight 11 grains.

IRON TRIAL PIECE of the Rosa Americana Penny, without date. Rose without crown, and the *Utile Dulci* on the field without label. In this last circumstance it differs from all other known Rosa Americans. Size 26.

Trial piece in Bath metal of the Rosa AMERICANA Half-penny. Date 1723. Rose with crown.

ROSA AMERICANA PENNY of 1733.—This "trial piece" is the only *Rosa Americana* known with the head looking left and the head, itself, differing from any other known variety by having a peculiar outline to the lower edge of bust.

COLONIAL HALF-PENNY.—This is a proof impression with, on its obverse, a beautiful head of George, looking right, laureated; GEORGIUS: D. G.; M. BRT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. The *rev.* a large figure 1, with a crown over it; on each side of the large figure two sprigs, their stems crossed in base: THE. ET. PR. ELEC. BRUN. ET. LUN. DUX. SA. ROM. MI. ARC. Size 17½.

COLONIAL HALF-PENNY.—Size 17½.—*Obverse* same as last, the *reverse* is without the sprigs on each side the figure 1, (as in the last), and the legend DAT. PA. CEM. ET. NOUAS. PREBET. ET. AUGET. OPES. These two last pieces are, undoubtedly American Colonial pattern pieces, but for what particular Colony is unknown.

CONTINENTAL CURRENCY—White metal, date 1776, size 26. *Obv.* sun and rays, sun dial in centre, "Fugio" outer circle "Continental Currency," edge milled. *Rev.*, centre, "We are one;" inner circle rayed, "American Congress;" outer circle, 18 links, with the names of States on each. In the inner circle the words E. G. FECIT. (Supposed to be *unique*.)

CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, 1783; size 27.—White metal. *Obv.*, Britannia sitting, receiving the bow, arrows, &c., from an American Indian; a dove hovering over with olive branch; St. Paul's and London Monument in the distance, with shipping; "Felicitas Britannia et America; MDCCLXXXIII, Sept'r. 4." *Reverse*, centre, "We are one;" inner circle, rayed, "American Congress;" outer circle, thirteen links, with names of States. *Edge reading*, "Continental Currency," indistinct.

BROAD HEAD WASHINGTON, size 19.—Very fine, with toga; Washington on the *obverse*; *reverse*, Liberty, "United States, artists initials are absent in the exergue. Edge milled, and so far *unique*.

EXCELSIOR, NEW YORK, size 18, date 1787. *Obverse*, Arms of New York, 1787; in exergue "Excelsior." *Reverse*, an Indian standing with bow and tomahawk; "Libertato Defendo Natus."

AUCTORI PLEBIS.—Size 18. No date visible. Head laureated, looking *right*, flowering hair, and roman nose; "Auctori Plebis," probably struck on an old Spanish coin.

AUCTORI PLEBIS.—A somewhat similar coin to the above, but on the *obverse*,

the head laureated, but not flowing hair downwards, as last; "Auctori Plebis." *Rev.* A large harp, over it "Hispaniolas," and the date, in spread figures 1736, in exergue.

KENTUCKY PIECE.—A brilliant proof; the first ever struck in silver and in bronze, from the *Soho* collection. Obverse, a female presenting two children to Liberty, with cornucopia, &c.; date in exergue, 1796; "British Settlement Kentucky." *Rev.* Britannia, head looking down, fasces and irons at her feet; "Payable by P. P. P. Myddleton."

KENTUCKY PIECE.—*Obverse* as the last; but on the *reverse* in the centre, in four lines, "Copper,—Company,—of Upper Canada;" round the field, "One-Half-penny."

COINS AND STAMPS.

A correspondent objects to the assimilation of coins and stamps in one periodical, and very injudicially argues that each branch of collecting is so distinct in its nature and requirements that the two cannot be followed connectedly without inconvenience and want of perfectness.

We do not think so. What are Coins and Stamps but fixed tokens of value used for the convenience of the public at large? A coin expresses on its face a certain value and passes current among the people. A stamp bears the same relation. A coin bears the national arms or emblems—a stamp the same. A change in nationalities changes the several characters of the coins, so also the stamps.

In fact the postage stamps and coins of a nation bear so close a relationship that the two are inseparably connected, and your true numismatist, or Philatelist, will always give close attention to both. A good set of the coins of the world will, it is true, out value the best set of stamps; not however, in proportion to the time both have been employed. Coins are an ancient institution, while stamps have barely reached their majority.

GREAT SALE OF COINS IN PHILADELPHIA.

On the 5th., 6th., and 7th of June, the executor of the estate of Louis Brechemin, sold at public auction in this city the well-known and extensive collection of Gold, Silver and Copper (American and foreign) coins owned by the late Mr. Brechemin. The attendance was very large and prices obtained were very satisfactory, *ordinary* American coins realized astonishing prices.

The following prices were paid for a few of the best pieces; which considering the condition and rarity of the coins, were remarkably below the standard of previous sales:—

1794 Silver dollar, fair,	\$27 00
1851 " " proof,	38 00
1852 " " mutilated proof,	26 00
1858 " " proof,	11 25
1796 Half dollar, fine,	16 00
1797 " " fine,	8 00
1814 " " very fine,	3 00
1796 Quar. dollar, fair,	2 00
1804 " " "	2 00
1823 " " "	14 00
1828 " " proof,	2 00
1796 Dime, fine,	1 62
1798 " good,	4 00
1801 " "	12 00
1802 " fair,	2 75
1 set cents (U. S.) 1791 to 1857,	145 00
1838 Pattern dollar, proof,	34 00
1839 " " "	31 00
1836 " " "	7 50
1838 " half " "	10 00
1857 Proof set coins,	20 00
1858 " " "	15 00

Colonials, Washingtons, and rare foreign coins brought low prices.

NEW 10 CENT PIECE.

This nickel coin, upon which experiments have been made at the U. S. Mint, has not yet made its appearance. As soon as it appears we shall be prepared to supply our subscribers with this novel nickel.

PROOF COINS, OR MASTER PIECES.

All coins struck from polished dies, previous to the regular coinage, are called *proof coins*. The dies are made with great care, and exclusively used for striking coins of this description. Proof coins are readily known by the beautiful and mirror-like surface they possess.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF AMERICA.

(Continued.)

The *GEORGIUS TRIUMPHO* coin was struck in England in 1783, and circulated through most of the Colonies. By some collectors this copper is termed a "Tory Cent," but it is manifestly a Washington piece, as the legend undoubtedly refers to Washington, while the statue of Liberty, partially tied by thirteen bars on the *obverse*, attests to its true character.

The *NOVA CONSTELLATIO* coins also appeared in 1783, struck in silver and copper. *Obverse*, U. S. enclosed in a wreath. Legend surrounding the wreath, *LIBERTAS* :- *JUSTITIA* :- 1783. *Reverse*, an eye with diverging rays. Between the outer points of the rays are thirteen stars; surrounding the whole, the legend *NOVA CONSTELLATIO*. Another variety, *obverse* scrip capitals U. S. Legend, *LIBERTAS ET JUSTITIA*, 1785. *Reverse* same as preceding.

The *Immune Columbia* piece in silver, and *Immune Columbia* cop'r are very rare. Date and *obverse* same; *reverse*, Liberty seated. Another, with Eagle on *reverse*.

To return to the State coinage:

New Jersey issued coins in 1785, '86, '87 and '88, in large quantities and great varieties. These coins all bear the same resemblance, with very slight variation. *Obverse* horse's head looking to the right; under the head a plough; dates, 1785, '86, '87, '88. Legend *NOVA CÆSAREA*. *Reverse*, a shield; legend *E. PLURIBUS UNUM*.

Among the most valued varieties of the New Jersey Cent are the following;

Horse head to the left instead of right; date under the plough handle; dog on the field; *E. PLUCKIBUS*; *E. PLURIBUS*. There are, in all, 100 known varieties.

[Dr. Dickeson, in his "American Numismatic Manual," published by Lippincott & Co., of Philadelphia, treats of all the known varieties, and furnishes illustrations of many of the most important types of Colonial Coins.—ED.]

(To be Continued.)

NEW STAMP.

A new stamp has been discovered—oval in form, perforated at one end, flesh color, variable in size,—considered very valuable in emergencies. It is not a Revenue Stamp, but in use all over the world, and commands attention from the "lords of creation," as the invention of a married lady! It is called the "FOOT STAMP," and might rank, among philatelists, as a *revenue*, for the exclusive use of the "divine creatures;" as every lady is obliged by a law—of Nature—to *stamp* her foot when speaking to an unruly or inattentive husband!

Our foreign exchanges are requested to copy the "new issue" and credit.

N. E. NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION.

At a special meeting of the New England Numismatic and Archæological Society, on Monday evening, May 28th, the following officers for the ensuing year were elected:

Pres't, Dr. N. B. Shurtleff, of Boston.
 Vice do for Mass., C. S. Fellows, "
 " Me., Dr. E. M. Field, of Bangor
 " Vt., S. Williams, St. Albans.
 " R. I., G. T. Paine, Providence
 Rec. Sec., S. H. Chadbourne, of Boston,
 Cor. Sect.; T. E. Bond, "
 Treasurer, Henry Cook, "
 Curator, S. S. Crosby, "
 Librarian, D. R. Child, "

A proof set of the Mint coinage of 1867 was presented to the Society, also a collection of 40 colonial coins.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

MORESNET.—Some years ago a colored individual hailing from "Afric's burning clime" was describing to a noted geographer a small place near the coast of Africa. The man versed in the descriptions of the earth, denied that there was such a place at all; and taking from his bookcase an atlas, that was warranted to contain the name of every place in the world, desired the Ethiopian to point it out on the map. Sambo, after looking some time for it, but in vain, remarked, "dat it was not dar now, but would be in about a week."

The above story will apply to this case, for who ever heard of the "Republic of Moresnet?" None, until now, we are certain; and were it not for stamp collecting, many years would elapse, we trow, ere the world would know that there *is* such a republic. Well, this country has issued four stamps—rather a good beginning—and the engraver and designer deserve credit for their very neat and elegant work. The design is, within a rectangular frame is a circle, over which the Cap of Liberty appears, containing the arms, consisting of a Lion in a pugilistic attitude, towards left side, and an Eagle gracefully sitting or standing (we know not which) on that somewhat popular instrument of music—the jews-harp; the circular band going round the whole, has the inscription: *Commune Libre de Moresnet*, below on a wavy scroll is *Postes*: figure denoting value, in four corners. 10 centimes lilac, green, 20c. orange, red, 12½c. red, 25c. blue. Colored impression on white paper, watermarked with Cap of Liberty, perforated. This "republic"—which for aught we know, may be a "goak"—is situated between Belgium and Prussia.

BELGIUM.—Two more new stamps are expected, 6 and 8 centimes.

FRANCE.—France is commencing to issue her new set of stamps, of the same design as present 2 and 4 cents. The one before us is of the 30c., and the color is olive brown. It looks well.

GUATEMALA.—Essays for this republic are out.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—Stamps for these islands have been issued; 1 d. green, 6d. rose.

SERVIA.—Has a new issue; 1-2p. green, 2p. brown.

ITALY.—Has a new 20 cent stamp; color blue.

SPAIN.—Has a new issue of the same design, as the current Italian. The values are, 2, 4, 12, 19c. and 10 and 20c. de esc. The colors in the same order are brown, blue, orange, rose, green, and lilac.

QUEENSLAND.—Has a 4d. and 1 s. stamps, colors purple and rose, same design as the current issue.

PORTUGAL.—Has a new 25 reis of the same design as the engraving No. 1.

ST. DOMINGO.—Has now a bona-fide issue of stamps, the latest of which is the 2 reals, colors carmine.

BAVARIA.—Has a new issue of the same values as the last.

NEW GRANADA.—Adds five new stamps to her long list, 5, 10, 20, 50, c., and 1 peso.

FRANCE.—Has a new stamp; 30 c., brown.

GUATEMALA.—Has a stamp similar to the Costa Rican. 5 c. brown.

SAN SALVADOR.—The last of the Central American States to adopt stamps has now a 1-2 rl. blue, 1 rl. vermilion, 2 rls. green, and 4 rls. brown, design, the Nicaraguan stamps.

HELIGOLAND.—An island in the German Ocean, has issued stamps, 1-2 sch. red and green, 1. sch. ditto.

UNITED STATES.—Have in preparation new 20 cent adhesive and envelope stamps.

WATERMARKED NEW SOUTH WALES.—By the last mail we have another vagary of watermark on the present six-penny stamp. Previous mails brought us copies watermarked 5; they now come watermarked 12, being printed on the paper for the shilling stamp.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Messrs. McCoy and Cogan of N. Y., Mr. Anderson of Indiana, Mr. Roach, of England, and several other prominent numismatists have recently paid us a visit. Mr. Cogan, the clever and agreeable Coin Dealer of N. Y., came here to attend the "3 Day Sale." Mr. McCoy, celebrated for possessing fine coins, on private business. Mr. Anderson took the first premium, (a silver medal worth \$40,) at the Indiana State Fair, Oct. 1866, for the best collection of coins. Coin business is looking up everywhere, and we look for a rise in prices next fall, when those splendid pieces of Mickley's come under the hammer.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

No change in the price or size of this journal will take place until January, 1868. The continuations of Priced Stamp and Autograph Catalogues are unavoidably omitted in this number, but will positively appear in our next issue, together with a "Foreign Coin Table," prepared expressly for this Magazine by the distinguished Numismatic author, Dr. Dickenson, of this city.

The Stamp Collector's Magazine. Bath, England, June, 1867.

Thank you, gentlemen, and shall profit by your remarks. The stamp business with us is a new one, and we hope to feel our way cautiously along, until we can measure pence with some of our older and abler philatelists.

The Coin business excites and receives more attention from our readers than stamp gathering, but the latter is becoming daily more popular, and in time we can present a goodly array of stamp collectors in this country. We have read your last three numbers, and must say your journal presents an attractive appearance, and deserves the patronage of stamp collectors on this side of the Ocean. Many thanks for courtesy in exchanging.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. COGAN.—Catalogues received. Many thanks. We are under obligations for disinterested favors of great value to us.

C. M. S.—Yours at hand. Stamps acceptable, and your kind letter answered by mail. We go to press 25th of month.

T. C., CINCINNATI.—The two subs. received. Will send you the Catalogue of

sides as they appear. Thanks for card and list of collectors.

G. D. H., PROVIDENCE.—Thanks for your good opinion, hope to merit it. Our aim shall be to make the Magazine acceptable to all classes of collectors. We avoid the "Heavy Articles" which, unfortunately, afflict many numismatic publications. Do what you can for us. We are actively striving and fully determined to make this journal worthy of its name and pretensions.

STRANGER.—The *Philatelist* was rec'd at this office direct from the publishers. We are none the less obliged to you, however. Your strictures are very correct. In the "first-class" notice we received at the hands of our English friends, they entirely overlooked the *three cent* stamp in their eagerness to criticise the *coin*, notwithstanding the assertion that *with coins they had nothing to do*. You must remember that our three cent postage stamp bears the honored image of Washington, and he has passed beyond *their* criticism.

Had our foreign relatives been made aware of the fact that the Goddess of Liberty is represented on our coin with hair loosened to the breeze, bearing the tidings of "victory," they might have withheld the ungenerous fling at one of our most revered national emblems.

C. P. N., WESTERN R. R., SPRINGFIELD.—Sale of Mickley's collection next fall. Will send you Catalogues.

A. W. F., DOVER.—\$1 received, magazines mailed.

SUBSCRIBERS.—We have answered all by mail, and sent U. S. Mint Medals to each.

F. H. A., ELMIRA.—Package sent C. O. D.. Answer if not received.

W. P. S., BALTIMORE.—You can say to Express Co. "1799 cent to be examined," or mark it on the C. O. D. package. If we find it good will pay the \$25.

S. SMITH & Co, ENGLAND.—Sent you 1000 stamps. Now have 5000 on hand awaiting your reply. Magazines mailed regularly.

A. V., TROY.—Can fill your order at prices named in your letter of 3d June.

C. CLAY, PRES'L. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, MANCHESTER ENGLAND.—Have written you and sent the back numbers of the Magazine. Thank you for the complimentary allusions to C. and S. C. M., in your letter.

P. P.—Look out for Moore's nest?

CORRESPONDENCE.

Boston, Mass., May 29, 1867.

Mason & Co. Sirs:—Enclosed please find \$5, to pay the subscription, for one year, for the within-named persons, dating the time of commencing with the *first number*; and please send the two back numbers and "medals" along.

We wish you the highest success. The names I send are all members of the New England Numismatic and Archæological Society. At some future time will you have the kindness to publish a list of *regular* publications on Numismatics, issued in this country and Europe, giving the name of the publication, Editor, and how often, with price per annum, if possible? I think it would gratify many collectors.

T. B.

Manchester, England, May 22, '67.

Gentlemen:—I was very much grieved to hear, from your magazine, (just received) of the irreparable loss of the Mickley Collection. I know not how such a gap can be filled up again.

I like your Magazine very much, and I think you would like the proceedings of our Numismatic Society. I should like to see you first number, as also any other numbers as they are issued.

I send you my subscription, with catalogue of my private Cabinet of Coins, numbering nearly 2000 American coins, in the finest condition.

C. CLAY,

Pres't Manchester Numis. Soc.

Providence, R. I.

Gents:—I shall try to secure as many subscribers as possible for your Magazine, when my copies arrive, and have no doubt but that the growing interest in Numismatics will prompt many who hesitate about taking a more expensive journal to subscribe to your cheaper, but none the less interesting and popular paper.

Please commence my subscription with the April number,—No. 1, Vol. 1.

Very respectfully yours,

G. D. H

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine. April, 1867 Philadelphia, United States: Mason & Co.

This, the first number of a new trans-Atlantic candidate for Philatelic favor,

contains eight pages octavo, print and paper equally good. The lion's share is taken up by the coin department, with which we have nothing to do; the postage-stamp portion, barely filling a page and a half altogether. The publisher states his wish to make exchanges with his "cousins across the big pond." The cover is adorned with a profile of Liberty that looks as if she had just had her hair well combed, and scarcely recovered from the operation.—*From the Philatelist*, for June, London, England.

[It is rather refreshing to read a cool bit of trans-Atlantic humor in these sweltering hot summer days, and we, therefore, take special pains to reprint and ventilate the above "left handed" compliment from [our facetious Philatelic cousin from "over the water." You must remember, gentlemen, that our "Goddess" has had something else to do besides making up her toilet in these latter years, and, having recently untangled her jetty locks, we supposed she was in a *presentable condition to see company*, and we sent her with our best wishes over the big pond. It is our wish and hope that our good natured relatives abroad will keep the Lion's toilet in good trim, so that there will be no necessity for "combing;" and we can then claim no superiority in national emblems. The *Philatelist*, notwithstanding its occasional indulgence in a good bit of quiet humor, makes a healthy, handsome appearance, and faithfully represents the stamp interest of the world. ED.]

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine. Philadelphia: Mason & Co.

We have received two numbers of this magazine, which is well printed and interesting. The precedence given to coins in the title is carried out in the contents, which consist, principally, of paragraphs treating of "numismatology." It would seem that, hitherto, coin collecting has been a rather neglected pursuit in the United States, and the magazine before us is an attempt to awaken a more general interest in it. The philatelic portion of the paper consists simply of a list of stamps (to be continued monthly), the information contained in which is not remarkably novel. We wish our contemporary every success, and owe him no grudge for appropriating our title as a portion of his own.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

AUGUST, 1867.

No. 5.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF
AMERICA.

(Continued from page 35.)

Vermont issued a variety of copper coins, commencing with the type known as the Vermont cents, and concluding with the *Vermontensium*. The former have on the *obverse* a laureated head surrounded with the legend VERMON AUCTORI; reverse presents a female figure seated with the legend INDE. ET LIB. Date 1786: the latter have on the *obverse* a representation of the sun just rising from behind a range of mountains, with a row of trees dotting the mountain tops to the right and left; a plough at the lower part of coin, under which the prominent numerals 1786. Legend, VERMONTENSIVM RES PUBLICA. *Reverse*, in the centre, an eye, with diverging rays, surrounded with 13 stars; around the whole the legend STELLA. QUARTA. DECIMA.

This latter variety is the most valuable of all the Vermont coins. We omit the "Mule Vermonts" and other peculiar types known to Numismatists as *unique* coins.

New York claims but few Colonials—the Government having never consented to the issue of coins of any kind; and nearly, if not quite all, of the so called "New York Cents" were struck and circulated in England.

The most common of the New York Cents have on *obverse*, a laureated head with the legend NOVA EBORAC; *reverse*, female figure seated, legend -:- VIRT. ET. LIB. Date, beneath the figure, 1787.

Another variety, and by far the rarest

and most valuable, has, on the *obverse*, a head of Gov. Clinton, surrounded by the legend, NON VI VIRTUTE VICI; *reverse*, female figure seated, holding a pair of scales in left hand, and liberty pole, capped, in the right. Legend, NEO EBORACENSIS; date 1786.

There was a Card Token issued in New York, 1794, by the firm of Talbot, Allum & Lee, by many persons admitted into an American series, and termed a New York Cent.

No doubt this piece passed current as a coin at the time issued, and may, very properly, be associated with American coins.

(To be Continued.)

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 2.

BY E. M., JR.

While engaged in Coin collecting in Philadelphia, during the year 1858, we remember purchasing coins of a very intelligent lad, who kept a small stand on the Custom House steps in Philadelphia. There was something peculiarly interesting in the history of this boy, which we discovered one day, while conversing with him and conning over his odd collection of coins.

"Little Jimmy" was born in New York city, of Irish parents, whose pecuniary circumstances forced their only child early into the streets of the big city to pick up a scanty subsistence by selling newspapers and blacking boots. "Jimmy" informed us that his father was

given to habitual drunkenness, and the combined earnings of his mother and himself were squandered at the low grogeries in the vile haunts of the "Five Points."

"A few years ago," said the lad, "my father died, and the only things he left, in the way of property, were a few old coppers. These I took out on the street to exchange for something to eat, but was informed that they were 'brummagens' and 'farthings,' and worth nothing. In vain I offered to give two for one cent's worth of small cakes. All refused. After wandering about the streets for a long time, I met a newsboy who said I could sell them to a man corner of Broadway and Chambers Sts., keeper of a Coin stand.

"Upon visiting the coin man, and showing the coppers, I requested him to give me as much as possible for them. To my great surprise he gave me twenty five cts. each for ten of the coins, and two cents for the balance, making me the possessor of the extraordinary sum of two dollars and fifty-two cts.

"I thought there was an error, but I needed the money, and hastened away without asking explanations, although I felt like a thief sneaking off with stolen property. I had gone but a few rods when a hand was suddenly laid upon my shoulder, and I came to a dead halt, trembling from head to foot, and ready to fall to the ground from fright, feeling assured that the mistake in buying my coins had been discovered, and I was about to be arrested; but, judge of my surprise to hear the well-known voice of a newsboy companion, who informed me that *I was cheated*; for he heard the coin man say there was a Washington piece and a New York cent, worth \$10, among the old coppers I had sold him.

"This awakened my interest in coins. I remembered well the coppers I had possessed, and their value. I visited the small groceries, market stands, and exchanged my money all for copper cents,

half cents and foreign coins, made this little stand, and opened out on the Park, in New York, as a dealer in coins. I succeeded in making money, attended school at nights, and supported myself and mother. I have now \$100 in the Dime Savings Bank."

This was "Little Jimmy's" story, and we did not doubt it: for his bright, intelligent countenance corroborated its truth. Poor Jimmy, after following the coin trade in New York and Philadelphia for a couple of years, and becoming an expert in the business, fell a victim to consumption in 1861.

The residents of the lower district of Philadelphia, in 1860, will readily remember F., the news dealer, whose store was in Second St. F. had a great predilection for old coins, though not a Numismatist, *technically* speaking. He was an amateur in every sense of the word.

Mr. F.'s wife was a lady of fine business qualifications, but, unlike her husband, had a holy horror of old coppers. She was so annoyed at seeing her husband continually fingering, eyeing, cleaning and hoarding the old and curious coins, that she could bear it no longer, and one day surprising him at his favorite pursuit, curtain-lectured him severely in regard to his dirty coppers, and neglecting his business for such an undignified and contemptible pursuit.

It happened at the moment that the celebrated Numismatist, Dr. D—, entered the store to purchase his favorite papers, when he overheard the vituperation expended on the old coppers. Advancing towards F., who was in the midst of his "hobby," the Dr. laughingly asked if he would sell the "dirty old coppers." Mrs. F., anxious to dispose of the "trash," begged the Dr. to buy them and take the dirty things away.

The Dr. seeing some fine specimens and rare colonials in the collection, offered \$150 for the lot. Mr. F. accepted. Mrs. F. was astonished; while the Dr. gathered his treasures and departed. Mrs

F. ever after treasured each copper or curious coin that came into her possession, and now boasts a fine collection, and bears the "dirty coppers" as much love as the most enthusiastic Numismatist.

(To be Continued.)

ORIGIN OF NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspapers were called Gazettes, from *gazeta*, an Italian coin, which was the price of each sheet. These gazettes were written. The date of the issue of the first printed newspaper is not known. The first English newspaper was *The Weekly News* from Italie, Germanie, etc., 1622.

THE LIBERTY CAP.

The head of Liberty which adorns the early coinage of the U. S. is supposed to be of French origin and its appearance dates with the commencement of the French Revolution; but the cap of Liberty is without doubt an American institution. By referring to the proceedings of the "Committee of Safety" of Phila., in 1775, we find the following paragraph:

"Philadelphia, Aug. 31st. 1775. At a meeting of the 'Committee of Safety,' held this day. Resolved That Owen Bidle provide a seal for the use of the Board, about the size of a dollar, with a CAP OF LIBERTY with this motto. 'This is my right and I will defend it.'"

COMPLAINTS.

We occasionally receive letters concerning our "History of American Coins." One correspondent complains that we do not insert every variety and type of coins. As there are some hundreds of varieties of Colonial coins bearing nearly the same resemblance, it would be folly in attempting to give each different "star," "punctuation" and "dotted line" in our limited space.

Another complains at the omission of the Irish "Voce Populi," "London Elephant," "Wood Tokens," &c. As these pieces are not considered strictly 'American,' we have omitted them.

It may be well to state now, that our purpose in writing the History of our Coins, is to give the principal pieces; a brief description of each; avoid elaboration, which serves only to perplex the novice. We wish to present a succinct account of each coin, and finish the history in 12 numbers, to make room for another work now in preparation.

At the conclusion of the "History of American Coins" we shall issue a neatly bound pocket edition, price \$1.00, revised and corrected.

UNIFORM CURRENCY.

The monetary conference in session in Paris, with the object of bringing about a unificative currency among the nations of the world, has adopted the five-franc piece as the unit of gold coins.

It is understood that the United States Government, under this arrangement, will reduce the value of the gold dollar to that of the five franc piece, and that the French Government will coin pieces of twenty-five francs, which will then be of the same value as the United States five-dollar gold piece, while England, by a slight reduction in the value of the sovereign, will bring it down to the same standard.

Every American will be proud to learn that the American dollar is to be the unit for gold in England and France. Numismatists will rejoice to know that the alteration in U. S. coin, however slight, produces a new series of U. S. coins, and adds greatly to the fictitious value of those already coined.

U. S. P. O. STAMPS.

There are now in preparation and will shortly be issued by the U. S., P. O. Dept., new 20c. and 28c. stamps, designed for registered letter and package postage.

NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

We are indebted to the July No. of the *Philatelist* (Brighton, Eng.), for the following newly issued stamps.

TURKS ISLAND—Profile of Queen Victoria to the left in oval on elegantly designed engine-turned background, on rough paper, watermarked with crown and C C., angles slightly truncated. The values and colors are :

One Penny,	- - -	Pink.
Sixpence,	- - -	Rusty black.
One Shilling	- - -	Slate.

NATAL.—Profile of Queen to the left in oval inscribed frame, NATAL above and ONE SHILLING below, separated by florets. The spandrils are filled in with white floral ornamentation on green ground, and is printed in green on white glazed paper and watermarked with crown and C C.

FINLAND.—This Russian province has emitted another, value equivalent to about the third of a rouble. We understand it figures under a glass case at the Paris Exposition, professing to emanate from a gentleman almost unpronounceably yclept Tryckeri Bolags.

MORENET.—The stamps of this hitherto unknown Republic, on which we bestowed a copious notice last month, turn out to be a hoax, gotten up by M. Morns of Brussels.

HELIGOLAND.—This "sandbank" has issued 4 rectangular stamps, having the Queen's head in the centre, in an oval; name of country at sides, and value at top and bottom. They are all printed in rose and green. The values are $\frac{1}{2}$ sch., 1 sch., 2 sch. and 6 sch.

HUNGARY is about to issue stamps.

SWITZERLAND has issued an envelope stamp—cross in centre of a shield edged with leaves, flying dove at top, value "10" at bottom; the whole in an oval edged by 22 stars; color carmine. The Geneva Council have also a black frank envelope,—past description,—about the size of a small saucer.

VENEZUELA. There is a new $\frac{1}{2}$ c. yellow green, and 1c., blue green, similar to the current type.

SPAIN.—Another Congressional frank stamp, issued in 1857, has been exhumed.

SCINDE.—The S. C. Magazine has a "cock and bull story" about Sir Bartle Frere issuing stamps in this Indian Province in 1853. We don't believe a word of it.

GERMANY.—All North Germany and Prussia are to have a uniform type.

CHILI is about to issue a new series.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—The local posts of this city have suspended operations.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—4d. and 1s. stamps for these Islands, are in active preparation.

MONTEVIDEO.—The four (current) high price of Uruguay have the value printed "centicemos." The second "c" should be an "s." It is a blunder of the printers, and is about to be rectified.

BRAZIL.—The stamp printers are affording amusement for the shade maniacs, by allowing some slight differences in hue to creep into the working-off of the 80 reis.

VICTORIA.—The above remarks also apply to the new 3d. of this Australian colony.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Profile of Queen to the left, in circle on background of close horizontal lines; the corners filled with large letters, figure 1 in small circles above lower corners. POSTAGE in curved band above, and value, TEN PENCE, in a straight band below. The color is rich brown.

Also, profile of Queen to the left, in pointed oval band inscribed; TWO SHILLINGS above, and POSTAGE below. Corner letters and figures as in the preceding; spandrils filled in with ornamentation. It is printed in a narrower rectangle than the tenpenny, the latter being

nearly square. The color of this stamp is a bright blue.

Also, Profile of Queen to the left, encircled by Græco-Egyptian frame; square completed by triangular ornamentation, very like that of the 10 c. Italian. Above is POSTAGE, in colored capitals, on a white ground, flanked by the usual signal letters, which are repeated below, right and left of 5 SHILLINGS, the figure 1 in circle below in central frame. A Maltese cross watermark this stamp and is a pink impression on white paper. All 3 are on glazed paper.

VALUABLE STAMPS.

The 2 Reals Stamps of Spain 1852 is worth \$20—color, pale rose. The $\frac{1}{2}$ Tornese stamp of Naples (arms) blue in color, is worth \$20, cancelled. The 3 Lire stamp of Tuscany (cross and shield) yellow, worth \$16 used.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Princeton N. J., June 14 1867.

Gents:—I have paid some attention to collecting Coins, Minerals, &c., and am in want of something similar to your Magazine, to aid me in my endeavors in collecting Coins. It strikes my mind that if you would add cuts of some of the more valuable coins and medals, in your Magazine, it would tend to increase the value of it.

Yours Respectfully, C. S. S.

Meriden, Conn., June 3rd. 1867.

Editor of the *Collector's Magazine*.

DEAR SIR:

I have received the June No. of the *Magazine*, and I have no hesitancy in pronouncing it in all the "handsomest," most "interesting," and in fact the best *Magazine or paper of the kind published*. It is a new thing and I wish its Editor every success. I take pleasure in sending you the subscription price for the *Magazine* for one year.

Yours Truly,
W. A. KELSEY.

Boonton, N. J.

Dear Sirs:—Some one has sent me your *Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for June. 'Tis just such a paper as I have been looking for for some time. I have taken the "American Journal of Numismatology" for a year past, but do not find the information I am in want of. Wishing you success, let me thank you, and remain,

Most truly, Yours,
G. D. C.

New York, June 7th, 1867.

Mason & Co.:—I received, to-day, a No for June, 1867, of your *Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*, by whom sent I do not know. I am, strictly speaking, a private collector of coins, from a boy 12 years old to the present day. Have never sold a piece or pieces but once in my life, and they were Washington Funeral Medal, (Silver,) and '93, '94, '95 and '96 American cents.

In looking over your number for June on page 21, headed "Ancient Coins—a Curiosity," copied from a Baltimore paper I think I can beat you both. I have, in my collection, 25 or 30 pieces, all Roman, the color of silver very distinct, and, of course, no date, about the size of a nickel cent, and the impressions very deep and distinct. They belong to a lot of about 100 pieces nearly all the same size; the balance being copper, but all Roman.

I have also the Carolina pieces of 1794, and New England piece, but they are both copper. As for the Sommer Island piece, I never saw but two, and they are both copper.

Enclosed with this please find \$1, with enclosed stamp, for your *Magazine* for 1 year. Please send from commencement of the volume for the year and direct to

WM. L. C.

Bucyrus, Ohio.

Am glad to hear that the *Magazine* is a success. Hope your numbers may increase, as it is a thing much needed.

W. M. BOWMAN.

Baltimore, June 15th, 1867.

Gentlemen:—"I now enclose one dollar, for one year's subscription to "Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine," to commence with the July number. In the notice of my Ancient Coin, as it originally appeared in *The Sun* of this city, two years ago, the Coin was mentioned as being a Silver coin. In the notice I sent you, which I had cut from one of our weekly papers, the word "silver" was inadvertently omitted. I am pleased to learn that you have an *older* Roman coin than mine, but still am under the impression that mine is probably the oldest Roman coin, of Silver, in the United States. I wish you great success in your laudable undertaking.

Respectfully yours,

ISRAEL SILVER ATKINSON.

—
Philadelphia, July 1st, 1867.

Gentlemen:

Your query in regard to the *original* Emancipation Proclamation is answered by the following extract from the "History of the Great Western Sanitary Fair":—

"No. 315. Lincoln, Abraham, Pres. U. S., A. D. S.—*Original* Amnesty Proclamation, Dec'r 8th, 1863, with interlineations, corrections and erasures, 5pp. folio, obtained through Hon. John Sherman, in conjunction with Hon. B. F. Wade, sold with a handsome black walnut frame, 30x30, to the "National Union of Cincinnati," for \$150.

Very respectfully,

COULTON.

—
San Francisco, Cal., June 8, '67.

Gentlemen:—I have just received a specimen copy of your Magazine, and must confess it promises well. Enclosed please find subscription for one year. Hoping it will be a continued success, I am

Yours, respectfully,

J. H. A., JR.

Cor. Member A. N. and A. Society,

San Francisco.

Glen Cove, L. I., June 27, 1867.

Editors Coin and Stamp Col. Mag.

Dear Sirs:

In your July Number, under the head of the article "To Coin Collectors," you speak of "electrotypes" as "the *trashy* electrotypes." Now, dear Sirs, if you will tell me why you condemn "electrotypes" in this manner, I would like very much to know. Does the making of electrotypes, or copies of any rare coin or medal, deteriorate or lessen the value of the genuine coin in any way? In Prime's "Coins, Medals and Seals," he says in his "Hints to young Collectors," "Always take the first specimen you can find of any cent, good or poor, but exchange it for a better specimen when you can find one."

Why, in accordance with your article does not Mr. Prime say, "Never lay aside a specimen of any coin unless it be in a fine state of preservation." True, electrotypes are copies of,—not the real coin. But, supposing that you had a fine collection of U. S. Dollars, excepting the rare date of 1804, and this you could not get, and *could* get a fine electrototype copy of it, would you reject the copy, or keep it until you might, perhaps, be fortunate enough to get the original? Why not speak the same of the rare old books that Mr. Woodward, of Roxbury, Mass., has been reprinting, as you do of the "electrotypes?" *They* are not the original works, nor are they as valuable, yet, if the demand for the originals is greater than the supply, are the reprints to be rejected, and called "Trashy Copies?"

I have myself the past winter taken a number of "castings" of rare German medals of early date, many of which, perhaps, are unique. Should I have let the chance pass of getting those copies, and rejected them because they *were only copies* and not the real medals?

Why are not electrototype copies of coins the same as engravings of rare paintings? and why not let them fill up

the blank space in the ranks as "substitutes," if we cannot get the real "volunteers."

Hoping that you will not deal quite as harshly with electrotypes hereafter, I remain

Yours, respectfully,

J. T. B.

[J. T. B. is politely requested to consider that the remarks made in the July number, in reference to electrotypes, had special reference to novices or beginners, although they would apply equally well to experts. However, as the subject is open now, and there is an opportunity to express our opinion *decidedly*, we would say to all classes of collectors, avoid counterfeit coins; touch not the unclean things! If there are pieces you cannot obtain for love, labor or money, better, by far, have the blank space in your cabinet staring you in the face, than to depreciate your whole collection by placing altered or counterfeit coins there. When a person visits you and your coins are arrayed in all their shining splendor for examination, have it to say, like Cornelia, "these are my jewels," and all of them genuine.]

Avoid the sophistry of manufacturers of spurious coin; and don't believe them when they say "1804 dollars," and "unique" pieces. They mean to force their trashy pieces,—copies of all rare coins—into every collection, and deteriorate the genuine coin. Avaunt, 'electro'! we'll have none of thee.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BROKER, PHILA.—You will find the commencement of a very valuable table of foreign coins, which will serve your purpose, in this number. It is not a difficult task to figure the intrinsic value of any coin in the list to dollars, cents and mills.

E. W., CINCINNATI.—Sent medal by mail.

P. G. JR., PITTSBURG.—Order received
E. W. D., GEORGETOWN.—P. O. order sent on 13th.

S. A. T., BOSTON.—Stamps at hand
O. K.

UTILE DULCI.—"Please explain the legend on the Rosa Americana coins with which I sign this brief communication—U. D. It signifies "The useful with the agreeable."

COIN WORM.—The 1804 U. S. Dollar, recently discovered, is in the possession of Mr. Brechemin, of this city.

E. C., NEW YORK.—Your proposal would answer for September, but not earlier.

BOGUS.—1791, 1792, 1799, 1804 and other rare coins are electrotyped; but where originals exist, "go for them."

STAFFORD SMITH & Co.—We have a large quantity of U. S. old issue stamps, cancelled, awaiting your answer. Please send the catalogue price list monthly.

A. SMITH & Co.—Have written you and waiting a reply. Send along your publications. We have stamps for your house.

C. & H. GLOYN, MANCHESTER, ENG.—Yours at hand. Can you use the old issue U. S. cancelled 1 c. and 3. stamps? Delivered the note to A. C. K. Stamps received and satisfactory. Please send your monthly list regularly. The 15 c., and 90 c. are saleable here.

C. C., M. D., MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.—Send on the price for the collection. The errors you allude to are unimportant, as the work is not intended to be more than a brief epitome of the principle pieces. Will write about coins.

SUBSCRIBERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.—The 1798 and '99 U. S. silver dollars are not in demand unless *perfectly untruncated*, and are then worth about \$2 each. There were more of these dollars coined than of any other two dates in the series.

J. FAÆT, PHILA.—Please let us have a private peep at your collection of uncanceled stamps. It is whispered that your collection rivals Wyman's. How is it?

P. S. T., ELIZABETH, N. J.—The Guatemala stamp is the production of the American Bank Note Co., N. Y.

INQUIRER.—We have 25c., 50c., 75c., and \$1 00 packages of stamps, all different and guaranteed genuine. Also all obsolete U. S. Stamps, Essays and Envelopes.

F. P. R., FORT WAYNE.—We can obtain priced catalogues of Brechemin's 3 Day Sale of coins for \$1 00.

J. LEVICK, N. Y.—List at hand. Hope to see you in this city soon. Favors will be reciprocated.

S. W. P., POST OFFICE, ELMIRA.—You have acted very kindly in obtaining subscriptions. Magazine will soon be greatly improved.

G. M. P., TROY.—Sent you coins on approval. When we get good pieces will let you know. "All's well that end's well."

STAMPO CURIOSO.—Take the advice of a friend and don't investigate the newly-discovered land with a newly issued stamp. You may find yourself in 'More's Net.' Remember it was an American that sold the *English Stamp Collector's Magazine* with the "Essays for British North America, to be issued under the direction of the new champion of Confederation, J. A. Cass." Turn about is fair play.

Y. D. C., BOONTON, N. J.—Your remarks concerning Numismatic journals considered.

"SOMMER ISLANDS."—Undoubtedly copper, although Dr. Dickeson expresses his belief that the "Sommer Islands" coins were made of a mixed or amalgamated metal resembling the "Dutch Metal."

FOUR PRIZES!!

NO. 1.—A Silver medal will be awarded to the person sending us the best Epigram on 'Autographs.'

NO. 2.—A 1799 U. S. cent, for the best written letter on "Coins," omitting the vowels *o* and *i*.

NO. 3.—A complete set of U. S. cents 1793 to 1857, for the best design for a U. S. coin of the value of 10c.

NO. 4.—A beautiful bronze Presidential Mint medal, for the best method of 'cleaning coins,' without injury to the metal.

Awards to be announced in the September number, and the successful articles published.

NEW MEDALS.

We are indebted to Maj. Nichols, of Springfield, Mass., for a copy of the medal recently struck in Boston, to commemorate the erection and completion of the new Masonic Temple in that city.

A beautiful bronze medal is out, struck by Chas. K. Warner of this city, in honor of J. J. Mickley, Esq., the veteran Numismatist, who, by the way, has returned to his "first love," *coins*.

We welcome our beloved brother back to the numismatic field, with open hands, warm hearts, and a good stock of rare coins for him to select from!

MASON'S COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE, Philadelphia, U. S.—"We have received Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of this new publication. Although in its title it unites stamps with coins, still in contents great preponderance is given to the latter topic. However, the proprietors promise that they will, in future, devote more space to our 'colored' favorites. The articles it contains are exceedingly well written, and no one can find fault with the excellent manner in which the printer has performed his part. The subscription price, \$1 per annum; being so low in proportion to the size of the Magazine, (ten pages and cover,) we feel assured that many of our readers will at once have themselves enrolled as readers of our new contemporary.—*Postman's Knock*, St. John's, N. B.

UNDESCRIBED STAMP.

Mr. Faaet, the indefatigable young Philatelist, of this city, has a stamp of the Canton Berne, Switzerland, which is not to be found in any of the published catalogues. The stamp is pale green, on white paper; in the centre a shield upon which a bear is represented, the shield surmounted by a crown; around the shield an oval belt, letters in the belt, "KANTON BERNE." In a waved label, across the lower part of stamp, "RAPPEN, 2." (Oblong, erect frame) Field horizontal wave lines; scroll on upper and lower portion of oval.

7	"	yellow..	18	8
10	"	black.....	25	6
ENVELOPE STAMPS.				
1	grotten, oval, on white paper.		5	3
1	" on blue		5	3

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTOGRAPHS.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed; A L S, Autograph Letter Signed; D S, Document Signed; S, Autograph Signature; A N S, Autograph Note Signed; A F, Autograph Frank; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter; Env. F, Envelope Franked

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT, June, 1867.

Priced Catalogue.

BELGIUM.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1849.—Bust.

		Unused. \$ cts.	Used. \$ cts.
10	centime, rect, brown.. ..	1 00	12
20	" blue.....	1 00	10

1850.—Bust in oval.

1	centime, rect, green	3	1
10	" brown	10	4
20	" blue	10	2
40	" red	18	2

1865.—Arms.

1	centime, gray.....	5	3
2	" blue.....	5	6
5	" brown.....	8	5

1865.—Bust in circle.

10	centimes, gray.....	15	5
20	" blue.....	15	4
30	" brown.....	20	5
40	" red.....	25	4
1 franc,	lilac.....	25	4

BERGEDORF.

"Adhesive Stamps."

½	schilling, square, indigo... ..	5	3
½	" violet.....	\$10	5 00
1	" white.....	8	5
1½	" yellow... ..	12	6
3	" rose ink on purple paper, rose.	15	6
3	" black ink on rose paper, rose...	\$10	5 00
4	" brown ...	20	6

BREMEN.

"Adhesive Stamps."

2	grote, rect, orange.....	8	4
3	" blue.....	12	5
5	" rose.....	15	5
5 s. gr.	" green.....	15	6

Ashfield, Arthur, Artist, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., 1849. 50 cents.

Andrew, John, Gov. of Mass., L S, 2 pages, 4to., February, 1863. \$1.

Arboleda, J., South American Poet, ALS, 1 page, 8vo. \$1.

Audubon, John J., A L S, 3 pages, 4 to. \$3 50.

do do do \$3 50

do do do 3 50

do do do 3 50

do do do 3 50

do do do 3 50

do do do 3 50

do do do 3 50

Audubon, John J., A L S, description of a new species of Bird. \$3 50

Adams, John, A L S, 1 page, 4to., Aug. 1810. \$8.

Adams, John, D S.

Adams, John Quincy, ALS, 1 page, 4to. March, 1833. \$5.

Alexander, Rev. J. A., ALS, 1 page, 4to. Dec. 20, 1848. \$1.

Arthur, T. S., A L S, 1 page, 8vo. Nov. 28th, 1854. 75 cts.

Averill, General, autograph and photograph.

Andrew, Gov., L S, 2 pages, 4to., Feb. 19, 1863. \$1.

Arnold, Benedict, A L S, 1 page, 4to., Jan. 27, 1776. \$10.

Arnold, Benedict, A L S, 1 page, 4to., July 7, 1778. \$10.

TABLES OF THE CURRENT COINS
Of Twenty-eight Countries, with their
relative value in British Money,

Prepared expressly for Mason's "Coin and Stamp
Collectors' Magazine,

BY M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.		£	s.	d.
1 Farthing,		0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
2 Farthings,	a half-penny,	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
2 Halfpence,	a penny,	0	0	1
12 Pence,	a shilling,	0	1	0
2 Shil. 6 pence,	half a crown,	0	2	6
5 Shillings,	a crown,	0	5	0
20 Shillings,	a £ sterling,	1	0	0
21 Shillings,	a guinea,	1	1	0
IRELAND.				
1 Farthing,		0	0	3-13
2 Farthings,	a half-penny,	0	0	6-13
2 Halfpence,	a penny,	0	0	12-13
$0\frac{1}{2}$ Pence,	sixpence,	0	0	6
12 Pence,	Shilling Irish,	0	0	11 3-40
13 Pence,	Shilling English,	0	1	0
65 Pence,	Crown,	0	5	0
20 Shillings,	£ Irish,	0	18	$5\frac{1}{2}$
$22\frac{3}{4}$ Shillings,	Guinea,	1	1	0
AUSTRIA.				
1 Pfennig,		0	0	7-60
2 Pfennings,	a Preyer,	0	0	7-30
4 Pfennings,	a Kreuzer,	0	0	7-15
14 Pfennings,	a Grosh,	0	0	1 10-30
4 Kreuzers,	a Batzen,	0	0	1 13-15
15 Batzens,	a Gold,	0	2	4
90 Kreuzers,	Rix dollar,	0	3	6
30 Batzens,	a specie dollar,	0	4	8
60 Batzens,	a Ducat,	0	9	4
BENGAL.				
1 Pice,		0	0	6-32
4 Pices,	a Fanam,	0	0	$0\frac{3}{8}$
6 Pices,	a Viz,	0	0	15-16
$\frac{1}{2}$ Pices,	a Ana,	0	0	$1\frac{1}{2}$
10 Anas,	a Siano,	0	1	$6\frac{3}{4}$
16 Anas,	a Rupee,	0	2	6
2 Rupees,	French ecu,	0	5	0
2 Rupees,	English crown,	0	5	0
56 Anas,	Pagoda,	0	9	8
BOMBAY.				
1 Budbrook,		0	0	27-800
2 Budbrooks,	a Rex,	0	0	27-400
5 Rex,	Pice,	0	0	27-80
16 Pices,	Larce,	0	0	5 2-5
20 Pices,	Quarter,	0	0	6 3-5

240 Rex,	Teraplum,	0	1	4 1-5
4 Quarters,	Rupee,	0	2	3
14 Quarters,	Pagoda,	0	8	9
60 Quarters,	Gold Rupee,	1	15	0

CHINA.

1 Caxa,		0	0	7-25
10 Caxa,	a Candareen,	0	0	0 4-5
10 Candareens,	a Mace,	0	0	8
35 Candareens,	Rupee,	0	2	6
2 Rupees,	Dollar,	0	4	6
70 Candareens,	Rix dollar,	0	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$
7 Maces,	Ecu,	0	5	0
2 Rupees,	Crown	0	5	0
10 Maces,	Tale,	0	6	8

DENMARK AND NORWAY.

1 Skilling,		0	0	9-16
6 Skillings,	a Duegen,	0	0	$3\frac{3}{8}$
16 Skillings,	Marc,	0	0	9
20 Skillings,	Rix Marc,	0	0	$11\frac{1}{4}$
24 Skillings,	Rix Art,	0	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$
4 Marcs,	Crown,	0	3	0
6 Marcs,	Rix Dollar,	0	4	6
11 Marcs,	Ducat,	0	8	3
14 Marcs,	Half Ducat,	0	10	6

FLANDERS.

1 Penning,		0	0	9-160
4 Pennings,	an Urche,	0	0	9-40
8 Pennings,	a Grote,	0	0	9-20
2 Grotes,	a Petard,	0	0	9-10
6 Petards,	a Scalin,	0	0	5 2-5
40 Grotes,	a Horin,	0	1	6
$17\frac{1}{2}$ Scalins,	a Ducat,	0	9	3
240 Grotes,	a £ Flemish,	0	9	0

(To be continued.)

FIFTEEN CENT FRACTIONAL
CURRENCY.

The principal embellishments on the face of this note are an engraved likeness of General Grant on the right hand, and opposite, on the left, a likeness of Lieutenant-General Sherman. The back of the note, like all other late issues of Government money, will be green, with the number "15" on each side of the note. The bronze figures which have, thus far, been placed upon the various denominations of the United States currency will be omitted on this new issue, and, for safety, a peculiar kind of paper will be substituted.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

SEPTEMBER, 1867.

No. 6.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

The first *United States cent* coined was struck in 1787. Congress passed an act, October 16, 1786, for the establishment of a Mint, and a contract having been made for coining coppers, the so-called "Franklin Cent" made its appearance. On the obverse is a sun-dial, above which the sun appears; under the dial the legend "MIND YOUR BUSINESS." Upon the left side the word *Fugio*; on the right the date, 1787. The reverse presents, in the centre of a small circle, the words, "WE ARE ONE," surrounded by the legend UNITED STATES. Around the whole are thirteen connected rings or links, representing the thirteen States. The design of this coin is said to have been the work of Franklin; but this assertion has never yet been substantiated.

There was a larger piece struck at a later period, bearing the same description as the 1787 cent, with the date (1776) composed of white metal. This piece, by many called the "Continental Currency," is, doubtless, the work of private parties, who wished to speculate on the popularity of the United States cent, and issued the large white piece as a medalet.

Massachusetts commenced coining copper cents and half-cents, by authority of Congress, in 1787. The cent bears upon the obverse the figure of an Indian standing erect, with bow in one hand and arrow in the other; upon the outer surface of the coin the legend, COMMON * WEALTH. The reverse, a large Eagle, with wings widely spread; a shield upon the breast of the bird, at top of

which is the word CENT; around the eagle the legend MASSACHUSETTS; beneath the eagle the date 1787. The half-cent bears the same description, with one exception, viz: upon the shield of the One Cent piece the word CENT appears, while the other and smaller coin has the addition of HALF over the word CENT. There were a larger quantity of the Massachusetts Cents coined than half-cents, and this fact adds to the fictitious value of the small coin, making it worth more than treble the value of the cent. These coins do not date later than 1788, and there are several distinct varieties.

In 1791, the "Kentucky Cent" appeared. This, like many other colonial coins, was originated in England and circulated generally in the United States. Obverse: a hand, holding a scroll, upon which is inscribed the motto, "OUR CAUSE IS JUST;" around the outer surface the legend, "UNANIMITY IS THE STRENGTH OF SOCIETY." * Reverse: a pyramid of fifteen stars in the form of a triangle, each star bearing the name of one of the fifteen States. Around the border the words E. PLURIBUS UNUM. No date. These Kentucky coppers were evidently a private enterprise, got up for speculative purposes by some enterprising Englishman, and have become so identified with colonial coins, that, in the absence of an original Kentucky piece, it has been adopted by collectors to represent Kentucky. Other pieces of this State, dating 1796, are known, but very rare.

One variety of the Kentucky piece has

a lettered edge, marked, "PAYABLE IN LANCASTER, LONDON, OR BRISTOL." Another has a plain edges. There are also slight differences in the arrangement of the devices.

[In the next number of this Magazine we shall commence with the Washington Cents (1791 and '92) and other Washington pieces; following which we will give the regular series of United States Cents and Half cents, with their rarity, numbers and value.—Ed.]

CURIOUS MEDELET.

Major Nichols, of Springfield, Mass, has kindly sent us a very peculiar copper medalet, dated 1578; on obverse, an open cloud, with inscription in Hebrew characters; from the sky or cloud descend snakes, fire, &c., upon two prostrate and nude male figures; Reverse: Three nude male figures, with clubs, striking upward, in a threatening attitude, towards the sun, which is within a small cloud; legends, COELVM, STOLIDVS, QVI-TERRITAT, ARMIS. ARMISRUAT, COELVM, COELESTIBVS. Translation: "He, who, foolhardy, seeks often to terrify Heaven with arms, may be overthrown by the arms of Heaven."

COINS AND MEDALS.

These are admitted species of historic evidences, and as lasting ones, perhaps, beyond all others. A series of them is the most certain method of arranging a chronological tablet, and thereby preserving the data of *history, mythology, portraits, customs and art.*

For instance, there is a small Roman coin, familiar to all collectors; the obverse contains a profile head, and around it the letters AVGVS TVS: on the reverse, a Temple, with the doors closed, surrounded by the word PROVIDENTIA. The explanation is as follows, viz: A coin of Augustus Cæsar—the Temple was that of Janus, the doors of which had been opened for nearly two centuries, as em-

blematic of the continuance of Roman warfare with foreign countries; but on the coin the doors were closed, and with the word of thanksgiving, were symbolical of universal peace, thus proving that the coin was struck the very year in which the Saviour was born! Thus upon the one coin were illustrated the features of the second Roman Emperor,—Mythology, cessation of war,—the downfall of Brutus and Cassius,—the defeat of Anthony, and the birth of Christianity! The description of the above coin will illustrate the historical intelligence to be derived from the perusal of coins. A medal is an especial mode of recording tributary honor to individuals—literary, civil or military;—they become heirlooms in family possessions, and are transmitted from sire to son, as absolute records of their ancestors' fame. They are also struck in celebration of national events, and thence become records of people.

So assured was Napoleon of this, that a series of his medals is a complete history of his victories, from Consulate to his loss of the Empire; and that event at Waterloo was recorded by Great Britain upon her medals. Denon of France, and Wyon of England, are names as artists worthy to record the victories of Napoleon and Wellington. M. W. D.

THE LANGUAGE OF COINS.

Expert numismatists make many very fine points in the terms of distinction between the various conditions of coins. We have invariably adhered to three cardinal points or terms in describing coins, viz: "Proof," Uncirculated, and "Circulated." The "splitting of hairs," in the case of experts, creates great confusion with beginners; but as many of our readers would like to know the variety of terms known to the numismatic profession, we give them. We would remark, however, that each point to-

wards perfection adds considerable to the value of the coin, and therefore is correct in point of fictitious valuation. Here they are: SHARP. BRILLIANT PROOF; Brilliant Proof; Proof; Tarnished Proof; Uncirculated Sharp; Very Fine (or nearly uncirculated); Fine; Very Good; Good; Very Fair; Fair; Pierced; Poor; Very Poor; Very Poor Indeed; besides many other combinations and terms, such as Slightly Rubbed, Badly Worn, Corroded, Rusty, Eaten, etc. Some of our customers will be able, from this list, to know the divisions in the prices of coins.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 3.

BY E. M., JR.

We well remember Dr. W., now known as the Oriental traveler, whose love for coins and curiosities amounted almost to a mania. So constant had the numismatic terms been used by the Doctor, that they became a part of his speech, and the most trivial remark made by him had an amusing admixture of coin terms. If he was purchasing a hat, and was asked the size, he invariably answered so many sixteenths, using the numismatic scale. One day we remember seeing the Doctor purchasing some fine peaches of a huckster on Broadway, New York, and the following dialogue passed between them:

Huckster—"Fine peaches, sir."

Dr.—"Are they proof?"

Huckster—"D'ye mane are they fresh? Ah! indade, sir, they jist came from the traes."

Dr.—"Uncirculated, bright red, got the natural bronze on them. You're sure they're not re-strikes?"

Huckster (bewildered) — "No, sir. They're as fine a fraestone as ye iver ate."

Dr.—"Wrap up six without bruises, and be careful and not rub them."

Upon another occasion, a dog was ac-

cidental killed in the street, and a bystander remarked to the Doctor, sympathetically:

"Poor brute! What a shame! Splendid dog! Killed instantly!"

"Yes," replied the Doctor, "good dog, bad impression; but I must say a most *perfect die!*"

COIN TRADE.

The welcome news comes from every quarter of the Union that the coin business is flourishing beyond precedent, and gives hopeful signs of permanence. Now is the accepted time for beginners. It is said that two important sales are to take place this month in New York, two in Philadelphia, and one in Boston. Cogan, the A No. 1 dealer of New York, reports the coin business daily improving, and with us the business has trebled within a couple of weeks. Coins will bring a higher price the coming winter than ever before. This is our prediction.

NUMBER OF CENTS AND HALF CENTS STRUCK AT U. S. MINT FROM 1793 to 1857.

(Prepared expressly for Coin Dealers and Collectors.)—Conclusion.

Date.	Cents.	Half Cents.
1842.....	2,383,390.....	Patterns.
1843.....	2,428,320.....	"
1844.....	2,397,732.....	"
1845.....	3,894,804.....	"
1846.....	4,120,800.....	"
1847.....	6,183,669.....	"
1848.....	6,415,799.....	"
1849.....	4,178,500.....	39,864
1850.....	4,426,854.....	39,812
1851.....	9,889,707.....	147,672
1852.....	5,063,094.....	Patterns.
1853.....	9,641,131.....	129,674
1854.....	4,236,156.....	55,358
1855.....	1,574,829.....	56,500
1856.....	2,690,463.....	40,430
1857.....	333,456.....	35,180

[The Yearly Report of the Mint is made out from July to June, instead of

January to December, which accounts for errors in the number of cents and half-cents coined of the rare dates.]

THE "ONE CENT WAR."

Saint Louis has recently been overwhelmed with excitement about coins. It seems that the conductors of the street cars, instead of collecting tickets, have become coin collectors; or, in other words, collecting too many cents from the irate citizens who refuse to assist the said conductors in their efforts to complete their collection of cts. We have taken great interest in the subject of coins, and have, therefore, watched the progress of the "One Cent War" until it finally settled into a ONE CENT PEACE! Our readers will please understand that the "One Cent Piece" is not a *new issue*, but a *Peace*, simply, from the old issue! It should have been a FIVE CENT WAR, as the Directors of the railroad company have come to their "*five senses*."

TYRIAN COINS.

BY M. W. D., M. D.

The Serpent, with the Tyrians (who adopted it from their neighbors of Egypt) was their *Agathos* demon,—or good Spirit, of the country,—and was



used to illustrate any strong act of faith or friendship. It follows that two serpents were necessary to illustrate the compound act. We have seen an ancient Tyrian coin, on the reverse of which is a Serpent entwining an Egg. The representation may be translated

thus: An egg is the emblem of life, and its greater size upon the coin in proportion to the serpent represents the germ of the nation's life. The serpent coiling around it presents the Good Dæmon of the country protecting the egg or nation from external injury, by its numerous embraces, the warmth of which would, also, bring it into active life.

To the left is a spiral shell. This shell also illustrates the nation of Tyre, for the spiral shell is found upon nearly all the coins of that ancient country. It was placed on those coins in honor of the discovery of the secret of the celebrated color called by the ancients, the Tyrian Dye. That renowned color was not made from any earth or mineral, but from the purple *murex*, or dye shellfish. It was first discovered by



a Tyrian, on the shores of Tyre, who, wandering with his dog, suddenly observed the mouth of his faithful companion to be enpurpled, and, upon investigation, he found that it arose from the animal's crushing between his teeth a small shellfish just then thrown upon the Tyrian beach by the waters of the Mediterranean. Improving upon the discovery, the Tyrians became so renowned for their dye, used in regal and costly mantles, that, in commemoration of the event, they placed upon their coins the shell. Nor was the original discoverer forgotten, for upon a Tyrian coin the dog is seen approaching the shell.

A TRIFLING ERROR.

In the *N. Y. Tribune* of August 3d, there appears a lengthy article, from the pen of one of the editors, entitled :

"THE MONEY OF THE UNITED STATES.

"*Among the Greenbacks,*"

containing a small error, which should be corrected before it travels the routine of the press. After alluding to the ancient coins of Rome, &c., the article contains the following :

"American money-coins must have numbered nearly 1000. The earliest was a brass penny, struck in the Bermudas in 1612 for the Virginia colony."

The Sommer Islands coins or Bermuda Pennies were *copper*, and struck in England, and not in the Bermudas.

The Islands were inhabited about 1609, when Sir George Somers was cast away upon them. In 1612, a Virginia company, headed by More, succeeded in establishing a colony upon the Islands. Daniel Tucker succeeded More, when an effort was made to establish a currency, as is evident by Captain John Smith's statement, viz: "Besides meat and drink and clothes, they had for a time a certain kind of money, with a hogge on one side, in memory of the abundance of hogges which were found on their first landing."

NUMISMATIC CONVENTION.

Having been the first to propose a Convention of Coin Collectors, to be held in New York, Philadelphia or Boston, we are pleased to see that our correspondents generally coincide with our views. The advantages of such a meeting are numerous and important, and afford an opportunity to compare notes, examine unique coins or medals, suggest various improvements in the present method of collecting coins and establishing certain rules by which each member is to be governed in certain contingencies. Also to make each member a detective to discover the authors of altered and counterfeit coins.

One correspondent suggests that the Convention should be confined to the Numismatic, Historical and Archæological Associations; but we would prefer to see members chosen from each principal city or town in the United States, without distinction; or, in other words, to admit any collector, whether a novice or an expert, to take part in any discussion or move of the Convention, providing such member is chosen, after due consideration, by the various collectors residing in each city or town. Say six members from each large city, and one from each town; the remaining collectors to contribute one dollar, or less, towards the expenses of travel, &c. The Convention to issue a pamphlet Report of all proceedings, for the benefit of such collectors as take part, or aid the cause to this end.

We then propose that a subsequent International Convention be called, to assemble in Europe or America. Subscribers and coin collectors are requested to suggest items for publication in reference to this proposed numismatic assemblage.

TO THE LADIES.

As we have a number of young lady subscribers and readers, we propose to address a few remarks to them, on the subject of matrimony as effected by numismatology.

In the first place, prefatory, we would say that the best class of citizens is found among those who are devoted to the scientific pursuit of collecting minerals, coins, shells, autographs, stamps, &c. A young man who devotes his leisure moments to these instructive and useful employments is seldom found in the haunts of vice, and we never yet saw the name of any numismatist in the criminal reports of the newspapers.—Idleness leads to mischief; the latter to crime; therefore, it is incompatible with natural laws for a coin or stamp collector

to be a drunkard, a vagabond, or a criminal. If these premises are correctly given, and we challenge contradictory evidence, then how important it is for young ladies, matrimonially inclined, to ascertain the particular habits of their favored suitors before uttering the important and life-giving monosyllable, "Yes!"

P. S.—We omitted to say, in the above article, that the editor of this journal has a "happy family," and all are coin and stamp collectors.

SPECIMEN 15 CENT NOTES OUT.

Any subscriber wishing copies of the "new issue" of the new 15 ct. note, in advance of its regular circulation, please send address to this office. The new fractional note will not be issued generally until after the meeting of next Congress.

THE BERNE STAMP.

In the August number of this journal we inserted an article in reference to the Berne Stamp, which has elicited numerous replies. We had pretty strong evidence, before publishing the article, that the Berne Stamp did duty for a time as a Postage-stamp, although now used as a Bill, or Revenue Stamp. It bears on its face evidence of being a post-office stamp, as is apparent by the language upon the same.

We inserted the item with a view of establishing the use of the stamp for postage purposes. Our Philatelic brothers in Europe will please give us all the evidence they possess, or can obtain, in reference to this matter. We are as willing to learn as to instruct.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

Collectors of postage stamps may find the following facts, which we present for their benefit, both useful and interesting. The postage stamp had its origin in London, on the 10th of January, 1840, and

for ten years England alone made use of it. It was adopted in France at the beginning of the year 1849. The Thurn-and-Taxis office introduced it into Germany in the year 1850; and now it is in use in sixty-nine countries in Europe, nine in Africa, five in Asia, thirty-six in America, and ten in Oceanica. The United States alone has upwards of fifty kinds of postage stamps. Van Dieman's Land has its own stamp, as have also Hayti, Natal, Honolulu and Liberia. Of late years the collection of stamps has become a regular business, and in Europe it is so extensive as to necessitate the employment of agents and correspondents, and the sales of collections are regularly quoted in the public journals.

STAMPS.

AUSTRIA.—Profile of Francis II. to the right, in beaded circle surrounded by arabesques; beneath the circle the value is denoted in figures, followed by Kr. for Kreuzers, or Sld. for Soldi, according to their employment in German or Italian provinces. The values and colors are:

2 Kr. or Sld.	.....	yellow.
3 " "	.....	green.
5 " "	.....	pink.
10 " "	.....	blue.
15 " "	.....	light brown.

Also head of Mercury to left in circle, for newspapers. Color, pale lilac.

SPAIN has issued new stamps, three of which are the following:

10 milesimas de escudo,	brown.
25 milesimas de escudo,	blue, centre pink.
50 milesimas de escudo,	pale brown.

PRUSSIA.—This country has emitted another issue, for the use of South Germany, the value being in kreuzers. In the centre of stamp the Prussian Eagle PREUSSEN above, and KREUZER below. Large numerals, indicating value, on each side, all enclosed in an octagonal frame.

The values and colors are

1 Kreuzer	green.
2 "	orange.
3 "	pink.
6 "	blue.
9 "	bistre.

CHILE has issued new stamps. The designs are similar to those previously issued, but COLON and CHILE have changed places. Small figures of value are at each upper corner represented by stars below. They are engraved and printed by the AMERICAN BANK NOTE Co

EAST INDIA.—This country has a newly-issued stamp, viz: Profile of Queen Victoria to left, enclosed by octagonal band inscribed EAST INDIA POSTAGE above, SIX ANNAS AND EIGHT PIES below, separated by florets in oblong, erect frame; spandrils reticuled, and is water-marked with an elephant's head.

A REMARKABLE STAMP COLLECTOR.

Mr. J. Faaet, of this city, commenced collecting stamps early in June last, and succeeded in getting together about 700 different stamps uncancelled, and this month purchased the well-known and valuable stamp collection known as Prof. Wyman's, of Burlington, N. J., numbering near 3000. Mr. Faaet can now be termed the champion collector of the United States. Taking into consideration the fact that this indefatigable collector is a mechanic and possessed of but limited means, his industry, energy and perseverance deserve a passing notice, being at this time well read and thoroughly posted in Philately. *Pass him around.*

FOOT STAMP.

In the July number we gave a description of a new stamp in use by the ladies. We find, by the following item, that this stamp is also used by the "colored

folks," which gives us an extra color and size:

"An old negro woman, on Tuesday last, gave a letter to the mail agent on the Carolina train, at the station near Branchville, S. C., and asked him to send it for her. The agent said the letter must be stamped. The old woman became indignant, said the darkies were free, and 'Whar war de use of freeing the cullud pussons ef you didn't free de letters to?' and finally yelled out, 'How many stamps he want, eh?' The mail agent said, 'Three.' Down went the letter, and down went the old woman's heel. 'Dar! Dar! Dar! Dar's three stamps! Dat enuff, eh?' She was in angry earnest, and the bystanders were amused accordingly. The agent saw the joke, volunteered to pay the money stamp, and thus, doubly stamped, the letter was sent to its destination."

CONFEDERATE POSTAGE STAMPS.

There were eight different issues of stamps authorized by the Confederate States Government, viz:

No. 1.—Head of Davis to right in oval; inscription above, CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. Large rect., 5 cents, green, blue.

No. 2.—Head of Andrew Jackson to left in oval; inscription above, C. S. A. POSTAGE. Large rect., 2 cents, green.

No. 3.—Head to right in broad oval; inscription like No. 1. 10 cents, rose, blue.

No. 4.—Head of Calhoun in circle; inscription, CONFEDERATE STATES, in margin above. Rect., 1 cent, yellow, red-brown.

No. 5.—Same device, head of Davis, 5 cents, blue.

No. 6.—Head of Davis to right in oval; inscription, POSTAGE above; CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA on sides. Rect., a, Ten cents (value in words), blue; b, 10 cents, light-blue, dark-blue.

No. 7.—Head of Andrew Jackson in oval; inscription, POSTAGE, and C. S. in lower corners. Rect., 2 cents, lake-red.

No. 8.—Head of Washington in oval, inscription, CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. Rect., 20 cents, green.

THE PHILATELIST.

This journal, all the way from Brighton, England, comes to our sanctum this month freighted with good things in the stamp line, and profusely illustrated with new issues of various European nations.

ANOTHER RICHMOND IN THE FIELD!

The first number of *The Stamp Journal*, published in Middletown, Conn., by A. Fountain, has been received at this office. It is issued upon the fifth of each month, and presents a neat appearance; good paper and type; four pages, double columns. Mr. Fountain is a prompt, energetic business man, with whom we have had satisfactory business dealings, and cheerfully recommend to Philatelists his little *Journal*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Traverse City, Mich., July 15, 1867.
Messrs. Mason & Co.:

Gentlemen—I am young in the stamp business, and have much to learn, but experience will teach me many a good lesson. I have been collecting coins in a small way for some years, but, like many beginners, have a great many coins of little value. I am off here in the wilderness, so far from the great cities, that my opportunities for collecting are not many, nor good. I do not know of another collector in this whole region, and to one less enthusiastic than myself, it would be discouraging. You, who have all the advantages of a residence in Eastern towns, of frequent meetings and chances for observation and research, must have a little patience with us who are in the backwoods.

The *Magazine* comes regularly, and I am *very much pleased with it*.

Hoping I have not wearied you,
I remain cordially yours,

T. T. B.

[The above letter from the Great West exhibits the true spirit of an amateur, and has the ring of genuine metal. Our young Philatelists should take courage from this communication, and persevere in the effort to complete their collections. Here, in the great centre of the stamp mart, it is not difficult to obtain almost any rare stamp; but in the "back woods," where discouragement stares one terrifically in the face, how very different! "T. T. B." is an ornament to our brotherhood, and the healthy influence such a collector exerts for the good and useful in such a wild western latitude, is almost incalculable.—Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. REVERE.—The Blue Five Cent United States Stamp, with bust of Washington, that you sent us, is used for pre-paying newspapers and periodicals across the Plains. There were two others, viz: Bust of Franklin, color green, 10 cents, and Bust of Lincoln, color vermilion, 25 cents. These stamps are confined to the Chicago Post-office exclusively, and are said to be the largest stamps in the world.

EUROPEAN.—Too late! The "Champion Collection" of stamps has passed into the hands of a gentleman of this city. See editorial.

C. F. H., N. Y.—As soon as you find "Mining Reports," send a copy.

D. O. W. U.—We have 1793 cent, very fine; 1804, fine; 1809, *uncirculated*.

S. W. P.—\$3 at hand. 100 foreign sent.

R. W. L.—All right. Catalogue mailed.

J. L. B., MONTREAL.—Waiting patiently for the list of coins.

W. E. WOODWARD.—Please forward catalogue. The 1804 withheld for further examination.

E. CUSHING, HOUSTON, TEXAS.—Thanks. Please send us some names from the "Lone Star" latitude.

L. D. M'C., JR.—Subscription received. Waiting for those coins. Have some fine ones for you.

WM. S., BUFFALO.—Call the collectors together, and get their opinion of the call for a Convention.

S. A. T.—Sent to you for Hill's book; also for stamps. You are not prompt; we wish it were otherwise.

L. D. McC.—Sent you medal. Will soon open the subject to which you allude.

C. P. N.—None on hand. Will remember the order.

MEDALIST.—Can supply you with medals 25 to 50 cents lower than usual price.

T. E. B.—Will send the catalogues.

COHEN.—Postage will be paid hereafter.

J. FREY.—Thank you for compliments. If the Magazine is "published forever," we shall consider you a *permanent* subscriber.

J. H. D.—You beat everything yet offered in the prize line.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—In making inquiries about coins, &c., please enclose a stamp, or your letters will remain unanswered. Of course, these remarks do not apply to our customers.

J. H. A., JR.—We received yours of July 18th. The coins wanted could be sent on receipt of order accompanied by cash, the coins could be returned if not satisfactory. You are too distant for any other arrangement.

