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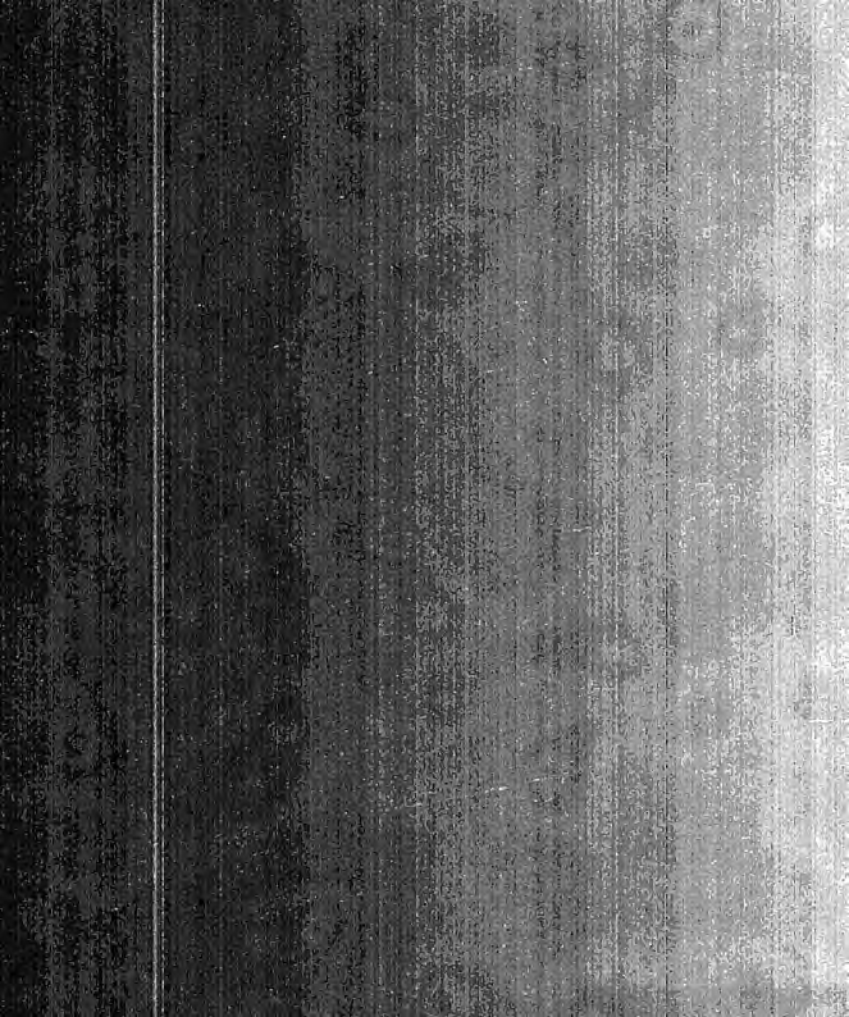
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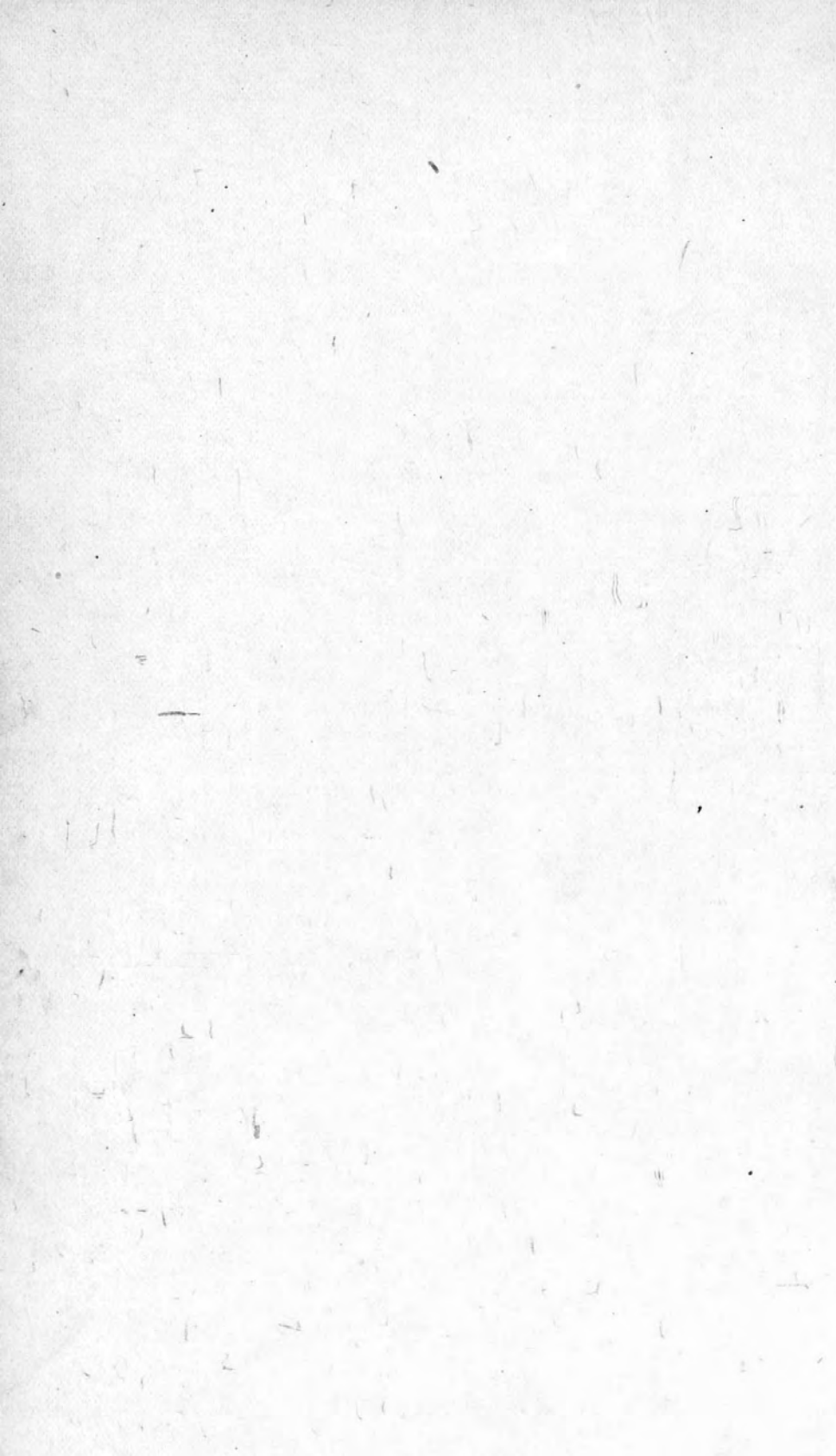


POST OFFICE

JOHN K. TIFFANY.







Brewford 1703

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

VOLUME III.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

M. A. B. O. N. S.

W. H. T. R. O. M.

C. O. L. I. N. A. M. I. O.

W. H. T. R. O. M.



BEQUEATHED
BY JAMES
EARL OF CRAWFORD
- K. T.
1915.

M. A. B. O. N. S.

W. H. T. R. O. M.

C. O. L. I. N. A. M. I. O.

W. H. T. R. O. M.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

JANUARY, 1869.

No. 1.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

With this number of the magazine, we enter upon the third volume, and shall take this occasion to chat a little with our readers, upon the past, present and future, as connected with our little publication.

The progress of this journal has been indeed gratifying; commencing Vol. 1st., with 100 subscribers, and reaching 500 before the end of Vol. 2d. What the future number of subscribers will be for Vol. 3rd, remains for our patrons to determine. Already we have received a number of new subscribers for this, the 3rd year of our journal, and a fair proportion of regular patrons, have signified their intention of continuing their names on our subscription books. We return our hearty thanks for the support we have thus far received, and shall esteem it an especial favor if we can receive before another month, the subscriptions of those who have been with us during the past year. For the present, all looks hopeful, and we feel no hesitation in announcing a speedy enlargement, and in addition, numerous cuts, besides interesting articles written expressly for this magazine.

The past year has been very prolific in numismatic news, and incidents. Several coin sales have occurred; a number of unique coins and medals have been brought to the surface, and all the numismatic societies at home

and abroad have been busy with the scientific discoveries of the year. New collectors—in every branch of science—have been added to the thousands of experts, and the twin sciences of Numismatology and Philately are progressing with unexampled industry and success.

When that happy day of "specie payments" arrives, and we can feel the bright glittering gold and silver in our palms, and hear the welcome musical clink of by gone days; when the precious coins jingled in our well fattened wallets, then will the numismatist rejoice, and pore over the precious stuff in search of specimens to add to his almost famished cabinet. To each and all we present the compliments of the season with the usual "Happy New Year," and our best wishes for the health, happiness and prosperity of our subscribers and the "rest of mankind".

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS,

From 1776 to 1868,

(Including Army, Navy, Presidential and Miscellaneous.)

The second medal ordered by Congress was struck upon the occasion of the surrender of Burgoyne and his army, Oct. 17, 1777, in honor of General Gates. This medal was of gold size 34. Obverse, head of Gen. Gates, Legend; HORATIA GATES, DUCI STRENUO, *Exerque*, COMITIA AMERI-

CANA. Reverse, Gen. Burgoyne and his troops are represented in the act of surrendering to Gen. Gates, *Legend*, SALUS REGIONUM SEPTENTRIONAL, *Ezerque*, HOSTE AD SARATOGUM IN-
 DEDITION. ACCEPTO DIE XVII, OCT.,
 MDCCLXXVII. This medal, as also the preceding, have been struck at U. S. Mint in copper.

Gen. Wayne was the recipient of a gold medal from Congress, upon the occasion of the taking of Stony Point, July 14, 1779, size 34. Obverse, an Indian Queen, presenting a crown to Gen. Wayne, from her left hand, while the right extends a laurel wreath.— Gen. Wayne is in the act of receiving the wreath. Below the Indian is an alligator and a bow, upon these a shield is resting, bearing the U. S. arms.— *Legend*, ANTONIO WAYNE, DUCI EX-
 ERBITUS, *Ezerque*, COMITIA AMERICANA.—Reverse, an American officer storming a fort, followed by his troops, which are seen advancing up the hill. Ships upon the river at the right, and troops marching along shore. *Legend* STONEY POINT, EXPUGNATUM, *Ezerque*, XV, JUL MDCCLXXIX.

A silver medal was presented by Congress to Capt. Stewart, for his services in the taking of Stony Point, July 26, 1779. Obverse, similar to the preceding medal, with the exception that the Indian, typical of America, is presenting a palm branch to Capt. Stewart, and her left hand resting on a shield. *Legend*, JOHANNI STEWART. COHORTIS PRAEFECTO. *Ezerque*, COMITIA AMERICANA. Reverse, bears the same engagement of Stony Point as the preceding; in fact struck from the same die.

(To be Continued.)

WANTED!

A few December numbers. Vol. 2d., of this journal. Double cost, in trade, will be given for each clean number.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 10.

Were the Cents and Half-cents with lettered edges coined previously to, at, or subsequently to the time they were thus lettered? This question is answered by a piece in my cabinet, which I know to be a planchet intended for a 1793 Half-cent. It is lettered on the edge TWO HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR. The operation was then performed before the piece was stamped.

How do I know that my planchet was intended for the year 1793? For these reasons. It is smaller than the other halves with lettered edges,—smaller it is true than any of the year '93, but after coinage the expansion would probably be right for the smallest size of this date,—it also had two indentations just before the word TWO. All the other years have but one indentation, just after the word DOLLAR.

A Half-cent of 1804 presented me some time ago, with a suggestion to notice in one of these papers, is noteworthy on account of a breakage in the obverse die, almost precisely where a similar break occurred in that of the cent of the same date. Touching the top of the R in Liberty, it connects it with the T and Y, and terminates just beyond the last named letter. It is in the variety with the crossed 4.

We sometimes hear the broken die cent of 1836 spoken of. There were two dies of this year broken on the edge. On one it was opposite the sixth star, counting from the right to left, and commencing at the date. On the other a larger part was broken off between the seventh and eighth star, counting the same way.

We are told that in the year 1790, the Trustees of the First Presbyterian

Church of Albany, directed that "one thousand coppers be stamped *Church Penny*, and placed with the Treasurer, to exchange with members of the congregation, at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collections." Worn English half-pence appears to have been chosen, the letters of the word "Church" are in Roman caps, of "Penny" in script beneath. They are in a depressed circle with scalloped circumference. The reverse of the specimen, in my cabinet, is simply stamped with a six pointed star, having a circular depression in the centre. The star is not in the centre of the coin. Does it occur on every specimen? Joseph J. Mickley informed me that this was the case with his.

UNIQUE SILVER MEDAL.

We have in hand and for sale, a silver medal supposed to have been struck by U. S. Government, and presented to a Signer of the Declaration of Independence—name unknown. It is size of a Silver Dollar. Obverse; a spread eagle standing on an American shield; at the right and left of shield, two flags—the capped staffs of which are crossed at the base of the shield; at the left of the shield, an upright anchor, with cable attached; midway of the anchor a sword; above the eagle, an eye, with the representation of diverging rays; around the upper portion of the piece are 13 stars, the lower portion, *legend*, * "NATIONAL ***R****." Date beneath the shield nearly obliterated supposed to be 1800(?) A portion of the date, stars, and legend, obliterated. *Reverse, legend* around the border "DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, 1776." Across the

* We can only make out the letter R in the last word of this legend—suppose it to read "National Currency."—Ed.

field in seven lines the words: "FOR THE SUPPORT OF THIS WE PLEDGE TO EACH OTHER OUR LIVES, OUR FORTUNES AND OUR SACRED HONOUR."

This piece is in very poor condition and has a small hole at top.

We are unable to find, at present, the true history or origin of the piece. It has been many years in the possession of a lady, who states that it was the personal property of a Signer of the Declaration. It may be an experimental dollar, but to all appearances, we should pronounce it a medal. Can any of our readers throw light upon this piece?

ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERIES. IN ENGLAND.

Interesting discoveries have just been made by the opening of a barrow on Tredinuy Hill, six miles west of Penzance, in Cornwall, England. The barrow is nearly a complete circle, with a diameter of thirty-eight feet, enclosed by an outer circle of large granite slabs set on edge. A trench having been sunk in the middle of the mound to a depth of about eighteen inches, the explorers came to a large pile of granite rocks heaped together promiscuously. The course of one of these, which sloped in an easterly direction at a distance of seven feet, was followed, and led to a flat stone three feet by two feet. On raising this stone the rim of an urn was seen, filled with fine dark earth, and further exploration proved that this was one of the ancient Celtic kist veans, and one which has turned out to be unique in that district. Instead of being formed in the usual way of four stones set on edge, it was constructed of two stones to each wall, the upper one slightly overlapping the other in such a manner that the urn, which was placed

mouth downwards, was tightly wedged.

The only other kist of this description ever discovered in Cornwall was at Gwithian, in 1741. The kist now discovered is about one foot square and just large enough to contain the urn, which is one foot high and nine inches in diameter at the mouth. It is ornamented round the upper part by three bands of rude irregular indentations, which extend over four knobs or handles protruding from the sides. The style of pottery is rude, and the vessel is not so well baked as most of the urns which have been found in the neighborhood. With the exception of the bottom the urn is perfect. It was filled with human bones, very much less burnt than those found on previous occasions, some of the bones being so perfect that a medical gentleman, who formed one of the exploring party, identified them as those of a woman.

In trenching round the large stones which covered the kist vean, great quantities of charred wood were found, and nearly a car load of ashes, as fresh and white as if the fire had been but recently extinguished. Among the ashes were several pebbles and flour chippings of flint, the usual characteristics of these pre-historic interments. No other kist, however, could be found within the barrow. From these discoveries it is considered that the mode of burial was this—a fire of wood was lit on a natural granite rock on the brow of a hill: on this the body was burnt, and the bones, being separated from the charred wood (which lay in this case all on the north side), were swept down the slope of the stone into the urn below, upon the mouth of which a turf was placed. The urn was then turned upside down, and the kist built round it, and covered by a flat stone.

IN MEMORIAM.

GEORGE W. FAHNESTOCK.

Among the victims of the ill-fated steamer *United States*, which burned at Madison, Ind., on Friday night last, are Dr. George W. Fahnestock and daughter, of Philadelphia. Mr. Fahnestock was a son of the well known B. A. Fahnestock, of Philadelphia, who amassed a large fortune in the patent medicine business, and died in 1862. He was born September 23, 1823, at Chambersburg, and was consequently 45 years of age.

He was married in 1846, to Miss Grace Ensey. Of this union only one child was born—Miss Grace E. Fahnestock, who at the age of 20 years met her death as above stated. All of Mr. Fahnestock's brothers and sisters are now dead, and his aged mother alone survives all the family. Mr. Fahnestock was an accomplished gentleman. Inheriting great wealth (said to be at least half a million dollars) he had little or no taste for pleasure.

From his boyhood he had an absorbing passion for antiquarian pursuits, and in them he spent his whole leisure time. He probably had, at his death, 50,000 pamphlets on American history, exclusive of his bound volumes. A short time ago he told us—"When I think I have got my little collection complete enough, I intend to bind them up and present them to some public institution."

But his generous plans are left uncomplete, unless he has by will made provision for the emergency.

Mr. Fahnestock has not been a resident of this City for some months, but has been absent travelling, principally through the Western States, making his residence temporarily at St. Paul, Minnesota.

To the Minnesota Historical Socie-

ty, in which during his stay he became greatly interested, his donations were almost princely. This year alone his donations of books, pictures, and money must amount to \$1,000. In the death of such a man our whole State is loser.

MACKENSIE'S COLLECTION.

We are informed by Mr. Cogan of N. Y., that this collection will be offered for sale about the 15th of February. We have made application for catalogues, which will be sent to our subscribers in time for bids to be handed in. The Coins are very fine, and the American series very complete. The gold and silver, ancient and modern coins and medals are said to exceed anything yet offered at auction in that line.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

Three coin collections are nearly ready for public sale in this city. The time has not been fixed for either; but February is the month agreed upon. Catalogues will be sent, as usual, to all subscribers.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

The Coins alluded to in our last number, to be sold Dec., 14, 15, 16, were of very little fictitious value, and scarcely worth the face.

"1815" CENTS.

We have received several communications in reference to "1815" cents. Some parties claim to have seen them, and others—bolder still—claim to possess a genuine cent of the date, 1815. We would say that there never was an 1815 cent coined by the U. S. Mint. Many reasons have been assigned. One reason stated, is that "a fire occurred at the Mint in 1815, and inter-

ferred with the coinage." Another reason given is the scarcity of copper that year. The latter is without doubt the true reason, as the copper was obtained for U. S. coinage from England, and at the close of the war with Great Britain, there was not sufficient copper on hand for a full supply of coins for the year 1815, and owing to the immense coinage of 1814 cents, it was not deemed advisable to get up dies for the year 1815.

NEW ISSUES OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

NORTH GERMAN POSTAL CONFEDERATION.

The City of Frankfort, as well as other communities employing the kreuzer currency, under the influence of Prussia, in lieu of the groschen envelope chronicled in our last, have adopted, since the 1st of November, an envelope stamped with the 3 kreuzer, pink impression, used for the current adhesive. It is crossed by the inscription DREI KREUZER POST COUVERT. The same people employ the 1 kr. green adhesive stamp for newspaper and journal-bands. In the more northern parts, a $\frac{1}{4}$ groschen, green, is similarly used.

BELGIUM

An emission of envelopes is decreed for this kingdom; but the well-known dilatoriness of its postal authorities renders the accomplishment of the intention a remote possibility. Witness the non-appearance of the 6 and 8 centimes adhesive, which were decreed to be issued, as "necessary for the public service," so long since as the 14th of March, 1867.

GRANADINE CONFEDERATION.

The current 5 centavos is now olive-yellow. A Parisian publication an-

nounces the existence of two new types for this republic, promising facsimiles of the same next month.

LUXEMBOURG.

The 4 centimes, much brighter in hue than formerly, is now issued with the perforations unmarked by colored lines, as is the case with some of the other values.

INDIA.

The pair of stamps here depicted,



of which the design and execution are alike models of excellence, the proofs of which we described last year as shown in the Paris Exhibition, are used like others of the same nature, stamped with the words

SERVICE and POSTAGE in green letters. Their normal color is violet. The proofs were bright green for the 4 annas, and a rich violet-mauve for the other. The 8 pies, unwatermarked, is also found stamped with the word POSTAGE in



small, black letters; and the 1/2 anna blue, watermarked as usual, with the same word in larger letters. The 8 annas stamp is said to have been used for eleven days only.

MEXICO.

The ugly cut on the stamp is a handsome likeness of the highest value of the new Mexicans described last month. The portrait turns out to be that of the Cure Hidalgo, as we at first suggested. One of our contemporaries thinks—but in this instance we opine “the wish is the parent to the thought”—that such an uncouth abortion must be provisional. The 4 reales black on yellow has also been in recent use; and a couple more of the Guadalajara type have turned up: a 2 reales, pink on laid paper (1867); and a 1 real, green on plain paper (1868).

NORWAY.



The local for Bergen, briefly alluded to last month is here represented. It was emitted on the 1st of July, and for the use of the city

only. It is brown on white, value 2 skilling.

BARBADOES.

The same mail brought the shilling stamp, same color as formerly, but on a slightly tinted paper; the sixpenny still remaining a bright vermilion, but the fourpenny in two shades of red, one brighter than the other, and neither of them corresponding with those we had seen previously.

WESTERN STAMP DEALER.

We call special attention to advertisement of L. W. Durbin, on cover of Magazine. Mr. Durbin is a reliable dealer, and our Western friends should call upon him.

COIN AND STAMP EXCHANGE
DEPARTMENT.*Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 7th, 1868.*

Dear Sir: I have just received the December number, of the *Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*, and I see that you have an exchange department in it. I have for exchange, U. S. newspaper stamps, Canada envelopes on buff, Mexico 8rls brown, sets of Sicily, Spain, 1854, 1rl, 2rls and 5rls, used; all the rare Confederates and a great many other stamps, all genuine. I wish in exchange, Peru $\frac{1}{2}$ pe corienties, 1rl mc, blue, any of Bolivia, any of 1st, 2d, or 3d issue of British Guiana, Canada 12d, Natal 1st issue, Newfoundland 6d, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 13 scarlet, 8d lake, Sandwich Islands 2, 5, 13c, in fancy border and any other rare stamps. I also want a set of Blood's post stamps used, and any other U. S. Local stamps, if possible, I would like them on the original letters on which sent. I also want the following U. S. Revenue stamps: Charter Party \$1, Inland Exchange 3 cents, Insurance, 10c, 50c and \$1, Manifest \$10, Lottery Ticket 50c, Playing Cards 10c, Power of Attorney 50c and \$200.

For any or all of the above I will give good exchanges. If you can supply me with any of the above, please so inform me what and at what prices. Please insert as much as you can of the above in your exchange column.

You have not as yet opened the store or branch office in N. Y. Do you still intend to, and do you not want to enter into an engagement with me? Have you a lot of \$1 and \$2 U. S. Revenues on hand? If so will you send me 50 or 100 of each, with your price on inspection and I will keep what I want and return the rest by return mail with cash. Can you supply me with Blood's or any other genuine used U. S. Locals and

if possible, on the original letter? at what prices? Hoping to hear from you soon, I am sir,

Yours truly, J. A. P., M. D.

New Sharon, Franklin Co., Me. Dec. 7 '68
MASON & Co.

Gents: I have silver dollars of 1859 and '60 from the Orleans Mint, both been circulated some, (the latter was a proof) that I wish to exchange for some U. S. cents. The cents that I want are 1793, '96, 1804, and '09. Now I dont expect coins in extra condition, but those that will pass muster will do.

Yours respectfully, J. F. P.

CROWDED OUT.

History of Pattern Pieces and the 1793 cents, will be continued in next number.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 8th, 1868.

Gentlemen: Your magazine of the present month duly received. I, for one, am very glad to see the next volume commence Jan. 1st, and enclose \$1,50 to pay for the magazine for coming year. At what price could you procure me a Maximillian half-dollar in good condition. [\$3 to \$5.—
ED.]

An early answer to the above question, and an acknowledgement of receipt of subscription will oblige.

If you are so anxious to increase the size of your magazine, why not raise the subscription price, or would the extra amount frighten some subscribers.

With my best wishes for the prosperity and success of your magazine.

Very truly yours, H. S.

Baltimore, Dec. 1st, 1868.
Messrs. MASON & Co.

Gentlemen : I have in my possession a very curious piece of workmanship. It is a Watch of a pattern seldom (if ever) seen. I bought it from a lady, who, though once rich, is now in very destitute circumstances, and had to part with it from want. It is much larger than most watches, and works upon the same principle as a clock, that is with a pendulum. Upon the case are engraved all sorts of figures (very ancient), the face has the makers name engraved upon it, "John Holstied, London."

It would be impossible to give anything like a correct description of it. The Maryland Historical Society have seen it, and pronounce it very valuable; they say it cannot be less than 200 years old, and think the case was imported from "China," and the works made in London. What I wish to know is, from the description, could you form any idea, as to what it could be sold for in your city. The Historical Society have made me an offer, but I would like to do better. Your attention will oblige,
Very truly,
N. R. WOODWARD, JR.,

Reading, Dec. 7th, 1868,

Dear Sirs : I have on hand a large collection—one that I was collecting this 30 years—Copper, Silver, Brass, large number of coppers, Cards of places of business, proof set in silver since 1859, silver and bronzed medals, copper pennies, nickle 1856's, Washington (*genuine*) pennies, a piece of George and Martha Washington's coffin and 3 grey hairs of Gen. Geo. Washington and a piece of silk of Martha Washington's dress, a silver medal of one of the 1st Juryman (1839) of Peruvian Government. worth in weight \$1,60 in silver, with suitable inscription on, very rare, silver coin of all description, large or small.

145 copper pennies, from 1793 to 1856; 110 Half-pennies, copper, 1797 to 1867, and a great many duplicates of pennies; 500 pieces of money cards of different countries, good and fair specimens, copper and brass all sizes and kinds, among them are 3 pieces of copper, from the ruins of Pompeii, odd, rare and in good state, and a Washington penny, held by an old gentleman for 20 years and another by an old lady 25 years.

I dont think that you can name a country, that I dont have some pieces therefrom in copper and brass. Now silver pieces of all kinds, about 160 different sizes and kinds, small ones now I have at least 20, and of larger kinds; some very rare and worthy of note and also about \$10 in currency, just new from press, which can be seen at my place.
Yours,
J. B. S.

[We insert the above for the benefit of Coin collectors and dealers who are apt to follow the trail of such an *ignis fatuus* as this collection proved to be. Bright and early we started for the Depot of Reading R. R., and in a short time landed at Reading, in search of the collection of coins described above. We found the coins, and oh, ye enthusiastic numismatists, give ear: a box of tokens, English, Irish and American, a half gallon, good measure, of cents and half-cents—all dates, except some 30 or 40 of the important and desirable ones. Coins from all countries, sure enough, with a "horse head" from New Jersey besides.

Five franc piece from France, English florin, Japanese and Chinese brass coins, German kreuzers, Russian kopecs, Canadian tokens, etc., etc. But what of the Washington cents? Beautiful *specimens of the science of electrotyping*, and about as valuable as the best copper coins in the collection.

We had in our school boy days read of Washington's gray hairs "going down in honor to the grave," but it seems three of them went down in sorrow to—Reading! How in the name of all that is sanctified, this teutonic coin monger of Reading became possessed of Washington's hairs, pieces of his coffin and pieces of Martha's dress, confuses us. Is he the "surviving servant," of whom we read annually, who nursed the great and good father of his country, and who makes yearly pilgrimages to Mount Vernon? How else came he possessed of these relics? We did not buy the above described collection. The Washington relics were too much for us, and then there was the hide of a whale, caught in the Delaware river, and curiosities of this sort enough to stock a museum.

We came back from Reading, a sadder, if not a wealthier man, having for the one hundredth time learned wisdom enough to last us until another famous collection turns up for sale somewhere way off in the country, where for 30 year some idiot collects bungtowns, grasshoppers, whales, and tomb-stone relics.—ED.]

Providence, Pa., Dec. 12th, 1868.
MASON & Co.

Gents: Will you please inform me through the columns of your valuable magazine, of the meaning of the common measure of the size of coins. In describing the medal, Washington before Boston, you say it is 42 sixteenths in size, the question is, what is meant by sixteenths? I have made a diligent search among all books I could find relating to the subject, but have found no satisfactory information. If you will give the information desired, you will at least oblige me, and many others.

Respectfully, W. H. P.

[American scale for obtaining diameter of medals is divided into sixteenths of an inch.—ED.]

New Haven, Ct., Dec. 4th, 1868.
Messrs. MASON & Co.

Gents: I will obey your command by sitting down immediately, and enclosing my subscription to the 3rd Volume. I think it was best to change the publication of the first numbers of the magazine from April to January. I am glad you intend to enlarge the magazine, I hope your subscription list will grow larger and larger. I will aid you all I can. You must excuse me for troubling you so much, by asking so many questions. I have one more which I will ask you, viz.: (I read the following in a newspaper, is it true?) The first coins of any metal issued by the United States, were three hundred tons of copper cents, coined at New Haven in 1787. I have the impression it is wrong, but am not certain.

I have a very fine 1793 Half-cent, I will send you an impression of it when I go home. Wishing you success with your 3d Volume, I remain,
Yours Truly, R. A. M.

[The above statement in relation to the 1787 cents is correct.—ED.]

Montreal, Dec., 14th, 1868.
MASON & Co. Dear Sirs:

Reckon me on your muster-roll for Vol. 3d. I enclose \$2 00 which will leave a trifle margin for postage, and for which I shall feel obliged if you will post me a Catalogue of the coming sale, which you mention in your last number—indeed I would at all times be much obliged if you would send me any Cataloges as they are published.

Can you furnish me with any infor-

mation in your next number to the two queries below ?

I have a half-cent 1828, with 12 stars only, is it rare? [A little scarce, only.—ED.]

Which are the years of U. S., cents in which any difference in the numbers of the stars has happened? [1808 only.—ED.]

My questions have grown into three; pray pardon my troubling you, and I will do my *possible* to make you up a small commission soon.—H W.

[No trouble at all, A subscriber who thinks of, and encloses the extra postage demanded from us on all Canadian subscribers, can never give us any "trouble."

O, signifies New Orleans Mint.
C, " Charlotte, N. C. "
S, " San Francisco, Ca., "
D, "—Dahloghena, Ga., "
ED.]

REPLY TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. W. A., PHILA.—Your subscription heads the books for 1869. Stop in and see our fresh stock of albums, coins, stamps, &c.

M. HERSCH, SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT.—\$1 50 at hand.

P. E. R., WASHINGTON, D. C.—The piece of Sevres china you describe is evidently a portion of the "Cincinnati Set," formerly belonging to General Washington. Step in the Patent Office (Museum Dept.) in your city, and you will see a large number of Washington relics, handsomely arranged in glass cases, and many similar articles to those you describe. Nearly all the "Cincinnati Set" in the Patent Office have been placed there since 1861. Our Mr. Mason was employed by the Interior Department, under Secy. Usher, to recover the Washington relics which were stolen from Gen. Lee's residence at

Arlington Heights, during the war; and to our numismatic co-worker belongs the credit of unearthing these valuable mementos of Washington, and restoring them to the U. S. Government.

S. R., NEW YORK.—Our coin cuts not quite ready. See February number.

R. A. M., NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Answered elsewhere. Glad you are with us for the *third* year. Hope to hear from you oftener.

C. W. McO., *Gazette Office*, PITTSBURG.—Sent you the stamps in exchange. Can you make up another club of 10 in P. A club of ten names received for \$10.

J. R., SALEM.—Sent you the '93, and entered your name for one year. Send us the numismatic news of your vicinity.

J. F. P., NEW SHARON.—Will send the half cents in due time. Have a lot of rare dates coming to fill all half cent orders.

H. J. W., NEW HAVEN.—Deduct 25c. when sending subscription for 1869. We have beautiful proof 1856 nickels. You can exchange if you wish.

UFFORD & Co., TROY.—Sent October number to W. Troy. Subscription received.

G. F. D., BOSTON.—Answered your letter. Have fine 1793 for you.

A. H., DILLSBURG.—Good again. Thanks.

C. W. C., JACKSON.—All right now. Magazines mailed.

C. A. B., GRANVILLE.—Your letter with \$2 never received. You received the coins, so let the loss go with others we occasionally meet with. 1799 cents at \$2, \$3 and \$5.

N. W. P., PROVIDENCE.—Name entered. Coins sent.

R. P. & SON, DEERSVILLE.—1805 sent. The latter word expresses the

coin or fact, while the mail expresses the matter. Pardon the badinage and renew the subscription.

G. M. P., TROY.—We don't want money from you. Your address will remain on our books forever, or during the life of our JOURNAL. Pray for its success.

L. S., CINCINNATI.—Will write about the partnership. Prefer a man having a knowledge of stamps.

OUR NUMISMATIC AND PHILATELIC PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY.

We have received a very respectable number of the likenesses of prominent Coin and Stamp Collectors, and from a careful examination of each individual fac simile, we feel proud to say our constellation of Photographic gems will be a valuable acquisition to our Magazine, and a capital means for subscribers to exchange civilities and become better acquainted. It was our intention to have the photographic plates in the present number, but we have concluded to await the reception of a few more prominent physiogns, promised us, but not yet forthcoming. The faces will be arranged in numerical order—without names, or addresses—and photographed in a group. With each Magazine will be issued a Supplement for private use only, (not bound with the Magazine), containing corresponding numbers to those on the photographic plate, with the name of each person represented.

All persons who have subscribed to Vol. 3d., previous to the 1st of April, 1869, will receive the number containing the likenesses of prominent numismatists. As we do not print enough copies to supply back numbers of the different volumes, but simply issue an edition to cover names already on our subscription books, and a few specimen

copies, it is absolutely necessary that our patrons send early notice of renewal in order to secure complete volumes. We are entirely out of 1st, and 11th numbers of Vol. 1st, and number 8 of Vol., 2d. By subscribing now, there will be no necessity of paying hereafter \$5 per volume, as has been done in the case of Vol. 1st, now out of print.

PROMPT SUBSCRIBERS.

We thank our old patrons for the prompt replies received since our last. Already one half of our subscribers have joined us for another year, and quite a number of new names are on our books for this volume. All those intending to subscribe will please send in names before the next month, as we wish to cross off all names not paid up at that time. In our next we hope to be able to present one of the features that is to grace this journal for the present year. Clubs of ten are received for \$10. Subscribe now, and make sure of complete volumes.

HOW TO ARRANGE COINS.

We will send a photograph of a collection of coins beautifully arranged, forming a picturesque and historical picture of Washington; the frame surmounted by a spread Eagle. This picture is copyrighted, and has a printed key to the form of arrangement, accompanying it. Price 25c., address Mason & Co., No. 50 North 10th St., Philadelphia.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

We have made arrangements with Messrs Scott & Co., Stamp Dealers, New York, for cuts of new issues of postage stamps, and hereafter shall be up to the English Philatelic Magazines with our illustrations in the stamp line.

THE COIN AND STAMP EXCHANGE DEPOT.

J. R. W. Offers 1792 half Disme, for 1794 cent, fine.

W. E. Offers 1809 cent, perfect, for 1804 cent, good.

H. H. JR. offers 1802 1/2 cent, very good, for 1831 1/2 cent, fair.

R. T. Offers 1851 set U. S., stamps, for 1847 set U. S. stamps.

P. C. N. Offers Dickeson Coin Manual, for 1793 1/2 cent, fine.

B. S. R. Offers Coin Cabinet, 6 Drawers for set 1858 Nickels.

PHILATELIST. Offers Collection of 1000 stamps, for set of cents.

E. N. JR. Offers fine cents in the 20's 30's and 40's, for good 1793, '94, '95, '97 half cents; also offers Silver Proof Sets 1859 to 1868, inclusive, and for either 1855, '56 or '57 proof sets.

MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN

PACKETS!

U. S. CENTS.

Packet No.	Condition.	Price.
1	1793 Very poor.	\$ 50
2	1793 very fair.	1 50
3	1793 very good.	3 00
4	1794, '95 '96 good.	1 50
5	1794, '95 '96 extra good.	2 50
6	1797 1798 very good.	50
7	1799 very poor.	2 00
8	1799 very fair.	5 00
9	1799 very good.	10 00
10	1800, '01, '02 '03 very good.	1 25
11	1804 fair.	1 50
12	1804 very fair.	2 50
13	1804 good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07 poor.	25
15	1805 '06 '07 fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07 good.	1 50
17	1808 fair.	25
18	1808 good.	50
19	1809 poor.	50
20	1809 good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12 poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12 very good.	1 00
23	1813 '14 '16 good.	50
24	1817 1820 very good.	40
25	1821 1824 good.	50
26	1825 1830 very good.	30
27	1857 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 No.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793 poor.	1 50
29	1793 good.	3 00
30	7941'95 fair.	50
31	1794 '95 good.	1 00
32	1797 1800 fair.	30
33	1803, '04, '05, '06 '07, very good.	50
34	1808, '09 '10, very good.	35
35	1825 1829 very good.	25
36	1832 1835 very good.	25
37	1849 1851 very good.	15
38	1853 1857 very good.	25
39	No.28 to 39,	3 00
40	1802 1811 very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

41	Conn. and N. J. good.	25
42	Va. Mass. good.	1 00
43	Ver. N. Y. good.	1 75
44	Const, 2, 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 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 fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent, fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar, ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece, proof.	5 00
65	do proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

66	12 different coins, very good.	50
67	15 do do very good.	1 00
68	10 do dd 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 good.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

73	10 cards, good.	35
74	10 fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

MASON'S
 COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
 MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

FEBRUARY, 1869.