D.—The coins were sent. At present we have plenty of dates, from 1814 to 1857. Dates of 1791 to 1814 are always wanted in any condition. If the higher dates are uncirculated, send them along. Sent you a Washington 1791 at \$5.

T. T. B.—Regret that business demands our attention so constantly as to preclude the necessary instruction. Can send you a Gray's Stamp Instructor, 400 illustrations, at \$1.

F. A. PERAY, CONCORDIA, TEXAS.—Awaiting your order. Did you receive the package? Will get what you require.

W. H. G.—Your piece will not answer, on account of the stars. U. S. coins should have but 13 stars. The reason is obvious.

J. W. JR.—The design for a 10c. coin is very good, indeed, and would have ranked A No. 1 had there been a different disposition and a less number of the stars. 13 stars are more applicable to United States coins than 37. States are accumulating, and before many years the coins would be covered with starry emblems, if your plan was adopted.

G. M. P.—Your coin design ranks No. 3. Too much like our two-cent piece, and an absence of stars. In other respects very neat and pretty.

COMPETITOR.—Acid must be left out of the question. It injures the metal. Lemon-juice is an injurious article for cleaning copper.

BOOK STUDENT.—We have Dickeson's Manual, \$10; Primes, \$3.50; Humphries, 2 vols. (foreign coins), \$5 for the 2 vols.; Snowden's Medals, \$5; Snowden's United States Coins, \$5. *Postage free.* Also about fifty different priced Catalogues of Sales, \$1 each.

FIFTEEN CENT NOTE.—We can send you a large shield containing 39 specimens of "Fractional Currency," including two 15 cent notes, green and red backs, for \$6. The 15c. note cannot be had in any other form than upon the shield, in fact there has been no positive assertion that it will be used earlier than January next. Those wishing the shields should order early, as the supply is limited.

PRIZES.

We give below the result of the Prize contest. We received a number of letters in reference to "cleaning coins," but all of the correspondents use acids in their different plans of cleansing copper coins. As we particularly stated in the August number, cleaning coins "without injury to the metal," we cannot consistently admit any plan, in competition for the fourth prize, that embraces the use of chemicals notoriously injurious to the coins:

No. 1.—Prize.—A Silver Medal will be awarded to the person sending us the best Epigram on "Autographs." (Awarded to William H. Nevil, Philadelphia.)

AUTOGRAPHS.—AN EPIGRAM.

WHICH? THIS, THAT, OR THE OTHER?
What's in a name! An autograph,
An autograph a name;
A signature, subscriber, too,
The four are all the same.

No. 2 Prize.—A 1799 U. S. cent, for the best written letter on "Coins," omitting the vowels *o* and *i*. (Awarded to Rev. J. H. Dubbs, Pottstown, Pa.)

POTTSTOWN, PA., Aug 1867.

Gentlemen:

Essays that excluded several letters, were frequently prepared a hundred years past, but lately few have had the perseverance. But what has been executed may be repeated. Hence we undertake the task, and trust we may be successful.

They say that Tyre stamped metal at a very early date (700 B. C.), but these attempts must have been very rude. Early ages knew the metals, but at best they had wedges, bars and plates that they exchanged. The Pentateuch names the metals, but merely as jewelry, and as shekels fixed by the balance. Plutarch states that sheep and cattle were generally used when exchanges were made; hence the early metal currency generally represented cattle (*pecus*), whence we deduce many present terms. They say that Theseus struck such *staters* at Athens. An extremely aged Greek type represents a turtle, and the reverse a mere *quadratum*.

The Etruscans struck base metals at a very early age. At Carthage and Sparta they even made stamped leather serve as currency. The leaden medals struck under the Cæsars were, perhaps, used as cards at the theatres.

The celebrated Petrarch gathered medals as early as 1370; but a century

later, even the Netherlands had several hundred such sets. At present the number can hardly be calculated.

As many apparently early medals are false, *amateur*s are frequently puzzled.

False currency was made even at Athens and Sparta. Several celebrated engravers, three hundred years past, manufactured false medals at Padua, that are at present extremely rare. Charles W. Becker, a German, made nearly seven hundred fraudulent, but very perfect, medals. A safe judge must be an expert, and must have handled many. We have seen an extremely early, but well-attested, medal at the *sanctum*. Lucky men, that unearthed such a veteran!

Very respectfully, J. H. D., Pastor.

No. 2.

[The 1799 cent having been declined by Rev. J. H. D., is at the disposal of the lady, who sent us the following, being the second best letter on "Coins."—Ed.]

Gentlemen:

A letter carefully prepared—Cents the subject matter—may be a very easy task, and can be executed by any ably educated gentleman, but an attempt by a lady presents a queer aspect, and has led me many a strange walk between the letters and sentences. The characters the small cents present make them a feature under the U. S. M. management. Many traders prefer a *paper* rather than a *metal* value, when trade makes useful very large sums, but the cents serve a useful and valuable end when arranged by a careful gatherer under a system, where the dates are all carefully arranged.

As ever, truly, A QUAKERESS.

No. 3 Prize.—A complete set of U. S. cents, 1793 to 1857, for the best design for a U. S. coin of the value of 10c.—(Awarded to Miss L. M. Raybold, Phila.)

DESIGN FOR TEN CENT COIN.

Obverse.—A spread eagle in the centre, upon which the Goddess of Liberty is reclining, having unfurled to the breeze the national flag. A label depending upon either side from the beak of the eagle, upon which is the legend, GOD AND OUR COUNTRY. Date beneath the whole, 1867.

Reverse.—Across the centre 13 stars, arranged in the form of a cross, signifying the numerals 10; the centre star upon a Liberty Cap; at the right and left sides of cross the capitals U. S.; top and bottom of the cross TEN—CENTS. Upon the upper margin a shield; the whole surrounded by a wreath.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

No. 7.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

(Continued)

During the close of the year 1791 the celebrated "Washington cents" were issued (as experimental pieces), coined by order of the general government. These cents have on the *obverse* a very fine bust of Washington in military dress; around the bust, the legend WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT; directly beneath the bust the date, 1791. *Reverse*:—A large spread eagle covering nearly the whole surface of the coin; above the Eagle the words, ONE CENT.

There were several varieties of the Washington cents of date 1791. One reverse represents a much smaller Eagle, with a few stars arranged about the Eagle's head. Still another variety has date on *reverse*, instead of *obverse*, as in the first named.

Another "Washington cent" was coined in 1792 bearing the same general description as those of 1791. The most valuable cents are those presenting the naked bust of Washington on *obverse*, of date 1792; while the "small Eagle" Washington of 1791 are rarest of the different varieties issued in that year. It may not be generally known that Washington was very much opposed to the representation of his likeness upon the coins of his country, and made several earnest efforts to discountenance the use of coins bearing his image and his efforts resulted in success. The Coins were called in and the dies said to be broken, hence the great fictitious, value attached to a "Washington cent."

There were silver Dimes and Half-

Dimes coined in England from Washington's silver plate, which was sent to that country to be converted into coin. Upon the reception of the coins, Washington was grieved and offended to find his wife's likeness upon the *obverse* of the coins. It was owing to this fact that the small Washington silver pieces of 1792 had no general circulation, being considered "family coins" and but very few of these silver Dimes or Half-Dimes can be found at the present day.

There were struck in 1792 the Washington silver Dollar and half Dollar by a Mr. Harper, whose shop was located at that time on Sixth St., above Chestnut, Phila. (Mr. Harper was a saw manufacturer and obtained the contract from the General Government, and coined the Washington cents of 1791 at his shop then located at the corner of 6th and Cherry Sts, Phila.)

There are many so-called "Washington cents" that have no further claim to the title than the name of Washington inscribed upon them, or a very poor representation of the Father of our Country. The brass Medalet dated 1783—of French origin is by many supposed to be a genuine Washington cent; but is simply a French Washington Token, the work doubtless of some enthusiastic Frenchman who wished to commemorate the services of Washington and the return of Peace.

Another common type of the "Washington 83's," as they are called, is the thin copper cent: *obverse* a laureated bust of Washington, military dress, *legend*: WASHINGTON AND INDEPENDENCE, 1783.

Reverse :—Goddess of Liberty seated with liberty pole in one hand and olive branch in the other, legend above, UNITED STATES. There is also another variety both obverse and reverse containing a military bust of Washington—this cent is called the DOUBLE HEAD WASHINGTON. Neither of these 1783 pieces take rank with the Washington coins; though known generally as Washington cents.

(To be continued)

A VETERAN COLLECTOR.

Col. Cohen of Baltimore; one of the oldest Numismatists in the country, paid us a "surprise" visit recently and kindly exhibited some of his rarest and most valuable coins, including an 1804 U. S. silver dollar.

We have authority for pronouncing the 1804 dollar, which recently made its appearance in this city, an altered coin; leaving but *two originals* now in the country, viz: Cohen's and Woodward's.

EARLIEST KNOWN COIN.

The oldest coins extant, and probably the first coins ever made, are from Ionia, in Asia Minor; Miletus, a city south of Ephesus, on the shore of the Icarian Sea, probably produced the first coined money. It was the gold Stater.

The coin is stamped on one side with a deep indentation. On the other, it has a rude picture of a lion's head. This form is characteristic of coinage for a long period. A die was evidently used, and a lump of metal placed in it, and a punch struck with a hammer drove the metal into the die and left the rude mark of the punch on the reverse of the coin. What induced the adoption of the lion's head as a design is left to conjecture. It is by some supposed to refer to the regal power represented by the lion, while others think it that had some connection with the wor-

ship of Cybele, the great goddess of the Ionians.—*Harper's Magazine.*

[The following article was handed us in reply to the above by our distinguished contributor, Dr. Dickeson. Ed.]

EARLY COINS.

BY M. W. D.

That the employment of Metals for the use of man is almost as ancient as the world, none pretend to deny. Nevertheless it will require a very strong imagination to believe that money coined and stamped was the invention of Tubal Cain, as Vellalpandus pretends.

Some have said that Moses was the first that stamped money, and introduced the use of it; others have pretended to prove from that holy Lawgiver's own words, that it was used in the land of Canaan in Abraham's time; since in relating of the manner of buying a Sepulchre for his wife, he speaks of current money and uses the word SHEKELS.

Be this as it may, History informs us that the stamping of metals took place in the third century, or about the time of Theodosius. In our cabinets the Greek coins appear to be the most antique, for the Grecian Kings, a great while before the foundation of Rome, coined very neat money of all three metals, and that with so much art, that in the most flourishing state of the Roman Republic and Empire they could scarcely equal them. We might dilate considerably upon this subject and clearly show, that the Lions head, claimed by the HARPERS' as the earliest coin, did not appear until about a century after that of the Tortoise.

I think that the Antiquarian will bear me out, that Ægina was the first nation that coined money and issued Medals. Athens, although skilled in the arts, often applied to Ægina for the execution of both. Ægina is an island in direct intercourse with Tyrus, and the Ægineans were renowned for their general knowledge of the art of ornamental sculp-

ture. Æginians were called *myrimidons* or *emmetts* from their patient perseverance in the art of Agriculture and Commerce—Hence the Tortoise became the National emblem; the slow, but sure progress of that shell-fish being a symbol of their industry and marine characteristics.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 4.

BY E. M., JR.

An amusing incident, illustrating Dr. W.'s habit of using numismatic phraseology, occurred the present year at Penistan's Saloon, Chestnut St., Phila. Be it known that "Charley," one of the numerous bartenders at P.'s is a coin collector of some repute, and upon this occasion was almost a numismatic match for the eccentric W. The Doctor and a number of friends, *accidentally*, met in front of Penistan's bar, when "a treat all around" was ordered up by one of the company.—The rest of the story is well told by the following colloquy between "Charley" and the Dr.

Charley.—"What's it to be, Doc.?"

Dr.—"Brandy."

Charley.—"Light or dark?"

Dr.—"Make it a bright red."

Charley.—(Quizzing) "Shall it be Proof, Doc.?"

Dr.—Yes, of course, 4th Proof.

Charley (*Handing out the spirits*).—"I think this will make a good impression."

Dr. (*Drinking and smacking his lips*).

"Been slightly circulated, Charley; lacks the scent; think it's been altered injured by acid."

Charley.—"Let me tell you, Doc., that that brandy was so strong that Penistan had to water it to batter the edge; it produced to many cracked dies; in fact made weak heads, and presented such a quantity of reverses to our customers that in a short time their frontispieces became so bronzed we lost trade."

Dr.—"Oh yes! not proof; couldn't

circulate; Poor metal; bad set; ought to see me take the uncirculated stuff—rare fun, very rare—I am almost proof against a perfect fluid; not a very fine drink, Charley; but it'll do if kept free from rust. (*Exit.*)

SALE OF THE GREAT MICKLEY COLLECTION.

All subscribers or readers wishing a catalogue of the celebrated collection, known as "Mickley's," now owned by Mr. Woodward of Roxbury, Mass., and to be sold in New York the 28th of this month, will please send in their names, enclosing two stamps for postage. Bids will be received at this office for any coin on the catalogue and a per centage of 10c. on the dollar charged for services in attending sale and making purchases. "Priced Catalogues" will be mailed after the sale on the receipt of \$2 50. As this sale will be the most important—in point of rare coins and number of pieces—that ever occurred in this country, all collectors should have a catalogue; as it is anticipated that the "Mickley catalogue" will be the guide hereafter for prices and pieces.

THE GREAT MICKLEY SALE!

We are informed that the celebrated Mickley collection of coins, &c., will be sold in N. Y. City about the last week in October. Catalogues will be supplied from this office. A commission of ten per cent. will be charged customers for attending sale and purchasing any pieces upon which bids have been received by the Editor of this journal.

NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The regular monthly meeting of this Society was held on Thursday Evening Aug 15th, Vice Prest. Fellows in the chair. After transaction of business, Mr. Chaplin exhibited a fac-simile (the only

one in existence) of the Seal of the City of Kilkenny, Ireland, a peice of very curious design.

Mr. Fellows invited the members to examine a collection of Vermont, Vermontis and Vermontensium coppers of 1785 and 1786, a cent of 1802 having on the obverse a beautiful head of Washington from a very small die, believed to be unique, the three varieties of the Washington Medallet "Success to the United States," one of which is almost unknown to Collectors. A "mite" and other Roman coins; a marriage Medal of the year 1600 and other rare and curious pieces.

Mr. Crosby exhibited a West Point Medal in Bronze, obverse a beautiful head of Washington, reverse, "Presented to Cadet Palfrey 1866." Only 15 of these Medals were struck. He also exhibited a set in silver and bronze of the rare and beautiful "Season Medals" one of which was for many years in the possession of the late Gov. Eustis of Mass.

After spending a short time discussing affairs of interest to the Society, the meeting adjourned.

COIN SALES IN SEPTEMBER.

Bangs, Merwin & Co., N. Y., Sept. 30th, 4 P. M. Samuel Hatch, Boston, Sept. 25th, 2½ P. M.

The above sales consist of American and Foreign Coins, Medals, &c. Neither sale has any remarkable pieces catalogued.

New York sale is composed of 560 pieces.
Boston " " 789 "

In the next number we shall give the result of these sales; prices, average attendance and such matters as are of interest to the numismatist.

U. S. 1804 DOLLAR.

This remarkably rare coin is catalogued in the Mickley collection as "scarce!" Well we should rather think it was; *only two known*, and worth \$1000 each.

IMPORTANT TO COIN COLLECTORS!

The importance and value of the U. S. and Colonial Coins embraced in Mickley's extensive and well known collection (the labor of a life-time), renders it necessary that a history of the pieces, prices obtained at public sale, for each and all other interesting particulars of the disposition of the coins, &c., should be preserved by every numismatist for reference. We therefore announce to the subscribers to this journal, that at the conclusion of the sale, we shall commence in a future No. of the Magazine, the publication of a history of the sale of the "Mickley Collection;" giving the price each piece realises with a complete description of the coin. As the quantity of catalogues of sale have been exhausted, the publication of the American portion of the book, will be, at least, desirable for the future reference of hundreds of numismatists who are now unable to obtain a catalogue.

THE MICKLEY CATALOGUE.

At the last moment, just as we go to press, we are informed that the Catalogues of the Mickley Collection cannot be furnished us; the supply not being equal to the demand! To our readers and subscribers; as well as those who have handed in names for copies of the catalogue we express our surprise and sympathy at this turn of affairs. We were solicited by Mr. Cogan, as agent for Mr. Woodward, to use our influence in circulating the catalogues. We had the promise of the books, and we now receive notice from Mr. Woodward that *one copy* only can be spared, and that of course, for our own personal property. We shall, however, be able to supply the *priced catalogue* of the Mickley collection soon after the sale at \$2 50 each in advance. All those wishing a "Priced Mickley Catalogue," will please send

money and address to this office prior to October 15th.

The Mickley collection embraces about 4000 pieces, and among them will be found some of the rarest gems known to the world. We have no time or space at this late hour, to examine catalogue and particularize the beauties of this celebrated collection.

N. B. The Mickley sale, takes place at the Auction store of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Astor Place and Eighth St. N. Y., commencing Monday, October 28th, and continuing through the entire week at 5½ P. M., each day.

NEW STAMPS.

We are indebted to the Stamp Collector's Magazine (Bath, England) for the following newly issued stamps.

EGYPT.—Representation of the sphynx and a pyramid in oblong oval in a rectangular frame. In upper corners, PARA in lower corners the value. In the upper and lower sides Egyptian characters and the right and left sides Egyptian Towers. They are printed in colors on white paper, bearing a sunken impression of the crescent and star on the reverse. The values and colors are as follows:—

5 Paras	Yellow,
10 "	Violet,
20 "	Green,
1 Piaster	Vermilion,
2 "	Blue,
5 "	Light-brown,

BRAZIL.—This country has lately emitted envelope stamps. There are but two, viz: 100 and 200 reis and bear the same profile—as on the twenty and two-hundred reis of the adhesive stamps. The profile is to the left, in a small oval, surrounded by a larger one, similar to the U. S. Envelopes of the smaller denomination. On the top of the oval BRAZIL, on the bottom. Value in words, on each side of the stamp a truncated-rectangular label on which is the value in figures.

NORWAY.—A 4 skilling, blue of the

new type (figure at both the lower angles, and ground of diagonal lines) has appeared.

QUEENSLAND.—The current penny and two-pence are printed on paper, water marked with the words QUEENSLAND POSTAGE STAMPS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have to note a change in the watermark of the shilling stamp; the small corner flowers are superseded by the new rose watermark found in the tenpence and two shilling.

GERMAN CITIES AND STATES.—We close for this number, by announcing the discontinuation of the issues of the free cities. Hamburg, Lubeck, Berge-dorf, and Bremen, and those of Oldenburg, Brunswick and Mecklinburg,—Schwerin at the end of the present year, when Prussian Stamps will take their place.

ORIGIN OF PENNY POSTAGE.

In 1837, during an extended pedestrian tour through the Lake Country, in the northwest of England, Rowland Hill saw a post-man offer a letter, postage ten pence, to a female waiter at a country Inn. The woman looked at the address, and declined taking it. Mr. Hill as an act of charity, released the letter. On opening it for her after the post-man had retired, the poor girl burst into tears, and said it was useless, as there was no writing within. Her brother was in the service far away, and the only way they had of communicating that each other was well, was by sending an envelope properly directed, but not enclosing a letter, which, though regularly not taken, yet always gave the welcome assurance that all was well. Rowland Hill meditated upon this hard case, and the result was his suggestion of a uniform penny postage for each half ounce, and the use of postage stamps.

GO TO THE MICKLEY SALE!

CORRESPONDENCE.

Meriden, Conn., Sept. 10th 1867.

Messrs. Mason & Co., Gents:—In what manner are coins best arranged after the collection is complete. I have picked up a nice collection of cents (U. S.) and want to know the *best* way to arrange them. I have them on a kind of a board now, but think perhaps there may be some better manner.

Please answer in your magazine, so as to give others the benefit of the knowledge as well as me. As you have seen the collections of *noted* collectors. What manner seems most general among them?

I suppose all kinds of coins are arranged on the same plan.

Yours Truly, W. A. K.

[Coins are arranged on so many different plans that we cannot well give an opinion as to the best way of arranging them. Cabinets are made according to the demands of a collection, with ample drawers, properly subdivided. The main object should be to preserve coins from dust and dampness. A small cabinet, containing ten or twelve drawers; the latter lined with thick white or pink blotting pad paper, can be made by any carpenter for about \$10, and will answer all ordinary purposes. Ed.]

Meriden, Conn., Sept. 9th, 1867.

Messrs. Mason & Co., Gents:—In regard to the "Coin Collector's Convention," proposed in the "Magazine." I don't think it ought merely to be a *Coin* collector's convention, but a *Coin and Stamp* Collector's Convention.

Among your readers you have a large number of stamp collectors, and I for one should be displeased if not to say dissatisfied if stamp collectors were *sighted* in the proposed convention, especially as the subject was proposed by a *Coin* and *Stamp* Magazine. I don't think it is right to give *Stamp* Collectors the cold shoulder. Both subjects should be served 'equally' to please all. Now by your aid let stamp

collectors be made to rejoice by joining with Coin collectors and having a COIN AND STAMP COLLECTOR'S CONVENTION.

Yours Truly, W. A. KELSEY.

[Will our subscribers please make their views known in regard to the proposed convention of Coin Collectors. If the *majority* decide to unite with Stamp Collectors, we have no objection. Ed.]

Cambridgeport, July 24th 1867.

Messrs. Mason & Co., Gents:—In your July Magazine you mention a few coins that Dr. Charles Clay considers unique.

I have two that your article exactly describes, viz. The first "Continental currency and the first described Kentucky piece. I do not understand what he means by "struck in Silver and bronze." Mine is a silver proof.

I have a few I have never heard of, in any other collection, viz., "Vermontis Res Publica 1785," both obverse and reverse being exactly alike.

"Vermontis Res Publica, 1785. Rev. Quarta Decima Stella. "Vermontis Res Publica 1785," Rev. Quarta Decima Stella. Massachusetts Half Cent of 1787 with no arrows or sprig in the Eagle's claws.

There may be others, but these were prominent in my mind.

A. SUBSCRIBER.

Etna, P. O., Allegheny, Co. Pa.

9th September, 1867.

Messrs. Mason & Co., Gents:—I was surprised that no one had been deemed worthy of receiving Prize No. 4, *i. e.* "for best method of cleaning coins without injury to the metal."

I will now enter the ranks and give you my method, and will be pleased to receive the award should no one else submit a better one.

For copper and nickel take a piece of woollen cloth, or flannel of not too thick a texture and dip into oil, any oil will do, but refined petroleum is best, and rub

the piece carefully, if very dirty soak it awhile in the oil which will have the effect of loosening all dirt, and will give the piece a bright appearance almost like the original tint, and finally polish with any fine powder of which many kinds are used for polishing gold or silverware, such as "T. B. Faulk's Excelsior Polish," "Woodsum's," &c., or whitenings (Spanish White) will do, care must be taken to have the powder as fine as possible, or else run the risk of scratching a valuable piece.

I cleaned the twelve nickel cents of 1858 and three of 1857 which had become somewhat tarnished, in this manner, and they look as bright as when issued.

I and my numismatic friends are very well pleased with your magazine, hope you will receive the encouragement which your enterprise deserves; especially were we pleased to notice the articles by the esteemed American Authority on Numismatics, Dr. M. W. Dickeson,—by the way, are there any more than the 1st and 2nd editions of his work? I have the 2nd edition, and would be bound to have the 3rd if the same were issued.

I notice that Rev. J. H. Dubbs made use of the vowel *i*, where he writes, "as sheckels fixed by the balance" on the whole it is however, a very good production, and hope the "Quakeress" may favor us with more of the same sort.

Very Respectfully, C. G.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. L.—Subscribers received, medals sent. Thank you for the *little item*, very acceptable. You will find by reference to the "History of Coins," that the first U. S. Cent was the so-called "Franklin Penny," 1787. The establishment of Mint in Philadelphia dates 1793, and from that date the issue has been regular, and properly commences the series of American Cents.

C. L. B.—"What kind of oil is the

best to loosen the dirt on copper coins? The receipt in the Magazine does not tell what kind." Olive oil; from its penetrative qualities.

C. G., ALLEGHENY, PA.—Have used your letter for the benefit of our readers, and your name recorded for a 15 cent note. The prize for cleaning coins withdrawn, or you would have received it. Prizes were only offered for September No. Shall offer more of a similar kind at a future period.

M. W. D.—Harpers' are wrong about the 'Lion coin' being the earliest known. The earliest coins known to history were the *aes*, or zinc pieces—900 B. C. As you have a perfect knowledge of the ancient coinage, please give us a brief article on the subject in time for the November number.

HUMORIST.—The anecdote is a very good one. "Reminiscences" crowded out, to make room for Coin and Stamp Catalogues omitted in September No. We wish that our little journal was larger (if subscribers used a little influence in circulating the doc's it might be), as we have more matter than we can crowd into ten pages; and to increase the size, would increase the expenses—it would *not* pay.

G. N. C., WATERLOO, N. Y.—Have changed your address according to request. Coin Priced Catalogues sent on receipt of 25c.; Stamp Catalogues 25c.; Coins of the World, illustrated, 50c.

G. H. T., LAWRENCE, MASS.—Too late! We give our subscribers your letter in full (brief and to the point) viz:—
"Method of cleaning coins:—Muriatic acid—wash with soap and water—polish with crocus—it works first rate. Yours, G. H. T."

C. L. J. F.—In answer to the following communication, we can only say that we gave the language of "Wm. L. C." without comment and leave the *proof of the existence* of the pieces with said cor-

respondent: "Is there not some mistake about the *pieces* (plural) of *Carolina* 1794 in the possession of "Wm. L. C." (Vide vol. 1, No. 5, page 43). Also is it possible that another N. England 1794 "should turn up" when we had supposed Mickley of Philadelphia, owned the *only* one? C. L. F."

E. J. F. & Co.—Books sent per express—Some out of print. Sent the best we could obtain. Thankful for all your favors.

J. A. P., ELIZABETH, N. J.—Your recipe came to late. We received a great many similar plans for cleaning the coin. Faet has eight additional revenues, viz:—\$1 Mortgage; \$200, U. S.; 50c. Probate of Will, and 5 Beer Stamps—16 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 25c, 50c, \$1, and \$2. Making with the 98 varieties you already have, a total of 106 different Revenue Stamps.

C. CHAPLIN, BOSTON.—Will send you all catalogues of Coin Sales prospective. Bangs, Merwin & Co., have a coin sale on Sept., 30th in N. Y., Saml Hatch, Auctioneer of Boston, has a sale of coins on Sept. 25th. Shall be at both sales. Woodward's celebrated Mickley collection will be sold 28th of October. Names should be sent in to us early for catalogues.

W.—Send on as many catalogues as possible. We have at least 25 applications from Collectors.

J. J. M.—You make too fine a point of the term "Uncirculated."

"Circulate" signifies "to pass around," "to spread." Numismatologists use the terms "Circulated" and "Uncirculated" in the broadest sense, viz: "Circulated," worn, damaged; "Uncirculated," unworn, unused; or, in other words, not circulated *generally*. A coin may pass from one to another, and though circulated, it may not be injured in the least. When a coin is in circulation, it is generally understood as passing and re-passing as a coin through the hands of the public. You say "Very Fine" is

an excellent secondary term for a coin and signifies in excellent condition though it may be somewhat circulated but a point further, or "*Uncirculated*," fixes at once the condition in the mind of every collector.

FINE PIECES FOR SALE.

We have now in hand the following uncirculated cents, which are very fine and can be had at the following low prices: 1797, \$10; 1802, \$6; 1803, \$6; 1806, \$12; 1816, \$1 25; 1817, \$1 25; 1818, \$1 25; 1819, 1 25; 1820, \$3 50; 1821, (Very Rare) \$10; 1823, (Re-strike) \$3; 1825, \$5; 1826, \$5; 1827, \$3; 1828, \$3; 1829, \$3; 1831, \$4; 1832, \$3 50; 1834, (Proof) \$12; 1837, (Proof) \$10; 1838, \$3; 1839, \$3; 1840, \$1 50; 1841, (Proof) \$7; 1842, \$2; 1843, \$2 50; 1844, \$2; 1847, \$1 50; 1848, \$1; 1850 to 1857, 50c. each. These cents are all in beautiful condition. We also have a quantity of *proof* Medals; for price (below the regular Mint prices) see cover. Also on hand the following proof sets (\$1 to 1c. inclusive) viz: 1858 set \$23; 1859 set \$9; 1860 to 1864 inclusive, \$7 each; 1865 set \$8; 1866 set \$6; 1867 set \$4 25.

THE GYRALOSCOPE.

This new scientific toy now so popular in the large cities, and no doubt destined to meet with as large a notoriety as the "Return Ball," is the invention of a Coin Collector in this city; and we call the attention to the advertisement on the cover with no little pleasure. Our readers can "Swing 'round the circle" by mailing 25 cents to this office and getting this gyrating novelty.

AUTOGRAPH SALE.

The sale of a collection of 1188 Autographs, letters and Documents, will take place New York, some time this month. We received notice of the sale too late to give it extended notice.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTO-
GRAPHS.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed ; A L S, Autograph Letter Signed ; D S ; Document Signed ; S, Autograph Signature ; A N S, Autograph Note Signed ; A F, Autograph Frank ; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter ; Env. F. Envelope Franked.

(Continued)

- Arnold Benedict, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., Feb 19th, 1776. \$10.
 Arabic Letter of Introduction. \$1.
 Arabic Firman signed by George Glidon. \$2 50.
 Arabic Firman signed by Charipand. \$2
 Arabic Firman, Seal. \$1 50.
 Alberto, Carlo, D S, with seal, 1 page, folio, 1834. \$1.
 Armstrong, John Gen., S, 1724.
 Armstrong, John Gen., S, 1724.
 Armstrong, John Gen., S, 1785.
 Argyle, Duchess of, A L S, 1 page, 8 vo., February, 1864. \$1 50.
 Antonelli, Cardinal, A S. \$1.
 Arago, Francois, A L S, 2 pages, 8 vo., Nov. 8th, 1833. \$2.
 Bartlett, Josiah, signer of Declaration, S. \$2 50.
 Barton, Lt. Wm., a series of letters, 14 in all, addressed to his father, from Germantown, Whitemarsh, Tioga, Wyoming and Valley Forge, in 1777, 1778, 1779. \$5.
 Browning, Robert, A L S. \$1.
 Bremer, Fredericka. A S. \$1.
 Browning, Elizabeth Barret, A N J., 1 page, 8 vo. \$1 75.
 Byron, Lady. A N S, 1 page, 8 vo. 75 cts
 Bingham, William, A N S. \$1.
 Bloomfield, Governor Joseph, A L S, transmitting copy of Resolutions of Commonwealth of New Jersey, regarding Amendment to Constitution 1807. \$2.
 Bancroft, George, A L S, 3 pages, 8 vo., December, 1872. \$1.
 Bowen, Admiral, L S, 1 page, 8 vo., December, 1745. \$1.

- Bright, John, A L S, 3 pages, 8 vo., December, 1745. \$1 50.
 Byles, William, Parole, February, 1773 signed by several Revolutionary officers \$1.
 Blaine, Ephraim D., A L S, 1 page, folio, February, 1778. \$1 50.
 Biddle, Col. Clement, A L S, 1 page, folio, October, 1781. \$2.
 Bainbridge, Commodore, S. \$1.
 Butler, Col. Richard, A L S, 1 page, 4to., Bright, John, D S, admittance to House of Commons, 1860. \$1 50.
 Breckenridge, H. W., A L S, 3 pages, 4to., February, 1830. \$1.
 Biddle, Nicholas, A L S, 1 page, 4to. 75c.
 Barbour, James, A L S, 2 pages., August, 1820. \$2.
 Brougham, Lord, S. \$1.

*To be continued.*TABLES OF THE CURRENT COINS
Of Twenty-eight Countries, with their
relative value in British Money,Prepared expressly for Mason's "Coin and Stamp
Collectors' Magazine,"

BY M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Continued.

	£.	s.	d.
FRANCE.			
1 Liard,	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Liard Piece,	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sol,	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 Liard Piece,	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Double Sol,	0	0	1
6 Sol Pieces,	0	0	3
12 Sol Piece,	0	0	6
15 Sol Piece,	0	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
24 Sol Piece,	0	1	0
30 Sol Piece,	0	1	3
3 Livre Piece,	0	2	6
5 Franc Piece,	0	4	2
6 Livre Piece, an Ecu,	0	5	3
Louis d'or, containing 24 livres,	1	0	0

The Livre or Franc is a nominal value equal to ten pence English; the tenth part of a Franc is called a Centime. The Franc now in use is one per cent. more than the Livre in use before the Revolution.

GENOVA.		£	s.	d.
1 Dimari,		0	0	4-1200
12 Dimari, a Soldi,		0	0	47 180
4 Solidi, Chevalet,		0	0	1 18 25
20 Solidi, Lire,		0	0	8 3-5
30 Solidi, Festoon,		0	1	0 9-10
5 Lires, Cro' sale,		0	3	7
115 Solidi, l'ezzo of Ex,		0	4	2
6 Festoons, Genouine,		0	6	2
20 Lires, Pisto'e,		0	14	4

GIBRALTAR.

1 Maravedi,		0	0	2'-272
2 Maravedies, an Ochava,		0	0	33-136
4 Maravedies. Quartil,		0	0	20-68
34 Maravedies, Rial Velon,		0	0	2 7-8
15 Rials, Piastre of Ex,		0	3	7
512 Maravedies, Piastre,		0	3	7
60 Rials, Pistole of Ex,		0	14	4
2048 Maravedies, Pistole of Ex		0	16	9
78 Rials, Pistole,		0	16	9

HAMBURGH.

12 Fennings Shilling Lubish		0	0	1½
16 Shilling, Marc,		0	1	6
2 Marcs, Slet Dollar,		0	3	0
3 Marcs, Rix Dollar,		0	4	6
6½ Marcs, Ducat,		0	9	4½
120 Shillings, Pound Flemish		0	11	3

HOLLAND.

8 Peningens, a Groat,		0	0	0 21-40
2 Groats, Stiver,		0	0	1 1-20
6 Stivers, Scanlin,		0	0	6 3-16
20 Stivers, Guilder,		0	1	9
10 Stivers, Rix Dollar,		0	4	4½
60 Stivers, Dry Guilder,		0	5	3
105 Stivers, Ducat,		0	9	3
6 Guilders, Florins Pound Fl.		0	10	6

*To be Continued.*POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS'
DEPARTMENT,*Priced Catalogue.—Continued.*

BRUNSWICK.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1852.

1 silber groschen, oblong, rose		2	5	
2 " " " blue		2	5	
3 " " " vermil.		2	5	

1854.

½ silber gros'n, oblong, brown.	10	7	
½ " " " white..	8	4	
1 " " " orange.	10	7	
2 " " " dark blue.	12	7	
3 " " " pink....	15	6	

1860.

¼ gute groschen, 3 PFENNIGE, square, brown	15	10
(Note—This stamp is often cut in 4 parts) each ...	4	3

1863.

½ silber gros'n, oblong, green...	6	4
1 " " " yellow.	10	5
2 " " " blue ...	15	5
3 " " " rose ...	18	5

1865.

½ groschen, oval, black	15	6
½ " " " green.....	20	10
1 " " " rose.....	10	4
2 " " " blue.....	10	4
3 " " " stone.....	10	4

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1860.

1 silber groschen, oval, yellow.	10	4
2 " " " blue....	15	6
3 " " " rose....	18	6

1865.

1 silber groschen, oval, rose...	8	4
2 " " " blue....	10	5
3 " " " stone.	8	4

BAHAMAS.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1 d., rect, red	10	4
4 d., " rose	15	4
6 d., " mauve.....	20	8
1 s., " green.....	45	18

BARBADOES.

"Adhesive Stamps."

Value not indicated.

rect, red.....	15	5
" green.....	8	4
" blue.....	8	3

Value indicated.

6 d., rect, red	18	6
1 s., " black... ..	45	8
1 s., " gray.....	45	8
1 d., rect, red.....	12	6
6 d., " lilac.....	20	10
1 s., " green	40	20

BRAZIL.

"Adhesive Stamps."

Large Roman Figures.

30 reis, oval, black		
60 " "		
90 " "		

Italic Figures.

10 reis, oblong, black.....	50	18
30 " "	50	20
60 " "	60	20
90 " "	1 00	25
180 " "		
300 " "		
300 " "		

To be continued.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

No. 8.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

(Continued)

In 1793, the Mint having been established in Philadelphia, the U. S. Government ordered two copper coins; cent and half-cent. The former having on *obverse* the French head of liberty, flowing hair, twig under the head, date 1793; over the head legend Liberty; *reverse* wreath, within which are the words one cent, around the wreath legend United States of America; around the outer edge ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR, below wreath 1-100.

The Half-cent bears the same description, with the exception of the fractional numerals, which on the Half-cent are 1-200 and lettered on edge Two HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR. There are some twenty-four known varieties of 1793 cent. Among the most important and valuable types are the "Liberty Cap," the "Chain" or "Link" cent and the "Ameri." Other varieties are found bearing slight variations in letters, dates, wreaths, hair, etc. The 1793 cent is readily distinguished from all other issues, by its size and thickness; it being much smaller and thicker than any of the U. S. cents. The same remarks apply to the half-cent of this year. It is extremely difficult to obtain perfect specimens of the 1793 cent and Half-cent, at the present time; as this date being the first regular U. S. cent coined in the Mint by order of the Government, commences strictly the series of U. S. copper coins, and every numismatist being anxious to secure a good specimen, gives these coins an extraordinary fictitious value—taking into

consideration the large number coined, viz. 112,212 cents and 31,934 Half-cents. The U. S. Mint did not get fairly at work on different metals until 1794; during the latter year the first silver dollars, half-dollars and half-dimes, were coined, while the issue of gold pieces did not commence until the year 1795. The whole coinage of 1793 was confined to copper cents and half-cents.

In 1794 the copper cents varied in size and appearance from the previous year. This year the obverse presented the Head of Liberty with cap and pole elevated over the left shoulder; the head being somewhat improved in its general appearance; the cents were larger though not quite as thick. As in the case of the 1793 cents, those of 1794 have the lettered edge: ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR. There were two sizes of the 1794 cents—the large and small planchets—with the usual variety of reverses. There were coined during the year 1794 the following pieces: 1758 silver dollars; 5300 half-dollars; 1000 pattern half-dimes; 918,521 cents and 81,600 half-cents. Of all the pieces of this year the dollar is the rarest and commands an exorbitant price when in fine condition. The Half-dollar is rather scarce; while the Half dime is rarely found in uncirculated condition.

MICKLEY SALE.

Some of our subscribers will receive this number of the Magazine in time to attend the sale of the renowned Coin collection of J. J. Mickley, of this city. The time occupied with the sale will extend through six days, commencing Monday,

October 28th, at 5½ P. M. The number of pieces sold each day will be about 500, bringing the American coins forward about Thursday, at 5½ P. M.

We hope the attendance will be numerous during the sale of Foreign Coins, as the collection of these pieces is very fine and some exceedingly rare. Those of our subscribers who have not engaged the "Priced Catalogue" are informed that but few copies can be had after the sale, and early application will be necessary to secure this valuable book of reference. All orders accompanied by the cash (\$2.50), prior to the sale, will be registered for copies of the Priced Catalogue, and the same, forwarded, postage free, immediately after the conclusion of the sale.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 5.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

While making a coin speculating tour of the chief cities and towns of North Carolina, during the year 1859, we visited the promising little village of Charlotte, and its neighboring gold mines. After satisfying our curiosity by a personal examination of the different methods of extracting the precious metal, and witnessing the slow and laborious process of mining, as conducted by negro slaves, with the aid of mule power, we accepted an invitation from the landlord of the prominent hotel in Charlotte, to visit the U. S. Branch Mint, then in operation at this town.

Our readers have doubtless noticed the capital C on many U. S. gold coins, without knowing its signification. We would here state, by way of parenthesis, that all coins bearing the letter C are coined at Charlotte, N. C.: those having the letter S are coined at the Mint in San Francisco; letter O, New Orleans; letter D, Dahlenga, Georgia; while coins without

this peculiarity emanate from the Mint in Philadelphia.

During our peregrinations through the different departments of the Mint, we accidentally met the late Dr. Andrews, a very prominent citizen of the place, and one who had devoted many years to scientific subjects, including Geology and Numismatology. The Dr. very kindly invited us to his residence, and while there we had an opportunity to inspect a fine cabinet of coins and minerals.

After spending an hour or two very pleasantly looking over the rare and curious relics, coins, &c., the Dr. suddenly called our attention to what he termed "the greatest curiosity, and one of the most valuable relics in his Cabinet."

"By all means let us see it, Dr.," we replied, and taking from one of his numerous drawers a small glass box, he advanced to a table, around which our party gathered, and delivered himself, impromptu, of the following:

"Gentlemen, I am now about to exhibit a genuine relic of the great and good Washington,—a coin found upon the farm at Mt. Vernon about 30 years ago, and which has been in my possession ever since. I have frequently been offered as high as \$50 for this piece, but would not part with it upon any consideration whatever."

Of course the name of Washington in connection with a coin found under such circumstances, excited each one of us to the highest point of expectation. We thought of the "naked Busts," "Confederations," and "Dismes," and patiently awaited the sight, perhaps, of some unique and valuable piece; but, judge of our feelings, ye numismatic connoisseurs, when the cover of the box was raised, and there, in all its *brassy* and *orthographical* deformity, lay before us the common French-Washington Token of 1783! worth, at its extreme valuation, 25 cents!

We had in our pocket at that very moment about a dozen of the almost worth-

less things, alike in every particular. Did we take the conceit out of the too enthusiastic Doctor, by explaining his error? we think we hear the reader ask. *We did not.* We could not. After almost a lifetime of pleasurable emotion, caused by the possession of a *supposed-to-be* unique Washington relic, it would have been cruel—criminal—in us to have, in one unthinking moment, dashed the happiness thus conjured up and cherished for years, to the ground, and so we left the Doctor in possession of his coin and the error which, to him, gave it inestimable value.

Dr. Andrews has since passed away, but his name and fame will stand while science has a prominent position among men.

PUBLIC SALES OF COINS.

BOSTON.—Sam'l. Hatch, Auctioneer Sept. 25th. Number of coins, 769, attendance good, prices obtained very fair. A good assortment of American coins, medals, &c.

NEW YORK.—Bangs, Merwin & Co., Auctioneers, Sept. 30th. Number of pieces, 560, attendance small, amount realized over eleven hundred dollars. Mr. Cogan was the heaviest buyer at this sale.

PHILADELPHIA.—Birch & Sons, Auctioneers, Oct. 15th. Number of pieces 534. Nothing of great rarity, or value in the latter sale. Attendance large, and good prices realized.

N. E. NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of this Society, Thursday evening, August 27th, Pres't Shurtleff in the Chair, the members examined, with much interest, the gems of the celebrated Mickley collection of Rare American Coins, now in the possession of a member of the Society,—W. E. Woodward, Esq., of Roxbury, Mass.

These coins are too well known to need description here, besides, a Descriptive Catalogue of the entire collection will soon be issued. It is hardly necessary to say that the coins were examined with the eager attention their beauty and rarity deserved; and, after spending an entire evening discussing them, the meeting adjourned after passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Woodward, for his kindness in showing and describing the coins.

IMPORTANT NEWS!

The Government is about to call in all the U. S. stamps of present issue and substitute different valuations, (in some instances,) and different colors and designs. Perhaps we shall have the "self-cancelling stamp," recently invented, which serves so admirably to guard against fraud. All stamp collectors should take timely warning, and preserve the used stamps of present issue, especially those of the higher denominations,—adhesive and envelope.

NEW STAMPS.

We are indebted to the October number of the *Philatelist*, (Brighton, England,) for the following newly-issued stamps:

BOLIVIA.—This country has a new stamp. The value is 5 centavos, and is printed in green, on plain white paper.

AUSTRIA.—Two pairs of additions to the already numerous tribe of Austrians have entered appearance. One pair is identical, in every respect, with its congeners, except, of course, in monetary denomination, which is respectively 25 kreuzer, and 25 soldi. The second pair are of larger size, conformably with their much higher cost. In other respects they bear a strong family likeness,—the head of the Emperor being precisely identical with that portrayed on the others. The quartette are printed in color on plain

white unwater-marked paper. The colors are :

25 kreuzer and soldi violet.
50 " " flesh.

THE PLAINT OF THE POSTAGE STAMP*

BY GEORGE ARNOLD.

I'm a very dirty little stamp;

My back is gummed, my face is dimly blurred;
And yet I am, in commerce, cot and camp,

Familiar as that well-known household word.
Yet Oh, to think that I should ever be
Converted into legal currency !

Now on an envelope I'm not so bad,

And I take letters through both cheap and neat;
Sticking to one thing was a way I had,

But now I stick to everything I meet:
And Oh, to think that I could ever be,
Passed in the place of metal currency !

To do my duty I did ne'er refuse;

But wo is me ! for I have fallen low ;

I'm passed for vulgar drinks and oyster stews,

And dirty shaves—'tis that that sticks me so !

Alas ! Alas ! that I should ever be
A victim to the dearth of currency !

Thumbing and gumming have quite worn me out ;

I'm drab and dingy now, instead of red ,

My back is weak, and soon, without a doubt,

If I am passed much more I'll lose my head.

Oh sorry day, when I did chance to be

Put to the use of baser currency !

*Written during the late rebellion,
when P. O. Stamps were in general use
for currency.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE STAMP-COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR,—For the benefit of the philatelic science I have taken the trouble to obtain some "official" information in regard to several hitherto disputed points, which I suppose are thus finally settled.

The Secretary of the American Bank-Note Company, Mr. C. L. Van Zandt, informs me that 'the head on the Mexican stamps engraved by this company is that of Hidalgo, and that on the new stamps of Chili is Columbus, called in Spanish, "Colon," the name on the stamps. The postage stamps of Salvador were en-

graved by this company ; those of Guatemala, we believe, were made in France. The stamped envelopes for Brazil were also furnished by this company. The stamps for the Argentine Republic have already been furnished to that government. The 5c. stamp contains a portrait of Senor Rivadavia ; the 10c. that of Gen. Belgrano ; and the 15c. that of Gen. San Martin.'

In reply to an inquiry of mine as to the truth of the current report regarding the forthcoming issue of 20c. and 28c. adhesives, and 15c. and 20c. envelopes, by our own government, the third Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. A. N. Zavely, states that 'the department does not contemplate issuing any other denomination of postage stamp or stamped envelope than those now furnished. One-cent envelopes are now being furnished to postmasters. They are not, however, of the same design as those issued in 1860. I enclose a specimen.'

I hardly understand the last remark, for the specimen sent me seems to be identical with the similar stamp of 1860. Perhaps your editorial eyes may be able to detect the difference, I therefore in turn enclose it to your inspection.

Respectfully,
West Springfield, Mass. U. S. L. H. B.

[The only difference we can observe between the 1c. envelope of 1860 and that now sent round to postmasters is, that the effigy through the deterioration of the dies, is rather less distinct on the latter than on the former, and the paper used is of a much lighter shade of buff.—Ed.]

[We copy the above letter from the Bath (England) *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, for October, with a view of getting at facts in reference to the many rumors concerning new issues of adhesive and envelope stamps, by our government. Notwithstanding the above statements of "L. H. B.," who by the way, is one of the best informed of American philatelists, and one who generally speaks 'by the card,' we have it on very good authority that the P. O. Dept., will issue not only the 20c and 28c adhesives, but

will in addition call in many of the stamps in present use, and issue those of different denominations in some instances, and those of different color, quality and design in others. The new P. O. regulations which take effect next year, renders it necessary to issue new stamps to meet the contingency. Ed.]

FORGED AUTOGRAPHS OF WASHINGTON.

Five gentlemen in this city, and probably others, have received copies of spurious autographs of Washington. Each set was accompanied by a note, apparently written by a woman, requesting the payment of twenty-five dollars for the forged documents, or the loan of twenty dollars by the return mail. The notes, identical in appearance and phraseology, except in the alteration of proper names are written upon mourning paper, and purport to come from the widow of a Confederate officer. They are all post-marked at Montreal, and are evidently the work of some swindler who has wasted much ingenuity to no purpose. A similar fraud was detected and exposed in Baltimore not long ago, and the same forger may have shifted the scene of operation to Canada.

The letter is as follows :

FRELIGHTSBURGH, MISSISSQUOI Co.,
CANADA EAST, May 28, 1867.

"Sir: My beloved husband, who died lately in Europe, was a collector of literary curiosities, and when in affluent circumstances he expended large sums in the accumulation of what was rare; but lately in consequence of the civil war, in which he was dangerously wounded, he became greatly reduced—in fact completely impoverished—and with the expectation of retrieving himself, sold our once happy home in Virginia and left for Europe; but disappointed in his expectations there, and destitution staring us in the face, it broke his heart, and his wound opening afresh, he sickened and

died, and left me with four small children, without a protector, in great distress and in a foreign land. No words could express my feelings when the dreadful reality became apparent. Gladly would I have died also; but when I looked upon my helpless orphan children, determined to live and struggle on for their sakes sustained me; and now, if my health is spared, I fondly hope to be enabled to support and educate them by teaching music, and my needle.

"Among my lamented husband's papers I found many relating to the interesting past. At first I looked upon them as of little value, but when in Paris I offered a few to several American gentlemen there, and they were delighted to have them, and it was through their kindness that we were enabled to return so far on our way home. The sickness of a darling child and great distress detains me here.

"I am told Mr. ———, you are a kind-hearted, noble-minded gentleman, and an admirer of such things. I know my beloved husband paid twenty-five dollars for one, but if you will kindly send me twenty-five dollars for both, or loan me twenty dollars till I can redeem them, you will, indeed, greatly assist me.

"It is a long way to send, so pray reply by return, and please send a United States Treasury note. The letter will reach me safely, and I can use the currency here directly. Bless you, sir, I shall prayerfully await your reply.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
HARRIET COPLEY."

"I reside three mile from Frelightsburgh, so that you had better enclose your letter, sealed, in cover directed: Dr. L. Bartlett, Frelightsburgh, and the doctor will send it me immediately."

Among the gentlemen to whom copies of this letter was addressed are the British, French, and Swedish consuls in this city and two private citizens. They are all styled "kind-hearted and noble-minded,"

which is undoubtedly true; but they are likewise too shrewd to be deceived by this transparent attempt to swindle them.

The forged autographs are orders purporting to have been issued by Washington in 1778 and 1781. With the simple changes of proper names, they all read as follows:

To Jabez Huntington, Esq., Sheriff of the County of Windham, Conn.:

"SIR: At the urgent solicitation of several of the selectmen and respectable inhabitants of the town of New Haven, I hereby authorize you to discharge from custody Aaron Farnham, now a prisoner and confined by military order in the goal of said county.

"GO. WASHINGTON.

'Headquarters New Windsor, Feb. 22 1781'

"HEADQUARTERS,

"VALLEY FORGE, Feb. 25 1778.

"Permission is granted to Mr. McKean, with is negro man Ben, to pass and re-pass the pickets at the bridge on the Norristown road.

"GO. WASHINGTON."

Great care has been taken by the swindler to stain the paper upon which these orders are written, and to give it an appearance of age. But it was forgotten that an army pass would probably bear the marks of usage by the original holder, so that the perfect smoothness of the surface would alone be sufficient to arouse suspicion.

Autograph collectors should be on their guard against frauds like this.

The *Post* in a subsequent article says:

The forged autographs of Washington, which are noticed in another part of this sheet, seem to have deceived the editor of the Petersburg (Va.) *Index*, who copies the same documents with touching comments, thus:

RELICS OF THE FIRST REVOLUTION.

We were shown yesterday two interesting autographs of the great man whose name and pure character lends honor to our first revolution.

They are suggestive of incidents with whose counterparts we were all made familiar by the late war.

The first reads as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, BERGEN COUNTY,

Sept. 7th 1780.

Permission is granted to Mr. Dickinson, and his negro man Jim, to pass and re-pass the pickets at Ramapo.

GO. WASHINGTON.

This was given at an eventful period in American history. A French fleet had already arrived on our shores, and Washington was about to proceed from his camp in New Jersey to Hartford, Conn., where he planned, in conjunction with Count Rochambeau, the campaign of the next year, which ended the war.

The second paper reads as follows:

To Jabez Huntington, Esq., Sheriff of the County of Windham, Conn't.:

SIR: At the urgent solicitation of the selectmen and respectable inhabitants of the town of New London, I hereby authorize you to discharge from custody Benjamin Thompson, now a prisoner, and confined by military order in the goal of said county.

GO. WASHINGTON.

Headquarters, New Windsor, February 19th, 1781.

When this act of clemency was performed the dawn of independence was streaking the sky. The well-fed, well-clad and finely appointed British, who had worsted the ragged, shoeless patriots on so many fields, now had to contend with large foreign reinforcements and a well-manned foreign fleet. Greene was flying before Cornwallis into Virginia, but he was taking breath for an offensive campaign which soon made his name and that of Morgan a terror to the enemy. Lafayette was in command in Virginia, and the clans were gathering.

These historical reminiscences are very interesting, but the documents furnish a poor foundation for them. The Canadian forger has apparently scattered his imi-

tations broadcast. Probably we shall hear more about them.—*New York Post*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lawrence, Mass., Sept., 23, '67.

Dear Sirs:

If it is not too late, I would like to say a few words on the subject of "Cleaning Coins." We will first consider why coins tarnish, and especially copper ones; then why acids are injurious to coins.

1st. Oxygen gas, which is in the air and all moisture, unites with the metal at the surface, and thus forms rust, or, as we say, dirt. This union is the same thing that takes place in combustion or burning; and, in the case of copper, a portion of the metal is consumed, but it does not fly off, (as in the burning of wood,) but remains on the surface of the copper. If in any way we remove this rust, we remove an exceeding slight portion of the coin. The nobler metals, gold, silver, etc, do not easily rust because they do not readily unite with oxygen.

2d. The substance formed by the union of oxygen and a metal is called an oxyd. Acids, which are composed of oxygen and a metalloïd—sulphur, carbon, phosphorous, &c., are metalloïds—very readily unite with oxygen forming salts. Now, if when an acid is applied to the rust or oxyd on a coin, it (acid) did nothing more than unite with the oxyd to form a salt, its use would be very well, and with a brush we could easily take off the salt formed, thus leaving a bright, clean surface on the coin, which would have received no appreciable injury.

But acid, when applied, does more. It not only unites with the rust already formed, but part of the oxygen of the acid unites with the copper and more of the acid unites with this, so that if the copper was exposed long enough to the acid it would be destroyed. But if at any time during the process we take the coin and brush it, a bright surface will be exposed, but the coin will be injured, be-

cause the acid will first attack prominent parts, as figures of the date, and letters on the coin. Therefore, in cleaning coins, acids should never be used; but I would suggest the following method, which, though it will not injure coins, still it will not give so bright a surface as an acid:

With a blunt sharpened stick of soft seasoned wood, go over the whole surface of the coin, rubbing not too hard; then polish with a stiff brush and some very fine powdered pumice-stone, or with whitening moistened with alcohol. This method will remove only the rust already formed. Yours truly,

S. J. S.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 20th, 1867.
Gents:

By chance I saw your circular pamphlet in which you advertise for "Relics and Curiosities in General." I have what I consider one of the greatest curiosities of the War. The *greatest* curiosity is a stump about three feet high, which stands in the portico of the War Department; which stump was an oak tree standing on the battle-field of Spottsylvania, Va., and was *cut down* by minie bullets fired by Union soldiers. The top is peaked and shows the marks of the bullets. The curiosity which I have is next to this in interest, if it is not even greater in the eyes of some. It is a bronze Ball, about 15 or 18 inches in diameter, (it will just go into a flour barrel), which was on the Cupola of the Railroad Depot at Fredericksburg; and at the battle at that place was shot with some 12 or 14 balls from muskets,—at least it had about that number of holes. The Ball was in possession of our troops at that place after the war, by which it came into my possession.

It would answer for the Ball on a Church spire, Hall, Depot, or any public or private building, or on a large mast or flag staff on a steamboat or other vessel, or on a Hotel.

If you deal in such curiosities I will send it on to you, and you can then write me what it is worth, or sell it for me at a per centage for your time and trouble.

Yours, &c. A. W.

[If any of our readers wish to indulge in war relics of mammoth proportions here is an opportunity. As we have but little room to devote to relics of the above order, we must decline our correspondent's kind offer. It must have been a relative of yours, near Norfolk, who proposed selling us the iron prow of the defunct Merrimac, weighing some thousands of pounds. Some of our successful politicians, in the recent conflict, might need the Ball to cap a flag staff. We give you the benefit of this notice, and will make sale of the "relic" to any party requiring it.—Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. P., NEW BRUNSWICK.—The present issue of U. S. Stamps will soon be called in and others issued together with several new denominations.

J. F. M., NEW YORK.—Your magazine regularly mailed. Overhaul the clerks at your P. O. Thanks for the expression of compliments. Hope to deserve the good opinion of all our subscribers.

ROMAN, ALA.—Coins at hand and money forwarded on 9th ult.

W. M., CAMBRIDGE.—Toy sent per mail.

J. D. N., CAMBRIDGEPORT.—Have written you several times, and looked anxiously for a reply. What is the matter? Have you forgotten "old times"?

H. W. B., ELIZABETH, N. J.—Send on the impression of the coin—will then report.

M. B. JR., HARTFORD.—Have plenty of Confederate P. O. Stamps. Can you furnish a quantity 20c. green?

S. H. C., BOSTON, MASS.—Articles received, and welcome. Please continue the correspondence.

J. B. M., INDIANA.—Thanks for your many favors. Your letters are received with pleasure, and answered promptly.

C. S. STRYKER, PRINCETON, N. J.—Send to E. Cogan, 100 Williams St., New York, for catalogue, and if possible, he will accomodate you.

CADET, WEST POINT, N. Y.—Your coins were in poor condition, or prices would have been better. The BRASS "Model Dime" 1863, was not struck at U. S. Mint, but originated with some one of the numerous counterfeiters that infest the country.

G. M. W., TROY, N. Y.—Made enquiry at express office and forwarded the documents to enable you to obtain package.

JNO. B. M.—Your last received. There is but one Florida piece known and that is of silver, and in Mickley's collection. Some doubt exists in regard to 1815 cent, with a few numismatists, but the majority of experts have long since decided that there never was in existence a genuine 1815 U. S. cent.

J. A. S.—Give us a call when in the city, and, if convenient let us see your 1794 dollar.

STAFFORD SMITH & Co., ENGLAND.—Sent you per Adams Express, by steamer of 10th ult., a package of stamps. Hope the stamps will suit, and that we may establish a little trade with you. All previous transactions perfectly satisfactory. Have written by mail. Please send us Moen's Catalogue of Stamp Illustrations.

C. MYERS.—Will take the 1400 coins at our offer per mail. New Jersey and Connecticut coppers are very common and very cheap. Will pay \$1 each for all uncirculated of these issues.

C. P. B., BOSTON.—Massachusetts Half-cents vary in value from 50c. to \$3 each. Would pay you a good round price for your N. E. shilling.

SUB, PORTAND, ME.—The "Conven-

tion" is still under discussion. Give us your views, and hurry up the boys.

S. O. COPP, St. LOUIS.—Your Spanish stamp is not the rare one of 1852; but the issue of 1865, which is worth uncancelled about 15c. All the very rare issues have the date beneath.

R. W. L.—The brown 3c. U. S. stamp you send is termed the "Lowenberg" or self cancelling stamp. It is an 'Essay.'

S. R. BRIERLY, DENVER CITY.—There are two English magazines we can recommend, viz. *The Philatelist*, Brighton, and *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, Bath, England.

ARTIST, BOSTON, MASS.—Send us a few designs and we will strike a bargain. You can send copies of any of the extremely rare American pieces.

TABLES OF THE CURRENT COINS

Of Twenty-eight Countries, with their relative value in British Money,

Prepared expressly for Mason's "Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine,

BY M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Continued.

LEGHORN.

	£.	s.	d.
1 Denari,	0	0	03-144
4 Denari, a Quatrini,	0	0	03-36
1 Gratia,	0	0	03
8 Gratia, Paoli,	0	0	6
20 Soldi, Livre,	0	0	8½
6 Livres, Piastre of Ex,	0	4	2
7½ Livres, Ducat,	0	5	2½
22 Livres, Pistole,	0	15	6

MILAN.

1 Denari,	0	0	03-82
3 Denari, a Quatrini,	0	0	09-82
12 Denari, Soldi,	0	0	018-42
20 Soldi, Livre,	0	0	832-41
115 Soldi, Scudi of Current	0	4	2½
117 Soldi, Scudi of Ex,	0	4	3
6 Livres, Phillip,	0	4	4½
22 Livres, Pistole,	0	16	0
23 Livres, Spanish Pistole,	0	16	9

NAPLES.

1 Quatrini,	0	0	02-13
3 Quatrini, a Grain,	0	0	03
10 Grains, Carlin,	0	0	4
40 Quatrini, Paoli,	0	0	51-5
20 Grains, Tari,	0	0	8
40 Grains, Testoon,	0	1	4
100 Grains, Ducat of Ex,	0	3	4
43 Tari, Pistole,	0	15	4

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT,

Priced Catalogue.—Continued.

Small Roman Figures.

10 reis, oblong, black.....	35	15
20 " " ".....	18	10
30 " " ".....	10	6
60 " " ".....	15	6
90 " " ".....	20	10
180 " " ".....	30	12
280 " vermilion.....	35	12
300 " ".....	40	15
430 " yellow.....	70	25
600 " black.....	70	25

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

10 reis, oblong, blue.....	10	5
30 " " ".....	12	6

Present issue.—Bust.

10 reis, rect, red.....	15	6
20 " lilac, mauve.....	15	8
50 " blue.....	40	15
80 " brown.....	40	15
100 " green.....	50	15
200 " black.....	50	12
500 " orange.....	75	30

BRITISH COLUMBIA

AND

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

2½ d., rect, pink.....	35	15
British Columbia.		
3 d., rect, blue.....	35	15
Vancouver's Island.		
5 cents, rect, red.....	25	10
10 " blue.....	35	15

BUENOS AYRES.

"Adhesive Stamps."

Head.

1 peso, oblong, blue.....	40	20
1 " rose.....	40	20
2 " blue.....	45	20
2 " rose.....	45	20
4 reals, oblong, green.....	50	25

(To be continued)

COIN MANUALS FOR SALE.

Dickeson's illustrated Coin Manual mailed free of postage.	\$10 00.
Prime's Coins and Seals.	3 50.
Snowden's Medals.	5 00.
Snowden's Coins.	5 00.
Coins of the World.	50.
Coin Priced Catalogue.	25.
Address this Office.	

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTO-
GRAPHS.

Continued.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed ; A L S, Autograph Letter Signed ; D S ; Document Signed ; S, Autograph Signature ; A N S, Autograph Note Signed ; A F, Autograph Frank ; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter ; Env. F. Envelope Franked.

- Brodie, Sir Benjamin, S. \$1.
 Breck, Samuel, A L S. 2 pages, 4to., January, 1824. \$2.
 Bromfield, Dr. Wm., English Botanist, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., February 1847. \$1.
 Balfour, Prof. J. H., Scottish Botanist, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., June 1842. \$1.
 Browning, Robert, A L S, 1 page, 8 vo. \$1 50.
 Breckenbridge, James, M. C., Va., A L S, 1 page, 4to, 1810. 50 cents.
 Brooks, Thomas, Artist, A L S. 2 pages 8vo., 1851. 50 cents.
 Biddle, Nicholas, A L S, 1 page, 4to., 1830. \$1 50.
 Biddle, Nicholas, A L S, 1831. \$1 50.
 Boudinot, Elias, A L S, 2 pages, folio, 1804. \$2 50.
 Barlow, Joel, A D S, 1811. \$1.
 Bethune, Rev. Dr. Geo. W., S. 50 cents.
 Brooks, Rev. C. T., A D S, "The Genius of America." Poem. \$2.
 Bancroft, Geo., A L S, 1 page, 8 vo., February, 1863. \$2 50.
 Biddle, C. J., A L S, 1 page, 8 vo., 1863. 50 cents |
 Bright, John, A D S. 50 cents.
 Beranger, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., July 13 1848, with envelope. \$2.
 Bethune, Rev. G. W., A L S., 1 page, 8vo., October, 1858. \$1.
 Banks, Gen. Nathaniel P., L S, 1 page, 8vo., September, 1859. \$1.
 Banks, Gen. Nathaniel P., A L S., 1 page, 8vo., November, 1860. \$2.

To be Continued.

IN MEMORIAM.

DIED.—September 15th Mr. Frederick H. King, of Boston, Mass., after a short illness, induced in a great degree by unusual and extraordinary labor while compiling a valuable work on Philately. We unite with the brotherhood in lamenting the untimely decease of one of the philatelic fraternity whose last days were devoted to the science to which he has fallen a martyr. Our business relations with the deceased were of the most satisfactory and pleasing description ; and we offer our sympathy to the relatives and friends, who are thus unexpectedly afflicted. To the Stamp Collecting community Mr. King was more generally known as C. M. Seltz.

COINS WANTED!

If any of our readers can furnish us with the coins enumerated below in any condition, we will give them good exchanges in medals, coins, stamps, autographs ; or pay fair cash valuation for each. The coins are needed to complete collections now being made by parties who are anxious to secure each without regard to the condition of the pieces. Kentucky, Louisiana (Colonies Francoise), Rosa Americana, Mass., New York (Nova Eborac), Vermont, (Cents, Half-cents and Farthing, &c.).

U. S. A. Bar Cent ; Franklin 1787, or Link cent ; Talbot, Allum and Lee Tokens ; Mott's Token 1789 ; Georgius Triumpho ; Washington's (1783 1791, 1792) Liberty and Security medalets ; Geo. Clinton coppers ; North American Tokens ; Double Head Washingtons ; Grate Cents ; *Nova Constellation* ; and others.

U. S. Cents of 1793, 1799, 1804, 1809 and 1823. U. S. Half-cents of 1793, '94, '95, '96, '97, 1800, '02, '05, '06, '07, '08, 1810, '11, 1831, 1836, 1840 to 1848 (inclusive) 1852.

Any party giving us the address of persons having in their possession coins, or coppers of any kind, will receive a handsome Mint medal for giving us the desired information.

Beautiful Pattern pieces, fine cents and colonials always on hand—for sale or exchange. Address, Mason & Co., 434 Chestnut St. Phila.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

DECEMBER, 1867.

No. 9.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

(Continued)

The cents of 1795 vary in thickness, and a slight difference exists in the reverses of some half dozen known varieties; while but two acknowledged types are known to have been coined. One specimen of the 1795 cent, and by far the rarest variety, is known as the "THICK LETTERED EDGE '95," while the more common issue is much thinner and has a plain edge. In other respects this cent bears the same general appearance as the cent of 1794, obverse head of Liberty with cap and pole, reverse wreath. The half cents of 1795 are fac similis of the cents; there being about the same variety—thin and thick types, plain and lettered edges.

The thick die lettered edge, as in the case of the cent, is considered rare and most sought after by numismatists.

There is a very beautiful and rare type of the Liberty Cap '95, known as the "Jefferson Head." The features of Liberty bear a resemblance to the profile view of Thomas Jefferson.

A brief reference to the gold and silver coinage of 1795 may not be out of place here.

The first gold coins, bearing the impress of the United States Government, were minted June, 1795. There were coined during the year 2795 eagles, 8707 half eagles. These gold pieces are not rare, owing, doubtless, to the few collectors who, on account of the vast expense entailed upon collecting a complete series of these beautiful and valuable coins, avoid them altogether. It is with-

in bounds to say that there are not one hundred private numismatists in the U. S. who combine the U. S. gold coin with their series of American pieces.

The silver issue of 1795 was as follows: 184,013 silver dollars, 317,886 half dollars, 86,416 half dimes. Copper issue, 82,000 cents; 25,600 half cents.

1796.—This year the cents differed materially. Upon one type the obverse presents the Liberty head, cap and pole, with date, above the head edged Liberty; reverse wreath, with the words "one cent;" around the wreath legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. The obverse of each of the cents of '94, '95 and '96 are alike; while the reverses are very nearly similar in appearance; the difference in nearly all the varieties being merely a slight change in formation of wreath, large and small letters in legends, and a scarcely perceptible variation in the features of Liberty.

One of the more common types of the cent of 1796 has upon the obverse a fillet head, with a portion of hair drawn behind and secured in the form of a cue; while the Liberty cap and pole disappear entirely. During the month of July, '96, the latter type appeared and this fillet head supplanted the Liberty head with cap and pole for several years, until a more classic looking dame was adopted for our copper coinage. The reverse of the "Fillet Head" cent of '96 remained the same as the preceding issues.

The half cent of 1796 bears the same general appearance as the Liberty Cap cent of that date. Two varieties only are known—large and small dates—and

few collectors can boast of possessing this remarkably rare coin. The statistics of the United States Mint of Phila., recorded the coinage of 25,600 half cents of 1796. This record is indisputably an error, for there are but a dozen specimens known, and no plausible excuse has ever been made public for the remarkable disappearance of such a vast quantity of coins from general circulation.

There were 6934 gold eagles, 6196 half eagles and 963 quarter eagles coined in 1796; also, 972,920 silver dollars, 5,894 silver quarter dollars, 22,135 dimes, 10,230 half dimes. Of the copper coins there were 111,179 cents.

Patterns were issued in 1796 of the silver half dollars and the copper half cents.

(To be Continued.)

GOING! GOING!! GONE!!!

(THE MICKLEY SALE.)

The glorious numismatic agony, which for many long and tedious weeks has alternately filled the minds of coin collectors with hope and despair, is a thing of the past. The great, the beautiful, the valuable, the notorious, the almost unparalleled collection of coins (formerly the property of our enthusiastic numismatic townsman, J. J. Mickley, Esq.,) has been struck down by the auctioneer's hammer; the beautiful combination shattered, and scattered to every portion of our beloved country.

We can but regret the great loss our Government has sustained in missing the opportunity to control and keep intact this superb, interesting historical series of American coins. It is a matter to console ourselves upon, however, that the destruction and dissemination of this valuable collection will result in giving an impetus to the coin trade.

1st. By calling public attention to the apparently enormous prices obtained for many of the coins. Secondly, by enabling numismatic connoisseurs to improve their series by adding pieces ob-

tained at the sale, and casting loose a quantity of inferior specimens which are readily snapped up by beginners, or bought up by the coin dealers for speculative purposes. Thirdly, by the immense publicity given this sale through the press of this country, thereby giving the general public a knowledge of the fictitious value of coins, and awakening an interest in the subject of numismatology.

SALE OF COINS.

The sale of rare coins and medals at the rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., which began at Clinton Hall, Monday evening, and has been continued every evening since, last night reached a point in the catalogue which will, without doubt, interest many of our readers, who would have cared little for ancient Greek and Roman antiquities, but who can scarcely fail to read with somewhat of interest that there are still in existence the coins with which their grandfathers bought their bread and butter, and with which their grand-dames purchased their silks and other occasional luxuries in the shape of dry-goods. The first three days of the week have sufficed to dispose of those coins which are reckoned truly ancient, as well as those which have been accumulated belonging to various existing nations.

Most of those present last evening were buyers. Silver coins of the United States led the sale, and of the quarter dollars, the one which brought the heaviest price was the silver quarter dollar of 1823, very rare, there having been not more than a score probably ever put into circulation. This one is one of the two or three which have been rescued from general circulation, and it is marked on the catalogue as excessively rare. It sold for \$47 50 to Dr. James.

Of the dimes, the choice impressions were sold as follows: A dime of 1804, very fine, \$13; of 1800, very fine, \$9;

1851, and from that time down for the next twenty years, the dimes brought only 15 to 50 cents each. Of the half-dimes, that of 1794 brought \$10, and others from that date to 1801 brought from \$3 25 to \$3 60 each. The half-dime of 1802, which is said to be more rare than any other coin in the American silver series, there being but three specimens known, was bought by Mr. Sanford for \$45. Others sold for prices ranging from \$3.75 to \$1.25. Large prices were paid for other coins, of which the largest was for the silver dollar of 1804, which was purchased by Mr. Lilien-dahl for \$750.00.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 6.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

Did any of our numismatic friends ever fail to notice the enthusiastic delight which a Coin Collector exhibits, when he has accidentally become the possessor of a fine Coin—a gem of sparkling beauty—a perfect numismatic diamond? It would require the pen of a Dickens to paint the different emotions of pleasure which animate the possessor of such treasures. We can all imagine the pleasant surprise persons would naturally exhibit when coming into the possession of property, or having a "streak" of good luck, unexpectedly thrust upon them; but this pleasure pales before the ecstasy exhibited by a Coin Collector, when presenting to his numismatic companions a fine or very rare coin for inspection, which he has suddenly and unexpectedly acquired.

We were lead into this vein of rambling preamble, while calling up an incident which occurred at our old friend Mickley's residence in this city, a few years ago. Few of our readers are aware that Mr. Mickley is a great musical celebrity; but those who have been fortunate enough to claim acquaintanceship with

the great Coin hero, need not be told how the rooms of that old-fashioned residence in Market Street, groan with ponderous pianos and the walls are hung profusely with old violins, guitars, and paintings; and even a second story rear room, has all the implements of a musical instrument makers trade scattered about; while an odd looking nursery far in the rear is piled, ceiling high with old books, newspapers and pamphlets, relieved by eccentric looking chests and boxes. Mr. Mickley has not been an idle student of science. Besides coins, documents, books, medals, &c., which he has collected and mastered, there are instruments which when touched by his masterly hand produce sweet, scientific, soul inspiring sounds and cause us to look up in his good natured, smiling, open countenance, and wonder at the ability and genius of the man. Upon one occasion Mr. Cogan, while pursuing the Coin trade in Philadelphia, had purchased a very fine coin which he knew Mr. Mickley was very anxious to obtain, and without waiting to show his treasure to his many greedy customers, he started for the residence of Mr. M. Upon being ushered in and running up stairs, he found the enthusiastic musician, violin in hand, buried in the depth of some opera, and so eagerly drawing the bow that Mr. Cogan's entrance was unnoticed. Here was a picture for a Hogarth. Two aged men, both celebrated in their way; one with the numismatic fever burning clear to the tips of his fingers, within which he held the carefully wrapped "gem" whose exhibition was in one infinitesimal moment to change the whole nature of the musician, who sat doubled up over his much loved violin; and whose performances on the same had so absorbed the numismatist that he seemed to be living in a lonely world of his own creating. Mr. Cogan hustled up to M., and slapping him familiarly on the shoulder, cried out, "Come, put up that old fiddle, I've got a coin to show you."

Mickley. (Laying down his fiddle and bow) "Is it a fine '99, my dear boy?"

Cogan. "No sir, it is not."

M. "Is it a fine 1804?"

C. "It is not!"

M. (Impatiently). "Come, my dear boy, show it up. What is it?"

C. "It is a fine 1793 'Ameri'!"

In a few moments Mickley's eyes sparkled and glistened like a diamond in the sun, as he held up to the light a beautiful, and very fine specimen of U. S. Ameri '93. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to add that Mickley became the possessor of the coin, and our venerable friend Cogan departed with three rare coins, worth some twenty-five dollars. What must be the feelings of Mr. C., when he turns over the pages of Mickley's Priced Catalogue and reads "No. 1938; 1793 Flowing Hair; *rev.* United States of Ameri, \$110 00!!" This, my dear readers, was the identical piece which turned glorious music, into enthusiastic numismatology.

THE GREAT COLLECTION OF MEDALS AND COINS

Made by Mr. Joseph J. Mickley, of this city, which is now being disposed of at auction in New York, is still attracting much attention, although the prices thus far realized have not been as extravagant as was anticipated. We give the following result of the sale, in continuation of our previous report:—

A penny of William the Conqueror's day brought 95 cents; another, \$3.25; and one of Edward the Confessor, \$2. Those of Henry II, \$1 to \$4.25; and of Henry III, 55 cents. From Richard I to Edward II, 50 cents to \$1.50. Groats and pennies from Edward III to Edward IV, 25 cents to \$3.25. Philip and Mary sixpences, 30 cents to \$3. Elizabeth shillings, 50 cents to \$1. Elizabeth copper coins, 25 cents to 60 cents. James II, copper and silver, 10 cents to \$4 38. Crowns of George I, \$6; of George II,

\$10. A half-penny of George I, \$4; a shilling of George III, \$3.50; crowns of his reign, \$4 to \$21; a sixpence, 50 cts.; a half-penny, \$4.50; a penny, \$1.50; a crown of George IV, \$20; and of William IV, \$34 50.

Scotland pennies, from David I to Robert I, brought from 50 cents to \$2.25; groats from David II to James IV, 63 cents to \$1.75. Silver coins of Mary Queen of Scots, \$1 to \$12, and other silver and copper coins from \$2 to \$10

Common American Colonial pennies ranged from 15 cents to \$1.25.

Of French coins, a copper of Charlemagne's reign sold for \$7; those of Louis I to Francis I, 20 cents to \$4.25; and from Francis I to Charles X, 50 cents to \$2.50. Papal coins, from Urban V to Leo X, brought from 50 cents to \$2.75.

Roman ante-republic coins sold from \$2 to \$16; of the republic, 25 cents to \$1.25; of the empire, from Nero to close 10 cents to \$3.25.

Ancient Greek coins of various towns brought from 75 cents to \$4.75; of Alexander the Great, \$1 to \$5 50; of Antigonus and Antiochus, \$7 and \$7.25. Rupees brought 60 cents; a silver shekel, \$4.25, and a pagoda, \$2.

Of silver British war medals, a Wellington brought \$3; a Victoria of India and the Crimea, respectfully, \$2.75 and \$3.13. A Nightingale penny brought \$3; an Erskine and Gibbs' halfpenny, \$1.50.

Medals of Germany were sold from 25 cents to \$5; and of German coins, Prussian sold from 5 cents to \$2; Bavarian, 10 cents to \$5.25; Saxon, 10 cents to \$4.25; of Wurttemberg, 15 cents to \$2.50; Baden, \$1 to \$2.13; Hesse Cassel, 20 cts. to \$3.25; Frankfort, 5 cents to \$4.50; Brunswick, 55 cents to \$8 50; Belgium, 50 cents to \$5 38; Sweden, 35 cents to \$6.50; Denmark, 10 cents to \$7.25; Switzerland, 13 cents to \$5; Austria, 20 cents to \$8.75; Poland, 25 cents to \$2; Roman, 25 cents to \$5.

Of gold coins, a Valentinian brought

\$5.50; Nathias, \$9.25; Georgius, \$11; Gustavus, \$6; Jerome Napoleon, \$9; Australia, \$7.25.

Prices seemed governed less by the antiquity or historical interest of the objects than by their rarity. It might be supposed that as a large demand exists here and in Europe for old coins, they would be extensively counterfeited, but connoisseurs pretend to great skill in detecting imitations, and the attempt might be useless.

NUMISMATIC WIT.

A Scotchman asked an Irishman, "Why were half farthings coined in England?" Pat's answer was: "To give Scotchmen an opportunity of subscribing to charitable institutions."

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

The Papal States have issued a new set of postage stamps bearing the same general appearance as previous issues, as follows:

2	Centiesimi green type of the 2 baj.		
5	light blue	"	3
10	vermilion	"	8
20	deep red	"	4
40	yellow	"	6
80	deep rose	"	1

TURKEY.

A Turkish railway Co., has issued a black stamp on green paper. It is about the size of our common 3c. stamp and has the representation of a harbor with steamer and sail boats in the foreground; while a train of cars is seen emerging from between a row of mountains in the distance. Over the top of the mountains appears a crescent shaped sun emitting rays of light, while above the sun appears a star. At the top the words, LOCAL POST; at the bottom, 20 PARAS; at the left side the capitals, D. B. S. R.; right side the words, "KUSTEND, JE, CZERNAWODA." A Turkish character in each of the four corners. This company have also in use a 5 Paras blue, and a 40 Paras pink.

A NORWAY LOCAL.

For a long time we have had a light brown, oblong stamp, bearing a castle in the centre, with the word, BERGENS, above and below, BY POST, staring us in the face. We supposed the nondescript a "local" without knowing from whence it emanated. We now learn by way of the *Philatelist* for November, that the above described stamp is a local, and its paternal progenitor, Norway. The above may be very satisfactory, as far as it goes; but who is Bergens? A town, or a biped? Whence comes Bergens? What for? How much? &c. Messieurs Editors of *Philatelist* let us know more about the unheralded bantling. If a local stamp, what Burg in? Answer "by post."

PERU.

The present series of stamps recently produced for Peru by the American Bank Note Co., of N. Y., are like their predecessors, very pretty indeed, consisting of

5	Centavos green.
10	vermilion.
20	brown.

These stamps are perforated as usual and printed on plain, white, unwatermarked paper.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The 9d stamp of this country is now of a bright yellow; the previous issue being of a greenish cast.

CEYLON.

The C. C., watermarked on the blue penny stamps of this capricious island is no longer reversed,—*Philatelist*.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

These islands have issued a new shilling stamp, which we will describe in our next No., not having received a specimen, as yet.

HOLLAND.

We learn from our foreign exchanges that this country issued the new 20c, 25c, and 50c stamps, and have in contemplation the emission of a complete set: which will make the new series run as

follows: 5c blue; 10c red; 15c yellow ochre; 20c dark green; 25c deep violet; 50c gold. These stamps will be printed in color on white unwatermarked paper, and all present the same type.

NATAL.

The stamps of this colony 1c are now of a more brilliant red than formerly.

ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

The new issue of this Confederation will appear Jan. 1st ensuing and consist of 5, 10 and 15 Centavos.

LUXEMBOURG.

The 2, 20 and 40 Centimes are now true perforated.

VICTORIA.

The current 2 pence is watermarked with figure 6.

SWEDEN.

The 9 ore of this country is to be suppressed.

BRAZIL.

Another envelope from this Empire of same type as the 200 reis. The value is 300 reis; color, bright vermilion.

INDIA.

Some of the India stamps have been slightly changed recently; some of them bearing the word SERVICE. Singapore has a provisional set in use, formed from the regular India stamp; the decimal value being stamped by hand in color across the denomination of the original, similar to the St. Helena's, &c.

1c Anna brown, altered to 2c red.	
1c " " " " 3c blue.	
2c yellow " " 8c green.	
4c green " " 12c red.	
8c pink " " 24c blue.	

ITALY.

We learn from the *Philatelist*, that the Italian government is about to issue 4 Centimes, a 50c stamp for registered letters, with a representation of Victor Emanuel wearing the crown of Lombardy.

NEW ISSUES.

A neat little folio has been laid on our desk, entitled *The American Stamp Mercury*, published on the 25th of each

month, by F. Trifet, Boston, Mass. There is plenty of room for philatelic publications without crowding, and we extend the hand of fellowship to all who exhibit the right spirit. The *Mercury* looks and promises well. Hope it may flourish and prove in the future that its prospectus was an honest and sincere one. We cannot well say more until future numbers of the *Mercury* are received.

EXHIBITION OF COINS AND STAMPS.

Among the many curious and interesting things on exhibition at the New Jersey State Fair, Oct. 8th, was a collection of postage stamps entered by Dr. Jas. A. Petrie, of Elizabeth; and a handsome collection of coins by E. J. Cleveland, Esq., of the same city. Both exhibitors were honored with Silver medals.

We trust to record many, such evidences of the healthy state of numismatology and philately as the above. Every collector of coins, minerals, stamps, autographs, books, birds, shells, insects, etc, should compete for prizes in the different State and County Fairs.

THE CRYING WANT.

The United States, as a nation, lacks many public institutions possessed by many of the nations of Europe; not the least of which is a national museum. We have, it is true, a Patent Office, a Smithsonian Institute, and Historical and Scientific Associations in the different States; but the great, the crying want is a museum for the collection and exhibition of antiquities, coins, minerals and other interesting matters which point to our rise and progress as a nation. The British museum is the ornament and pride of Great Britain. Why cannot some enterprising congressmen give this matter attention, and agitate the subject until some tangible movement is inaugurated to give our country an institution

which has long been needed, and one to which we can point with pride and satisfaction. Had we a National museum, we would not suffer our national pride to be humiliated by witnessing the choice specimens of our Country's coinage bought up by foreigners, as in the recent sale of Mickley's collection in N. Y., to grace the Cabinet of the British museum.

A PARTNER WANTED!

We wish to make arrangements with a party, having a few hundred dollars to invest, to take entire charge of the mailing and stamp business of this office. To a young, or middle aged person, having a knowledge of coins, stamps, etc., this affords a good opportunity. Duties light and office hours from 9 to 3. All communications strictly confidential, and full particulars given by letter to any party wishing to engage in the business. The coin business has been established since 1860 and embraces a large number of customers in every part of the Country.

AUTOGRAPH SALE.

An Auction sale of 337 lots autographs, letters, documents, etc., came off on Nov. 29th, at the rooms of Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, New York. Attendance small, prices fair.

PECUNIARY RESULT OF THE MICKLEY SALE.

The total receipts by auction of the Mickley collection of coins amounted to \$16,000.

VALUABLE COINS.

At the great sale of coins in N. Y., Nov. 28th, the U. S. Silver dollar of 1804 realized its owner \$750, bought by Mr. Liliendhal of N. Y. Lord Baltimore penny bought by Dr. Stevens for \$370.

Sommer Islands	-	-	-	\$80 00
1794 U. S. dollar	-	-	-	75 00
1793 Liberty Cap cent	-	-	-	55 00

1793 Ameri cent	-	-	-	110 00
N. E. shilling 1652	-	-	-	21 00
Oak Tree penny 1662	-	-	-	52 00
N. England Elephant	-	-	-	235 00
Carolina Elephant	-	-	-	38 00
Florida piece 1760	-	-	-	52 50
Nova Constellatio dollar	-	-	-	70 00
Annapolis shilling	-	-	-	50 00

CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, Nov. 16th, 1867.

I enclose a wax impression of a coin in my possession, who's history is wanted. By giving it, you will confer a favor. Yours &c.

M. R. HIBBARD.

[It is a "Spade" piece or guinea of Geo. III. Ed.]

I have just exhibited my collection of coins, medals and historical relics, at the fair of the N. J. State Agricultural Society, held Oct. 8, 9, 10, and 11, at Waverly, and had the good luck to be awarded a silver medal. Dr. Petrie exhibited his magnificent collection of stamps, and also drew a medal. Among the things I exhibited was \$1 Greenback No. 1, which I found in circulation in Elizabeth. I may attribute my success in a measure to your magazine, for I had my colonials mostly all explained by clippings from your "History of Coins of America," thinking to give your worthy publication a help. Our collections drew much attention and favorable comment.

Among the curiosities of my collection is a "fillet head" U. S. cent struck over a half-penny of Geo. II. The remains of the latter are plainly to be seen. My collection embraces coins 2500 years old.

Yours truly, E. J. CLEVELAND.

Deerville, Harrison Co., O, Nov. 11, 1867.

Gent: You will remember that when I visited you in Philadelphia, I spoke of an old bible I had in my possession. You wished me to send you a copy of the title page which I now copy.

"THE
BIBLE."

"Translated according to the *Ebreu* and *Greeke*, and conferred with the best translation in divers languages, with most profitable annotations upon all the hard places, and other things of great importance, as may appear in the Epistle of the Reader."

"And also a most profitable concordance for the ready finding out anything in the same contained."

"Imprinted at London, by *Robt. Barker*, Printer to the King's most excellent Majesty. 1608."

Shall have a lot of copper coins to show you, when I visit the city next spring. Yours truly,

R. P., Jr.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. S. STRYKER, PRINCETON, N. J.—Evidently a typographical error. The first George was on the throne in 1722, and the Rosa-Americas, of that date bear his image. The error was a glaring one,—thanks for your reminder. Shall be pleased to receive your criticism and correspondence at any time. We aim to be correct, and feel obliged to our subscribers for pointing out and correcting any mis-statements or errors of the types.

STAFFORD SMITH & Co., BRIGHTON, ENG.—We are waiting patiently to hear from you. Sent you by Adams Express, Oct. 10th a package of stamps. Did you receive them? Please forward by first post six of Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue, and remit balance in money registered letter. Can supply you with 40 000 blue 5c Confederate stamps, captured off Charleston, S. C., during the late civil war. Make a cash offer by mail for the lot (warranted genuine).

GOLDTHWAIT, SALEM, MASS.—Send on the collection by express. Orders promptly attended to.

J. B. M., INDIANA.—Regret the loss of the fine Virginia half-penny by the destruction of the mail car, by fire; and will divide or make it good, just as you say. Thanks for good wishes.

S. A. T., BOSTON, MASS.—Have answered you fully by mail. Business looks hopeful.

M. R. H., NEW YORK.—Sent the back numbers and medal. Do what you can to swell our subscription list.

F. W. F., BETHEL, CONN.—Shall we send you the large coin manual. You will never regret it.

C. K. B., CHICAGO.—Stamps arrived. Have a choice lot. Shall we send you a selection of rare, unused foreign stamps? Can get you a "Mulready Envelope," the Bergedorf $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. and 3 sch, black on colored paper—very rare—in use only eleven days. Have a collection of over 700 stamps (400 unused, including Mulready, Bergedorf and many rare stamps worth \$125, for sale at \$75.

J. W. GRANVILLE, N. Y.—Coins awaiting your orders—if not satisfactory you can return them.

MISS S. S., SOUTH DANVERS.—Your coins were not worth the postage (6c) paid on them. One, an English farthing worth one 1c, the other a miserable U. S. cent worth ditto. Please do not send any more of a like kind.

B. ROMAN, MORTONVILLE, PA.—Send balance of subscription—do not take six month subscribers. Postage on Magazine is 5c per quarter, payable at your P. O.

J. A. P., ELIZABETH, N. J.—Your communication was handed Mr. F. promptly. If he does not reply it is not our fault.

G. V. H., SPRINGFIELD.—Sent magazine as requested. Please row in the same channel again.

P. P. ALLOWAY, DENVER CITY.—Can make you up 50 different foreign stamps for 25c, and 100 choice ones for \$1. Try a package.

M. L., WOBURN, MASS.—Have a good '99 for \$5, and an 1804 good for \$3 50. Send on soon and get them. Have but a few duplicates on hand.

C. C., MICHIGAN CITY.—There are three different pieces of the Wood money (Rosa Americana head) dated 1721, '22, and '23, worth 25c each. 1723 most common.

W. T. N., MIDDLETOWN, CT.—Your name makes the *fifteenth* received and recorded for the magazine, from your "Burg." Troy will be the "Banner City," having received from the Trojans thirty-one subscribers, all the work of one enterprising, indefatigable good fellow named Payfer. "Did he pay for them?" Most undoubtedly. Go thou and do likewise.

S. COFFIN, WINSTED, CONN.—The "bogus" pennies are not worth the powder. Get genuine, or none.

A. H. ANTIQUARIAN, WASHINGTON, D. C.—Sent you a package of magazines. Will send you December number to square account

W. L., NEW YORK.—A good opening here.

W. J. H., M. D., READING.—Have the coins ready for you at any time.

F. TRIFET, BOSTON.—We have complied with your request. In your next number you can retaliate in kind.

HOWARD, MONTREAL.—Shall endeavor to keep up with the times on stamps. Expect 10 000 foreign by steamer early this month.

A WORD TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Nearly all of our patrons have expressed a wish to see our little magazine enlarged and illustrated. It has been our purpose from the commencement of the enterprise, to improve and beautify this journal until it can take rank as the first of numismatic and philatelic publications in America. To do this we require the aid of our friends. Let each subscriber obtain one name only, for one year, and

our subscription list will be doubled, and the second year of the magazine wonderfully improved. A Mint medal sent to all new subscribers. Terms \$1 per annum.

TABLES OF THE CURRENT COINS Of Twenty-eight Countries, with their relative value in British Money,

Prepared expressly for Mason's "Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine,"

BY M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Continued.

	£.	s.	d.
PIEDMONT.			
1 Denari,	0	0	0 1-16
3 Denari, a Quatrini,	0	0	0 1-16
12 Denari, Soldi,	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
12 Soldi, Florin,	0	0	9
20 Soldi, Livre,	0	1	3
6 Florins, Scudi,	0	4	6
7 Florins, Ducatoon,	0	5	3
13 Livres, Pistole,	0	16	3
16 Livres, Louis d'or,	1	0	0
POLAND.			
1 Shelans,	0	0	0 7-45
3 Shelans, a Grosh,	0	0	0 7-15
5 Groshens, Caustic,	0	0	2 1-5
3 Caustics, Tince,	0	0	7
18 Groshen, Ort,	0	0	8 $\frac{3}{8}$
30 Groshens, Florin,	0	1	2
10 Groshens, Rix Dollar,	0	3	6
8 Florins, Ducat,	0	9	4
5 Rix Dollar, Frederic d'or	0	17	6
1 Rez,	0	0	0 27-400
10 Rez, Half Vinton,	0	0	0 27-40
20 Rez, Vinton,	0	0	1 7-20
5 Vintons, Testoon,	0	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 Testoons, Crusade of Ex,	0	2	3
24 Vintoons, New Crusade,	0	28	2-5
10 Testoons, Milve,	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
48 Testoons, Mocda,	1	7	0
64 Testoons, Joanesa,	1	16	0
ROME.			
1 Quatrini,	0	0	0 3-22
5 Quatrini, a Bayoc,	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
8 Bayocs, Julio,	0	0	6
10 Bayocs, Stamp Julio,	0	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
24 Bayocs, Testoon,	0	1	6
10 Julios, Crown Currant,	0	5	0
12 Julios, Crown Stamp,	0	6	0
18 Julios, Chequin,	0	9	0
31 Julios, Pistole,	0	15	6

(To be continued.)

PRICED CATALOGUE
OF THE
GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.
Nov., 1867.

(Reported by Dr E. Maria of Phila.)
(Expressly for the C. C. Magazine.)

PART I. AMERICAN SERIES.

U. S. CENTS.

1793 Liberty cap, entirely uncirculated, polished surface. \$55 00.

1793 Liberty cap, cracked die; uncirculated. \$37 50.

1793 Flowing hair, chain on the reverse, uncirculated. \$23 00.

1793 ditto, \$23 00.

1793 Flowing hair; reverse chain, very rare and fine. \$11 00.

1793 Flowing hair; reverse "U. S. Ameri;" proof. \$110 00.

1793 Flowing hair; rev. Ameri, different from the last; very rare, not fine. \$11 25.

1793 Flowing hair; rev. wreath; superb condition, extremely rare variety. \$31 00.

1793 Flowing hair, rev. wreath, very fine. \$17 00.

1793 Flowing hair; rev. wreath. Portions of this cent still retain the original brightness. \$12 50.

1793 Flowing hair; rev. wreath; different from any of the others, uncirculated. \$13 50.

1793 Flowing hair; rev. wreath; uncirculated, almost proof. \$28 00.

1793 Lettered edged, different, uncirculated, bright. \$17 50.

1794 Perfectly uncirculated, almost proof. \$20 00.

1794 A different type, nearly as fine \$7 00.

1794 Small head; another beautiful specimen. \$6 50.

1794 On planchet a size larger than the other varieties; fine. \$5 50.

1794 Large planchet, very fine. \$5 00.

1794 Large planchet, broken die; very fine. \$2 75.

1794 Different type, uncirculated. \$2.

1794 Small planchet, fine. \$1 25.

1795 Thick planchet, lettered edge, "One Cent" high in the wreath; fine. \$11 00.

1795 Thin planchet, perfectly uncirculated, very fine. \$14 00.

1795 Thin planchet, broad milling on the surface. \$7 50.

1795 Thin planchet, "One Cent" high in the wreath; uninjured by circulation. \$5 00.

1795 Jefferson head; good condition. \$4 50.

1796 Liberty cap; in the finest possible condition. \$30 00.

1796 Liberty cap, differs slightly from the last, and perfectly uncirculated. \$13.

1796 Liberty cap; unlike either of the former, scarcely circulated. \$5 00.

1796 Fillet head; perfectly uncirculated. \$17 00.

1796 Fillet head; different variety, bright and uncirculated. \$5 00.

1796 Fillet head; an extremely rare type, uncirculated.

1796 Fillet head; milling extends entirely round the coin; uncirculated. \$4 50.

1796 Fillet head; differs from all the preceding, uncirculated. \$2 75.

1796 Fillet head; another type, fine. \$3 25.

1797 Bright and uncirculated. \$5 00.

1797 Another type, very fine. \$2 00.

1797 Still another variety, quite as fine. \$1 50.

1797 Two faces on the obverse, good condition, unique. \$2 50.

1798 Splendid, uncirculated; portions still remain bright. \$17 00.

1798 Another variety, very fine indeed. \$3 50.

1798 Another type, broken die, very fine condition. \$2 25.

1799 Very fine indeed, having been but little in circulation. \$32 00.

1800 Bright and uncirculated. \$5 00.

1800 Another variety; fully equal to the last. \$4 50.

1800 Over 1799; very fine indeed. \$2.

(To be Continued.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

JANUARY, 1868.

No. 10.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

From 1612 to 1868.

(Continued)

1797.—The "fillet head" this year, became a fixture upon the copper cent, which remained unchanged until 1808. The coins of 1797 were very plentiful with the exception of the silver half dollar, which, from its rarity, presents indubitable evidence of having been originally a "pattern piece." The half cent of this year presents the liberty cap and pole like its predecessors. There are a few of these small coins extant, with lettered edge, similar to those of 1795. Half cents were coined for convenience in making change, at a time when the Spanish $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $6\frac{1}{4}$ silver pieces were in general circulation in this country, and when the fractional part of a cent was quite an item in the good old days of low prices. These diminutive copper coins, however, were mostly confined to the large cities, and are now found in large quantities near the locality of their coinage—good evidence that their circulation was considerably restricted, and seldom found far from home. Issue 897,510 cents; 107,048 half cents.

1798.—The cents of this date bear the same general description as the previous year, although a few varieties are found, consisting in the lettering, date, &c., scarcely perceptible in a casual examination of the coin. Issue, 868,700. There were no half cents coined this year.

1799.—This year presents a most remarkable feature connected with the country's coinage. Notwithstanding the unusual number of 1,015,780 cents coined

in 1799, not a single uncirculated specimen can be found in the country. Many of these coins have been found in such a poor condition, and so badly worn that one would naturally presume that the only coins we used, or abused, for nearly four score years were the pennies of 1799. It has been asserted by those who have given close attention to our copper coinage, that the metal was unusually soft, and hence wore away very rapidly. Others claim that the dies were unevenly arranged when the coins were struck, and the date was never perfectly stamped upon the piece. Be this as it may, the fact stares us boldly in the face, that by some unusual circumstance the coppers of 1799 have worn away; or the perfect ones disappeared from circulation, and so concealed, that extensive research and public appeals with large rewards, for a series of years in the newspapers, have failed to produce a single perfect specimen of this coin. Two varieties of the 1799 cent are known; one having the lower point or tale of the right hand 9 extending down towards the edge, and but slightly curved; while in the other variety, the tail of the last 9 curves up, until the dot at the end nearly touches the round top of the nine,—resembling at a casual glance the figure 8. The latter coin is the rarest of the two, and commands a higher fictitious value. This year, as in the case of the preceding, no half cents were issued.

1800.—Obverse and reverse similar to the three last years, and but a few varieties known; the most important of which is the "overstrike;" or "1800 struck over

1799," as generally expressed by numismatists. It seems to have been the habit of the mint, to erase a portion of the date on an obsolete die, and by placing a new figure upon the old die, make it perform *double duty*. Whether this action arose from a disposition on the part of the government to economize, the haste to issue coins, or the scarcity of die sinkers, is not positively known; but the fact that many of our coins present a double date, or an "overstrike" is sufficient proof that the dies were well and thoroughly used. The cent of 1800 exhibits the first evidence of the repeated use of dies for other years than those for which originally intended. By the use of an ordinary magnifying glass the 1799 can be plainly traced beneath the three right hand figures of 1800. Half cents made their appearance again this year, with the "fillet head" substituted for the "Liberty cap and pole;" and this *obverse* with the same reverse as the cents, gave the copper coins the same appearance for a number of years. Cents issued 2,822, 175; half cents 211,530. Good specimens of the latter pieces are rarely met with.

1801.—Same general appearance as previous issues. The important varieties consist of the "H-NITED STATES" and the (1-000) *one and three ciphers* instead of (1-100) "one one-hundredths." These were undoubtedly the errors of a careless engraver, unimportant, and perhaps unknown to the general public, yet of the greatest significance to the numismatologist. No half cents issued in 1801. No of cents, 1,362,837.

1802.—No change in the cent of this year and few unimportant varieties; consisting of trifling differences in the engraved lines, letters, dates, &c. A few half cents struck, and a peculiar coincidence, the dies of the half cent of 1800 were brought into requisition in this case, as in the cents of the same date, as plainly shown by the "overstrike," and

the diminutive appearance of the 2, over the cipher. Of cents there were coined, 3,435,100; half cents, 14,366. Very few of the half cents can be found at the present day and fine specimens exceedingly rare.

1803.—Nothing unusual or varying from the last year's coinage. Two varieties, not worth recording, "cracked and perfect die." Issue 2,471,353. There were 97,500 half cents coined. Both the cent and half cent have been well preserved, and found in plentiful numbers.

[NOTE.—The gold and silver coinage of America, we shall allude to in detail, in a future work.]

(To be Continued.)

AN INTERNATIONAL COIN.

A specimen medal of the proposed international coin of twenty-five francs, recently struck by the government of France, has been presented to President Johnson, through Mr. Samuel B. Ruggles, delegate of the United States to the International Monetary Conference, and who has just returned from Paris.

The new coin is twenty-four millimetres in diameter, very slightly exceeding that of the present half eagle of the United States, and the sovereign of Great Britain. It bears on its obverse the conjoint inscription: "Five dollars,"—"Twenty-five francs,"—and is a type of the proposed monetary union of the three nations.

If adopted by the governments of the United States and Great Britain, this international coin, bearing the denominations and the emblems of the respective nations, will circulate side by side in perfect equality and without impediment, throughout the world.

The official report of Mr. Ruggles, fully embodying the facts needed for the careful consideration of the subject, will probably be sent to Congress during the coming week.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 7.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

The motives which actuate Coin collectors in the accumulation of numismatic treasures, are almost as variable as the coins collected. We have met, in our travels through the country, many collectors, and examined many cabinets—from the indifferently poor to the superlatively good,—and have yet to see two collectors whose ideas of arrangement or classification of coins were alike. One is satisfied with wrapping carefully and endorsing all coins, good and bad, packing them carefully away in an old drawer, closet, chest or book case. Another will have only the finest of cabinets or cases, beautifully polished, and neatly subdivided into drawers and compartments, where the coins are chronologically arranged with great taste and beauty. To the latter class belongs

THE DEVOTED COLLECTOR.

This style of numismatist is of equal rarity with the 1799 U. S. cts., but always found in better condition. The devoted collector has his neat little cabinet, with nice lined drawers, and the coins arranged chronologically in straight rows. With each coin of rarity will be found a concise description of its age, value, history, how obtained, &c. The D. C. generally carries about him a small memorandum book, full of notes concerning all the remarkable coins, and has the number and variety of each issue plainly and comprehensively sketched for instant reference and instruction.

He, it is, who scrutinizes a coin with the eye of a connoisseur, and can tell you to a fraction how many types of this piece, how many varieties of that, and is particular to notice the 12, 13 and 15 Star coins. He knows whether the obverse of certain Colonials have horse heads looking right or left by a simple glance at the reverse.

Look at him as he daintily takes a coin carefully between the points of his forefinger and thumb, and critically, closely, eyes each curved or dotted line, each peculiar wave of the hair, and in a moment, as it were, has its history by heart. It is the devoted collector who discovers the infinitesimal peculiarities and differences for which the Connecticut Cents are noted. He can discover an omission, addition or reversal of letters by an innate perception, which serves the purpose as well in feeling a coin as seeing it.

Your D. C. never sells a coin, but always has a duplicate for trading purposes, and is always using his surplus pieces to better his series of American or foreign, as the case may be.

To see him open his pretty cabinet and gaze again and again upon his treasures, you would take him to be a greedy miser; and yet in nothing is he miserly, save and except in the accumulation of fine coins. He abhors electrotypes, copies and altered coins; keeps every numismatic work he can purchase constantly at hand for ready reference; will talk 'coins' at any and all times, and is fully as capable of conversing upon any other subject. He is a gentleman in every sense of the word,—polite, prompt, affable, temperate and kind. In fact, the devoted collector of Coins is a pattern of industry, energy and patience,—a model worthy of being copied by every person who rides the numismatic hobby, and wishes to leave a name and fame unsullied, and one to which future generations will allude to with admiration and respect. In our next number we shall describe

THE TRIFLING COLLECTOR.

(To be Continued.)

IN England, recently, a man who was amusing himself by catching pennies in his mouth, accidentally swallowed one of them, and died soon after.

THE LAST "KNOCK."

The *Postman's Knock* will be heard no more in St. Johns, N. B., for the last mail from that quarter brings the mournful intelligence that the philatelic publication, so long and favorably known as the *Postman's Knock*, has *knocked* under to the hard *knocks* of an unfeeling and unsympathetic timbrophilic community. "A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind," 'tis said,—and we think, as we pen the valedictory of our unfortunate contemporary, that when our end approaches, editorially, and this magazine is numbered with the worthy departed, that some sympathising pen may contribute a line in the obituary way, and speak kindly of our faulty labors.

The editor of the *Postman's Knock* was a capable and efficient writer, fully up to the times—stamp-o-graphically speaking—and we do sincerely hope that, when he returns from that "European tour," which is so strongly recommended by his physician, and to which he so feelingly alludes in his editorial farewell, that the P. K. will be resuscitated, and take its place, as of yore, at the head of the Stamp Collectors' publications in British North America. Unfortunately, we are not "sick" enough to make a tour of Europe, and must remain in the harness at home.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

A report is circulated to the effect that the Post Office Department has determined to discontinue the manufacture of postage stamps,—replacing them by stamped envelopes. We learn that this is incorrect. A firm in this city writes:

"Wishing to know if there was any truth in the statement that the Post Office Department intended to discontinue the use of stamps, we made inquiry of Postmaster General Randall, when he was in this city, a few days since, and he told us there was no truth in it, but on

the contrary, the Department were experimenting on a new style of stamp, with a view to their introduction. This looks as if the Post Office Department wished to encourage the use of stamps, and proves that the public prefer the plain envelope and stamp. Not one-tenth of all the envelopes used are the stamped kind."

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

INDIA.—Provisional stamps for the new colony—"Straits Settlements"—have appeared among the European collectors, which enlarges the series greatly. There are as follows:

2c.	imprint red,	on 1 Anna,	brown.
3c.	" blue,	on 1 "	" "
4c.	" black,	on 1 "	" "
6c.	" purple,	on 2 "	orange.
8c.	" green,	on 2 "	" "
12c.	" c'rmine,	on 4 "	green.
24c.	" blue,	on 8 "	rose.
32c.	" black,	on 2 "	orange.

SPAIN.—A new stamp has been added to the series, with value in milesimas, by emitting a 5 mil. green, which is very similar to the 10 milesimas, for newspaper use, and other printed matter. It is of a deep green color; the field of the circle is arranged with horizontal lines, instead of a solid color, as in the case of the 10 milesimas.

MEXICO.—The two reales, green, of the Guadalajara series, is found on watermarked paper, checker-board pattern. The series consists of the following values and types:

- Medio (real), black on white paper.
- Un Real, black on white, dark blue, light blue and slate.
- Un Real, black on bluish violet.
- 2 Reales, black on white, dark green and light green.
- 4 Reales, black on white and on flesh color.

HIDALGO.—The 2 and 4 reales on blue paper, exhibit a wavy line, watermark

similar to the Queensland 1 and 2-penny stamp.

NORWAY.—We are yet without information in regard to the "BERGEN'S BY POST" stamp alluded to in the December number. We notice that the Stamp Collectors' Magazine, (English) touches the stamp very gingerly, and is evidently dubious about accrediting the new issue.

CHANGES IN U. S. STAMPS.

We have recently noticed the changed appearance of Washington's portrait, on our 3c. adhesive stamps. After a careful examination, we find that a number of stamps now in use have embossed portraits of Washington. These stamps are simply *experimental*, and having failed to serve the purpose intended, have been withdrawn at all the P. O. agencies, and the stamps are to be printed on embossed paper, as witness the following item clipped from the Post Master General's annual report, recently published. We are fully confirmed in our statement in the last issue of this journal in reference to new issues in contemplation:

"Experiments are in progress with a postage stamp printed on embossed paper which seems to afford good security against fraud. The fibres of the paper being broken, cancelling marks almost penetrate, so that they cannot easily be removed without destroying the stamp. The adhesive properties are also promoted, and other advantages secured which command the invention to a favorable notice."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dyersville, Harrison Co., O., Nov. 26, '67.

Gentlemen: Since my return from the east I have during my leisure been reading the back Nos. of your magazine, and I can truly say that I have gained much information in regard to coins, and derived much pleasure therefrom. I have

no doubt of the success of your enterprise.

I have a few questions to ask in regard to stamps, which I write on a separate sheet so that you may reply on the same, and return to me. I have a fine lot of Colonial copper coins, which I will bring with me when I visit your city again.

Remain, Yours truly,
ROBT. PITTS, JR.

Ellington, Dec., 10th, 1867.

Gentlemen: Perhaps I could come ahead of the *Philatelist*, with an explanation of Bergens, By Post. It means "Bergen's City Post." Bergen is a city on the west coast of Norway. Is it for sale?

Yours Truly, C. F.

[Many thanks for explanation of the nondescript. The city of Bergen is not for sale, but the stamp is, --price 25c. ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. L. S., NEWPORT.—You are correct. Coin collecting has its difficulties and inconveniences as well as its pleasures and profits. The numismatist as a "hunter" would beat many an amateur sportsman, so closely are associated the requisites of the two characters. One gets the *scent* before *bagging the game*; the other commences the game by "gunning up" the *cent*. One is constantly on the alert for every *species* of game, while the numismatic *hunter* is ever on the *qui vive* for every variety of *specie*.

REV. J. H. D., PORTSTOWN, PA.—"Maunday Thursday," was one of the Church days of the English Calendar. Upon the return each year, of this day the reigning sovereign's almoner contributed to the pensioners pieces of gold, silver or copper coin, corresponding to the Monarch's age. Hence "Maunday Money." For other information see Appleton's Encyclopedia.

W. W., PHILA.—It was a mistake, and a very natural one. We have seen

Wood money of 1722, '23, '24, and '25. HIBERNIA, Georgius; Rosa Americana head.

R. P. JR., DEERVILLE, O.—Your Bible is the old "Britches" Bible, so-called from the fact that a change occurs in the King James version (published subsequent to your copy) in the book of Genesis from "britches" to "aprons," as you will find in the Bible now in common use. There were editions of the Bible printed in 1477, '80, '82, '88, '95, 1517, '18, '21, '22, '25, '26, '36, '39, '44, '69, '72, and '87—all dating prior to the copy in your possession.

W. H. N., NEW YORK.—In justice to Dr. M. W. Dickeson, we would state that the initials "M. W. D." in the November number, belong to another party. Dr. D's published views on "Early Coinage" are well known, and a similarity of initials led you into the mistake.

G. M., TROY, N. Y.—Sent you packages per express. The patent for 'Toy' has been granted. Shall expect to see you 'ere many days.

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Orders attended to. Can you raise a small club in your town?

M. H., SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT.—The coin is of small value—say 25c.

S. PARCO, ENRICO, PA.—Name booked for one year and magazines mailed from Vol. 1, No. 1. Shall have a few copies of first volume handsomely bound. Price \$2 to subscribers.

M. R., WEYMOUTH, N. J.—Shall look for you on the 23rd prox.

E. J. F., OHIO.—Shields forwarded. Hope to see your beautifully engraved drafts oftener.

J. B. M., INDIANA.—Oblige us by forwarding the photo at an early day. Will reciprocate.

E. S. N., BOSTON.—Did you get the October number of N. York N. Journal? Shall be happy to hear from you.

G. W. W., LEE, MASS.—Dec. number

mailed the second time. We were belated in getting out the last issue in consequence of delay in receiving the "Mickley Priced Catalogue." Will be prompt in future.

TROY CORRESPONDENTS.—The catalogues come precisely as you have them (from Mr. W.) with the omissions &c. Write to him for the prices on Nos. 566, 1744, 2379, 3185, &c.

B. W. D., N. YORK.—Mailed two copies of Dec. number to your address.

F. W. F., BETHEL.—We have microscopic jointed glasses and magnifying frames; one for coins, the other for stamps. Price \$1 to \$1.50.

D. S. H., ELMIRA.—Send on the "Pine Tree" piece; or send C. O. D.

J. N. T. L., N. YORK.—Dec. magazine was mailed to you. Delay was unavoidable.

M. & M., OSWEGO.—Thanks for subscriptions. Picture to yourself the figure of an individual in the attitude of bowing, with hand on the left side of waist coat. Thanks.

J. C., BALTIMORE.—Stamp catalogue mailed on the 17th ult.

G. M. W., WEST TROY.—The shields are beautifully engraved with panels for the currency, got up by the U. S. Treasurer for framing. Each note is genuine, and two specimen 15 cent notes accompany the set—red and green backs. Price of shield, with 39 specimens, warranted genuine, \$6.

J. M. T., OHIO.—Can send you 100 different cards, large and small, with names, for \$4. 100 without names, (Rebellion tokens), for \$2.

J. H., MONTREAL.—Oblige us with a club of five subscribers to commence the New Year.

J. H., HOOSICK FALLS.—Mailed the book.

J. TURNBULL, STRADA SAINT URSOLA, VALETTA, MALTA.—Have answered you by mail. Send a gold dollar, and gladden the heart of a plodding numismatist

who has not seen the shining ore for many a year—excepting in his collection, where he has a microscopic view of a California quarter, occasionally.

A. R. F., MALONE.—Silver dollar and 1804 cent mailed. Write again.

C. C., MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.—Subscription price \$1 per annum. The cost of mailing being now increased, compels us to request subscriptions from the "other side," in gold, which covers postage.

J. E. W., WESTFIELD.—Send stamps to cover postage, and get medal by return mail.

L. H., ELMIRA.—Cannot at present furnish 15c. notes, excepting on shields. In all probability the notes will never be circulated. Secure a shield by all means. Price \$6. Fifty cents to your credit.

J. S. W., GOUVENEURS, N. Y.—Looking for that club. Surprise us with it as a New Year's gift.

M. R. H.—Back numbers sent as per request. Show the book to your friends. With aid from subscribers will make the journal worthy your acceptance and patronage.

S. R. JR., SACRAMENTO, CAL.—We shall publish a pocket edition of the history of American coins at \$1.50, corrected and improved.

NATIONAL STAMP CO.—Shall take pleasure in reviewing your journal when the first No. is at hand. The "History" is copyrighted for issue in book form.

C. A. BULKLEY, N. Y.—Shield sent per Adams Express. Frame in black walnut, lined with gold.

SUBSCRIBERS.—Notify us if you wish second volume of magazine. If supported by our readers will illustrate and enlarge. 1st Vol. ends in March. An early notice of renewals, will confer a favor.

STAFFORD SMITH & CO, ENG.—We are at a loss to know why there has been no return from the Express package sent you Oct. 10th. We also have a com-

plaint from a Mr. Folwell, who enclosed money and ordered stamps from your house, some time in October. What is the cause of delay.

UNIQUE, N. CASTLE.—Very rare—possibly unique. Has any one a 1724 or 1725 Wood penny? Rosa Americana head.

FOSSIL footprints have been discovered in rocks taken twenty feet from the surface of the earth, on the banks of the Connecticut, near East Jeffrey, N. H.

GENERAL PHELPS, of Vermont, claims to possess a copy of the first book issued in this country,—a Dictionary of Aztec, printed in the City of Mexico, in 1571.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF AUTO-GRAPHS.

Continued from Nov. No.

ABBREVIATIONS.—L S, Letter Signed, A L S, Autograph Letter Signed; D S; Document Signed; S, Autograph Signature; A N S, Autograph Note Signed; A F, Autograph Frank; Env., Envelope directed in handwriting of the party, sold with letter; Env. F. Envelope Franked.

Banks, Gen. Nathaniel P., A D S, Port Hudson, July 11, 1863. \$5.

Benjamin, Park, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., 1845. \$1.

Boudinot, Elias, A L S, 1 page, 4to, 1818. 75 cts. —

Buchanan, James, A L S, 1 page, 4to., 1827. \$1.

Buckland, Dean, A L S, 2 pages, 8vo, January, 1839. \$1.

Breck, Samuel, A L S, 1 page, 4to., February, 1825 \$1.

Buchanan, James, A L S, 1 page, 4to., May, 1839. \$1.

Bigler, William Gov., L S, 1 page, 4to., April, 1853. 50 cts.

Binney, Dr. Amos, A L S, 1 page, 4to., May, 1838. \$1.

- Benjamin, Park, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., April, 1842, 2, each 50 cts.
- Bryant, W. C., A L S, 1 page, 4to., July, 1848. \$1.
- Brown, David Paul, A L S, 1 page, 4to., 50 cts.
- Binney, Horace, A L S, 1 page, 4to. \$1.
- Bache, A D., A L S, 1 page, 4to. 75 cts.
- Benezet, Anthony, A L S, 1 page, 4to., 1782, \$2 50.
- Breck, Samuel, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., 1855, concerning Continental Money. \$1.
- Bright, John, A D S, May 4th 1864. \$1.
- Banks, Gen. N. P., A L S, 1 page, 4to., August, 1861. \$2.
- Biddle, Com. Jas., A L S, 1 page, folio, October, 1828. \$2.
- Bainbridge, Com. W., A L S, 1 page, folio, June 14th, 1827. \$3.
- Brown, H. Gratz, Hon., A L S, 1 page, 8vo., March 23d, 1864. 50 cts.
- Butler, Maj. Gen. Ben. S., A L S, 1 page, 8vo., April, 1864. \$1.
- Banks, Gen. N. P., S. 50 cts.
- Bremer, Frederica, A L S, 2 pages, 8vo. April, 1864. \$1.
- Breck, Samuel, A L S, 5 pages, 4to., August 19th, 1832. \$2.
- Breck, Saml, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., Nov. 27th, 1854, with a colored map of the Crimea. \$1 50.
- Bright, John, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., May 2d, 1864. 75 cts.
- Bellows, H. W., S, 22 copies. 10 cts.
- Brant, Gov., S. 50 cts.
- Buchanan, Frank, Rebel Navy, D S. \$5.
- Bonaparte, Joseph, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., June, 1833. \$2.
- Bache, A. D., A L S, 1 page, 8vo., June, 1833.
- Bryant, Wm. C., S. 25 cts.
- Brown, John, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., Charlestown, Va., Nov. 1859. Fac-simile. 50 cts.
- Beriot de, 5 pages of MS. Music. 50 cents each.
- Biddle, N., A L S, 1 page, 4to July 24th 1830. \$1.
- Biddle, N., A L S, 1 page, 4to., May 22d, 1825. 75 cts.
- Bendemann, painter and illustrator of "Nebelungen Lied," A N S, 1 page, 4to., small, April 23d, 1859, Eresden. \$1.
- Barth, Dr., The Mission's Friend to Dr. Lepsius, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., 1856. \$1.
- Belgrauo, General Don Miguel, distinguished revolutionist, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., March 23d, 1811. \$2.
- Browning, Robert, A L S, 1 page, 8vo., 1803. 75 cts.
- Brady, James. 25 cts.
- Burritt, Elihu, A L S, 1 page, 4to., 1844, knew 72 languages. 50 cts.
- Beg, Amin, Consular Agent of Turkish Empire, S.
- Botta, Carlo, Italian Historian of the U. S., A L S, 1 page, 4to, 1810. \$2.
- Bonaparte, Joseph, Ex-King, A L S, 2 pages, 4to., 1831. \$2.
- Burr, Aaron, A L S, 1 page, 8vo, November, 1810. \$2.
- Broom, Jacob, one of the framers of the Constitution. Aut. MS., 2 pages, folio. \$1.

(To be Continued.)

TABLES OF THE CURRENT COINS Of Twenty-eight Countries, with their relative value in British Money,

Prepared expressly for Mason's "Coin and Stamp
Collectors' Magazine,

BY M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Continued.

RUSSIA AND MUSCOVY.	£. s. d.
1 Kopec	0 0 27-50
3 Kopecs, an Altin,	0 0 131-50
10 Kopecs, a Grivene,	0 1 52-5
25 Kopecs, Polposin,	0 1 1½
50 Kopecs, Poltin,	0 2 3
100 Kopecs, Ruble,	0 4 6
2 Rubles, Xervoniz,	0 9 0
SICILY AND MALTA.	
1 Pichili,	0 0 0 1-39
6 Pichilis, a Grain,	0 0 0 2-13
8 Pichilis, Ponti,	0 0 0 1-30
10 Grains, Carlin,	0 0 1 7-13
20 Grains, Tarin,	0 0 3 1-13
6 Tarins, Florin of ex,	0 1 6 6-13
13 Tarins, Ducat of ex,	0 3 4
60 Carlins, Ounce,	0 7 8 4-15
2 Ounces, Pistole,	0 15 4

SPAIN.		£	s.	d.
1 Maravedi,		0	0	041-272
2 Maravedis, a Quartil,		0	0	048-186
34 Maravedis, Rial,		0	0	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
2 Rials, Pistavine,		0	0	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
8 Rials, Piestrie of ex,		0	3	7
10 Rials, Dollar,		0	4	6
375 Maravidis, Ducat of ex,		0	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
32 Rials, Pist'e or Doubloon		0	14	4
SWEDEN.				
1 Stiver,		0	0	00 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 Stivers, a copper Marc,		0	0	15-6
3 Copper Marcs, Sil'r Marc.		0	0	44-5
5 " " Cop Dollar		0	0	62 5
9 " " Caroline,		0	1	2
3 " " Silver Dollar,		0	1	62-4
3 Silver Dollars, Rix Dollar		0	4	8
2 Rix Dollars, Ducat,		0	9	4
TURKEY.				
1 Mangar,		0	0	01-26
4 Mangars, an Asper,		0	0	03-5
3 Aspers, a Parac,		0	0	14-5
5 Aspers, Bestic,		0	0	3
10 " Ostie,		0	0	6
20 " Solota,		0	1	0
80 " Piastre,		0	4	0
100 " Caragrouch,		0	5	0
10 Solates, Xeriff,		0	1	0

(To be continued.)

PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

(Reported by Dr. E. Maris of Phila.)

(Expressly for the C. C. Magazine.)

PART I. AMERICAN SERIES.

U. S. CENTS.

1801 Uncirculated.	\$2 25.
1802 Perfectly uncirculated.	\$3 50.
1803 Perfectly uncirculated.	\$2.
1803 A variety; fine condition.	\$2 25.
1803 Very fine indeed, differs from others.	\$2.
1804 Perfect die; very fine.	\$10.
1804 Another variety; about as fine, and equally rare.	\$6 50.
1805 Uncirculated.	\$4.
1806 Very fine indeed.	\$7
1807 Over 1806; uncirculated.	\$1.
1807 Perfect date, perfectly uncirculated.	\$9 50.

1808 With thirteen stars; a weak impression. \$3 75.

1808 The same type, a better impression. \$3 25.

1808 Twelve stars; fine for this variety, which is rare. \$4.

1808 Same as last, different variety; good impression. \$1 50.

1809 Very fine indeed, uncirculated. \$5 50

1810 Very fine, slightly rubbed. \$3 25.

1810 Slight variety in the die, uncirculated. \$3 25.

1810 Small date, very fine, scarce. \$2 25

1811 Over 1810; very fine indeed, copper still bright in spots, polished almost proof surface, rare. \$2.

1811 Perfect die, uncirculated, but of dark color, rare. \$4.

1812 Very fine indeed, uncirculated. \$2 25.

1812 Slight variety, quite as fine as the last. \$2 25.

1813 Uncirculated, fine surface and excellent impression, rare. \$2 75.

1813 Uncirculated, bright, in this condition rare. \$5.

1814 Perfectly uncirculated, and an excellent impression; has cross on the 4; very rarely found so fine. \$4 50.

1814 With plain 4, as fine as the last in every particular. \$2 75.

1814 Twice struck, the face appearing double; in fine condition, unique. \$2 25

1816 Perfect die, bright and uncirculated, rare. \$1 75.

1816 Broken die, bright and uncirculated, almost proof, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

1817 *Splendid proof, rare.* \$14.

1817 Thirteen stars, bright and uncirculated, as fine as proof, having a brilliant polished surface. \$2 25.

1817 Uncirculated, bright, from a cracked die. \$1.

1817 With fifteen stars, uncirculated, and of fine color, rare. \$2 25.

1818 Broad date, bright, rare. \$2.

1818 Close date, bright and uncirculated, rare. \$4.

(To be Continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS'
DEPARTMENT.

Priced Catalogue—Continued.

Unused. Used.
\$ cts. \$ cts.

BRITISH GUIANA.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1853.—Vessel to left.

1 cent, rect, vermilion.....	
4 " " blue	

1860.—Vessel to right.

1 cent, rect, rose.....		
1 " " black.....	10	5
2 " " orange.....	12	5
4 " " blue.....	18	5
8 " " rose.....	25	6
12 " " lilac.....	30	16
24 " " green.....	40	10

1863.—Vessel in circle.

6 cents, rect, blue.....	18	10
24 " " green.....	35	10
48 " " rose.....	60	12

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

1 cent, rect, rose.....	18
2 " " yellow.....	18
4 " " blue.....	20

CANADA.

"Adhesive Stamps"

1857.

1½ d., rect, rose.....	25	12
8 d., oblong, vermilion.....	25	10
6 d., rect, purple, black.....	40	20
6 d.; sterling, 7½ cy., green..	40	20
10 d., rect, blue.....	60	25
12 d., rect, black.....	1 00	50

1860—1864.

1 cent, rect, rose.....	3	1
2 " " rose.....	5	3
5 cents, oblong, red.....	5	1
10 cents, rect, dark brown....	12	1
12½ " " green.....	20	8
17 " " blue.....	30	15

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

We learn that the large collection of Mr. Nippes, late of this city, (deceased) will soon be offered for public sale. Upon receipt of Catalogue shall give the collection an extended notice.

LARGE PHILADA. COIN SALE.

Arrangements are now being made to bring forward at an early day, for public sale, the combined collections of three well known numismatists of this city. As the affair is entirely under the control of the publishers of this journal, we shall take particular pains to make the Catalogue acceptable to buyers, and give a faithful description of the coins. Full particulars in next month's issue.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, 1868.

We greet our subscribers and readers with a warm and earnest wish that the new year, now bursting upon us with all its wintry influences, and decked in all its holiday glories, may prove to all a twelvemonth of pleasure and profit; that each of our patrons may have a season of health and enjoyment, and remember that when the second volume of our "experiment" is launched upon the numismatic waters, a renewal of their subscriptions will make glad the heart of one who now wishes all a "Happy New Year."

\$5 GIVEN AWAY.

We will pay \$5 cash to any person making up a club of ten subscribers to this Magazine. Certainly it would be an easy task for any young man in any city or town to find ten persons interested in coins who would subscribe, if they knew of the existence of this journal. It is only necessary to have the names sent to us, and after they are entered on our books, we will send a five dollar green-back to the person who suggested the names

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

FEBRUARY, 1868.

No. 11.

HISTORY OF THE COINS OF
AMERICA.

(Including the Colonial and Anglo-American Coinage,) From 1612 to 1868.

Continued.

BY E. M., JR.

1804.—This year presents another remarkable peculiarity in the United States coinage. Although there were 756,839 coined, it is a noticeable fact that not more than half a dozen perfect specimens of the cent of 1804 are known. There are but two varieties of this coin conceded by numismatists, the "Cracked Die," and the "Perfect Die;" yet other unimportant variations (size of figures, letters, &c.) are found upon the cents of this date. Half cents of 1804 are very plentiful, and in good condition. Issue, 1,055,312.

1805.—Coinage of cents, 941,116; half cents, 814,464. The cents and half cents of this date are very rarely found well preserved, and are usually catalogued as "scarce."

1806.—Number of cents coined, 348,000; half cents, 356,000. The cents of this year are very scarce indeed, and an uncirculated specimen is seldom met with, even in the best collections. There is a very rare variety, with one and three ciphers on the reverse, instead of the usual one one-hundredths. The half cents are not scarce.

1807.—Issue of cents, 727,221; half cents, 476,000. The "overstrike" occurs again in the cents of this date, making three distinct types, viz.: the

large and small date 1807, and the 1807 struck over the 1806. Each variety is found in a fair state of preservation, and in about equal quantities; neither variety being considered scarce. Head to left and right. Half cents of this year common.

1808.—A change occurs in the appearance of the obverse and reverse of the cents of this date, from the "fillet head" to the smaller and more compact bust of the so-called "classic head," the hair of which appears in short ringlets, while the head is labeled with the legend, "Liberty." There are two distinct types, viz.: the twelve star and the thirteen star—the one with change in reverse where the one one-hundredths is omitted. The cents bearing this date exhibit great carelessness in the coinage, having been unevenly struck, and presenting very weak or faint impressions. This latter circumstance adds greatly to the fictitious value of good specimens. The half cents, on the contrary, were very handsomely and perfectly minted, exhibiting in contrast a marked difference in execution, &c. Issue, 109,000 cents; 400,000 half cents.

1809.—This date is about the fourth in fictitious value, the 1799 commanding the highest price at public coin sales, while the 1804 stands second in consideration of value and rarity, leaving the earliest of the regular mint series (1793) to form the third. The cents of 1809 vary somewhat in appearance, some of them being very evenly struck in coining, while others show a one-sided impression, or a sharp and weak portion

upon either face of the coin. These cents are very seldom found in good condition. The obverse and reverse same as preceding date. Issue of cents, 222,867; half cents, 1,154,572.

1810.—Two varieties, a "perfect date" and an "overstrike," also large and small date, the dies of 1809 having been altered to meet an exigency in the demand for copper coins, the new dies not being ready in time. The 9 is very distinctly traced in many of the cents of 1810, directly beneath the 0. The larger number of this year's copper cents are those of the "perfect date," and all are found in most excellent condition, being well protected from wear by the raised outer edge so common with the copper coins of Great Britain. There were 1,458,500 cents, and 215,000 half cents, coined. (From 1808 to 1814, inclusive, the cents bear the same general features, being alike on obverse and reverse.)

1811.—The cents of this year present nearly the same characteristics as those of 1810, and, doubtless, for the same reason, viz.: want of preparation and haste to issue coins. The "perfect date" and the "overstrike" are the two important varieties, and are of equal scarcity. The 1811 cent ranks, in fictitious value, with the 1806 and 1808, the three coins being held by coin dealers at about equal prices. The half cent of 1811 (of which there were 63,140 coined) is of far greater rarity than the cent of the same year, but is seldom obtained in fine condition. Number of cents issued, 218,025.

1812.—Coinage, 1,075,500 cents. No important variations in the coin of this date; good specimens are by no means scarce. No half cents coined from 1812 to 1824, inclusive.

1813.—The cents of this year are usually found well preserved, and present sharp, prominent impressions. Issue, 418,000.

1814.—This date the cents were issued in large numbers, there being no less

than 357,830 coined. There is a legend connected with the 1814 cent, to the effect that the employees of the mint, by some careless manœuvre, melted down a large quantity of old coppers in a crucible containing gold, and the mistake was not discovered until a number of the planchets, made from this admixture, were struck and put into general circulation. This incident was so extensively circulated that many persons credit the absurdity at the present day, and others have experimented with a view of extracting the precious metal from the copper coin. No doubt, the fact of copper cents being sold at public auction, for large sums, can only be explained by the uninitiated with the imaginary story of the "gold cent of 1814." There is a scarce variety of 1814, termed the "crossed 4."

1815.—There were no cents coined this year, and here occurs the only break in the series of large copper coins from 1793 to 1857. This occurrence is unfortunate, and furnishes a very plausible excuse for the employment of altered coins.

(To be Continued.)

[NOTE.—"The History of United States Coins" will shortly be published in book form (complete) with many additions and corrections, also tables of reference and values.—ED.]

THE NUMISMATIC AND ANTI-QUARIAN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA.

The annual meeting of the Society was held on Thursday evening last. Hon. Eli K. Price in the chair. The meeting was quite a large one, being the tenth anniversary of the foundation of the Society. Mr. Price, on taking the chair, returned thanks to the Society for his election as President, an honor that he appreciated and would strive to deserve; at the same time he warned the

Society that on its younger members must be its chief reliance.

A number of valuable donations were received. Mr. Hart read some interesting extracts from private letters to him of Mrs. Mary C. Sparks, in relation to the early life of her deceased husband, Hon. Jared Sparks, at the close of which he presented to the Society, on behalf of Mrs. Sparks, an elegantly-framed portrait of her late husband.

This being the tenth anniversary of the Society, remarks pertinent to the occasion were made by several present. Mr. A. B. Taylor made a short but interesting address, tracing the early history of the Society, the informal nature of its meetings, its growth and present prosperity. Mr. Phillips and Mr. Fulton followed in some remarks. Mr. Phillips adverted to the genial sociality of the Society's first existence; of its "junto-like" nature; of the more formal change produced by its obtaining a hall for meeting; and feelingly dwelt upon the character and services of its deceased members. Mr. Phillips saw in its past archæological progress great hopes for its future prosperity.

Mr. Fulton called the attention of the Society to the exertions of Mr. Taylor, the Recording Secretary, which had so greatly contributed to the success and prosperous condition of the Society.

Mr. Thomas Wright, of London, England, was elected a foreign corresponding member of the Society.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.—No. 8.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

THE TRIFLING COLLECTOR.

No doubt many of our readers will join us in saying that, of all the misfortunes and stumbling blocks in the way of an earnest student of science, the trifling man is the least endurable. So with the trifling collector of coins.

His pursuit can hardly be called a "hobby," for he rides it abominably, and is only a hindrance to the more careful and devoted student of the numismatic science. Look at the trifling collector, as he pores over a dealer's coins, picking out here an English token, there a Chinese "cash," (because it is brass, and has a square hole in it, probably;) and with a patronizing air fixing himself to "spot" the good things in the coin line, to the detriment of other and more profitable customers. He handles all the proof coins that are displayed, and mutilates their glossy surface with his clumsy and greasy digits. 'Tis true he has a collection, and dubs himself a numismatist. But of what does his collection consist? The odds and ends of trashy pieces, rubbed, rusty and valueless; a mere combination of so much base metal, fit only for the junk store. The trifling collector is usually a speculator, and buys pieces to hawk about the town, and give him the air of a numismatic hero. All cities, all collectors, all dealers, are afflicted with this peculiar bore. He is found at all times, and at all places where coins are bought, sold or exchanged. Look in at the coin sales; there sits the gentleman, poring over a catalogue and checking off the numbers with as much coolness as though he intended to purchase the entire collection, while, at the close of the sale, his bill amounts to about 87 cents, and he becomes the possessor of as many coins. The trifling collector will stop you on the street to inquire if there was ever an 1815 cent coined, or detain you by exhibiting a freshly coined nickel, merely wishing to know if it is a *proof*. We have met this peculiar individual frequently in our travels, and find the same stubborn unwillingness to learn numismatic sense upon his part. As he was ten years ago so he will be ten years hence—a piddling, trifling, penny-whistle nummularist.

THE CENT HUNTER.

An Irregular and Original Epic.

BY COPPER.

Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Of ancient date and rare!
Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Have you any old cents to spare?

The cent-hunter cries as he rapidly flies,
From shop to shop, and inwardly sighs,
For rusty old coppers of ancient dies!

If you are in doubt,
This truth about,

And wish for further proof to come out,
Stand here with me
And soon you will see

The cent-hunters start, all professions and
trades,
From the wielders of pens to the wielders
of spades!

Old cents, old cents, old cents,
Of Uncle Sam's coinage nice,
Old cents, old cents, old cents,
Oh these are the pearls of great price.

The teacher, forgetting his grammar and
Greek,

Goes searching for coppers six days in a
week,

And would not object to the fours and the
sevens,

Should they come in his way
On so solemn a day

Set apart to prepare for our rest in the
heavens!

The "Doctor" leaves his place to call
On shopkeeper's their coppers to overhaul,
Or into the street like a maniac starts,
Waylays and besieges the Pedlar's carts.

The merchants of our street, who hate aris-
tocracy,

Sell the best goods and believe in democracy
With a relish as fine

As a judge for his wine,

Start off in pursuit of a good "ninety-nine!"
The son of old Crispin his apron lets fall,
Drops his lap-stone, his hammer and awl,

And soon you will see
Him returning in glee

With a "nine" or a "six" or a "twenty-
three,"

A "four" or "fourteen," as the case may be!
And the Editor dropping his scissors and
pen,

Goes searching for coppers with common
men!

Carefully gathering piece by piece,
And values them more than the golden
fleece!

See how they gather them up in piles,
Colonial coppers of various styles.

"Franklins" and "Washingtons," rusty
and old,

Covered with verdigris, dust and mould;
"Connecticuts" covered with scratches and
dents,

And the famous old Indian "Massachusetts
cents"

With devices unlike as the pigeon and
stork,

Join their scar-covered brethren of "Jersey"
and "York!"

Then comes the Vermonter of value untold,
With dust-covered visage, audacious and
bold,

And taketh his place with the gathering
hosts,

With "Auctori Vermon" dimly seen through
the mould,

As Ossian saw stars through the forms of his
ghosts!

The strife being ended, the company joins
In singing the praises of old copper coins,
And this is the song as I heard it sung,

As the coppers were into their coffers flung!

PATTERN PIECES.

We shall soon have the pleasure of
presenting "The History of the Pattern
or Experimental Coins of the United
States." It is, perhaps, unnecessary to
add that there has never been a history
of this kind written, and the importance
of these coins to the numismatist can
scarcely be overrated, forming, as they
do, an almost complete link, or series of
coins, from 1791 to the present day.

A BRAHMIN NUMMULARIIST.

"A Brahma rooster was recently killed
in Amesbury, Mass., and in its crop
were found thirteen nickel cents and two
two-cent pieces."—*Philadelphia Ledger*,
Dec. 20.

The above is, probably, the first in-
stance on record of the numismatic
fever attacking the lower animals; and,
if it takes in the natural way, poultry
will become the cheapest meat in
the market, besides furnishing a new
locality for collectors to delve for *uncir-
culated* coins. Fortunately, gold coins
are not "lying around loose," to be
'gobbled up' by every foreign rooster

that struts on American soil. As a faithful recorder of numismatic doings, we cannot but acknowledge the addition of the new collector to our ranks.

THE 1794 U. S. SILVER DOLLAR.

Two very good specimens of this exceedingly rare coin have recently been picked up in the Quaker City—one of which is the property of J. Colvin Randall, a distinguished numismatist of this city. (we do not err in saying that Mr. Randall's 1794 dollar is the finest struck specimen we have ever seen) The other piece is in our own hands, and for sale to the highest bidder. The latter dollar is very good, but not fine.

FIRST COINS OF AMERICA.

The Pine Tree Silver Coins of New England were, without doubt, the earliest coins known to have been struck in this country. The Somer Island's coin originated in England, and was transported to the Bermuda's in 1612, while the N. E. silver pieces, and Pine Tree money were coined in New England, the latter in 1652. Other articles were in use for coins by our forefathers, and the red men anterior to the Bermuda pieces, and the plundering banditti from Spain, headed by Cortez, made an effort at coinage in Mexico, in the sixteenth century, but it only resulted in pig metal, made from the plunder of the Mexican churches, and put in a convenient form for shipment to Spain. However much authors may differ in regard to America's first efforts at coining, we think the fact will ere long be conceded that Massachusetts produced the first coin; or, at least, gave us the starting point in forming a series of the coins of America.

WANTED!

The first or April numbers of the C. & S. C. Magazine. A good price will be paid for a few copies to complete a few sets for binding.

THE PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

The catalogueing of the coins to be offered at public auction in this city is progressing as rapidly as possible, and the sale will take place early in March. The catalogues will be forwarded to our subscribers as soon as possible after the date of sale is ascertained; and all those who are willing to distribute copies among their friends, will be supplied with extra copies upon application.

MONTHLY PRICE CURRENT.

At the solicitation of many subscribers, we shall soon issue a Monthly Coin Price Current, containing a list of coins and medals on hand and for sale with conditions, price and description added. In our February Price Current we shall offer some very fine coins, and those wishing to secure *gems* will please notify us, if they would have the Price Current mailed regularly.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN MEDALS.

In the second volume of this magazine will be commenced a detailed "History of the Origin and Coinage of the Different Naval, Army, Presidential and Miscellaneous Medals of the United States."

OUR ASSOCIATE PARTNER.

Having formed a connection with the well-known and popular real estate agent, Mr. Geo. H. Wells of Boston, Massachusetts, and removed our place of business to a more convenient locality, (near Cogan's old stand) we shall be prepared to execute all orders promptly whether for a brick house, or a copper coin. We bespeak for Mr. Wells, our associate in business, a warm welcome in Philadelphia, and will be pleased to have customers, when visiting the city call at our new office and see how things are done.

PRICED CATALOGUE.

OF THE

U. S. INT. REV. PAPER STAMPS.

WASHINGTON'S HEAD IN OVAL.

FRAMES DIFFERENT.

Arranged for Mason's U & S C Magazine.

BY J. FAAET.

1c. <i>Red-Brown.</i>	used.	Inland Exchange, Dull Brick,	1c.
Express,	1c.	Playing Cards, Dull Carmine,	1c.
Playing Cards,	1c.	6c. <i>Orange.</i>	
Proprietary,	1c.	Inland Exchange,	3c.
Telegraph,	1c.	10c. <i>Blue.</i>	
1c. <i>Light Blue.</i>		Bill of Lading,	3c.
Matches,	1c.	Certificate,	4c.
2c. <i>Blue. Orange.</i>		Contract,	3c.
Bank Check,	1c.	Foreign Exchange,	4c.
Certificate,	1c.	Inland do.,	4c.
Express,	1c.	Insurance,	3c.
Playing Cards,	1c.	Playing Cards,	2c.
Proprietary,	1c.	Power of Attorney,	3c.
U. S. Int. Rev. only Orange.		Proprietary,	2c.
3c. <i>Green.</i>		15c. <i>Brown.</i>	
Foreign Exchange,	1c.	Foreign Exchange,	5c.
Inland do.,	1c.	Inland do.,	5c.
Playing Cards,	1c.	20c. <i>Pale Red.</i>	
Proprietary,	1c.	Foreign Exchange,	3c.
Telegraph,	1c.	Inland do.,	3c.
4c. <i>Purplish Brown to Blue.</i>		25c. <i>Red.</i>	
Inland Exchange,	1c.	Bond,	4c.
Proprietary,	1c.	Certificate,	4c.
Playing Cards,	1c.	Entry of goods,	4c.
4c. <i>Black Violet.</i>		Insurance,	4c.
Playing Cards,	1c.	Life Insurance,	4c.
4c. <i>Purple.</i>		Power of Attorney,	4c.
Proprietary,	2c.	Protest,	4c.
do., Lilac,	2c.	Warehouse Receipt,	5c.
4c. <i>Black-Brown.</i>		30c. <i>Slate.</i>	
Inland Exchange,	1c.	Foreign Exchange,	5c.
do. do., Snuff,	1c.	Inland do.,	6c.
5c. <i>Pale Red.</i>		Foreign do., Black Violet,	10c.
Agreement,	2c.	Inland do., do.,	10c.
Certificate,	2c.	40c. <i>Brown.</i>	
Express,	2c.	Inland Exchange,	3c.
Foreign Exchange,	2c.	<i>To be Continued.</i>	
Inland do.,	2c.	NEW STAMPS.	
Playing Cards,	2c.	New South Wales has a new stamp,	
Proprietary,	2c.	similar in design to the usual colonial	
		issues—value 10c.—which has appeared	
		in advance of its general circulation,	
		and is illustrated in the English stamp	
		magazines for January.	
		NORTH GERMANY.	
		New values and issues, viz.:	
		Silber groschen, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 (Rose), 2, 5,	
		Kreuzer, 1, 2, 3, 7, 18.	

The kreuzers of the new emission are not of the same value as the old.

SWITZERLAND.

A 5 centime envelope, color bistre, and design the same as the 10 centime, has been emitted. It is watermarked with a dove, like the 10 centime issues.

BELGIUM.

6 and 8 centimes are in preparation, and will probably be issued early the present year.

GAUTEMALA.

New designs are in contemplation for stamps of this country. If the latter are as beautiful as the present issue, we shall hail their appearance joyfully.

GOOD NEWS.

Subscriptions to this journal are coming in in goodly numbers, and there is every prospect of many new and important features to be added to the second volume—not the least of which will be the coin and stamp illustrations.

REMOVAL.

The Office of this Journal has been removed from 434 Chestnut St. to No. 50 North 10th St., below Arch. As the tide of travel among publishers hereaway is westward ho! we have followed the example of the editorial fraternity of this city and removed to the now thriving and fashionable quarter—10th and Arch. Our new office is a commodious one, on first floor, and furnishes us with facilities to "do the honors" to all of our subscribers and patrons who may chance to visit the city of brotherly love. We shall have all the numismatic and philatelic publications of the country on file, and keep a good supply of fine coins, medals, autographs, stamps, relics and curiosities. A welcome is extended to all interested in the science of "coinology" to visit this office, and meet the learned numismatists in council, where we will promise more knowledge can be gained,

in one hour, upon the subject of coins, than by the perusal of the whole numismatic library. Our correspondents will please make a note of the change in address on front page of cover.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Gentlemen: In your Coin and Stamp Magazine, you state that the highest price will be given for coins, medals, *Autographs*, &c.

I have in my possession an original manuscript, signed by General Winfield Scott, and all the commissioned officers of the army in Mexico under his command. Each signature has attached the *then* rank of the signer, which at this time renders the document particularly interesting. For instance—Gen. U. S. Grant was second lieutenant of infantry; Gen. G. B. McClellan 2d lieutenant engineers, with many others who have since been promoted and some who now hold high positions in the army.

This paper was signed at Puebla, Mexico, August 1st 1847.

As I am willing to dispose of it, I shall be pleased to hear from your autograph collectors.