No 2.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN
 COINS.

No. 11.

A correspondent writing from Baltimore sends us a rubbing of a 1797 cent without stems to the wreaths on the reverse. Not having noticed this variety of the 1797 cent, I cheerfully accord the credit of its discovery to where it belongs,* provided it has never been noticed in print before.

I have a half cent of 1856 on which the lips are not only apart, but also their posterior portion, as shown through a magnifying glass, is wanting. A half cent of the year 1852 presents the same peculiarity.

All the Nova Constellations that I have examined, bearing date 1783, have the letters U. S. in the centre of the wreath in Roman caps. There are three varieties of this date. And now, once for all, in speaking of *varieties*, I desire to be understood as merely to convey in all cases *specific differences*; although different dies may have been used in making what I call a variety, yet of such small deviation as to be uninteresting.

The three varieties of 1783 then consists of, First, a small U. S. within an endless circular wreath, date below, and around the edge. LIBERTAS. JUSTITIA, on one side, and on the other NOVA. CONSTELLATIO., around

thirteen stars arranged in a circle at equal distances, with sun rays pointing between, and an eye in the centre, as on the reverse of the Vermontensium cent.

Another variety has a similar obverse, but on the reverse "Constelatio" is spelled with but one l, and the sun-rays are blunt like those on our nickel 5 cent pieces of 1866. The third variety of this date is on a large planchet, having milling around both sides. The U. S. in large Roman Caps, and its surrounding wreath has large leaves; the sun-rays are pointed and long, nearly touching the lettering around the edge. The die has an imperfection between the last O and the ray opposite the last A.

The Nova's of 1785 have the U. S. in script, and LIBERTAS ET JUSTITIA. around it. There is no period between the NOVA and CONSTELLATIO, nor after the latter word. On one variety Constelatio is spelled with a single l. The milling is very delicate around the edge.

The size of the planchets of the different Nova's vary considerably; their weight consequently ditto. Indeed there does not seem to have been any standard amount of copper in them. One of my 1783's looks as if it had been struck over some other coin, although I have not yet succeeded in making out what. §

* J. D. Ward, Baltimore, Md.

TYPES AND VARIETIES OF U.
S. CENTS. 1793.

(Continued.)

No. 4. This cent exhibits on obverse and reverse a marked difference from those heretofore described. Obverse head of Liberty, the profile exhibiting a pleasant and intellectual expression of countenance; eyes, nose, lips and chin boldly chiselled and handsomely portrayed, differing in this respect from Nos. 1 to 3, inclusive, the latter pieces having the profile very delicately outlined. In this coin the letters of legend, Liberty, and figure of date are smaller than any of the former pieces. There is, also, an addition of a dotted circle or milling around the extreme border, adding beauty and finish to the coin. Here, also, we find for the first time, the two small curls of hair circled up under the left of bust, and the twig of three leaves between the date and bust; hair flows back in nearly straight lines. *Reverse*, wreath enclosing in two lines the words ONE CENT; between the wreath and the dotted milling, (found on both sides of all the *wreath '93s*), is the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1-100 below the tie of wreath. A peculiarity is found in the single bow of wreath, being of nearly circular form, slightly depressed at top.

No. 5. This cent differs from the preceding but slightly, and yet notably. The small twig on obverse has one leaf apparently growing out of, or resting on the other; while the twig leaves in all other varieties of wreath '93s are separated, and each leaf appears to spring from the stem of the twig. The twig is smaller on this than any other of the '93s,* and the coin itself is the small planchet variety.

No. 6. In this '93 we find little difference in general appearance from preceding pieces. It bears a close com-

parison to No. 4, with this difference: the leaves on the latter are small and close, on former the leaves of twig are wide and well separated from the stem. The hair is more wavy than 4 or 5, letters large and date broad; *reverse* has sharper angles in the bow at tie of wreath. In this respect similar to No. 5, and differing from No. 4. E.M., JR.

(To be Continued.)

THE NEW COIN.

The House Committee on Coins have decided and will report in favor of adopting new coins of nickel and copper in place of the present ones—two, three and five-cent pieces—the new coins to be severally of denominations of one, three and five cents. The devices on the proposed new coin are the same on each piece, the only difference between the several denominations being in the numerals, size and weight.

NEW COINS.

The 1, 3 and 5 cent nickel coins, new issue, (1869,) will be mailed for 25 cents each, or 50 cents set of three, in advance of their general circulation.

COIN SALES.

We have nothing definite concerning the Mackinsie sale of coins in N. Y.; and parties in Phila. have determined to await the result of this sale before deciding upon a day for offering their own collections to the public.

CROWDED OUT.

Mickley's Priced Catalogue, Stamp Catalogue, New issues, Correspondence and Replies to Correspondents are crowded out in whole, or part, by outside matter. We hope to increase our size soon, and find room for all,

*We acknowledge our indebtedness to D. E. Maris, of Philadelphia, for use of this coin, which is supposed to be unique.

THE RANDALL SALE.

The following letter has been forwarded to the *N. Y. Numismatic Journal*, in reply to Mr. Cogan's second complaint concerning the R. sale, which we find in the December number of that journal. We find it necessary to publish our replies to Mr. C. in this magazine, as the *N. Y. N. Journal* is a month behind its publication day. We regret that Mr. Cogan's articles are so lengthy, as we would cheerfully print them if the space could be spared.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 12, 1869.

Prof. Anthon,

Dear Sir—We regret to notice, in the December number of your journal, that Mr. Cogan, in his second article on the "Randall Sale," exhibits a sad temper while elaborately criticising our former communication, which appeared in your last issue.

To follow and answer all the points that Mr. C. has attempted to establish in his tirade upon this particular sale, would be tantamount to wading into a labyrinth of intemperate words and portentous sentences—"all sound and fury; signifying nothing" and presenting much the appearance of the "Quaker Guns" used by the Confederates during the late little unpleasantness down South. These guns were mounted and fully equipped, their huge mouth black and grim, grinning defiance, and their whole appearance alarmingly terrifying; but when approached, the *wooden shams* were found puny, insignificant and harmless.

Thus Mr. Cogan has been preparing one of these Quaker bugbears, dressed out in all the paraphernalia of "grim-visaged war;" not war to the knife, but war to the *teeth*, *vide* the following savage snappish sentence he quotes from a Bowery play house: "*If you are rough, you puts our back up, and when you puts our back up, we shows our teeth,*

and when we shows our teeth, we bites."

With this threatening pronouncement, Brother Cogan warms up and fires up until he gets his numismatic steam at a proper elevation, when he discharges his Quaker weapon of warfare.

Now that the report is heard, the smoke cleared away, and "nobody hurt," we would reply briefly to the only *scattering shot* which reached our camp.

First. We most unequivocally and emphatically deny that we ever made use of the expression Mr. Cogan has attributed to us, viz: "*Uncirculated* for so rare a coin." We remarked at the sale, when Mr. C. caviled at the description of the coins (*in a loud tone*), that "it had been customary to catalogue very rare coins, *slightly rubbed*, as "*uncirculated.*"

Our worthy brother has evidently associated our remark with a similar one emanating from a party by the name of "Johnson."

In another paragraph Mr. C. objects to the terms of "brilliant," "very fine," &c., forgetting, in his anxiety to annihilate us, that his own catalogued collections have some of these very terms conspicuously and properly placed to the pieces described.

Again, there is a most confuting sentence in Mr. C.'s last letter, wherein he says, "I told him (Mason) that I thought the sale would do him (Mason) no good; he replied, 'If you had called upon me *before the sale*, I could have told you all about it.'" How we were to tell him all about the sale *before it occurred*, is an unfathomable mystery to us.

The closing portion of Mr. C.'s lengthy communication is the "unkindest cut of all," and we think our venerable friend must have lost his equanimity of temper when he descended to such an un courteous, uncalled for, ungenerous and un-

Just remark as "contemptible, unintelligible, untruthful twaddle."

It is, perhaps, unnecessary to argue or explain further the circumstances connected with the R. sale. It is quite satisfactory to us to know that the complaints of unfairness in the management and sale of the Randall collection, emanated from a coin dealer, who *may have been slighted* by not receiving early notice of an intended coin sale.

If your correspondent had observed the courtesies usually extended in gentlemanly interchanges of numismatic opinions, we should have taken pleasure in meeting him upon the, to him, "open question," *Were the coins in the Randall sale fairly described?*

But when he comes bristling along, like an English bull terrier, gritting his teeth and threatening, "when we shows our teeth, we bites," winding up with a remark, reflecting alike injuriously upon our school master and manhood, we feel inclined to withdraw from the field, in mercy to your readers, who prefer the sciences of Archæology and Numismatography, rather than the vituperation and (if Mr. Cogan is correct) "twaddle" of a couple of notoriety seeking coin dealers.

Yours, with due

Consideration and respect

MASON & Co.

NUMISMATIC PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.

We are progressing finely with the work of arranging the pictures of the coin collectors of America, for publication in this journal. The most desirable pictures required for this work, are the *vignettes*. We have received a number of photographs in full length, and sitting postures, neither of which answer as well, or have the uniformity of *vignettes*. We have received, since our last, pho-

tographs from the following persons, viz: R. C. D.; W. H. N.; J. W. & F. W.; G. M. P.; W. J.; R. S. E.; A. H. J.; L. W. D.; G. H. W.; T. M.; T. D. W.; C. B. R.; D. O. W. U.; M. W. D.; C. P. N.; N. L.; J. A. B.; N. S. C. F.; J. E. W.; J. J. M. C. E., jr.; C. A. S.; J. P.; F. W. F.; F. P. R.; W. C.; E. S. N.; C. R. S.; S. J. B.; W. W. L.; H. L. S.; M. L.; G. D. R.; E. M. Taylor; J. H. jr.; J. N. T. L.; J. S.; and half a dozen others, who wish to remain *incog*. We feel confident of presenting our first gallery of pictures in February number.

UNIQUE MEDALET.

We have a silver Peale Card, or Medalet, 1784, Philadelphia Museum. Has any of our readers a duplicate struck in silver? We have examined specimens in Copper and German silver, but never yet heard of one in pure silver. It is said that but few were struck, and those given to stockholders in the museum, which was located at Third and Lombard streets, Philadelphia, in 1784.

PHILATELIC PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.

We are short of pictures for this department, and would respectfully solicit all stamp collectors to send on their *vignettes* without further notice.

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued

PART I. American Series

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; large spreading tree with fifteen branches. legend, MASATUSETS; fine, a rare variety. \$9 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652. This shilling, unlike any others, may fairly be

termed the large variety. The planchet is of unusual size. Very fine and rare. \$9 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652. In this type the tree is distinguished for height rather than breadth, being taller than in any other variety; large planchet, and in very fine condition, rare. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; on small thick planchet, small letters, and very small tree. In perfect condition. \$8 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; of peculiar type. The branches inclined upward at a very acute angle with the trunk; very fine. 8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; a distinct type, but bearing a close resemblance to the last; large size, very fine. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; large oval tree, with fifteen branches; large size, and very fine. \$7 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; of small size distinctly, double struck; very fine \$7 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with but five branches; in good condition and rare. \$6 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; large tree with thirteen nearly straight branches. In the size of dots, forming the inner circle, it very nearly approaches the cog-wheel pattern. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small, thick planchet, very fine indeed; not like any of the preceding. \$7 00

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with few branches, the lower ones of which spring horizontally from the trunk. \$6 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with fourteen branches, struck by small dies on a liberal-sized planchet; very fine indeed. \$9 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with the top nearly circular, large dots in the circles; very fine indeed. \$7 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree of ten branches, unlike any of those de-

scribed; slightly pierced, in other respects fine. \$4 00.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652; large oval tree. The obverse of this shilling has a singular appearance, as though the die had slipped in coining; planchet slightly imperfect, but the condition of the piece is very fine; a rare variety. \$7 50.

Pine Tree Shilling, 1652: large oval tree, eleven branches, trunk hollow; large size, and in very fine condition. \$8 00.

Pine Tree Sixpence, 1652; very fine indeed, and scarce. \$9 00.

Pine Tree Sixpence, 1652; a rarer variety than the last and equally fine. \$9 50.

Pine Tree Threepence, 1652; a large well-spread coin, in very fine condition; and rare. \$6 00.

Pine Tree Threepence, 1652; even finer than the last, but of smaller size. \$6 00.

Pine Tree Threepence, 1652; very fine indeed, perfectly uncirculated; but the piece being of smaller size, it did not take a full impression from the obverse die. \$4 00.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; dots in the circles very minute, being mere points, fine, scarce. \$8 00.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; distinct type, as fine as the last. \$9 00.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; has small tree, much branched, letters of large size. \$4 00.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652 small tree, with few branches, perfectly uncirculated. This Shilling is so fine, that I am tempted to assign it to Wyatt manufacture; but I am inclined to believe it is the variety from which he copied, as the *striae* are less distinct than in his. \$8 00.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; large, nearly circular tree; very fine indeed, rare. \$6 00.

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The current twopenny, with arched inscription, is found watermarked with the figure 3. A distinguished collector possesses a shilling stamp of the colony, watermarked 12, color violet.

HUNGARY.

The Emperor of Austria has been graciously pleased to allow an emission of fiscals for this kingdom, for the peculiar use of its inhabitants. They are to be similar in value and number to those of the dominant empire; but embody the Hungarian arms in various designs and ornamentation, printed in black on a white ground. The whole is encircled by bright green foliage. In the interior of the design is the value in figures, and the same above in the Hungarian language. On their appearance, they will probably be offered collectors as postals; this is our principal inducement to their mention.

It is reported that this kingdom has added to their postal series the an-



nexed stamps. Inscriptions signify "ROYAL HUNGARIAN JOURNAL STAMP," or "Journal Stamp for the Kingdom of Hungary." Colors, 1 kr., dull blue; and 2 kr., bistre.

WURTEMBERG.

Simultaneously with the nomina appearance of this number of our magazine, will appear, one value of a set, or rather, perhaps, part of a set,

in a type novel to this kingdom, but painfully reminding us of the Prussian domination. It will be blue, and accompanied by a 3 kr., red. The fore-runner is a 1 kr., green. The election envelop stamp, lately chronicled, can scarcely fall under the category of a postal, because the elector is bound to be *his own* postman.

FINLAND.

A variation of the 10 penni is in circulation. It is printed reddish brown, on lilac-colored laid paper.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

An individual from this colony of a hitherto unemployed value, and bearing a novel watermark, is announced. Particulars reserved.



We have here another value of the new series—the two-pence orange red—printed on white paper.

NEW GRENADA.

This country has issued another stamp, lilac color impressed on white unwatermarked paper.



ROUMANIA.

Competent authorities announce that a postal revolution being contemplated after New Year's Day next, extra values, higher than hitherto issued, will be emitted for the Danubian Principalities. The denominations will be, severally, 10, 25, and 50 bani. The design is expected to be the same as that in actual vogue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

A triangular fourpenny blue of this colony has been received with parallel dentilations similar to those used in the 15 kreuzer and 30 kr., and 5 sil-

ber-groschen and 10 sgr., disused Thurn and Taxis stamps. It is supposed to have been the work of some private office for individual convenience, like the French of Susse, and certain of the Van Diemen's Land adhesives.

SAXONY.

The Dresden Ezpress Compan have re-emitted their elegantly-designed embossen type on yellow laid paper. The colors are the same as before; but on account of the differently colored paper, the hues produced form distinct varieties. The Saxon and Bohemian Steam Navigation Company will issue, on New Year's Day, a set of three stamps. Their values are—

1	groschen or 5 kreuzer	blue.
2	" 10	" pink.
3	" 15	" gold.

It could be remarked that these colors are confined to the space between the central oval and encompassing framework; the rest of the impression is black on plainwhite paper.—*English C. and S. Mag.*

CEYLON.

The new tenpenny envelope forms the handsomest addition to our albums which has been received during the past month. The impression is in pale vermilion, on thin paper with a slight blue tint. On the same kind of paper the sixpence has also been issued. The envelopes are, we should observe, of a much larger size,—about 6 in. by 3½ in.

RUSSIA.

Upon the 1st ult., a new envelope for this empire appeared, a 10 kop-brown, totally different in type from its predecessors, resembling, in fact, both in size and general design, the emissions of Prussia and Austria. Its shape is oval; in the centre appears the Russian arms very finely embossed; and surrounding this is the oval, reti-

culated border, bearing a Russian inscription, and showing, in its lower edge, a small circle containing the numeral 10. The color of this new arrival is brown, and it is impressed on ordinary white paper.

RARE STAMPS.

L. W. Durbin, St. Louis, Mo., has on hand a great variety of rare European stamps. Mr. Durbin is agent for Alfred Smith & Co., Bath, England, and is a reliable dealer. See advertisement on cover.

BACK NUMBERS.

It is getting to be a serious and expensive task to re-mail back numbers to those who complain of the non-receipt of the regular issue.

In some instances subscribers write that the numbers of preceding volumes were not received, and they find it out about six months after the missing number was mailed!

The proper person to receive complaints of "lost and miscarried numbers," is the Post Master. The magazines are carefully directed and mailed at this P. O., and the fault must be with the delivery offices. Lecture your P. M's., as we do not have enough back numbers to duplicate and re-duplicate every tenth subscriber. We received near fifty complaints about the December number, and as that number was an expensive one, we did not print enough to fill "duplicate" demands.

We would advise some of our subscribers to take better care of their numbers; keep them clean and free from rents or injuries, and thereby avoid the necessity of making us angry at the P. M. for *losing* the regular numbers of this magazine.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BANGOR, MAINE, Jan. 6th, 1869.

Mason & Co.

GENTLEMEN :

Please continue the "C. & S. Magazine" to my direction.

I hope that Philately will gradually yield to Numismatology; the latter is a *science*, the former a *passing fancy*.

Send me all catalogues of coin sales, and whenever it is attended with expense, indicate the same to me.

Hoping you will have a happy Numismatic year, I am,

Truly yours,

E. M. FIELD, M. D.

—
WASHINGTON, Jan. 12th, 1869.