Yours, &c.

[Our autographic readers will please take notice of above letter and communicate with this office in reference to value and subject matter of document referred to.—ED.]

Montreal, 6th January, 1868.

Gentlemen: I have received the January number of the magazine and will be happy to renew my subscription for one year more, and would willingly increase the price, if the magazine is to be enlarged. In your answers to correspondents, I see one addressed to "J. H., Montreal," which I suppose is to me. Well, I will not promise to send a list of subs., but I enclose a list with the names of the coin-collecting fraternity of Montreal, which by sending them an odd

number of the magazine, might induce them to subscribe.

Wishing you the compliments of the season, and success to Vol. II of the magazine.

Respectfully yours,
J. H.

Columbus, Ohio, Jan 14th.

Gentlemen: I have been engaged in collecting coin for about ten years, and have provided myself with many numismatical works for my aid and instruction, but I must say in all candor that, in proportion to the quantity of matter, I have received more valuable information from your little periodical than from any other work that has ever come under my observation. I have used for a long time the common olive oil as the best thing I have ever found with which to restore rusty and dirty coin to a fine condition. I refer only to copper coin however.

Respectfully yours,
A. S. F.

Romansville near Mortonville, Pa.

January 13th, 1868.

MASON & Co.—Gents: I have received the back numbers of your magazine, and I am so well pleased with them that I will certainly renew my subscription when it expires. I am a young collector, (only seventeen) and reside many miles from your city, and being acquainted with two collectors, only, who like myself are beginners. I have met with several disadvantages which your magazine now entirely removes.

I am possessed of a U. S. half-cent, 1828, which only bears twelve instead of thirteen stars. Is it a common variety?

Can you furnish me the address of the publisher of the Journal of Numismatology? Please answer through the medium of your valuable magazine. I wish it success.

Yours truly,
B. B. R.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. A. S., NORFOLK, VA.—The elephant cent you have is supposed to have had an English origin. The legend "God Preserve London" would seem to indicate as much. "When Doctors differ," &c.

REV. J. H. D.—Pardon the neglect in not answering your queries. We have so many letters to reply to that we are sometimes unjust to our best correspondents. The Indian relics would doubtless command good figures. Can you not send a small memorandum of the articles? The confusion and trouble attending the removal of our office has also prevented a more prompt reply.

P. P. Q., NEW HAVEN.—We shall improve the next volume of the magazine greatly. Clubs are coming in finely—not wooden ones, but the paper kind with green backs, and clever tackers. Oh, that it would last.

S. G., JR., INDIANAPOLIS.—The rubbings you enclosed were those of a common brass Washington token; a *voce populi*, and a Virginia half-penny, worth in the aggregate one dollar.

E. R., POUGHKEEPSIE.—"Quarta Decima Stella" found on the Vermont cents signifies that the State of Vermont was the fourteenth star or state to enter the Union of States. There are several distinct varieties: *Vermon Auctori*, *Vermontis Vermonts Res Publica*, and *Vermontensium*.

E. MILLER, SUFFIELD.—Subscription received and back numbers forwarded. If you have a duplicate April number oblige us by sending it on. We shall have an extra edition printed, but not in time for present orders. The re-print April numbers will be marked "second edition" to maintain the rarity of the 1st number.

W. H. P., PROVIDENCE.—Shields are not framed, size about 30 by 24 inches, notes are securely fastened in panels, in-

cludes all the issues of each color, paper, &c., mailed you the 1821, '23 & '57 cents.

J. W. GRANVILLE.—There is a package of 1799's, &c., at your express office.

H. J. T., ALBANY.—Magazines mailed. 1827 cent very fine, \$1.00.

J. B. CALDER, PROVIDENCE.—Alfred Smith & Co., Queen-Square House, Bath, England—subscription price of stamp collectors journal (English) \$1.25 in gold.

JAS. B. C., ST. LOUIS.—Package of dimes for you at your express office.

STAFFORD SMITH & Co, ENGLAND.—Will you please explain the non-payment of account due us since Oct. 10th. Have written two letters and received no reply.

BUCKLEY, GRANVILLE, N. Y.—Your coin is a Swiss piece. See foreign coins in magazine.

G. W. J., PHILAD'A—Will soon publish a complete list of Revenues. Magazine can be delivered free if you will send address to this office.

A. R. F., MALONE, N. Y.—Regret you did not return the envelope. Postmaster Bingham of this city is a gentleman, and if your "money letter" had been tampered with he would soon ferret out the rogue. Would you part with the 1-000 1801 cent? You are a generous fellow to repeat subscription, after that "little difficulty."

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Have a very fair 1794 dollar for \$45. Also, Maximilian dolls. for \$3 each. The Austrian Gov't are said to be paying \$5 for each Maximilian silver dollar. This dollar will certainly be expelled from Mexico, melted down, or bought up by Austria and France. Secure one while you can. Will send the coins when completed.

W. W., TROY.—New lot shields in fresh from Washington. 15c. notes command \$2 each. Shields contain 2 of the 15c. notes and 39 specimens.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

Priced Catalogue—Continued.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1861.

	Unused.	Used.
	¢ cts.	¢ cts.
1 cent, rect, yel'w, red, br'wn	1 25	1 00
2 " " green.....	25	12
5 " " green, blue.....	12	6
5 " " pale blue.....	3	2
10 " " blue, rose.....	15	8

1864.

2 " " red.....	6	3
10 " " blue.....	5	2
20 " " green.....	6	3

CEYLON.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1857.

not priced.

1 d., rect, blue.....	
2 d, " green.....	
5 d., " brown.....	
6 d., " violet, brown.....	
10 d., " red.....	
1 s., " lilac.....	

1860.

½ d., rect, lilac.....	
4 d., oct., rose lake.....	
8 d., " marone.....	
9 d., " brown.....	
1s, 9d, " green.....	
2 s., " blue.....	

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1861.

1 d., oval, blue.....	
2 d., " green.....	
4 d., " rose.....	
5 d., " chocolote.....	
6 d., cir'lar purple brown.....	
8 d., oct., chocolate.....	
9 d., rect, ".....	
1 s., cir'lar yellow.....	
1s, 9d, rect, green.....	
2 s., oct., blue.....	

PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

(Expressly for the C. C. Magazine.)

PART I. AMERICAN SERIES.

U. S. CENTS.

1819 Large date, bright, uncirculated.
\$1 75.

1819 Same type, equally fine. 50c.

1819 Small date, perfectly uncirculated,
nearly proof surface. \$1 12½

1820 Very fine indeed; perfectly uncir-
culated, fine surface and color. \$1 50.

1821 *Brilliant proof, extremely rare.*
\$14.

1822 Perfectly uncirculated, fine color,
and almost proof surface. \$1 75.

1823 Original, uninjured by circulation,
and the finest Cent of this variety that I
have ever seen; extremely rare. \$10.

1823 Doubly struck on both sides, fine,
unique. \$1 75.

1824 Bright, and uncirculated, ex-
tremely rare. \$10.

1825 Bright, and uncirculated, scarce-
ly less than proof, extremely rare. \$12.

1826 Very fine indeed, so fine as to
render it doubtful whether or not it
should be described as a bronzed proof.
\$1 50.

1827 *Splendid proof, extremely rare.*
\$16.

1828 Very fine indeed, uninjured by
circulation. \$1 75.

1829 Splendid, light bronze proof, the
most beautiful Cent in the sale; extreme-
ly rare. \$12.

1830 Bright, uncirculated, rare. \$4 50.

1830 Small date, a little circulated,
scarce. 50c.

1831 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$8 50

1832 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$20.

1833 Perfectly uncirculated, fine color,
scarce. \$2 50.

1833 Uncirculated, portions still bright
quite equal to the last. \$1 75.

1834 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$16

1835 Bright, uncirculated, has small
stars, rare. \$3.

1835 With large stars, as fine as the
last. 75c.

1836 Uncirculated, copper remaining
red. \$1 50.

1836 *Splendid, a proof impression, very
rare.* \$14.

1837 *Brilliant proof, extremely rare.*
\$6 50.

1838 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$7.

1839 With head of 1838, bright and
uncirculated, rare in this condition.
\$2 25.

1839 Booby head, lock of hair over the
forehead long; perfectly uncirculated,
very rare in this condition. \$5.

1839 Booby head, the second variety,
with short lock of hair, uncirculated, a
rarer type than the last. \$2.

1839 With head of 1840; uncirculated,
and a very fine impression. \$2 25.

1840 Small date, perhaps not strictly
proof, but so fine as to render it doubt-
ful. \$2.

1840 Large date, bright, uncirculated,
rare. \$1.

1841 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$9.

1842 Small date, *splendid proof, very
rare.* \$7 25.

1842 Large date, bright and uncircula-
ted, rare. 75c.

1843 *Brilliant proof, very rare.* \$7 25.

1844 *Brilliant proof very rare.* \$8.

1845 *Fine proof, very rare.* \$8.

1846 *Brilliant proof, very rare.* \$19 50.

1846 Fine impression, uncirculated,
red. \$1.

1847 Bright and uncirculated. 50c.

1848 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$5 50.

1849 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$8.

1850 *Splendid proof, very rare.* \$13.

1850 Very fine indeed, nearly proof
surface. 62½c.

1851 Excellent impression, bright. 10c

1852 *Splendid proof, rare.* \$10 50.

1853 *Proof impression, very rare.* \$5 50

(To be Continued.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1868.

No. 12.

HISTORY OF COINS OF AMERICA.

(Including the Colonial and Anglo-American Coinage,) From 1612 to 1868.

Continued.

BY E. M., JR.

1816.—Two varieties: "cracked die" and "perfect die." Issue, 2,820,982.

1817.—Two types: "13 stars and 15 stars." Issue, 3,948,400.

1818.—Large and small dates. Issue, 3,167,000.

1819.—Same as the last. Issue, 2,671,000.

1820.—Ditto. Issue, 4,407,550.

1821.—This cent is seldom found well preserved. Can be termed "scarce."—Copper very soft. Issue, 389,000.

1822.—Slight varieties in lettering, &c. Issue, 2,072,339.

1823.—This date seldom found in a perfect condition—"scarce." Issue, 855,730. There has been a "re-strike" of this cent from the old obverse die, and the reverse die of another cent.

1824.—"Scarce;" no important variation. Issue, 1,262,000.

1825.—Good impressions; hard copper and generally well preserved. Issue, 1,461,100. Half cents, 63,000.

1826.—Same as preceding. Issue, 1,517,425. Half cents, 234,000.

1827.—No change. Issue, 2,357,732

1828 — " " Issue, 2,260,624. Half cents, 606,000.

Some of the half cents of this year show an error in the number of stars.—The largest number of this date found exhibit the usual number of stars, (13)

the others but twelve stars. The latter are considered scarce.

1829.—Cents and half cents same as the ordinary issue of the preceding. Of the former there were coined 1,414,500; latter, 487,000.

1830—Issue, 1,711,500. 1831.—3,359,260. The half cents of the latter year were "patterns," and did not enter into general circulation. There were no half cents issued 1830.

1832.—Issue, 2,302,000. Half cents, 200,000.

1833—Issue, 2,739,000. Half cents, 154,000.

1834.—Issue, 1,855,100. Half cents, 120,000.

1835.—Issue, 3,878,400. Half cents, 141,000.

1836.—"Cracked" and "perfect die." Issue, 2,111,000. Half cents, "patterns," and but few struck.

1837.—Issue, 5,558,300. No half cents.

1838.—Slight change in form of the head. The "mint mark" is found on most of the reverses of the latter years between the word "one" and the word "cent," &c., consists of a small dot, or period. Issue, 6,370,200.

1839.—Four variations, viz.: three types and one variety. These are the "Booby" head; the "40" head;" the "38" head, and a head that differs slightly from either. Issue, 3,128,661.

1840.—The change of head which occurred during the year 1839, became a fixture this year, and was maintained, with very little variation, throughout the copper coinage. Issue, 2,462,700. Half

cents were not issued until 1849; those coined between the years 1839 and 1849 were "pattern pieces," and command, at the present day, a great fictitious value.

1841.—Issue, 1,597,367. 1842.—2,983,390. 1843.—2,428,320. 1844.—2,397,792. 1845.—3,894,804. 1846.—4,120,800.

1847.—6,183,669. 1848.—6,415,709.

1849.—Issue, 4,178,500. Half cents, 39,364. There is a half cent of 1849 with very small date, by some termed a "pattern," and others consider it a variety simply. It is very rare and valuable.

1850.—Issue, 4,426,844. Half cents, 39,812.

1851.—Issue, 9,889,707. Half cents, 147,672.

1852.—Issue, 5,063,094. Patterns.

1853.—Issue, 6,641,131. Half cents, 129,694.

1854.—Issue, 4,236,156. Half cents, 55,358.

1855.—Issue, 1,574,829. Half cents, 56,500.

This year there appeared two varieties, "straight date" and "slanting date," of about equal rarity.

1856.—There is an impression in the public mind, generally, that the series of copper cents closed with the issue of this year. This error is doubtless believed from the fact that the first U. S. nickel cents made their appearance in 1856. Issue of copper cents, 2,690,461. Half cents, 40,430.

1857.—Without any real cause for the fact, the cents of this year command, in many parts of the country, a high fictitious value, while in reality they are simply "scarce." There were coined this year 833,456 cents, and 85,180 half cents.

This date concludes the series of the copper coinage of the United States. It may be well to remark that the appearance of the half cents were similar in obverse and reverse to the cents, and the changes which have occurred in the cents were usually applied to the half cents at about the same period.

THE NUMISMATIST'S IDOL.

BY COPPER.

Far eastward, by the Ganges stream
In heathen lands, so we are told,
Where Reason's lights but dimly gleam,
They worship images of gold.

But we, in wisdom's way advanced,
Whose feet no heathen land have trod,
With hearts and minds and souls entranced,
Adore the mighty Copper God.

His star-encircled face we see
Beam mildly on each rusty cent:
He'll keep our minds from trouble free,
Until the last bright "red" is spent.

Life ended, if we may return,
And Swedenborg avers 'tis proper,
With senses quickened to discern,
We'll still pursue the trade in copper!

PECULIARITIES IN AMERICAN COINS.

No. 1.

There are three markedly different varieties of the United States half cent of the date 1804, viz.: the broken reverse die, the perfect dies with the 4 crossed, and the perfect dies with the 4 not crossed. There are two markedly different varieties of the half cent of 1805, viz: those with the larger and smaller figure 5. I have noticed upon the last mentioned varieties of each of the above dates of 1804 and 1805 half cent, an arrangement of the wreath which differs from that of any other half cent, and as far as I have been able to learn, there is no similar arrangement among any of the cents from 1793 to 1807 inclusive. It consists in having *no stem* to either end of the half wreaths, which are tied by a ribbon just above the 1-200ths—they being united together and forming one continuous wreath. I have inferred from this discovery, that the 1804 half cents with the 4 not crossed were those last issued during that year, and that the 1805 half cents with the small figure 5 preceded the issue of the other variety, with large 5.

During the year 1799, an entirely dif-

ferent arrangement of the hair was made on the head of the Goddess of Liberty of the cent of that date, from that adopted the three previous years, (including only the "fillet head" of '96). The second curl below the ear was made to turn *backward* instead of *forward*, as previously had been the case. The hair low down on the neck, instead of terminating in *two* parts was now made to divide into *three*; the third portion curling forward anterior to one of the other parts, which terminated in an upward curl, and antero-superior to the other which resulted in a downward roll. I have, however, seen a 1799 cent with the '98 head, and while I judge the variety to be rare, its existence must render uncertain the practice of judging doubtful cents supposed to be '99s by the head only. This head was continued until the year 1808, when the well known changes of both obverse and reverse occurred. All the half cents of the fillet head variety are of the style of the 1799, and subsequent cents on the obverse—unless, indeed, these coins were issued in 1798 or 1799, which, in the present state of our knowledge, does not appear to have been the case.

Prior to the year 1838 the back hair of the goddess of liberty on the cents back to 1816 inclusive, was tied up with two strings or slender bands. During the year a change was made and continued until 1857 inclusive, from two plain strings to two strings of beads. The half cents of the forties and fifties have the bead arrangement also. I do not claim this as a discovery. §

NEW COIN PRICED CATALOGUE.

We have just issued a neat and convenient book of sixteen pages showing the prices paid by dealers for all coins—American and Foreign, Colonial coins included. This book is compiled up to the last of February, 1868, and is the only correct guide for those interested in coins. It will be mailed on receipt of 25 cents.

EARLIEST KNOWN COINS OF AMERICA.

It is with pleasure we announce the receipt, from Dr. M. W. Dickeson, the able and indefatigable numismatist, of a series of articles on the aboriginal coins of this country. These papers will be fully illustrated, and will serve to throw additional light on the early coins of America. The first number of these interesting articles will appear in the first number of Vol. II., copiously illustrated.

A RETROSPECTIVE GLANCE.

Twelve months have passed since we formed the resolution to establish a Numismatic and Philatelic Journal, and now that it has become a fixed fact, let us look back and figure up the result of the enterprise. One year of laborious effort, devoted to the dissemination of useful and practical coin and stamp knowledge. *A short time*; and yet we find crowded in that year many pleasing reminiscences. During that period we have received nearly five thousand communications, and answered nearly four-fifths of the number with full and complete explanations in regard to the subjects of which this Journal treats. It is our full and firm belief that this Magazine has benefited the community at large, enlisted a great many persons in the cause for which we are battling, and given the coin trade an impetus it has not known, at any time, previous to the commencement of this Journal. We now send the Magazine to every part of the civilized world, and have the pleasure of announcing the gratifying fact, that on our subscription book are names of those noted in the councils of the nation; others whose names are familiar for their efforts to advance the arts and sciences, while prominent throughout stand the names of mechanics and laboring men—those for whom we labor most cheerfully and contentedly. Many thanks for the kind patronage received and assistance

rendered during the publication of this, our first volume. We hope to improve in the quality and quantity of matter, as we grow older and stronger. Our special thanks are due the Numismatic Associations of New York, Boston, San Francisco and Montreal; also, to the Mercantile Libraries of the principal cities of the United States.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

A large sale of coins will take place in this city next April or May.

The copper series is not very fine or valuable, but the silver proofs and uncirculated pieces of the silver coinage of U. S. are very choice and desirable. Catalogues will be forwarded our subscribers on receipt of two 2-cent stamps. Bids will be received at this office, and a commission of 10 per cent. charged on purchases.

NEWLY DISCOVERED VARIETIES IN AMERICAN COINAGE.

From time to time we shall devote a small portion of our pages to the variations of our country's coins not heretofore mentioned in numismatic works.

We have inserted in the present number of our Journal an article upon this subject from a devoted student of numismatology, and shall take pleasure in publishing any new discovery in this line which may be contributed by our readers. Collectors of coins having any U.S. or Colonial pieces with peculiar and distinct variations from well known types and varieties, will oblige us by an article upon the subject.

We have an impression or rubbing of a 1798 U. S. cent, from a Salem, Mass. subscriber, which bears pretty strong evidence of having been struck over a 1797, the earliest instance on record of the "over strike" in the series of U.S. cents. The same "overstrike" occurs on some of the silver dollars of 1798. We have seen an undoubted 1799 cent which pre-

sented very plainly under the last 9th figure 8, another evidence of an "over strike," or the use of the same dies for two different years.

There has been recently discovered a 1794 cent with the exact head of the 1793 liberty cap cent. This and the 1799 over 1798, together with the impression of 1798 over 1797 can be seen, by persons interested, at this office.

There has been lately exhibited to us a PINE TREE shilling, 1652, with the limbs or outer branches of tree connected with a web, forming a sort of tree foil; another with a hollow trunk, widening at foot of tree and running up to a point. We shall continue this subject in future numbers of the Magazine.

U. S. PROOF SETS OF 1868.

We learn that the proof coins for the present year are now ready, any of our patrons wishing the 1868 set—silver dollar to one cent piece, (9 pieces)—can remit four dollars and fifty cents in greenbacks to us, and have the pleasure of securing a set from first impressions of the "master dies."

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

New Granada has emitted a 5 and 10 peso stamp; or, we may say, five and ten dollar stamps; for their value, used or unused, represents these rather extravagant figures for a present issue of small postage stamps. "Few and far between" will be the letters posted in that expensive country.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Three new stamps have made their appearance from this colony, viz.:

8 cents,	. . .	orange.
12 "	. . .	blue.
24 "	. . .	green.

ST. HELENA.

Three new issues from this island, viz.:

Two pence,	. . .	light yellow.
Three pence,	. . .	dark purple.
Five shillings,	. . .	orange.

MEXICO.

Two additional stamps, head of Hidalgo.

Half real, . . . greenish blue.

One real, . . . blue.

Each of the above are on light blue paper.

HOLLAND.

Two stamps recently issued. 5 cent blue and 10 cent carmine. The 1 cent stamp is under consideration and will be shortly emitted.

BOLIVIA.

Has a 50 cent orange, similar in design to the 5 cent green.

PERFORATED U. S. POSTAGE STAMPS.

Most of our readers have, no doubt, observed the recent perforations on the two and three cent adhesive postage stamps of present issue, and wondered whether the "improvement" (?) was intended as a specimen of cancellation marks, or got up with a view of placing our cherished heroes, Washington and Jackson, behind the "prison bars."— Seriously, this last effort of our government to improve the adhesive stamps, is a lamentable failure. It is now difficult to determine the *used* stamps from the *unused*, as the checkered marks on the centre of the stamp destroys, in a measure, the face of the stamp, and renders it extremely difficult to distinguish the government mark from the cancelling marks of some of the local post offices. The very object the P. O. Department wished to defeat, by the introduction of the present unsightly stamps, viz. : the repeated use of the same stamp, or "double duty with single cost," as a friend terms it, has been advanced, and our wise friends of the General P. O. Department must try again. Were our stamps printed on the gummed side of transparent paper, there would be no necessity for detective measures to defeat roguery.

CORRESPONDENCE.

February 6th, 1868.

Gentlemen : I have in my possession a large number of Indian arrows in a good state, and a number that are broken and otherwise marred ; also, two stone hatchets and one pestal, the latter is about one foot in length. These relics have been picked up at different times on the farm on which I now reside. Please inform me what are their market value as I wish to dispose of them.

Yours, &c , F. B.
Johnsville, Duchess Co., N. Y.

[There is no fixed price for the ordinary Indian relics, but we can find a market for them if you will put them at a reasonable figure.]

Granville, N. Y., Feb. 1st, 1868.

Gentlemen : Will you please inform me what coins I describe below :

Copper—head and bust above the word, Warwickshire ; reverse, a man seated with hammer raised in right hand, in the act of striking a bar of iron ; ship in back ground ; above man, "half penny," and below date 1792 ; on edge, payable in Anglesey, London or Liverpool.

Copper—man's head with hood drawn over it ; eyes, nose and whiskers discernable ; around head a wreath ; on reverse "Anglesey half penny, 1791 ;" centre of reverse worn, can see nothing ; edge "payable in London or Anglesey."

Next copper—London and Middlesex ; in centre British coat of arms ; on obverse "George, Prince of Wales, half-penny," with face and bust ; on edge payable at London or Dublin.

Yours, C. A. BUCKLEY.

[Very common tokens of England, issued during the scarcity of change, 1790 and '93 by tradesmen. We have seen a very beautiful collection of these tokens, numbering 600 different pieces, now the property of Maj. Nichols of Springfield, Mass. Not rare, or valuable. Ed.]

New London, Feb. 1st, 1868.

Gents: I have received eleven numbers of your Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine, which I ordered some days ago. I like it and shall enclose \$1.50 for the second volume. I have been a collector of coins for many years, but most of my collections are copper coins of the American Colonies, European coins, and U. S. cents. I have them in good condition, all but 1793, 1799 and 1804; plenty of most other dates. I have an English copper coin of 1690. Reign of William and Ann; a Barbadoes penny 1788, a negro with crown on one side and a pineapple on the other. Massachusetts coin cents, a half cent; also, the U. S. Constellation, one Spanish mill dollar, a fine piece uncirculated 1794, a half dollar '58, also of '59, besides quarters, dimes, half dimes, and the small 3 cent pieces of the first coinage. Any quantity of cards, medals, etc. The autograph of Washington and Jefferson together; brass buttons from a wedding coat of 1781, a piece of wood of the coffin of Col. Wm. Ledyard, slain at Fort Griswold, 1781, Sept. 6th; also, one of his teeth.

I should like to exchange some of my duplicates for pennies of 1793, 1799, 1804, etc. I cannot tell of all the odd coins I have, but I have a good lot.

Please give value.

Yours truly,

D. L.

N. B.—If you know of any one who would exchange for those I have named, let me know.

[You certainly show a commendable spirit in coin collecting, and a spread eagle disposition to collect a little of every thing else, from a wedding button to a decayed tooth. Your Barbadoes penny is a rare piece, and is worth about \$2 if fine. 1794 Spanish dollar worth old silver rates, if strictly uncirculated would bring more; Washington's autograph worth \$3 to \$5; wedding button worth—*preserving*. The piece of coffin you

have might be used for kindling wood, as such relics seldom bear any tangible evidence of authenticity, and are generally valueless. Your "Wm. and Ann" is doubtless a "Wm. and Mary" half penny or farthing, worth 50 cents.

If you conclude to trade with us don't send that *tooth*—there's no *sense* in that—but for any good coins, or autographs you possess, we will accommodate you with 1793, '99 and 1804 cents. Ed.]

Malone, N. Y., Jan. 6, 1868.

Gents: The coin business is looking up with me. I find something new, or hear of something which I have to *get*, every few days. I know if I had the time to devote, I could get some good specimens, even "here, in the woods." I am now on the track of an old "miser" who has been hoarding gold and silver for "fifty years." His boy says he has got a nail keg full of coins. I shall get a peep at them soon.

I had an extra number of the Magazine and gave it to a Canada collector. Hope you have got his subscription by this time. I am anxious to see the February number. Yours, respectfully,

A. R. F.

Woburn, Mass., Feb. 6th, 1868.

Mason & Wells. Gents: You lately made a mistake about that Maximilian dollar, in my favor, and as I am not the one to take advantage, I here return it to you. I simply mean this, that I sent to you for one of them, and you very kindly sent me two.

Enclosed, also, please find fifty cents for my balance of subscription for second volume.

I am well satisfied with the dollar, and think, too, that I am lucky to possess one, for it is my opinion that five years will add quite a premium to them.

Yours, very truly,

MARCELLUS LITTLEFIELD.

[We print your letter as a sample of honesty worthy all praise. Ed.]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 19, 1868.

Sirs: You have given me the directions how to clean old copper. You say put them in sweet oil, and one of your correspondents says coal oil. I have tried both and it does not have any effect on an old copper that has been laying a good while, for the dirt and grease becomes case hardened. I have let them stand in oil for four weeks, and it has no effect on them, and I do not know what to do with them. I have some very old ones, and if I could get them clean, I would be willing to pay well to know the process. Oil will do to soften the grease and dirt, if not on too long, but on an old, bad, dirty copper it won't do any good. I think it helps to turn them green. I want you to tell me how you do with those bad ones. I will be in Philadelphia some time next summer, on my way home to Vermont, and shall have all my coins to show you, and will give you a good visit, and sell all to you, if we can agree on a price.

Yours, very respectfully,

G. N. H.,

No. 496 Ninth St., Washington, D. C.

[You should not expect to clean corroded coins with oil; the latter serves only to loosen the dirt. After coins have been a few days in oil, wash them off with warm water and soap, then apply a soft brush. Ed.]

Woburn, Mass., Jan. 31, 1868.

Mason & Wells. Gents: Enclosed please find "stamps" enough to furnish me with a Maximilian dollar, and the Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine for another year. As long as I have money enough to spare, you may set me down for a subscriber, as long as it is published. If it is necessary that I should pay more, that the Magazine may be enlarged, call on me, and I will forward. Indian head, 1858, received O. K.

Yours, with respect,

M. LITTLEFIELD.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"HIBERNIA."—There are several dates and varieties of the *Voce Populi* coin.—We have seen one dated 1760, with what might be termed a negro head; and one of 1760 with a head resembling the obverse of the Vermont cents, by many called "George the Third head."

S. O. R., PHILA.—We have but few of the very rare pieces of Continental paper money. As to the redemption of this currency, we hope you may live to see it! An effort was made, in Congress in 1818, to accomplish something, but it failed, as will all future efforts. You had better sell the whole lot to those who cherish mementos of the past. The first issue of Continental money was made in 1775. The depreciation began in three years afterwards and went on as follows: March, 1778, \$1 in coin was worth \$1 75 in paper. September, 1778, \$1 in coin was worth \$4 in paper. September, 1779 \$1 in coin was worth \$19 in paper.—March, 1780, \$1 in coin was worth \$100 in paper. May, 1781, \$1 in coin was worth \$500 in paper. Not long after these days, the holder of Government money paid twenty thousand dollars for a ham, and ten thousand dollars for a pound of tea.

H. C. R.—Get the new 1868 Coin Priced Catalogue; 16 pages, just issued from our office. It is reliable, and a splendid guide for beginners. Will mail it to you for 25 cents. It shows the prices we pay for all coins.

L. T., WOBURN.—Reminiscences crowded out. Shall publish balance of history, commencing with nickel of '56, in next volume.

M. L., WOBURN, MASS.—You have our thanks for returning the Maximilian dollar. We were not aware of sending you two.

T. S. C., NEW HAVEN.—We have good 1789 Mott tokens or store cards for \$1.00, and very fine for \$1.50. The earliest

American business card is the 1757 Elton's N. Y. token. It has a rude representation on obverse of an animal reclining in the woods; surrounding this an imperfect band; around the whole, the legend, "Skins bought at Elton's, 1757." Reverse, Indians trading skins in front of a tent, or hut. Legend, "The Red Men come to Elton's Daily." The piece is of copper, size about 21.

S. O. RODMAN, CHICAGO.—We will allow you a fair commission on each subscriber, if you make a club. 50 per cent. is out of the question. How different from your proposition is the following, clipped from a letter from our regular Troy correspondent, who has gathered at least forty subscribers.

"In conclusion, I would say, that I neither *ask* nor *expect* any compensation for soliciting subscribers for your Magazine. The satisfaction of knowing that an aiding-in disseminating useful knowledge to the numerous votaries of numismatology, is reward enough for me."

Yours, &c., G. M. PAYFER.

P. R., TAUNTON.—The three cent silver piece of 1851, marked with letter O on reverse, signifies it is from the New Orleans mint. It is scarce, and commands fifty cents when uncirculated. We have a few duplicates, but will pay 25 cts. each for yours.

J. A. B., MILTON.—References are splendid, but we prefer to do cash business. We can send our coins to hundreds on approval, and deprive our daily visitors of rare coins. We will always refund the money if coins do not suit the purchaser, when coins are returned within a reasonable time.

A. S. F., COLUMBUS, O.—Let us have that article, "Advice to Young Collectors." We feel assured, from your well known ability to handle numismatology, that the article in question will be a valuable one.

J. B. C., PROVIDENCE.—We have an ample supply of U. S. stamps—old and present issue.

S. L. MORRISON, EXETER, N. H.—The "John Hancock" letter you sent us was dated "1796." Unfortunately for your pocket John Hancock died 1793, and could not have written the letter. Returned.

H. C. E., CINCINNATI.—Shall use the article in a condensed form. Thank you.

R. P. & SON, DEERSVILLE, O.—Cannot use the stamps.

The AMERICAN STAMP MERCURY, for January, has been received, one month behind time, for which delay F. Trifet, Publisher, Boston, Mass., offers an apologetical editorial. This number of the *Mercury* is the *fourth* issued, and is an improvement on its predecessors. There is no reason why the *Mercury* should not hold a *big hand* in Boston, for it has all the *trumps*. Success to it.

A Stamp and Coin Periodical has appeared in Meriden, Conn. The first, or January number, (quarto) has four pages filled with interesting matter. It is published by the NATIONAL STAMP COMPANY.

THE STAMP BUYER, Vol. 1, No. 1, has been received. It is a lively little quarto and comes out with the following startling announcement:

"Free! Free! Free! Ho! ye Stamp Collectors. THE STAMP BUYER—a journal devoted to the interests of collectors sent free! monthly. Address American Stamp Co., Middletown, Conn."

MASON'S COIN AND S. C. MAGAZINE.—The above is the title of a spicy little Magazine published monthly by Mason, & Wells, Philadelphia. It is devoted to the subject of coins and stamps, old and new, and generally matters connected with the currency of this and oth-

er countries, and of present and past years.

Messrs. Marshall & Mott have received a number of subscriptions to the magazine which has at least the merit of being *independent*.

We are not disposed to *kick* such an enterprising member of the family of Journals, although it professes not to care which it receives—a puff or a kick—as it thinks either will serve to give it a start. —*Oswego (N.Y.) Com. Adv'r and Times*, January 29.

[The above clever notice is refreshing to a care-worn numismatic editor who is striving energetically to cultivate a taste for scientific pursuits. If the Editor of above journal ever gets astray and wanders in this latitude, we can accommodate him with an extra bed, a spare room and an aromatic havana—"Quaker dinner" thrown in. Ed.]

Malone, N. Y., Feb., 18, 1868.

Gents: I send you to day my extra April No. of the magazine, if you can make any use of it you are welcome to it

I received the 1856 and 59 cents—was much pleased with the 1859, would like the 1858 as soon as you have one on hand and when you get one please put it aside and notify me.

I guess I can tell where the one dollar went to that I sent for the 1868 coins. Our Mail Agent on this R. R. was arrested while in the act of opening a letter, yesterday, and I learn there has been other letters than mine opened. A Detective has been on his track for two weeks. So that little difficulty is not as likely to occur again.

Yours, respectfully, A. R.

[Many thanks for Magazine you forwarded. We print your letter to exhibit to our patrons the "little difficulty" which oftentimes prevents the receipt of letters. We have had but three complaints of non-receipt of goods ordered, and one correspondent's letter and money was lost by the recent burning of a mail car in Indiana; the other two letters were appropriated by those in charge of the mails. As a general thing the mails are fully as safe as any other mode of conveyance. Ed.]

END OF FIRST VOLUME.

The present number concludes the first volume of the Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine, and affords a fitting opportunity to briefly review the past history of our yearling. We need not say that it has been a laborious and profitless task to establish a work of this kind, for it is a patent fact to most of our readers; but we can truly say that it was a "labor of love," and a desire to strengthen and increase the facilities for a practical comprehension of the twin sciences—Numismatology and Philately—that led and sustained us in the field. It has been the aim of the publishers to give brief, practical, sensible items concerning the subjects monthly served up for the reader's edification and instruction; and, as a general rule, to avoid angry discussions and lengthy, mystical, elaborate communications, which so clog up and impede the success of any journal whose foundation for future prosperity depends upon the mass, the bone and sinew, the solid men of the country. Why should not novices—beginners—have a say in matters which attract their attention? We have endeavored to present, from month to month, such articles as would suit all classes, and it is a gratifying fact that we have awakened an interest in science which will produce good fruit. To our correspondents and contributors we beg to offer sincere thanks, and to express the hope that one and all will sail with us on the next voyage. We promise to add to the number of pages and illustrations just as rapidly as subscriptions are received. It is a matter of regret to us that we are compelled to raise the subscription price a trifle for the next volume, but we hope to remunerate the reader for the outlay.

NEW COIN and STAMP JOURNAL.

The fourth number of the AMERICAN STAMP MERCURY, a monthly, devoted to coins (?) and stamps, is before us, and, judging from external appearances, we

should predict success for the *Mercury* as far as stamps are concerned, but the coin department is rather limited in this issue. We hope to be able to congratulate our contemporary on a successful career.

NEW TERMS.

The following terms have been adopted for the 2nd volume of Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine, commencing with the next number, viz.:

Subscription per annum in advance	\$1, 50
" " 6 months, "	1, 00
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Nov., 1867.—Continued from p. 108.

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1805 Bright, uncirculated, rare. 62c.

(To be Continued.)

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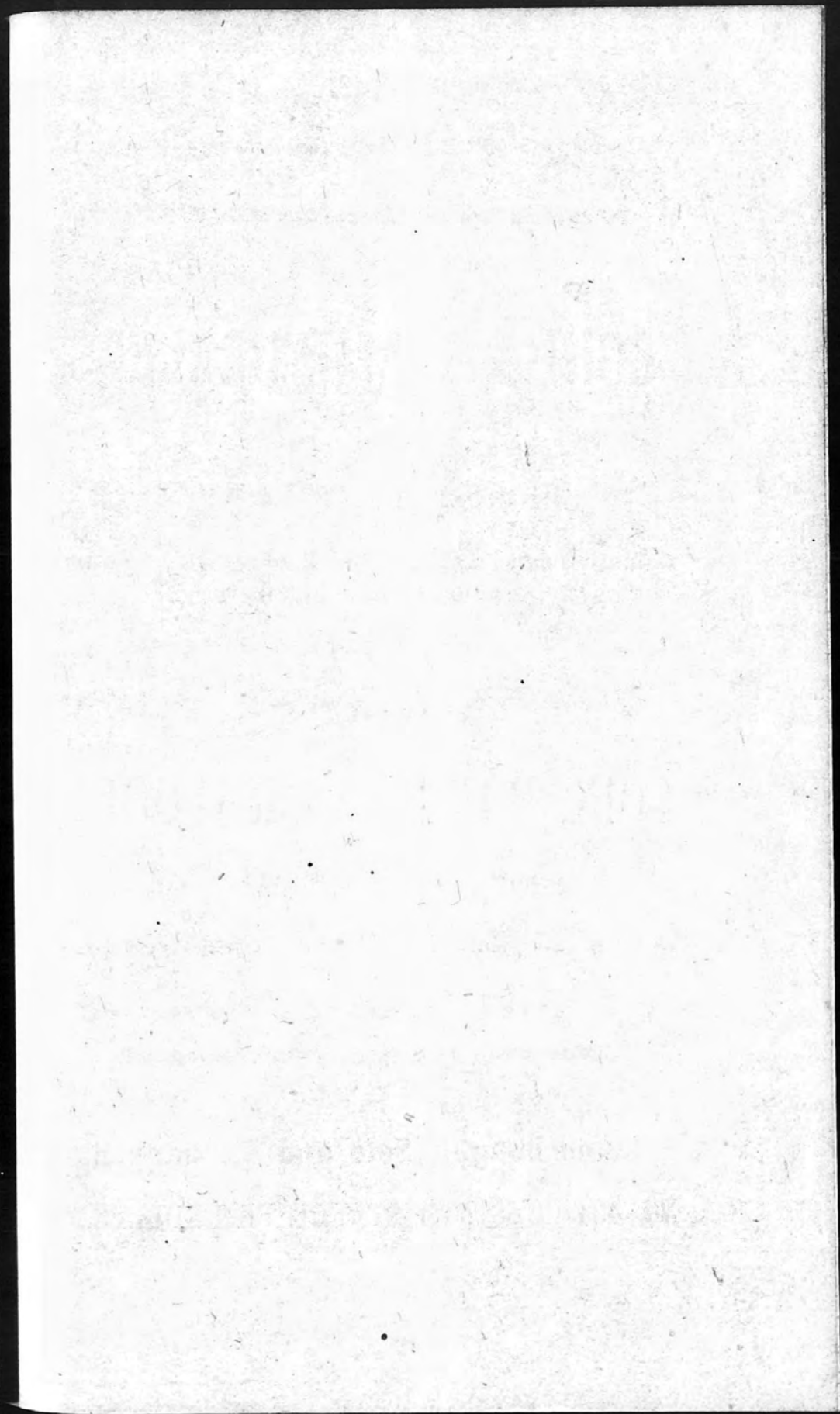
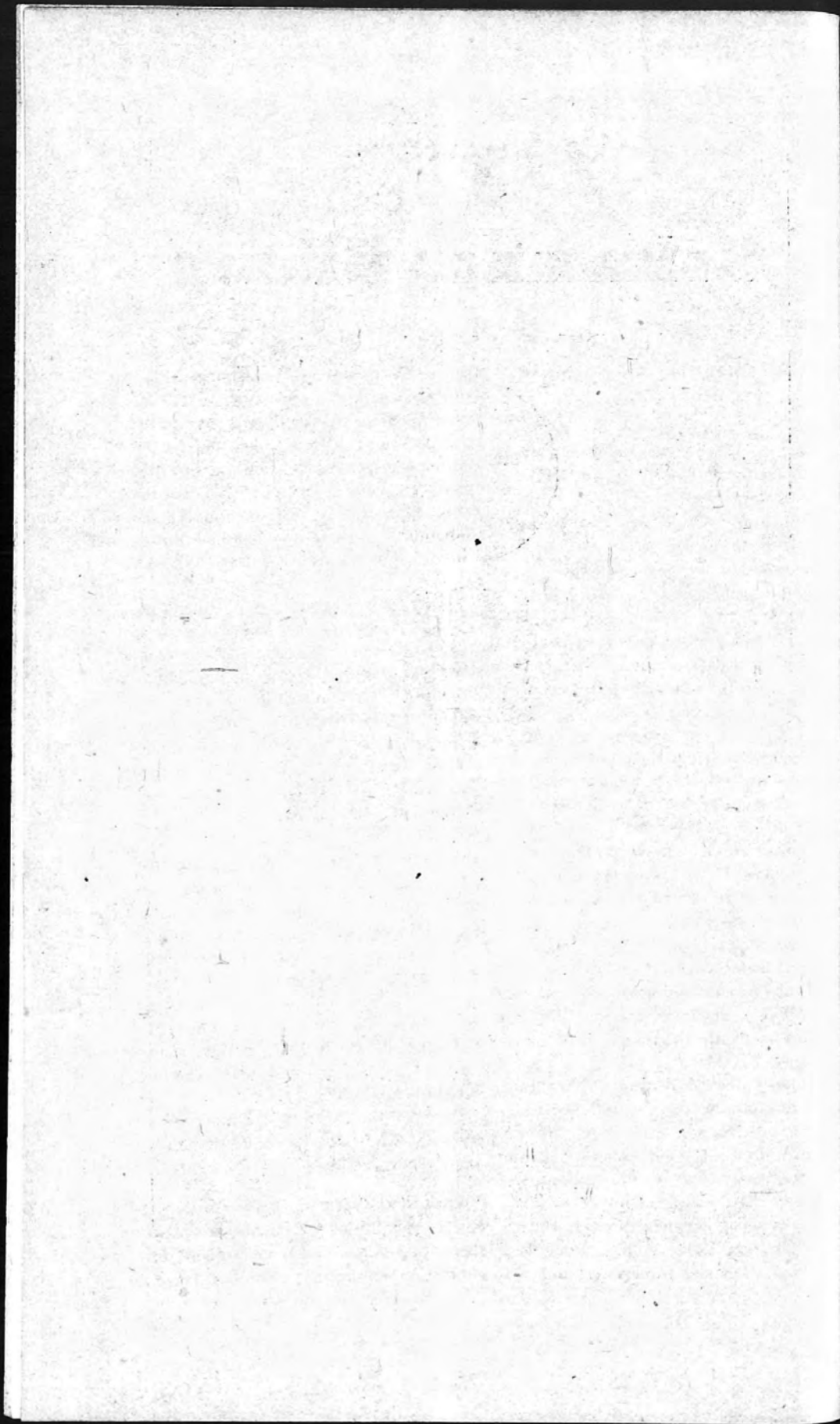
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ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
STAMP MERCHANTS

MASON'S
Coin and Stamp

COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

OCTOBER, 1867.

PUBLISHED AT ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE,

By Mason & Co.,

No. 484 Chestnut Street,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

William M. Yeakel, Printer, 23 North Sixth Street.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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CHAS. K. WARNER,
DEALER IN

**American and Foreign Coins and
Medals,**
No. 326 Chestnut St., Phila.

S. ALLAN TAYLOR,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**Postage, Express, and Revenue
STAMPS,**
No 3 Cornhill Court, Boston, Mass.
Circulars free on application

**ALL HANDS "SWING ROUND THE CIRCLE."
NEW SCIENTIFIC TOY,
THE GYRALSCOPE.**

A beautiful out-door and in-door amusement and exercise, making two opposite circular motions in the air at same time, — a turn and return toy.

Mailed, with directions, for 25 cts., by
— MASON & CO., Agents,
434 Chestnut St., Phila.

PRICED COIN CATALOGUES.

Mailed free of postage as follows :

Lincoln & Sons, Coins and Medals,	\$1 00
Scott's Sale, March, 1867,	50
Birch's " "	50
Kline's " 1855,	2 00
Woodward's Sale, April, 1867,	1 00
McCoy's Sale, May, 1861, very large,	3 00
Bangs & Merwin Sale, April, 18 7,	1 00
Woodward's Sale, April, 1863, large,	2 00
Cogan's Sale, Nov. 1858,	50
Finot's Sale, Nov 1862,	1 50
Haines' Sale, January, 1863,	1 50
Lightbody's Sale, Dec. 18 6,	75
Brechiman's Sale, June, 18 7,	1 00
Levick's Sale, December, 1859,	1 00
Cook's Sale, Boston,	50
Robinson's Sale, May, 1863,	25
Jones' Manual, 18 0,	1 50
Blick's Sale, 1843,	1 00
Smith's " March, 1863,	1 00
Leavitt's " January, 1864,	25
Sheldon's Sale, March, 1863,	25
Cogan's Sale, Jan. 1864,	1 00
" May, 18 0,	1 00
Sotherby & Son's Sale, May, 1830,	50
Woodward's Sale, Oct. 1863, very large,	2 00
Cogan's Sale, March, 1862,	1 00

About 50 different un-priced Catalogues on hand, at 25 cts. each.

MEDALS FOR SALE.

ALL IN FINE CONDITION,—MANY PROOF.

PRESIDENTIAL, (bronze.)	size.	Price
Jefferson,	48	\$2 25
" "	32	1 40
J. Q. Adams,	40	1 40
Tyler,	40	1 40
Buchanan, (Japanese Embassy)	48	2 00
" (Dr. Rose)	48	2 00
Taylor,	40	1 40
Polk,	40	1 40
Van Buren, (Inauguration)	40	1 40
" (Peace and Friendship)	40	1 40
" "	32	1 40
Johnson,	40	1 50
Monroe,	32	1 40
" "	40	1 40
Lincoln,	40	1 50
Madison,	48	2 40
" "	40	1 40
Jackson,	40	1 50
ARMY (bronze)		
General Meade, for Gettysburg,	50	10 00
" Taylor, for Palo Alto,	40	1 40
" " for Monterey,	40	1 40
" Scott, for Chippewa & Niagara,	40	1 40
" Harrison, for Thames,	40	1 40
" Ripley, for Chippewa, Niagara, and Erie,	40	1 40
" Brown, for same,	40	1 40
" Porter, "	40	1 40
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" Jackson, for New Orleans,	40	1 40
" Gates, for Saratoga,	34	1 40
" Morgan, for Cowpens,	36	1 40
Col George Croghan, for Sandusky,	49	1 40
Gov. Isaac Shelby,	40	1 40
John E. Howard, for Cowpens,	28	1 25
Wm. Washington, for same,	28	1 25
NAVAL, (Bronze)		
John Paul Jones,	36	1 90
Commodore Lawrence,	40	1 40
" McDonough,	40	1 40
" Truxton,	38	1 40
" Perry, from Penna.	40	1 40
" " " different,	40	1 40
" Hall,	40	1 40
" Warrington,	40	1 40
" Biddle,	40	1 40
" Blakely,	40	1 40
" Jacob Jones,	40	1 40
" Burrows,	40	1 40
Rescue of Officers and Crew of the Brig Somers,	36	1 40
Captain Creighton, Low and Stouffer, wreck of Steamer San Francisco,	48	1 90
MISCELLANEOUS (Bronze)		
Alex's Hamilton, rev. 'To Public Credit'	30	12 00
Adam Eckfeldt,	33	2 75
U. S. Coast Survey,		90
Indian Peace Medal,		95
Small Head of Washington,		25
" " different,		25
Washington, "The Constitution is sacredly obligatory on all."		50
Wm. Steam Coalage,		21
David Howack,	22	25

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Fyler,	49	1 40
Buchanan, (Japanese Embassy)	45	2 00
" (Dr. Rose)	48	2 00
Taylor,	40	1 40
Folk,	40	1 40
Van Buren, (Inauguration)	40	1 40
" (Peace and Friendship)	46	1 40
" "	32	1 40
Johnson,	40	1 50
Munroe,	32	1 40
" "	40	1 40
Lincoln,	40	1 70
Madison,	48	2 40
" "	40	1 90
Johnson,	40	1 50
ARMY, (bronze)		
General Meade, for Gettysburg,	50	10 00
" Taylor, for Palo Alto,	40	1 40
" " for Monterey,	40	1 40
" Scott, for Chippawa & Niagara,	40	1 40
" Harrison, for Thames,	40	1 40
" Ripley, for Chippawa, Niagara, and Erie,	40	1 40
" Brown, for same,	40	1 40
" Porter, "	40	1 40
" Gaines, for Erie,	40	1 40
" Jackson, for New Orleans,	40	1 40
" Gates, for Saratoga,	34	1 40
" Morgan, for Cowpens,	36	1 40
Col. George Croghan, for Sandusky,	40	1 40
Gov. Isaac Shelby,	40	1 40
John E. Howard, for Cowpens,	28	1 25
Wm. Washington, for same,	28	1 25
NAVAL, (Bronze)		
John Paul Jones,	36	1 00
Commodore Lawrence,	40	1 40
" McDonough,	40	1 40
" Truxton,	35	1 40
" Perry, from Penna.	40	1 40
" " " different,	40	1 40
" Hull,	40	1 40
" Warington,	40	1 40
" Biddle,	40	1 40
" Blakely,	40	1 40
" Jacob Jones,	40	1 40
" Burrows,	40	1 40
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Captain Creighton, Lost and Stouffer, wreck of Steamer San Francisco,	48	1 00
MISCELLANEOUS (Bronze)		
Alex's Hamilton, rev. "To Public Credit"	30	12 70
Adam Eckfeldt,	33	2 75
U. S. Coast Survey,		90
In Han Paper Medal,		95
Small Head of Washington,		25
" " " different,		25
Washington, "The Constitution is sacredly obligatory on all."		50
Mint Steam Coinage,		25
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A Note signed by Stephen Girard,	50
Autograph Letter signed by Com. Bainbridge,	75
Parchment Doc. Seal of U. S., signed by J. Jay,	1 00
Large printed Doc. 1785, signed by Charles Thompson, Secretary	50
Autograph Letter signed by John Sergeant,	25
Doc. and portrait with Autograph by Chief Justice Shippen,	1 00
Autograph Letter signed and Portrait of J. S. Johnston,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Ed. Livingston,	50
A Letter signed by Oliver Wolcott,	75
Autograph Letter signed by John McLean,	50
Autograph Letter signed by J. F. Watson,	50
A Letter signed 1788 by Robert Morris,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Adam Ferguson,	1 50
Letter signed 1796 by Timothy Pickering,	1 00
French Letter signed by La Fayette,	1 00
Letter signed (Autograph) by Judge Meredith,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Charles Sumner,	50
Autograph Letter signed by Nicholas Biddle,	50
Portrait and Autograph of Lewis Cass,	25
" " " Com Wilkes,	25
" " " Admiral Dupont,	25
" " " Bishop Doane,	25
" " " General Wool,	25
" " " John Forsyth,	25
Autograph Letter signed and Portrait of Daniel Webster,	1 00
Autograph Letter signed by Lowell Mason,	25
Autograph Letter signed by H. Clay,	1 00
Autograph Letter signed by J. A. Bayard, 1802,	1 00
Letter signed by Com. Morris, 1803, 3 pp.,	1 00
Passport signed by Secretary Smith, 1810,	25
Letter signed by Com. Porter,	50
Autograph Note signed by George Lippard,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Genl. R. Lee, 1838,	1 00
Letter and Portrait of Elias Boudinot,	50

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" (Peace and Friendship)	40	1 40
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Johnson,	40	1 50
Monroe,	32	1 40
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" Truxton,	36	1 40
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Doc. and extract with Autograph by Chief Justice Shippen,	1 00
Autograph Letter signed and Portrait of J. S. Johnston,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Ed. Livingston,	50
A Letter signed by Oliver Wolcott,	75
Autograph Letter signed by John McLean,	50
Autograph Letter signed by J. F. Watson,	50
A Letter signed 1788 by Robert Morris,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Adam Ferguson,	1 50
Letter signed 1796 by Timothy Pickering,	1 00
French Letter signed by la Fayette,	1 00
Letter signed (Autograph) by Judge Meredith,	25
Autograph Letter signed by Charles Sumner,	50
Autograph Letter signed by Nicholas Biddle,	50
Portrait and Autograph of Lewis Cass,	25
" " " " Gen. Wilkes,	25
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(Peace and Friendship)	40	1 40
"	32	1 40
Johnson,	40	1 50
Monroe,	32	1 40
"	40	1 40
Lincoln,	40	1 70
Madison,	48	2 40
"	40	1 40
Jackson,	40	1 50
ARMY, (bronze)		
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" Taylor, for Palo Alto,	40	1 40
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1795, '96, '97, '98, '99, 1800, '01, '2, '03, U. S. silver dollars, all good, each,	\$2 00
1795 to 1850, half dollars, excepting rare dates,	80
1800 to 1850, quarter " " " "	40
1800 to 1850, dimes, " " " "	25
1800 to 1850, half dimes, " " " "	15

CENTS.

1799, very poor, (date visible),	\$1 25
1799, poor, " "	1 50
1799, fair, " "	2 50
1799, better, " "	3 50
1799, good, all plain,	5 00
1793, poor, \$1; fair, \$2; good,	3 50
1804, poor, \$1; fair, \$3; good,	5 00
1809, poor, 50 cents; fair, 75 cents, good,	1 25

COLONIALS.

New Jersey, 1785, '86, '87 and '88, each,	25
Connecticut, 1785, " " " "	25
Massachusetts, 1787 and '88, each,	50
Vermont, 1785 to '88, each,	75
Franklin Link, 1787,	75
Nova Eborac, (N. Y.), 1787 and 1788, each,	1 50
Virginia, 1773,	25 to 50

NICKLES.

1856, proof,	1 50
1856, circulated,	75
1858, Indian Head, proof,	1 50

PROOF SETS, SILVER.

1859, \$6; 1860, \$5; 1861, \$6; 1862, \$6; 1863, \$6; 1864, \$5.	Address,
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E. MASON, Jr., & CO., 434 Chestnut St., Phila.

SETS OF U. S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

We have a few more large Shields containing specimens of all the Fractional and Postage Currency issued by the U. S. Treasury Department. From the 3c. to 50c. Notes, inclusive. Address,

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Truxton,	36	1 50
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" " different,	40	1 50
Hull,	40	1 50
Warrington,	40	1 50
Biddle,	40	1 50
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MASON'S
Coin and Stamp
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

JANUARY, 1868.

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By E. Mason, Jr. & Co.,
No. 484 Chestnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

William M. Yeakel, Printer, 23 North Sixth Street.

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Autographs bought, sold or exchanged.

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Postage, Express, and Revenue
STAMPS,

No. 8 Cornhill Court, Boston, Mass.
Circulars free on application.

AMERICAN COINS FOR SALE.

The following Coins in good condition, will be mailed to any address, on receipt of price, viz:

1793, '95, '97, '98, '99, 1800, '01, '2, '03, U. S. all over dollars, all good, each,	\$2 00
1795 to 1850, half dollars, excepting rare dates,	80
1800 to 1850, quarters " " " "	40
1800 to 1850, dimes, " " " "	25
1800 to 1850, half dimes, " " " "	15

CENTS.

1793, very poor, (date visible),	\$1 25
1799, poor, " "	1 50
1799, fair, " "	2 50
1799, better, " "	3 50
1799, good, all plain, " "	5 00
1793, poor, \$1; fair, \$2; good,	3 50
1804, poor, \$1; fair, \$3; good,	5 00
1809, poor, 50 cents; fair, 75 cents, good,	1 25

COLONIALS.

New Jersey, 1765, '86, '87 and '88, each,	25
Connecticut, 1765, " " " "	25
Massachusetts, 1787 and '88, each,	50
Vermont, 1765 to '88, each,	75
Franklin Link, 1787,	75
Nova Eborac, (N. Y.), 1787 and 1788, each,	1 50
Virginia, 1773,	25 to 50

NICKLES.

1856, proof,	1 50
1856, circulated,	75
1858, Indian Head, proof,	1 50

PROOF SETS, SILVER.

1859, \$6; 1860, \$3; 1861, \$6; 1862, \$6; 1863, \$6; 1864 \$5. Address,	
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SETS OF U. S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

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PRESIDENTIAL, (bronze.)	size.	Price
Jefferson,	48	\$2 50
" "	32	1 50
J. Q. Adams,	40	1 50
Tyler,	40	1 50
Buchanan, (Japanese Embassy)	48	2 50
" (Dr. Rose)	48	2 50
Taylor,	40	1 50
Folk,	40	1 50
Van Buren, (Inauguration)	40	1 50
" (Peace and Friendship)	40	1 50
" "	32	1 50
Johnson,	40	1 50
Monroe,	32	1 50
" "	40	1 50
Lincoln,	40	1 50
Madison,	48	2 50
" "	40	1 50
Jackson,	40	1 50
ARMY, (bronze)		
General Meade, for Gettysburg,	50	10 00
" Taylor, for Palo Alto,	50	1 50
" " for Monterey,	40	1 50
" Scott, for Chippewa & Niagara,	40	1 50
" Harrison, for Thames,	40	1 50
" Ripley, for Chippewa, Niagara, and Erie,	40	1 50
" Brown, for same,	40	1 50
" Porter, " "	40	1 50
" Gaines, for Erie,	40	1 50
" Jackson, for New Orleans,	40	1 50
" Gates, for Saratoga,	34	1 50
" Morgan, for Cowpens,	36	1 50
Col George Croghan, for Sandusky,	40	1 50
Gov. Isaac Shelby,	40	1 50
John E. Howard, for Cowpens,	28	1 50
Wm. Washington, for same,	28	1 50
NAVAL, (Bronze.)		
John Paul Jones,	36	2 00
Commodore Lawrence,	60	1 50
" McDonough,	40	1 50
" Truxton,	36	1 50
" Perry, from Penna.,	40	1 50
" " " different,	40	1 50
" Hull,	40	1 50
" Warrington,	40	1 50
" Biddle,	40	1 50
" Blakely,	40	1 50
" Jacob Jones,	40	1 50
" Burrows,	40	1 50
Rescue of Officers and Crew of the Brig Somers,	36	1 50
Captains Creighton, Low and Stouffer, wreck of Steamer San Francisco,	48	2 00
MISCELLANEOUS, (Bronze.)		
Alex'r Hamilton, rev. 'To Public Credit'	30	12 00
Adam Eckfeldt,	33	3 00

Either of above medals sent by Mail or Express.

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CENTS.

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1799, poor, " "	1 50
1799, fair, " "	2 50
1799, better, " "	3 50
1799, good, all plain,	5 00
1793, poor, \$1; fair, \$2; good,	3 50
1804, poor, \$1; fair, \$3; good,	5 00
1809, poor, 50 cents; fair, 75 cents, good,	1 25

COLONIALS.

New Jersey, 1785, '86, '87 and '88, each, "	25
Connecticut, 1785, " " "	25
Massachusetts, 1787 and '88, each,	50
Vermont, 1785 to '88, each,	75
Franklin Link, 1787,	75
Nova Eborac, (N. Y.), 1787 and 1788, each,	1 50
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ORGANIZED JANUARY, 1868

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And any published work in the country

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C. O. D.,

By Express, or mail free of Commission.

Any known or rare Coin,

" " " Book,
" " " Stamp.

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Stamp Albums,*

In fact any article of merchandise, (toys, or fancy articles for gifts, &c.,) purchased and forwarded.

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1799, better, " "	3 50
1799, good, all plain,	5 00
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1804, poor, \$1; fair, \$3; good,	5 00
1809, poor, 50 cents; fair, 75 cents, good,	1 25

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Virginia, 1773,	25 to 5

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1856, circulated,	75
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By Express, or mail free of Commission.

Any known or rare Coin,

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This is my Right ~~Hand~~
and I will defend it



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COINS FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent, good,.....	\$ 5 00	1794 Silver Dollar, good.....	\$50 00
1793 Wreath " ".....	3 00	1796 Silver Dime, very good.....	6 00
1793 Link " ".....	4 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, very good.....	2 50
1793 Liberty Cap, " ".....	10 00	1795 " " " ".....	1 25
1799 & 1804 Eagle " poor.....	2 00	1796 " Quarter " ".....	2 00
1799 & 1804 Eagle " good.....	5 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent.....	1 00
1809 Cent " ".....	1 00	" " " " Proof.....	1 50
Rosa Americana Penny ".....	3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12.....	17 00
" " Half Penny, good.....	3 00	" " Indian Head.....	1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, ".....	5 00	" " " " Proof.....	1 50
" " Sixpence ".....	4 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents.....	1 50
" " Threepence ".....	5 00	" " " " very fine..	2 00
" " Twopence, very good.....	6 00	N. J., Conn., Va. Wood, fair, each.....	25
Liberty and Security, 1795 ".....	3 50	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 00
" " " large ".....	2 00	" " " " ".....	1 00
Louisiana Cent, R. F., ".....	1 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, very fine, each.....	50
" " " 1722, ".....	2 00	1840 to 1849 " " " ".....	1 00
" " " 1721, ".....	3 00	1830 to 1839 " " " ".....	1 50
Virginia Cent, 1773, ".....	1 00	1820 to 1829 " " " ".....	2 00
" " " very fine.....	3 50	1794 to 1814 " " " ".....	3 00
N. Y., (Nova-Eborac), good.....	1 50	1817, 1818 & 1819 Uncirculated, each.....	1 00
Vermont Cent, ".....	1 00	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.	

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Numismatic Works.

Dickeson's Illustrated Coin Manual.....	\$9 00
Prime's Illustrated Coin Manual.....	3 50
Harper & Bro.'s Coin Manual.....	3 50
Humphries' Foreign Coin Manual	
2 vols., each.....	5 00
Mason's History of U. S. Coins..	1 50

MASON & WELLS,

No. 50 N. Tenth St., Philada.

TOKENS, CARDS, & C.

100 Rebellion Tokens, 1863.....	\$3 00
100 Trade Cards, (Coins,).....	4 00
100 " " (prior to '63,).....	6 00
100 Foreign Coins, good.....	3 50

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1793 Liberty Cap, " "	10 00	1795 " " " "	1 25
1796 & 1804 Eagle " poor,.....	2 00	1796 " Quarter " "	2 00
1796 & 1804 Eagle " good,.....	5 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent.....	1 00
1809 Cent " "	1 00	" " " " Proof.....	1 50
Rosa Americana Penny " "	3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12.....	17 00
" " Half Penny, good.....	3 00	" " " " Indian Head.....	1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, " "	5 00	" " " " Proof.....	1 50
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" " " " large "	2 00	" " " " '60 "	1 00
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Maximilian Silver Dollars.

A few of these rare Coins for sale, price \$3 each! Proof sets 1859 to 1863 inclusive, \$6 each set.

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MASON'S
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VOLUME II.

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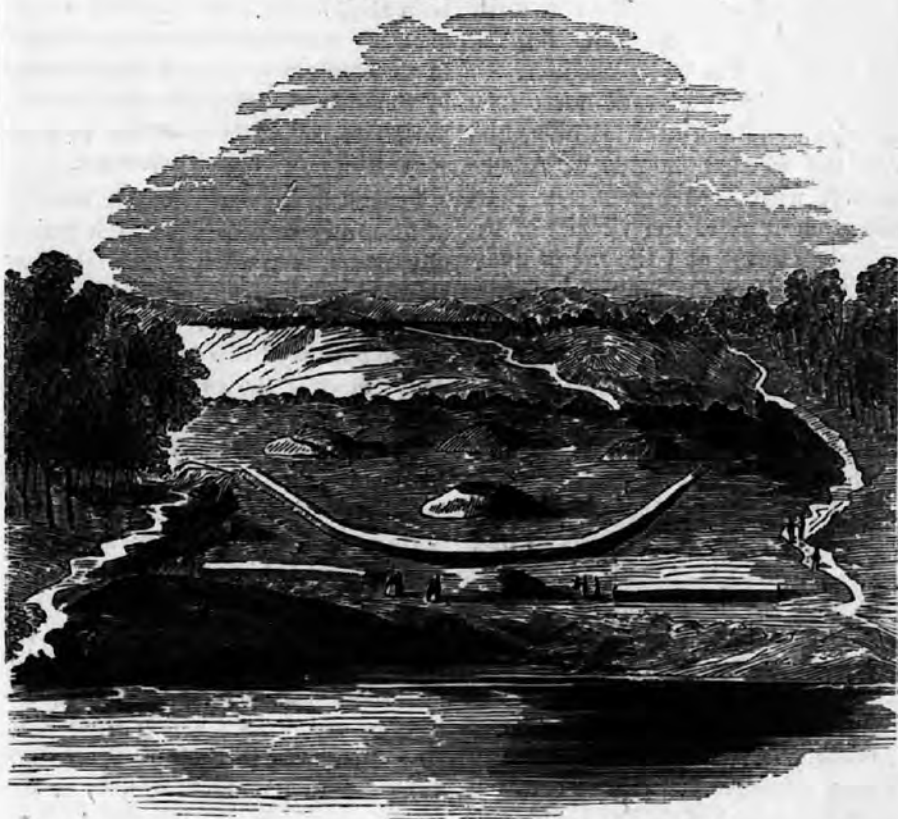
VOL. II.

APRIL, 1868.

No. 1.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.



We had received an invitation from General Quitman to investigate the aboriginal structures upon his plantation, situated on the margin of the Mississippi river, eight miles above the town of Natchez.

On the sixth day of July, long before the dawn of a delightful morning, we were summoned from our slumbers by our faithful groom, who had been actively engaged during the greater part of the night in preparing for

our early departure on the coming morn.

We found everything in readiness; our horses saddled and in the courtyard; our instruments, note-books, port-folios, &c., were deposited in our saddle-bags, which were waiting orders only to be placed upon the saddles.—The stars were yet beaming their silvery brightness, and the clear heaven was the advent of a glorious dawn.

As the mist of night melted gently away, we partook of breakfast in the true Southern style; and, as we arose from the meal, the beautiful light of day burst forth in all its splendor.

We mounted, and sped our course through a chain of diluvial hills, and over the wooded heights of Adams county, with light hearts. A short ride brought us to the vicinity of the overseer's house and the negro quarters, that fringe the beautiful plantations in the neighborhood of the town.

As we were admiring these scenes, the shrill matin-bell pealed, reminding the sooty inmates of the huts that the hour was approaching for the renewal of their daily toil.

In a moment, as if by the wand of a magician, the curly heads of hundreds, old and young, male and female, issued out from the doors of their quarters, and as they inhaled the pure southerly atmosphere, they sent forth a whoop or a song of gladness at the sight of a brilliant sun.

Some rent the air with their shrill voices, accompanied with an occasional grotesque jerk of the head or extremities, to excite the laughter of their comrades. All was animation as they advanced towards the overseer to answer to the roll-call.

We journeyed on, and as the sun increased in brilliancy, we descended the gorge leading to the crossing of the

great mammoth ravine, so celebrated for its numerous and unique fossil remains. This is the locality of the only truly fossilized human bone upon record.

At various times, for the last thirty years, bones of extraordinary size have been found in this bayou, throughout its whole extent, even to where it empties into the St. Catharine.

These relics, so valuable to the intelligent naturalist, and interesting to the cause of science, have generally been abandoned, after exciting a momentary curiosity, to moulder away in a cotton-gin yard, or a fence corner, by the disintegrating effects of the atmosphere, or to become the prey of some itinerant curiosity-monger.

I regret to say that, after the novelty of discovery subsides, research generally ceases, even when a little labor bestowed in the pursuit, might be attended with the happiest results.

The reason of this is, however, evident; most of the good people in the country are too much occupied with their agricultural pursuits to bestow on scientific matters more than mere momentary attention. And yet, no portion of the community are more deeply benefited in geological developments of every kind than our planters.

It is to be hoped that they will, before long, shake off their apathy, and give some occasional attention to the interest of science; which their position often puts in their power to advance, without much trouble or expense.

I had frequently been told by persons living in this vicinity, of skeletons that had found heads and tusks several feet long, which were never removed from their original beds. During my eight years sojourn in the South, I collected a large number of the unique

fossils, a majority of which were found in this ravine; among them, stand most prominent, the "Milodon of Owen," "Megalonyx of Harlem," the gigantic "Equus Americanus of Dickerson," the teeth of which I handed over to my colleague Dr. Leidy, for description, (see Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences, 1867), the Mastodon, Bison, Elk, Castoroides, &c.

(To be Continued.)

THE OLDEST COINS.

Whether Herodotus is right in attributing the invention of coined money to the Lydians, is perhaps somewhat open to question. It is, however, very remarkable that the ancient Assyrians and Egyptians, with all their wonderful advance in civilization, should never have invented anything better than lumps and bars of metal as a medium for exchange. The earliest money mentioned in the Bible—as, for instance, that carried by Joseph's brethren into Egypt, was "in weight."

The first Hebrew coinage is no older than the Maccabees. The first Egyptian began with the successors of Alexander. Examples of Lydian coins have come down to us, but as they have no inscriptions, their dates can only be guessed at. Some of them are of the rudest description, being merely a lump of electrum—three parts gold to one of silver—upon one surface of which was impressed a lion's head or other device; the other surface, like that of the old silver coins of Ægina, being merely flattened by the block upon which the metal was struck. A method, equally simple, is mentioned in the "Asiatic Transactions" as having been lately practiced in India.

"A piece of mango-tree, about four feet in length, was half-buried in the

ground, in the middle of which was inserted a die; upon the die was placed a circular piece of gold, and over that another die. The upper die was then struck with a sledge hammer, and the mohur dropped on one side complete."

QUEEN ANNE'S FARTHINGS.

About one English coin there exists a very singular delusion: Queen Anne's farthing. Often and often have the officers of the British Museum received letters asking whether, as the writer was in possession of the *third* of the farthings, of which the Museum had the other two, he was not entitled to some one thousand pounds or so; and grievous, no doubt, has been his disappointment at being told that his fancied treasure might possibly be worth four or five shillings. How the delusion ever originated, it is impossible to say; but one account tells us that a lady in Yorkshire having lost one of these farthings, which she valued as the bequest of a dear friend, offered a very large sum for its recovery, and this gave rise to a false impression of the value of any specimen. It is commonly believed that only three examples of the farthings were struck off, because it was found that there was a flaw near the bridge of the Queen's nose.

There are really no less than five or six different patterns of the farthing, but most of them were struck for approval only, and never issued. The genuine farthing has the inscription "*Anna Dei gracia*" surrounding the Queen's bust; on the reverse the figure of, and the inscription, "Brittania." It is dated 1714. Another, which was also perhaps in circulation, exactly resembles the one just mentioned, but has the date 1713. They have broad

milled edges, like the farthings of George III. Of the patterns, the rarest seems to be one like the genuine farthing, but with the inscription "Anna Regina." In 1823 there was a trial at Dublin about a Queen Anne's farthing, which, it was stated, had actually been sold for eight hundred pounds.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 2.

There is an imperfection in the obverse of the 1817 cent with fifteen stars, that I have never seen stated in print. Under the lobulus of the ear is a triangular piece of copper which is both peculiar to this variety of the American cent, and also an unintentional supernumerary on the part of the artist.

There is a cent of 1802 with a break in the obverse die, which gives it a peculiar appearance. I have seen more than one sample of it. The crack commencing on the right side at the edge about half way between the date and the word "liberty," extends nearly to the head, then, with an acute angle, it turns upwards, just escaping the letter "y" of the word "liberty." This angular broken part of the die has produced a depression in the coin, so marked, that a distinguished dealer in a remarkably populous city in the United States, who possessed one, suggested to the writer that it might have been occasioned by a blow of a hammer or other implement.

As far as my information extends, there are two types of the "Vermontensium Res Publica;" one with eight trees, and one with seven trees. I have in my possession a variety of the latter, that has some remarkable features. The tree to the extreme right does not touch the bank upon which

it was intended to stand, but is perceptibly to its right. Another tree is elevated *above* the bank, about a line or a line and a half. A third difference is in a duplicate letter "u" in the "Publica," which the artist, it would appear, had made to run too much inwards, so that he duplicated it in a more proper place, but neglected to erase the original.

This is my theory—others may suggest a more plausible one. A word about calling pieces *unique*. Dealers in their business, amateurs in speaking of what *they* have seen, and catalogues describing pieces for sale, frequently make use of the word. May I not suggest that it would be more modest and avert the danger of contempt and ridicule, to say, "believed to be unique," or "unique, so far as is known to the speaker."

It should have been stated in my last article, that there is a 1798 cent, by no means rare, with the '99 head. I have recently met with an 1806 half-cent, and heard of a cent of 1802 without stems to the wreath.

In my next, I shall have something to say about coins *I have seen or can show*, that have been made to perform two uses. §

COIN SALES.

The "Nippes Collection" of coins which was to have been sold in this city recently, remains in *statu quo*; the trustees of the Nippes estate not having decided whether to sell in New York or Philadelphia. Due notice will be given of the sale, and catalogues sent to each subscriber. The other "Philadelphia Sale," alluded to in previous numbers of this journal is at a stand still, owing to the lack of fine American coins *promised* by outside parties, but not yet forthcoming.

W. E. Woodward is now negotiating for a \$14,000 collection, which, if purchased, will be offered for public sale in New York in July.

SMALL COINS.

Mr. Kelley introduced a bill recently providing for a uniform system of small coinage, directing the coinage of one, three, five, and ten cent pieces of nickel and silver, which shall be legal tender to the amount of \$1, said coins to be substituted for the present silver, nickel and paper coinage of and under the value of ten cents. Referred to the committee on coinage.

Experiments are now being made at U. S. Mint, with a view of issuing 10 and 15 cent pieces similar to present 5 cent pieces, and withdrawal of all paper currency below the denomination of 25 cents.

NO MORE POSTAGE STAMPS TO BE USED.

We see it stated that hereafter we are to have only stamped envelopes.—The old-fashioned postage stamp, once considered so great a convenience, is now voted as a nuisance, says an exchange; they are so often lost when used, and are so often forgotten by writers of letters, that the department has decided to discourage their further use. Accordingly, discontinuing their further manufacture, it has determined to issue in future only stamped envelopes. These will be issued of all sizes and rates of postage, and to encourage their general use they will be sent to any address, when three hundred are ordered, with the printed notification on the back to return to the writer if not called for in a specified time. This re-mailing, also, will be done free of postage.

[The above paragraph is going the rounds of the press, but from whence it emanated, or by whose authority printed, we are unable to ascertain.—Certain it is, that the government would not be guilty of such a foolish act as to deprive the poorer classes of the invaluable privilege of buying a single stamp. An envelope stamped would cost singly four cents, as no less sum could be taken for it; thus making a package of envelopes (now costing 10 cents) 25 cents.

The injustice of the thing is apparent at a glance, besides its inconveniences. If a government letter envelope is mis-directed, it necessitates a loss of three cents to a class unable and unwilling to suffer so great a wrong. ED.]

MEDALS.

J. A. Bolen, of Springfield, Mass., has issued some very handsome medals recently. We make room for the following:

No. 24. Historical Token. Obverse, eagle on shield, Massachusetts 1866. Reverse, Lexington, April 19, 1775; Baltimore, April 19, 1861. Size 18.

No. 25. Springfield Token. Obverse same as No. 24. Reverse, Springfield Antiquarians: Jas. Parker, Wm. H. Bowdoin, C. B. Newell, J. A. Bolen, J. Whitcomb, D. K. Lee, Wm. Clogston. Size 18.

No. 26. Business Card. Obverse, head to left; J. A. Bolen, 1867; Reverse same as No. 21. Size 16.

No. 27. Washington Medal. Obverse, head to right; Washington.—Reverse, Geo. Washington, 1st President U. S.; the Union is the main prop of our Liberty. Size 16.

No. 28. Jefferson Medal. Obverse, head to right; Jefferson. Reverse, Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President U. S.

Equal and exact Justice to all men.—
Size 16.

No. 29. Jackson Medal. Obverse, head to right; Jackson. Reverse, Andrew Jackson, 7th President U.S. The stern old soldier: a foe to traitors.—
Size 16.

No. 30. Lincoln Medal. Obverse, head to right; Lincoln. Reverse, Abraham Lincoln, 16th President U. S. Emancipation, the great event of the 19th century. Size 16.

No. 31. Webster Medal. Obverse, head to right; Webster. Reverse, Daniel Webster, the able defender of the Constitution. Size 16.

No. 32. Libertas Americana Medal. Obverse, head to left with flowing hair. Liberty cap over right shoulder. Libertas Americana, 4 Jul, 1776. Reverse, same as obverse of No. 26. Size 16.

[The above medals can be had in copper on receipt of 50 cents each, by addressing this office. Ed.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Waynesville, Warren Co., Ohio,
February 26th, 1868.

Gents:—I have a number of very old and valuable copper coins, which I value very highly, and had thought I would never part with them, but for reasons unnecessary to state here, I am willing to sell, if I can get what I consider a fair price. I have one brass coin which you have not, most likely, on your list. I value it *above price*, still I will sell, but it must bring a sum far above what you offer for our copper coinage. I will explain briefly as I can: James II. of England, you will find by reference to Macauley's History, was dethroned by his son-in-law, William of Orange. He came back with a French Army to Ireland, raised

a rebellion there, but ran out of money, when, says the historian, he collected old brass cannon, kettles, door-knobs, &c., sent them to the mint and had them coined into "shillings," "half-guineas" and "guineas," and decreed arbitrarily that they should be received as such, though their intrinsic value would rate then hardly with half-pence. William, the King of England, sent an army and quickly drove him out of the country, and thus stopped this strange coinage. Macauley testifies that he has "seen several" of these coins in libraries, and from his manner and from the force of circumstances, we must believe they are very rare.—He also testifies that these coins are remarkably well executed for the time to which they belong, a fact in which I fully agree. Now, I have one of these guineas—most likely the only one on the continent; date, 1689. It is in a splendid state of preservation, everything about it quite legible and perfect, milled edges. I would respectfully invite a bid for that coin. If it is so rare in England, it is of course much more of a novelty here. TH. J. B.

Salem, March 10, 1868.

Dear Sirs:—The '99 came duly to hand. Enclosed please find '98 like mine. Though comparatively poor, it shows the horn on the 8, and has the large date and boldly cut head which '98's in general do not have, and convinces me that it *must* be an over-strike. Please accept it with my regards for you, as holding the same opinion with me.

I was pleased and amused to read your answer to the collection of coffin wood, buttons, teeth, &c. Many of the family think M. & W. quite spicy, though they do not appreciate the coin part.

The fellow, too, who keeps coins in oil three or four weeks, illustrates a large class that collect with an idea to the age regardless of quality, and think that a coin must be rusty to be old, forgetting that, like some old people, age may preserve a youthful appearance. I should like to supply him with rusty circles of copper from "half-way-rock" in our harbor, where every fisherman that passes or has passed in his boat, since 1626 or thereabouts, has thrown a copper to Dame Luck. Please send me the priced catalogue, and believe me,

Yours, truly, J. R.

[A sense of modesty should compel us to omit your letter, but we cannot forego the pleasure of adding "condiments" to our dry dishes of numismatic matter; hence the appearance of your letter. ED.]

Messrs. Editors:—The only proper way to have an international unit of value for coinage, is to have all nations adopt the proper system of weights and measures, based upon the diameter of the earth. The French system, based upon the quadrant, is not the proper one. The ten-millionth part of the diameter is about 50.135 inches, and the cubic one-hundredth part of this, of distilled water, would weigh about 31.9-10 troy grains, which of gold, at the standard fineness, is of the value of 123½ cents nearly, or about 1½ cents more than an ounce of silver of standard fineness. As the dollar was originally the ounce coin of silver, the name being only a local one for a particular coinage, this unit of value would be in conformity with it. The value of the dollar has been getting less and less, instead of being restored to what it was originally. The ounce coin of silver was common in Europe a century ago; besides the dollar, the

crowns, sequins and scudi were ounce coins, and the ducats double ounce coins. The gold dollar, one-fourth larger than at present, would be much better; and the silver dollar of an oz. weight would be a beautiful coin, and would be peculiarly the workingman's coin, and most acceptable to a majority of the American people, who, with everything else enlarged, would like the large dollar. The present dollar differs from the French five-franc piece exactly 2½ per cent.; a difference of the easiest computation; and it should not be forgotten is that of the Spanish-American States. The system of weights, measures and values, indicated above, will probably be adopted at no distant day, when, if the proposed change be now made, there would have to be another coinage in order to have the measure of value. I suppose American and English scientific men would base a metrical system of weights and measures upon the diameter, and not the quadrant of the earth. It would be far better to establish this system now than change the coinage. There are other weighty reasons against giving up the American dollar for the French 5-franc piece, to which I will not allude.

A READER.

West Philadelphia, Feb., 1868.

[No change of names or emblems is required. As we were the first of all the world to adopt a decimal system of money, so we shall never have occasion to change its denominations. The word dollar sounds well; the thing dollar shines well and clinks well; but it will sound and shine and clink just as well with three pennyworth less of gold in it. The eagle will spread its wings just as boldly, and the head of Liberty will look as blandly on the new coins as the old; only the eagle's flight will be more distant in search of a profita-

ble exchange, and the head of Liberty will carry its suggestions to remoter lands, under the proposed system.—“IN GOD WE TRUST” is a good motto for our coins. On the whole, we hope and believe, that American gold bearing these blessed words, and as a part of a universal coinage now being inaugurated, will yet penetrate the furthest East, and bring its return of value. ED.]

Gentlemen:—In the article “Peculiarities in American Coins,” the writer says he has noticed on the half-cents of 1804 and 1805 an arrangement of the half wreaths, which differs from that of any other of the half-cents, and as far as he has been able to learn, there is no similar arrangement among the cents from 1793 to 1807 inclusive. It consists in having no stem to the ends of the half wreaths, which are tied with a ribbon just above the 1-200ths, they being united together and forming one continuous wreath.

I found, several weeks ago, a cent of 1802 among my series of U. S. cents, that has no stem to either end of the half-wreaths; is tied the same as those on the half-cents of 1804 and 1805 spoken of; also, the 1-100ths has two lines and in the word “States,” on the reverse the last S has part of another S under it, evidently a mistake of some careless engraver. A. R. F.

Norwich, Chenango Co., N. Y.,
March 7th, 1868.

Mason & Wells. Gents.:—I do not deem it strange that you find it necessary to increase its price. I have been well pleased with the numbers issued, and most heartily wish you an increased list of subscribers, commensurate with its value.

In regard to the varieties of the half-

cents of 1804 and 1805, described in “Peculiarities in American Coins,” as “having no stem to either end of the half-wreaths,” I beg to advise you that I have in my collection half-cents of 1804, both with and without the cross upon the 4, having such a wreath; also, a half-cent of 1806, having such a wreath; and I have also three varieties of the cent of 1802 having such a wreath, and I herewith enclose a rubbing of one of them. Allow me, also, to call your attention to the fact, that Dickeson, in his Numismatic Manual, describes one variety of the cent of 1798, as being struck from a die altered from that of 1797. Will you inform me what was the last year of the issue of the silver three cent piece? [1868. ED.]

Very respectfully,

JOHN SWAN RANDALL.

Boston, Mass.

Gents.:—Please correct the mistake in March number, in speaking of the *Mercury*. You state that the fourth number was one month behind time; it was only six days. From October 25th to March 1st, five numbers have appeared, which is pretty near “up to time.”

Yours, resp'y,

J. TRIFET.

Gents.:—I think your magazine is the neatest and most useful magazine of the kind that has yet been issued, and even those who are not *bona fide* collectors are reading it with great interest.

Yours, respectfully,

J. A. B., Springfield, Mass.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

M. & M., OSWEGO.—Yours at hand. Proof-sets will be forwarded upon receipt of order. Name the coins you require in your locality. If you have

any duplicates, we may make satisfactory exchanges.

C. F. R., MALONE.—The autographs you enumerate are not scarce or valuable. Decline exchanging for coins.—Send us a Washington, Franklin or Lincoln letter, and will send you a good exchange in rare coins.

FRANCAISE.—Never heard of Maximilian silver dollars bringing \$10, at either public or private sale in this country. There were issued by the unfortunate emperor \$20 and \$10 pieces in gold; \$1, 50, 25, 10 and 5 cent pieces in silver. The dollars command \$3 to \$5; the \$20 gold piece \$40 to \$50; \$10 piece not to be had at any price; 50 c. piece \$5 to \$10; 25 c. piece \$10; 10 c. piece and 5 c. piece very rare and none offered for sale.

There were two issues of Maximilian dollars: one struck in Europe, the other in Mexico; differing in size only.

W. S. McK., WASHINGTON.—The piece you describe is the common French Washington token of 1783, worth 25 cents. There are three types of the Washingtons, issued in 1783, viz.: the brass "Unity" States; the laureated head (copper) "Liberty seated," and the "double headed" Washington (copper) valued from 25 cents to \$1.50.

C. D. W., NEWBURGH.—Obliged for your communication. Send dates of half-cents.

T. E. B., Sec. N. E. N. & A., BOSTON.—Will send 20 or 25 copies as soon as sales are positively fixed. Did you receive February No.?

J. A. B.—Thanks for orders. Send word what fine cents you require. Do you wish silver dollars? Shall have a lot in this month.

PHILATELIST.—Arrangements are in progress for an improvement in the stamp department. Catalogue of

stamps and other stamp matter crowded out.

V. C. T., CLEVELAND.—Would prefer to see the silver collection. Fix a valuation and send it on for approval and a price. Will furnish you ample security. Name entered for vol. 2d. Coin priced catalogue for 1868 mailed. Dollars of 1836, \$5 to \$8; 1838, \$25; 1839, \$25; 1851, \$35; 1852, \$35; half dollars 1796, \$5; 1801 and 1804, \$3 to \$5.

T. C. K., NEWBURY.—All right! Vol. 2d \$1.50.

A. R. F.—Marked for early insertion. Give us an article, *monthly*, on the "peculiarities, &c."

M. B. W., WASHINGTON.—Price was omitted on the Mickley Catalogue. Should be \$10.

J. R., SALEM.—"1808 cent 12 stars." The error, no doubt, occurred in coining—the 13th star having broken off the die. The 1-100ths on reverse of cents prior to 1808 was omitted afterwards.

C. L. G., WASHINGTON.—The balance of your subscription at hand.—Will send you the 1867 numbers (9) for \$1.00. Have entered your name January, 1868, and sent the January, February and March numbers.

D. DAVIS, CURIOSITY DEALER, LONDON.—Have sent you magazines. Please send list of anything you have appertaining to America.

W. H. P., TROY.—Not in want of present issue U. S. postage stamps.—We want \$25, \$50 and \$200 revenue stamps, to complete collections.

COMPLAINTS.—We are so cramped for room, that occasionally we lay "continued" articles aside. Shall finish all "catalogue" matter we have commenced.

J. H., MONTREAL.—Name entered for vol. 2d. Canada subscribers 25 c. extra for postage. Will send catalogues of all sales free.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS'
DEPARTMENT.*Priced Catalogue—Continued.*

	Unused. \$ cts.	Used. \$ cts.
CHILI.		
"Adhesive Stamps."		
1 centavo, rect., yellow.....	10	5
5 " " red.....	20	8
10 " " blue.....	30	8
20 " " green.....	40	10

COSTA RICA.

"Adhesive Stamps."

½ real, rect., blue.....	25	10
2 " " scarlet.....	50	10
4 " " green.....	50	25
1 peso, " orange.....	1 00	50

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

"Adhesive Stamps."

MOLDAVIA.

1854.

54 paras, circular, green,..	15	8
81 " " blue.....	25	10
108 " " pink.....	30	15

1861.

40 par, rect, blue.....	15	8
80 " " red.....	20	10

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

5 paras, rect, black.....	35	20
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MOLDO-WALLACHIA.

1862.

8 paras, rect, yellow.....	15	8
6 " " rose.....	20	10
30 " " blue.....	30	15

1865.

2 paras, rect, yellow.....	15	8
5 " " blue.....	20	10
20 " " red.....	30	15

DENMARK.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1852.

2 rigsbank-skil, sq., blue....	25	10
4 " " " lt. br'wn	25	8
4 " " " dk. "	50	8

PRICED CATALOGUE.

OF THE

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. AMERICAN SERIES.

HALF-CENTS.

1806. Bright, uncirculated.	50 cts.
1807. Red, uncirculated, rare.	
1808. Uncirculated, rare.	\$2.00.
1809. Very fine.	50 cts.
1810. Fine impression, uncirculated, rare.	87 cts.
1811. Original, bright and uncirculated. I think this half-cent has been a proof; it is by far the finest I have ever seen. —	\$10.00.
1825. Bright, uncirculated.	62½ cts.
1825. Another equally good, of fine color, though not bright.	50 cts.
1826. Uncirculated, fine Color.	37½ cts.
1828. Twelve stars; bright and uncirculated, scarce.	37½ cts.
1828. Thirteen stars; <i>splendid proof</i> .	\$3.25.
1829. Fine impression, brilliant.	\$1.00
1831. <i>Splendid proof, very rare.</i>	\$6.50.

(To be Continued.)

CHAT WITH OUR PATRONS.

In commencing the second volume of our little journal, it would not be amiss to say that we feel under many obligations for the kind aid tendered us, and the many friendly words spoken in our behalf by subscribers and others. A pat on the back is sometimes as good as a dollar in the pocket, but when both have been liberally bestowed, we feel indeed benefited beyond proper expression. In return for these favors, we promise to do our level best to make the present volume an improvement on the previous one; and would thank those who have aided us with the pen heretofore, to continue their efforts, and enable us to redeem our promise.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

MAY, 1868.

No. 2.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

(CONTINUED.)

Our companions having joined us, we pursued our onward course, keeping in sight of the piny ridge which passes throughout the greater part of the State, and in many localities, afford an excellent sand-stone for economical purposes.

Having proceeded sufficiently northward, we changed to due west, and passed over a series of hills, gradually descending as we advanced towards the river.

An hour's ride brought us before the General's plantation-house, where we were kindly received by the gentlemanly overseer. He mustered sufficient force, who, with the paraphernalia, set out for the scene of operations.

Two ploughs were set to work at the base of the bluffs, where the negroes, at sundry times, had reported bones and ornaments to have been found during their ploughing for the crops.

Examining the newly ploughed ground, we soon discovered several circumscribed spots, varying from twenty to thirty feet in diameter, of

a dark, rich loam, (much darker than the surrounding surface,) completely filled with fragments of human bones, teeth and pottery. We set several of our force to digging away the soil immediately surrounding these spots or tumuli, which soon exposed their original form, before entirely obliterated by the immense quantity of soil carried from the hill sides and ravines into these river bottoms. So great is the amount of soil brought by these water-worn ravines, that at the mouth of Cole's creek, Adams county, Mississippi, within the recollection of many citizens now living there, extensive lakes, with their huge cypress growth, have been entirely filled up, leaving but a piece of their topmost branches to indicate the scene of many a pleasant piscatory excursion in their youthful days.

After sufficiently uncovering this mound, we made a correct drawing. Ascertaining the proper points from which to start, our hands soon exposed the stratification; cutting it into two equal parts. We extended a ditch two

feet wide, entirely through it, level with its base. Of this, also, we made a correct drawing, which gave us a vertical view. (See fig. 2).

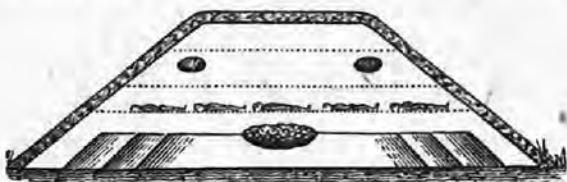


FIGURE 2.

Around the top and sides of both, (figs. 1 and 2) may be perceived a dark rim, entirely enveloping the mound; this is the surface soil, and the result of a long period of decomposition, both of animal and vegetable matter. The continuous portion of the stratum is of a light yellow color, fourteen inches thick and contained fragments of pottery, pebbles and arrow points.— Nothing of importance was found in this stratum, save one small vase, or cup, finely ornamented, and composed of an unusually fine material; the ornaments were painted vermilion color, and relieved with a somewhat darker red. It was filled with ashes, of an extremely light color, among which we found a small scapula, (shoulder blade) two clavicles, and the first and third rib of a child, apparently but recently born. (See fig. 3.) The next stratum was a gravelly loam, about two feet through.



FIGURE 3.

This we carefully removed, finding but two oval masses of conglomerated

burnt human bones mixed with ashes and coals; they lay one at each end of the mound. These masses were broken open, and in the centre of one we found a small terra cotta cup, with edges turning over, two inches high, but wrought from coarse materials and not ornamented. It contained a small hornstone axe, pierced at its upper extremity, indicating that it had been suspended around the neck; also, four unfinished jasper beads, two of them but partially drilled through their centre. At the rounded part of the bottom of the cup, lay a coin-like mass of lignite, the size of a twenty-five cent piece, with several rude figures upon one of its faces. (See fig. 4.)



FIGURE 4.

For the position of the masses in the mound, (see fig. 1.)

(To be Continued.)

HISTORY OF THE PATTERN, OR EXPERIMENTAL COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

In writing a description and history of the experimental coins of our country, we shall adhere to the generally accepted opinion that all experiments in designs for coins not adopted by the government, and not entering into general circulation, are the true and only "Pattern Pieces."

Although the earliest authorized U. S. coin was the "*Fugio*," or Franklin chain cent of 1787, there is no evidence of an earlier experimental or pattern piece, than the so-called "Martha Washington" cent of 1792.

This piece was designed with a view of complimenting President Washington, and, at the same time, satisfying the oft expressed desire of the public to have the bust of Washington a national feature of the country's coinage. There were several experiments this year upon the cent alluded to, resulting in great similarity of design and execution, viz.: A large copper piece, about the size of an English penny, bearing on the obverse a bust closely resembling the features of Martha Washington; around the bust the legend "LIBERTY, PARENT OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY." Beneath, the date 1792. Reverse, a wreath tied below in a bow; just under the latter the fraction 1-100; around the whole the legend "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."—This piece resembles closely in reverse every subsequent copper coin issued by the government.

Another piece, in same metal, about the size of the copper half cent, was designed, resembling in all particulars, save size, the first named.

Also, a third, differing only from the last by the insertion of a small circular piece of silver, which was attached to the copper planchet before striking.—This latter piece is termed the "1792 silver centre." Either of the above patterns bring, at public coin sales, a large fictitious value; but are generally valued *according to condition*—say \$50 to \$100 each. These very pretty coins were not accepted for circulation, but notwithstanding this fact, a few favored persons, who thoroughly appreciated and admired the coin, succeeded in having a number of specimens struck for preservation; and to this circumstance our lucky possessors of the '92's can attribute their good fortune.

There were coined for President Washington's private use, in 1792, a quantity of dimes and half dimes, from a quantity of old silver left at the mint by him, for that purpose. These silver pieces differed somewhat on the reverse from the copper '92's; the former having an eagle with wings extending well across the centre of the coin, and word dime converted into DISME.

The silver pieces were used by Washington and his family—not as coins to pass current—but simply as pocket pieces, or to be given away as mementoes. The value of the dime greatly exceeds the smaller piece, but can safely be placed at \$75; while the half dime of '92 would bring when very fine but ten or fifteen dollars.

(To be Continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 3.

During the coinage of copper pieces by the several States, and for several years after the National Government

had its mint in operation, it appears to have been a common practice to re-stamp issues that had emanated from other sources, and that had been made to perform prior uses as currency.—The earliest of these re-strikes, that I recollect to have seen, is now in my possession. It had been a "Vernon Auctori," but is now a "Nova Cæsarea," bearing the early date of 1786. I have seen an "Auctori Connec," 1788, that had been struck over a "Nova Constellatio;" a half cent of 1794 over a half cent of 1793, and several others. But the most unaccountable of these duplicate servants of the public, are the half cents made out of coins of twice their weight. I have now a half cent of 1795, thin planchet, and have seen one of 1797, that were made from "Talbot, Allum and Lee" cents. A portion of the devices on both sides of the latter, are clearly traceable. Now, I can understand that the diameter of the originals might have been reduced by cutting a portion off. But how about the thickness of the planchet, which is reduced fully one-third? It may be said that the pieces, having no collar, would be flattened in the re-coinage sufficiently to account for the difference. This is not satisfactory to my mind, as in this case the lettering around the edge should be correspondingly expanded—this is not the case with my 1795.

Since the publication of article No. 2, I have found an 1800 cent with the head of 1797. It has been clearly altered from the die of 1799. I have the ordinary 1800 over 1799, with the adopted head of 1799 and subsequent dates, which establishes the existence of *two overstrikes* the latter year. Is this a discovery? I am not aware that the fact is known to any other individual.

By the way, has anybody noticed

the difference between the reverse of the half cents of 1800 and of 1802?—It will be remembered that the obverse die of 1802 was that altered from 1800. Not so the reverse. Compare them and it will be seen at once, that the lettering is larger on the 1802, and the wreath less delicate; its arrangement also somewhat different. This style of reverse was continued in use during the next six years. §

REMARKABLE COIN SALE.

We have received a descriptive catalogue of the Eve's Collection, containing 3,700 specimens, offered at public auction, April 21st, by Andrews & Son, Toronto, Canada West.

This sale, as catalogued, is certainly unique. Among other strange things in the U.S. coin line, is an "1815 cent" entered as "*extraordinary rare, fine condition, and a cent to be greatly desired.*" It is rather singular that the word *unique* was omitted, for this cent of 1815 is the only one we ever saw catalogued.

1794 cent is termed "thick die," as if *thin die* '94's (?) were plenty as pan cakes.

"1795 cent, *liberty cap.*" What has become of the Fillet head '95's?

1800 is elevated to the rank of a 1799 cent, and both are catalogued as "*extremely rare.*"

"1798 cent, *difficult to obtain.*" We sell them, in ordinary condition, for five cents each!

"1804. *Good.*" Brief, and to the point; but whether rare, or common, the catalogue is silent on the subject.

"1816. *Scarce.*" Yet worth but one cent!

"1837. *Nickel.*" This is described with great elaboration, and in the end proves to be the common composition or Feutchwanger cent of N. Y.

We have not the space to add the other curiosities of this sale, but advise our readers to send and get a copy of the catalogue.

NEW STAMPS.

A beautiful series of new stamps have appeared from our border friends in Canada, all of them bearing the bust of Victoria, viz: $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and 15.

The following changes in New Postal Tariff, Canada. In operation on and after April 1. Half-oz. Letters—Prepayment Optional.

	Paid.	Unpaid.
In the Dominion - - -	3c	5c
Prince Edward Island - -	3c	5c
United States - - -	6c	10c

Half oz. Letters—Prepayment Compulsory.

Britain, by Canada Steamships,	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
“ via Halifax, - - -	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
“ “ New York - - -	15c
Newfoundland - - -	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
Red River - - -	6c

NEWSPAPERS.

Single Papers, in the Dominion to Britian, United States, P. E. Island and Newfoundland. - 2c
To Subscribers.

Weekly - - -	per quarter,	5c
Semi-Weekly - - -	“ “	10c
Tri-Weekly - - -	“ “	15c
Daily - - -	“ “	30c

Subscribers residing in Britain, United States, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, &c., must prepay their Canadian postage as above through the Canadian publisher.

Newspapers coming into Canada.

From Britian, by Quebec, &c.	Free.
“ “ “ New York,	2c
“ United States -	2c

Circulars, Prices-Current, Hand Bills, Books, Pamphlets, in the

Dominion, to P. E. I., Nfld., and U. S.	per oz.	1c
Periodicals as above	per 4 oz.	1c
Parcel Post, - - -	“ 8 “	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c

The old issue of Canadian stamps will be accepted for a reasonable time after 1st of April.

(The following Stamps were crowded out of April No.)

CUBA.

5 centimos,	lilac.
10 “	blue.
20 “	green.
40 “	rose.

The above series of stamps, are very similar in design to previous issues, but printed on white unwatermarked paper, perforated.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

We shall allude to the recent emissions of this Confederation at some future time, in order if possible to illustrate the issues. The 1 Kreuzer and 3 Kreuzer are noticed by M. Moen, in his Journal as imdentilated.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

An addition to the permanent series is the 96c. grey-green, and 6c. lilac.

INDIA.

A new adhesive for service postage, and a very handsome stamp marked in value.

HALF ANNA.

This stamp will doubtless do duty as a postage stamp and may very properly be catalogued as such.

ROUMANIA.

The new issues are as follows :

2 bani,	orange,
4 “	bright blue,
18 “	rose.

Designs very like the issue of 1866.

CASHMERE.

American Bank Note Co., N. Y., have designed a series of odd looking stamps for this country, viz :

- 7½c black,
- 15c blue,
- 22½c red,
- 45c orange.

CHILI.

Four new stamps to add, to the first issue, viz :

- 1 centavo, orange,
- 5 " vermillion,
- 10 " blue,
- 20 " green.

THE CONFEDERATE STAMPS.

Charleston, S. C. Feb'y 28th, 1868.

Mr. F. Trifet,

SIR,—A young friend of mine, a stamp collector, showed me some days an article in your Magazine, in which you question the authenticity of the small red ten cent Confederate stamp with vignette of Gen. I. J. Jackson. As you evidently are not posted with regard to its origin I thought you might care to know something about it. In May 1861, I was in the employ of Messrs. Hoyer & Ludwig, Richmond, Va., to whom the first contract for furnishing postal stamps for the Confederacy was awarded.

They issued the following : ten cents, head of Jefferson, pink and blue ; five cents, head of Davis, green and blue, and two cents head of Andrew Jackson, green. The lithographic stones of these were destroyed by fire in September '61, and Maj. Gorgas, then Confederate States agent in London, England, obtained plates from Messrs. Th. De-La-Rue & Co., for stamps of the denomination of five and one cents. At the suggestion of Mr. Randolph, then Secretary of War, our firm, through Mr. Carroll, our designer fur-

nished the little ten cent stamp, to which you allude. It was of De-La-Rue's design, but differs from their stamps in being engraved on stone and not on steel. You speak of their great number. The entire number printed was but 300 from the stone, and 25 (the dark impressions) from a separate die stone. The only way in which they reached dealers was as follows : Mr. David Randolph, formerly postmaster at Cheraw near here took a sheet of 100 stamps to Charleston, where they remained until three months ago, when a New York gentleman seeing them, bought them from Mr. Randolph and sold them to Mr. ——— a dealer in New York city.

The 25 dark impressions were bought by the same party and sold to the same dealer. About 150 of the stamps were used on letters from this place and I have two cancelled ones now in my possession. The remainder belong to Mr. J. D. Howard, of New York city. The stamp was approved and became one of the regular issue until Messrs. Keating & Ball of Columbia, in this State, made a low bid and obtained a contract to supply stamps, when all those previously in use were discontinued. On applying to the following gentlemen, all of whom were connected with the Post-Office department in the Confederacy, you can possibly learn anything additional you may wish to know.

Mr. D. Howard, New York city, I think at 71 Broadway. He has several of the stamps, some cancelled.

Geo. R. Carey, 63 Wall Street, late State Treasurer at Richmond Va. He has the first proof from the die, printed black ink, and also a very fine collection of stamps of all countries.

J. D. Hollister, Philadelphia, Pa.
H. Lammot, " "

David Lammot, Raleigh, N. C.
David Randolph, Charlestown, S. C.
Yours, Respectfully,

J. ALEX. H. STEVENS JR.

On the receipt of Mr. Stevens' communication, we wrote to Mr. G. R. Carey and received the following reply.

New York, March 10th 1868.

F. Trifet, Esq.

DEAR SIR.—Your letter of the 5th. March, to my uncle, Mr. Geo. R. Carey, has been handed to me by him. He says that as far as his knowledge and recollection go to the letter of Mr. Stevens is correct in every particular, and as far as I remember, he is right. I have a complete set of all the Confederate Government stamp ever issued, and the black proof which Mr. Stevens referred to in his letter. Mr. Howard was in my office a few days ago and corroborates Mr. Stevens' statements.

I am something of a stamp collector myself, [and have several times been asked my opinion as to whether the small ten (about which you write) could be considered as a genuine issue. My answer has always been that the TEN was better entitled to be considered of a genuine issue than the ONE, because the latter never reached the Confederacy, except as samples, and were never used, whereas the tens to number of a hundred, or one sheet, were regularly passed through the Post Office, at Athens, Ga. Mr. Carroll of Hoyer, Ludwig & Co., designed all the first issue of Confederate stamps, I believe, and owing to his Union feelings, never made or was able to get any any money for them.

When dealers have spoken to me about them I always referred them to him, but do not know where he is at present.

I shall be happy to show you my collection whenever you are in the city, and if there is any specific information you wish with reference to the stamps, of which I am unfortunately not able to furnish you with a specimen, you can write to me. Very Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. H. CAREY.

[*American Stamp Mercury.*]

UNPUBLISHED CORRESPONDENCE OF GEO. WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, 6th Feb., 1797.

Dear Sir :

The 3d of March, which is fast approaching, will put an end to my political career; and I shall have another to commence through mud and mire, to reach more tranquil scenes at Mount Vernon. This I shall do without delay, or attempt it at least, be the roads in what condition they may at that time.

To enable me to accomplish this journey, with such baggage as I do not incline to risk by water, I shall want a pair of strong horses that are true and steady to the draught, for a Waggon, lighter than a Coachee, to carry some trunks (not heavy) at the rate we shall travel, which must be slow.

Would you oblige me so far as to make this purchase, and to have the horses in this City by the 1st day of March.

I should prefer Mares, and wish them to match in (any) colour. They ought not to exceed six, or, at any rate, seven years old next spring; nor ought they to be under fifteen hands high, as they will be put to the plough or waggon after I get them home. I should prefer cheapness to appearance; and the

reason why I mention Mares instead of Geldings is, that Mules may be bred from them afterwards—but I must take either.

Be so good as to let me know, without delay, whether I can, or cannot, place certain dependence on you for the purchase, and on having them here by the time beforementioned. The money shall be paid on delivery; or, if required, shall be sent to you before, for the purpose of instant payment.

I will offer no apology for giving you this trouble, because I persuade myself you are disposed to serve me in it.

With esteem, I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,

GO: WASHINGTON.

P. S.—Let me request the favor of you to have the steadiness of the Horses to the draught proved before they are sent here; for to be plagued with them on the road would be dreadful.

MR. SLOUGH.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MORE WASHINGTON LETTER FORGERIES.

In the November number of our magazine, we called attention to the celebrated Canadian forger of Washington documents. It seems, by the following correspondence, that the forger has taken a new name and residence. It is a pity that this poverty stricken and "distressed" individual does not "cross the line" with his forgeries, so that some of our autograph collectors can pin him before a U. S. Justice, and give him a comfortable home in—the penitentiary. Brother journalists pass him around:

Pittsburgh, April 9th, 1868.

Dear Sirs: Your letter came to hand this day, returning the non-gen-

uine order of G. Washington. The following is the whole history of it:

About three weeks ago, Mr. R., of this city, received this order, and, as you may have noticed the name on the order, (R.) he, (the fellow) thinking it might, perchance, be a relative of Mr. R.'s, sent it to him, and plead very pitifully, as you will see from the enclosed letter, which is the genuine letter he sent to Mr. R., he intending to send it back, as he did not want it; he showed it to me, and I told him I would try to sell it, not knowing the non-genuineness of it, or I would not have sent it to you. I am going to keep the order, and not send it back to him. The fellow, as you will see, hails from Cornwall, Canada. Please send me the letter back, after you see it. I would like very much to see the mean rascal exposed. Yours, S. A., Jr.

Cornwall, C. W., March 7, '68.

Sir: Will you, to assist a once wealthy, now distressed man, (out of business more than four years) purchase the enclosed.

Passing through Pittsburgh last fall I called at your office, hoping but failed to see you. Embarrassment has since compelled me to part with most of my grandfather's papers.

The one enclosed may be interesting to you and your family; if so, pray send me what you think it worth in United States currency; confident that in leaving it to your generosity, I shall have no regret. A few days since, I was at the expense to come to this city, hoping to collect a debt long owing.—I have failed to do so, and must return to-night to Cornwall and my impoverished family. By sending me a small sum at your earliest convenience, you will greatly oblige

Your ob't servant,

R. ANTHONY GIBBS.

"Head Quarters, Valley Forge,
March 9th, 1778.

Capt. Caleb Gibbs,

Sir: Send Lieut. Livingston and fifty men to Norristown, as an escort to Messrs. Potts, Clymer and Ralston, as far as West Chester, and with the enclosed order for the transfer to his command at West Chester of the recruits, horses and wagons awaiting the escort to head qts.

G: WASHINGTON.
Com'd in Chief."

Springfield, Mass., Mar. 24, 1868.

Gents.: Enclosed please find \$10.00 for club of ten subscribers to Vol. 2 of your Magazine.

I am a little curious to know about the Elton card. Why is it called a New York card? Have you ever seen one? In noticing what you say in the March number about Provincial Tokens, allow me to remark that I have 1250 different kinds in my collection issued prior to 1798, as per Conder's Work on Provincial Tokens, published at Ipswich in 1799, besides some 350 not described in that work. They are very interesting, indeed. Many of them are proofs, and cost from 25 cents to \$2.50 each.

Hope A. R. F. will get a peep at that "nail keg full of coins." He may find a few 1804 dollars, 1823 and 1827 quarters. Let us hear when the keg is opened; it may prove like Gen'l Put's gunpowder—nothing but onions.

Yours, truly, C. P. N.

P. S.—I supposed Mott's Jeweler's Token, 1789, was the earliest one. I have two, one I think cracked die—I mean New York city.

[Elton's card is in the possession of Dr. Clay, of Manchester, Eng. Have never heard of any other specimen of

this peculiar token. Perhaps it is an English affair of modern origin. Dr. C. sent us a rubbing of the Elton card, which we send you by mail. Your club of ten was duly installed in our gilt-edged subscription book for volume second. All honor to Springfield for the first club, and many thanks to you for interest manifested in our little enterprise. We intend to present a handsome medal to each of the subscribers in the city or town furnishing the largest number of subscribers to volume second, in proportion to inhabitants. Ed.]

Granville, N. Y., April 1st, 1868.

Gentlemen: I notice in your April number of Magazine a letter from a correspondent relative to a brass guinea of the time of James II., 1689. I beg to state I have the mate to the one described by Th. D. B., of Waynesville, Warren Co., Ohio, and it is also offered for sale. Very truly, C. A. B.

[We, also, have a stock of these brass pieces, (1689) issued for different months, by James II., and would state that coins of this description are very common, and seldom fetch more than fifty cents at sales. Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

VIRGINIUS.—B. G. Jackson, Liverpool, England, has a Virginia coin, struck in silver, dated 1774, and believed to be *unique*. We are indebted to Dr. Dickeson for a photographic view of this exceedingly interesting coin.

J. A. B.—Have not had time to attend to your stamp letter—think it impossible to get them all. The "Hard Times" Tokens are not in demand. We sell them at \$2 per 100.

E. C.—Coins at hand, and money mailed on 13th inst.

F. A. G.—We cannot disclose our correspondents' names and address, without obtaining their consent.

J. E. W.—We have already published articles similar to yours on peculiarities of coins.

R. A. M.—The half cents 1809 and '54 not worth postage.

C. E. W.—Subscription received—50 cts. due.

A. S. T.—We send the small proofs 1868, viz: 5c., 3c., 2c. and 1c. for 50c. per set of four.

P. H., JR.—15 cent notes mailed for \$1 each.

L. L.—We have seen the new patterns—1c., 3c. and 5c. nickel coins for 1868—they are very neat and convenient, and, in uniformity and beauty, far excel the coins in present use.

C. B. R.—Add 50 per cent. to price paid for coins by dealers, and you will approximate the prices they are held at.

J. H., CANADA.—We are indebted to you for the new issue Canada stamps. How can we reciprocate?

P. A.—Be cautious about sending money to Canada for forged Washington letters.

DEPARTED!

The Coin and Stamp Journal of Meriden, Conn., which appeared at the beginning of the year under very favorable auspices, has, we regret to say, departed this life. We understand that one of the publishers of the deceased journal is about to start a *new magazine*, which will create a sensation! We wish the "new comer" success and much joy over the "sensation." If the publisher of a *Coin and Stamp* periodical can get up a sensation out of such dry matter as Coins and Stamps, there may be hope for us and ours. Try it.

PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE U. S. INT. REV. PAPER STAMPS

Continued.

Fifty Cent Blue.

	PRICE.
Conveyance,	4
Entry of Goods,	4
Foreign Exchange,	4
Lease,	3
Life Insurance,	3
Lottery Ticket,	4
Mortgage,	3
Original Process,	5
Passage Ticket,	5
Probate of Will,	5
Surety Bond,	5

Sixty Cent Orange.

Inland Exchange,	4
----------------------------	---

Seventy Cent Green.

Foreign Exchange,	5
-----------------------------	---

\$1.00 Red.

Charter Party,	5
Conveyance,	5
Entry of Goods,	5
Foreign Exchange,	5
Inland do	5
Lease do	5
Life Insurance,	5
Manifest,	5
Mortgage,	3
Passage Ticket,	1 00
Power of Attorney,	10
Probate of Will,	5

\$1.30 Orange.

Foreign Exchange,	5
-----------------------------	---

\$1.50 Blue.

Inland Exchange,	5
----------------------------	---

\$1.60 Green.

Foreign Exchange,	10
-----------------------------	----

\$1.90 Lilac.

Foreign Exchange,	10
-----------------------------	----

\$2.00 Red.

Conveyance,	8
Mortgage,	8
Probate of Will,	8

(To be Continued.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

JUNE, 1868.

No. 3.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

(CONCLUDED.)

A similar vase has lately been found in the upper strata of a small mound on the premises of Mrs. Postlethwait, at Natchez, containing ashes and a similar lignite coin, but much more elaborately finished. (See fig. 4.)



[Figure 4.]

Curious speculations arise in the inquisitive mind from contemplating these relics of untutored art, to supply the uses of the aborigines.

Were they the commodities of traffic? or were they the currency of ancient days of Indian independence? They were evidently highly prized by their owners.

"And last, the relics by themselves dispose, which in a brazen urn the priest inclose."

Beneath this came a stratum of dark loam, fourteen inches thick, containing seven rows of skeletons, lying on their backs and heading to the East, with their hands extending along the chest. There were twenty-four, and apparently all males. Their heads were flattened lengthwise, (with three exceptions), and what appears strange is, that all the mounds in the immediate neighborhood, and in the adjoining burial places in the same bottom, have the crania flattened in the upper or conical form. [See figs. 5 and 1.]



[Figure 5.]

By our careful system of dissecting the mounds, we were enabled to remove, entire, eleven heads, which were carefully placed upon a scaffolding used for drying cotton, in the cotton-gin yard; but, on the following day, there arose a severe storm, the scaffolding was blown down, and this broke into numerous pieces all, save two, of our valuable heads.

The regularity and elegant preservation of the teeth, excited the universal admiration of the party.

Below the skeletons, and capping of the altar, lay a stratum of coarse sand and loam, several inches thick. This we carefully examined, but found only two javelin points.

Removing this cilicious mass, exposed broad to our view, the altar or hearth. This earthen floor occupied nearly the entire dimensions of the mound; it had a depression in the centre which was filled with ashes, coals, and burnt human bones.

It appears to have been constructed at three several times, in the following manner:—the centre bed had been formed with its depression, and when sufficiently dry, was covered with brushwood, and burnt hard.

Around its edges had been placed another layer, levelling it by the top of the former mass, and again burning it, and so on till finished.

These divisions have led many hasty investigators to form erroneous conclusions concerning them, and call them brick hearths, and to suggest that they were formed by the early French and Spanish.

Having satisfied ourselves of the contents of this structure, we set our force to fill up the excavation. When this was done, dismissing them, we repaired to a copse of timber, where were spread out the contents of sun-

dry hampers, under the delightful foliage of a spreading cotton tree.

We seated ourselves upon the luxuriant green carpet of nature, and partook of a meal which kings (enthroned or abdicated) might have enjoyed. To our feet came bubbling out, from the bottom of a small ravine, one of the most delightful springs in the country; and its crystal waters glided gently by us, winding in sparkling curves to the river. It was a picturesque spot, the margin of a low level bottom of arable land extending for miles along the margin of the Mississippi River.

The cut heading this article is from a rough drawing taken on the spot by myself, but arranged in proper perspective by my much esteemed friend, C. J. Egan, Esq., an artist who, for grace of touch and accuracy, stands at the head of his profession.

The wooded bluffs, bordering on these low lands, are, in many places, upwards of two hundred feet high, and their summits are occasionally crowned with gigantic monuments of a by-gone people. These towers of antiquity, which once defied the attack of a hostile foe, and were the pride of its lordly possessors, lie a heap of deserted ruins! These hills, which have resounded to the song and the dance of the warrior, are now as silent as the grave!

"Like leaves on trees, the race of man is found,
Now green in youth, now withering on the ground;
So generations in their course decay,
So flourish these, when those are passed away."

Some of our party, after no little toil, gained the highest point of those bluffs. From this elevated position the scenery presented features of vast grandeur, and the dark outline of the distant hills filled us with admiration.

As we turned to the glorious west, and beyond the winding river, full to

our view came Louisiana—the Eldorado of America, with its Magnolia forests rising majestically. As we stood upon these heights, I bethought me of the gay, brilliant and sometimes bloody scenes that had been enacted there. Where are now the thousands that once thronged these glorious heights, girded in their warlike armor, and who fought even unto death for the defence of these their native hills? Where are they now? They have long since gone to the bar of God, where neither the victor's wreath nor the largest conquest of earth will avail them aught.

We descended the hill by a winding road, and found our comrades busily discussing the busy topics of the day. Our appearance concluded their conversation, and, our horses being in readiness, we returned home, well satisfied with the excursion.

HISTORY OF U. S. COINS.

BY E. M., JR.

Nickel Coins.

The subject of a new coinage to take the place of the cumbersome copper coins was agitated by the public press for a number of years, until an Act of Congress led to experiments in nickel, resulting in the small and convenient nickel cents of 1856.

After repeated experiments with the new metal and an alloy of copper, the Government adopted the small nickel cent, and in 1857 gave them general circulation—the 1856 being a pattern or experimental piece.

The obverse of the 1857 nickel cent presents the national emblem, the eagle, in the act of flying; around this the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; date 1857. Reverse, tobacco and corn wreath, having a few sprigs of wheat at the base, tied at the lower ends with a ribbon. Legend, (in two

lines in centre,) ONE CENT. Size of the nickel cents, 16th, (American scale.) Issue 6,000,000.

1858. Same design as preceding. Issue 23,400,000. (The great difference in numbers this year, compared to the previous issue, is, doubtless, owing to the fact that a large number of the *copper* coins of '57 were put in circulation before the *nickel* '57's made their appearance.)

1859. Reverse, laurel wreath; obverse, this year, presents the so-called "Indian Head," partaking of the Indian characteristics only in the feathers ornamenting the head, and a simple string of beads around the neck.) A band across the forehead contains the legend LIBERTY. In other respects the 1859 nickel cent resembles the previous issues. Coinage 30,700,000.

1860. Reverse changed to oak wreath and shield; obverse same as preceding. Issue, 34,200,000.

1831. Same. Issue 10,166,000.

1862. " " 11,600,000.

1863. " " 47,845,000.

1864. The cents of this year were of two kinds—thick and thin dies; the former of *nickel*, the latter *bronze*. Whole issue of cents, 42,735,000.

The two-cent piece (*bronze*) appeared this year; size 16th, about the same as the U. S. copper half cents. Obverse, a shield, beneath which are two arrows crossed at right angles; suspended over the shield is a wreath; across the top a waved label containing the motto, (attributed to the late President Lincoln), "In God we Trust." Date 1864. Reverse, an oval wreath, in the centre the figure 2 and word CENTS beneath. Around the border the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Issue 1,822,500.

1865. The cents of this year were similar to the last, excepting in size.

Thin die only. Issue 54,180,000.

Two-cent pieces of '65 same as '64.
Issue 26,780,000.

The first nickel 3-cent piece appeared this year. Obverse presents a plain wreath, with the numerals III in centre.

GOLD AND SILVER COINS OF THE WORLD.

With their value in U. S. coins.

Prepared for the convenience of Bankers, Brokers and Numismatists.

GOLD COINS.

Country.	Denomination.	Value.
Australia,	Pound of 1852 .	\$5.32.37
"	Sover'n of '55-'60	4.85.58
Austria,	Ducat,	2.28.28
"	Sovereign,	6.75.35
"	New Union Crown, (assumed)	6.64.19
Belgium,	25 Francs,	4.72.03
Bolivia,	Doubloon,	15.59.25
Brazil,	Twenty Milreis,	10.90.57
C. Amer'a,	Two Escudos, . . .	3.68.75
"	Four Reals,	0.48.8
Chili,	Old Doubloon, . . .	15.59.26
"	Ten Pesos,	9.15.35
Denmark,	Ten Thaler,	7.90.01
Ecuador,	Four Escudos. . . .	7.55.46
England,	£ or Sovereign, new,	4.86.34
"	" average,	4.84.92
France,	20 Francs, new . . .	3.85.83
"	" average,	3.84.69
Germany, N.	Ten Thaler,	7.90.01
"	" " Prussian,	7.97.07
"	" Krone, (Crown),	6.64.20
"	S. Ducat,	2.28.28
Greece,	Twenty Drachms,	3.44.19
Hindustan,	Mohur,	7.08.18
Italy,	Twenty Lire,	3.84.26
Japan,	Old Cobang,	4.44.00
"	"	3.57.6
Mexico,	Doubloon, average,	15.52.98
"	" new,	15.61.05

Country.	Denominations.	Value
"	26 Pesos, (Max.)	19.64
Naples,	Six Ducati, new, . .	5.04.43
Netherland,	10 Guilders,	3.99.56
N. Grenada,	Old Doubloon,	
	Bogota,	15.61.06
"	" Popayan,	15.37.75
"	Ten Pesos,	9.67.51
Peru,	Old Doubloon,	15.55.67
"	Twenty Soles,	19.21.8
Portugal,	Gold Grown,	5.80.66
Prussia,	New Union Crown, (assumed),	6.64.19
Rome,	2½ Scudi, new,	2.60.47
Russia,	Five Roubles,	3.97.64
Spain,	100 Reals,	4.96.39
"	80 "	3.86.44
Sweden,	Ducat,	2.23.72
Tunis,	25 Piastres,	2.99.54
Turkey,	100 "	4.36.93
Tuscany,	Seguin,	2.31.29
United States,	Double Eagle,	\$20 00
"	Eagle,	10 00
"	Half Eagle,	5 00
"	\$3 piece,	3 00
"	Quarter Eagle,	2 50
"	\$1 piece,	1 00

(To be Continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 4.

As there appears to be much ignorance respecting the different varieties of the 1839 cent, I propose to point out such marks of distinction as will enable the examiner to make them out readily. They are 4 in number, and known respectively as the 38 head, the bull or simple, or silly head, the booby head, and the 40 head.

1st. The 1839 cent with the '38 head is precisely like the cent of 1838, having a line under the word cent, and the mint mark or dot above that word on the reverse, and with no lock of hair over the forehead of the head.

With this year these peculiarities for ever disappear from our cent. This variety is the only one of the year *without the lock, and with the mint mark.*

2d. The Silly head is more arched on the top than the last; has the lock over the forehead *short*, and the line under the word Cent on the reverse, but *without the mint mark.*

3d. The Booby head has the lock over the forehead *longer*, has a shaggy eyebrow, and the hair at the bottom of the bust, instead of covering the back of the neck, is *turned behind it*, showing only a small curl beneath the bust. There is no line under the word Cent.

4th. The '40 head is smaller than the others, and scarcely at all arched. The lock of hair that has heretofore straggled in front of the ear, is not shown in this variety, which, with slight variations, is the head of our Cent afterwards to 1857 inclusive. The legend "United States of America," is in smaller letters and the line wanting.

This line under the word Cent began in the year 1816; the mint mark in 1793, but several years are without it, and in others it is quite small. Large and small dates were made during the following years, viz: 1807, '10, '12, '19, '25, '28, '40, '42, '46 and '57 cents, and 1849 half cent. Broad and narrow dates in 1818 and 1856. Date under head and to its left in 1843. Straight and slanting 5s in 1855, (the half cent is slanting.) Large and small stars in 1834 and 1835.

Over-strikes, or cents made from dies altered from the preceding year, I believe only appeared in 1798, 1800, 1807, 1810, 1811, 1820 and 1823. The half cent of 1802 is from the 1800 die.

There is a variety of the 1819 cent, large date, with the tail of the 9 near-

ly touching the centre. This looks like an overstrike; but, inasmuch as I cannot find any 1818 head corresponding with this, I conclude that the peculiarity is accidental. §

THE DISHEARTENED NUMISMATIST'S SOLILOQUY.

(After Wm. S.)

BY A "CRACKED DIE."

A coin or not a coin, that's the question:
Whether 'tis better to forego the dirty cop-
pers,

Or to take up all the coins possessed,
And, by fire, melt them? To strive, to 'gun'
No more; and, by that fire, say we end
The 4's, the 9's, the 93's—the thousand "cards"
of shops

That we have bought. 'Tis a consummation
Some wives devoutly wish. To melt,—to
burn—

To lose, perchance, them all! Aye, there's
the rub!

For in that loss of *all* what debts may come,
When we have melted down the last fine
"red,"

Must give us pause; there's the respect
That's due to science, of e'er so long a life.
For who would bear the numismatists' slurs,
The loss of coins, time, money—the con-
tumely,

When he himself to Mason* might sell them
all.

Or his quietus make by public "coin sale."
Upon second thought, I'll spare my coins,
Tho, short of "proofs," of "patterns" fine.
'Tis better to keep the poorest cent we have,
Than fly to "Romans" that we know not of;
Thus *FEAR* makes cowards in most events
And, on the whole, I guess I'll *keep my
cents!*

* Coin Dealer in Philada.

HARPER'S BAZAR ON COINS.

A gentleman was riding on the outside of a coach to Ilfracombe, when the driver said to him, "I've had a coin giv me to-day two hundred year old. Did you ever see a coin two hundred year old?" "Oh, yes; I have one, myself, two thousand years old." "Ah," said the driver, "have ye," and spoke no more during the rest of the journey. When the coach arrived

at its destination, the driver came up with an intense self-satisfied air, and said, "I told you, as we druv along, I had a coin two hundred year old." "Yes." "And you said to me as how you had one two thousand year old." "Yes, so I have." "Now, it's a lie." "What do mean by that?" "What do I mean! Why, it's only 1867 now." And they tell me that the schoolmaster is abroad.

HISTORY OF THE PATTERN, OR EXPERIMENTAL COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

Continued.

The "Washington Half Dollar," struck in silver, bears a near resemblance to the 1791 small eagle Washington Cents. This pattern half dollar has, on the obverse, military bust of Washington. Legend, G. WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT, 1792. Reverse, a spread eagle, olive branch and arrows in the talons. Legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. 13 stars are dotted above and around the head of the eagle.

There is pretty strong evidence that the pattern Washingtons of 1792 included a silver dollar, with precisely the same obverse and reverse as the half dollar.

The Dollar is known to be in the possession of a gentlemen in Schuylkill Haven, Pa., and is valued at \$500.

The Washington Half Dollar worth, when fine, \$300. The "Dimes" of 1792, or Dimes, were struck in silver and copper, being of about equal fictitious value.

There was issued, in 1794, a pattern dollar struck in copper; also, dimes in both silver and copper. The 1794 pieces are exceedingly rare, and but

few specimens are known. The 1794 dollar, in silver, bears the design and devices of all the early silver dollars. Obverse, Head of Liberty, flowing hair, 15 stars, date 1794. Reverse, the so called "Crow Eagle," with wings expanded, standing on clouds, or perhaps mountain caps. Legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Copper dollar and half dollar of 1794 bear the same characteristics as the silver dollar. The 1794 silver dime differs from the '92 silver disme.

(To be Continued.)

NEW COINS.

The new 5-cent coins from the Mint in Philadelphia are the size of the present piece. The 3-cent piece and 1-cent piece are somewhat smaller. The devices on all of them are alike: on one side the head of the Goddess of Liberty, surrounded by the words "United States of America;" on the other side are the Roman numerals I, III, and V.

These coins are of the new metal aluminium, and are very handsome and uniform in appearance. The Pattern 10 cent piece, in aluminium, is out. Obverse, (similar to the old copper cents 1840 to 1857,) head of Liberty surrounded by 13 stars, date 1868. Reverse, a plain wreath containing, in two lines, the words "TEN CENTS;" around the wreath, legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Size 16.

REVIVAL OF THE COIN TRADE.

The trade in coins is again becoming active, and promises to continue lively, if we may judge by the throngs of customers in the coin stores in New York, Boston and Philadelphia. In this city coins are pouring in to the dealers by the keg, and we may say, in our own

case, by the bushel.

Collectors are getting choice pieces, and not a few are purchasing with a view to public sales as a speculation. The "Nippes" collection, which has so long been on the tapis, is being catalogued, and will be pushed to an early sale.

Mr. Randall, of this city, will offer at public sale, in the fall, a choice collection of rare and fine silver and copper coins. A sale has recently taken place in Boston, by Leonard & Co., Auctioneers, and was well attended. Three sales have occurred since our last, in Canada.

Mr. W., the engineer of the "Mickley Sale," is negotiating for a \$14,000 collection, for public sale, and our old friend, Mickley, it is rumored, is about to come into possession of the celebrated coin collection of Dr. Clay, Manchester, England.

Coins are low in price, and all looks serene with Numismatists.

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

PARAGUAY.

There is a stamp out for this republic, containing the representation of an ocean steamer under full sail and steam. The stamp is rectangular, with an oval centre; top and bottom of which are the words REPUBLIC DEL PARAGUAY; upon the ends, CINCO CENT; in each corner the figure 5.

MADEIRA.

A provisional issue for this island is out, stamped same as those of the Azores, with the word MADEIRA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

A new stamp resembling the Jamaica sixpenny, with a profile head of the Queen. The stamp, in shape, rectangular; the four corners scrolled and separated by angles, containing labels with the words NEW SOUTH WALES,

POSTAGE FOURPENCE. Printed dull red on white, perforated and water-marked, with the figure 4,—single lines.

MEXICO.

This country has completed her current series in the 2 reales, black on lilac, and the 4 reales, red on yellow.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Government, we learn via the *Timbrophile* (from France), has a complete series of adhesive and envelopes ordered, of same values as heretofore, but differing in design.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A new series in preparation.

SAXONY.

Another set of local stamps from the Dresden Co., are in course of emission, viz;

$\frac{1}{4}$ groschen,	green
$\frac{1}{2}$ "	violet.
$\frac{1}{2}$ "	orange.
1 "	red.
1 "	blue.

"VOILA TOUT" YOURSELF.

The *Philatelist*, for May, in reviewing the commencement of the Second Vol. of our Journal, uses the following language in regard to the April number:

"Out of its ten pages, somewhere about that number of lines are devoted to philately, and that only in the shape of a couple of replies to queries, one of which states that 'other stamp matter is crowded out.' There is also half a column of price list. 'Voila tout'! We are, however, bound to add that the coin department is replete with interest and information."

In reply to our foreign cousins, we feel a shrinking delicacy in attributing the errors of the above notice to indulgence in 'alf and 'alf, or sober, serious

malice aforethought. Yet, there is a strange ignorance of the contents of the April magazine manifested in the misstatements we have quoted.

Instead of ten lines of stamp matter there is nearly *six times* that amount. Instead of that stamp matter being compassed by a "couple of replies to queries," it is mostly editorial matter. Instead of half a column of priced catalogue, there is *half a page*.

With a peculiar inconsistency, the *Philatelist* quotes *nineteen* lines from our magazine, exclusively philatelic matter! And this from the very April number which, it says, contains but *ten lines*!

In the name of common sense and philatelic uprightness, how do you solve this mathematical problem, *nineteen from ten*?

Ah! Messieurs Editors, you have left the *gate open* this time, and should be more circumspect in your independent criticisms. We trust that you will notice in the succeeding or May number that coins take a back seat, while philately rides triumphantly in the van.

AN ORIGINAL LETTER OF GEN. WASHINGTON.

BERGEN COUNTY, in the STATE OF
NEW JERSEY, Oct. 9, 1780.

Dear Sir:—I was very much obliged by the letter which you did me the honor to write me by our amiable young friend, the Marquis De La Fayette, whose exertions to serve this country in his own, are additional proofs of his zealous attachment to our cause, and has endeared him to us still more.

"He came out flushed with the expectations of a decisive campaign and fired with hopes of acquiring fresh

laurels, but in both he has been disappointed; for we have been condemned to an inactivity as inconsistent with the situation of our affairs as with the ardor of his temper.

"I am sensible of all I owe you, my Dear Sir, for your sentiments of me, and while I am happy in your esteem, I cannot but wish occasions of giving you marks of mine.

"The idea of making a tour together, which you suggest, after the war, would be one of the strongest motives I could have to postpone my plan of retirement and make a visit to Europe, if my domestic habits, which seem to acquire strength from restraint, did not tell me, I shall find it impossible to resist them longer than my duty to my country calls for the sacrifice of my inclinations.

"I doubt not you are fully informed by Congress of our political and military state, that it would be superfluous to trouble you with anything relating to either. If I were to speak on topics of the kind, it would be to show that our present position makes one of the two things essential to us: Peace, or the most vigorous aid of our allies, particularly in the article of money. Of their disposition to serve us we cannot doubt; their generosity will do everything their means will permit.

"With my best wishes for the preservation of your useful life, and for every happiness that can attend you which a sincere attachment can dictate.

"I am, my Dear Sir,

"Yr. Most Obed. & Hbl. Servt,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"His Excellcy, Doc. B. Franklin."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Pitts, April 30th.

MASON & Co.,

Dear Sirs: Your last letter was received about ten days ago, since then I have had another letter from 'Gibbs,' that Canadian. The following is a copy of the last letter :

Cornwall, April 16th,

J. H. R.—*Sir*:—If you dont want that order, please send it back as I do not wish to lose it. Yours Respectful,
ly, R. ANTHONY GIBBS.

The letter was small but very emphatic. I will not send it back unless he comes for it. I am satisfied he will not do so.

Mess. Mason & Co., I am raising a club to subscribe for your magazine, I have so far got three subscribers, but I will not send them to you until I get six. I inclose you some names of pretty good Coin collectors of this city. S. A., JR.

Traverse City, Mich., April 15, '68.

Gents :

Perhaps the following account of a medal that has just come to light up here in the woods may prove of interest to your readers :

The medal is of silver, 3 inches in diameter. Obverse, medallion bust of George III, crowned with a wreath of laurel (!) A cloak is thrown over the shoulders, and fastened on the breast with a large bow, just beneath which, where the cloak flares open, is a St. George and the dragon, plainly cut. A jewelled circlet is thrown over the cloak around the shoulders.

Legend : Georgios III, Dei Gratia Britanniarum Rex, F. D. Below the bust, in small letters, the name T. Wyon. Jun. :s: Reverse, the English coat of arms covering the whole sur-

face, with the usual rose, shamrock and thistle, and the date 1814.

There is nothing remarkable in the medal itself, but its history is interesting. An old Indian Chief died a short time ago, at the headquarters of his tribe, a few miles from this village, and after his death this medal was found on his person. He had carried it, suspended around his neck, for more than fifty years.

Squa-ga-na-ba was the principal chief of the Ottawa tribe of Indians. At his death he was, probably, 95 years old, and as fine a specimen of that fast passing away race as ever I saw. His face was seamed and scarred with many a bullet and blow from his enemies in battle ; but it still retained that fierce, proud look that characterize his race before the white man attempted to teach them civilization, by supplying them with whisky and gunpowder.

Squa-ga-na-ba was the "Great Chief" of his tribe, and also of the Chippewas in Michigan. Seventy-five years ago, the two tribes around Mackinac and Grand Traverse were controlled (one cannot say governed) by several petty Chiefs, but Squa-ga-na-ba was Chief over all.

Many a wild legend is told of his daring deeds, his great strength and prowess. He was present at the River Raisin massacre, and for his services in killing and scalping at that time, the English government gave him a beautiful silk flag, with silver-mounted staff.

The medal I have described was given him by the English government to commemorate the treaty between his tribe and themselves.

As the medal lies before me, I cannot but gaze upon it with interest, while, at the same time, I shrink from

contact with it as the *price of blood*. I look out upon the beautiful waters of our Bay, glistening in the warm April sunshine, and all is very quiet and peaceful; but away in the blue distance is Mackinac, and I can hear the shrieks and groans of the dying, and the wild war cry of Squa-ga-na-ba and his band, and I push the medal from me in disgust and loathing—the *price of blood*.

T. T. B.

Lewisburg, Feb. 24th, 1868.

Gentlemen: Please place my name on your list of subscribers to your valuable little Magazine for the ensuing year—in fact you can count me as a “life member.”

I have been instrumental, I believe, in adding a few names to your list, for which, however, I claim no credit, nor deserve any, as your journal has only to be seen by a collector to be appreciated, and subscribed for as indispensable.

G. H. F.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Gents.: I cheerfully submit to the advance of *fifty cents* in the subscription price of your magazine. The first volume of your magazine, at one dollar, certainly was all that any reasonable man could ask, at that low price. It appears to me that every collector of coins, &c., in the United States, ought to sustain such a publication, if it cost twice that price.

Respectfully,

T. C.

MASON & Co. Gents:

Enclosed I send you an impression of a coin in my possession which I do not find on any of the coin charts. Please inform me what you will pay for it. The impression is poor as I am unaccustomed to the business. On one side a horses head and an old

fashioned plow, the date 1788, and the word “Nova Caesarea; on the other side, a shield and the motto of the United States, *E. Pluribus Unum*.”

Very respectfully, R. W. McB.

[New Jersey Colonial Coin, value if good, 25 cents.—Ed.]

Providence, April 10th, '68.

MR. MASON,

Dear Sir:—As a collector of coins I feel great interest in the preservation of my favorites and wishing to do my part in keeping them from injury, I forward the following receipts for cleaning and keeping them bright:

For cleaning them I make a kind of soft soap, by mixing 1 part of Ammonia to 3 parts sweet oil; I cover the coin with this soap and let it remain on for one day or more according to its condition, then wash in hot water with more soap and polish with the finest tripoli or Spanish white.

For keeping Mint cents with all their original lustre, I make a varnish of *proof* alcohol and white shellac, heat the coin in hot water, wipe dry and while hot cover with a thin coat of varnish.

I know that there is a prejudice against covering coins with any preparation, those who object say that it eats into the coin, &c., but anybody can see that there is nothing in this that can in any way be injurious to it. It excludes the air and effectually prevents oxydation and if at any time you wish to remove it you have only to dip it in alcohol and it will wash off.

I have tried both of these receipts and have found them to be very good, answering every purpose for which they are intended.

Yours respectfully, N. W. P.

[We cannot endorse the above, being of those who “object to coin varnishing and polishing in toto.”—Ed.]

Westfield, Mass., May 1st, '68.

Gentlemen:—I beg to inform you that I have for sale the best and oldest book in the World, it is one of the celebrated Dr. Culpepper's works, on Surgery and Anatomy and illustrated with twelve engravings all perfect. The book is written in English and in good state of preservation. If it would answer your purpose I can take two hundred dollars for it; it is dated from 1657, no less offer will do.

Yours respectfully, G. F. J.

[We give the above an insertion for the purpose of exhibiting an instance of the remarkable prices some persons attach to articles of very little value. If the above work is the "oldest in the world," no doubt it would be cheap at the price; but there are many works dating a century at least earlier than 1657.—ED.]

Pottstown, Penna., March 31st, '68.

MASON & WELLS,

Gentlemen: On looking over your Magazine, I find that your terms are \$1,50 for the present year. I am thus made aware, that I have sent too small an amount, and that I am still indebted to you to the amount of 50 cents. As you are Coin dealers, you can certainly have no objection to the reception of specie. I therefore enclose fifty cents in silver.

I was greatly pleased with my visit to your office yesterday. If it were not for the fact, that I may perhaps dispose of my entire collection of coins within a few weeks, I would have been greatly tempted to make considerable purchases. I must confess that the coin-fever has sensibly abated in my case, since I have devoted my attention almost exclusively to autographs. If, however, I should make up my mind to retain my collection, I will make an

earnest effort to increase it, and it is probable, in that case, you will hear from me more frequently than you have hitherto done.

I remain, very truly Yours, J. H. B.

[We acknowledge the receipt of the bright silver half-dollar and so great has been our joy to see "specie payments," that we have put the glistening treasure in a little box as the first half-dollar received in trade since the suspension of specie payments.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

S. T., PHILA.—"There seem to be many evidences that a race of people existed in North America prior to the Indian tribes. Mounds and fortifications abound in the valleys of the Mississippi and the Ohio, which display too much design and intelligence in their construction to have been erected by the latter inhabitants. Some of these mounds are more than fifty feet in height, and some of the forts were constructed after the most strictly mathematical principles. Works of art consisting of articles metallic and earthen, have also been exhumed near these remains, and everything bears evidence of great antiquity. The ruins of temples and cities in Mexico and Central America resembles those of the eastern continent. There are now no definite annals nor even traditions to tell of these antiquities. What few parchments the Aztecs had collected in reference to their own history, were destroyed by the Spanish invaders, and thus the only chain of knowledge that linked the past of America with the present was broken forever. Many works pertain to this subject, but as everything except the few objects above mentioned is mere conjecture, but little satisfaction is derived from their

perusal. Stephen, Prescott and Bancroft have written concerning this mystery. That some such anterior race lived is generally credited."

[Subscribe for Dickeson's new work, —now in press—on antiquities and you will receive additional light on the subject.—ED.]

E. P. G.—"I have a copper coin with packs of cards on each side, no inscription. Where, when and by whom was it struck?"

[By Hart, manufacturer of playing cards, Philadelphia, some 8 or 10 years ago.—ED.]

QUERY.—"Thaler" is the original word for dollar and is derived from Austria—having been in use in that country three centuries ago.

M. P., DOVER, N. H.—An ounce of silver, of standard fineness, is calculated at U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, at \$1,22½ (in coin). The branch Mints at Dahlonega, Ga., New Orleans, Charlotte, N. C., ceased coining in 1861, while San Francisco and Denver Mints continue in operation to the present.

S. L., NEW HAVEN.—U. S. cents of 1821 are very scarce and a very fine one is worth \$5. Of the '30's, 1834 and 1835 are considered scarce.

THE ABORIGINAL ANTIQUITIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Our distinguished contributor, Dr. M. W. Dickeson, is preparing, and will shortly put to press, a very elaborate and exhaustive work on the Aboriginal Antiquities of this country, illustrated with magnificent plates. This work will be, when completed, the largest and most valuable book ever issued in America.

There will be three volumes issued at intervals of three months—Part the First appearing as soon as the work

can possibly be executed. Subscription price \$5 per volume.

Those of our readers wishing to subscribe will please send their names to this office, and the amount of subscription will be collected when the book is delivered. To those who are familiar with the splendid "Manual of American Coins" by Dr. Dickeson, we would say that each volume of the forthcoming work will be about the size of the "Manual," and contain 16 plates, illustrating the coins, curiosities, etc., of the aborigines.

An edition of only 200 copies of Vol. 1st will be issued. We shall announce the time of publication in our next number.

PRIZES.

No. 1.—Silver proof set, 10 pieces, \$1 to 1 cent inclusive, will be given to the person forwarding a club of 25 subscribers to Volume 2nd of this Magazine.

No. 2.—A shield engraved by U. S. Treasury Department, containing a genuine note of every issue of Fractional and Postage currency (50 cent to 3 cent notes), including two 15 cent notes, red and green backs, written and printed signatures, for a club of 20 subscribers.

No. 3.—Two 15c. notes for a club of 5 names.

This offer to remain open from June 1st to Oct. 1st.

AT AN AUCTION in New York on Tuesday, a copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, a very old and rare American Book, was sold for \$1130. The New York Tribune says, this is the highest price ever paid for a printed book in this country, and that the volume sold is "a work which no living man can read."

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

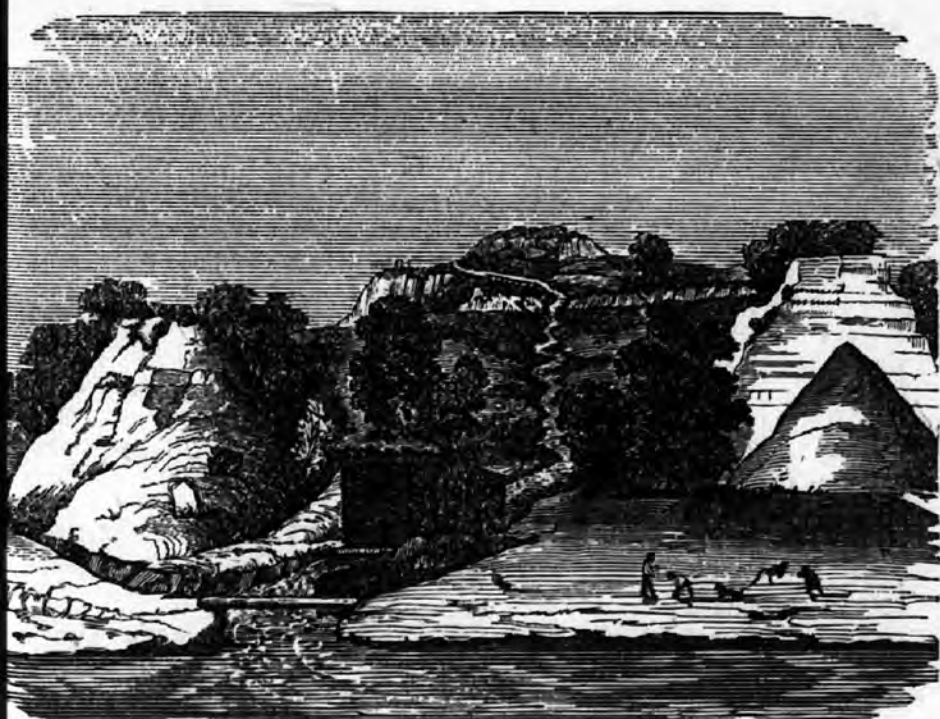
JULY, 1868.