SIR :

I would call your attention to a Silver Rattle with bells and coral attached, used by Gov. John Hancock, of Massachusetts, one of the signers of the Constitution, in his infancy, for which I have a voucher. It was presented to my mother by his widow, Mrs. Dorothy Quincy Hancock, in Boston, for an infant daughter named after her. I would like to dispose of it; you will please make me an offer for the rattle.

Respectfully yours, T. H. Q.

—
BETHEL, CONN., December 28th.
Messrs. Mason & Co.

DEAR SIRS :

It has been many months since I wrote you last, but my interest in coins and curiosities has not abated in the least, far from it, my desire is growing with me. About five years have past since I have begun to collect, and I would not take a small fortune for that collection, although it is comparatively small.

I subscribed for your magazine when it first came to light, and have taken it ever since; you can consider me a life

subscriber. Enclosed you will find the amount for one year's subscription, and also my *Phiz*, which I have the good fortune to have.

I remain your obedient servant,

FRANK W. FERRY.

[Good for you, we like to hear from our "Pioneer" subscribers. You exhibit good numismatic pluck. Oh, that we had a thousand Ferrys, we would soon land on the lucky side of the numismatic river. Go on and prosper in the good cause.—ED.]

—
SPRINGFIELD, January 7, 1869.

DEAR SIRS :

In regard to church penny, I would state that the one in my collection, (of which I send you a rubbing,) is like the one you mention, only the reverse is plain. There were two kinds issued as follows:—Church Penny, D—Church Penny, these two varieties were sold in New York in 1863, the first for \$18,00 second for \$25,00.

Yours truly,

C. P. N.

—
PARTNER WANTED.

Is there, among our readers, a good active man having a knowledge of the stamp or coin business, who would like a pleasant and profitable position as business manager and equal partner with us? Owing to a severe accident, the gentleman we had arranged with to join fortunes, has been compelled to withdraw from his engagement, and it is absolutely necessary that we get a partner early this year, as it is very important that one of the firm should be almost constantly travelling.

None but temperate, industrious parties need apply. Address this office.

N. B.—Choice of out-door or in-door business given to the new partner.

COIN AND STAMP EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Editor, do not think it strange
That I should write upon the "Coin Exchange;"
For though I do not live within "The States,"
I have to offer several "duplicates."
I'll offer first, a good New Jersey cent,
The "Horse Head" left, the plough-beam slightly
bent;

And what I want for this is rather rare,
A "Ninety-three," with wreath and flowing hair;
I do not ask in trade, a cent so fine
As to command of dollars eight or nine,
But simply present this plain petition
For a coin in only fair condition.
I also have—now open wide your eyes—
And be prepared for quite a big surprise,
A "Ninety-six" half-cent—a fine piece, too,
As bright and pretty as e'er seen by you;
And for it I will take—I ask no more—
The dollar piece of *eighteen hundred four*,
Hold now, your jibes, and do not think me queer,
I know the value of the coin *that year*;
And for a joke, you know I'm always ripe,
My piece is *bogus* I want a *lectrotype*.
To close my letter I will now combine
My many wants within a verse or line;
I have to spare an *eight*, a *five* and *three*,
And other cents from rubs and brasses free.
Fillet ninety-six, a *nine* and *seven*;
Over-strikes of twenty-three and *eleven*.
I offer these for other dates I name;
Ninety-nine, *six*, *four*—will answer all the same.
My coins are *fine*, unlike my rhyme, 'tis true;
But then, for me, you plainly see, 'twill do.

Yours,

SAMUEL L. R. DECKER,
A Montreal-Quebecer.

January 15, 1869.

WANTED—A 1799 U. S. CENT.

BY G. H. W.

Who's got a *bright red* "Ninety-nine"
Without a blemish on its pretty face;
Each side alike—quite true and fine,
In fact, the first of its red-featured race?
Its weight in gold I'll freely give,
And add an ounce to any gent
Who on this mundane sphere doth live,
And has command of such a cent.

E. B. T. will exchange July and Nov.,
1868, Coin and S. Magazine for a Feb.
number same year.

P. S. R. offers a splendid 1811 half-
cent, nearly uncirculated, for an extra
good 1802 half-cent.

J. W. M., Jr., has set of old issue U.

S. Postage stamps, unused, 1 cent to
90 cents, to exchange for 1847 set N.
Y. P. O. unused.

Wm. R. will exchange a Scott's Al-
bum containing 500 different stamps
many uncanceled, for 12 dollars in
Greenbacks.

R. L. wants *one uncirculated cent*
prior to 1814, in exchange for 1793, 1799,
1804 and 1809 cents inclusive, all fair.

P. R. T. will give 200 good foreign
coins, (all different,) for equal number
of half cent, any dates.

P. E. C., Meriden, acknowledges re-
ceipt of coins which came through M.
& Co's Exchange Department, and
offers 1793 Liberty cap cent for 1799
cent; 1804 cent for 1793 half-cent. All
the above to be fair specimens.

OUR NEIGHBORS.

From Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., N. Y.,
we have received a full vol of *The Amer-
ican Journal of Philately*, and wish we
could spare the space for an elaborate
review of each number; but, suffice it to
say, that this A No. 1. Philatelic Jour-
nal is ably edited, and handsomely sus-
tained by a good subscription list. We
learn that there was an edition of
5,000 copies of the January number
issued, and the volume for 1869 will be
freighted with faithful cuts of new issues
in great profusion. Let our friends in
the philatelic line make a note of this,
and send on subscriptions at once.

Messrs. Scott & Co. have also issued
a beautiful Postage Stamp Album in
Morocco binding, gilt edges, with
panels and headings for every known
stamp in the world. In addition to this,
we notice a neat, handsomely bound,
illustrated Postage Stamp priced Cata-
logue, chronologically arranged, from
the same publishers. Our readers will
always find a good supply of Scott &
Co's. publications at our office. See
out side cover for particulars.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. T., ELMIRA.—Independence Hall was built in 1750. Dickeson's Coin Manual was issued in 1860; last edition 1865. Price \$10.

S. H., MONTREAL.—Send \$3 to J. N. T. Levick, Box 4318, New York, and you will get the N. Y. N. Journal for one year.

P. A. T., BOSTON.—Only one "Non Dependens Status" that we know of Yours is a copy, doubtless.

M. L., WOBURN.—Your Photo. has a right to occupy a place in the gallery. Send us word what autographs you require.

[A large number of replies must go over another month.—Ed.]

MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN PACKETS!

Packet No.	U. S. CENTS.	Condition.	Price.
1	1793	Very poor.	\$ 50
2	1793	very fair.	1 50
3	1793	very good.	3 00
4	1794, '95	'96 good.	1 50
5	1794, '95	'96 extra good.	2 50
6	1797 1798	very good.	50
7	1799	very poor.	2 00
8	1799	very fair.	5 00
9	1799	very good.	10 00
10	1800, '01, '02, '03	very good.	1 25
11	1804	fair.	1 50
12	1804	very fair.	2 50
13	1804	good.	5 00
14	1805, '06, '07	poor.	25
15	1805, '06, '07	fair.	50
16	1805, '06, '07	good.	1 50
17	1808	fair.	25
18	1808	good.	50
19	1809	poor.	50
20	1809	good.	1 50
21	1810, '11, '12	poor.	25
22	1810, '11, '12	very good.	1 00
23	1813, '14, '16	good.	50
24	1817 1820	very good.	40
25	1821 1824	good.	50
26	1825 1830	very good.	30
27	1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.

Packet No.	U. S. HALF CENTS.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793	poor.	1 50
29	1793	good.	3 00
30	1794-'95	fair.	50
31	1794-'95	good.	1 00
32	1797 1800	fair.	50
33	1803, '04, '05, '06, '07,	very good.	50
34	1808, '09, '10,	very good.	35
35	1825 1829	very good.	25
36	1832 1835	very good.	25
37	1849 1851	very good.	15
38	1853 1857	very good.	25
39	No. 28 to 39,		3 00
40	1802 1811	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

41	Conn. and N. J.	good.	25
42	Va. Mass.	good.	1 00
43	Ver. N. Y.	good.	1 75
44	Const, 2,	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 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 50
57	do	very fine.	1 75
58	do	proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1858	nickel,	
		good.	1 25
60	do do	do proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855	fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar,	ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece,	proof.	5 00
65	do	proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

66	12 different coins,	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	good.	5 00

STORM CARDS.

73	10 cards,	good.	35
74	10	fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

MASON'S PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY

OF THE

IN COLLECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. 1.



B. F. REIMER, ARTIST, PHILA.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| J. Mickley, Philadelphia, Pa. | 17 A. S. Bryant, Springfield, Mass. | 33 D. O. W. Ufford, W. Troy, N. Y. |
| W. Dickeson, " " | 18 Wm. Clogston, " " | 34 C. H. Davis, Troy, N. Y. |
| H. Nevil, " " | 19 Wm. Jester, Philadelphia, Pa. | 35 J. A. Shafer, Allentown, Pa. |
| Robert C. Davis, " " | 20 J. W. Haseltine, " " | 36 C. B. Romans, Mortonville, Pa. |
| J. B. Thomas, " " | 21 Chas. English, Jr., Camden, N. J. | 37 F. W. Ferry, Bethel, Conn. |
| D. Watson, " " | 22 F. P. Randall, Fort Wayne, Ind. | 38 C. W. Carhart, Jackson, Mich. |
| M. J. Jenks, " " | 23 J. A. Boleo, Springfield, Mass. | 39 C. R. Scott, Mortonville, Pa. |
| Del Modot, G. Island, N. Y. | 24 M. Littlefield, Woburn, Mass. | 40 G. D. Rollins, Springfield, Mass. |
| H. Johnson, Springfield, Mass. | 25 L. H. Caldwell, New York. | 41 F. R. Smith, Grand Rapids, Mich. |
| Parker, " " | 26 Thomas Martin, Philadelphia, Pa. | 42 N. Landry, San F. California. |
| | 27 G. M. Baxter, Troy, N. Y. | 43 T. T. Ross, Grand Rapids, Mich. |



MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

MARCH, 1869.

No 3.

WASHINGTON MEDAL, 1790.

The following article is furnished us by an attache of the *Pittsburg Gazette*. It is taken from a copy of the above named paper of issue, May 15, 1790. The medal alluded to was struck in gold, silver and composition (*probably white metal*.—ED.) We do not remember any Washington Medal bearing date 1790. Can any of our readers furnish a description of this highly commended Medal?

The advertisement is headed, A SUBSCRIPTION FOR A MEDAL TO GEN. WASHINGTON."

"Medals from the earliest period of time have been regarded by an enlightened people as the greatest help to history, and the best method of transmitting to posterity the memory of the heroes and patriots of the age, and one of the most honorary compliments a grateful people can confer on their favorites. As the history of mankind furnishes no instance of a hero or patriot who has better deserved, or who has been more justly entitled to the affections or esteem of a grateful people, than his Excellency, the President of the United States, Gen. George Washington, an artist is induced to offer to the citizens of America, a medal with a striking and approved likeness, and such inscriptions or allegorical figures as shall best suit so great a character; and he humbly hopes to be honored with their patronage. Subscriptions

will be received in Pittsburg, by John Scull.

COPY.—We, the undersigned, have seen the medal of Gen. Washington, and think it a strong and expressive likeness, and worthy the attention of the citizens of the United States of America:

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania.

RICHARD PETERS, Speaker of the House of Assembly.

CHRISTIAN FEBIGER, Treasurer of the State.

FRANCIS JOHNSON, Colonel of the late American Army.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 12.

Several years ago a circular piece of copper of the size of a cent of the year 1823, made its appearance in Philadelphia. On one side was shown a Liberty head surrounded by thirteen stars, and underneath "1823." The other side had a wreath surrounding the words "one cent," and surrounded by the legend "United States of America." The nondescript was alleged to be a *re-strike* of the U. S. cent of the year 1823.

It was really produced in this way: Somebody obtained an old die that had been used in making the obverse of the '23 cent, and another that had been used in making the reverse of the cen-

1818. Planchets of copper being procured of suitable size, and the dies having a portion of rust removed, were forcibly driven against the piece of copper. The obverse die of 1823 was broken on the edge and cracked across the head—no matter, they were driven and re-driven against planchet after planchet. The latter not being protected by a collar, was bent out of shape by the blow, so that it became necessary to file off the edge, tool up the hair, and fix in such manner as to appear to the unsuspecting, like a veritable U. S. cent. Only a few were stated to have been made, so that the moderate sum of \$3 00 was asked and obtained for them. During the year 1867 a great number turned up, and have doubtless been widely distributed.

An obverse of the half-cent of 1811, and reverse of 1807 were similarly treated, but only a few were really made, and the dies were not broken. People call it a *re-strike* half-cent of 1811.

During the year 1868, a third hybrid appeared, also in Philadelphia, purporting to be a *re-strike* of the cent of 1804. It is said that the reverse belonged to the issue of the year 1820, and that the other is thought to have been a pattern die that had never been made use of. However this may be, it is certain that both had suffered severely by the corroding tooth of time and oxygen.

All the issues mentioned above may be readily known by even the tyro numismatist. United States coins they never were, and to the appreciative student they can never have any higher standing (if at all admitted into his cabinet), than such imitations of our country's silver money as are marked in the catalogues as *base*. §

THE N. Y. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS.

We copy the following paragraph from the editorial on first page of January number of the above named journal:

"THE NEW YEAR.—We began our January number last year with a classical allusion which we thought appropriate and witty. We had more animal spirits then, editorially, than we now enjoy; and we indulged in visions of a subscription list destined on the ensuing first of May to stretch out longer than the line of Banquo's issue. But far otherwise have the fates decreed! Our labors, alas! have not proved so acceptable. The numismatic community is either too wise to be taught, and flouts us; or too ignorant to desire teaching, and routs us; and between the two suppositions our subscription remains unaugmented. Negotiations are in progress, the result of which may be the transference of the editorship to hands more able to suit the taste of the time and fill the pocket of the publisher. Should they fail, our child must die at the close of its third year of life, worn out by measles of meanness, and the scarlatina of stinginess, and the whooping cough of contempt, and the marasmus of general neglect, and, finally, by the Cholera Infantum, which carries off so many unoffending young creatures, before they have filled a page in the great ledger of accountability."

It is with a feeling of sadness we quote the above article, and regret that there should be occasion for the insertion of such a bitter complaint from that gentlemanly scholar and enthusiastic numismatist, Prof. Anthon.

Were we to express an opinion, we should say, with great respect for the scientific gentlemen who have thus far managed and sustained the *N. Y. N. Journal*, that a want of success is found

first, in the high rates at which it is published in comparison with its number of pages. *Secondly*, in the "heavy," lengthy articles which are read and appreciated by a select few only. We believe that its sphere of usefulness is too circumscribed, and its readers are fearful about venturing upon contributions to said work, lest they are pounced upon by the critics, who stand ready to catch up every trivial error, and contradict without correcting the same. We hope our very able and worthy friends of the New York Magazine will make another effort, and we will put our shoulder to their hind wheel, and warmly push while they pull, until the summit of the hill of fame, if not fortune is gained. And will now state, that if any person will send through us, three dollars for a subscription to *N. Y. Journal of Numismatics for one year*, we will enter the party's name upon our books, and send our magazine free for one year.

Reduce your price Messrs Managers; print short articles; strike out for the masses; cut loose from adamantine fossils; let your columns be open for advice, instruction and edification as well. Numismatology is a dry study—make it an entertaining and amusing one. Better cram your journal with short happy articles, pithy and snappy, than moulder and go to decay among the cobwebs and dust of the dark ages, and finally flicker out like a badly snuffed candle.

WHICH IS IT.

On the edge of all the 1793 chain cents, is to be found a species of vine and leaves alternating with a number of stripes or bars. It has been the common belief that these indentations on the outer edge of the '93 chain cents were intended for the stars and stripes; but J. N. T. Levick, of New York, among others has adopted the name of "Vine

and Bars," instead of stripes and stars. We think the critic, Wm. Cleneay, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who attempts a criticism of our history of the '93 cents (in the January number of *N. Y. A. N. Journal*), should correct a *supposed error* when criticising it.

He says, "he, (Mason), has fallen into the common error of describing the chain cents as with stars and stripes on the edge." Why not give his authority for the criticism? Why will critics pounce down upon what they consider an error, and leave the numismatic public as far in the dark as ever? What earthly use are such critics to science? We would say to W. Cleneay, of Cincinnati, Ohio, that we commit many errors in our numismatic writings, and are willing to be criticised, *if corrected*; but when he comes out upon a "common" error, let him show his authority, and at the same time correct it, or else stand aside as a useless scribbler, who wishes to exhibit a talent that is valueless to the community.

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS.

FROM 1776 TO 1868.

Including Presidential, Army, Navy, and Miscellaneous.

BY E. M. JR.

There were three medals in all struck to commemorate the victory at Stony Point. The third by "resolution of Congress," &c., was awarded to Col. De Fleury, as a token of the respect and esteem of the United States Government for his gallant conduct in that memorable engagement. Obverse a soldier in Roman costume standing amid ruins of the Fort at Stony Point, trampling upon the British Flag, the staff of which is elevated in his left hand, while in the extended right hand he clasps an unsheathed sword. *Legend*, VIRTUTIS ET AUDACLAE MONUM, EXER-

GUE. D. DE FLEURY EQUITI GALLO PRIMMO SUPERMUROS RESP; AMERICA, D. D.

Reverse. A double turretted fort; flag upon an eminence; river below, where vessels are sailing. Two batteries are seen at left of the eminence, one in the act of firing upon a vessel in the stream. *Legend;* AGGERES PALUDES HOSTES VIDIT. EXERGUE; STONY PT. EXPUGN. XV JUL. MDCCXXXIX. This medal was struck in silver. *Size 29.*

(To be continued.)

UNIQUE "MULE PIECE."

There is a strange story going the rounds of the newspaper press, to the effect that a mule, being afflicted with a painful protuberance upon some part of his body, was killed, and the wound dissected, when, to the great astonishment of the veterinary attendants, a copper, some say a silver coin, was found embedded in the flesh of the diseased part. The question arises: how came the coin in such a locality? The inquisitive numismatist would naturally desire further information regarding this mule piece. Was it an 1804 U. S. silver dollar, or 1802 silver half-dime? Both pieces being desirable to complete nine-tenths of the cabinets extant. *Perhaps* it was an 1815 cent, which has flitted before the minds of the numismatic world between a myth and a reality for nearly half a century; and to find which has exercised the minds of collectors to a fearful extent. We do not wish to place the mule in the category of coin collectors, for fear the opponents of the science would get things mixed, and have another personal reflection to cast at the lovers of numismatology. Should any of our readers hear of a porcine dissection, where a "Sommer Islands" piece is brought to light, we will cheerfully report the discovery of the *unique* "hog piece."