No. 4

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Number II.



[OLD FORT ROSALIE.]

It was on as bright a summer's | ethereal sky, that a company, consist-
morning as ever smiled from a pure | ing of citizens of Natchez, in search of

ancient relics, mounted their horses, and turning their faces towards the west, soon found themselves upon the margin of the Mississippi's mighty river. Age after age has rolled onward towards eternity; wave after ocean wave has disintegrated the pebbles and shells, or lashed the rock-girt shore of other continents; generation after generation of living beings have arisen, flourished and passed away, even as the tender leaves of spring enjoy a summer's freshness and wither, and fall sapless in the autumn.

The Pharaohs', the Ptolemys', and the Cæsars' have sprung up, have thundered in command for a brief period, and have then descended to the silent tomb; whilst those majestic streams, even in the vigor of their youth, have uninterruptedly flowed along this self-formed bed, to mingle their waters with the Atlantic Ocean.

Crowns and sceptres have mouldered into dust; kingdoms and principalities have successively faded away; but the reign over an empire of millions of square miles still endures. Upon thy fostering bosom might ride in safety the navies of the world; while thy brave and fertile valley is capable of sustaining myriads of free-born men. No stream—not even of our land of natural beauties, — presents such a pleasing variety of features as this Queen of rivers.

Scarce had we left the busy hum of the town when, to our right, rose the majestic heights of Fort Rosalie. It stands on the east bank of the Mississippi river, five hundred yards below the town of Natchez. This vestige of the early history of our country crowns the summit of a noble aboriginal mound, two hundred feet above the level of the Mississippi river. On the summit, or principal tower, may yet

be traced some few remains of the Aborigines—French, Spanish and Americans—who successively retained it as a garrison.

It, at present, is about six hundred feet back from the river, and only accessible, in front, at its southwest corner; and there, only by ascending a series of high terraces, inclining at an angle of forty degrees, till you reach the base of the mound, which is twenty feet high. The sides of the main Tumuli are much crumbled away, but its original form may yet be readily traced—which is hexangular.

In olden times this structure stood a much greater distance from the river: the current, for years, has been sweeping the east bank of the Mississippi, and carrying away large portions of the bluffs; and ere long this noble monument of a by-gone people is destined to sink into the jaws of that mighty river.

In 1835 an avalanche took place directly in front of Rosalie, and during the night some ten acres sunk, and carried with it about one-eighth of the western front of the fort, leaving a perpendicular escarpment sixty five feet deep, and exposing the formation of the temple. (*See front of the three figures.*)

(*To be Continued.*)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 5.

In the Mickley Catalogue, under the caption of Half Cents, lot No. 2083 is described in the following language, viz:

“1797. Thick planchet, edge lettered TWO HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR; in good condition, and of the highest rarity; probably unique.” Oh, that happy probability! The piece sold for

\$10.00. But the purchaser may now be informed that he who pens these lines has another of these gems, and, I am informed, that Rob't Davis, of Philadelphia, possesses a third sample, and that several have been seen in New York city.

I have examined my piece with accustomed carefulness, and, having seen Mickley's, believe they are exactly alike. Mine is not a thick planchet, but of the same size every way as the other varieties of the half cent of 1797. Its weight is 74 grains, troy. The thick planchet 1795 half cent, in my possession, weighs 106 grains. The lettering on the edge is in small caps, much smaller than those on the '95—evidently *intended* for a thin planchet.

It might be suspected that these pieces were 1795 half cents restruck with the 1797 dies. But the difference of weight, and in the size of the lettering on the edge, precludes the possibility of such being the case.

It has a broad milling extending from the end of the pole of the Liberty cap, on the left hand side, around to the extremity of the cap. The date is in unusually broad figures, which nearly touch the head. (There is another variety of this date where the figures are similarly placed.) The lettering on the edge is not struck true, the "for a dollar" hanging off on one side, and the piece is not mathematically circular.

The broad milling is found only, I believe, on the half cents of 1795 and 1797, and on the cents of 1795, '96, '97 and '98, although there are varieties of all these dates without it.

Upon both thick and thin planchet 1795 cents, occurs the lettering "one cent," near the upper part of the encircling wreath. And yet there is a variety of each thickness without this

disposition. It seems to have been peculiar to the year.

In my last article I omitted to state that there exists a variety of the half cent of 1808, made from the dies of 1807 altered. A gentleman in Camden, N. J., possesses one of these in bright uncirculated condition. §

"PROOF" COINS.

It is strange that there exists such a difference of opinion among numismatists in reference to what constitutes a "proof" coin. Some collectors insist that the first coin struck is the only "proof" piece; others, again, claim that the only evidence of a "proof" coin is found in the polished surface of the metal; while not a few maintain that the experimental or trial pieces of the dies are the legitimate "proofs."

We believe it to be generally conceded by collectors, that proof coins are those struck very evenly and sharply, and possessing a bright, mirror-like appearance. It is said that all "proof" coins are struck from dies polished and cleaned to a nicety; while those coins intended for general circulation, come from different dies, and have a dead brightness, readily distinguished from the "proof" pieces by their lack of clear unsullied brilliancy.

BALTIMORE SHILLING.

A beautiful and rare piece of American Colonial coinage has recently been discovered in England, and is believed to be unique,—a "Baltimore copper,"—not the penny figured in Ruding and also in Mickley's late sale, but an original strike or trial piece in fine copper, and from the original die of the "Baltimore Shilling," with the same obverse and reverse. It is very clear and sharp, and not a modern fac-simile, but indisputably a trial piece.

ANOTHER 1804 DOLLAR.

Mr. E. Cogan, of New York, is the lucky possessor of a U. S. silver dollar of 1804, said to be superior to Mickley's *rara avis*. This gives a list of four persons in possession of these remarkably rare coins, viz: Stickney, Appleton, Cohen and Cogan.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

The Nippes' collection, of silver and copper coins, will be sold on Wednesday, July 1st, at 3 P. M. Our subscribers will receive a catalogue in time to send bids to this office. We shall price a few catalogues and forward to subscribers at 50 cents each. We cannot vouch for the accuracy of the catalogues, as it is the production of a novice.

RANDALL'S COIN SALE.

In October next, the splendid collection of coins owned by J. C. Randall, Esq., of this city, will be offered at public sale at the Auction rooms of Messrs. Birch & Son. Where it is possible to obtain them, catalogues of Coin sales will, in all cases, be furnished our subscribers.

SALE OF FOREIGN COINS.

A large public sale of foreign coins and medals took place at the rooms of Bangs, Merwin & Co., New York, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 3d, 4th and 5th.

The attendance was not large, but the bidding spirited in the extreme. High prices were obtained for nearly the whole collection, and a fresh impetus given to the collection of foreign coins by this remarkably successful sale.

Many persons unable to attend the sale, were represented by Dealers and the Auctioneer.

The celebrated coin known as Mickley's *Aes*, was sold for the low price of \$7. In the Mickley sale it brought \$16. The "Oxford Pound Piece," on the contrary, brought \$46, while the same piece, at Mickley's sale, brought but \$40.

The "Tribute Penny" of Tiberius, brought but \$1. "Antigua Farthing" (sterling) brought but 70 cts. Tokens and ordinary pieces realized extravagant prices.

PRICED CATALOGUE
OF THE
GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.
Nov., 1867.—Continued.
PART I. AMERICAN SERIES.
HALF CENTS.

1832. Proof,	\$3 75
1833. " "	5 50
1834. " "	4 00
1835. " "	4 50
1836. " Pattern,	8 00
1840. " " "	10 00
1841. " " "	9 00
1842. " " very rare,	40 00
1843. " " "	9 50
1844. " " "	8 00
1845. " " "	7 50
1846. " " "	8 50
1847. " " very rare,	37 00
1848. " " "	8 00
1849. " " "	5 00
1849. Large date, " Proof,	2 50
1850. Proof, "	2 50
1851. " " "	2 50
1852. Pattern, "	6 00
1853. Uncirculated,	25
1854. Proof,	5 00
1855. " "	2 00
1856. " "	1 75
1857. " "	1 75
1857. Not quite as good,	1 75

(To be Continued.)

HISTORY OF THE PATTERN, OR EXPERIMENTAL COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued from p. 26.)

The obverse and reverse of the copper dime of 1794 are similar to the silver dollar, half dollar and half dime of the regular issue. Value \$50 to \$100. There was a "Pattern Mill," or 1-10th of a cent, struck in 1794, in copper, having the "crow eagle and branch" reverse of the first regular issue of silver coinage, and the "flowing hair" Liberty bust on obverse.

There is but one of the latter pieces known, and the evidence of its being an experimental coin is not very clear or creditable. This copper mill realized but \$5.75 at Mickley's coin sale in New York. A small price for a coin supposed to be unique and genuine.

(To be Continued.)

GOLD AND SILVER COINS OF THE WORLD.

With their value in U. S. coins.

Prepared for the convenience of Bankers, Brokers and Numismatists.

Concluded.

SILVER COINS.

Country.	Denomination.	Value.
Austria,	Old rix dollar,	\$1.02.27
"	Old scudo, . . .	1.02.64
"	Florin before 1858,	51.14
"	New Florin, . . .	48.63
"	New Union dollar,	73.01
"	Maria Theresadollar, 1780,	1.02.12
Belgium,	Five francs, . . .	98.04
Bolivia,	New dollar, . . .	79.07
"	Half dollar, . . .	39.22
Brazil,	Double Milreis, . .	1.02.53
Canada,	Twenty cents, . . .	18.87

Country.	Denominations.	Value,
U. America,	Dollar,	1.00.19
Chili,	Old dollar	1.06.79
"	New dollar,	99.17
Denmark,	Two rigsdaler, . . .	1.10.65
England,	Shilling, new	22.96
"	Shilling, average . . .	22.41
France,	Five franc, average . .	98.00
Germany, N.	Thaler before 1857, . .	72.67
"	" New Thaler,	72.89
"	S. Florin before 1857, . .	41.65
"	New Florin, assumed . .	41.65
Greece,	Five drachms,	88.08
Hindustan,	Rupee	46.62
Japan,	Itzebu	37.63
"	New Itzebu	33.80
Mexico,	Dollar, new	1.06.62
"	Dollar, average,	1.06.20
"	Peso of Maximil'n,	1.05.50
Naples,	Scudo,	95.34
Netherlands,	2½ guilders,	1.03.31
Norway,	Specie dollar,	1.10.65
N Grenada,	Dollar of 1857,	97.92
Peru,	Old dollar,	1.06.20
"	Dollar of 1858,	94.77
"	½ dollar 1835 & '38,	38.31
"	Sol,	98.24
Prussia,	Thaler before 1857,	72.68
"	New Thaler,	72.89
Rome,	Scudo,	1.05.84
Russia,	Rouble,	79.44
Sardinia,	Five Lire,	98.00
Spain,	New Pistareen,	20.31
Sweden,	Rix dollar,	1.11.48
Switzerland,	Two francs,	39.52
Tunis,	Five piastres,	62.49
Turkey,	20 "	86.98
Turkey,	Florin,	27.60
United States,	Dollar,	1.00.00
"	½ dollar,	50.00
"	¼ dollar,	25.00
"	Dime,	10.00
"	½ dime,	05.00
"	3c. piece,	03.00

A COIN COLLECTOR in Boston recently discovered that his wife had

given away all his specimens to the organ grinders. She had found the coins in a box stored away in a lumber closet.

NEW SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

Minargent, recently invented in Paris, and which may be compared to silver, possesses according to the *London Mining Journal*, nine-tenths of its whiteness, malleability, ductility, tenacity, sonorousness and density, while it has a superior metallic lustre, wears better, and is less liable to be acted on by the emanations of sulphuretted hydrogen, and is less fusible than silver.

Minargent may be used for all purposes to which silver or other white metals or alloys are applicable. It is composed of one thousand parts of pure copper, seven hundred parts of pure nickel, fifty parts of pure tungsten, ten parts of pure aluminium. The inventors do not, however, limit themselves to the exact proportions given.

The chief features of the minargent consist in the introduction in the alloy of pure tungsten and pure aluminium, and also the considerable proportion of nickel which they have succeeded in alloying with the aluminium. The metal is formed into ingots, and moulded in sand in the ordinary way.

HISTORY OF THE TURKISH PIASTRE.

The history of the Turkish piastre is a curious one. Originally, the Turkish coin of this denomination was of about the same value as the Spanish piastre. In 1750, it stood at about 36 pence, while at present it is worth only 2 1-14th pence. This decline in the value of the piece arose simply from

the progressive debasement of its fineness and weight by successive governments, until at last the intrinsic value of the coin, in fine silver, was reduced to 1-25th part of the original value. The despotic government of the state had not much trouble in forcing the continued circulation of the debased coin upon their subjects, and they were blind to the disastrous effects of such arbitrary measures upon the home and foreign trade of the empire.

But this was not all: an enormous amount of paper currency, under the denomination of *Caiime*, was forced into circulation besides; and what, with the depreciated value of this paper currency, the fearfully debased and even counterfeit coinage, circulating in an immense variety of larger and smaller pieces, to the total amount of some nine hundred millions piastres—and what with the incessant and violent fluctuations in the price of foreign coins, there surely never was a greater state of confusion in a monetary system.

The stoic submission of the Moslem to Kismet, and his belief in the infallibility of the Prophet's successor, alone preserved the state from the dreadful revolution which, with a much smaller share of grievances, would inevitably have burst out in a civilized Christian community.

The influence of international intercourse, however, compelled the government of Turkey to devise some reform; and, in 1844, under the Sultan Abdul Medjid, an attempt was made to re-establish the monetary system of the empire upon a more solid basis, by the issue of a new coinage, taking for its unit, or integer, the latest edition of the debased piastre. At a subsequent period, the Imperial Ottoman Bank was established, whose functions comprised also the gradual reorgan-

zation of the Turkish medium of exchange. This institution has succeeded, so far, in regulating and funding the wretched paper currency known hitherto as *Caimé* (now a Turkish five per cent. stock).

The coinage is also being regulated, and a contract for a new copper coinage is now being executed for the Turkish government, at Birmingham. But the task of entirely withdrawing from circulation the miserable old coinage, and substituting for it a healthier and more stable system of currency, is a most difficult one, which it will take years to accomplish.

The new coinage of 1844, for instance, was no sooner in circulation than it began to be exported abroad; and, in spite of an absurd law, passed some years ago, forbidding its rise in value, (since repealed,) it has, so far, served scarcely any other purpose than that of satisfying the demands of foreign creditors.

The country is, therefore, still suffering from the plague of a debased coinage, and from the variable rates of many sorts of good foreign coins—English sovereigns among the number—to which the merchants are compelled to have recourse.

U. S. CHAMPION COLLECTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

We are authorized to offer for sale the celebrated collection of American and Foreign Postage Stamps, formerly the property of Prof. Wyman. This collection contains nearly 3000 stamps, all in splendid condition, arranged in a Lallier's latest edition, Turkey morocco, gilt Album. There is a gold facial value in the unused stamps, (numbering about 1800) amounting to nearly the price charged for the entire collection. Among the many gems in

this book, is a complete series of all stamps of the U. S.—adhesive, envelope and essays. All stamps warranted genuine, and the collection for less than half the cost. Address this office for terms.

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

SWITZERLAND.

In consequence of a postal treaty concluded with the North German Confederation, the 40 centimes, green, will be suppressed on the 1st of September next, and replaced by a new value of the same color, 25c. On the 18th of April came out a 30c. blue envelope, type precisely congenerical with the 5c. and 10c.

NAPLES.

For variety-mongers an interesting discovery has been made. It is a 1 grano Neapolitan, inscribed by error *BOLLO DELLA POSTA BOLLO DELLA*; the word *NAPOLETANA* being omitted.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

The St. Louis stamps are denounced as impostures by M. Albis, in the *Timbrophile*. In that case, how comes it that they are so exceedingly rare? The two specimens in a well-known London collection are, we believe, unique. (?)

SAXONY.

"Never say die," should be the motto of this industrious company. A 2-pfennige blue, impressed on white paper bands, has been lately emitted.

WURTEMBERG.

A 7 kreuzer stamp has just been introduced, we presume, for the sake of putting on the screw. The extra kreuzer, small as the amount is, will, most probably, multiply into a respectable sum in the course of a twelvemonth. We know it would in England. Just imagine the third of a penny added to

the price of every twopenny loaf consumed !

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

The sixpenny impression is now mauve.—*The Philatelist.*

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

Priced Catalogue—continued.

		Unused	Used
		¢ cts.	¢ cts.
DENMARK—continued.			
1860.			
2 skillings, square,	blue,	12	6
4 “ “	brown,	16	6
8 “ “	green,	20	8
16 “ “	lilac,	25	6
LAST ISSUE.			
4 skillings, rect,	pink,	12	6
16 “ “	ash,	30	12

Essays.

HEAD OF MERCURY.

4 R. B. S., square, brown, 25

HEAD OF KING.

8 R. B. S., square, brown, 25

Envelope Stamps.

2 skillings, rect,	blue,	12	6
4 “ “	scarlet,	15	8

CORRESPONDENCE.

April 20th, 1868.

Dear Sirs :

Enclosed you will receive a list of *old* and *rare* books. They are all, with the exception of a few, in a good condition. I write to inquire what they are worth, and what price you would pay for them ? There are thirty volumes, many of which are large. The following is a list of them :

“First Art of Healing,” date 1788 ; “Looking unto Jesus,” 1771 ; “Geography made Easy,” 1790 ; European Magazine,” 1786 ; “Christ’s Appearance to Judgment,” 1751 ; “Lessons in Elocution,” 1797 ; “European Mag-

azine,” 1791 ; “Wingate’s Arithmetic” 1708 ; “Moral Philosophy,” 1795 ; “Ploughman’s Thoughts of Divinity,” 1787 ; “Poetical Epitome,” 1791 ; “Colloquies of Corderius,” 1801 ; “Voyage in the Indian and Bengal Oceans,” 1814 ; “Scripture Truths,” 1732 ; “Death a Vision,” 1796 ; “Chemical Catechism,” 1797 : “Elements of Geography and History,” 1825 ; “Gray’s Arithmetic,” 1757 ; “Entertaining Correspondent,” 1757 ; Antidote to Deism,” 2 vols.” 1795 ; “Female Friend,” 1809 ; “Tooke’s Pantheon,” 1792 ; “Hume’s Essays,” 1760 ; “Gulliver’s Travels,” 1724 ; “Life of God in Soul of Man,” 1802 ; “Discourses concerning Government,” by Algernon Sidney, quarto, 1704 ; “Christian Theology,” 1785 ; “Weem’s Washington,” 1800 ; “Universal History,” 1745 ; and “Travels through France,” 1808.

Yours, respectfully, W. R. S.

[Should any of our readers wish to buy either, or all, of the above books, please communicate with us in reference to price, &c.—ED.]

Montreal, May 6, 1868.

Gents :

We have had two small sales of coins lately in Montreal, without any catalogue. They did not contain any rarities, yet the bidding was spirited, showing that coin collecting is not on the wane here.

Yours, respectfully, R. W. McL.

Philada., June 9th, 1868.

Mess. Mason & Co.,

Gents : A subscriber of your valuable Magazine is desirous of obtaining information in regard to the cent of 1796, fillet head.

I have one in my possession in very good condition. The date is plain, but

the 6 is too close to the 9, which makes it look very suspicious.

I have another, where the numbers of the date are equally spaced. Now, which of the two is genuine? [Both.]

By giving this a place in your Magazine you will greatly oblige and enlighten many subscribers.

A NUMIS.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

A. R. L., PROVIDENCE.—The finest Washington Half Dollar we have seen is in the unequalled coin collection of R. C. Davis, Esq. This gentleman also has a complete set (Autographic letters) of Signers of the Declaration, and also a full line of Continental Paper money. The rarest of the latter is conceded to be the issue of June 11, '75, (shilling.) Send memorandum of your duplicates.

R. A., ST. LOUIS.—The article was erratic in one particular. The new 1c. 3c. and 5c. are not of the metal Aluminium, but composed of nickel alloyed with copper. The 10c. piece was aluminium. These pieces are not adopted, and cannot be had, at present, at any price.

STAFFORD, S. & Co.—Your favor at hand. The party you allude to has removed from Walnut St., and has a fine place on Eighth St. A letter will reach him. The stamps are worth more here than in England. Decline your offer.

H. KEYSER, YONKERS—Subscription received. See back cover of Magazine. We are in a position to get any coin, not considered unique, that may be ordered. Call on us, and see the fresh lot of coins now on hand. Rebellion Tokens for \$3 per 100.

H. L. S., FORBEST CITY, MICH.—Sent another copy of April, '68. Do

you find anything curious in your far distant home? We want Indian relics and minerals.

J. H., MONTREAL.—Thanks! Thanks!! Thanks!!!

M. B. W., WASHINGTON.—Send us a few Impeachment Tickets. We want two of the Tickets for a private collection, and will return a *quid pro quo*.

R. A. M., TOWANDA.—Do not forget the "promised" card with coupon attached.

STAMP BUYER, CONN.—We sell the unused 1847 sets U. S. stamps for \$1; and the old issue U. S. 1857, 1c. to 90c. inclusive, at \$1 25 for the 8 unused stamps. The great and well known "Wyman collection" is for sale. It cost near \$1000, and can be bought for considerably less than half that sum. If you wish to make a mark as the "Champion Collector of America," a few hundred dollars will suffice to give you a surfeit of glory, and a greater variety of stamps than you ever dreamed of. Try it on.

J. F. P., SHARON, ME.—All right—book mailed again.

M. L., WOBURN.—Pardon delay. Shield forwarded as soon as printed. Now prepared with genuine notes for framing, 50c. to 3c., including 15c. notes. The latter notes are not intended for circulation, and, after September 1st, cannot be had. We still have a few red backs (15c.) written signature at \$1, and green at 50c.

E. C., NEW YORK.—Hardly fair not to sell to us, when we are willing to pay as much as the other customers. You have coins for sale, and we want them for cash. Why are our letters unanswered? When any other party writes for coins, a prompt answer is returned. Is this right?

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Name entered for Dr. D.'s new work on "Antiquities of the Aborigines." Alluminium 10c. pieces not ready for the public. See Magazine for the time and price.

W. D. NORTHAMPTON.—See last reply.

YOUNG & STOCKALL, LIVERPOOL.—Send us a good variety of scarce stamps (used) for the U. S. stamps we forwarded you by last steamer.

J. F. H., BOSTON.—Return our sincere thanks for priced catalogue of Boston sale.

R. N., GERMANTOWN.—It is a New Jersey 1786. The other coin a Connecticut cent—*Auctori*, by authority.

P. V., JR., TORONTO.—Order received. \$50 worth of stamps and coin sent by Express 25th ult. Send you our Coin Priced Catalogues at \$10 per 100. Retail at 25c. Every coin collector and store keeper should have one.

PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE

U. S. INT. REV. PAPERSTAMPS.

Concluded.

\$2 50 *Purple.*

	PRICE.
Inland Exchange,	5
\$3 00 <i>Green.</i>	
Charter Party,	10
Manifest,	8
\$3 50 <i>Blue.</i>	
Inland Exchange,	6
\$5 00 <i>Light and Dark Red.</i>	
Charter Party,	10
Conveyance,	6
Mortgage,	8
Manifest,	10
Probate of Will,	5
\$10 00 <i>Green.</i>	
Charter Party,	15

Conveyance,	10
Mortgage,	10
Probate of Will,	15
\$15 00 <i>Blue.</i>	
Mortgage,	75
\$20 00 <i>Orange.</i>	
Conveyance	50
Probate of Will,	75
\$25 00 <i>Red.</i>	
Mortgage,	1 00
\$50 00 <i>Orange.</i>	
Conveyance,	2 00
\$200 00 <i>Green and Red.</i>	
U. S. Int. Rev.,	10 00

HISTORICAL CURIOSITY.

Impeachment Tickets.

A few of these very rare cards, which were issued by the Government (on the Impeachment Trial) for admission to the Senate Chamber. Mailed for 50 cents.

MASON & Co.,
50 N. 10th St., Phila.

(These cards will bring extravagant prices in the future.)

POLITICAL MEDALS.

A full line of all the medals, badges, emblems, &c., for the next Presidential campaign.

10 different metallic medals,	\$2 00
25 " " badges,	3 00
50 " medals, badges, &c.,	5 00
Sample lots put up for retail dealers in packages, for \$1, \$2, \$3, \$5, \$10, and \$25.	
Single solid metallic medal,	25c.
" " badge,	15c.
" " emblem,	15c.
" framed and photographed emblems,	10c.
Democratic and Republican medals, badges and emblems, equally assorted unless otherwise ordered.	

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

AUGUST, 1868.

No. 5.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Number II.—Continued.

The portion of this huge mass fronting the river, containing several frame houses, slid gradually into the current, and a number of persons narrowly escaped with their lives; two females, however, were taken with it.

On the 12th of November, 1844, another avalanche took place some four hundred yards below the fort; and upwards of six acres sunk upwards of sixty feet during the afternoon.

Not even the trees were disturbed, so gradually was the sinking; and three cows and a horse were thus lowered and walled in without even disturbing their grazing.

The mass was of a circular form, leaving perpendicular escarpments around, excepting the river front.

These *Cul desacs* or bolls, occur very frequently, fringing the margin of undermining rivers in the South.

A mile or two above Natchez are two noble cavities, upward of one hundred feet deep, known as the "Devil's Punch Bowls," which I shall hereafter describe. They have been used as a retreat for pirates and robbers, who in early years infested the valley of the Mississippi river.

The summit of the fort is of an an-

gular oval shape, varying but slightly from the form of the Aboriginal tumuli. Its length runs northeast by east. It has originally presented three flats, or terraces on its northwest face, and two on the northeast.

The south side is at this time twenty-five feet high from the summit of the first terrace, and then gradually inclining towards the river, for three hundred feet, when it reaches another bluff thirty feet high, fronting on a large bayou, or branch of the great Natchez bayou.

This bayou meanders its course towards the river, and passes under the moss press on the front of the view. The southwest wing presents escarpments; which, at a short distance, presents a series of segments of circles twenty-five feet high, reaching a flat sixty yards long, which terminates in bluffs resting on a road winding down the hill till it reaches the shore. This face presents the same circular form, and has been the point of an attack; great quantities of iron balls, containing both the American and French marks, weighing from four ounces to eight pounds, are almost daily picked from out its sides.

The bluffs fronting the river presents a fine field for the Geologist. The various changes that are continually made on their face by the rise and fall of the river, washing from their strata quantities of cornelians, topaz, chalcidones, jaspers, quartz, and an endless variety of unique fossils. On a clear day parties resort to the beach of these bluffs, both male and female, to gather these beautiful and valuable pebbles. These lofty hills are crowned with a luxuriant growth of forest trees, and an undergrowth of evergreen shrubs; their height at the bluffs exceeds two hundred feet, and their sides present abrupt and awful precipices. To us, at their feet, they appeared like huge walls, stretching up to heaven, and it required but a stretch of imagination to fancy them to be mouldering bastions and ramparts of some ancient fortress.

Around their base, lie bleaching in the sun, the bones of various animals, who had incautiously ventured too near their edges. The sublime and awful grandeur of their ruins surpass all description; no words can express the emotion of the soul as you look upwards and contemplate the almost perpendicular escarpments.

High on these cloud-capped towers, stands the old Fort—the scene of many a hard-fought battle, and of many an ignominious torture.

This tower of antiquity the iron hand of time is fast hurrying into decay. From its lofty position the river is enchanting; its turgid waters hurry by the spectator; and, winding far away, pursue their silent course along beautiful plantations of cotton and sugar, which ornament the noble mansions of the adjacent planters, till they reach the ocean.

What may have induced the Abor-

igines to select this spot for their temple, I cannot say; except it was the exquisite spectacle of nature here presented.

The refreshing purity of the air here, far above the miasma of the river—the glorious brilliancy of the sun, and the transparency of the atmosphere, ought at once, to have filled their souls with felicity.

Many singular legends are connected with this spot, and superstition has gathered around these ruins a bewitching mystery. In 1542 Desoto sat here at the council fire of the Natchez Indians; in 1716 Fort Rosalie was erected on the summit of the Aboriginal temple; in 1723 the French were massacred by the Natchez on this tumuli; in 1763 it was ceded to great Britain; in 1783, claimed by Spain as a part of Florida; in 1798 that power relinquished it to the United States; in 1801 it was formed into a territory; and in 1817 admitted into the Union.

HISTORY OF THE PATTERN, OR EXPERIMENTAL COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued from p. 37.)

The "U. S. A. BAR CENT," without date, is a neat specimen of the early experimental coins. Obverse presents the capital script letters U. S. A. interlocked; reverse 13 horizontal bars. There are two varieties, viz.: in one the line of the S. passes over the A, while the other has the line of the A over the S. There is a small Bar cent known as the "U. S. A. Half Cent". About half the weight of the cent, differing in the arrangement of the letters—the U. S. A. being

separate instead of combined. The Bar cent is valued at \$5, the Bar half cent \$25; the history of these peculiar coins is not fully known but they are supposed to have been coined about 1783, '85, about the period of the "Nova Constellatio," which latter have a resemblance in the scrip caps U. S. From the year 1794 to 1818 there seems to have been a cessation of experimental dies for coinage, doubtless attributed to the fact that the Government and people had become satisfied with the adopted designs of the preceding years. A trial proof of the obverse die of the half dime, was struck in 1800 in copper, but not as a distinctive pattern piece, value 15 dollars. In 1803 a few copper pieces were struck from the dies used for coining the gold half eagles, value \$2.

A very handsome and peculiar pattern cent was struck in 1818. Obverse represented a splendid head of Liberty in a small panel in centre of coin, with date below, border enclosed in a circle of chased work; forming a very beautiful and curious design; reverse, "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," value \$25. Pattern pieces do not appear to have been designed with a view to change in coinage until the year 1836; but a number of trial pieces from the regular dies were made during the interval, struck in a variety of metals.

In 1822, '25 and '30 Half dollars in copper were struck, value \$3 each.

In 1831 quarter eagles in copper were made. These different experiments were made simply to test the dies and not with a view of striking "patterns." It is impossible to enumerate all the pieces of this character as we frequently find eagles, half eagles, quarter eagles, dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, and half dimes of dates varying from the earliest coinage to present time, in various metals.

In 1831 there were struck quarter eagles in silver, value \$15 (when fine.)

In 1834 half eagles were struck in copper, value \$2.

In 1835 half dollars were struck in copper, value \$2.

(To be Continued.)

THE "NIPPES" SALE.

The Coin collection of the late Jno. C. Nippes, was disposed of at public auction, on Wednesday and Thursday Afternoons, July 1st and 2nd.

The coins were not remarkable for their rarity or condition; but might be termed a very fair collection, all things considered. The attendance was large (considering the fact that the thermometer was in the 90's), and bidding spirited, although the coins brought very low figures, excepting a few pieces. 1791 Washington cent, small eagle sold for \$11 50, in poor condition; 1791 large eagle Washington cent \$6 50, very fine; 1838 proof Silver dollar (pattern) brought \$30; 1839 dollar (not a brilliant proof) \$16; 1851 dollar, proof, \$25; 1852 dollar proof, \$26. Proof sets sold low, being tarnished somewhat—from \$3 25 to \$4 50 per set.

The collection of American cents brought but \$50, in consequence of the pieces dating prior to 1840 having been tampered with—lettering and dates tooled; hair combed, and the Washington's not genuine. The owner of this collection had an unfortunate predilection for cleaned, varnished and tooled coins, and the low price they sold for, is another evidence against cleaning, brightening, and varnishing coins. We think any party, either as principal or agent, who offers coins at public vendue in midsummer is a fit subject for a straight jacket, and ought to be de-

prived of his liberty, or at least, the liberty to sacrifice another person's property, in the sweltering, suffocating, perspiration engendering dog days. It was rather amusing to see the numismatic heroes strip off their coats and collars, sleeves rolled up, fanning their greasy faces with all the energy of a steam blower. There sat our good big fat friend Cogan, in front of the auctioneer, bidding, sweating, sweltering and suffering for the benefit of his absent bidders, and that little 10 per cent. Friend Cogan was not the only sufferer and wet shirted philosopher. The writer, who turns 215 lbs., avoirdupois, was wringing wet with the huge drops of perspiration, which rolled down checks, neck, arms, and legs, until we felt like a man overboard in his best clothes. We noticed among the overheated crowd of attendants at the sale, Messrs Cogan, Kline, Martin, Agnew, Adams, Smith, "Moneta," Vaux, Wells, Randall, and Jester.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 6.

Peculiar to the cents and half cents, of the year 1793, is the dotted circle, enclosing both the design and also the legend. They appear on all varieties of these pieces that I have examined, excepting those of the different chain cents. A variety of the cent of 1830 is distinguished from all other cents by a circle, or line of beauty, surrounding the obverse, which adds markedly, according to my taste, to the neatness of the piece.

There is a variety of the 1816 cent, perfect die, that is different from any other in this respect, that the lips of the head are apart, instead of closed. A half cent of 1797 that we often meet

with, has a duplicate figure 1 over the first figure of the date, made as I suppose, with the intention of filling in the date, but being found too near the head, and it being impossible to erase the blunder from the die, it remains. The 1801 cent with the error 1-000 on the reverse is well known, but I have never seen an account of the variety in which the error was corrected, and the same inability to erase the original, as in the 1797 half cent is stereotyped in the piece. So that the 1 over the 0 is clearly to be seen, just as in the overstrikes that occurred in many of our coinages, and which in the case of the copper pieces have been pointed out in previous articles.

There would seem to have been a piece broken out of and entirely disconnected from the obverse die of one of the cents of 1855; for we find back of the ear of the head, an irregular piece of copper, that could have been produced in no other way that I can imagine.

I once had a 1796 cent fillet head, with the error LIIERTY, made precisely as I take it, as the UNITED was made on the 1801. One variety of this cent, (the broad milling variety) has the 6 run into the head. Most of the 1795 cents have the 5 run into the head. The 1809 cent (I know of but one variety), has a bulge on the right side of the head, extending into the third star from date, giving it the appearance of a miniature comet. This elevation may distinguish the cent even where the date is not legible. §

THE NEW U. S. COINS.

We have the authority of the officers of the U. S. Mint, in this city, for saying that the new 1c., 3c. and 5c. pieces are not yet adopted by the Government.

The newspaper paragraphs in reference to the coinage and circulation of these small coins, are like the numismatic item afloat concerning the finding in Newark, N. J., of four 1804 U. S. silver dollars, "slightually" and indisputably erratic.

LIST OF BILLS OF CREDIT EMITTED BY CONGRESS.

Prepared for Coin Magazine,

BY R. C. D.

- 1775, May 10th—\$1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 20, 30—\$20—very rare.
- " November 29th—\$1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
- 1776, February 17th—\$ $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
- " May 9th—\$1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
- " July 22nd—\$2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 30.
- " November 2d—\$2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 30.
Baltimore issue, scarce.
- 1777, February 26th—\$2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 30.
- " May 20th—\$2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 30.
Yorktown issue, very scarce.
- 1778 April 11th—\$4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 20, 30, 40.
- " September 26th—\$5, 7, 8, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60.
- 1779, January 14th—\$1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 20, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 80.

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

BOLIVIA.

Another emission by this country.

5 (Cinco) Centavos green.

To which may be added an expected issue, viz:

50 (Cincuenta) Centavos blue.

ECUADOR.

A new specimen of this republic has been issued.

Doce (12) reales dull red.

NORWAY.

The *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of Bath England says of this country: "The series with two figures in lower margin, has been completed by the emission of the 3 skilling bright lilac, and of a new value, 1 sk. dark grey."

MEXICO.

The 1 real blue head of Hidalgo, which as we were informed, was only used for two mails, has been superseded by the ancient one, real black on green paper.

TURKEY.

A new series of stamps are reported ready for emission in this Empire.

JAMAICA.

The shilling and four-penny stamps of this island are now printed of a much deeper shade than they have hitherto been.

UNITED STATES.

No immediate change in the stamps of our government, foreign philatelic journals to the contrary notwithstanding. Experiments have been made, and are making, with a view to a new series of stamps, but it will be several months before anything definite in the postage stamp line shapes itself permanently before the country.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.

We have received the July No. of this new applicant for philatelic favor, and must concede it looks well, reads well and *may live* to reach the point which it rather arrogantly assumes in the present number, viz., *largest, cheapest and best work in the U. S.* A little modesty mixed with a large quantity of assurance, Mr. Editor of *A. J. of P.*, may produce a leaven which will cause your Journal to rise in proportion to its merits—try it. We should be happy to state the pub-

lisher, proprietor or Editor's name of above Journal, but it is omitted, and the N. Y. Philatelic Society must be responsible for all good things the new monthly contains. We shall examine other numbers of this periodical and report progress.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Fort Wayne, Ind., June 11, '68.

GENTS:

Your correspondent, G. F. J., of Westfield, Mass., rather amuses us "Hoosiers" when he writes that he has "*the best and oldest book in the world,*" printed in 1657. Away out here in the West, one thousand miles from the "Hub," we would not consider a book of that date old.

I am the owner of a book written on parchment in the year 1312. I have also a copy of the "Old Testament" written in 1421. Also a complete copy of the Bible printed in 1450. Another copy printed in 1498. A copy of the Works of Virgil, Justinian's Institutes, and five or six other works, and all printed before the year 1500, and some twenty volumes printed before 1600.

I sometimes think that, perhaps, I may have the oldest books in the United States, but may be mistaken. Do you, Messrs. Editors, know of older?
F. P. R.

Alton, Ill., June 16th.

Dear Sir: Received your letter stating that you will take the trilobites.

To-morrow I will go up to the quarry and collect them, shall have all of the 5 dozen collected by next Saturday. Do you want more? I will send them C. O. D., and when you receive them you may send my package (for which I shall send to you soon) C. O. D., I will pay the express-

age on my package and you on the trilobites.

Have not as yet received your several magazines, but trust that I shall to-morrow. Have had many applications for them, will do all I can for you.

Seeing that you deal in curiosities, I remember of a whip that I have which is a great curiosity in this neighborhood. It is a "Plantation Whip," which was captured at Vicksburg on a plantation, and is undoubtedly a regular negro driver's whip.

The lash and stock are one piece, the lash is made of the fibres of the wood which were separated by some process and made as flexible and unbrittle as cord, these fibres are woven together in as neat a manner as a piece of the most perfect rope, and constitute a lash $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, and of over 500 fibres. The stock is 2 feet long. The whip is a magnificent piece of workmanship, and must have cost the maker much trouble, the wood is of a white color.

I will send you this in the box of fossils, so that the expressage will be less. If you would like to buy some Crinoids over 1 inch in diameter, please let me know. I think they are worth about \$1 50 per foot.

Enclosed you will find a fossil from coal, please accept. They are found here over an inch long and are then worth \$1, the small ones such as I send you cost 25 cents apiece.

Would like to keep up a continual trade with you. I think that I am the only dealer in these articles in this part of the country. I also have an assortment of Geodes, Mineral Blossoms and Petrified wood for sale.

Yours truly, P. E. H.

[You have splendid opportunities to obtain rare fossils, minerals, &c., and we shall be pleased to receive anything

you may send ; but for charity's sake spare the whip. Our blood curdles at the name of lash. The "whip" for human beings, freemen or bondsmen, is a barbarous institution, and we have no desire to add it to our curiosity department. No doubt the article is an ingenious specimen of manufacture, but the use it was applied to makes us shudder at the thought of its reception.—ED.]

Chillicothe, Ohio, June 28th, '68.

Gents: I notice that a great many subscribers to your magazine apply to you for information, and as I am badly in need of some knowledge respecting coins, I shall follow their example. First as to a cracked die. I enclose a 1798 cent and an 1831 one, the first with a line on the reverse, and the second with one connecting the stars on the obverse. Are these lines due to a broken die? If so, I have quite a number, as 1835, '37, &c., and in your "History of Coins of America," you do not mention these at all, though you speak of a cracked die of 1836.

2nd. Has not the enclosed 1798 cent the head of 1799, as described in March number?

I enclose a rubbing of an English medal. Is it of any value? In your History of U. S. Coins you speak of the nickel cent and bronzed 2 cent piece as being in size, 16th. The 2 cent piece is certainly one fourth larger.

Does the expression 16th, refer only to the thickness of the coin? I can find no scale for measuring coins mentioned in your magazine.

I have seen no notice of the fact that on the reverse of cents of 1843, the "United States of America," is the same size as in the 1842 cent in some instances, and the size of the 1840's in others.

The coins I ordered came safely to hand and gave good satisfaction. The wood cent you had marked wrongly. I suppose it certainly does not answer to the description of a Rosa Americana, as you marked the wrapper, which is enclosed.

Very respectfully, L. S.

[First, the 1798 and 1831 cent may be termed cracked die, but these marks occur frequently from checks and uneven places in the dies, and do not properly come under the head of "cracked dies." Secondly, the '98 cent has the exact obverse of one variety of the '99's. Thirdly, the medal is of little fictitious value. Fourthly, the size of the nickels as printed in the "History of Coins," was incorrectly printed, should have been Nickel cents size by the American scale, 13-16ths; nickel or bronze 2 cent pieces, size 15-16ths. Fifthly, there are large and small dates on many of the cents from 1830 to 1850. The Wood $\frac{1}{2}$ penny has on obverse the Rosa Americana head and legend.—ED.]

Malone, N. Y., June 26th. '68.

Gents: I have been out of town since I promised you the article for the June No., and have just returned.

I find the magazines have come along just the same, and looking them over, I see Maj. Nichols is inclined to believe that the "Old Missus" keg is filled with "Onions." Well it is open, and though not entirely filled with Onions, (it had no 1804 dollar or 1802 half-dime, but was a sight worth looking at), but about six hundred American dollars of 1794, '95, '96, '97, '98, '99, 1800, '02; half-dollars of 1794, '95, 1801, '03, '06, '07, '08, to '12, and '18, some of them in very fine condition; quarter dollars of 1805, '06, '07, '18, '25, and '26; dimes were all coined after 1820; half dimes of com-

mon dates. Had a great many Spanish dollars, French and English crowns, and other foreign coins of no particular value; cents all coined since 1809, a few in the forties in fine condition; half-cents nothing more rare than 1795 or 1828 with 12 stars.

The old man watched me about as closely as I looked at the coins, but to me the sight was worth the cost, "an extra ten miles a foot." I could only purchase a few, he will not part with some of them at any price, though he does not know the value of them.

I met an English woman who had some very fine English medals, one Oliver Cromwell 1658, obverse, head of Cromwell, the whole as perfect as when struck, only finely bronzed; one with head of Lord Camden, reverse, Lord Camden, 1773; one Lord Chat-ham, 1773; one George III, King of Great Britain; one George III; one Charlotte, Queen of Great Britain; one William and Mary, two heads. All in as fine condition as when struck. Her father gave them to her in the year 1830, he had had them about forty years. They were interesting to me, being in such fine condition—they are not for sale. Should you or the Maj., desire I could send a rubbing of any or all, at any time.

While away from home I did not pay as much attention to coins, as to speckled trout; had fine luck "collecting" them—wish you could come up this way, I could interest you in that way, I am sure.

With many thanks for your kindness in answering my questions, I remain, Yours truly, A. R. FULLER.

[Oh, how we would delight to visit you and engage in piscatorial exercises. "Trout fishing" is a weakness we are addicted to, and if we find an opportunity to trout with you, we

shall with your kind consent embrace it.—ED.]

Pittsburg, June 30th, 1868.

Gentlemen: I have in my possession a copper coin, about the size of an old cent, having on one side the spread eagle and "E pluribus unum" and on the other side, as well as I can make it out, "Nova Casasta," and something that looks like the figure of a plow, the date is obliterated.

I can't find anything like it in a collection of rare coins here. Perhaps you may have one of the same kind. If not, and you wish to have it, you can do so by giving me what you think it worth.

Very respectfully, S. A. R.

[We have received your "spread Eagle" N. J. copper, and find it to be in fact a miserable specimen of the common New Jersey colonial copper, not worth 3 cents. Yours eyes must have been in an eclipse when you added wings to the shield.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

C. P. N.—Returned the pieces.—Many thanks for thinking of us occasionally. If you are in want of special pieces, name them, and we will try to accommodate you.

T. T. B.—Name recorded for Dickson's Antiquities. The work will be put to press in September. Hope to have part 1st by October.

JAS. D. B.—The 1794 cents have lettered edges. Never heard of one with plain edge. The catalogue prices are what we pay for coins. We do not want the common dates from 1810 to 1856, unless uncirculated.

A. R. F.—Have written you. Get your hooks and lines ready, and notify

us when the "accepted time" occurs for that excursion to the trouting ground.

C. P.—The Nippes' Catalogue was very incorrect in description. The silver coins generally were poor.

CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.—It is a Loan office certificate. Towards the close of the year 1776, Congress found their money depreciating and had no resources to sustain the army, &c., save by further issues, which would yet more destroy the credit of those already out. In this emergency they had to resort to loans; they borrowed as much as they could upon their own notes—giving the certificates in exchange. To give a proper history of them will take too much space. Suffice it to say that they were redeemed, and are now irredeemable. In 1828 the subject of Continental money was agitated in Congress, but nothing came of it.

COULTON.—We were led into the error by relying upon a party whose ignorance equals his assurance. We copy your corrections for the benefit of our readers:

"There are no *shilling* notes in the Continental series,—all are in *dollars*, or fractional parts of the same, at $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$, which are *only* in the emission of February 17th, 1776. The rarest issue is April 11th, 1778. *Yor-town*. The 10c. *pattern* is composed of the same metal as the 1, 3 and 5c. pieces—not a particle of aluminium in it.

NUMIS.—We shall illustrate the scale used by American Numismatists in a future No. of the magazine. The American scale is divided into sixteenths of an inch (differing from the French and English scales). The diameter of the coin in sixteenths represent the size.

S. A. R.—Your "spread Eagle" cent returned. Had you used your eyes with the same care and attention (in looking at the coin) that you exhibit in your description of it, we should have saved a postage stamp, and you the mortification of seeing your inexcusable error in print. As a coin collector you should have known the difference between a shield and a spread Eagle.

R. A. G.—Sent you the coins ordered promptly by express. It sometimes occurs that a certain coin wanted is not at the moment on hand. In such a case as this we make immediate efforts to obtain and send it as soon as possible, as we wish to fill orders promptly.

COULTON—We quote from your favor the following and return thanks for the same; "One of the 10c *Postal* currency pieces of 1863, gotten up during Pollock's administration, was composed of *Aluminium* as also of *aluminium* and *silver*."

POSTAGE & STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

Priced Catalogue—continued.

DUCHY OF SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

		Unused	Used
		¢ cts.	¢ cts.
1	schillings, rect, blue,	2	00
2	" " rose,	2	00
1864.			
1½	schilling, square, blue	12	6
4	" oval, rose,	20	8
1¼	" " green,	10	6
2	" " rose,	12	6

ISLANDS OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. CROIX.

3	cents, square, red-brown,	10	5
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FRANCE.

Adhesive Stamps.

REPUBLIC.

	Un-used.	Used.
	* cts.	* cts.
10 centimes, rect, cinnamon,		10
15 " " green,		10
20 " " black,	1 25	20
25 " " blue,	1 00	10
40 " " vermil'n		12
1 franc, " carmine,		8

PRESIDENCY.

10 centimes, rect, cinn'n,	1 00	10
25 " " blue,	1 00	10

EMPIRE.

1 centimes, rect, olive green,	4	1
2 " " maroon,	3	2
4 " " lavender,	6	3
5 " " green,	5	3
10 " " cinnamon,	8	1
20 " " blue,	12	1
25 " " blue,		15
40 " " orange,	18	1
80 " " carmine,	30	1
1 franc, " "		15

Unpaid Letter Labels.

10 centimes, square, black,	10	5
15 " " " "	12	5

PRICED CATALOGUE

OF THE

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

PATTERN PIECES.

Disme, 1792; obverse head with flowing hair, "Liberty Parent of Science and Indus.;" reverse eagle flying, "United States of America," "Disme;" silver, so excessively rare that *not more than two or three are known* in this metal. A specimen, by no means fine, sold for \$212. This piece is unfortunately blemished by the removal of the date, from under the bust; in other respects it is in very

fine condition, being scarcely in any degree touched by circulation, \$39 00.

Disme, 1792; from the same dies as the last, but struck in copper; *very fine indeed, and extremely rare.* \$31 00.

Half-Disme, 1792; obverse bust of Martha Washington; uncirculated, rare in this condition, \$7 50.

Pattern Cent, 1792; obverse a beautifully executed head of Liberty, under the shoulder the name of Birch, the engraver, below the bust the date, LIBERTY PARENT OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY; reverse a wreath in the centre, ONE CENT around the wreath UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in the exergue "1-100," edge inscribed, TO BE ESTEEMED BE USEFUL. *The rarest of all the early pattern pieces of the United States Mint, in superb condition,* size 21, \$155 00.

Pattern Cent, 1792, with silver centre. In general design this piece resembles the last; but is much smaller, being of size 15, *in remarkably fine condition, and extremely rare,* \$54 00.

COIN AND STAMP MAGNIFIERS.

Microscopic and telescopic glasses for examining coins, stamps, insects, minerals, etc. for sale.

For Coins (Pocket glass)	\$1 00
" Stamps—Stand glass,	1 50
" Insects (Powerful),	2 00

MASON & Co.
50 N. 10th St.
Phila.

REBELLION TOKENS.

100 Copper Heads,	\$2 00
100 " " different fine	3 00
100 Tradesman Cards,	4 00

FOREIGN COINS.

1 00 Foreign Coins,	\$2 50
1 00 " " different	3 00
1 00 " " choice	4 00

MASON & Co.,

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

SEPTEMBER, 1868.

No. 6.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Number II.—Continued.

From this old fort we continued our course to the plantation of Mr. F. Lewis, some ten mile distant from Natchez, to examine (by invitation of the above named-gentleman) a burial place of the ancient race of Red Men who peopled this part of the country in the days of Aboriginal sovereignty. Mr. Lewis, not knowing the precise locality, summoned several of his negroes, of whom we inquired if, at any time, they had seen bones or pottery on the place.

Their reply, at first, was a hesitating negative, expressed in their own peculiar phraseology, (Zarly none, Massa none whatsomeber,) but in the course of a familiar interrogation, and with the assistance of a few pieces of silver, one of them gave, with much circumlocution, an account, the amount of which was, that a fellow servant had, some four years before, found part of a skeleton, and several vases washed out from the sides of the bayou, which he instantly destroyed, not communicating his discovery to any one till the following spring; and then, only, in the way of cautioning his comrades not to pass the spot, lest they should be haunted. The negroes,

upon many of the plantations entertain superstitious ideas on this head, to a surprising degree. If in their ploughing, they chance upon any of the stone relics, so common there, they studiously avoid touching it, believing them to have come from heaven with the thunder; whence they are known by the name of thunderbolts.

They further suppose, that being driven into the earth, they remain there for seven years, and then, ascending to the surface, are undisturbed for a like period, and again descend; and they believe that, if at such a time, they should be caught with one about their persons, down they go seven years its companion.

A gentleman, residing a few miles from Natchez, sent me by one of his blacks, several Indian hatchets. The boy, seeing what they were, mounted his horse, and set off as if thunder and lightning were in pursuit. He arrived at Natchez, with his horse in a foam; and dismounting without a moment's delay, rushed into the office; casting the fearful articles in question upon the floor, apparently as much relieved as if he had escaped a

seven years' confinement in the penitentiary in the earth.

Having ascertained the situation of the Bayou, and decided upon the proper course, we were enabled, through the politeness of Mr. Lewis, who kindly tendered us the aid of several hands, to commence operations immediately. We set in from the margin of the ravine, westwardly, three feet, through a dark, rich, friable loam.—We advanced but a few feet, when one of our force struck upon what he called "a hollow root," but, upon tracing up its length, it proved to be the os femoris, or thigh bone of a male of gigantic size.

It was in such a state of decomposition, that it could not be removed, otherwise than in pieces. We traced the remainder of the bones to the head, which was remarkably formed, or rather deformed. The parietals and frontal bone terminated pyramidically, and the occipital presented an elongated point beyond the occipital foramen, forming an under and pointed curve, nearly approaching to the spinous process of the cervical vertebræ, and measuring from the orbital ridge of the frontal bone, to the posterior portion of the occiput, ten inches.

Just above the squamous portion of the temporal bone, and traversing the parietals transversely, we found an angular depression, which must have been made by a corresponding elevation on something used as braces, for retaining them in their proper position. Every effort was made to find the braces, but without success. In one instance we found a substance, much decomposed resembling tortoise shell, or stained horn, several inches square, lying under the head, which was broken into small pieces in getting it out.

About the head lay several terra cotta vases, beads of stone, pearl, and bone, also ornaments wrought from chalcedony, galens, and shell, elaborately carved. On the chest, in the angles formed by the crossing of the wrists, lay a small stone ornament, spear and arrow heads, and a muller and pigments, all of which I have in my aboriginal cabinet now deposited at the Academy of Natural Science. The pottery consisted of three pieces; a vase, basin, and handled saucer, which no doubt was used as a lamp.

The vase much resembled in shape, those of the present day. Though irregular in form; the centre is ornamented with a figure resembling the letter S. linking its extremities into each other, forming a chain around the bulbous part, and relieved with several bold dashes, both above and



Fig. 1.

below the centre figure. (See Fig. 1) It was sitting in a basin three inches deep, of the same material, but its ornaments differing.



Fig. 2.

These two pieces were placed on the right side of the neck, and on the left the small lamp and ornaments.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 7.

There are not less than five varieties of the Immune Columbias, three of them having Immune Columbia made with the same die apparently, and two of them having Immunis Columbia but not from the same die, on the reverse.

1st. The Nova Constellatio Immune, has the obverse the same as the Nova Constellatio Copper, that is, an eye surrounded with thirteen rays and thirteen stars between the rays. On the reverse the Goddess of Liberty is seated on a bale of merchandise, her right hand grasping a flag pole which is surmounted with a liberty cap, the arm enfolding the bunting. She is leaning forward; the index finger of the left hand is extended, the arm being horizontal, while three fingers and a thumb are grasping a pair of scales. The left foot is shown, but the right is either amputated or else is sunken in the earth. Date 1785.

2d. One variety of the Vermont Immune has the head of George III, date 1785, with the inscription "Vermont Auctori."

3d. The other Vermont Immune has the same head inscribed "Georgivs III. Rex."—the letter R being duplicated.

4th. The New Jersey Immunis Columbia is dated 1786. The Goddess of Liberty is here seated on a globe. The right foot is wanting; the whole left hand grasps the scales, which she is looking at, instead of beyond, as on the Immunes'. The obverse is that of the Nova Cæsarea Cent.

5th. The New York Immunis Columbia has the date 1787, otherwise the reverse is the same as the last. Obverse, an eagle with expanded wings

one talon grasping a bundle of arrows, the other an olive branch: the legend "E Pluribus Unum."

Of the Granby Coppers, so interesting because the first copper coins made in America, there are not less—are there more?—than four varieties; although there appear to have been more than that number of dies employed. A deer facing left within a circle "Value me as you please" surrounding, and III beneath, characterize the obverse of three of them.

Reverses. 1st. A broad axe, and "J cut my way through," encircling it. 2d. Three hammers crowned, and "I am good copper, 1737;" and 3d. The hammers with "Connecticut, 1737"

The fourth variety has the deer encircled and "The value of three pence" around the edge, on the obverse; and "I am good copper, 1737," around the reverse, with the hammers in the centre.

For the information of the Chilli-cothe correspondent, L. S., whose letter appears on page 49 of last number, and for general information, I may state that there are just three varieties of the 1843 cent. One has date to the left of the head and reverse in small letters. One has the same obverse and reverse in heavy letters. The other has the date under the head and the reverse the same as last. There is no difference as he asserts, between the reverses of the cents of 1840 and those of 1842. §

UNIQUE WASHINGTON CENT.

We have in our possession a copper coin, size 17, bearing on obverse a bust of Washington, legend "GEN. WASHINGTON;" (being the exact obverse of Mickley's Unique "*Confederatio*" piece) reverse:—a very peculiar and badly formed large sized spread

eagle (bearing the usual arrows and olive branch in the talon); around this, the legend, E PLURIBUS UNUM, 1785.

We value this piece at \$75, unless a duplicate can be produced, in which case \$30 will be nearer its value. Condition of the coin very good; not bruised—perfect in all its designs, but rather weak in the last figure of the date.

We would add that this supposed-to-be unique coin has been examined by such experts as Cogan of N. Y., Mickley, Davis, Maris, Few Smith, Jencks, Roach, Warner, Dickeson and Idler of Phil'a., and all unite in saying it is *new*, and its history unknown. It is without doubt genuine—has evidence of age and originality, and can be traced to one of the oldest families in Germantown, this city.

Can any one throw light upon the history or origin of this coin? A rubbing of the piece will be forwarded to any one desiring it.

HISTORY OF PATTERNS, &c.

(Continued from Page 45.)

In 1836 the celebrated Flying Eagle Dollar, "GOBRECHT" on the field between date and figure, was struck. This, without doubt, is the prettiest silver coin that ever emanated from the mint, and is one of the most valuable pattern pieces. Obverse, Goddess of Liberty seated, beneath which is the date, 1836.

Reverse:—A flying eagle surrounded with 26 stars; legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ONE DOLLAR.

There are two varieties of the '36 Dollar in silver. The most valuable of which is the above; containing the name of "GOBRECHT" on the field—only four being struck, commanding at public sales \$75 each.

The other variety differs only in the name of its designer, "GOBRECHT," being placed on the raised base of the Goddess of Liberty—value, \$5 to \$8 each.

A Silver Half-Dollar, with milled edges, differing from the ordinary silver half-dollar in the milling only. Value, \$10.

A Gold Dollar was struck this year; also, a Dollar Piece, same design as above, in copper. *Obverse* of each, $\frac{1}{2}$ surrounded by a peculiar wreath; around which is the legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1836.

Reverse:—Liberty Cap in centre, on the band of which is the word LIBERTY. Surrounding the cap are the sun's rays. Around the inner border, or edge, is a fine dotted milling. A very beautiful pattern and worth about \$10.

During February, 1836, the introduction of steam in the U. S. Mint was commemorated by the striking of copper and brass pieces partaking of the character of pattern coins and medalets combined. *Obverse*:—Liberty cap in centre, similar in every respect to the gold dollar of '36.

Reverse:—First steam coinage, February 22, enclosed in a circle; around this the legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1836. Two varieties, February and March.

Two cent pieces in nickel and copper, about the size of a nickel cent, were added to the numerous patterns this year. *Obverse*:—A spread eagle standing on a rock; around this the legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Reverse:—A wreath containing, in two lines, the words, TWO CENTS.

In 1837 there appeared in New York the one and three cent composition coins, designed as patterns by Feuchtwanger, an indefatigable German gentleman who exerted himself

to secure a contract from the U. S. Government for coining these odd-looking but durable pieces. At one time there was a large quantity of these pieces in circulation, and passed readily at their face value. The one cent piece bore an eagle on obverse.

The 3c. piece presented on obverse the Arms of the State of New York, date 1837.

Reverse.—THREE CENTS, surrounded by a wreath; 4 stars and 2 roses within the wreath; around this the legend, FEUCHTWANGER COMPOSITION.

There are several varieties of the Feuchtwanger Composition pieces. One of the 3c. pieces has on obverse an eagle on a rock; while one of the cent pieces is alike on obverse and reverse, having the "ONE CENT" on each side. Value of the one cent mule piece about \$5—the common issue 10c. The 3c. piece (first named) readily brings \$1.25 at sales; the other is valued at \$10 and very rarely to be had at that price.

In 1837 the U. S. Mint struck a very peculiar pattern about the size of the copper half cents, termed by its legend "HALF CENTS WORTH OF PURE COPPER." Value, 50c. to \$1.00.

(To be Continued.)

NEW ISSUES.

U. S. WHISKEY STAMP.

The internal revenue stamp for whiskey barrels has been engraved, and is now ready for delivery. It is about three inches wide by six inches long, with a hole cut through the centre on the back of which is pasted a piece of thinner paper than that used for the stamp, so that in cancelling it, it will be so mutilated as to prevent it being used a second time. The stamp

bears the words "Tax paid," and contains serial numbers to correspond with those on the stub in books to be kept in the distillery, to prevent duplication. Each stamp has coupons attached, to add one, two, three or four gallons when necessary, the chief stamp being for forty gallons, whereas whiskey barrels generally contain one, two or three gallons over that number.

U. S. TOBACCO STAMP.

The stamps for tobacco comprise 21 denominations, as follows: 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 40, 50, 60 and a 100 pound boxes and barrels of plug tobacco; half ounce, one ounce, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 16 ounces for fine cut chewing; and 2, 4, 8, and 16 ounces for smoking tobacco. All these stamps will be sold as revenue stamps are now sold, and the evidence that tax has been paid will be the stamp on the box, barrel or package. These stamps will be about one inch wide, by one and a half inches long, and will be finished in artistic style. They will not be completed and ready for use before sixty days.

WASHINGTON AND CINCINNATI SOCIETY.

An article appeared in the *N. Y. Tribune*, some time in 1866, to the effect, that Washington was unfavorable to the Society of Cincinnati. Hon. Hamilton Fish, President General, Cincinnati Society, took occasion at the annual dinner of the association, 4th of July, 1867, to contradict the *Tribune's* statement; and we now have the pleasure, through the kindness of Wm. B. Dayton, Secy. N. J. State Soc. of Cin., of presenting an original unpublished letter of Gen. Washington, which forever sets at rest the point in dispute, and gives

incontrovertible evidence of Washington's attachment to the Society,

MOUNT VERNON, IN VIRGINIA,
October 31st 1786.

SIR:—I take this early opportunity in my character of President of the the Cincinnati, of announcing to you that the Triennial General Meeting of the Society is to be convened at the City of Philadelphia on the first Monday of May, in the year 1787.

As it will not be in my power (for reasons which I shall have the honor of immediately communicating) to attend the next General meeting: and as it may become more and more inconvenient for me to be absent from my farms, or to receive appointments which will divert me from my private affairs.—I think it proper also to acquaint you, for the information of your Delegates to the General Meeting, that it is my desire not to be re-elected to the Presidency, since I should find myself under the necessity of declining the acceptance of it.

The numerous applications for information, advice or assistance which are made to me in consequence of my military command, the multiplicity of my correspondencies in this country as well as in many parts of Europe: the variety and perplexity of my own private concerns, which having been much deranged by my absence through the war, demand my entire and unremitting attention: the arduousness of the task in which I have been as it were unavoidably engaged of superintending the opening the navigation of the great rivers in this State: the natural desire of tranquility and relaxation from business, which almost every one experiences at my time of life, particularly after having acted (during a considerable period) as no idle spectator in uncommonly busy and important scenes: and the present imbecility

of my health, occasioned by a violent attack of the fever and ague, succeeded by rheumatic pains (to which, till of late, I have been an entire stranger) will I doubt not be considered as reasons of sufficient validity to justify my conduct in the present instance.

Although the whole of these reasons could not have before operated, yet in conformity to my determination of passing the remainder of my days in a state of retirement, I should certainly have refused to accept the office of President with which I was honored in 1784, but from an apprehension that my refusal, at that time, might have been misrepresented as a kind of dereliction of the Society on my part, or imputed to a disapprobation of the principles on which it was then established. To convince the opposers of the Institution, should any such remain, that this was not the fact: and to give no colorable pretext for unreasonable attacks, I prevailed upon myself to accept the appointment with a view of holding it only until the next election, before which time I expected the jealousy that had been excited, would subside—and this—I am happy to be informed—has universally taken place.

Highly approving as I do the principles on which the society is now constituted: and pleased to find, so far as I have been able to learn from reiterated enquiries, that it is acceptable to the good people of the United States in general; it only remains for me to express the sense I entertain of the honor conferred by the last General Meeting in electing me their President, and to implore in future the benediction of Heaven on the virtuous associates in this Illustrious Institution.

During the residue of my continuance in office I shall be constantly

ready to sign such diplomas as may be requisite for the members of your State Society, being sincerely desirous of giving every possible proof of attachment, esteem and affection for them, as well as of demonstrating the sentiments of perfect consideration and respect with which I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

The President of the State Society of the Cincinnati, New Jersey.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Hull, Mass., Aug. 21.

Gentlemen: I understand you visit folks and buy collections of coins, &c. If you know how to get to Boston, you will find a steamboat to bring you to Hull, and I will sell you my whole kit, viz:

- 28 Bungtown Coppers—some brass,
- 72 Political Store Coins,
- 128 Mixed Rooshens, Italies, Kritezers, Germans, Hollanders, and Injin Pieces, with bows and arrows,
- 30 Georges—1722 to 1790,
- 62 Brass Buttons, without eyes,
- 28 “ “ with eyes,
- 1 Old Padlock, used on my grandfather's barn—made of brass,
- 15 Queer Pieces with knotty looking heads.
- 1 Old Rithmetic, 1 Newspaper (German) can't read the name, and a lot of other curious stuff saved up during a life-time of three generations.

Write to me, by next mail, and say what you will give, whether you'll come on, or if I had better send them all by express. Yours, &c.,

S. E. P.

[If any of our readers should want

some *unique* foreign coins, “Bungtowns,” “Political Store Coins,” (whatever they may be) “Knotty Heads,” and a good assortment of nothing generally, here's a chance. We were inclined to believe this letter written in jest, but find, upon enquiry, that Hull contains just such a collection of odds, ends and curiosities, and just such a proprietor of the same as the autographic signature indicates. Who wants to indulge in a trip to Hull, and revel among the “Georgies” “Brass Buttons,” “Injin Pieces,” “Old Rithmeticks,” “Padlock's,” and such attractive curiosities?—Ed.]

Bethel, Conn., July 25.

Gents: I have been collecting coins for several years. I was induced to subscribe for your excellent magazine by a friend engaged in the same work. I must say that I am very much pleased with it, and you may consider me a life subscriber. I would most heartily recommend it to all engaged in the collection of coins and stamps.

If I ever visit your beautiful city, I shall make it a point to call on you and examine your stock of coins and medals, and perhaps bring some with me that may be interesting to you. I shall do all in my power to aid and support your useful journal and if it cannot be furnished for the present price I for one am willing to pay three dollars if needed to support the magazine. Yours, respectfully,

A. S. J.

34 Liberty Street, N. Y.,

Aug. 14, 1868.

Gentlemen: We see in your August number of *Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine* that you review our work and ask for information, which we feel happy to give you. First, the

publishers are the "New York Philatelic Society," office, 34 Liberty St., (room 12). Second, James W. Scott is the editor—shall be glad to exchange papers with you.

Respectfully yours,
Chas. Watson, Sec'y, N. Y. P. S.

Ithaca, N. Y., Aug. 4, 1868.

MASON & CO.—Gents: About the fore part of June last, I ordered some coins, among them was one 1795 half-cent. Not liking the coin, I wrote a letter telling you how it was, and that I wished some proof cents in exchange for the half-cent. I then enclosed the half-cent and I supposed it was mailed. Not hearing from you I wrote to you to please send me on the coins "due" me, (in exchange for the half-cent).

After a while you sent me two of the coins due, and I of course thought it was all right.

But this morning while looking over some letters I found one addressed "Mason & Co." I opened it, and to my surprise I found the letter and the half-cent which I supposed you had received nearly two months ago.

I beg your pardon, gentlemen, for letting anything of the kind happen.

Yours, respectfully,
WM. W. STODDARD.

[It pleases us to publish this letter, as it presents indubitable evidence that we try to fill orders faithfully, and that the fault is not always on our side.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S. JR., GEORGETOWN. — The letter you have is doubtless a copy of the document found in the boot of Major Andre, the spy. Aug. 30, 1780 is incorrect. It was Feb. 1st, 1781—not '80—the letter was written by Andre, to Washington, the night pre-

vious to his execution. Both of your letters are fac similies, as the original papers are on file in the State Department at Washington.

S. K., N. Y.—The word "*tumuli*" in Dickeson's Antiquities of North America should have been "*tumulus*," as you observe. The error was not the author's, but overlooked in the "proof."

ALFRED SMITH & CO., BATH, ENGLAND.—Please direct all communications to address on outside of cover. We will send you Confederate 5c. blue stamps unused for \$1 per 100 in trade. Send us a mixed lot of Continental, and a few scarce used stamps, albums, a few Dr. Grey's books, and we will send you lot of U. S. old issue and Confederate stamps.

STAFFORD SMITH & CO., BRIGHTON ENGLAND—The same as above to your firm. Cannot take your offers—send goods in exchange. Send us some stamps.

COBANG.—In China they cast the silver into a shape somewhat resembling a bread-tray, which is called a sycee, and its value is reckoned by weight in taels; a tael is equal to \$1 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. The China cash is a small piece of circular-brass, the size of an American half-cent, it has a wide and raised margin; in the centre it has a square hole, around which there are Chinese characters; these pieces are strung in a string of one hundred each, which is called a mace, and is equal to ten cents. The Japanese are in advance of the Chinese in coining. They have gold, silver and brass coins. The gold and silver coins are oblong in form. The brass coins are elliptical.

S. REED.—The Bonds of Confederate States are worth about 50c. You may keep them until you are grey,

but will never get more than a nominal sum for them as curiosities.

D. D., CAMDEN.—A coin is a piece of metal of fixed weight, and stamped by authority of government, and employed as a circulating medium. Your piece is not a coin, but an apothecary's weight, worth its weight as old brass.

N. L., SAN FRANCISCO.—There was a Numismatic Society in your city—is it defunct? All right on the gold question. Your letter received, and we shall attend to it.

NOVICE.—We have repeatedly mentioned the fact that the so-called Franklin, or Fugio Cent was the first U. S. coin. See History of Coins. Congress passed the act 1786 authorizing the coin, and the latter bears date 1787. Two varieties, "UNITED STATES" and the "STATES UNITED."

H. R., TORONTO.—We wish to make our magazine the largest and best in the world. "You shall see!"

E. P., PORTLAND.—The Saint Louis Stamps are genuine, and not "a creative image of the brain" as you suggest. The first U. S. stamps were issued to the New York P. O. in 1847, consisting of 5 and 10c. stamps, with heads of Washington and Franklin.

S. O. R., NANTUCKET.—It is true that we pay \$25 for U. S. cents of 1799, but only in perfect condition. The '99 cents vary in value from \$1 to \$30. An uncirculated cent of this date would fetch an exorbitant sum.

ALLIGATOR, VICKSBURG.—Your *nomme de plume* is very appropriate, and your *allegation* that there were no 1c. yellow adhesive stamps issued by the Confederate Government, makes you simply an *allegator* without facts to keep your assertion on legs. Choose some other title.

P. A., JR., SAN FRANCISCO.—Send us 100 each of the quarters and halves. Send on China coins and stamps.

ARTHUR L., HALIFAX—Do not want the tokens. Will take some of higher denominations of stamps.—Send on the medals.

N. L., CALIFORNIA.—Have not the 1794 dollar, but a fair prospect of getting one soon. When you receive the dollar, if the other pieces you write about are not disposed of, send them by mail, registered.

S. S.—In another column we have alluded to our desire to procure a good partner. This chance will remain open for a short time only, and the party who elects to unite fortune's with us can have choice of two cities, as we purpose enlarging our business and opening a coin store in another city, of which due notice will be given. Think the matter over and send early notice of your intentions. A few hundred dollars will be required, and entire charge given. We shall also want a clerk fully versed in coins and stamps, whose duty will be to keep books, write up the mail, and attend the retail department. Coins would be preferred to cash, as we wish to increase our stock. For permanence and profits of business, refer to any of our Philadelphia numismatists. We established the coin business in this city in 1860, and feel fully confident, with the aid of a good person, to run up a big yearly trade, and push our magazine to a circulation of 5,000 copies. This can only be done by outside canvassing and travelling, which we propose to do in person.

F. ORTON.—Send any coin or coins wrapped in paper, by letter—if 12 or under. Rare coins should be registered when sent by mail.

RIGHT OR LEFT.

It is a mooted point, long discussed, among numismatists and philatelists, which is the correct position to term an individual figure on a coin, or stamp? If the figure, or profile of an individual is looking to the *observer's right*, is it correct to term it "right;" or must we follow the position on the coin, or stamp and term it "left"?

We notice in the August Number of *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* (English) that the observer's right, or left, is the adopted style among philatelists. Let us have this matter settled, as regards coins, medals, prints, &c, whether the position of the animate is correct, or the inanimate." "When doctors differ," &c. Let us hear from our subscribers, on this subject, in time for next magazine.

UNCLE SAM'S BACK UP.

The following reply to an "Inquirer," from Dublin, we cut from *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, Bath, England:—"We noticed the 'quadrilateral' pattern on the *raised back* of the U. S. Stamps in our April number." Is it any wonder Uncle Sam has had his *back raised*, when we think how ungrateful our English cousins have been? Few of our readers would have known of this hump backed stamp, if we had not transferred the above remark from the *Journal* of our English philatelic friends. To speak earnestly, we haven't seen the "raised back" on our U. S. Stamps. In fact, their backs are flat as a pancake. The "quadrilateral" is all right, but where, tell us where to find the *raised back*? There is one feature of this mystery worthy of note—if Uncle Sam gets his *back up*, he won't *back down* in a hurry. Put that in your cigar and puff it.