"G. C. P." ON THE "COIN COLLECTOR'S ASSISTANT."

We observe, in the January number of the *New York Am. J. of N.*, that a correspondent from away off in Ohio, has given our Magazine the above appropriate title, coupled with the hope that the publication in New York may not sink to the standard of the Philadelphia concern! What means the Ohioian? By reference to the January number of the *New York magazine*, it appears that said Journal has not been properly sustained, and the worthy editor fears that the present volume may be the last. Surely if the latter publication should "sink," (does he mean rise?) to a level with ours, there would be no cause of complaint, as our subscription list has bounded up until it has reached a circulation to warrant us in saying it is a glorious and undisputed success; and we intend to make its success greater—employ and *pay* the best numismatic writers in America, to produce articles which will enlighten and entertain, even the befogged gentleman from the West, "G. C. P." The latter *innocently* gives a description of the Baily medal (*Japanese Embassy*) as a piece of news for the *New York Magazine*, while said medal has been frequently described in the Philadelphia and other newspapers, and has become rather stale news hereway. We would advise "G. C. P." to become a subscriber to some numismatic periodical, that he may be better posted, and not commit himself to such egregious blunders, as mar his first attempt as a critic, and numismatic newsmonger. In reference to his suggestion that our magazine should be termed the "COLLECTOR'S ASSISTANT," we would say we accept the designation. *It is an Assistant* to collectors, and that is where it differs materially from its contemporaries. It is the greatest compliment we have yet

received, that our journal aids the collector; and when we are justly charged with a disposition to neglect furnishing the numismatist with all the assistance in our power, we will cease publishing a work, which, apart from such a proper object, would be a nonentity in the numismatic world.

We shall allude to "G. C. P.'s" article in a future number, and examine the "Study of Numismatics," about which he prates so knowingly, in hopes of teaching him that *civility* is a part of "common sense," found in the possession of every gentlemanly collector, and numismatic scholar, while *would-be critics* are known by the venom they emit; criticising that which is as far beyond their reach as the twinkling stars in the blue firmament above.

COGAN VS. MASON—THE LAST WORD.

Our worthy numismatic antagonist, Mr. Cogan, having failed to take entire possession of the columns of the New York Numismatic Journal, with his classical, anecdotal, mirth-provoking syntax-destroying communications, has rushed into print through the medium of a three paged circular, and has been actively engaged in spreading the numismatic gospel (according to *Edward*) by post to nearly all the coin collectors in the country. We would propose to cite witnesses on the vexed question of the R. sale, and take evidence, *pro*, and *con*.; issue a few volumes, bound in *calfs*, with an index and commentaries for future reference; but we fear our pertinacious and contumacious friend might follow with a *sequel*, and the present generation be deprived of the "fun," which may be all well enough as a condiment in infinitesimal doses, but as a regular medicine rather nauseating.

Under this view of the matter, we

promise our readers to drop the amusing coin controversy, which has occupied rather too much attention already; and is all well enough when participated in by a Webster and Hayne, but when two ordinary mortals engage in a public display of letter-writing for polite readers, the spectacle is really amusing, and we believe our sarcastic co-laborer, Mr. Cogan, will join us in saying, that such ebullitions become only the school-boy, and are unworthy a serious thought by the lover of science, or the seeker after numismatic intelligence. Now, my dear brother C, let us cry *quits*. The R. sale put a chip on our hat—you knocked it off—we did not *strike*—you only showed your *ivories*.

Now, "to err is human," and we regret the errors that have occurred on both sides, and as forgiveness is divinity, we cheerfully pardon our erring brother, even the *misquotations* from strictly confidential communications; and now we will conclude by singing that good old hymn—

"Let dogs delight
To bark and bite," &c.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF "MAD ANTHONY."

Head Quarters, Pittsburgh,
18th Nov., 1792.

MESSRS. ELLIOTT AND WILLIAMS.

Gentlemen: Since my letter of the 8th ultimo, directing the deposits of provision at the respective ports and places therein mentioned, I have had a conversation with you *viva voce*, in which I requested, and you agreed, to abridge the meat part of the rations at the advanced posts of Forts Jefferson and St. Clair, 100,000 lbs., substituted by an equal quantity of *Stallfd beef*, in readiness to move at the shortest notice. Subsequent to that conversation we have received two letters from the Secretary of War, the one dated the 2d

and the other the 9th instant, on the subject of the deposit of rations at the respective posts in advance, which differs considerably from that which I had ordered in my letter of the 8th ultimo, as you will see by the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 3d inst. This letter came by the last post, and would appear to be the natural result of a consultation between the President and Secretary of War. Therefore, although it is contrary to my own judgment, yet it becomes my duty to order and direct, that you make your arrangements of deposits at the respective posts and places, as nearly agreeable to the quantities mentioned in the said copy of letter from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Treasury, as circumstances will admit, except as to the daily issues at Fort Washington to Fort Jefferson included, which must be the same mentioned in my letter of the 8th ultimo. Should you have made any purchases or arrangements in pursuance of my letter of the 8th ult., which in your opinion can't be altered so as to *quaderate* with the Secretary of War's orders for the quantities of the deposits in advance at the respective post plans, you will please to point them out, at the same time you are, as far as practicable, to be governed by his estimates, as contained in the enclosed letter.

I am, gentlemen, your most
obedient and very
humble servant,

ANTHONY WAYNE.

NEW ISSUE.



CUBA—Follows the mother country in a new set, and like Spain, keeps last year's design printed in different colors. The date is altered to the current year. We have only been able to obtain one value, viz: the five cent. The color is pale burnt sienna. It is perforated and printed on white unwatermarked paper.

VARIETIES.

Money-Spending—Egg Collecting—Dr. Brewer and Mr. Wilmot—Naturalists' Hobbies—A Notions' Man—How He Broke Up—His Library—A Book-Collecting Lawyer—Selling to Buy Again—Chalmers—Granger—Bouyer Bible—Clarendon's Rebellion—Boydell's Shakespeare—Voltaire—Edinburgh Collectors—The Title-Page Man.

BY DR. R. SHELTON MACKENZIE.

There are more ways of killing a rat, one of the Spanish proverbs says, than by giving him arsenic. This means that there are many ways of doing things. For example, while such a foolish rattle pate as the young Marquis had dissipated a princely property and brought himself to the grave, at the age of twenty-six, by riotous living, gambling on the turf, and universal hard-living, showing a mind at once weak and wicked, many well-disposed and amiable men have become involved in pecuniary difficulties, by riding a favorite hobby rather too hard—said hobby really being the reverse of vicious. Some men go in for collecting paintings, others are wild after old engravings, more are fond of accumulating a large variety of curious or ancient coins, and I knew a gentleman, member of the Inner Temple, London, who, having an official position in one of the law-courts, which yielded him some \$4,000 per annum, with very little to do, actually contrived to live on \$500 (he owned his rooms in the Temple,) and expended the balance of \$3,500 per annum in purchasing birds' eggs. He had, as correspondents, a number of other egg-collectors in every part of the globe. And they used to trade off their duplicates, whenever they happened to have any. This gentleman's name was Wilmot, and I remember that among his most valued correspondents in the egg line, was Dr. Brewer, then (and perhaps still) of Boston, where he was connected with a well-known journal, then called the Atlas.

It happened that Dr. Brewer was very liberal, and sent many more specimens to Mr. Wilmot than he received himself in return. I remember Wilmot's joy, whenever a fresh little box would reach him from Boston. Each box was divided into compartments, each to hold a single egg, so admirably packed that breakage was almost impossible. Many persons used to laugh at poor Wilmot's zeal in egg-collecting, and shrug their shoulders at the idea of his expenditure upon it. No doubt, it surprised them to see his room lined with cabinets, containing a great number of little drawers, all neatly divided, and the eggs arranged very carefully therein. They did not realize that Wilmot and Brewer, and such like, were laborious students in the extensive field of natural history. They could tell, at a glance, from what species of bird such or such an egg came; what were the characteristics of the bird; what countries it mostly inhabited; how these were affected by climate, and so on. Mr. Wilmot died some years ago, and, to his nieces' surprise, they having always thought him half mad, because he spent most of his means on the hobby of egg-collecting, various great naturalists, at home and abroad, recommended their respective Governments to purchase his collection, said to be almost unique, and, after much competition between the British Museum in London and the Louvre in Paris, it was purchased for the former national institution at a heavy price. I know not how much, but it was considerably more than Mr. Wilmot had expended on it, all his life. After all, the egg investment was a good one.

In this city of Philadelphia, I made the acquaintance, ten years ago, with a very intelligent gentleman, who kept a notions' store in one of the streets off Market, below Sixth. He had a very good business, and was perfectly master

of it in all its details. His personal and home expenditures were much within the profits of his business. Still, he did not get rich. He appeared to do little more than make a living, whereas, with his experience and opportunities, he ought to have become a leader in the trade in a few years. He contrived to keep up a respectable, but not increasing stock. Seeing a great deal of him, I could bear testimony to his blameless life, and the greater was my wonder at his not getting on. Passing by his store, one day, I found it closed, and ascertained, on inquiry, that he had closed because he was unable to meet his pecuniary engagements. Soon after, I ascertained how it was. He had spent his money in collecting a library, consisting of the best works, rarest editions, finest bindings. In this way over \$20,000 had gone. Not wasted—not thrown away—but, as it turned out, well invested. He had a taste for illustrating books. Thus, taking a large paper copy of a book, he would add views, portraits, sketches, autographs, until its size was doubled or trebled. For instance, a large paper copy of Irving's *Life of George Washington*, in five volumes—it was easy to extend this to fifteen, by adding engravings, autographs, &c., and my friend did it, easily sinking some twelve or fifteen hundred dollars in that exploit. The autographs and engraved portraits of all the leading persons named in that biography would soon cost many hundred dollars. Sometimes, when the work to be illustrated is to be found only in octavo or duodecimo, it has to be taken to pieces—every separate page inserted on a sheet of larger size, and thus made ready for the accompaniment of large engravings. My friend's library, dear to him as the very apple of his eye, was brought to the hammer at New York, where rare and handsome books obtain higher

prices than in Philadelphia. The catalogue made a handsome octavo, and the proceeds of the sale were more, by about \$10,000, than the library had cost at first. Here was a creditable and profitable result of having exercised judgment in originally collecting the books. My friend's end was fortunate. After the break up of his own business, he got confidential employment in a large wholesale house in Market street, below fifth, and, after he had been there for some time, he attracted the notice of the great A. T. Stewart, who prevailed upon his employers to let him take office in his great establishment in New York. He placed him over the notions' department there, and, when I last heard of him, was paying him at the rate of \$12,000 a-year. Whether he has gone back to book-collecting, this deponent knoweth not. Very probably he dabbles in it still, for it is difficult to relinquish a habit.—*Phila. Sat. Night.*

(To be Continued.)

NEW STAMP ALBUM.

We have received, by steamer from England, a new and beautiful Stamp Album, just published by Messrs. Stafford Smith & Co., Brighton, England. We must, in justice, confess that this Album is the best adapted for stamp gathering and arranging of any we have yet examined. It contains supplementary leaves, bound up with the book, and has ample space for all the stamps yet issued, and for all that may be issued for many years to come. It is oblong in form, 8vo., printed on heavy paper, handsomely bound in cloth and morocco, with extra gilt clasp. We should say that this Album will well sustain its title of THE PERMANENT STAMP ALBUM, and does infinite credit to its originator and author, H. Stafford Smith.

STAMP CORRESPONDENCE.

[We copy the following communication from the *American Journal of Philately*, N. Y., which embodies good sound advice to stamp collectors.—Ed.]

New York, January 10th, 1869.

Mr. Editor:—When I first commenced "stamp collecting," some time since, I was entirely in the dark in regard to the petty details of the most interesting study of Philately. How to commence; what album to employ; who to purchase of, and how to prepare and insert stamps—all these points I have had to learn by actual practice, and desiring to obviate the difficulties under which most new collectors labor, I have been tempted to give the results of my experience for their benefit.

In commencing a collection the first thing needed is an album. Of these there are many varieties, the choice of which can be regulated by the purchaser's fancy. I think the best are Lallier's and Scott's. The former has panels ruled out for the different varieties, and there is a letter-press description of every stamp issued up to the date of publication. In case new stamps are issued by countries not now using them, leaves of drawing paper can be inserted in their proper places without difficulty. Scott's Album, in many respects, is much better calculated for beginners than Lallier's. It contains spaces for every stamp ever issued, and blanks for new emissions. It is neatly printed, and bound in a variety of forms, and last, though not least, is very cheap, being about half the price of Lallier's. The next step is to procure a good and reliable classified catalogue from an honest and trustworthy dealer. Of these there are several, one of which is published in this city. I leave out purposely several excellent English publications, as the expense of postage in getting them out is heavy and useless

Prepared now with an album and catalogue, the Collector may select, according to his taste, the stamps which please him. One piece of advice let me here insert: whoever you purchase stamps of, be sure the dealer is an honest man. I could surprise the readers of this article by giving a list of foreign stamps counterfeited in this city and Boston, by dealers who say they are willing to warrant every stamp leaving their places. Several of my friends have found out by dear experience that such a guarantee is worth nothing. Upon receiving stamps which it is desirable to place in one's album, the first care is to remove from the backs any paper which may still be adherent. This may be accomplished by placing them in a little cold water, which, in a short time, dissolves the adhesive substances used, besides removing any dust on the face of the stamp. I should mention in this connection, that the Russian stamps will not bear washing, as they are printed in water colors. The paper on their backs, however, should be removed by placing a piece of wet blotting paper over the back, and letting it remain for a few moments. The stamps should be allowed to dry, and may be placed in an old book to get rid of the corrugation produced by the washing. After this they are ready for insertion in the album. In fixing them in, the best plan is to use only mucilage prepared from fine gum arabic. On no account use the mucilage sold in the different stationery stores, it contains in many instances acetic acid which will alter in time the fine colored inks used in printing stamps. In putting the solution of gum upon the stamp use a fine camel's hair brush, and paint only two lines at each end of the stamp.

This method of mounting admits of an easy removal in case it should be-

come necessary, and it is the best beyond a shadow of a doubt. In case stamps require removing which have been completely covered with paste on their backs, wet blotting paper should be allowed to remain upon the stamps for some minutes, when they can be removed without injury to them or the album. Having laid the stamps upon the panels destined to receive them lay a piece of thin paper over them and rub gently with the fingers; this proceeding will fix the stamps firmly and smoothly in their places. In buying stamps my preference is for canceled ones, for the reason they have actually fulfilled the mission for which they were created, while uncanceled stamps, many of which are made by the bank note companies of New York City, and may never have been near the countries whose postage they represent. I certainly would not disdain uncanceled stamps, but prefer the ones actually used. I would here mention the names of a number of reliable dealers, but such a proceeding might savor of favoritism, and produce hard feelings in the mind of those not noticed. However, I will advise every collecting friend, if they desire to become fully posted as to the status of dealers, to apply to the Editor of the "Journal of Philately," he is thoroughly posted, and I am sure will afford every information in his power. One more piece of advice, and I shall have finished. In trimming postage stamps do not cut them too close to the border, and never cut away the perforation as they are a distinguished character of the stamp. Trusting these few words of advice may not have proved superfluous, and apologising for occupying so much space in your valuable "Journal,"

I remain very truly yours,

COSMOPOLITAN.

COLLECTOR'S PHOTOGRAPHS
RECEIVED.

H. C. B., F. J. M., G. W. J., Ex-Governor Packer, H. A. M., W. C., J. D., T. C. D., W. J. F., J. J. M., N. L. of California (*this picture varnished—may not copy well*); L. S., Jr. (*Ferretotype, or tin type—no use—returned.*) E. C. L., (*too large—send ordinary vignette.*) H. P. Y., (*painted—will not answer.*) Photographs of following parties returned: S. T., M. M., Jr., R. S. A., P. R., L. N., T. A. R. T., (*We want collectors' pictures only, and those known as such, in any community in the United States.*)

OUR PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY
OF THE COIN COLLECTORS
OF THE U. S.

We are prepared to receive orders for the large plates of our Photographic Gallery of prominent coin collectors. These plates are made from an enlarged negative—each picture true and life-like in every feature, and, from their enlarged size, readily recognised by the friends of the originals. The plates are intended for framing, and contain the name and residence, in numerical order, of each individual represented. As the publication of this Photographic Gallery has entailed a heavy expense, we have, at the solicitation of many subscribers, published the large Photographic plate, which must not be confused with the magazine plate, as the former is larger, mounted on heavy board, and adapted as an ornament, as well as a useful medium, of making the acquaintance of the noted coin collectors of the country. These plates will be carefully mailed upon rollers, (postage prepaid) to any address, upon receipt of \$2 00. Extra copies of the magazine, containing the small photographic plates, mailed for 25c. A large edition of this "Gallery" number will

be printed, and sent *gratuitous* to all the public libraries and scientific associations in the United States and parts of Europe. Due notice will be given of the appearance of plate No. 2, "COIN COLLECTOR'S GALLERY."

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. C., BOSTON.—It is impossible for us to give the photographs according to the plan you suggest. There is a diversity of opinion in regard to who was the first collector in the United States. Mr. Mickley, of Philadelphia, claims to have commenced his famous collection in 1817; Dr. Dickeson, of the same city, in 1822. We have given the photographs in the order of their reception by us, and we trust there will be no complaint in regard to position. We propose to continue the gallery from time to time, and request collectors to forward their *vignettes* without further notice.

L. R. P., NEW YORK.—We have arranged with a partner, and now fondly look forward to the day when we can enter your city and open a coin trade upon the broad basis of equal and exact justice to all.

S. W., NEW BEDFORD.—The piece you allude to was not the *Non Dependens Status*, neither was it the *Inimica Tyrannis*. There was a clever little bit of strategy laid in terming it the latter; and it succeeded admirably, as you will see anon. The "circular dodge," as you term it, was like the Irishman's gun, it did more execution at the breech than from the muzzle. Had the language been couched in civil terms, we should have pursued a different course, but we could not reply fully without losing a portion of our self respect.

W. W. M., CINCINNATI.—The photographs will be thrown up to make a large picture for framing, and copies

can be had for two dollar each. The name and residence of each person will be printed on the *large plate*.

R. R. P., JR., BALTIMORE.—The Applee, or Appley Brothers, who had the "Old Curiosity Shop" in the Arcade, Chestnut street, Philadelphia, in 1855, were dealers in books, paintings, coins and antiquities. There was a coin dealer in Market street, many years previous—a jeweller—who bought and sold curious coins to collectors. Idler commenced the coin trade in Ninth street, about 1856; Kline in Walnut street, 1856 or '57, and Cogan in 1857 or '58. Mason opened as a dealer in coins in 1860 in North Second street. Warner followed in '62 or '63. This, we think, answers your interrogatories as fully as we are able without further investigation.

M. G. E.—"I have just received a *circular* from Mr. E. Cogan—whom I have dealt with for many years in the way of coins and medals—and I see he comes down on your magazine and your Mr. Mason fearfully, and as I have not seen your 'side of the story,' would like to get those two papers, or rather magazines containing the articles he refers to. It appears to me that the kind of argument used by Cogan is uncalled for, under any circumstances."

You are "a man after our own heart," and after you have read our explanation of matters, you will see "whose ox is gored." You must remember that age should be treated respectfully; and if we have not dipped our pen in gall and wormwood to reply to laboriously argued and badly constructed sentences, it was because we had a *kindly feeling* for our exasperated and impetuous brother of Gotham. There is one point, certainly, in the *circular* which gives the author no enviable position among honorable men, and that is his quotation from a "strictly confiden-

tial" letter, wherein this line is given, "I would say for *your private ear*." Here, then, the author of the "three paged circular" stands self-convicted of doing that which all honorable men have, in the relations of life avoided; while a *private letter* to us explaining the greater part of his animosity remains untouched, although said letter would let a flood of light on the whole matter in dispute. Have answered your other queries by mail.

S. N., NEW YORK.—The whole matter may be summed up in a few words. The remarks made about the piece Mr. C. erroneously called the *Non Dependens Status* was, in substance, as we have given it, as all present at the sale know, and we long since admitted that a few important pieces were scarcely as fine as a literal interpretation of the word "uncirculated" would imply; but our error in following the usual mode of cataloguing has furnished a handle for the unexampled course our friend C. has pursued. We are collecting a few letters from C's best friends, who strongly deprecate the intemperate language he has used.

J. A. S., ALLENTOWN.—Subscription received and magazines mailed. Thank you for articles forwarded. See the present number for the gallery.

W. H. PECK.—We have just received a letter containing stamps from Dead Letter Office, dated Dec. 16. Send your address if removed from Providence.

C. P. N., SPRINGFIELD.—You will get the 1847 set ere many days. Photograph at hand.

F. R. S., GRAND RAPIDS.—Sent you Feb. number. Have no January numbers, 1869. All subscriptions must hereafter date from the time received. Cannot furnish back numbers unless we reprint.

R. C., WESTFIELD.—Sent the coins on approval.

TO STAMP COLLECTORS.

We require a large number of photographs for our first photographic plate.

THE "STAMP COLLECTOR'S GALLERY."

Send only good *clean*, plain *vignettes*, suitable for copying photographically. Our philatelic friends in England, France and Germany, are requested to contribute to a "gallery of Foreign Postage Stamp Collectors," we purpose publishing at some future day.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

We are again under obligations to Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., publishers of *Am. Journal of Philately*, N. Y., for the use of advance cuts of new foreign stamp issues.

NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

All subscriptions received after the first number of a new volume has been issued, will date from the time the name of subscriber is received at this office.

GRANT INAUGURATION MEDAL.

The Warner Brothers, of Philadelphia have issued a beautiful medal, size 34, struck in white metal, bearing on obverse a faithful likeness of General Grant, our President elect. In exergue the words, GENERAL U. S. GRANT. *Reverse*, semi-wreaths of oak and laurel, their stems tied with a ribbon. *Legend* INAUGURATED PRESIDENT OF THE U. S., MARCH 4, 1869. These medals will be mailed free of postage, on receipt of 75 cents. Address Mason & Co., 50 North Tenth street, Philadelphia.

A PARTNER AT LAST.

Having secured an associate partner and editor, we shall hereafter devote our time, and what humble talents we may possess, to the coin department of

our Magazine, and leave the stamp department to the management of our associate—a gentleman every way qualified for the task. We owe an apology to our readers for the introduction of *personal* matters in this number, to the exclusion of other matter of more interest to our subscribers. Next month we will be fully under way, and promise to be punctual to all our patrons, who may have been disappointed in having their orders as promptly executed as they wished. New and important features will be rapidly introduced to make this journal a reliable exponent of the subjects upon which it treats. Our errors and failures have been many and trying during the past two years, and with the additional facilities now at our command, we hope to deserve, as we shall strive to merit, the patronage of the Numismatic public.

E. MASON, JR.

COIN SALES.

We have nothing definite concerning the Mackensie sale of coins in N. Y., but have heard April mentioned as the time. Parties in this city have determined to await the result of this sale before deciding upon a day for offering their own collections to the public.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Mortonville, Pa., Feb. 6, 1869.

Gentlemen, I have two 15 cent notes, red and green backs, one having the written signatures of F. E. Spinner, Treasurer, which I will exchange for an 1858 Indian Head Proof cent.

Yours truly,

C. B. R.

Mortonville, Pa., Feb. 6.

I have two perfectly uncirculated U. S. cents of 1850 (mint brightness), which I will exchange for U. S. cents of 1848 and 1849, in the same condition.

Yours,

R. S.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

APRIL, 1869.

No 4.

A CHAPTER ON COINS.

BY W. H. PECK.

[The following article is so well arranged and interesting, that we insert it, although most of the facts have previously appeared in our JOURNAL.—ED.]

As to the exact time when metals were first used as money, history affords no information.

As early as B. C. 1860, Abraham, in purchasing a burial place, weighed out the amount agreed upon, "400 shekels of silver, current money with the merchant." This money, as is readily noticed, was not counted, but weighed, the money of that day being pieces of silver cut to certain weights, as talents, shekels and drachmas. The value of these pieces may have been marked on them, but not necessarily, as the difference in size would be sufficient to distinguish them. They were probably in the form of lumps and bars, the use of which, although a great improvement on the use of grain, cattle, and other commodities, was attended with great inconvenience, for at every important transaction their exact weight must be ascertained, and if too great a portion, must be cut off. The quality of the metal must also be found.

Rings of gold and silver, some of which were of large size, were used in some countries prior to the origin of coinage. Upon some of the Egyptian

monuments there are illustrations of these rings, and in the western part of Europe numbers of them have been found. The money of Sennaar, a country in Africa, is still of this form.

Up to the 9th century B. C., the metals had in all transactions been used by weight. During that century, or the following, the invention of coinage occurred; but the name of the inventor, his country, and the date of his invention, are alike unknown.

Many confer the honor upon the Æginians, and others upon the Ionians. Both issued coins at a very early date, but which of them was first to do so, and whether coinage originated among either, has long been a question.

The early methods of coining money were very imperfect. The metals after being brought to the required standard of fineness (if any standard was used), was cast into small bars, which, by hammering, were made into thin plates these plates were then cut into square pieces, which, after being rounded by the hammer, were flattened and stamped at the same time by means of rude dies.

The ancients in making their coins, designed them to be of a circular form but as they were not rounded accurately, they were more or less untrue, and were rendered still more so by the very imperfect manner in which they were stamped.

(To be continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 13.

"We live and learn," is an adage, the personal application of which the writer is free to acknowledge, and he is, therefore, not unwilling to admit that he has changed his mind when convinced of a mistake of judgment. He will say in this connection, that the cent mentioned in his first article as a 1799 with the '98 head, is now regarded as a result of human *ingenuity*, not to make use of a stronger word. In other words, that it is a cent of 1798 altered to look like a '99. There are known to be two varieties of the latter year, and one of these may be an overstrike, as several good judges are of that opinion.

There are three varieties of the "Ver-montensium Res Publica,"—see No. 2 of these papers—with seven, eight and nine trees. There is a cent of 1854 with large, and one with small stars—see No. 4. A variety of the cent of 1826 has the line of beauty around the edge, like the 1830 mentioned in No. 6. The obverse of an 1803 has the corrected error mentioned in the same number, as found on the 1801. The same die was probably used for both.

My attention has been called to crooked dies used in 1817 and in 1847. Unless these have given a marked peculiarity to the coin, I have not generally paid much attention to them, as previously to, say the year 1842, scarcely a year passed without the occurrence of this accident. I desire to emphasize the word *accident*, for it has appeared to me that some people actually think that the die was broken before it had been used. We can not unfrequently trace a *progressive breakage*, as for instance, in the dies of the 1804 cent, where the continued use extended the damage. Some years, too, we find that

several dies were broken. On looking over my cents of 1798, comprising twenty-two varieties, I find that *ten* dies must have suffered fracture; and that of thirty-four varieties of the same coin of 1794, not less than *eleven* had met with the same mishap.

A lad in Philadelphia has the credit of pointing out a mint mark on our bronze cent, since and including 1865, which it is probable very few persons have observed. It is the letter L* on one of the ends of the band around the Indian's head which supports the crown just below the last feather.

It may be interesting to some to observe a difference in the width of the figures of the date on the nickel 5 cent piece of the current year, in two different varieties. §

THE NEW U. S. COINAGE.

It has been asserted by parties in New York, that our announcement in March number, of the coinage of 1, 3 and 5 cent pieces, 1869, (new style,) was premature, and *one particular individual* asserted that our magazine was not reliable, owing to the fact that he was disappointed in getting the new coins ahead of his more enterprising competitors.

The 1, 3 and 5 cent nickel coins *were issued by the U. S. Mint*, and at least two packages, containing not far from fifty sets, were forwarded to Congressman Kelly, and by the latter distributed to members of Congress.

"Cut and come again," worthy friend, we can find a *persimmon* for your *huckle-berry* every time. We wonder if such parties would doubt the *reliability* of our magazine if we should state for a *positive fact*, that an "International Coin"—a \$5 piece in *alluminium* had been struck at our mint.

*Longacre, Engraver

C.

An anonymous correspondent of the *N. Y. Am. Journal of Numismatics*, for February, over the above signature, finds fault with our orthography in spelling the word "Tyrannis," asking of the editor, Prof. Anthon, this question:—"Is the error in spelling the last word (Tyrannus), *Mason's*, or a mistake of the printer?" The editor recklessly and unequivocally replies, "*Mason's*."

Let us ask the editor whose duty it is to correct bad spelling? We have been under the impression for many years that the "Proof-reader" was the proper person to blame for errors of any kind occurring in printed matter.

We dislike these hair-splitting, fault-finding criticisms, let them emanate from what source they may, and yet we are strongly tempted to find several *Damons* for "C's" *Pithias*. We would ask Prof. Anthon who omitted the quotation points properly belonging to the remarks quoted from the R. Catalogue by your correspondent? *Was it an error of the printer*, or did the infallible "C" commit so heinous an offence against the rules of punctuation? We could continue to bandy *compliments* with "C" and the aforesaid editor upon the *February No.* of the *N. Y. Journal*, but we already feel ashamed of such small work, or rather *small sport*—no, it is not even *sport*—it is trifling, pettifoggling, unmeaning scribbling, and we should stop at once did we not see an "ebony gent in the fuel heap." The *corrected corrector* of two *incorrect* and incorrigible coin dealers, had doubtless some private malice in asking the trifling question concerning the spelling of the word "Tyrannis."

Who is "C"? Why does he not have a "local habitation and a name?"

We may be "all at sea" in guessing—let us see—but we forbear, lest we are engulfed in a larger sea than we care to flounder in, and become "all seas over." *Go to "C."*

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov., 1867.—Continued.

PART I. *American Series.*

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; small tree, with large trunk, small dots placed close together in the circles; of larger size than any other Shilling in the sale; fine, and a very rare type. \$10.

Oak Tree Shilling, 1652; very small tree, with few branches; the letters in the legend smaller than any other variety of the Oak Tree Shillings; large size, fine, a rare type. \$8 00.

Oak Tree Sixpence, 1652; slightly pierced, but in all other particulars as fine a Sixpence of this variety as can be found, being quite as large as some of the Pine Tree Shillings; very rare. \$4 25.

Oak Tree Sixpence, 1652, small planchet; in uncirculated condition, rare. \$6 00.

Oak Tree Sixpence, 1652, large planchet; a poor impression, but of large size, not at all clipped. \$3 00.

Oak Tree Threepence, 1652; large and fine. \$5 50.

Oak Tree Threepence, 1652; slightly pierced, in other respects very good. \$2 00.

Oak Tree Twopence, 1662; very fine indeed, being scarcely touched by circulation. \$5 50.

Oak Tree Twopence, 1662; a curious variety, the figure 2 in the date being scarcely perceptible; very fine indeed. \$3 00.

Oak Tree Twopence, 1662; very fine scarce. \$3 50.

Oak Tree Twopence, 1662; totally different from the others, equally fine. \$4 50.

Oak Tree Twopence, 1652; perfectly uncirculated and exceeding rare; brought \$10 in a former sale. \$10 00.

THE MACKENZIE SALE.

The time of disposal, by auction, of the famous coin collection of Mortimer L. Mackenzie, of N. Y., has not yet been fixed upon, and the only approach we can make to the date, is that it *may* come off next month. Should we be disappointed in getting catalogues, we shall probably print a pamphlet of the important pieces and forward to all our patrons.

VARIETIES.

No. 2.

BY DR. R. SHELTON MACKENZIE.

Some years ago there was a young Philadelphia lawyer, named Mench, who had some taste in literature, which he exercised—indeed, was always exercising—in buying books. His limit, as to number, was about 600 volumes, and he *would* have the best editions. As a general rule, he declined reading a book until it was nicely bound. He put his book-plate into every volume—the crest, a hunter's horn, on a scroll, and "Edmund A. Mench" below it, in old English text. His peculiarity was that, when his shelves were filled, and he had read their contents quite through, Mr. Mench, like Alexander, would sigh for new worlds to conquer. With his shelves filled with books he had not space for any more purchases. Whereupon he would betake himself to John Campbell's book store, now 740 Sanson street, but then nearly under the original "Press" Office, opposite the Custom House, in Chestnut street—the very place, under the bank, now used as a

store by the company which undertakes the night custody of merchants' cash-boxes. He would intimate to Mr. Campbell his desire to sell off his library in a single lot, and the price would be agreed upon, and the money in hand, to be paid on receipt of the books, sometimes without his having seen them. To be sure, he knew the average quality and value of the vendor's collection. The best of the joke was that, having made the sale, Mr. Mench considered himself bound in honor not to retain or keep back even a single volume, no matter how much he might prize it. Accordingly, supposing the books had been delivered to Mr. Campbell on a Monday night, he might expect to have a visit from Mr. Mench early next morning, when he (Mench) would repurchase, in retail, such books out of the lot as he wished to start anew with. I remember that, one morning, when I happened to be down in town very early, *en route* for some country place in which I was to lecture that evening. I dropped into John Campbell's store, to get a book to read on the cars. I was attracted by a couple of pocket-volumes, "The Songs of England and Scotland," published in London in 1835, which I had been looking out for. These I purchased, and went my way. I had scarcely quitted when Mr. Mench rushed into Campbell's with the list of half a dozen books which he wanted to buy—out of six hundred he had sold Campbell on the previous day. "The Songs of England and Scotland" were on this list, and Mench was greatly disturbed in mind because I had anticipated him.

Alexander Chalmers, who edited Shakespeare very indifferently, wrote poetry (after a fashion) and edited the British Essayists—the Tattler to the Observer, in forty five volumes—published between 1812 and 1817, a General Biographical Dictionary, in thirty-two

octavo volumes. A somewhat heavy and lumbering affair it is, but better than nothing. An Englishman of my acquaintance spent much time and money illustrating this, and thereby expanded its bulk so much that the thirty-two volumes grew into ninety-six. He introduced autographs, facsimiles, views and portraits. For the latter he drew largely on the illustrated biographical works of the Rev. James Granger, author of a Biographical History of England, and of other works of a like character, for which he had hundreds of good portraits finely engraved. There are two illustrated editions of Granger mentioned by Allibone, which must have cost much money. In one of these, *six* volumes quarto are expanded to *twenty seven* by adding in over thirteen hundred portraits, and the other nineteen volumes folio contain three thousand portraits. An edition of Shakespeare, with two thousand three hundred prints, sold for \$2,880. The Bowyer Bible, in forty-five folio volumes, with six thousand engravings, was put up for raffle as of the value of \$15,770, and the winner sold it for \$2,025. A copy of Clarendon's History of the English Rebellion was illustrated, at a cost of \$50,000, by a Mr. Sutherland, and over \$400 was paid for one print of James I and Anne of Denmark, his wife. There was a ninety-volume edition of Voltaire's works, with twelve thousand engravings, of which ten thousand were portraits; total cost, \$4,000. The late William E. Burton, comedian, had an illustrated edition of Boydell's Shakespeare, on which, when I saw it in 1855, he had expended \$10,000. It was not bought at auction, I believe, but retained by his daughter.

In 1850, a collector of autographs in Edinburgh, who also went in largely for

portraits, assured me that he had expended \$250,000 on his collection. It certainly was a splendid one. He accompanied me to visit another collector, who did not care for any engravings except portraits, and showed me, with great exultation and self-complacency, several thousand autograph letters and documents by an army of authors, accompanied, in most cases, by title pages of each of their works, and even of the successive editions. To obtain these title pages he must have robbed and spoiled at least twenty thousand volumes. There was one John Bagford, who grubbed, rather than flourished, in the reigns of William III, Anne and George I, who made a trade of collecting title-pages, in order to illustrate a History of Printing which he intended to write. To have roasted him alive on a burning pyre of printed sheets would have been meet reward for his labors!

N. B.

25 cents cash, or 50 cents trade, in coins or stamps, will be given for each January number 1869, and December number 1868, of this magazine. Also a good price for vol. 1st, complete, clean and uninjured.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES.

Our subscribers are requested to pardon any delay in receiving the large plates, containing the photographs of collectors,—the first edition entirely exhausted. 100 plates will be ready for distribution in a few days. Price \$2, postage prepaid by us.

WANTED.

January numbers of this Magazine, 1869. A good price paid for April numbers, 1867. November and December numbers, 1868. A complete volume 1867, '68 also wanted.

REMARKABLE ANTIQUITIES
FOUND.

One of the most important of antique treasure trove has just come to light near Hildesheim, in the old kingdom of Hanover. It is so extensive that it is spoken of as "three barrows-full."

The military authorities had bought a piece of land for a shooting ground, and during the excavations the spade of a soldier struck a hard substance which proved to be a huge inverted silver vase, under which were found similar objects.

The articles were found in several mounds, and the excavation is now being carefully carried on with the expectation of finding still other valuable models of antiquity. The *Pall Mall Gazette* describes the articles thus far discovered: A few things were, as usual, abstracted and disposed of in the first moments of surprise, but the colonel of the regiment was soon on the spot to prevent further mischief.

At first it was thought that the objects found belonged to the sixteenth or seventeenth century, and the name of Benvenuto Cellini rose to everybody's lips. Soon, however, an inscription found at the bottom of a vase, reading L. MALL, BOCCI. PIII. III., put the inquirers on the scent of a certain Florentine silversmith Bocci, of whom some fifteen century writers is said to make some mention.