VERDANT.

A man in Tennessee called upon an editor to get some postage stamps printed.—*Exchange*.

[Had the above verdant individual called on certain Philatelists in Europe, he could have had stamps printed.—ED.]

PARTNER^s WANTED.

The right kind of a man, with the right kind of spirit, having energy and a slight knowledge of numismatology, or philately can find a pleasant and profitable position with us as partner. An examination into the workings of our retail and mailing business, will satisfy any one, willing to devote their time and talents to the work, that there is a nice income and plenty of work for two industrious men. We don't want a seedy "chowder head" to sit in our easy editorial chair and swing around the sanctum circle, but a bright go-ahead, active, sharp, clever, good natured partner. To such a one we open our heart and arms, and will take him and feed him like a lord, dividing the weekly profits from a largely increasing business; or he can put up at the Continental, just two squares from our office and put in an appearance at 9, A. M., and a disappearance at 5, P. M. "8 hours" is our motto. We are serious in this business, and trust some "good fellow" will respond to our call. A partner we must have.

STAMP ALBUMS.

Just received, a beautiful series of Albums, with important improvements, and room for new issues.

No. 1. Pasteboard binding,	\$1 25
" 2. Linen "	1 75
" 3. " (Gilt cover & edges,	2 00
" 4. Morocco, gilded with band	3 00

MASON & Co., 50 N. 10th St.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

OCTOBER, 1868.

No. 7.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Number II.—Continued.

The position the skeleton occupied in the earth, was, with its head to the east and slightly elevated, and hands crossing at the wrists, upon the chest. The earth, immediately around the bones, was of a dark, rich loam, from two to four inches thick, and completely enveloped in laminæ, or veins of a light brown or dingy white. No more bones were discovered, for several feet. The next skeleton found was that of a female, from twenty-five to thirty years old, the head of which was well formed, the face rather broad and somewhat depressed, the bones much decomposed, and not removable entire. On the left side of the neck lay a small cup filled with ashes, which



Fig. 3.

upon analyzation, were found to contain a considerable portion of potash.

It occupied a small saucer, which was broken with the hoe. Upon the right side of the neck was a jar, similarly filled with ashes, much darker than the former; this was also broken.



Fig. 4.

We examined carefully throughout the course of the skeleton, and found but a few pigments. The appearance of the earth immediately around it, was the same as in the first described case, with the exception of a dark vein half-inch thick, completely surrounding the others. The cranium was hollow, no dirt having found its way through the foramen; but incrusting the sides of the bones, we found an adipose substance shooting out into needle-like crystals, from a half, to three-quarters of an inch long, perfectly white and opaque, which, on exposure to the sun, lost their water of chrysalization, and fell down into a fine powder of a slightly pungent taste.

At this stage of the examination, we found skeletons lying in rows, about eighteen inches apart, occupying the same position, with heads to the east. We dug up the remains of some twenty, and finding nothing wor-

thy of note, only secured such pieces of pottery as were entire; about three to one being broken notwithstanding every precaution was used. On one hand, the boys had lost sight of the bones, as they advanced up the bayou. When ordered to dig deeper, the hoe suddenly struck into a mass producing a grating noise; digging into it, we found upwards of a bushel of burnt human bones, out of which we selected a number of pieces of the crania, and parts of the jaw bones, containing the teeth, completely deprived of their animal matter by fire. Directing the skeleton next joining these bones, to be carefully traced out, a subject was exposed, which, judging from the loss



Fig. 5.

of teeth, and the absorption of the alveolar processes, must have been upwards of eighty years old.

The bones were short and thick; indicating it to have been a dwarf. Around the head and neck lay several pieces of finely carved pottery; double the number met with in any other skeleton. The head was flattened, and on the superior portion of the frontal, at the junction with the parietals, the bones had exfoliated, leaving the margins with smooth and rounded edges, no doubt caused by the long continued pressure of the head braces.

The next skeleton of which we traced the bones regularly, was that of a male. The hoe cut through the head, but we carefully dug it out, and

made a drawing from it. It was flattened and of immense size, and differed much from any of the former. The occiput extended perpendicularly four and a half inches, meeting the other bones at a rounded point, at their superior extremities, the table of the bones were quite thin.

The parietals were flat, and the cavity of the head filled with dust. Around the neck lay three pieces of pottery, one of which was obtained whole—a bottle moulded with clay over a gourd, and then burnt out—the carvings well executed.

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PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 8.

A study of the minute peculiarities of our coinage enables us to detect in many instances, altered pieces. Owing to its great rarity, perhaps the cent of 1804 is imitated in this way as frequently as any other American coin. As we have but the varieties of perfect and broken dies, it will not be difficult to detect the imposition by observing the proximity of the words "States" and "of" on the reverse of each of them, which will not be found on any other cent. The so-called varieties are so exactly alike that I am inclined to believe that only one die could have been used, and, in fact, the obverses equally resemble each other, so that there may have been but one set of dies employed in making the famous 1804 cent. The breakage of the dies is noteworthy, as it is peculiar to the year. That on the obverse edge, touches the letters R. T. Y.—the other also on the edge, unites the letters M. E. R. I. I have no doubt that numbers of cents were struck during the years 1804 and 1799 with the dies used the several previous years, 1803, and

1798, as the abundance of these dates seem to corroborate; and it is well known that the practice of using good dies after the expiration of the year, for which they were made, formerly prevailed at our mint. If this suggestion is correct, the cents of 1799 and 1804 are rare because very few of them were made.

A critical examination of the half-cents of 1804-5 and 6, without stems to the wreaths, satisfied me that a single die was used in making each of them. Also that the reverse of the cent of 1802 with 000, was made with the same die as that of 1801 with 000.

In early times, they were not particular about proportion in many cases. For instance, the last figure of the half-cent of 1807 is the same size as the corresponding figure of the perfect date cent of the same year.

We have three degrees of thickness, both of the cent and half-cent of 1795. The medium in each case is not lettered on the edge. Their weight must vary not a little. In 1846 they made cents with the date of three different sizes; the smallest size being most common.

In 1817 we have the variety with fifteen stars, one with date to the left of the head, one with date under head and thirteen stars, and the cracked die. This crack connects the top of the figure 7 with the top of the adjoining figure 1. *

(To be Continued.)

U. S. MEDALS.

We shall shortly commence the history of medals emanating from our Government, and struck at the U. S. Mint, in this city, including Army, Navy, Presidential and Miscellaneous medals, gold, silver and bronze, with

their fictitious value added. This history will be exact and complete, as the matter is derived from an Ex-Director of U. S. Mint, and from official papers of the Government. It is our aim to make this Journal, in time, a perfect encyclopedia of numismatic literature; containing, ere many volumes have been issued, most important information, on the subject of coins, &c., for the ready reference of those interested in the medalic history of our country.

PHILAD'A COIN SALE.

We call special attention to the sale of J. Colvin Randall's collection of coins to take place at the spacious rooms of Birch & Son, 1110 Chestnut Street, on the afternoons of Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 28 and 29. Having catalogued this fine cabinet of coins, we speak *knowingly* of the collection, and our readers can depend on the descriptive condition of the pieces. Among the many gems will be found Dollars of 1794, 1836, '38, '39, '51 and '52, the latter five in proof condition; many very fine Half-Dolls, Quarters, Dimes, $\frac{1}{2}$ Dimes and 3c. Pieces; some very beautiful and fine cents in the early dates, including 1793, 1799 and 1804. Of the 1799 cents, there are three varieties, and the best we have yet seen. Also a good variety of Patterns, Medals, Foreign Silver and Copper Coins, etc. Parties in, and contiguous to N. Y., will address E. Cogan, No. 100 William St., New York, for catalogues and bids.

All the principal collectors, among our subscribers, will receive a catalogue, and those unable to attend, can have their bids executed (at a cost of 10 per ct.) by giving early notice at this office, of the coins desired.

WANTED.

A few April numbers of our magazine, first volume (1867). A good price will be paid for the same. Also wanted a few of the first volume complete. We will give, in exchange, our second volume, to any person mailing us the first.

GOOD IDEA.

"Excursion pic-nics to our mint are talked of in other cities."—*Philad'a Evening Star*, Sep. 11.

The above, clipped from that brilliant little daily, the *Star*, of this city, a paper always up to the newest sensation, and popular as pretty girls at a summer resort—is the best indication of the interest manifested by the public at large in numismatology, that we have seen for many a day.

"Excursions to U. S. Mint from other cities" is just the thing to bring coins and coining prominently before the public eye. Let them come! Welcome warm, awaits the throng, from our amiable and energetic director, Dr. Linderman, assisted by his capable and industrious clerks and artisans. Come and see the finest piece of machinery in America—the beautiful stationary engine at the mint—see the glittering gold, and shining silver coins piled in huge heaps, and then the stacks of solid gold bricks, worth, each, 6000 Dollars. Come and feast your eyes on the process of *money making*; and, ere you leave the spot, look upon the Washington Cabinet of medals and coins—a scientific thing of beauty, and a joy to Americans forever! After pic-nicing around among the smelting furnaces, trotting through the various coining rooms, and nibbling a lunch in the spacious reception rooms, form in procession, march down Chestnut to 10th

street, up 10th street to Arch, and enter the coin depot of M. & Co., where each one of the happy excursionists can view thousands of coins, and perpetuate their visit by subscribing for this magazine.

UNIQUE "'93."

We learn that Victor Hugo has sold his "'93" at private sale in France for 100,000 Francs, about 28,000 Dolls. in Greenbacks. Notwithstanding the fact that this remarkable piece is entirely "uncirculated," it will soon be put in "proof" condition by the present owner; and strangely enough pass into general "circulation," immediately afterwards. We hope the Numismatic Associations will take notice of this new "'93" in their coming discussions on varieties of the early U. S. coinage, and give to it the attention such an expensive "'93" demands. Parties at a distance, desiring to add a copy of this valuable piece to their collections, can find it ere long, at any respectable book store. All hail! Victor Hugo; we cheerfully make you the champion author of *Unique Pieces*; and, if you should ever deign to cross the big pond, we can warrant you as warm a reception in America as your "'93" will most assuredly command. Do you ever "exchange" pieces, Victor? If so, send us a "'93."

U. S. PATTERN PIECES.

WITH THEIR INTRINSIC VALUE ADDED.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

There were eight pieces in the Feuchtwanger Composition set of one cent pieces (1837)—worth, when very fine, \$2 per set.

In 1838 were designed and struck the beautiful silver Dollar and Half-

Dollar, known as the "Flying Eagle" patterns. These pieces bear a very close resemblance to the 1836 pattern Dollar. The stars which dot the field around the eagle on the 1836 Dollar are omitted on the Dollar of 1838. Flying Eagle Dollar of '38 valued in proof condition at \$35. Half-Dollar of this year (proof) \$10.

There are two varieties of the F. E. Half-Dollar of '38, viz:—the "Liberty Seated" and "Head of Liberty" obverses; the former being the rarest, and commanding about \$50, at public coin sales.

A Pattern Silver Dollar, similar to the last, was struck in 1839, termed also a "Flying Eagle" Dollar and worth \$40. During this year there were struck Half-Dollars in copper and silver, differing from all others. In the obverse the seated figure of Liberty is surrounded with stars; reverse, eagle and shield; legend, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Value of the pieces about \$50 each.

Under the head of patterns, it is customary to introduce the model gold Dollars and Halves of California. These peculiar pieces were struck at the San Francisco Mint, in 1849, as trial pieces. Value of the Dollar, \$5; the Half-Dollar, \$4.

[NOTE.—In the preceding number we omitted to state the value of steam coinage pieces of 1836. Also the Two-Cent piece in nickel, same year. The Feb. steam coinage worth \$2; March, 25c.; Nickel 2c. piece, \$3.]

(To be Continued.)

WHAT HAS PASSED FOR MONEY.

Many things have been used at different times as money; cowrie shells in Africa, wampum, or beads made of clam shells by the American Indians, soap in Mexico. The Carthaginians

used leather as money, probably bearing some mark or stamp. Frederick II., at the siege of Milan, reviving this custom, issued stamp-leather as money. In 1350, John the Good, King of France, who was taken prisoner by the celebrated Black Prince, and sent to England until ransomed, also issued leather money, having a small silver nail in the middle. Salt is the common money in Abyssinia, codfish in Iceland and Newfoundland. "Living money," slaves and oxen, passed current in ancient Greece and among the Anglo-Saxons in payment of debts. Adam Smith says that in his day there was a village in Scotland where it was not uncommon for workmen to carry nails instead of money to the baker's shop and the ale-house. Marco Polo found in China money made of the bark of the mulberry tree, bearing the stamp of the sovereign, which it was death to counterfeit, being the earliest specimen of paper money. Tobacco was generally used as money in Virginia up to 1660, 57 years after the foundation of that colony, and men bought wives for such a weight of tobacco; while in Canada the beaverskin, being the great staple, was in like manner made a unit, and all transactions were estimated in beaver. Wheat was received in Massachusetts at one time, in payment of all debts. France, during the Revolution, discussed the propriety of receiving wheat as money. Platina was coined in Russia from 1828 to 1845. But the metals best adapted and most generally used as coin are copper, nickel, silver and gold, the two first being now used for coins of small value, to make change, the two latter, commonly designated "the precious metals," measures of value and legal tenders. On the continent of Europe a composition of silver and

copper, called bullion, has long been used for small coins, which are made current at a much higher value than that of the metals they contain. In China, Sycee silver is the principal currency, and is merely ingot silver of a uniform fineness, paid and received by weight. Spanish dollars also circulate there, but only after they have been stamped as proof that they are of the standard fineness. As Asia Minor produced gold, its earliest coinage was of that metal. Italy and Sicily possessing copper, bronze was first coined there. Herodotus says the Lydians were the first people known to have coined gold and silver. They had gold coins at the close of the ninth century B. C., Greece Proper only at the close of the eighth century B. C. Servius Tullius, King of Rome, made the pound weight of copper current money. The Romans first coined silver 281 B. C., and gold 207 B. C. Some nations, although they worked the metals with skill, seem never to have coined money, and such was the case with the Irish, of whom no coins are known prior to the English invasion in the twelfth century.

PRICED CATALOGUE
GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

PATTERN PIECES.

2136. Pattern Cent, 1792; eagle on a rock; rev. "Trial Piece," not original; copper proof. 50c.

2137. Pattern Cent, 1792; obv. bust, "Liberty" above, and the date below; rev. eagle standing on a section of a globe, "United States of America." Copy. \$1 25.

2138. Pattern Mill, or tenth of a

cent, 1794, copper, struck from the dies of the 1794 Half-Dime, *fine*. \$5.75.

2139. Pattern Cent, 1803; obv. a strange deformed eagle, "Liberty" above, date below; rev. wreath, "One Cent" in the centre, "United States of America." Copy. 75c.

2140. Three of Kettle's pieces, Half and Quarter Eagles of 1803; brass, *fine*. 15c.

2141. Half-Dollar of 1830, struck in copper, very good. Counterfeit. 38c.

2142. Half-Dollar of 1835, struck in copper, good. Counterfeit. 38c.

2143. Half-Eagle of 1834, in copper, the new type. 50c.

2144. Gold Dollar, 1836; brilliant proof, very rare. \$7 50.

2145. Flying Eagle Silver Dollar, 1836, with "Gobrecht" on the field; a *splendid proof*. Very rare. \$57 50.

2146. Flying Eagle Dollar, 1836; splendid proof, decidedly the finest specimen I have ever met with, rare. \$15.

2147. Half-Dollar, 1836, milled edge; splendid proof, very rare. \$3 00.

2148. Two-Cent piece, 1836, struck in a light colored composition, one-tenth of which is silver; milled edge, original, rare. \$2 50.

2149. Two-Cent Piece, 1836; splendid proof in copper. \$2 50.

2149² "First Steam Coinage, 1836; Feb. 22d;" brass, original, very rare. \$1 38.

2150. First Steam Coinage, 1836, February 22; copper, original, very fine, rare. \$1 87.

2151. First Steam Coinage, 1836, March 23; bronze, original, nearly proof, rare. \$2 00.

2152. First Steam Coinage, 1836, March 23; bronze, proof, re-struck. 25c.

2153. Feuchtwanger's Three Cent piece, 1837, eagle on a rock; very fine indeed, and extremely rare. \$7 50.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS'
DEPARTMENT.*Priced Catalogue—continued.*

	Unused ¢ cts.	Used ¢ cts.
FRENCH COLONIES.		
1 cent, square, olive green	6	3
5 " " emerald "	10	5
10 " " cinnamon	15	6
40 " " vermilion	30	6

GERMANY.

NORTHERN STATES.

"Adhesive Stamps."

1850.

$\frac{1}{4}$ silb. grosch, red brown		3
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " flesh	10	3
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " green		3
1 " " blue		3
2 " " rose		3
3 " " yellow		3

1860.

$\frac{1}{4}$ silb. grosch, sqr., red	5	3
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " " green	12	3
1 " " " light blue	15	3
2 " " " rose	18	3
3 " " " russet	20	3
5 " " " lilac	25	3
10 " " " vermilion	35	6

1862.

$\frac{1}{3}$ silb. grosch, sqr., green	5	3
$\frac{1}{2}$ " " " orange	8	3
1 " " " rose	10	3
2 " " " blue	12	3
3 " " " brown	15	3
$\frac{1}{4}$ " " " black	5	3

"Envelope Stamps."

$\frac{1}{2}$ silb. grosch, oval, orange	10	5
1 " " " rose	12	5
2 " " " blue	18	5
3 " " " stone	20	5

(To be Continued.)

50,000 CURIOSITIES.

In the last number of our Journal we alluded briefly to the immense collection of relics, coins, curiosities, &c., offered at private sale by Dr. Morgan, (see advertisement on cover) of Limerick, Pa. This collection; or rather combined collection—for it is composed of five different and distinct collections—

is the most important and valuable assortment of rarities now in the United States. Dr. Morgan has had unequalled facilities for obtaining rare and curious objects; having resided for several years in South America, where he became possessed of the cabinet of curiosities belonging to Gen. L. Gomez, who fell in 1865 at the bombardment of Pysander, and who spent a vast amount of money and twenty-five years of his life in forming his remarkable collection. Dr. Morgan has also, in the above combination, the museum of a French Naturalist, who had his exhibition on public view at the city of Montevideo; also the entire mineral collection of a German Naturalist, who devoted some six years and a large amount of money in its formation, and that in the very heart of the mineral regions of South America. In addition to the above named, the entire collection of a scientific gentleman now residing in Rio de Janeiro; which makes, including his own, five valuable and separate collections, now offered by Dr. Morgan, for the sum of \$25,000, or to be sub-divided (to suit purchasers) in sums of from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Having had an interview with the proprietor, and a knowledge of this vast combination of attractive objects, and knowing that his health is rather precarious—demanding his removal to a milder climate—we endorse the statement that the price asked for this collection is ruinously low—only 50c. per article—and needs but an examination of the objects, by those interested, to meet with a ready sale.

NEW ISSUES.

SARAWAK.—The new emission is lithographed brown on yellow paper, and is the work of the well-known firm of Maclure, Macdonald & MacGre-

gor, the engravers of the current set of Montevideo, and other stamps. The portrait is that of the late Sir James Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak. We presume the initials in the corners signify James Brooke, Rajah (of) Sarawak. We are informed, on the best authority, that only a three-cent stamp has been engraved, and that the supply is now on its way out.

SPAIN.—Our contemporary, on the authority of a Hamburg correspondent, states that the 10 milésimas de escudo of Spain, having been forged, is to be withdrawn from circulation; and consequently opines the speedy emission of a substitute.—*Philatelist*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Cincinnati, August 31.

Gents: Have you any coins of "Judea" on hand? if so, let me know condition and lowest cash price. I receive the Magazine regularly and am more and more pleased with it—can't it be enlarged? Shall be in your city in a few months—will give you a call; in the interim may make some purchases. Respectfully, H. C. E.

[Coins you speak of rare and worth about 50c. to \$1. each. Shall certainly enlarge and illustrate ere many months, as the support we are now receiving will soon justify the additional expense. Shall be pleased to see you.—ED.]

Newbury, Vt., Sept. 3, 1868.

Messrs. Mason & Co., Gents: I have a letter from Gen. Kossuth, dated London, Aug. 9, 1852. It is a reply to a letter apprising him of his being elected honorary member to a society. Do you buy? if so, what is it worth?

Respectfully, C. K.

[An autograph letter of L. Kossuth is worth about \$1.—ED.]

Newark, N. J., Sept. 12.

Sirs: The *observer's right or left* seems to me to be the correct thing in terminating the position of a figure on a coin, stamp, etc. Yours truly, J. B. M.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 14.

Gents: For one, I think a great deal depends (in this discussion of "right and left") upon the objective point; or what the article, or object is we are gazing at. For instance: a class in anatomy, looking upon the dissection of a manakin—placed upon a stage, facing *left*, in front of the students—would be the observers right; thus, in describing the heart, the student, if adhering to this view of the question, would get the heart in the *wrong* place, and yet have it in the *right* side! What an anomaly. Under this view of the matter, I cast my vote for the figure's position on the coin, &c., and not the *observer's* in looking at the piece.

S. O., Jr.

Hoosick Falls, Sep. 7.

Gentlemen: As to the question "Right or Left" my opinion is: if the figure, or profile of an individual on a coin is looking to the observer's right, we must follow the position on the coin and term it "left."

Very Respectfully, J. H.

Saint Louis, Mo., Sept. 10.

Mason & Co.: I suppose you will have a large number of opinions on the "Right and Left" subject, as presented in last number of your magazine, and after all is said and done, the matter will remain as before, *right* with some; *wrong* with others, and *left* to the disposition of those who discuss such knotty questions. It seems to me both sides of the subject can be cleverly defended, and therefore it is

useless to agitate the matter further.

In truth and for justice, L. W.

[We present the above correspondence as "specimen bricks" of a large number of letters, nearly all bearing the same interpretation, as the foregoing, in reference to the subject in dispute. We must in truth say, that the general voice of numismatists agree in determining the position of the figure by the observer's right or left. The concluding letter in the above series from our correspondent, "L. W." strongly reminds us of the following anecdote, with the recital of which we leave the subject until another time.

Two Quaker girls were ironing on the same table. One asked the other what side she would take, the right, or left? She answered promptly: "It will be right for me to take the left, and then it will be left for thee to take the right."—ED.]

Germantown, April 20, 1868.

Dear Sirs: I have noticed several peculiarities in the American coins which have not yet been mentioned in your excellent magazine, rubbings of the varieties enclosed. Among these is a half-cent of 1828, 12 stars, which has the date much farther to the left than the others of this year; also two dates of 1825, large and small, rubbing of the small date enclosed. I have several varieties of the 1792 cent differing mainly in the arrangement of the hair. Have also four different "Confederatio's," chiefly varying in the number and disposition of the stars and the arrangement of the rays. Hope soon to be able to show you my entire collection of colonials, comprising 128 pieces; have a liberty cap of 1793 and other rare coins for trading—will see you as soon as possible.

Yours truly, J.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. S., YARMOUTH.—See article elsewhere on the subject of "right and left" which embodies your views. We have yet a few Impeachment Tickets, 50c. each. These tickets were made expressly for the U. S. gov't, and used during the trial of the President, for admission to the Senate Chamber. In the future the possessor of one of these cards will be a lucky individual. They are beautifully engraved, stamped, and signed, and come in sets of four colors. \$1 per set, or 50c. each.

G. A. P., NEW YORK.—Shall have a branch coin depot in your city soon—shall be pleased to see you when we open.

R. L., PORTLAND.—Was on a visit to N. Y. when your order came to hand. Sent per express two 1793 cents, one 1799 and three 1804 cents. We have 1804s re-strikes from old cracked U. S. dies, warranted from genuine 1804 die. Price \$2.

C. MCOWAN.—Hope your efforts to increase our subscription list will terminate successfully. Shall have some fine foreign coins about 5th inst. Sale of Randall's collection Oct. 28th (two days) will send catalogue.

C. W. L., CALIFORNIA.—Sent you the Confederate 10c. stamp (rose) value \$5. This squares accounts.

R. S. E., WESTFIELD.—Have written you concerning application for partnership.

E. S. N., WHITE'S CORNERS.—Sent on the currency and old dates of pennies, 8th ult.

H. C. W., NEW YORK.—Will take the 1792 Disme at 25 Dolls. Send it C. O. D. by express. Have written two letters, and no reply.

C. F. R., BATAVIA.—Have changed your address.

T. C. D., CINCINNATI.—Sent the 1804 Dollar by express. Shall have

sale of fine American coins, Oct. 28, and a private collection on sale about the 10th instant.

J. HAUPLER, HOOSICK FALLS.—We received a dozen communications on the "Right and Left" subject, and about equally divided in opinion.

F. P. R., FORT WAYNE.—Send on P. O. order. Will send 1798 Dollar (good) for \$2. We send the Half-cents 1793 to 1857—omitting 1796, 1802, 1811, '31, '36, '40 to '48, and '52—for \$3 the set. Can get you an 1805 half-doll. over the '4.

SALISBURY, N. Y.—You omitted to add signature to your favor of 2d ult.

S. A., JR., PITTSBURG.—Thanks for kindness in recommending our journal and coin depot to Pittsburghers. We have a baker's dozen of good customers in P. Keep the ball moving. Coin business looks brilliant.

R. A. G.—Sent off last order and a letter same day. Your kind interest in our success and frequent orders highly appreciated.

W. C. D.—Business in N. Y. is our excuse for not answering your last more promptly.

W. P. & H. & P., PITTSBURG.—Good and faithful friends are scarce. You have done us much service. Orders from your vicinity are warmly welcomed, and if you succeed in raising a club, let it fall upon us in good force, so that we shall *feel* it—in our pocket. Foreign coins to arrive 15th inst. *via* steamer.

G. F. B.—Is the club properly served with magazines in Owego and Hornellsville? When we get open in N. Y. shall send you our circular, &c.

G. M. P., TROY.—All accounts square, and it is with great pleasure

we say that no difference has existed between us in the transaction of hundreds of dollars worth of coin business. Have written. Hope soon to squeeze your hand in a friendly shake.

C. J. S.—Have selected the stamps we required and returned the balance. Send on another lot.

J. A. S.—Write to Dr. Dickeson, this city, concerning Indian relics.

C. J. B.—Hope to see you soon. Would like to get your work on tokens.

U. S. IMPEACHMENT TICKETS.

There seems to be a misapprehension among our readers in reference to the tickets issued by the Government for admission to the Senate Chamber, during the trial of the President upon the articles of impeachment. Politics aside, these tickets will take position among the historical relics of our country. There is scarcely a member of Congress, or public man in America, who has not secured one of these mementos of an exciting period in our country's history. Many of our readers imagine these tickets to be a printed piece of paper in the form of a burlesque on the great trial. This is not the fact—on the contrary, the tickets were engraved to the order of the government, signed, and stamped, (day and date of the trial) and used by parties witnessing the events of the impeachment affair. As we succeeded in obtaining all the tickets remaining on hand at the close of the trial, we wish to set the matter right and state that each ticket we send our patrons is warranted *original*. Each new subscriber to this journal receives one of the Impeachment Tickets as a gift. The tickets are in sets of four colors, and mailed at \$1 per set, or 50c. singly.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

NOVEMBER, 1868.

No. 8.

ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCHES IN NORTH AMERICA.

By M. W. DICKESON, M. D.

Number II.—Continued.

The fifth was a male of large stature, with his head compressed, and three-fourths of an inch thick. Around the neck lay two pieces of pottery, one a



basin, and the other a jug, the neck carved into the form of an Indian's head, with the opening at the mouth. On the chest lay several implements of war, paints, mullers, and a beautifully carved pipe; in front of the bowl stands a bear, well executed.

Several skeletons, promiscuously thrown together, without regard to position, heading each way, were the next which attracted our attention, and were no doubt the common order, from their careless burial. We examined several heads, but did not find one showing evidence of fracture from weapons, as they would, if they had been captive foes. Neither was there the conformation or delicacy of struc-

ture, belonging to the female; nor were there more than one flat head among them.

The bodies now became very numerous, so much so, as to forbid minute examination at the time, the broken remains of thirty bodies being exposed. They lay in lines (except the last described group) and pairs, facing each other without any regard to sex, as their position would lead to suppose. We found as often a pair of males, as a male and female.

The day beginning to decline, we hurried through the examination of the bodies remaining, and in every



instance finding pottery about the neck, but mostly broken, as the mere pressure of the earth had fractured many of the finest specimens. Out of about ninety specimens dug up, thirty-

two only were obtained whole. Many more might have been saved, had they been left several hours exposed to the sun, and allowed to harden before they were displaced; but, in the earth, at the slightest touch they crumbled to pieces. The vessels found with the females were, in most cases, upside down and empty.

The number generally found with each subject varied from two to four. In the case of the dwarf, however, there were seven, and they of more finished workmanship than others. This fact, with the circumstance of the quantity of burnt bones found with him, seems to designate him as a personage of some importance among his tribe. Whether he was a prophet or a pot maker, seems a doubtful point. The weapons of war, and the stone ornaments did not differ much in material. The spear and arrow points were of chalcedony, navaculite, quartz, agate, &c., and a selacious rock, filled with the fossil remains of the Encrinite, Orthocerate, &c. The remarkable conformation of the head above described, shows that its owner might have been a captive; or a medicine man, tortured by a cunning mother, in infancy, to give him a strange appearance, and instructed, through youth up to manhood in all the arts and influences needful to sway the benighted and superstitious mind of his race.

We gathered up our relics and took a kind farewell of our friend; mounted our horses and made for the town.

Thus ended the day's exploration of this old and curious record of the existence of a dead nation.

FOSSIL SKULLS.

Among the subjects discussed at the recent meeting at Chicago of the American Association for the Ad-

vancement of Science, was that of the Fossil Human Skull. A paper on the "Fossil human skull of Calaveras county, California," by professor J. D. Whitney, was read.

The professor exhibited the piece of skull in question, which consisted of a section comprising the face, and running diagonally across, so as to include one ear cavity. The upper and back portion of the skull were lost, as was one side. With the skull were exhibited several bones from other portions of the human body, which were found in connection with the skull. The Professor proceeded to discuss the evidence as to its position in the rocks, and concluded that the skull had really been found in such a position as to warrant the belief that the lava strata above it had been deposited since the skull had found its place there. In the skull was found a snail belonging to a genus now in existence in the Sierra Nevada mountains, and in the mouth a bone with a hole through it, as if it had been used as an ornament. From his investigations, the Professor inferred that the superincumbent mass of trachytic ashes and gravel in alternate layers, which was above the skull, belonged to the pliocene or post-pliocene epoch of geology, which indicates a much greater antiquity for man than has usually been assigned to him. It places his creation anterior to the glacial epoch, and to the closing era of the volcanic eruptions in California. The time that has elapsed since the deposition of the skull cannot be stated in years. An approximation can only be ciphered out by archæologists and geologists, after long study of the circumstances connected with its deposition.

GOOD.

Coin business looking up.

THE UNIQUE WASHINGTON CENT.

Wm. Few Smith, Esq., of Camden, N. J., is the lucky proprietor of the *unique* Washington coin, described in a previous number of this Magazine. This gentleman is said to have the finest collection of cents in the country, and judging by the few specimens of the early dates, we have seen, we feel little hesitation, in saying there is good reason for this statement.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

We are preparing a new series of papers in reference to the types and varieties of American Coinage, (entirely disconnected from the series so ably edited by \$), and shall commence the initiatory number with the 1793 cent, to be followed in chronological order, until the series are complete.

TYPES AND VARIETIES OF THE 1793 CENT.

We are preparing an article for publication in this journal, concerning the distinct types and varieties, of the U. S. Cent of 1793. If the reader, subscriber, or friends of either, have in their possession, or know of a 1793 cent, from which a rubbing can be obtained, and will take the trouble, to send us on the impression, we will be very thankful for their kindness. We wish to give the owner's name of every distinct type, or noticeable variation—obverse or reverse—and, if within our means, to present a cut of each cent, with the variation pointed out by notes and references.

Send on rubbings of any and all cents of the above date, from which a distinct impression can be obtained. It is our purpose, also, to follow up the

complete series of cents, 1793 to 1857, and give all the types and varieties of each.

THE RANDALL COIN SALE.

A full account of this sale will appear in the next number. From present appearances, the sale will be well attended, and no doubt prove successful in a pecuniary point of view. Catalogues have been forwarded to every subscriber of this magazine. The early date of going to press, (October 25th), prevents any extended remarks, in reference to the coin sale, as all calculations of attendance, success, &c., are based upon supposition. Our readers can have a priced catalogue of this sale, upon remitting one dollar to this office.

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

PATTERN PIECES.

(Continued.)

Feuchtwanger's Three Cent Piece, 1837, arms of New York; very fine, almost proof, scarce. \$1 50.

Feuchtwanger's Cents, 1837, five pieces, all fine, different varieties. 25c.

Feuchtwanger's Cent, struck from two reverse dies, "One Cent" on both sides; very fine, rare. \$1 75.

Half-Cents worth of pure copper, 1837, fine. 10c.

Flying Eagle Dollar, 1338; original, brilliant proof, extremely rare. \$45 00

Half-Dollar, 1838; obv. head of Liberty; rev. a flying eagle; one of the earliest impressions, being from the die before it was injured by breaking, brilliant proof, rare. \$6 00.

Half-Dollar, 1838, head of Liberty; rev. spread eagle; brilliant proof, rare. \$8 50.

Half-Dollar, 1838, Liberty seated; rev. flying eagle; brilliant proof. One of the rarest of the Pattern series, brought in the McCoy sale \$59. \$25.

Half-Dollar, 1838, Liberty seated; rev. an eagle, engraved by Gobrecht, holding in the right talon an olive branch, and in the left four arrows, "United States of America, Half-Dollar." Proof, very rare. \$83 00.

Half-Dollar, 1838, Liberty seated; rev. eagle with shield, olive branch in the right talon, three arrows in the left, "United States of America, 50 Cents." Having never seen, or heard of this piece, I believe it to be *quite as rare as the preceding, brilliant proof.* \$75 00.

[The five lots last described constitute the only known set of pattern half-dollars of this date].

Flying Eagle Dollar, 1839; brilliant proof, original, and exceedingly rare. \$35 00.

Half-Dollars, 1839; head of Liberty, surrounded by stars, dies by Gobrecht; *splendid proof in silver, one of the rarest of the Patterns.* \$25 00.

Three Cent Piece, 1849; obv. like the Half-Dime; rev. figure 3; brilliant proof, extremely rare. \$6 50.

Three Cent Piece, 1849; obv. like the last; rev. III.; splendid proof, fifty per cent, silver, rare. \$7 50.

Gold Ring Dollar, 1849; square hole in the centre, fine proof, rare, \$6 50.

Gold Ring Dollar, 1850; obv. "United States of America;" rev. plain; extremely rare. \$13 50.

Gold Ring Half-Dollar, 1850; design similar to the last, extremely rare. \$6 00.

Three Cent Piece, 1850, Liberty cap; proof, rare. \$2 25.

Ring Cent, 1850, one tenth silver, original proof, very rare. \$1 25.

Ring Cent, 1850, without date; proof, rare. \$2 50.

Trial impression from the reverse die of the Pattern Half-Dollar of 1838, the Gobrecht eagle. \$1 25.

Pattern Three Cent Piece, a circular piece of metal stamped III. \$1 12.

Pattern Cent of the same design as the last, and equally beautiful one of the rarest of Pattern Pieces. \$1 00.

Half-Eagle, 1843, struck in copper. 50c.

Quarter-Dollar, 1844, struck in copper. 38c.

Dollar, 1851; a splendid original impression, extremely rare. \$30 00.

Cent, 1851; obv. Liberty seated; rev. "1 cent," within a wreath; nickel, very fine indeed, and rare. \$1 25.

Nickel Planchet for striking the last piece. 25c.

Ring Dollar, 1852; splendid proof in gold, original and very rare. \$5 50

Ring Dollar, 1852, "U. S. A.;" pattern for a Gold Dollar, struck in silver; proof, rare. \$3 25.

Three Cent Piece, 1853, coined April 10th; the first coinage of this denomination, of standard silver; none issued for some time after. 25c.

Cent, 1853; obv. head of Liberty; rev. "One Cent" within a wreath; nickel, proof, rare, \$3 00.

Half Dime of 1854; struck on a thick Nickel planchet, similar to that used for striking the last piece; unique, \$3.12

Cent, 1854, head of Liberty; splendid proof, scarce. \$1 75.

IMPEACHMENT TICKETS.

A few sets of these tickets, (original) can be had at \$1 per set of four colors, or 50c. each.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN MEDALS.

This work is nearly completed, and will be commenced in the January number.

ROWLAND HILL NOT THE FIRST DEVISER OF A PENNY POST.

It may be fondly imagined by some of our readers that Sir Rowland Hill was the first deviser of a penny post. Nothing can be further from the truth. He took up an old idea, worked it out zealously, and brought it to a successful issue. As far back as 1683, one Robert Murray, an enterprising upholsterer, of London, bethought himself of a new way to make a fortune, and set up a penny post in the City. Though there were no Spooners or Whalleys in Parliament in those days, yet the ultra-Protestant party denounced it as "a device of the Jesuits," and vowed that Mr. Murray's bags, if opened, would be found to be full of Roman Bulls and Papal Indulgences. Whether this outcry alarmed him we know not; but Murray appears to have assigned his idea and "plant" to a man named Dockwra, who, though prosecuted by the Crown for invading its monopoly, contrived to hold his own so far as to get a pension of £200, and with it the Controllership of the "London District Post," of which Murray must be regarded as the founder. But before many years were over, Mr. Dockwra was suspended on account of complaints, among which was one to the effect that "many a time he had hazarded the life of a patient when physic was sent by a doctor or apothecary." It appears, then that, while we send only boxes of pills and powders, the penny post of 200 years ago would carry draughts from St. Bartholomew's to the Strand or to Westminster.—*London Times*.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS, No. 9

Received too late for this number.

NEW ISSUES.

FINLAND.

Helsingfors local has had its colors changed, though not for the better. The green portion of the original stamp has been altered to brown; a blue bar replacing the red one.

VENEZUELA.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ centavo, $\frac{1}{2}$ real, and 1 real current are now circulated with the peculiar scallop perforation adopted by some of the La Guaira labels.

URUGUAY.

The green 10 centesimos of the existing type, with value impressed on the figure, is found in some instances erroneously printed CENIECIMOS.

INDIA.

We have to announce a new 8 anna stamp for our India empire; differing very slightly from the superseded stamp in appearance. The color, &c., is much as before, with the elephant watermark; the ear of Her Majesty's profile is not quite so conspicuous as before, and the crown is not like that formerly depicted.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

One of our Parisian contemporaries announces the appearance of a series of half a dozen locals issued by this company. He concludes they are provisionals, promising further information on the subject next month.

The adhesive labels are four in number, poorly lithographed in color, on plain white unwatermarked paper, and are imperforate. They imitate in shape the current Egyptians; a central transverse oval bears a steamer, and the inscription CANAL MARITIME above, DE SUEZ below; beneath which is the word POSTES; figures of value stand

at each angle, values and colors :

1	centime,	black.
5	“	green.
20	“	blue.
40	“	pink.

The use of these stamps is strictly local ; confined to the inhabitants of the towns that have sprung up and been populated by the various classes of workmen employed during the progress of the works. The company had hitherto undertaken the correspondence of its dependents gratuitously, but have lately determined on realizing a profit thereby ; hence the origin of these adhesives.

RUSSIA.

The 20 kopec Russian envelopes, in lieu of blue as hitherto, are now printed pearl-grey.

QUEENSLAND.

The lilac fourpenny of this colony, so recently emitted, is said to be now slate colored.

STRIATS SETTLEMENTS.

Pale brown (usually called bistre by the French writers, which by the way is one of the darkest browns found in our color boxes) seems a fashionable shade at present for postage stamps. The current 2 cents of British Columbia adopted it ; and the same ineffective hue has been chosen for the same value in the permanent issue for the Malacca peninsular and adjacent territory. Some of the lower valued provisionals of the Settlements, we understand, are still in active service.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The 10 soldi of this company, formerly lilac, has now donned a green coat.

PORTUGAL.

The perforated labels of this Kingdom have received an accession by the adjunction of the green 50 reis, which will be prepared also similarly for the dependencies of Madeira and the Azores.—*Philatelist*,

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

A new appearance for Haiti 25c. postes. It is much more likely to be deceptive than genuine. The stamp is printed in pale yellow on plain white paper.

TRINIDAD.

The green sixpenny of this island sometimes bears the words TOO LATE repeated, forming a St. Andrew's Cross. *Pace* the Pendragonites, this will form a recognized variety ; and very probably careful examination will discover a shilling stamp similarly modified.

GREECE.

We read it authoritatively announced that Greece has joined France, Italy, Switzerland, and Servia in adopting a decimal coinage. A new issue of postage stamps in accordance therewith may therefore be confidently expected.

BOLIVIA.

The exquisite stamps of this republic are reported to have an accession in a black one of the existent type, bearing the strange value five hundred centavos !

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A totally changed series of stamps is said to be actually in preparation for this colony. We hope they will be really perforated ; not rouletted in the wretched way now used, rendering a perfect specimen of rare occurrence.

PARAGUAY.

The new 5 centavos stamp of this country has been doubted and certified by turns. The matter may now be finally settled on the side of acceptance, by the existence of a paragraph in a Paraguayan newspaper noticing its admission, and actually giving the designer's name.

FRANCE.

Our previsions with respect to this country in another part of this magazine have been verified by the issue of the 40 centimes, laureated type; and we are confidently informed, that the 5c. green will have made its appearance under a similar guise, ere the publication of the present number. There will then remain the 1 centime only to complete the imperial laureated series.

ST. HELENA.

A small number of the perforated sixpenny of this island have found their way hither, betokening the total exhaustion of the unperforated stock which so long continued to puzzle collectors.

NORWAY.

An unpretending local for Bergen is out, which we forbear fully chronicling till further information shall be received respecting it. It bears a large figure of value on a white ground.

NATAL.

The color of the penny stamps of this colony is again changed. They are now of a rich deep pink.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The 4 cents, same type as the new current 6 cents, has just appeared: it is bright pink.

MEXICO.

Several additions must be made to the overgrowing list of postal impressions for this country. To the round

Guadalajara set must be added a 2 reales pink, dated 1867; a 2r. lilac, on plain and on fancy paper, the former of the same date, the latter being 1868; a 1 peso on plain paper, 1867; and a 4 reales on bluish tint. The 5 centavos bearing Maximilian's head is found engraved, without inscription; and of the original Hidalgo type are known a $\frac{1}{2}$ r. grey, a 1 r. black on green, 2 r. black on pink, and 4 r. red on yellow; all both with and without the Gothic letter inscriptions. There is also to be catalogued a 4 r. of the 3rd emission, red on yellow, having MEXICO misprinted by error of the compositor.

MAURITIUS.

To prevent collectors falling victims to the forgery of the long disused envelope of the Mauritius, chronicled last month, we purpose giving in our next number a correct representation of the falsity. Postage-stamp forgery must be a thriving trade, if we may judge from the enormous number in circulation. During a recent tour through some of the French provincial towns, we were horrified at the quantity of sheets filled with falsities, audaciously exposed for sale. Even in Paris, except at the regular well-known and accredited dealers, there are many more impostures than realities on view.—*Philatelist*.

DESCRIPTION OF A UNIQUE WASHINGTON PIECE.

(In possession of W. F. S. Phila). ☞

Obverse.—Legend, "GEN. WASHINGTON." Head facing right; hair in knot or queue; bust in military dress. Reverse.—Legend, "E. Pluribus Unum." Spread eagle with head to right, having open beak, right talon grasping an olive branch, and in left, thunderbolts: thirteen stars surrounding head; date 1791, considerably worn.

The whole piece is in fair condition.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS'

DEPARTMENT.

Priced Catalogue—continued.

SOUTHERN STATES,

Germany, (continued.)

	Unused ¢ cts.	Used ¢ cts.
"Adhesive Stamps."		
1850.		
1 kreuzer, square, green	10	3
3 " " light blue		3
3 " " deep blue		4
6 kreuzer square, rose		3
6 " " yellow		3
1860.		
1 kreuzer, square, blue	8	3
3 " " "	12	3
6 " " rose	18	3
9 " " yellow	25	3
15 " " lilac	30	3
30 " " vermilion	45	4
1862.		
3 kreuzer, square, rose	12	3
6 " " blue	18	3
9 " " brown	25	3
<i>Envelope Stamps.</i>		
2 kreuzer, square, yellow	8	5
3 " " rose	12	5
6 " " blue	20	5
9 " " stone	25	5
GREAT BRITAIN.		
Adhesive Stamps.		
1840.		
1 d, rect, black		5
2 d, " blue		4
1860.		
2 d, rect, blue		2
4 d " rose		3
6 d " lilac		2
10 d, oct, brown	12	
1 s " green	3	
<i>Present issue.</i>		
1 d, rect, red	4	1
2 d " blue	10	1
3 d " pink	15	4
4 d " vermilion	18	2
6 d " lilac	20	1
9 d " brown	30	6
1 s " green	40	1

Envelope Stamps.

1 d, oval, with't date, pink	10	5
2 d " " " blue	15	6
2 d " with " blue	15	6
1 d " " " pink	10	6
3 d, wavy border, rose	18	8
4 d, circular, vermilion	28	8
6 d, oct, violet	30	10
1 s " green	50	10

GREECE.

Adhesive Stamps.

1 lepton, rect, brown	5	3
2 " " cinnamon	5	3
5 " " green	8	4
10 " " red	12	5
20 " " blue	18	6
40 " " violet	25	10
80 " " rose	40	10

GRENADA.

1 d, rect, green	10	5
6d " lake	30	15

HAMBURG.

Adhesive Stamps.

½ schilling, rect, black	6	4
1 " " chocolate	10	5
2 " " red	12	6
3 " " blue	18	6
4 " " green	20	8
7 " " orange	30	10
9 " " yellow	40	12

Local Stamps.

Various Issues.

HANOVER.

Adhesive Stamps.

1851.

1 guten gr, rect, green	10	6
1-30 thaler, " crimson	30	8
1-15 " " blue	35	8
1-10 " " orange	45	8

1858.

1 guten gr, rect, green	20	6
1-30 thaler, " lake	30	8
1-15 " " blue	35	8
1-10 " " orange	45	8
3 pfennage, rose	20	15

TO PHILATELISTS.

Arrangements have been made for a great improvement in the Stamp Department of this journal. We have secured the services of a capable and energetic gentleman, whose knowledge of stamps cannot be excelled in America, and who will take entire charge of the stamp business.

WANTED!

We wish to obtain a few copies of the Catalogue of Mickley's Collection, sold by auction, October 28, 1867. Three Dollars in coins, will be given for each copy—priced or unpriced.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Columbus Ga., Oct. 13th, 1868.

MASON & Co.,

I forward you by mail the first volume of your magazine. In your last number, you expressed a desire to secure several complete volumes, offering as an inducement, your second volume, in return. On these terms, I send the first to you. Do not for a moment suppose that I send it because I attach no importance to them. I consider my action in doing so, as really deserving of *praise*, for the self sacrificing spirit manifested.

Like many others in our unfortunate section of country, my means are limited. Too often, our pleasures and amusements have to be set aside, or sacrificed to honest duty.

Believe me gentlemen. I fully appreciate the merits and the mission, of your magazine, and no one can more heartily desire your success than I. Can I do nothing in your line of business, that would forward your interest here?

F. H. T.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

S. R., CHICAGO.—Sent you first Impeachment Tickets. Could not spare more at the time. Have now a few sets. Shall we send more?

T. A., JR., WASHINGTON, D. C.—We bought all the tickets we could find in private hands. Will pay 20c. each. If you can possibly raise us ten sets do so. We are run down with orders. Unfortunately we sent one hundred tickets to England.

R. O. ; E. P. B. ; S. T. ; N. D. L. ; P. V. JR. and Others.—Your tickets will be sent immediately. Can spare you one each. We expect to raise the price in a short time, as we cannot obtain a supply.

MRS. P. C. R., NEWARK.—Club received—magazines sent October 25. We embrace female numismatists in our catalogue of collectors. Your party is the first organized of the "other sex" in the U. S. Success attend you, and may each one of the club realise happiness and profit from the delightful study of numismatology.

G. M. P., TROY.—Send us on all the rubbings of all the different '93 cents, you can have access to. We also wish to obtain rubbings of the different varieties of all other dates of the U. S. copper cents. We hope our correspondents, will favor us with their assistance, in making the "History of Varieties" as complete as possible.

W. P., BOSTON.—We do not know that W. E. W. of Roxbury, is a coin dealer, but have heard such is the fact. Write to him for information.

S. H. L. NEWBURYPORT.—The sale will embrace about nine hundred lots. We shall price a few catalogues at \$1 each after the sale.

L. R. H., WASHINGTON.—The stamps you describe are Essays; worth about 25c. each.

H. A., JR., NEW YORK.—\$750 was the highest price any U. S. coin reached at a public sale—1804 Dollar.

T. T. B., HARTFORD.—Can send you any kind of stamp album you require.

L. W. D., ST. LOUIS.—Regret the sad accident which happened you. Hope to hear of your speedy recovery. Have written in reply to communication of Mr. George.

P. S., DAYTON, O.—Every piece in the Randall coin sale warranted genuine, unless otherwise described in catalogue.

R. A. R., NEWARK.—There is a genuine ten cent rose stamp, (confederate); also a one cent yellow stamp.

S. V., PORTLAND.—Can send you a few sets of Impeachment Tickets; but not the number you require, as the demand will soon exceed the supply—judging by the orders daily received.

MISS L. A. S.—Your collection of stamps worth about fifteen dollars. Will forward the album and tickets, as soon as we hear from you.

R. R., NEW YORK.—The *unique* Washington cent has been sold to a prominent collector in Camden, who values it at \$300. See notice elsewhere.

M. M., BOSTON.—Bids received. We have received bids amounting to about five hundred dollars, and a portion of these bids may not be bona-fide. Ten per cent is not too large a profit, for parties bearing the entire responsibility of purchases.

TELLER, PITTSBURG.—We have 1811 half cents for you. There is a prospect of another sale sometime in December. Watch the magazine for particulars. We are pushing matters for an early opening in N. Y.

R. M. W.—Have written you. An excellent chance offers for some person, understanding the business to take the Philadelphia department, and carry on the same with our aid and advice. Think of it. We require sufficient money to cover stock and fixtures. No bonus asked. It is our purpose to open a large Coin and Stamp Depot in N. Y. as soon as possible. Our prospective partner, was badly injured in St. Louis, being struck with a "Dumb Bell," near the temple. The injury may prove fatal.

PARTNER WANTED!

The gentleman who was to join us November 1st, having met with a serious—perhaps fatal accident—will not be able to take an interest in our business. This leaves us in rather a perplexing position, as we had our work, (an improvement in the magazine), laid out for the new partner, who was in every way qualified for the task. We again ask for a partner, having some knowledge of coins, or stamps. A good chance for a good man.

RARE OPPORTUNITY.

Wishing to remove our business to New York, we are prepared to arrange with a good, active and industrious man, to take the entire control of the Coin and Stamp business in this city. A good stock of Coins and Stamps; good fixtures, iron safe, &c., and a good location at a low rent. Whoever takes this chance, will have the advantage of connecting with the New York Office, and will be supplied with, coins, stamps and publications, necessary for the successful prosecution of the enterprise. A few hundred dollars required.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

DECEMBER, 1868.

Nos. 9—12.

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS,

From 1776 to 1868,

(Including Army, Navy, Presidential,
and Miscellaneous,)

BY E. M., JR.

Our national medals are not only interesting, but instructive; and in presenting a brief history of their origin and appearance, we are carried back to the "days of '76."—to the immortal Washington, who was the first recipient of medalic honors at the hands of a grateful nation.

The medal usually termed "WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON," was ordered by the Continental Congress, March, 1776, in the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the THIRTEEN UNITED COLONIES whom they represent, be presented to his Excellency, General Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for the wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston; and that a medal of gold be struck, in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his Excellency; and that a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks and a proper device for the medal."

The members of the Committee to whose hands were entrusted the above commission, were John Adams, John Jay and Francis Hopkins.

The medal was engraved by an eminent artist named DU VIVIER, in Paris, under the superintendence and direction of Benj. Franklin, who was then representing his country in an official position at the Court of France.

This medal, which was presented to Washington, is, in size, 42 sixteenths, (American scale) of solid gold, and presents, on the obverse, a fine bust of Washington, undraped, with the legend around the border, "GEORGIO WASHINGTON SUPREMO DVCI EXERCITIVM ADSEKTORI LIBERTATIS." Below the bust, COMITIA AMERICANA. Reverse, City of Boston in the distance, to the right the British troops leaving the harbor in vessels; to the left, in the foreground, is Washington, surrounded by his staff officers, while the former is directing attention to the evacuation. On the lower and central ground are drawn up, in battle array, the American troops; while at the extreme right are the entrenchments thrown up by Washington's army. Two large field pieces and a number of cannon balls occupy the right foreground; beneath which is the legend BOSTONIUM RECUPERATUM, XVII MARTI, MDCLXXVI. Around the upper portion of the medal is the legend, HOSTIBUS PRIMO FUGATIS.

(To be Continued.)

Reader subscribe for volume 3.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

BY CHARLES G. LELAND.

I.

"III collectionne."—*Le Figaro*.

I suppose this article will not meet the eye of a single or married person who does not either collect something, or who has not at least one friend who is feebly or forcibly forming a collection.

I say feebly or forcibly. The feeble collector is a man who seldom or never buys—let us say coins, or umbrellas, or pound weights, but if one comes in his way he keeps it. He never undertakes journeys to gather up such gems, or visits museums, but he still likes to have his little collection admired. Once in a while some friend, knowing his small predilection, gives him an addition—*vires crescit eundo*—the collection grows as it goes, he acquires with it a reputation, and rises even unto undeserved celebrity. We have known the feeblest collectors to have magnificent cabinets bequeathed to them on the principle by which Gil Blas inherited the old archbishop's library, simply because that venerable patron of good living thought he had seen his servant reading. Did not my friend Galochius, merely because he was the *only* gentleman smoker of her acquaintance, obtain in fee simple as a free gift from pretty little widow Dotty Dimple, all the magnificent meerschauts, Nargilehs, Hookchas, Chibouquis, cutties, and dudbeens left by the late spouse? Dear Dame Dimple! she had no idea of the value of the things—she did not "smoke," but Galochius did; and so this laziest of collectors, who had in a be-dozzled sleepy way got together three or four old pipes, stepped at once into one of the finest lots ever made by mortal man. People have been known to come from Montreal—and there was one, a very large gentleman indeed, who

came all the way from Camden—to visit this Pipothek or Pipæum, which has made a great man of its present possessor. People say he has *added* the Dimple collection to his own. Added! I like that. The French invented a collar, and the English "added" a shirt to it.

As for the positive or forcible collector; he is a character. The energy, time, and money which he expends on forming a collection—forming is the word, for it is never formed, and never brought to an end—are sometimes terrific. I once heard from the most pious authority—a gentleman who was himself a coin collector, yet who would not look at a coin on Sunday, or suffer his visitors to do so—that a friend of his once collected coins with such zeal that his overworked and too-much-excited mind gave way, and he died. Many another man has died of the *amor sceleratus habendi*—of the infamous love of specie—but there are collectors, and collectors of money.

How would you explain to a savage the difference?

It would be idle to attempt within our proposed limits to discuss in full the collecting of coins, which has risen to a separate science in the true meaning of the word—or a *Wissenschaft*. The manuals which guide its devotees, the tables of ancient and modern numismatology—the disquisitions in book form by learned old gentlemen on Persian darics and pine tree shillings, shekels and Belisarius his obolus, beggarly deniers, Mayence kreuzers, sequius and zecchins, dollars and ducats, with the lays and legends thereunto pertaining, would make a library. A true library, by the way, is a collection of a thousand bound volumes.

When the writer was a boy, Jersey plough-pennies and Massachusetts Indian cents, ring-cents, and the like,

passed current at their nominal value. Very conscientious people doubted whether they were really and legitimately worth one cent each. So they called them Bungtowns, and used to nail them to the counter in ignominy, even as crows or hawks were nailed to barn-doors, or the heads of traitors to the Tower of London. And now—*quantum mutatus ab ilo!* The Bungtowns have risen to honor and glory—the whole entire North American republic collects cents—there are counterfeits on counterfeits of the rare issues, and it is the dream of most of the smaller geniuses to have a complete series.

We know a gentleman whose coin-collecting has assumed the form *de minimis*—that is to say, he cares for no piece of money which is more than a third of an inch in diameter. Thus he has a Roman gold scudo, or dollar, such as in Italy are called *farfalle*, or butterflies, from the easy way they have of flying.

"Oh, my golden ducats, say,
Whither have ye flown away?"

He has also the California gold half and quarter dollars, Spanish and South American silver three-cent pieces, English two penny pieces, Arabic forty-cent gold coins, such as oriental damsels string to their ear-rings, and finally the twelfth and sixteenth part of a farthing, standard coins issued by the English mint. Like the crazy half-heller man of the German legend, whose eternal salvation depended on finding a still smaller coin, for which to sell his bottle imp, than any one had seen, he earnestly inquires for money of lesser diameter and lower cost. Should he meet with a spangle which had passed as legal tender in some fairy land of little people over sea, he could calmly close his eyes and pass away. Oh, innocent avarice! Let them say who will: *nullum vitium tetricius quam avaritia* (and Cicero said

it), it seems hard to think that such love of gold is a crime! With the coin collector it is not the figure but the face which fascinates.

THE SILVER COINAGE OF EUROPE.

The Silver Coinage of Europe, it is stated, will, in a short time, be entirely changed. For instance, in France, the coins bearing the impress of the Bourbons and of Louis Philippe, of Napoleon I, and of the Republic, are no longer a legal tender in France since the first of October, but will continue to be received in payment at public offices for some time longer. The coins of the early period of the second empire will also be withdrawn, and only those which bear the Imperial crown will be retained in circulation.

This coinage is being produced in large quantities at the Imperial mint. The measure will extend to the other countries which have assimilated their monetary system with that of France.

Thus, in Belgium, the coins withdrawn are those produced in the reign of Leopold I, and bearing the late King's portrait. In Switzerland and in Italy, the pieces coined prior to a certain date (1863 it is said,) will also be gradually taken out of circulation.

TYPES AND VARIETIES OF U. S. CENTS.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(No. 1.)

1793 CENTS.

The personal objection of Washington to placing his likeness on the national coin, led to the adoption of an ideal head, termed Liberty; and in 1793 the first issue from the U. S. Mint of the regular series of copper coins was struck, bearing the Head of Liberty.

The upper House of Congress pre

sented a bill, that "upon the coins of the United States there should be placed a representation of the head of the President; but owing to the emphatic protestations of Washington, the House of Representatives amended the bill to read, "upon one side of said coins there shall be an impression emblematical of Liberty." The Senate concurred, and the bill placing the Head of Liberty on our coinage became a law.

The first 1793 Cent is supposed to be the so-called "Ameri." Obverse, Head of Liberty with flowing hair. Legend above the head LIBERTY; beneath the bust, 1793. Reverse, 13 links, forming an endless, circular chain, representing the original 13 States. Within the circle ONE CENT, 1-100, in three lines. Around the outer portion of the coin the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERI.

To distinguish the different varieties of the 1793 cents, it is necessary to particularize the points of difference, however minute.

In the first '93 "Ameri," Liberty is represented with a pleasant smile, hair flowing well back to within an eighth of an inch of the edge of coin; the breast bone of the bust very pointed. The figures of the date, and the letters of the word *Liberty*, well expanded. The reverse has the period at the termination of Ameri,—a little distance from the letter i.

The *sterno cleido mastoid* muscle on bust of this date, is very prominent—in this respect differing from all other cents of 1793.

No. 2.—This cent, also termed an Ameri, differs from No. 1 on obverse and reverse. The forehead, on this piece, does not recede at so great an angle as on No. 1, and the lips are more firmly compressed. The hair is shorter and finer, while the lower portion of bust of Liberty is curved. Figures of

date very wide apart, and the only '93 cent possessing this characteristic. Reverse presents the period after the abbreviation AMERI., very close to the i.

No. 3.*—This cent is termed as the former the "Link," or "Chain" '93; while the two preceding coins, although having the same number of links, are usually designated as "'93 Ameri's." The profile of Liberty presents the same compression of the lips as No. 2. The hair is thick, and flows back very nearly to the edge of the coin; lower part of the bust a trifle more curved than No. 2. The figures of date close and rather clumsily executed. Letters of the word LIBERTY close—in this respect differing from Nos. 1 and 2.

Reverse, 13 links, as in Nos. 1 and 2, differing from the two latter in the legend only, which reads: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—having the latter word in full.†

(To be Continued.)

THE RANDALL COIN SALE.

The collection of coins, medals, &c., owned by J. Colvin Randall, Esq., of this city, was sold at public auction, at the capacious rooms of Thos. Birch & Son, Chestnut St., this City, on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, Oct. 28th and 29th, according to previous announcement in this journal.

To say the sale was well attended, bidding spirited, and a great success, *pecuniarily* speaking, would be a brief and truthful account of the affair; but as a coin sale, it was more than usually interesting, from the fact that a number of pieces were sold never before offered at public sale, and several excessively

* There are 4 different varieties of the *obverse* of this cent, each having the word AMERICA in full on reverse.

† All the 1793 *Link* or *Chain* cents have the stars and stripes around the edges.

rare and fine coins were included among the "gems" of the collection.

Between 2 and 3 P. M., Wednesday, (first day of sale,) the bidders rapidly congregated; and as we looked around upon the multitude, and scanned the faces of those present, we could but notice the circumstance that has been forced upon our attention, at all sales of this character, and that is, the respectability of the crowd invariably in attendance upon coin sales.

Many strange faces were scattered through the rows of well known numismatists. There, at the counter, spectated, pencil in hand, sat our inevitable friend and brother Coin Dealer, Mr. Cogan, whose face is as welcome in Philadelphia as would be that of the President elect, Gen. Grant—and whose jovial, good nature always keeps the audience in a pleasant and enjoyable humor.

Among those present were the well-known collectors, R. C. Davis, Wm. Fewsmith, A. M., Dr. Dickeson, Kline, Wells, Campbell, Ralston, (recently returned from Europe,) Martin, (he of the Post Office,) Mahoney, Jenks, Jackson, Petrie, (of *Hotel renown*,) Roberts, Jones, (the *numismatic author*,) Porter, Alexander, "Moneta," Moore, Leutze, Snyder, (he of the Reading R. R.) and the welcome and inevitable "Cash," (he of the *Treasury Department*.)

Of those represented by Messrs. Cogan, Mason and Kline, we caught the names Harris, Sanford, Elliott, Ufford, Bailey, Bohea, Stablien, Duncan, Clark, Phillips, Rust, Abbott, Emerson, Payfer, Wilder, Mott, Hennessy, Gschwend, Cook, Barnhard, Marshall, Bates, Oram, Keeney, Dawley, Porter, Converse, Steel, Bollar, Sellers, Winsor, Birch, and some half dozen others.

The sale was well conducted by the elder Birch (one of the best Auctioneers in America,) and the bidding very

lively, especially on the rare pattern pieces.

The following prices were obtained for some of the most important pieces, viz:—

1794 Dollar,	\$42 00
1838 "	35 00
1839 "	35 00
1851 "	45 00
1852 "	41 00
1792 Half Disme,	24 00
1793 Cent,	9 75
1795 Half Dime,	12 00
1799 Cent,	15 50

The excitement of the sale was concentrated on lots 584 to 588—Excessively rare pattern Five-cent pieces.

The following prices were obtained:—lot 584, \$16; lot 585, \$17; lot 586, \$21; lot 587, \$4; lot 588, \$5.

The U. S. Mint was represented at the sale, but was outbid by private collectors, who can afford to buy rare U.S. coins to complete their series.

A little amusement serves to make a sale attractive,—and this sale could not pass off without a joke or two, perpetrated by the wits who will manage to mix in among the scientific and sedate numismatic savans.

When lot 620 was offered, as a "Vermontensium, with 6 trees," one of the audience remarked that the author of the Catalogue had made a mistake, as the coin contained 7 trees. The latter immediately retorted, "6 trees and a bush!" "What kind of a bush?" asked the auctioneer. "A birch," was the quick rejoinder.

Again, when lot 621 to 623, "3 *Vermont Auctori's*, 1787," was handed up, the clerk remarked, as he read the inscription on the coins, "No. 621, '2, '3 is a lot of vermin!" mistaking and mispronouncing the abbreviated *Vermont*. One gentleman asked if this was a sale of insects, as he had no such *vermin* in

his collection, and did not wish to purchase.

A hearty laugh greeted this little episode, and the sale proceeded, and on the second day, Thursday, at 5 P. M., ended to the satisfaction of the owner, auctioneer, clerks and attendants.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

II.

BY CHARLES G. LELAND.

STAMPS.

A mania for collecting, principally confined to very young people, is that of postage stamps. One reason for this is, that it is a mania easily indulged in, as every one who receives foreign letters can bestow on Johnny or Susy something which will adorn their albums, or which by the quantity may be "traded off" for one rare and desirable stamp. Again, several stamps which have been used may be exchanged for one which has not been defiled by postal service.

In stamp collecting there are different genera. There is the mythical collector in Germany, who has been promised the hand of a beautiful young lady when he shall have collected one million stamps from old letters, and with him are his imitators, who get all they can wherewith to paper rooms. Some simply form pictures with them. They are the faded ghosts of money; they were once really worth two, three, or ten cents each; a rascal *might* by chemistry or paint *possibly* make money of them yet, and therefore they are "interesting." But it has been ascertained of late that there is a new species of postage-stamp collectors in the East. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:

"Thanks to a public appeal by Pastor Maurach, in Livonia, we have at last learned what becomes of the postage stamps, and to what end the thousands

of aged and youthful collectors are in the habit of plaguing our lives out. It appears then that the Chinese have contracted the habit or passion of covering their umbrellas and rooms, and everything, in short, with old European stamps, and buy them by the thousands and millions. The Rhenish Mission, which has a station in China, collects these stamps, and sells them at three shillings the thousand.

The first Oriental collector of stamps was a young native beauty in one of the Oceanic isles. A naval officer was one day amazed by her entrance into his tent, stuck all over from top to toe with the stamps which she had purloined from his desk. There was a merry ring of complacent laughter from the dusky Oriana as she exhibited her collection; there was a howl of wrath from the officer, and Oriana ran. Great was the chase, in which sailors and natives joined; it lasted for miles; down hill and along the sandy shore under nodding palm trees. Horror of horrors! She is about to take to the surf which comes thundering in thirty feet high—no—she takes to the inland! Ha! she wearies—from the other side up pops amid the ferns a tattooed chief with shell earrings—he grins and heads her off, waving his arms high in air—she is conquered—*cavet*—she caves! They lay her down kicking and screeching over a log—they peel off the precious stamps one by one, and as she is tolerably warm with the run, they come off easily—and Oriana is amazed to learn that they cost forty pounds and are worth a drove of hogs—and three girls like herself.

I say three at a guess, not knowing the current rates of the Oceanic markets.

In 1862 postage stamps were our only small money. Then according to Orpheus C. Kerr, young ladies were also valued in the United States by postage

stamps. People spoke of damsels as being worth five hundred thousand stamps. This was not much when the stamps were penny ones, those of the red kind made it \$15,000 which, in that period of depression and low prices, rendered the possessor an object of interest to Government clerks and to some unmarried Congressmen. Hence it came that money was called stamps—which, by the way, accounts for the origin of that beautiful song:

Father, dear father, come down with the stamps,
My milliner's bill is unpaid.

About that time a scampish genius sent through the post circulars stating that for twenty-five cents he would send a beautifully-engraved steel-line portrait of Andrew Jackson, in the highest style of art, and for fifty cents a portrait of Washington. Those who remitted the quarter were faithfully supplied with a two-cent stamp, while the halves elicited a three.

At one time the Turkish government was greatly perplexed with the letter-stamp question. The Sultan had begun to collect and desired that his national postage-marks should be the finest in the world. So the Divan assembled:

Perturbabantur Constantinopolitani
Innumerabilibus sollicitudinibus.

The result of the deliberation was, that no pains or expense should be spared; and it may be worth while for collectors to know that the Turkish stamps are the finest in the world.

Very neat little albums are made for stamp-collectors—the national flag of each nation being printed in colors at the top of each page. The mania extends all over the world, and for such issues as have become obsolete very high prices are paid. Here, too, the counterfeiter has been at work, and as comparatively few who collect in this branch are accurate connoisseurs, every-

body is easily supplied. Confederate postage stamps may, however, be readily distinguished from their imitations—the latter being far superior, as regards execution, to the originals—the same being true of the “currency.”

HISTORY OF U. S. PATTERN PIECES,

With their Fictitious Value.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

Obverse, legend, CALIFORNIA MODEL DOLLAR, 1849. Reverse, eagle and shield surrounded by stars; shape and size similar to the gold dollars from Philadelphia Mint. These dollars were struck at the San Francisco Mint; but not being approved by the “Master Mint,” were not circulated; hence the name: “Model Dollars,” or “pattern pieces.”

There was also struck a “California Model Half Dollar,” of same appearance as the dollar; but the United States Government never issued, or sanctioned the issue, of a gold piece of a less denomination than one dollar.

California gold halves and quarters, of a later date, were issued by private parties as a speculation—differing somewhat in appearance from the “Model” pieces, and of considerable less intrinsic value than the coins represent.

We refer to these California coins that the reader may distinguish the difference between the *true* “Patterns” and those usually classed or represented as such.

In 1849 there was struck at the U. S. Mint, a trial Three-cent piece, in silver. Obverse, same as the Half Dime of this year; date 1859. Reverse, III, with plain border.

Also, silver Three-cent piece with same obverse as the preceding, and on reverse, the figure 3; and a “Mule” Three-cent piece, in silver, struck, bearing the reverse dies of the former two.

Varieties of these patterns are found in the *metal* only.

No. 1, as above described, is valued at \$5. No. 2, at \$3 50. No. 3, at \$5. Varieties in metal: Nickel, \$3. Copper, \$3 50.

GOLD RING DOLLAR of 1849. This piece bears a resemblance to the Chinese coins, having a square hole in the centre.

NOTE.—We shall omit, in future numbers, the numberless pieces struck from the dies of the regular series of gold, silver, copper and nickel coins—such as copper and brass dollars, halves, dimes, half-dimes, &c. These pieces are not, properly speaking, "Patterns," but might be truthfully termed "Trial Pieces," as they are usually struck when testing the quality and temper of the dies.

(To be Continued.)

HOBBIES.

Nothing sweetens life so much as a hobby. As an ingredient in human happiness, it comes next to the possession of a quiet conscience. It matters not much what it is, whether its object be old coins, books, autographs, postage stamps, birds, insects, keys, pens, old china, paintings, eggs, minerals, relics, curiosities and what not,—its effect is the same.

A man or woman, boy or girl, with a hobby, is ennu-proof. They can snap their fingers at the aimlessness and listlessness which creep even into lives that are both useful and professional. All their leisure hours acquire a point and purpose. Released from their daily drudgery, they can potter over old bookstalls and coin stands, pore over the old, rusty coppers and musty MSS.; stain their fingers with acids, climb over rocks and tramp through forests in search of the precious specimens, without finding one moment hang heavy on their hands.

The record of their days shows, not merely "something gained, something done," but, over and above, something

enjoyed as only an enthusiast can enjoy it, something added to their store of pure and legitimate pleasure.

And though some hobbies are less portable than others, the great advantage of a hobby is, that one can usually carry it with him; and with it a fund of inexhaustible interest wherever he goes. His friend, the rector, may be dull, but the parish church is a friend of whom he never tires. Young ladies may be insipid, but the comparative merits of his specimens, and the completeness of his series, are subjects which can always pleasantly engage his thoughts. When he travels, the Museum or the Picture Gallery is not a mere place to lounge away an hour in. In such places, if art be his specialty, he is on enchanted ground—in a fairy palace, into the subtle charm of which none but the initiated, like himself, can enter.

Whatever be the nature of the hobby—and some hobbies, of course, are more elevating than others—the effect of all, so far as individual happiness is concerned, is the same: to provide a stream of pleasure which shall run, as it were, in a parallel line with the stream of a man's work.

The grand point is to get a hobby—what specific form it assumes, is a matter of secondary importance. Only let it be innocent, and, considering the peculiar frailty of the hobby rider, let us add, not too expensive.

AUTOGRAPH HUNTERS.

BY FANNY FERN.

If there is an intolerable nuisance, it is your persistent autograph hunter—your man or woman who keeps a stereotyped formula of compliment on hand, "their collection not complete without your distinguished name," etc.; sending it all over the country, to eminent and notorious individuals alike, to swell their

precious "collection," as they call it. Now, in the outset, I wish to except requests for this purpose from personal friends, to whom it is always a pleasure to say Yes,—but to those who torment you from mercenary motives, or from mere curiosity, as they would to bottle up an old insect for their shelf, to amuse an idle hour, I confess to little sympathy. Nay, more, I am unprincipled enough, having long been a martyr, always to pocket the stamp they send, and throw the request in the waste-paper basket.