But these and similar notions were soon dispelled by Professor Wieseler, the famous archæologist, who at once declared all these treasures to be unquestionably antique. Inscriptions, at present to the number of twenty-four, found on the objects, disposes of the last shadow of doubt. All the articles are in silver, partly gilt, the reliefs being throughout in raised work. The feet, handles, etc., are in antique fashion,

wrought separately and affixed to the vessels by some tarry substance.

COLLECTORS GALLERY.

The following collectors' photographs have been received since our last, and filed for insertion in their appropriate departments. We have received a number of Ferretotypes, but cannot promise to use them unless a space adapted to the size of picture can be spared. Due notice will be given of the appearance of the second plate of photographs.

T. E. A., St. Pauls, Minnesota.
H. L. S., Forrest City, "
W. M. B., Bucyrus, Ohio.
E. J. F., Cleveland, "
T. R. M., Ravenna, "
G. W. J., Philadelphia.
C. K. W., "
R. A. W., Towanda, Pennsylvania.
A. H., Dillsburg, "
McC., Allegheny City, "
W. H. P., Providence, "
G. W. W., Allentown, "
A. C. M., " "
F. C. H., Washington, D. C.
D. W. C., " "
G. M. E., Lowell, Mass.
F. J. M., G. Rapids, Michigan.
J. McC., " "
J. W. S. New York City.
Watson, " "
J. E. H., Waverly New York.
H. W. M. K., L. Eddy, "
H. C. B., Waverly, "
J. K. G., Monroe, "
R. A. G., Pulaski, "
J. R. G., Jr., " "
A. T. F. L., H. City, "
L. H., Elmira, "
L. J. P., New Haven, Connecticut.
A. S. J., Bethel, "
C. A. Q., Norwalk, "
G. S., Cambridge, Massachusetts.

THREE DAYS' COIN SALE.

Attention is particularly directed to advertisement and catalogue of our second Coin Sale, to be held in this city, April 13, 14 and 15.

We have given close attention to the arrangement and management of this collection of Coins, and present endorsements to our patrons that may serve to allay any prejudice existing in regard to the proper description of the pieces. Coin Dealers and others are invited to call and examine the coins, at our store, 50 N. 10th St., previous to the sale.

AN APOLOGY.

Our readers will please pardon the omission of our History of the '93 cents, and other matter, which should have appeared in this number of our Journal. Having our hands full in arranging a public Coin Sale, and our partner being delayed in joining us, will, we trust, be a reasonable excuse for a lack of coin and stamp matter in this number.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

We have the pleasure of announcing to our subscribers and numismatic readers, a public sale of Foreign and American Coins and Medals, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 13, 14 and 15, commencing on Thursday at 3½ P. M.

This collection is the property of a celebrated banker, who has devoted several years, and expended considerable money in its formation. Many of the coins are from the famous cabinets of Finotti and Mickley. The pieces consist of Foreign and American gold, silver and copper Coins, Medals, Medallets, Store Cards, Politicals, etc., etc. About 1500 lots will be offered, averaging about 500 lots at each day's sale.

We have only space sufficient to name

a few rare pieces to be found in this cabinet, viz.: Silver dollars of 1794, 1836, '39, '51 and '52; Half-dollars of 1796 and 1797; Washington "Presidency Relinquished," (medal) in silver; Washington Cent, 1783, silver; Washington Centennial silver Medalet; Washington Cents of 1791, (large and small Eagles,) 1793, and other U. S. Cents, in fine condition; 1796 Half-cent, gold pattern model Dollar of California, (1849); gold pattern Ring dollar; gold pattern dollar of 1836, (*Liberty Cap*). Pattern pieces—some excessively rare—proof dollars, halves, quarters dimes, half dimes, 3 cent pieces and nickels.

Of the Foreign, there is a fine assortment of Roman and Grecian silver coins, modern silver coins of nearly all nations, and a large quantity of miscellaneous foreign coins.

Great care will be taken in cataloguing this collection, and the catalogue will be endorsed by responsible numismatists, and each coin warranted genuine, unless otherwise described.

Catalogues of this sale will be mailed to each of our subscribers; and at the close of the sale, a few priced catalogues will be furnished upon receipt, by us, of \$1 each.

We would say to our readers, that the coins are not all fine; but we can assure them that the choice pieces are such as would do honor to any collection. Persons requiring a special description of any one piece, can be accommodated by enclosing stamp with their request.

N. E. JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.

We have received a small folio sheet, published monthly, by C. A. Lyford, Boston, Mass., bearing the above comprehensive title. The new journal is devoted to stamp collectors, and makes a very creditable appearance. We wish it a long and prosperous career.

NEW STAMP ISSUES.

ROMAN STATES.

The 40 centesimi and 80 c., are now perforated. The series thus improved is therefore complete.

LA GUAIRA.

The 2 reales yellow is no longer perforated in holes, but scalloped like the blue $\frac{1}{2}$ real. The type in both is that with large figures at the corners.

BAVARIA.

A 7 kr., corresponding with the 2 groschen of North Germany, is reported to be on the point of issue for this kingdom.

TRINIDAD.

We have just received specimens of the current stamps of this island, among which we find the sixpenny slightly varied in hue; the fourpenny of a much deeper violet than any hitherto used for that value; and the penny of a bright, rather rosy-red.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

We recently received the penny value of this colony in bright rose-red, and the sixpenny in rich violet; both watermarked with double-lined figures, and perforated, but in a most clumsy manner.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

We gave a full description of the new



one-cent stamp in January, and we now supplement this with an engraving of the type. It is a fair representation of the design, but to fully appreciate its delicacy, our readers must refer to the originals; and as these are fortunately so cheap, they can easily adorn their albums with what we can but style a *chef-d'œuvre*.

RUSSIA.

The annexed engraving will evidence the sort of envelope design, in favor of which the Russians have superseded the fine device so long in vogue. It is neat, and Germanesque, and will, no doubt, as the imperial authorities are not fond of change, remain current for many years.



A 20 kop. blue, and 30 kop. rose have, it appears, been emitted, in addition to the 10 kop. brown, which we have already chronicled.

SPAIN.

Of the four new stamps described last month, three being mere reproductions of a former type, the remaining fourth is the only one of which it is necessary

to give an illustration. The latter appears to have been the first of the series in point of time, M. Moens has seen a specimen



postmarked 20 December, 1868; whilst, so far as can be known, the others only saw light on New Year's day.

CEYLON.

We are now able to give an engraving of the type, which, under reserve, we described in our January number.



Of its postal character there can now be no doubt, and we may expect from time to time to receive others of the same design, until a complete series appears. To the details already given, we have only to add, that the paper is watermarked c c and crown.

BELGIUM.

The current 20 c. is now printed in what our Brussels contemporary (who ought to know), describes as a pearl-grey blue—a light and delicate shade, presenting a marked contrast to the previous one. The last copies we have received of the 10 c. are also of a much deeper hue than those previously current; they are quite a blackish grey, and appear to be impressions from a re-touched plate, all the details of the design coming out with unusual clearness.

Le Timbre-Poste gives a report of a probable change of series, the present minister, M. Jamar, being dissatisfied at the enormous expenses which have followed the purchase of the present die, which is supposed to be a representation of Leopold the first.

Our contemporary states that M. Jamar has already called the engravers to his aid, and gives types as the first results of the action taken. Which (if either), will be accepted is not known, but M. Moens avers that both contain faithful portraits of the reigning king. He gives his own suffrages to the first, as being the better executed of the two, and in this we are disposed to agree with him; the bell-shaped corner devices of the second being a decided disfigurement. He gives the further intelligence, that the present "arms" stamps will be suppressed, M. Jamar having "fallen in love" with a design which has been submitted to him, representing the Belgian lion *couchant* in the centre; and below the value in large figures.

The 6 and 8 centime stamps will be kept back for the new type, but, as M. Moens says with regard to this type, we must not give ourselves up to a false hope, as in Belgium things hasten slowly.

CUBA.

Undisturbed by changes of government in the home country, or by rebellion in the colony itself, the postal authorities have made their usual annual changes in their stamps. They have retained the design, but altered the colors, which now stand as follows:

5 centimos	pink.
10	" light brown.
20	" orange.
40	" lilac.

The impression is, as before, on unwatermarked paper, and the stamps are perforated.—"*Eng. S. C. Mag.*"

NEW ISSUE OF U. S. P. O. STAMPS.

We have delayed the publication of a description of the new issue in hopes of having an opportunity to examine the stamps. There has been a conflict of authority on the subject of the forthcoming stamps, but the following list comprises all the new Postage Stamps that will be circulated the present year:

One Cent.—Head of Franklin, same as 30 cent present issue, U. S. POSTAGE, in circle on top, 1 CENT at bottom, colored bronze.

Two Cents.—Post-horse and rider, instead of post cart as previously described; colored brown.

Six Cents.—The five cent has been changed into a six by altering the figures; color, ultramarine.

Ten Cents.—Shield surmounted by spread eagle and supported by flags; color, orange.

Twelve Cents.—Will be green instead of blue as first stated.

Fifteen Cents.—Landing of Columbus, same as the five dollar National currency note. The picture occupies rather over one-third of the width; the color of which will be scarlet, the top and bottom brown.

Twenty-four Cents.—Signing the Declaration of Independence. The picture will be purple, the top and bottom green.

Thirty Cents.—Same as ten cents, except that it will be printed in orange and blue.

Ninety Cents.—Head of Lincoln in circle. Colors, black or purple, with vermilion border.

SCOTT'S NEW STAMP ALBUM.

We have received a new oblong album from Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co. N. Y., which fills a blank in the album line long existing.

This book is prepared without printed headings, leaving the insertion and arrangement of stamps at the option of the collector. A copious index of stamps of all nations, with the date of issue, is very conveniently arranged as an index to the work. As an album to precede the use of an expensive volume, it will no doubt be generally adopted.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

N. W. P.—Keep the Swiss piece. Have not the 1 Franc at present. Referred your letter on "varieties" to "\$."

W. L. & Co.—Received the initial number of *N. E. J. of P.* Sent you our March number.

P. S. T.—Philadelphia State House was finished—excepting the steeple—in 1744. The steeple was an after consideration.

J. M.—Your spicy letter at hand. If we had room would let our readers enjoy the repast. Sent you the plate.

L. R.—The U. S. Postage Stamps outnumber all other nations. There being 94 stamps, past and present issues.

S. W. J.—"Old Reliable" was wrong. We purchased 1, 3 and 5 cent pieces, 1869, of the new coinage from parties in Washington. A large number of sets were coined and sent on as gifts to Senators and others in W. As soon as Kelly's coinage bill passes both houses of Congress, we will supply your order. We may have a few more sets before the bill passes.

S. K.—The *unique* Washington cent we offered for \$75 last summer, is now the proper of Wm. Fewsmith, Camden, N. J., and valued at \$350.

T. T. B.—Obliged to you for November number. Will send you 1, 3, 5 cent pieces soon.

J. A. B.—Medalets of Grant received. Accountsquare.

P. G. M., N. B.—If, as you say, the "Lancashire Lass" was produced in part, or as a whole, either by an Ethiopian, or burlesque company in the Bowery, our quotation holds good, although an immaterial point in the discussion.

J. V., Boston.—It is not too late for the Photo.

J. N. T. L., N. Y.—We differ with you about the propriety of inserting your phiz in the "Gallery." We would say that, as your photo was a private gift, in front of Yorktown—when we two did duty for the Union—we will, at your request, omit it until you reconsider, and grant us the pleasure of adding an old collector and friend to our galaxy of stars that shine conspicuously in the numismatic firmament.

F. A. C., NEW BRUNSWICK.—The impression you send of a '96 Lib. cap with 13 stars on the cap, rec'd. The stars have been struck on with a die and being indented show conclusively that the party who imposed the cent upon you as a peculiarity of U. S. Coinage was more ingenious than honest

T. T. B., TRAVERSE CITY.—Photo. inserted. Mailed the old issue.

J. G., MONROE.—Subscribers at hand. Good for Monroe. Get all the Photo's you can.

S. S., CHICAGO.—Our partner will be here about 15th.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

Just as we go to press a small collection of American medals, coins, etc., have arrived, and will be added to the former collection and sold on Wednesday, after the latter cabinet is disposed of. Catalogues will embrace all pieces to be offered, and an early notice from bidders is requested. All coins purchased for private buyers will be sent C. O. D. by express, with a charge of 10 per cent. added to amount purchased.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

Packages of 50 different Foreign Stamps.....	\$ 25
" 25 " scarce "	25
" 10 " rare "	50
" 5 " very rare "	50
" 100 assorted common "	25
Stamp Albums, handsomely bound, for 75 cents,	
\$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$3, \$5 and \$10.	

MASON & CO.,
50 N. 10th Street, Phila.,

Sets of U. S. Cents.

1793 to 1857, good condition, excepting rare dates, \$15.00 per set.
1817 to 1868, Inc., Nickel cents, fine, \$10.00 per set
Half Cents 1793 to 1857, omitting rare dates, \$3.00 per set.

Address all orders for Coins, &c., to
MASON & CO., No. 50 N. 10th St., Phila.

COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

I have the following to exchange through your agency:

1st. A set of Confederate bonds (4 in number), for a fair 1793 cent.

2d. The three first numbers of Mason's C. & S. Magazine for a fair 1809 cent.

3d. A medal in copper, size 16, obverse, a bust of Lincoln; reverse, "a piece of copper from Rebel Ram Mer-

rimac, &c., only ten struck," (struck by Bolen, of Springfield Mass.,) for a fair 1799 cent.

J. F. P.

"F. A. G. offers 2 number C. & S. Collectors Magazine, June and July, in fair condition for binding, for either one of the following numbers, viz:

April, May, August, September, October, in good condition.

I offer

2 1800 cents, poor, for 1 1805, fair.
1 1801 " " 1 1806, "
1 1797 " " 1 1811, "
1 1794 Liberty cap, poor, for 1 Kentucky poor.

R. P. JR.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 14, '69.

GENTS:

I would like to exchange some pennies for a 1823 and '27. I will give a 1857 copper, and 1817, or 1825 and '28, all in good condition.

Yours truly,

THOMAS E. ADDY.

St. Paul, Minnesota, Box 1228.

D. W. C. offers stamps as follows in exchange for others of equal value:

REVENUE STAMPS.

50 cents Passage ticket, new.
50 cents Mortgage, new.
\$1 " " torn, but clean.
40 cents Internal rev. " "
60 " " " " "
Confederate blue 10 cents, new.
Trinidad, 1 and 6 penny.
East India, ½ Anna, 4 Anna, 8 Anna, 8 Pies.
English Stamps, Canada, do
Papal States, 8 bajocco.
Italian, 3 kinds.
Swiss, 60 Frenes.
French, 5 kinds.
Spain, 20 Es.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Feb. 17, '69.

GENTLEMEN :

I have 9 small proof sets (5, 3, 2 and 1 cent, 1867), and one of '68. I will exchange one set for each of the following U. S. cents :

1855 (Slant 55 in date.) Bright, uncir'd.

1855 " die broken over ear "

1857 Nickel, Untarnished proof.

1858 " " "

1861 " " "

1864 " Thick planchet, " "

1858 " Indian head, " "

1864 U. S. Two cent piece, bright untarnished proof.

1865 Nickel U. S. Three cent piece, bright untarnished proof.

Respectfully,

A. S. F.

MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN

PACKETS!

U. S. CENTS.

Packet. No.	U. S. CENTS.	Condition.	Price.
1	1793	Very poor.	\$ 50
2	1793	very fair.	1 50
3	1793	very good.	3 00
4	1794, '95	'96 good.	1 50
5	1794, '95	'96 extra good.	2 50
6	1797 1798	very good.	50
7	1799	very poor.	2 00
8	1799	very fair.	5 00
9	1799	very good.	10 00
10	1800, '01, '02 '03	very good.	1 25
11	1804	fair.	1 50
12	1804	very fair.	2 50
13	1804	good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
15	1805 '06 '07	fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
17	1808	fair.	25
18	1808	good.	50
19	1809	poor.	50
20	1809	good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
33	1813 '14 '16	good.	50
24	1817 1820	very good.	40
25	1821 1824	good.	50
26	1825 1830	very good.	30
27	1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.

U. S. CENTS.

Packet.	U. S. CENTS.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793	poor.	1 55
29	1793	good.	3 00
30	1794 '95	fair.	50
31	1794 '95	good.	1 00
32	1797 1800	fair.	50
33	1803, '04, '05, '06 '07,	very good.	50
34	1808, '09 '10,	very good.	30
35	1825 1829	very good.	25
36	1832 1835	very good.	25
37	1849 1851	very good.	15
38	1853 1857	very good.	25
39	No. 28 to 39,		3 00
40	1802 1811	very fair.	3 00
COLONIALS.			
41	Conn. and N. J.	good.	25
42	Va. Mass.	good.	1 00
43	Ver. N. Y.	good.	1 75
44	Const, 2,	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 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 50
57	do	very fine,	1 75
58	do	proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1858	nickel,	
		good,	1 25
60	do do	proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855	fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar,	ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece,	proof.	5 00
65	do	proof.	5 00
FOREIGN COINS.			
66	12 different coins,	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	good.	5 00
STORE CARDS.			
73	10 cards,	good.	35
74	10	fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

MAY, 1869.

No 5.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

By SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

In this brief History of Continental Paper Money, I shall endeavor to trace its origin, rapid increase, and downfall; the cause of its depreciation; the honest intention of Congress to redeem it; set forth the mode suggested by that body for its full payment, and incidentally show its powerful, if not indispensable agency in gaining our independence.

I propose, moreover, to demonstrate that the non-redemption of that paper money operated upon the people of that day, by its gradual depreciation (until its final extinction), as nothing more than a moderate tax; that no sentiment of repudiation was ever entertained by Congress; that many examples, before and since, both in Europe and America, may be alleged in extenuation of the neglect this paper met with; and I shall conclude with a short review (by a foreign pen principally) of the temper of the people during the Revolution; the effect, this unsettled currency, for so long a period, had on their morals; and attempt a comparison between the Americans of that day and of this.

On the 10th of May, 1775, immediately after the battle of Lexington, Congress prepared its first emission of Continental Colonial Bills, and on the 22d of June, as soon as the news of the battle of Bunker Hill reached Philadelphia,

two millions of Spanish milled dollars (so called), purporting to be for the defence of America, were put in circulation, the confederated Colonies standing pledged for their redemption.

Congress appointed twenty-eight citizens of Philadelphia to sign and number the bills, the names of two being necessary to each bill. Each gentleman was allowed, out of the Continental Treasury, one dollar and one-third for each and every thousand bills signed and numbered by him.