I can conceive that invalids, or very young school boys or girls, might amuse themselves in this manner; but how a sane adult, in the rush and hurry and turmoil of the maelstrom-life of 1868, can find a moment for it, is beyond my comprehension. Now, a lock of hair has some significance—at least, I hope that man thought so who received from me a curl clipped from a poodle dog, which at this moment may be labelled with my name. It will be all the same a hundred years hence, as I remarked when I forwarded it.—*New York Ledger*, Nov. 14th.

[In reply to the fastidious Fanny, we feel a delicacy in using the cudgel, as we should upon a masculine biped, guilty of such unscientific and unladylike language as the above. Why, bless your antiquated heart, Autograph Collectors are gentlemen of high social standing, and the science of Autography is as important and useful as any other science that you can lay your delicate dexter fingers upon.

Where the history of our great men, if it were not for the autograph hunters? Ask the historian, what his first move in compiling the events of a public man's life, and he will say, show me his letters—let me peruse and examine his MSS. Ask your beloved Parton, Fanny, where he gets his information for history, (bi-

ography and autobiography.) and he will answer you, *from Autograph collectors.*

Ah, Fanny! you should correct your chirography, and not be ashamed to send a "Fern leaf" to those indefatigable, honest, and scientific collectors of Autographs, who bore you with their constant drilling for signatures and letters. To think of one of *our ilk* asking for *bread* and receiving a *stone*; or an autograph, and getting a lock of dog's hair.

We could expect no more from a *dog*, but to think, Fanny—*our Fanny*—who has entertained us, and shortened many a dreary winter's eve by her witty and sarcastic vaporings, should condescend to ridicule autograph hunters, is a step we cannot think *seriously* taken.—Ed.]

THE '93 CENTS.

We have already received *sixteen fac similes* of genuine '93 Cents, each differing from the other,—and as we plunge into the difficult task of giving *all* the types and varieties, we feel confident we shall be aided by our friends in making the list as full and complete as possible. Send us rubbings of your '93's. Let our readers and subscribers share with us the honor of rescuing from oblivion the history of our national coinage.

The different numismatic associations of the country are at work, with commendable zeal, upon the subject of the '93's; and our friend and fellow numismatist, J. N. T. Levick, Esq., of New York,—than whom, in devotion to Numismatics, there is none more able and willing—we learn, is preparing a table for publication in the *N. Y. Journal of Numismatics*, showing the value and varieties of the 1793 cent.

On with the noble work, and let the world know that we feel sufficient interest in the coins of our country, to write up and make known their history.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Philada., Nov. 15th, 1868.

MASON & Co.,

Publishers of *Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine* :

Gentlemen: Believing that a change in the publication of the first numbers of the Magazine, from April to January, will be an advantage mutually beneficial to publishers and subscribers: and wishing to obtain an expression of opinion in reference to the matter from yourselves, we present this request, in the strong hope that you may consider it advisable to date your next volume from Jan. 1st, 1869, instead of April following.

We would also suggest the propriety, on the part of the publishers, of enlarging and illustrating the Magazine, at an early day, thereby increasing its subscription list, and enlarging the sphere of its usefulness.

Very respectfully yours,

Robert C. Davis,
J. Colvin Randall,
Wm. Few Smith.
M. W. Dickeson, M. D.
George H. Wells,
Thomas Martin,
Wm. H. Nevil.

[REPLY.]

In answer to the above suggestion, and in reply to several other communications received during the past few weeks, upon the same subject, we would simply state, that we intended presenting this matter to our patrons, in the First Volume, with a wish to change the commencement of the Second Volume to January; but we were overruled by the objections of our subscribers, and have thus continued dating the commencement from April.

With this number, we have changed the "order of things," and combine the concluding numbers,—December, Janu-

ary, February and March,—into one number: thus, by a *coup de etat*, ending the second volume of this Magazine! Our readers will not lose by this change, as we have given the full complement of reading matter in this combination, and exerted ourselves to present varied and acceptable articles for the readers edification.

We have also maintained uniformity in the dating and numbering of the different magazines, that the Second Volume, when bound, may not differ from the First.

We expect a great many complaints from those who want their "pound of flesh," at this "flank movement" upon our part. With even these drawbacks, we think the Magazine will continue to prosper as heretofore.

In reference to "enlarging and illustrating," we would respectfully reply, that it is, and has been, our wish to make this work, in size, as large as *Harper's Monthly Magazine*—and our thoughts by day, and our dreams by night, are full of the pretty numismatic pictures we expect, one day (not far distant), to see peeping forth from every page of this little work. A few more subscribers will enable us to accomplish something towards the fulfillment of our "great expectations."—Ed.

UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF WASHINGTON'S.

The following letter from General Washington to Colonel Hamilton, we are assured, has never before been published. It was delivered to the latter soon after his retirement from the Treasury Department:

"MOUNT VERNON, July 12, 1795.

"MY DEAR SIR: This letter will be placed in your hands by a nephew of mine, Colonel Wm. Augustine Washington, who will take New York in

his way to Boston with a view of fixing his two sons at the Andover Academy. Any kindness you may show him will gratify me.

"I thank you for improvement of my rough notes. They read now as I would have them. I shall enclose you the other manuscripts next week. Present me to Mrs. Hamilton. Your affectionate friend,

"GEO. WASHINGTON."

No new sovereigns were coined in England in 1867; a circumstance which has not happened for years. No half crowns have been coined since 1851; 992,795 half sovereigns were coined in 1867, and 423,720 florins, but both of these are much smaller numbers than usual: 2,166,120 shillings were coined, 1,362,240 sixpences (both numbers much below the average,) 4,158 fourpences (an invariable number year after year,) 718,288 silver threepences, and the usual 4,752 silver twopences and 7,920 silver pence. The copper coinage of 1867 consisted 5,483,520 pence, 2,508,800 halfpence, and 5,017,600 farthings. Thus nearly 19,000,000 pieces of money were issued from the mint in 1867, a year in which the amount of coinage was extraordinary small.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

J. S. R., CHENANGO, N. Y.—Your six varieties of 1793 cents received, and an important addition is made to our series of these interesting and valuable coins.

P. L., NEW HAVEN, CT.—Many thanks for assistance in compiling our history of varieties. Illustrations are very expensive, yet we hope to be able to present each subscriber with a chart of cuts, or photograph of the series as we progress with each date.

L. S., T. R. JR., P. P. R. and others—We reiterate our acknowledgments and thanks for rubbings, impressions, and originals, of '93 cents.

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Obliged for the rubbings of your chain 93's; also your specimens of '93 Wreath and Liberty Caps. The 1795 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, will come in the Half-cent series after the completion of the '93 cents.

J. B. C., ST. LOUIS.—Order for boxes, and coins attended to and forwarded. Send us rubbings of your '93 cents, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

A. W. Y., MIDDLETOWN.—The stamp priced catalogue will soon be completed. Arrangements will be made to comply with your request. We are as anxious to give "illustrations of the Postage Stamps of the world" as you or our Philatelic friends, and when our partner takes his seat in the Philatelic chair—editorial—you will see a change for the better.

R. T., BOSTON.—You can get 3,000 stamps, and perhaps 4,000, if you collect all the "water marks," perforations, "shades," &c. 1500 different stamps is considered a good collection. Lallier's album, latest edition, is as good a foreign work as we can recommend. Appleton of N. Y. published an illustrated album, with maps, flags, &c. We keep an assortment from \$1, to \$10, each.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All subscriptions, hereafter, must date from January 1st of each year. The terms are as usual: \$1 50 per annum, in advance; \$1 for six months; and 50 cts. for three months. Single copies 25 cts. Specimen copies free, upon receipt of a stamp for postage.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

We hope our patrons will not delay subscriptions for volume third.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

III.

BY CHARLES G. LELAND.

PICTURES.

The subject of picture-collecting is so vast, that the idea of attempting to frame it within the limits of an "article" is absurd. Yet the principles on which it should be based may be briefly stated, although I do not remember during the perusal of several hundred works on æsthetics and art to have ever seen them set forth.

There are in short two kinds of collecting in pictures. One is that of the picture-dealer and amateur, the other that of the man who has studied art and literature historically. It is needless to say that the majority of collectors belong to the first class mentioned.

The intelligent collector invariably knows the characteristics of every school of architecture and art, with their subdivisions. He can tell at a glance all the shades of the Romanesque or Transition era—Byzantine, Lombard, Norman and Saxon, and can follow them through the glorious Ogival age, which swept in splendor over their remains, raising in churches or castles the pointed over their round arches. With them he knows the corresponding schools of painting which filled with mosaic or encaustic, with Limoge enamels or distemper, their chapels and porches. He knows all the lesser arts corresponding to these great changes, and is familiar with Labarthe, the *Moyen Age et la Renaissance*, Maryatt's *Handbook*, and the like, and can distinguish not only "between a postillion's jack-boot and an Etruscan vase, but between the small wares and ornaments of any era, for he has learned in architecture the peculiar lines which determine the shape and tone of everything made in the corresponding age.

Contrasted with this collector, who proceeds on a basis of sound knowledge, we have the *empiric*—the man who has simply by personal experience, and by scouring many galleries, picture shops auctions, and studios, picked up a merely practical knowledge of highly poetical art. He knows a Ruysdael landscape because Ruysdael sets forth certain subjects, and employed certain shades and proportions of color, which resolve themselves in his mind (though he may not know it), to the merely chemical qualities of the paints and oils employed and their "spread." Of Ruysdael, as analyzed by Goethe, and the subtle allegories in his composition, as in *Salvator Rosa's* or *Lionardo's* he knows nothing. It is true that the empiric collector, by sheer industry and much running about, often collects a vast mass of knowledge of details—as he has need to, for he is always liable to be cheated by any artist manufacturer of antiques who knows a little more than he does. For this reason he often cuts the old masters altogether—especially of late years, since the progress of scholarship has rendered much reading absolutely indispensable—and takes refuge in pictures painted by great moderns, of whose personal acquaintance he is immensely proud.

The empiric collector is a conceited gentleman, of small learning, who, having outlived the stormy follies of his "heady youth," as Kenelm Digby called them, finds a new and absorbing passion in buying pictures. He roams from Vienna to London, and though he may spend tens of thousands annually, is always mad for bargains. He expects to pay his boot-maker, his tailor, a fair market price—but to really enjoy a picture it must be purchased for less than it is worth. This is, however, a common weakness. I have found that invariably nine men out of ten whose early education had been neglected, in showing

guests over their houses and carefully specifying the enormous prices they had paid for curtains and carpets, manifested a corresponding pride in being able to state that the fine picture in their parlor had been obtained by some adroit trickery or shrewd influence for much less than the artist originally demanded.

I do not here propose to set forth the wretched litany of picture-dealer tricks, and tell the stories of forged old masters and mock Murillos, which abound in art journals. But I will deal with the great fundamental humbug which lies at the root of it all—the absurd assumption that perfect copies of great works—"not to be distinguished from the originals"—are sold everywhere at low or even high prices. A man who can produce an *absolutely* good copy of a great artist is as rare as one who produced the original. In Raffaele's time—the golden age of art—there lived but one man who could produce a good copy of his works. Lionardo de Vinci had but one Luini, and yet people will have us believe that every bric-a-brac Jew has whole galleries of absolutely accurate forgeries. Twenty years ago it was said in Europe that there were not six good copyists on the whole continent. I do not know how many there are at present. Somebody in Madrid is said to possess a really good copy of the Cenci, and I hear that a capital copy of Couture's *Decadence Romaine* has just arrived in New York. W. Page can really copy a Titian—he might possibly forge one which would pass for an original—observe, I speak here simply and solely of mechanical skill, for it is a very doubtful sort of compliment to leave *in nubibus*.

Collections formed by empirics without a real æsthetic education, by men who are illiterate as to the general history of art, often contain works of real value, for a tremendous price, boldly

given at an auction for some unquestioned historical gem, or to some really great artist on an order, will of course secure a fine picture. Unfortunately, the inability of the empiric to detect the soul and symbolism of an old master reduces him to mere mechanical, Jew picture dealing *experience* (whence the word *empiric* in this relation.) This goes far—but there are cheating painters who go further, and when we add to this the old gentleman's mania for nosing and poking about in old junk shops for wonderful bargains, it is not remarkable that he is often cheated. Hence it comes that collections made by such men at great cost, which pass for fine in their day, are regarded as poor stuff by the next generation. The Rubens becomes doubtful; its colors, which were supposed to have lasted unchanged for nearly two centuries, suddenly change in a few years to dull, confused tints. And then the multitude look at the pictures and murmur and declare that the old masters were old humbugs.

Very different is the æsthetic collector, who is penetrated with the spirit of every period of history, with its developments in architecture, painting, sculpture, music, ornaments, metal work, illuminations, and dress, and who has thought long and earnestly on their affinities. He buys a picture, being attracted by its innate characteristics, and intuitively approaches its real value simply by the degree to which it was valued when created. Empiric Smith shows you a superb picture representing the legend of—let us say—Santa Barbara—by, let us say, Hans Hemling. Smith has not the remotest idea of the legends of Santa Barbara, or of the strange, sweet, wild mystery which attaches to the life of Hemling, or the dreamy, beautiful Gothic tales which are told of that artist. If he has read them or heard them they are "some of those

old stories, you know" and do not interest him. Like many modern so called artists, he cares very little for the subject, so that "a good picture" is the result. And yet Mr. Empiric Smith sets up for a critic and a scholar in art. I know one of the tribe who has spent a large fortune on pictures, not one of which he really understands, and on all of which he will lecture by the hour as to "breadth," "tone," and all the connoisseur slang—which has been charmingly laid down in a clever little German satire, "*Ueber die kunst ein kunstkenner zu werden*" or something of the kind.

There are in their way, and by the way, as many Empiric Smiths among artists as among collectors. They may be known, "the ones as the others," by their inability to discourse sensibly on any subject except pictures.

The curse of collecting, as of painting, at the present day, is that mechanical execution in most cases is the only thing aimed at or cared for, while symbolism, subject, or poetry go for nothing. A poet who is no scholar is no poet, while the artist who is either is a *rara avis*.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 9.

1795 half-cents are sometimes altered to resemble 1796 half-cents. They may always be known by the figures, 7 and 5 on the former pieces being smaller than the 1 and the 9, whereas on genuine '96 half-cents, the figures are all of the same size. Alleged 1831 half-cents, but altered from 1834 may be similarly detected, the latter date being of larger size than the former. which is the same size as that of 1832. The figures on the half cent of 1836 are also of the same size as those on the '32. The 40's from 1840 to 1847

inclusive are of small size, a shade larger than the 1854 halves. But the 1848's and 1852's are large like the large 1849's and the 1853's. The small date 1849 has smaller figures than any other U. S. copper coin, and approaches more nearly than any other half-cent to the character of a pattern. But there are really *no pattern U. S. half-cents*.

A singularity is presented in a variety of the cent of 1826. Three of the stars to the right of the head, are not formed like the rest, but look like three sticks laid across each other, at equal distances.

The variety of 1800 cent mentioned in my third article, does not show any trace of a 9 under the last figure. Judging from the carelessness shown on a number of our coins about this time, it has appeared to me probable that the cent is not an overstrike but a most tremendous blunder. The designer had been accustomed to making 179, for years. He did so again, and then it would seem suddenly realized that another century had opened. He accordingly did the best he could, that is, made an 8 over the 7 and an 0 over the 9. Can any one substantiate or disprove this suggestion. ? §

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

Cent, 1854. Snowden says this Cent is composed of 95 per cent, copper, 4 zinc, and 1 tin, and is the rarest of the Pattern Cents of this period, being almost unique. \$1 87.

Cent, 1854, head of Liberty; bronze, proof, scarce. 62c.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 80 per

cent. copper, 20 nickel; condemned as being too hard; fine proof, rare. \$1 00.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 90 per cent. copper, 10 nickel; fine proof, rare. \$1 38.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; 95 per cent. copper, 5 tin, 1 zinc; splendid proof, rare. \$1 75.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; slight difference in proportion of metals; fine proof, rare. \$1 00.

Flying Eagle Cent, 1855; nearly pure copper, brilliant proof. \$1 50.

Quarter-Dollar, 1856, base metal. 5c.

Cent, 1856; $\frac{7}{8}$ copper, $\frac{1}{8}$ nickel, "struck with Half-Cent die for want of time to get up a proper die;" splendid proof, rare. \$4 25.

Nickel Cent, 1856; fine proof, scarce. \$1 50.

Duplicate of the last, equally fine. \$1 00.

Cent, 1856, nickel size, struck in copper; brilliant proof, rare. \$4 00.

Cent, 1856, nickel size, in copper, struck before the obverse die was finished, lacking the legend and date; perhaps unique, certainly of great rarity, proof. \$2 00.

Cent, 1859, struck in a metal resembling silver; fine proof, extremely rare. This piece must be distinguished from all others, as its composition is quite unlike either of them. \$1 75.

A fine piece of lathe work, executed at the mint, being the reverse of the Nickel Cent of 1856, on a square piece of brass; size 19, unique. 50c.

Another fine piece of lathe work, on a thick circular planchet of brass, of Half-Dollar size, being the obverse and reverse of the Quarter-Dollar; the obverse copied from the die before the stars and date were inserted. 50c.

Half-Dollar, 1857, a large percentage aluminum; fine rare. 50c.

Cent, 1857; obv. head of Liberty; rev. "One Cent;" nickel, proof, rare. \$2 25.

Quarter-Dollar, 1858; struck in brass, unique. 50c.

Cent, 1858; obv. flying eagle; rev. oak wreath and shield; nickel, planchet a full size larger than ordinary; brilliant proof, very rare. \$1 62.

[The following set, twelve pieces, all fine proofs, in nickel, are now rare.]

Cent, 1858; large eagle, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858; large eagle, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; large eagle, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; large eagle, tobacco wreath.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; Indian head, tobacco wreath.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, oak wreath and shield.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, oak wreath without shield.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, laurel wreath.

Cent, 1858; small eagle, tobacco wreath.

Per set, \$17 50.

Half-Dollar, 1859, beautiful head of Liberty, by Longacre; rev. "50 cents;" brilliant proof in silver. \$2 00.

Obv. same; rev. " $\frac{1}{2}$ dollar" within a wreath; silver, brilliant proof. \$2.

Obv. same; rev. "Half-Dollar" within a wreath; brilliant proof, silver. \$2 00.

Obv. Liberty seated; rev. an eagle, "United States of America, Half-Dollar," dies by Paquet; silver, proof. \$2 00.

Half-Dollar, 1859; a set of four pieces. Like the four last described, all brilliant proofs in copper, rare. 65c.

Cent, 1859, nickel size; bright proof

in copper, very rare. \$1 62.

Cent, 1859; rev. oak wreath and broad shield; nickel, proof, rare. \$1 38.

Cent, 1859; rev. wreath and narrow shield; nickel, proof, rare. \$1 62.

Quarter-Eagle of 1860; obv. head of Liberty; rev. "2½ dollars;" copper, proof, a very rare piece. 75c.

Half-Dollar, 1862, Liberty seated; rev. eagle, "God Our Trust" on the field; splendid proof, in silver, rare. \$4 50.

Half-Dollar, 1862; rev. "God Our Trust" on a label; splendid proof in silver, rare. \$4 00.

Eagle, 1862; "God Our Trust" on the field; bronze, proof, rare. \$2 00.

Eagle, 1862; "God Our Trust" on a label; bronze, proof, rare. \$2 00.

Two Cent Piece, 1863; obv. head of Washington, "God and our Country;" copper, brilliant proof, rare. \$2 12.

Two Cent Piece, 1863; "God Our Trust" copper, splendid proof. \$1 62.

Bronze Cent, 1863, on thick planchet; fine proof. 87c.

Planchet for Bronze Cent. 5c.

Nickel Cent, 1864; splendid proof. 25c.

Bronze Cent, 1864; splendid proof, thin planchet. \$1 50.

Two Cent Piece, 1864; "In God we Trust;" copper, brilliant proof. \$1 50.

Two Cent Piece, 1864, motto in small letters; nearly proof, rare. \$1 50.

Five Cent Piece, 1865; nickel, proof. 20c.

Three Cent Piece, 1865; nickel, proof. \$1 25.

COLONIALS, COINS OF THE CONFEDERATION, &c.

New England Shilling; obv. "N. E.;" rev. "XII.," on planchet of very large size; extremely rare, and fine. \$21 00.

New England Shilling; obverse and reverse like the last, but from distinct dies. \$22 00.

New England Shilling, intermediate in size between the last two, fine condition, differing in type from either. \$20 00.

New England Sixpence; obv. "N. E.;" rev. "VI.;" one of the rarest coins in the Colonial series; very fine. \$67 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650; tree with four branches on each side, twigs all pointing upwards; very fine. \$52 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650; the tree of very small size, with but two branches on a side, differs materially from any other type, both in the tree and style of lettering; very fine. \$52 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1650; in this piece the tree is very slender, with four slim branches on each side, the six lower branches bearing one or more cones each; the outer and inner circles, on both sides, have large dots placed far apart; planchet extra size; very fine. \$50 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; tall, graceful tree, with many branches; the peculiarity of this type is, that a portion of the N's in the legend, are reversed, while the others are correctly made; very fine. \$13 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, large oval tree, 1652, seven branches on each side, trunk appears as if hollow, or split; on the reverse, Ne in New, combined in one character; uncirculated, large planchet. \$12 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with seven branches on each side, planchet of the largest size; very fine. \$14 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; in general type resembling the last, but a fracture in the die makes it a marked variety. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; the dots in the circle very large, termed by Mr. Mickley the cog-wheel pattern. The legend in ornamental letters; remarkably fine. \$20 00.

ANOTHER N. Y. COIN SALE.

We learn from a private source that the Curtis Coin Collection—from the "Curiosity shop," Broadway, N. Y., has passed into the hands of a prominent Coin Dealer, and will be offered at public sale, as soon as it can be catalogued—perhaps ere the New Year dawns. If we can obtain catalogues, each subscriber will get one in time to send in bids for the sale. Many of the coins are fine, and the different American series of gold, silver and copper, very complete.

STILL ANOTHER SALE!

Mackensie's celebrated Coin Collection, we hear from a good source, will be sold in New York early next year.

THE COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

To enable collectors to exchange coins through the office of this *Journal*, we have opened a "Coin Exchange Department," to be governed by the following regulations:

1st.—Any collector having duplicates of coins, medals, autographs, or anything appertaining to the objects upon which this *Journal* treats, can send descriptions, rubbings, or whatever will best explain the articles possessed, to this office, with the address in full of party desiring to make exchanges; and the coin, book, autograph, stamp, etc., will be placed under appropriate headings and advertised by us in the next issue, *free of expense*.

2nd.—Advertisers should state what coin or other article is wanted (in exchange) to complete their series; also state condition of articles offered and articles wanted, and all necessary particulars.

3rd.—All letters referring to exchanges, must be addressed to this office, and contain a 3c. stamp for for-

warding and completing the exchanges.

4th.—Rare and valuable coins must be enclosed in a registered letter, when exchanges are being made; in such cases only, are we responsible. All ordinary coins, etc., of less than \$1 in value may be exchanged, at our risk; being properly secured in a letter and postage pre-paid in full.

5th.—Collections of stamps, autographs, minerals, books, etc., can be offered for sale through this department and when a sale is effected, the previous owner of collection will be charged five per cent. on amount realised to defray expenses of advertising, correspondence, postage, etc.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR AN EXCHANGE,
Messrs. Mason & Co.,

Gents: I have a duplicate 1799 cent, in fair condition, date plain, which I will exchange for a fine 1809 cent. Also extra good U. S. Cents of dates, 1796, 1800, 1805, 1808, 1811, which I will exchange for U. S. Cent of 1793, in good condition; and an 1856 Nickel cent, good, for an 1858 Nickel (Indian head) cent in equal condition.

Yours &c., JOHN SMITH.

As soon as applications for exchange are received, we arrange them under appropriate headings, and insert them in the next issue of magazine. We hope our readers will appreciate the value of this medium for exchanging duplicates, and send on memorandums of such coins as they wish to dispose of—naming the coins they prefer in exchange.

We have received the following proposals from correspondents:

J. P. S., will exchange a good 1813 cent, for a fair 1794 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent.

R. O., JR., will exchange a poor 1809 cent for a fair 1805 cent.

L. M., will exchange an 1811 Half cent for an 1802 Half cent.

T. T. B., will exchange good 1794,

'95, '96 cents for 1794, '95 and '97 Half cents.

S. N., will give a Washington autograph letter for a good Washington cent (small eagle) 1791.

H. C., wants 1856 nickel cent, in exchange for cent of 1793 fair condition.

P. W. M., would give a Washington cent 1791 and \$25, for a Washington 1792 cent, in good condition.

The above parties with one or two exceptions, are collectors of Philadelphia and vicinity, and we propose to negotiate the exchanges, with any of our readers, in want of coins named. Rubbings of the pieces forwarded on application, and none but genuine coins, etc., will be allowed (unless otherwise arranged by parties to the exchange) to pass through this office. All letters must be addressed, Mason & Co., 50 N. Tenth St. Phila.

BOUND VOLUMES C. & S. C. MAGAZINE.

We would call the attention of our subscribers wanting bound copies of Vol. 2nd, to the fact that we only bind sufficient volumes to fill orders, at \$2.50 per volume. Application should be made at once.

THE RANDALL COIN SALE.

The following letter has been sent to the *American Journal of Numismatics* in reply to a complaint written by Edward Cogan, Esq., wherein the Randall Coin Sale,—its aiders and abettors,—are pretty severely criticised. As our *bidders* represent the largest amount purchased at the sale, and were entirely satisfied with all coins bought, and have expressed their satisfaction by letter to us, we feel it due to call attention to the article written by Mr. Cogan, and printed in the November number of the above named journal, as also our reply; that

"notes may be compared" for future reference. As Mr. Cogan's letter has appeared in print, and our reply, if printed in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, could not possibly reach our subscribers before the beginning of a new year, we insert an exact copy for the reader's perusal, while the matter is fresh, and capable of easy elucidation:

Philadelphia, Nov. 30th, 1868.

PROF. CHAS. E. ANTHON,

Editor, *Am. Journal of Numismatics*,
New York.

Dear Sir: Our attention has been called to a communication in the November number of your journal entitled "THE RANDALL SALE IN PHILADELPHIA," over the signature of Edward Cogan.

As this article rather injuriously reflects upon us as Managers of said Coin Sale, we ask the privilege of making a few corrections upon statements which have been doubtless, *hurriedly* and *unwittingly* penned by our old, and honored friend, Mr. Cogan. That Mr. C., was dissatisfied with the catalogue of the Randall sale, we have the most positive evidence, from his own hand, in a *private letter* written us before the sale, and we also know, very positively that his dissatisfaction was not caused entirely by the "over description" of the coins in the late sale, but arose from another and most important cause, which, although written us in a *confidential* communication, and we have Mr. Cogan's permission to make full use of the "idea," we do not think proper at present to make known; but, suffice it to say, that the reasons given by Mr. Cogan, to us, why he did not purchase the full amount of his orders, were certainly good ones, (not connected with the condition of the coins,) and would have offended any honorable business man.

Mr. Cogan in complaining of the de-

scription of the coins in the Randall Catalogue, is very vague and indefinite. He tells us the "1794 Dollar was not up to the description," but neglects to point out the discrepancy. In describing the rare dollars, how softly and smoothly, and we might say, *swiftly*, he glides over and omits the fact that the 1838, '39, '51, '52 and '58 dollars were *beautiful, brilliant proofs*, without a blemish on their glistening and glittering faces. So, too, in dealing with the half-dollars, he says, "the finest piece was the 1852," and this half dollar was only catalogued as "very fine," while there was at least a dozen unblemished *brilliant proof* half dollars in the series. Some of these latter pieces came out of proof sets purchased at N. Y. sales, and were remarkably beautiful.

Again, Mr. C., in speaking of the quarters, is very meagre and unsatisfactory. He leaves the reader to infer that there were no silver quarters that could strictly be termed proofs, while, on the contrary, there was a dozen brilliant, untarnished proof quarter dollars. He also quotes, as an example (we presume) of the ridiculously low prices the 1793 cents realized, the following "No. 375, \$1.25." He does not tell the reader that the number quoted reads as follows, "375, 1793 Cent, Ameri, Poor, Very Rare." In the name of numismatic wisdom, is that coin *over described*? We would take a bushel of the poorest of the poor Ameri's at the price realized at the sale. Neither did your correspondent in giving the figures the 1799 cents brought, have the courage to say that *somebody* depreciated the value by expressing to buyers, before the sale, a doubt of the genuineness of the piece. We do not wish to take too much space by following Mr. C's, remarks categorically, and will say, before turning a period, that there is a slight mistake in the following line, italicised by Mr. C.,

"it was uncirculated for so rare a coin," which we find near the close of our worthy friend's letter. What we said, when speaking of the "INIMICA TYRANNIS" coin (which was really and truly sharp and very fine, but had the slightest, just the slightest infinitesimal part of a hair—say horse-hair—of a touch on the most prominent part—the head of the eagle) was this, "that it had been customary with all persons cataloguing collections, to omit the mention (on coins very near unique) of a spot so indistinct that a microscope would scarcely make the defect observable, and such excessively rare coins in this conditions were usually described as uncirculated."—This remark, or the substance of it, addressed aloud to all present at the sale, and if Mr. Cogan recalls the subject he may readily see the error which he has unwittingly committed.

The Half-Disme of 1792 was catalogued as follows, "*Believed* to be the finest offered at public sale." Mr. Cogan says "*Not* the finest ever offered at Auction by a good many," and yet he must put down the truth telling figures *Twenty-four Dollars*, as the price it brought! We think Mr. Cogan would be somewhat puzzled to find a "good many Half-Dismes," if all the auction sales of coins that ever occurred in the U. S., were collected, and as to finding "*many*" of this excessively rare coin, in as fine condition, or one that realised as much money as the one in the R. sale, the idea seems to us rather preposterous, we may be mistaken, however.

Yours respectfully,
MASON & Co.,
50 North 10th St,

*In Mr. Cogan's account of the sale, he terms this coin, the "NON DEPENDENS STATUS,"—rather conclusive evidence that his communication was hurriedly penned.

COLLECTING & COLLECTORS.

BY CHAS. G. LELAND.

No. IV.

ARMS.

Weapons and armor formed beyond all question, the first subjects of collection as objects of association and art. The trophies arranged by the ancients on the fields of battle and over tombs; the souvenirs of old contests and of pride in the deeds of certain ancestors, induced the grouping and preservation of such articles, so that this kind of collection appears to have been almost instinctive with man in all countries in every age. The Good Old English Gentleman was probably not much of a virtuoso, but

His hall so old was hung around with
pikes and guns and bows,
And good old halberds which had served in
time against old foes.

The graceful forms in which weapons may be arranged must have had an influence in inducing their collection. A shield in the centre, with arrows and straight swords radiating from it, crossed spears and helmets, and above all a full suit of armor, make really magnificent ornaments for a hall. So great has been the increase of such collections of late years that the manufacture of *fac similes* of ancient weapons has become quite a large business.

Shields are made of ordinary sheet iron, with lions or other heraldic ornaments rudely hammered up in relief and burnished or gilt, while battle-axes, maces or swords are manufactured of "cartonpierre," which seems to be a composition of paper and plaster. These imitations are extremely accurate and elegant, and are sold for a very low price.

The droll scenes which take place at the breaking up of such collections by

auction have formed subjects for many a written sketch and painting. George Robins, brandishing a lance, and "crying, "Going, gone," reminds us that the first auctions in old Rome were held under the shadow of a spear stuck in the ground, the shaking of which, as mentioned by—was it Juvenal?—induced Meister Karl, in one of his early and forgotten sketches, to claim it as the first allusion to Shakspeare.

The writer once saw a splendid collection of arms broken up in a much less orderly manner than by auction. It was in Paris, during the memorable three days of February, 1848, when the revolutionists broke open the Musée Cluny and carried off the weapons of the Middle Age which it contained. One bumper of a gamin broke my heart with envy as he flourished a mighty morgenstern, making the spiked points of its ball whiz in the air. I had often admired it in the glass case. Never was honesty so severely tried. Fancy, oh reader, a fervent lover of such antiques seeing Cellini's daggers and Venetian broad swords, carved ivory and Damascened hilts, carried off by the mob, and not laying hand to the harvest!

At the taking of the Tuileries, shortly after, I witnessed a still more striking serio-comic scene. Thousands of people rushed into the court; they hurrahed, embraced, kissed, wept, danced, and rolled on the ground for frantic delight that the Government had been overthrown. The schoolmaster had been made to run for his life, and the boys were taking a benefit. Amid these delirious-delighted thousands was one wild-looking fellow who, after putting on armor and stealing a mediæval lance at the Cluny collection, had taken one of the royal horses, got gloriously drunk on the King's wine,

(I plead guilty myself to having had a pull of Maco that morning from the same stock), and without saddle or bridle was riding madly about at right or wrong angles, raising the *diable a quartre* generally. When I think of that day and close my eyes, that cavalier on a rampage, amid shouting thousands—shot and blazing guard-house—plundered kitchen—*vive la liberte* and rolling out of wine barrels—invariably re-appears. It was a stupendous outburst—a grand historical spree, dear reader, one worth ten years of common, dull existence—and that free-lance was its type and centre.

“*Aux armes, citoyens!*” I thought it was well sung while they plundered the Cluny, as also my friends went through a gun-shop—which by the way was the quickest piece of work I ever witnessed. It was all long, long ago—and was good fun while it lasted.

COMING COIN SALES.

It is with unfeigned pleasure we announce the prospect of an increased number of public sales. Two sales are in course of preparation in this city; while in New York city there are two more in prospective! Four sales within the next three months! This is indeed good news for the patient and toiling seekers after fresh coins to complete their cabinets.

A prominent coin dealer, we understand, has a \$10,000 collection of coins under manipulation for public sale, and we would whisper in the mildest possible manner (in the ear of the enthusiastic numismatist) that many of the coins in the latter collection are so fine that in the language of the aforementioned coin dealer, “they will make the hairs of coin collectors stand on end.” If this is the case, look out for the sale of the “Diadem of Gems.” Can this be

the “Clay Collection?” than which there is not a finer series of U. S. coins in the world—scarcely excepting Seavey’s, and ruling Mickley’s entirely out, in the estimate. This is our opinion, based only on the report of those who have examined Dr. Clay’s cabinet, and a thorough examination of the catalogue. We are anxiously awaiting “Woodward’s next Semi-Annual Sale.” It is now over one year since our friend W. had his ever memorable sale of the Mickley Collection. After Mickley, what? Why, *Clay*, to be sure. Next month our readers shall have all the points we can gather in reference to coming sales.

AUTOGRAPH SALES.

We hear of two Autograph sales, one in this city, and the other in N. Y.—both to occur early in 1869. We are unable to be more explicit, as the parties preparing the materials are not decided upon the date of either sale.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD, &c.

The report, now going the rounds of the press “that there are but 1200 different kinds of postage stamps in the world,” is incorrect, as we have personally examined 3000 varieties, and fully believe there are many more. Can any of our readers give us the correct number in use, as far as known to the public at large? The press of the country is very weak upon the subject of Philately, Numismatology, and kindred sciences. As a general thing, a local newspaper will devote more time and space to the ploughing up or discovery of an old English Farthing, of the last century, than to the finding of a valuable iron, coal, lead or gold mine in their vicinity, merely out of curiosity at the discovery. What difference to them between a Farthing and a rare Colonial? Both

have the head of George the 3rd, and ergo both are "Bungtowns." It is not the coin discovered that creates the interest manifested by these ignorant reporters of "new discoveries," but curiosity to know *how it came there*. A cent, is a cent to them, and worth only what it will buy at the corner grocery. Oh, if they would only study the history of the coins, and enjoy with us the indescribable pleasure of reading the past through every line, figure and feature of the common copper coins of the world.

Charles H. Morse, of Vineland, is the owner of nearly forty thousand autographs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

New Haven Ct., Nov. 21st, 1868.

MESSRS MASON & Co.

Gents:—I would be much obliged, if you would inform me in the columns of the magazine why there were no cents issued in 1815. I have heard a good many stories why none were issued, but have not believed them. In the Yale College Library, they have a collection of coins, among which is a U. S. Cent 1815 very fine one, I think it is spurious, as none were issued in that year. Yours,

R. A. MERCUR.

[Answer will be given in full next month. Received too late for elaborate comments.—Ed.]

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS' DEPARTMENT.

(Continued.)

	Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.		Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.
1859.					
3 pfennige, rect	rose	8			
3 " "	green	8	4		
½ groschen, "	black				
1 " "	rose		5		
2 " "	blue		5		
3 " "	yellow		5		
1861.					
1 groschen, rect,	light rose	8	3		
2 " "	dark blue	10	3		
3 " "	brown	15	3		
10 " "	green	35	10		
Envelope Stamps.					
1857.					
1 guten groschen, oval,	green	25	20		
1 silb, " "	rose	25	10		
2 " " "	blue	25	10		
3 " " "	yellow	40	10		
1859.					
3 groschen, oval,	yellow	30	15		
1862.					
1 groschen, oval,	rose	5	3		
2 " "	blue	15	8		
3 " "	brown	20	8		
Local Envelope Stamps.					
BUGLE HORN,					
½ groschen, circular, green				10	
HORSE.					
½ groschen, circular, green				6	
HOLLAND.					
Adhesive Stamps.					
1852.					
5 centimes, rect,	blue	15	8		
10 " "	red	15	5		
15 " "	orange	30	5		
1865.					
5 centimes, rect,	blue	15	8		
10 " "	red	15	5		
15 " "	orange	30	5		
HONG KONG.					
1862.					
2 cents, rect,	brown	10	5		
8 " "	lemon	25	10		
12 " "	blue	30	10		
18 " "	lilac	50	12		
24 " "	green	60	15		
48 " "	rose	40	15		
96 " "	dark-slate	1 50	20		
1863.					
4 cents, rect,	blue-green	20	10		
6 " "	mauve	20	5		
30 " "	vermilion	50	12		

INDIA.

Adhesive Stamps.

1854.

		Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.
½ anna, rect,	red		15
½ " " "	blue		15
1 " " "	red		15
2 " " "	green		15
4 anna, oct,	red		18

1862.

½ anna, rect,	blue	10	4
1 " " "	brown	12	3
2 " " "	yellow	16	3
4 " " "	black	16	3
8 " " "	rose	18	3

Newspaper Stamps.

8 pies, oct,	lilac	15	6
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Envelope Stamps.

½ anna, circular,	blue	25	10
1 " " "	brown	25	12

IONIAN ISLANDS.

1 d, rect,	yellow	10	
2d " "	blue	15	
4 d " "	lake	25	

ITALY.

1856.

5 centimes, rect,	green	8	3
10 " " "	brown	15	4
20 " " "	blue	12	5
40 " " "	red	18	3
80 " " "	yellow	25	3
3 lire. " "	golden	70	10

1863.

15 centimes, rect,	blue	25	4
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1864.

5 centimes, rect,	slate-green	5	3
10 " " "	orange	10	3
15 " " "	blue	10	3
30 " " "	chocolate	12	3
40 " " "	rose	25	3
60 " " "	lilac	25	3
2 lire " "	scarlet	35	8

Unpaid Letter Labels.

10 centimes, oval,	yellow	10	
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Newspaper Stamps.

1 centime, rect,	black	5	2
2 " " "	black	8	4
2 " " "	yellow	5	3
2 " " "	brown	5	3

1864.

	Unused \$ cts.	Used \$ cts.
1 centesimo, rect, green	3	1

Essays.

1863.

2 cent. rect, various colors	25	
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JAMAICA.

Head to Left]

1 d, rect,	blue	8	4
2 d " "	rose	12	6
3 d " "	green	14	10
4 d " "	orange	28	5
6 d " "	lilac	25	6
1 s " "	brown	40	10

Arms.

3½ d " "	blue	8	
3 d " "	violet	8	

LIBERIA.

6 cents, rect,	pink	50	15
12 " " "	blue	75	20
24 " " "	green	50	15

LUBECK.

1859.

½ schilling, rect,	violet	8	4
1 " " "	yellow	10	5
2 " " "	brown	18	6
2½ " " "	rose	25	8
4 " " "	green	35	15

1863.

½ schilling, rect,	green	5	3
1 " " "	orange	8	5
2 " " "	rose	15	6
2½ " " "	blue	20	6
4 " " "	brown	25	8

1864.

1¼ schilling, oval, red.	brown	10	5
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Envelope Stamps.

1863.

½ schilling, rect,	green	5	3
1 " " "	orange	10	5
2 " " "	rose	17	6
2½ " " "	blue	22	8
4 " " "	brown	25	8

LUXEMBOURG.

1852.—Head.

18 centimes, rect,	black		10
1 silb groschen,	rose		15

1863.—Arms.

1 centime, rect,	buff	3	
2 " " "	black	5	
4 " " "	yellow	6	

INTERESTING TO ANTI- QUARIES.

The old Washington House, at Stamford, Conn., now being torn down, has brought to light many ancient curiosities. Among the relics already found are nineteen copper coins belonging to the reigns of the English Georges or their predecessor, Anne, not one of them coined since this century began; also thirty-seven other copper and nine silver coins, many of them too old to tell the story of their origin or their use. Among the silver coins is a piece whose history begins with the fifteenth year of Elizabeth's reign, only ten years less than three centuries ago, and a third of a century before a white man had traversed the realms of the old Rippowams in Stamford.—Another very interesting relic is a shilling shinplaster, printed in red and black ink. In one corner is the British coat of arms, and it is worded as follows:—"This Bill of One Shilling Proclamation, is emitted by a Law of the Colony of New Jersey, passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Third," dated March 2, 1776. On the reverse side it bears the imprint of "Isaac Collins, Burlington, in New Jersey, 1776," and the ominous sentence, "Tis death to counterfeit." It is surrounded by an ornamental border, which looks remarkably rude and clumsy in comparison with the workmanship of the present day.

COIN SALE.

On Monday, Dec., 14th, Messrs Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, New York, offer for sale a collection of Books, Autographs, Coins, Medals, MSS., and Engravings. We have received a catalogue of this sale,

and find on examination that about 500 lots of American cents, colonials, medals, and Foreign pieces, are offered without full description. Condition of the American coins is not given, and we can only advise our readers to send to Auctioneer for catalogue, and then follow our example—attend the sale in person.

A RARE COIN.

A Concord (N. H.) paper says: "Mr. C. P. Baker, of this city, showed us to day the old Spanish fourpence, ninepence, and twenty cent pieces, all in excellent condition as regards the date and cleanliness of the impression. Though the sight of the silver was gratifying, yet a piece of copper was the gem of the collection. It was a cent, larger and thicker than the old "red cent," with the head and name of George Washington on the face. On the back is a shield with fifteen stars on one half and as many stripes on the other. An eagle, with a laurel wreath and arrows forms the crest. The inscription on the back is "Liberty and Security." On the edge of the coin is the motto, "An asylum for the oppressed of all nations." This coin was ploughed up at Dartmouth, Mass., and sold by the rustic finder for a small sum in New Bedford. Of this coin but few were struck, as Washington objected to his image being on money. Mr. Baker has been offered \$50 for it.

[Sell it, Baker, by all means and send \$3 to us, and get a duplicate, warranted genuine. It is not generally known that the Washington Liberty and Security coin was originally intended as a two pence piece, comparing in weight and size exactly to the two pence piece of England—coined and circulated about the same period—say

1795 to 1799, as the exact date when the Washington piece, above described, was struck is unknown, but supposed to have been coined at the same time the thin, or one cent Washington Liberty and Security, viz: 1795. Many Numismatists term these Washington pieces, medalets.—Ed.]

AUTOGRAPH SALE.

Since writing a paragraph on Sales of Autographs, we have received the catalogue of O. T. Keeler's Collection, Columbus, Miss., to be sold by Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., New York, December 7th, and following days, commencing at 7 P. M. There are some eleven hundred lots to be disposed of, which will consume the best part of four evenings in the sale.

Our Autographic readers can get a catalogue by writing to auctioneer. There are some very rare letters in this collection, which is the result of over 30 years, close application and labor.

THE "GEM" COIN SALE.

There will always be "grumblers" at every Coin Sale; a class who examine, critically, every piece catalogued "very fine," "proof" or "uncirculated," in the hope of being able to discover some little blemish or tinge of a blemish on the surface of the coin, and woe betide the unlucky author who perpetrated the written description of the coins. At the Randall Coin Sale it seems there was present some "fault finder" who has expressed dissatisfaction at the terms used in describing coins. The word "gem" seems to have been a bugbear to some dissatisfied attendant at the late sale, and another objects to the word "uncirculated" in toto—the latter being of those *literal* translators, who think that the sole act of taking the coins fresh from the dies, and passing it to another,

forever settles the question against the use of the term "uncirculated."

Of one thing, we feel assured, the sale was a success, and every collector thus far heard from expresses unqualified satisfaction with the coins purchased at this sale.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH WASHINGTON.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER FROM JOHN MARSHALL TO JAMES K. PAULDING.

"RICHMOND, April 4, 1835.—Sir: Your favor of the 23d of March was received in the course of the mail, but I have been confined to my room, and am only now resuming my pen.

"The single difficulty I feel in complying with your request arises from my repugnance to anything which may be construed into an evidence of that paltry vanity which, if I know myself, forms no part of my character. To detail any conversation that might seem to insinuate that General Washington considered my engaging in the political transactions of the United States an object of sufficient consequence to induce him to take an interest in effecting it, may look like boasting that I held a more favorable place in the opinion of that great man than the fact would justify. I did not, however, think that this, perhaps, fastidious feeling would justify a refusal to answer an inquiry made in terms entitled to my sincere acknowledgements.

"All who were then old enough to notice the public affairs of the United States recollect the arduous struggle of 1798 and 1799. General Washington it is well known, took a deep interest in it. He believed that the real independence, the practical self-government of our country, depended greatly on its issue—on our resisting the encroachments of France.

"I had devoted myself to my profession, and, though actively and zealously engaged in support of the measures of his administration in the Legislature of Virginia, had uniformly declined any situation which might withdraw me from the bar. In 1798 I was very strongly pressed by the Federalists to become a candidate for Congress, and the gentleman of that party who had offered himself to the district, proposed to resign his pretensions in my favor. I had however positively refused to accede to the proposition, and believed that I could not be induced to change my determination. In this state of things, in August or September, 1798, as well as I recollect, I received an invitation from General Washington to accompany his nephew, the late Judge Washington, on a visit to Mount Vernon. I accepted the invitation, and remained four or five days. During this time the walk and conversation in the Piazza mentioned by Mr. Lewis took place.

"General Washington urged the importance of the crisis, expressed his decided conviction that every man who could contribute to the success of sound opinions was required by the most sacred duty to offer his service to the public, and pressed me to come into the Congress of the ensuing year.

"After the very natural declaration of distrust in my ability to do any good, I told him that I had made large pecuniary engagements which required close attention to my profession, and which would distress me should the emoluments derived from it be abandoned. I also mentioned the assurance I had given to the gentleman then a candidate, which I could not honorably violate.

"He thought that gentleman would still willingly withdraw in my favor, and that my becoming a member of Con-

gress for the present, would not sacrifice my practice as a lawyer. At any rate the sacrifice might be temporary.

"After continuing the conversation for sometime, he directed my attention to his own conduct. He had withdrawn from office with a declaration of his determination never again, under any circumstances, to enter public life. No man could be more sincere in making that declaration, nor could any man feel stronger motives for adhering to it: No man could make a stronger sacrifice than he did in breaking a resolution thus publicly made, and which he had believed to be unalterable. Yet I saw him, in opposition to his public declaration, in opposition to his private feelings, consenting under a sense of duty, to surrender the sweets of retirement, and again to enter the most arduous and perilous station which an individual could fill.

"My resolution yielded to this representation. After remarking that the obligation which had controlled his course was essentially different from that which bound me—that no other man could fill the place to which his country had called him, whereas my service could weigh but little in the political balance, I consented to become a candidate, and have continued, ever since my election, in public life.

"This letter is intended to be private, and you will readily perceive the unfitness of making it public. It is written because it has been requested in polite and obliging terms, and because I am willing, should your own views induce you to mention the fact derived from Mr. Lewis, to give you the assurance of its truth.

"With very great respect I am, Sir,

Your obed't serv't,

J. MARSHALL."

NEWLY-ISSUED OR INEDITED
STAMPS.

BAVARIA.—A new value will shortly appear—7 kreuzer—which will appropriate to itself the color which now distinguishes the 6 kr. This latter, deprived of blue, will fall back to brown, but we are not informed what change will be made in the hue of the 9 kr. The new stamp was to have been ready by the 1st October, but not having yet seen it, we presume its appearance has been delayed.

BADEN has forestalled Bavaria in this instance, its 7 kr. being already in circulation, and with it a new 1 kr. The general design is the same, but it has been re-engraved, and there are some visible differences in the detail. The word **BADEN** and the value are in much thicker letters than before; the arms also look smaller. Moreover, the word **KREUZER**, instead of being written in full, is now represented by the abbreviation **KR.** The color of the 1 kr. is a clear light green; of the 7 kr., a rather thick deep blue. For further particulars respecting the design, we have pleasure in referring our readers to the specimen which accompanies the present number. The emission of these stamps, we should however add, is, no doubt, caused by the necessity or wish to place the Baden and Bavarian series in accord with the *kreuzer* series of the North German Confederation.

BERGEN.—A new 2-By-post stamp for this town was issued on the 1st July of the present year.

BRUNSWICK.—We learn, with some surprise, that the 4-4ths sgr. of this state has lately been emitted printed in stone on white, as the entire issue having been withdrawn from circulation and suppressed, it is hard to see what purpose the reprint can be put to. Is it issued for the benefit of collectors

only? or had a stock of this value, in its new dress, been worked off just before the closing of the office? We await an answer.

INDIA.—These stamps, which, like the foregoing, we described last month, will, we think, win our readers' admiration. Though only "transmogrified" bill stamps, they have a very fine appearance, owing to the delicacy of their execution, and their tints. M. Moens, together with these, makes mention of an 8 pies lilac, showing the word *POSTAGE* in *small* black letters; and a half anna blue, with the same word in *large* black letters. We presume this word is imprinted over the face of these two stamps, but as they both belong to the ordinary postal series, we do not see the utility of this addition.

ROUMANIA.—It is stated that on and after next New-Year's day the foreign postal service in these principalities will be abolished, the government taking the entire management of the post into its own hands. In consequence, no doubt, of this change, and the necessity of emitting higher values, we learn that stamps of the value of 15 and 50 bani will be issued; and at same time, one of 10 bani. We have no information of the color or type, but presume the latter will remain the same as at present.

WURTEMBERG.—Election stamp. In the opinion of M. Moens, it is not worthy to be called a postage stamp; granted, but it is certainly a curiosity of more value than many which find a place in our albums.

MEXICO.—From the Belgian magazine we learn that the old half real black on chamois has been recalled into currency; it has the marginal inscription in gothic letters. In addition he chronicles the emission of an entirely new series, comprising the following values:—

- 6 cent. black on chamois.
 12 " " on green.
 25 " blue on flesh.
 50 " black on yellow.
 100 " " on fawn.

Having received notice of this set immediately before going to press, he had no space for description of the design, which therefore stands over till next month.

Since this was written, and at the moment of going ourselves to press, we have received a specimen of a new Mexican stamp—we presume one of the series referred to by M. Moens,—and hasten to interpolate a description.

But for the notice in *Le Timbre-Poste*, so poor is the execution of this stamp, we should have been ready to pronounce it spurious. It is not always possible to decide off-hand on the mode of engraving of a stamp, as extremes meet, and impressions from a fine wood-block and a coarse steel plate approach very nearly in appearance; but we hardly think we can be wrong in judging the stamp before us to be no other than a wood-cut. The design itself is by no means bad; in the centre of a lined circle, about the size of that on the French stamps, is the full-face portrait of some worthy unknown to us,—possibly, however, Jaurez himself. The face is that of a middle-aged man, and has a pleasing, intelligent expression, which is enhanced by a high and well formed forehead. The circle containing this figure overlaps the side border, extending, in fact, to the outer edge; in each corner are appropriate ornaments; and in the upper and lower margins, the inscriptions, which are in dark letters on a shaded ground. The upper margin contains the word MEXICO; the lower the value—in the stamp before us, 50 CENT. The impression of this value is in black on yellow; and the perforations which surround the stamp are probably the finest

specimens of the perfect kind—that in which distinct circular holes are punched out. On again examining our stamp, we find the name of the state, as in the preceding series, at the side in gothic letters, but very faintly impressed.

NEW GRANADA.—A stamp lately discovered for this republic. Its employment is the same as that of the well-known vignettes, which it resembles in size, viz., to cover and so seal the backs of letters: but this new type is only placed on official epistles. It is printed in black on a lined blue paper, and the inscriptions are surrounded by a border composed of typographic designs, the size of which is indicated by the double line frame.

PERU.—A correspondent of ours informs us he recently saw a specimen of the embossed 1 dinero of Peru printed entirely in green, imperforate, and post-marked, LIMA, 13, AGO '868. Both *Le Timbrophile* and *Le Timbre-Poste* alluded to this stamp, but neither are able to give any explanation of its re-appearance under an altered guise. The latter suggests that it has provisionally re-issued, and this is probably the case. The fact of its being printed in green leads us to think that the stock of the 5 centavos being exhausted, this stamp has been re-issued to represent that value, until the completion of a new supply. It may, however, be, as a correspondent in Valparaiso suggests, that the return of this stamp into circulation is the work of a new government, unwilling to allow the creation of its predecessor to remain current. This a correspondent also states that he has heard a report of a medio peso, rose on carmine, also of the old type, being in use.

SPAIN.—The following amusing paragraph appears in the Paris correspondence of the *Times*, of 21st ult. "It appears that many of the postage stamps

that have recently arrived in Paris, on letters from Spain, had the Queen's head *punched out of them*, so that Her Most Catholic Majesty will soon be out of print as well as out of place." The people must indeed be enraged against their Queen, when, forgetting what is due even to her sex, they proceed to "punch her head;" and as they hold her in such deep aversion, we may anticipate that the present design, even in a mutilated state, will not long remain current.

UNITED STATES.—Through the courtesy of an esteemed correspondent, we are enabled to give our readers the following intelligence. The contract for furnishing the government with postage stamps for the next four years has again been awarded to the National Bank-Note Company of New York. New designs have been adopted for all the stamps, as follows:—

The 2-cent stamp represents a post-boy riding at full speed, in illustration of the fact, that this stamp is mostly used for dispatch letters.

On the 3 cent is a finely engraved locomotive, surrounded by lines of lightning, indicating the speed with which letters are carried.

The 5-cent stamp bears a faithful portrait of Washington.

The 10-cent stamp has an excellent microscopical copy of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, hanging in the rotunda at Washington..

The 12 cent stamp, mostly used for foreign postage, has a picture of a steamship.

The 30-cent stamp, a copy of a painting of the surrender of Burgoyne, which hangs in the rotunda of the national capitol.—*Eng. Stamp Col. Mag.*

BOOK SALE.

Philadelphia.—Horace Smith's collection was sold at Thomas & Son's

Rooms on Friday, Nov. 20th. Good attendance and fair prices realised.

New York.—Charles Edwards, Esq.'s private library was disposed of Nov., 20 and 21, at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co's Rooms, Clinton Hall.

YOUR PHIZ; IF YOU PLEASE!

We are forming a Numismatic Photograph Gallery, with a view of making copies (*group*) for the use and reference of Coin Collectors. We call upon every *good looking* numismatic hero, or those not favored with beauty, to send us a photographic representation of their features, with address endorsed thereon. We have now about 25 fine, noble looking specimens of the *genus, numis*, and wish to increase the collection to a round 100, when we propose publishing a photograph chart or plate for framing, copies of which will be furnished to our subscribers. The value of such a picture cannot be questioned, and we hope our readers will see the motive, which induces us to initiate this matter in the proper light, and lay aside all diffidence, and send on a *Carte de Visite*—plain copies desirable for copying. How much of interest will be manifested, when Smith, Jones, and Brown, purchases rare, or unique coins at a public sale, when the possessor of the picture can look at the group of faces and see what sort of looking gents Brown, Jones, and Smith are. Besides this little advantage, how important the picture, when we look upon the chances for correspondence with Smith, Jones & Brown, and the numismatic exchanges *that* correspondence will lead to. Send on the Photographs, and aid us in forming our "Constellation of Gems," for future generations to admire, and whose glorious numismatic deeds we fondly hope some portion of coming generations may emulate.

MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN PACKETS!

Having received a large lot of U. S. Cents, Half Cents, Colonial and Foreign Coins, we have adopted the PACKET SYSTEM, to enable collectors and beginners to select such dates and special coins, at such prices as desired. In sending for *Coin Packets*, it will only be necessary to specify the number and value.

The coins will be correctly described in the following schedule, and can be returned if not answering the description; or exchanged for others, at the option of the sender:

COIN PACKETS,

Securely sealed in muslin-lined envelopes for mailing, prepaid in full.

U. S. CENTS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 1	contains 1793 cent, very rare,	Very poor.	\$ 50
2	" 1793 cent,	very fair.	1 50
3	" 1793 cent,	very good.	3 00
4	" 1794, '95 and '96 cent,	good.	1 50
5	" 1794, '95 and '96 cent,	extra good.	2 50
6	" 1797 and 1798 cent,	very good.	50
7	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very poor.	2 00
8	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very fair.	5 00
9	" 1799 cent, extra rare,	very good.	10 00
10	" 1800, '01, '02 and '03 cent,	very good.	1 25
11	" 1804 cent, very rare,	fair.	1 50
12	" 1804 cent, very rare,	very fair.	2 50
13	" 1804 cent, very rare,	good.	5 00
14	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	poor.	25
15	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	fair.	50
16	" 1805, '06 and '07 cents,	good.	1 50
17	" 1808 cent,	fair.	25
18	" 1808 cent,	good.	50
19	" 1809 cent, rare,	poor.	50
20	" 1809 cent, rare,	good.	1 50
21	" 1810, '11 and '12 cents,	poor.	25
22	" 1810, '11 and '12 cents,	very good.	1 00
23	" 1813, '14 and '16 cents,	good,	50
24	" 1817 to 1820 inclusive,	very good.	40
25	" 1821 to 1824 inclusive,	good.	50
26	" 1825 to 1830 inclusive,	very good.	30
27	" 1857 cent,	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.

U. S. HALF CENTS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 28	contains 1793 half cent,	poor.	1 50
29	" 1793 half cent,	good.	3 00
30	" 1794 and '95 half cents,	fair.	50

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 31	" 1794 and '95 half cents,	good.	1 00
32	" 1797 and 1800 halfcents,	fair.	30
33	" 1803, '04, '05, '06 and '07,	very good.	50
34	" 1808, '09 and '10,	very good.	35
35	" 1825 to 1829 inclusive,	very good.	25
36	" 1832 to 1835 inclusive,	very good.	25
37	" 1849 to 1851 inclusive,	very good.	15
38	" 1853 to 1857 inclusive,	very good.	25
39	" Set half cents from No.28 to 39,		3 00
40	" 1802 and 1811 half cents,	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

No. 41 contains	Connecticut and New Jersey cent,	good.	25
42	" Virginia and Massachusetts	good.	1 00
43	" Vermont and New York,	good.	1 75
44	" Nova Const , 2 varieties,	good.	1 00
45	" Louisiana R. F.	good.	1 00
46	" Rosa Ameri. Penny,	fair.	2 00
47	" do do	good.	3 50
48	" do halfpenny,	fair.	1 00
49	" do do	good.	2 00
50	" Franklin Cent,	good.	75
51	" Washington 1783,	good.	50
52	" Washington 1791,	poor.	3 50
53	" Washington 1791,	good.	5 00
54	" N. A. Token, 1781,	good.	50
55	" Pitt Token, 1776,	fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

56	" 1856 Nickel,	good.	1 00
57	" do	very fine,	1 25
58	" do	proof.	2 50
59	" Indian Head, 1858 nickel,	good,	1 25
60	" do do	proof.	1 50
61	" Flying Eagle, 1855 cent,	fine.	1 25
62	" 1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
63	" 1836 silver dollar,	extra good.	5 00
64	" 1863 Two cent piece,	proof.	5 00
65	" do different,	proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

No. 66	" 12 different coins of Europe,	very good.	50
67	" 15 do do	very good.	1 00
68	" 10 do do	extra fine,	1 50
69	" 5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
70	" 5 silver foreign,	good.	50
71	" 10 do	good.	1 00
72	" 25 do large and small,	good.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

Packet.		Condition.	Price.
No. 73	" 10 different cards,	good.	35
74	" 10 "	fine.	50

MEDALS.

75	" 3 Washington Mint Medals,	proof,	1 00
76	" Full set Maryland Colonial Paper Money,		1 25
77	" do Penna. do do		1 00
78	" do N. J. do do		1 50
79	" do Impeachment Tickets,		50
80	" 25 different Rebellion Tokens,		50
81	" 10 do Political Medals,		1 00
82	" 5 do Indian Arrow Heads,		1 25
83	" 10 do Confederate Notes,		1 00

☞ All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

COIN SALE.

It is rumored that this city is to have another coin sale sometime during the present winter.

CONCLUSION OF VOL. II.

With this number, or combination of numbers, ends our second volume. Who is with us for another year? This is the momentous question with us, and we feel confident it will be answered favorably by all who have the success of numismatics at heart; and we doubt not that our Patrons will continue their names as supporters of the organ of numismatics in America; the organ of no clique, the friend of all engaged in the good work of elevating science to its place among men. The rich and poor alike receive the same notice at our hands. We welcome and respect the *novice* alike with the *expert*, and all collectors of whatever name or nature engaged in gathering and classifying coins, stamps, books, shells, minerals, paintings, &c., have our earnest sympathy and support. We have many interesting and attractive articles on Autography, Mineralogy, Geology, Botany, Conchology, Philately,

Numismatology, &c. prepared for the next volume, in addition to which we shall complete the history of medals, the priced catalogue of Mickley's great coin sale (the guide book for numismatists in America,) the history of public coin sales in the U. S. (now in preparation;) the priced stamp catalogue, history of Pattern Pieces and all other unfinished articles. When the 3d volume is completed, it will contain matter which could scarcely be purchased for double the amount of subscription price.

We would advise our subscribers to retain the first volume of this magazine, as it is now out of print, and a complete volume cannot be had from us at any price, unless we pick up an odd volume.

We solicit our subscribers to send early notice of renewal of subscription, as it is absolutely necessary that we should "count noses" before Christmas if we intend launching into expensive cuts, and heavy printers bills—in other words *enlarging* and *illustrating* this magazine. Don't be tardy in this matter, but sit down immediately after perusing this article, and enclose subscription to 3rd volume, commencing January, 1869.

MASON'S
Coin and Stamp
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

APRIL, 1868.

No. 1.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE,
BY MASON & WELLS,
No. 50 North Tenth Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

William M. Yeakel, Printer, 23 North Sixth Street.

MASON & WELLS,

Coin Dealers and Real Estate Agents,

No. 50 North Tenth Street,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

COINS FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent, good.....	\$ 5 00	Vermont Cent, good.....	1 00
1793 Wreath " ".....	3 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, very good.....	1 25
1793 Link " ".....	4 00	1796 " Quarter ".....	2 00
1793 Liberty Cap, " ".....	10 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent.....	1 00
1799 & 1804 " poor.....	2 00	" " " Proof.....	1 50
1799 & 1804 " good.....	5 00	1858 Nickel set of 12.....	17 00
1809 Cent " ".....	1 00	" " " Indian Head.....	1 50
Rosa Americana Penny ".....	3 50	" " " Proof.....	1 50
" " Half Penny, good.....	2 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents.....	1 50
Pine Tree Shilling, ".....	5 00	" " " very fine..	2 00
" " Sixpence ".....	4 00	N. J., Conn., Va. Wood, fair, each.....	25
" " Threepence ".....	5 00	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 50
" " Twopence, very good.....	6 00	" " '60 ".....	1 50
Liberty and Security, 1795 ".....	3 50	1850 to 1857 Cents, very fine, each.....	50
" " large ".....	2 00	1840 to 1849 " " " ".....	1 00
Louisiana Cent, R. F., ".....	1 00	1830 to 1839 " " " ".....	1 50
" " 1722, ".....	2 00	1820 to 1829 " " " ".....	2 00
" " 1721, ".....	3 00	1794 to 1814 " " " ".....	3 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, ".....	1 00	1817, 1818 & 1819 Uncirculated, each.....	1 00
" " very fine.....	3 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.	
N. Y., (Nova Eborac), good.....	1 50		

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Harper & Bro.'s Coin Manual....	3 50
Humphries' Foreign Coin Manual	
2 vols., each.....	5 00
Mason's History of U. S. Coins..	1 50

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" " 1/2 dollars, " "..... 1 00

" " 1/4 dollars, " "..... 50

1868 Proof Set (10 pieces)..... 5 00

Sets of 1868, 5c., 3c., 2c., 1c., (proof,)..... 50

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VOL. II.

MAY, 1868.

No. 2.

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1791 Washington Cent, good.....	\$ 5 00	Vermont Cent, good.....	1 00
1793 Wreath " "	3 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, very good.....	1 25
1793 Link " "	4 00	1796 " Quarter "	2 00
1793 Liberty Cap, " "	10 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent.....	1 00
1799 & 1804 " poor.....	2 00	" " " Proof.....	1 50
1799 & 1804 " good.....	5 00	1858 Nickel set of 12.....	17 00
1809 " "	1 00	" " " Indian Head.....	1 50
Rosa Americana Penny "	3 50	" " " Proof.....	1 50
" " Half Penny, good....	2 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents.....	1 50
Pine Tree Shilling, "	5 00	" " " very fine..	2 00
" " Sixpence "	4 00	N. J., Conn., Va. Wood, fair, each....	25
" " Threepence "	5 00	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 50
" " Twopence, very good.....	6 00	" " '00 "	1 50
Liberty and Security, 1795	3 50	1850 to 1857 Cents, very fine, each.....	50
" " " large "	2 00	1840 to 1849 " " "	1 00
Louisiana Cent, R. F., "	1 00	1830 to 1839 " " "	1 50
" " 1722, "	2 00	1820 to 1829 " " "	2 00
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A few of these rare Coins for sale, price \$3 each! U. S. Proofsets 1859 to 1867 inclusive, \$6 each set.

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MASON & WELLS,

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MASON'S
Coin and Stamp

COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

JUNE, 1868.

No. 3.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE,
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No. 50 North Tenth Street,
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William M. Yeakel, Printer, 23 North Sixth Street

MASON'S

Price List of Coins, &c., for Sale.

JUNE, 1868.

Silver Dollar, common dates, each.....	\$2 00	Louisiana Cent, 1721, good.....	3 00
“ Halves, “ “.....	1 00	Virginia Cent, 1773, “.....	1 00
“ Quarters, “ “.....	50	“ “ very fine.....	3 50
Proof Sets, '59 to '63.....	6 00	N. Y., (Nova Eborac.) good.....	1 50
“ “ '64 to '67.....	7 00	Maximilian Dollars.....	\$2 00
“ “ '68.....	5 50	“ “ extra.....	3 00
“ “ 5c. to 1c., inclusive.....	50	U. S. 15 cent Notes, red back.....	1 00
Pattern, '5 cent.....	1 25	“ “ green back.....	50
“ ‘51.....	1 50	Good New Jersey Cent.....	15
“ ‘56 nickel.....	1 50	“ Connecticut Cent.....	15
“ ‘58 Indian Head.....	1 50	“ Vermont Cent.....	50
“ ½ cents.....	\$5 00 to 40 00	“ Virginia Cent.....	50
1791 Washington Cent, good.....	\$ 5 00	“ Massachusetts Cent.....	75
1793 Wreath “ “.....	3 00	“ “ half cent.....	1 50
1793 Link “ “.....	4 00	“ Franklin cent.....	75
1793 Liberty Cap, “ “.....	10 00	Set of U. S. cents, (rare excepted).....	10 00
1799 & 1804 “ “ poor.....	2 00	“ “ half cents.....	3 00
1799 & 1804 “ “ good.....	5 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, very good.....	1 25
1809 “ “.....	1 00	1796 “ Quarter “.....	2 00
Rosa Americana Penny “.....	3 50	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 50
“ “ Half Penny, good.....	2 00	“ “ ‘60.....	1 50
Pine Tree Shilling, “.....	5 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, fine, each.....	25
“ “ Sixpence “.....	4 00	1840 to 1849 “ “ “.....	50
“ “ Threepence “.....	5 00	1830 to 1839 “ “ “.....	75
“ “ Twopence, very good.....	6 00	1820 to 1829 “ “ “.....	75
Liberty and Security, 1795 “.....	3 50	1794 to 1814 “ “ “.....	3 00 1 00
“ “ large “.....	2 00	1817, 1818 & 1819 Uncirculated, each.....	1 00
Louisiana Cent, R. F., “.....	1 00	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.	
“ “ 1722, “.....	2 00		

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“ “ “ unbound.....	1 50
“ Coin Priced Manual.....	25
“ Monthly Coin Magazine, per annum.....	1 50

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" '64 to '67.....	7 00	Maximilian Dollars.....	\$2 00
" '68.....	5 50	" " extra.....	3 00
" 5c. to 1c., inclusive.....	50	U. S. 15 cent Notes, red back.....	1 00
Pattern, '5 cent.....	1 25	" " green back.....	50
" '54 ".....	1 50	Good New Jersey Cent.....	15
" '56 nickel.....	1 50	" Connecticut Cent.....	15
" '58 Indian Head.....	1 50	" Vermont Cent.....	50
" 1/2 cents.....	\$5 00 to 40 00	" Virginia Cent.....	50
1791 Washington Cent, good.....	5 00	" Massachusetts Cent.....	75
1793 Wreath " ".....	3 00	" " half cent.....	1 50
1793 Link " ".....	4 00	" Franklin cent.....	75
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“ ‘54 “	1 50	Good New Jersey Cent.....	15
“ ‘58 nickel.....	1 50	“ Connecticut Cent.....	15
“ ‘58 Indian Head.....	1 50	“ Vermont Cent.....	50
“ ½ cents.....	\$5 00 to 40 00	“ Virginia Cent.....	50
1791 Washington Cent, good.....	\$ 5 00	“ Massachusetts Cent.....	75
1793 Wreath “ “	3 00	“ “ half cent.....	1 50
1793 Link “ “	4 00	“ Franklin cent.....	75
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1799 & 1804 “ poor.....	2 00	“ “ half cents.....	3 00
1799 & 1804 “ good.....	5 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, very good.....	2 25
1809 “ “	1 00	1796 “ Quarter “	2 00
Rosa Americana Penny “	3 50	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 50
“ “ Half Penny, good.....	2 06	“ “ ‘60 “	1 50
Pine Tree Shilling, “	5 00	Liberty and Security, 1795 “	3 50
“ “ Sixpence “	4 00	“ “ large “	2 00
“ “ Threepence “	5 00	Louisiana Cent, R. F.,	1 00
“ “ Twopence, very good.....	6 00	“ “ 1722, “	2 00

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MAGAZINE.

VOL. II.

AUGUST, 1868.

No. 5.

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MASON'S

Price List of Coins, &c., for Sale.

AUGUST, 1868.

Silver Dollar, common dates, each.....	\$2 00	Louisiana Cent, 1721, good.....	3 00
" Halves, " " ".....	1 00	Virginia Cent, 1773, ".....	1 00
" Quarters, " " ".....	50	" " very fine.....	3 50
Proof Sets, '50 to '63.....	6 00	N. Y. (Nova Eborac.) good.....	1 50
" " '64 to '67.....	7 00	Maximilian Dollars.....	\$2 00
" " '68.....	5 50	" " extra.....	3 00
" " 5c. to 1c., inclusive.....	50	U. S. 15 cent Notes, red back.....	1 00
Pattern, '5 cent.....	1 25	" " green back.....	50
" " '54.....	1 50	Good New Jersey Cent.....	15
" " '55 nickel.....	1 50	" Connecticut Cent.....	15
" " '58 Indian Head.....	1 50	" Vermont Cent.....	50
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Rosa Americana Penny ".....	3 50	1859 Nickel, '58 Reverse.....	1 50
" " Half Penny, good.....	2 06	" " '60.....	1 50
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" " 1000	20 00

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" " " per Doz.	2 00
" " " 100	15 00

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MAGAZINE.

VOL. II. **SEPTEMBER, 1868.** No. 6

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" " '64 to '67.....	7 00	Maximilian Dollars.....	\$2 00
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" " 5c. to 1c., inclusive.....	50	U. S. 15 cent Notes, red back.....	1 00
Pattern, '5 cent.....	1 25	" " " green back.....	50
" " '51 ".....	1 50	Good New Jersey Cent.....	15
" " '53 nickel.....	1 50	" Connecticut Cent.....	15
" " '58 Indian Head.....	1 50	" Vermont Cent.....	50
" " 1/2 cents.....	\$5 00 to 40 00	" Virginia Cent.....	50
1781 Washington Cent, good.....	\$ 5 00	" Massachusetts Cent.....	75
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1783 Link " ".....	4 00	" Franklin cent.....	75
1793 Liberty Cap, " ".....	10 00	Set of U. S. cents, (rare excepted).....	10 00
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END OF VOLUME II.



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