At foot will be found the names of the persons entrusted with this duty.*

Contracts were made with printers for proper paper, and for printing them. To administer these paper funds, joint treasurers were appointed at a salary of five hundred dollars; and the number of inhabitants of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes, in each Colony, was taken, by approximation, of course, in order to levy the ways and means to pay the bills whenever they should be presented at the Treasury. They were

*Luke Morris, Daniel Clymer, Anthony Morris, Jos. Sims, Samuel Meredith, John M. Nesbit, Mordecai Lewis, John Shee, Judah Foulke, Thomas Barclay, Geo. Mifflin, Wm. Craige, Samuel Morris, John Bayard, Robt. Tuckniss, John Mease, Frederick Kuhls, Thomas Bartow, Andrew Bunner, Ellis Lewis, Robert S. Jones, Isaac Haalehurst, Wm. Jackson, Thomas Combe, Robert Morris, James Milligan, Thomas Lawrance, James Reed.

taken for taxes and cancelled; and in order to keep up their credit, the treasurers were directed, whenever they happened to receive silver or gold, to advertise their readiness to pay the same for Continental bills to all persons requiring an exchange.

(To be Continued.)

HISTORY OF U. S. MEDALS.

Including Presidential, Army, Navy, and Miscellaneous.

BY E. M. JR.

(Continued).

A gold medal was awarded by Congress, Sept., 24th. 1779, to Major Henry Lee, for his gallantry and courage in attacking a body of British troops and Fort Paulus Hook, N. J., July, 19th, 1779. Obverse, bust of Major Lee, *Legend*, HENRICO LEE, LEGIONIS EQUIT, PRAEFECTO, EXERGUE, COMITA AMERICANA, *Reverse Legend*, NON OBSTANTIBE FLUMINIBUS, VALLIS, ASTULIA ET VIRTUTE BELLICA, PARVA MANU HOSTIS VICIT VICTOSQ, ARMIS HUMANITATE DEVINXIT, IN MEM., PUGN, AD PAULUS HOOK, DIE XIX AUG., MDCLXXIX. *Size 36.

On Nov., 3d, 1780, John Paulding, David Williams, and Isaac Van Wert, were each awarded by Congress a silver Medal for arresting Major Andre, the spy, and thereby destroying the conspiracy concocted by Benedict Arnold, the traitor, with the British Commander. These medals were oblong, size 26x34, and were presented to the brave and faithful recipients, by Genl. Washington, 1781, in presence of the American army. In addition to the medal, a copy of a resolution of Congress was presented, awarding each participant in the fortunate capture of Andre, with an annual pension of \$200, for life, and a

vote of thanks, handsomely engrossed on parchment, for their gallant and meritorious behaviour upon the occasion.

The Medals were alike on obverse and reverse; the former presenting a shield in *bas relief*, surrounded by a semi wreath of laurel and palm, *Legend*, FIDELITY. *Reverse*, a circular wreath of palm branches, within which a blank space was left for the insertion of name, &c. *Legend*, VINCIT AMOR PATRIAE.

(To be Continued).

COIN SALE IN CANADA.

A public sale of the "large collection of coins, belonging to J. L. Bronson, late Pre'st of the Numismatic Society," as the title page of the catalogue reads, was held at No. 361, Notre Dame St., Montreal, on Thursday, April 8th. There were 2246 coins sold, realizing \$134,78, or about an average of 6c. each.

Among the interesting and valuable U. S. Coins, was a 1793 cent, to which particular attention was called in the catalogue, as being in "very fine" order; and what think ye, enthusiastic lovers of fine '93 cents, this choice coin brought under the hammer in Canada? *Three Cents!* And that was not all, an entire collection of U. S. cents, with varieties (from 1793 to 1857, inclusive), was sold for the paltry sum of \$2,25! Washington North Wales token, brought 15c. Double Head Washington cent, 20c. Washington Copper 1783, 15c. Louisiana cent 1722, 20c. Franklin cent, 10c. Vermont cent, 5c. Mass. cent, 15c. *Nova Ebor* (N. Y.) cent, 15c. Kentucky cent, 80c. *Georgin Triumpho*, 15c. N. A. token, 2c. Talbot Album and Lee cent, 1795, 2c. A set of U. S. $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, about 9c. each. After the American series had reached No. 515, a reaction took place, and a Feuchtwan-

*Date on the medal, by error of engraver, is made 1679, should be 1779.

ger composition cent was run up to 20c. The reader can judge of the numismatic fever in Canada, by reference to this remarkable and *unique* sale.

Will some of our Canadian friends let us know when the next sale comes off in their Dominion, and we will put a hundred or two of dollars in our pocket, pay them a visit, at the same time buy the entire catalogue of all similar "large collections." Look at our last Philadelphia sale, Canadians, and blush for your country. We had 950 lots, and realized \$1500, an average of nearly \$1.75 each.

BOSTON COIN SALE

A small collection of coins were sold by Leonard & Co., in Tremont Street, on Friday, April 16th. As we have received no priced catalogue as yet, we are unable to give the result—may do so in our next Number.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

From the present indications, our readers may look for a sale of choice coins in New York, sometime in May. Hope to have notice and catalogue in time for June number of our journal.

Prepare to be astonished, ye timid numismatists, not only at the condition and rarity of the pieces, but at the catalogue full of charming photographic views of the choice coins.

A CHAPTER ON COINS.

(Continued.)

At the present time, to prevent their spreading, coins are struck in a band or collar. There are but few coins made now whose form is other than circular. There are the square ducat of Nuremberg; the octagonal pieces of Asam; the coins of Japan, of which the largest gold coin is 6 inches in length and 3½ inches in breadth, being worth \$100; and in our own country, the \$50 octagon

of California. Most of the common metals have been used as money. Under Lycurgus the Spartans banished gold and silver, and made the money of Sparta of iron. The money first used in Italy and Sicily was of bronze. The romans in the reign of Servius Tullius, 578—534 B. C., used coins of copper each of which weighed a pound. Silver coins were not issued by them until 281 B. C., and gold coins not till 207 B. C. The Britons in the year 55 B. C., had in use coins of tin, of brass, and of iron, also rings of gold and silver. Tin was also coined by Charles II. James II., in need of something better, used pewter and gun-metal. Russia uses coins of platinum.

The obverse of a coin is the side bearing the principal design. This design usually represents the head of the monarch, or some other illustrious personage; obverse is in common parlance called the head. The reverse is the side opposite the obverse. The legend is any words other than the name of the person represented. The field is the blank space on a coin. The exergue is the space around the designs, occupied by the inscription and date. In determining the side to which the figure on a coin faces, reference is made to the beholders right or left hand. In countries having several mints, the coins issued from each are distinguished by a small mark or letter, called the mint mark.

(To be Continued.)

MASON & CO'S, SECOND PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE, APRIL 13th AND 14th, 1869.

E. J. Farmer's collection of coins was disposed of at public sale, as above, and gave universal satisfaction to all concerned. There has seldom, if ever, been a sale that attracted as much attention as this. Not that the coins were superior to those offered in pre-

vious sales, but simply from the fact that several pieces were eyed with selfish longings by more than one collector. The excitement was created principally by the exhibition of the finest 1796, 16 star, U. S. Half dollar that had been seen in the country. Day after day came the lovers of numismatics to feast their eyes upon this beautiful coin. It was vaguely hinted that Uncle Sam might purchase the piece to improve his disreputable collection, at the marble mint in Chestnut St. Philadelphians said that the coin should not leave the city. If the mint did not purchase it, some bold, patriotic and sensible collector, would buy it himself; if he had to sell his new velocipede to raise the needful. There were other attractions in the sale. A magnificent series of Roman and Grecian Silver coins, many of them of the highest rarity; also a unique "Virginia shilling," or as Brother Cogan terms this peculiar little brass piece "store card." Let it be what it may,—and our word for it, there is a young mint for the happy possessor

of this piece, not far in the future,—it is of absorbing interest, and some close student of Virginia's romantic history may some day unravel the mystery which befores the proper understanding of this *rara avis*. Who was this 'Richard Dawson,' whose name is inscribed upon the card or coin, or medal, etc. How came the piece in England? Friend Mickley knows nothing of its history or origin.

Here, too, we had a 1794 U. S. dollar, 1796 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, two pieces that creates a lively bidding and competition at any sale when offered. There were other pieces, and other reasons, which caused that large collection of gentlemen and scholars assembled in Birch & Son's spacious rooms, on Tuesday, April 13.

We intended to write a detailed description of the exciting scenes enacted over the choice specimens sold upon this occasion, but find our space too limited and must conclude by allusion to the prices realized for a few of the most desirable pieces.

COIN.	CONDITION,	BUYER,	PRICE,	REMARKS.
1794 Dollar,	Very fair,	Mason,	\$41 00,	Extremely rare.
1836 "	Proof,	Smith,	8 50,	Scarce.
1839 "	Good,	Mason,	14 00,	Very rare.
1851 "	Fine,	Cogan,	12 00,	"
1852 "	Good,	Mason,	10 00,	"
1796 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Fine,	Mason,	100 00,	Extremely rare.
1796 Dime,	Fine,	Mason,	8 50,	Rare.
1793 Cent,	Fine.	Cogan,	19 00,	"
1791 S. E., Wash't. Ct.,	Very fine,	Randall,	18 00,	Very rare.
1836 Gold P. Dollar,	Proof,	Cogan,	11 00,	"
1849 California M. Dollar,	Very fine,	"	13 00,	"
1838 Gold Ring Dollar,	Proof,	"	13 00,	Extremely rare.
Virginia Shilling,	Fair,	"	44 00,	Unique.
J. Adam's Medal,	Very fine,	Mason,	10 00,	Extremely rare.
Annapolis 3d,	Fine,	"	10 00,	" "
1796 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent,	Poor,	Maris,	11 25,	" "

Among the beautiful Silver coins of Greece was a very ancient, very rare, and very fine tetradrachm—a coin of Cy-

zicus—which was boldly and liberally competed for, but Mr. Cogan won the prize by bidding \$41, which settled the

anxious ones heavily in their seats, and the balance of the Grecian pieces averaged about \$4 each. The highest price for a single piece, \$100 for 1796 Half Dollar, was paid by us for a Boston customer. Upon this piece we had a wide margin, but happily for the present owner, Mr. Cogan, who had an unlimited bid, withdrew, thinking the piece had reached its fictitious value. There were 950 lots sold, realizing not far short of \$1500.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No 14.

Of the so called "Kentucky cent," there are two varieties; differing in this respect, that while one set of dies were probably employed in making both, the planchet of one variety was thicker than the other, and had inscribed on the edge "Payable in Lancaster, London or Bristol." This piece has all the appearances of the English Tokens, issued in great numbers between the years 1791 and 1796 inclusive. There are reasons for believing that it appeared during the earlier part of this period. Commencing at the top of the pyramid of stars, and then reading from left to right the inscribed letters, they run as follows: K., R. I., Vt., V., N. Y., N. C., Md., Ms., S. C., N. H., D., P., N. J., G., S. C. The legend "Unanimity is the strength of Society," is so arranged as to leave insufficient space between its commencement and termination, a cross being barely allowed room to separate them.

There are two other pieces known as Kentucky tokens. The reverse of one of them is inscribed, "One Half Penny, Copper Company of Upper Canada;" upon the other, "Payable by P. P. P. Myddleton." Their obverses are similar; having the legend, "British Set-

tlement of Kentucky, 1796." Little appears to be known of the history of these pieces, but their reference to this country, render them objects of much interest.

Some notice was given in a previous article of coins, that during the latter part of the last century were stamped at two different mints, or at different times in the same mint. There are others that bear the impress on one side of a coin of the same date and denomination, excepting that a depression is found where an elevation would be caused by the die; as for an instance in the date. More than one such specimen is now in my cabinet. They are found both in the Colonials, and in the U. S. issues, and are believed to have been pressed in coining against their immediate predecessor, which had been caught and retained by one of the dies.

The reader of No. 13 "Peculiarities," is asked to believe that the printer did not intend to make game of the writer when he made him speak of "crooked" instead of "cracked" dies. Much may be overlooked by those who know the difficulty of avoiding errors in print, and particularly so with a careless copy. When however, misprints occur of a character calculated to misinform, or to hold up the author to ridicule, there seems to be more than a propriety in making the necessary correction.

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COINS OF CANADA.

We have received a neatly bound and interesting work, of nearly 100 pages, entitled "Coins, Tokens, and Medals of the Dominion of Canada," By Alfred Sandham. This book is a useful guide to the numismatist, especially in the U. S., where we have been groping in the dark, and know very little of the numismatic history of Canada. This work,

with its 150 illustrations, puts us on the right track, and now we can go on with our Canadian series of coins, tokens, and Medals, without feeling the fear of collecting a lot of useless trash. We recommend this work to every collector, and in order to save the trouble of sending to Canada, our readers can enclose \$1, and 15 cents in stamps, and receive the book from us free of postage. Direct all orders to Mason & Co., No. 50 North 10th Street, Philadelphia.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Philadelphia, April 10th, 1869.

GENTS:—

I notice that you recommend your subscribers to be careful of their magazines, that is keep them clean, and as free from folds as possible, &c. &c. It seems to me you do not follow the advice you give; for several months I have received my magazine in a horrid condition, being rolled before posting. In my opinion it does them injury, besides rendering them unfit for binding. If no trouble, please do not wrap them as above shown, in future; one fold in the middle is sufficient. How is it you have never noticed the Numis. and Antiq. Soc., of this city? Is it beneath your notice? I should like to know something about it,

Please attend to the magazine matter, and oblige.

Yours very truly,

F. D. L.

[We would say in reply to the above, that we were under the impression that when rolled up, the magazine would be protected from injury, and nearly all our patrons object to the folds made by mailing the magazines our correspondent suggests. It is downright carelessness in P. O. clerks to mash and jam our little pet until subscribers cry

out in alarm. We will hereafter deliver your magazine in person—clean and flat as a marble door step.

Why dont you send us the report of meetings of your Society, that we may indulge in a few remarks about its progress and prospects? It is our private opinion, perhaps too publicly expressed, that your society is too aristocratic and reticent for its own good. Why dont you propose that the Philadelphia Association subscribe for our work, and learn what is going on in the outer numismatic world, instead of gathering monthly, like a secret cabal, almost fearful that the wind will enter some crevice, and blow upon their proceedings. *Life and light* are wanted in the various Numismatic gatherings in this country. One is essential to existence, and the other important as a means of progress.—ED.]

Traverse City, Mich., March 2, '69.
Messrs. MASON & Co.,

Gents: Will you please inform me through your Magazine when dates were first used on coins? Yours truly,

T. T. BATES,

[Said to be in the 15th century—not positively known.—ED.]

Elmira, April 14th, 1869.

DEAR SIR:—

Please send me the following dates at the prices named:

1795, 15 cents, 1801, 5 cents,

1796, 25 cents, 1811, 15 cents.

Please send immediately, C. O. D.

Yours truly,

De B. G.

[We print the above with comments, as a means of instructing parties sending small orders. The expense on the above order, would equal the cost of the coins. We would advise all persons sending for small lots of \$3, and

under, to enclose the money. We will furnish such parties with proper reference as to our business standing and responsibility. M. & Co.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. P., OHIO.—You ask the origin of the "Liberty Head on American coinage." It is believed to have been borrowed from the French, but has been attributed to the Romans. The *flowing hair* Liberty Head was not approved by Henry W. De Saussure, who was Director of the U. S. Mint in 1795, and Stuart, the famous portrait painter, at the request of the Director, designed the so-called "Fillet Head," facetiously remarking that "Liberty on the previous coinage had run mad (referring to the flowing hair on the coins of 1793). We will bind it up and thus render her a steady matron"—Hence the Fillet Head of 1796 and other early dates of American coinage.

S. L.—Photograph received. Thanks for the club. \$5 is the price we get for the 1st Volume of our magazine. We are out of back numbers. You should have subscribed at the commencement of volume.

R. T.—1796, 1801, 1805, '06, '08, '11, '13, '21, '23, '57 U. S. cents, are all considered scarce and increase in value yearly. 1793 '99, 1804, '09, are certainly rare dates and always command good prices. Any uncirculated cent is of considerable fictitious value.

R. W. M. L.—Will notify you as soon as we get any of the Canadian coins you require. Please send list of pieces you allude to.

U. GIUSTA.—No's you inquire about brought the following prices, viz: 76, 77, 78, 79, 776, (12, 11, 2, 2 and 25 cts.)

To —.—We have received package of silver and copper coins by Express—

no address. Cannot say whether a present, or sent to us on sale. Who knows?

F. J. M.—Did not succeed in getting anything in the sale for you.

COMPLIMENTARY.

Dudley R. Child, Esq., Sec'y of the N. E. Numismatic Society, Providence, R. I., writes us to send the back numbers of this magazine to the Society and enters its address upon our books for Vol. 3rd. This is not only complimentary but exhibits good sound sense and but follows the example of the various scientific associations throughout the country. We shall strive to merit all the kind favors of our numismatic friends and endeavor to make our Journal worthy their generous patronage.

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y.

Nov. 1867.—Continued.

Oak Tree Penny, 1662. This piece was purchased by Mr. Mickley for genuine, and is by him believed to be so. It has recently been submitted to several of the best judges of coins, Mr. Strobridge amongst the number, who all concur in pronouncing it genuine. A New England Penny is figured and described by Folkes, and undoubtedly existed at the time he wrote. This was procured from England by Mr. M., and is perhaps the only existing specimen. It is in perfectly fine condition. \$52.50.

Pine Tree Penny, 1652; the Wyatt counterfeit. It will be observed that this is totally distinct from the one last described, in date and other particulars; fine, scarce. \$1.25.

Shilling of 1652, called by Mr. Mickley the Willow Tree Shilling; very fine indeed, about as good as when struck, and an exceedingly rare type. \$12.50.

Sixpence, 1652; tree of very curious design, somewhat like that on the last piece; legend on the obverse, MASATU-

SUSETS; inscription on the reverse equally singular; in perfectly fine condition, and probably unique. \$10.

Shilling 1652; of a type quite as remarkable as the last two pieces described, the device bearing more resemblance to the Palmetto than any other tree; in fair condition, rare. \$10.

TYPES AND VARIETIES OF THE U. S. CENTS, 1793.

BY E. M., JR.
(Continued.)

The seventh variety of the '93 cents presents on *obverse* a somewhat smaller bust of LIBERTY than the preceding varieties of the wreath type; the hair is full, wavy and flowing well back; the figures of date somewhat smaller and closer than preceding variety; letters of the word "Liberty" small and close. *Reverse* exhibits a small wreath, well united at top, the dotted sprigs which are interwoven with the leaves, are more erect than in No. 6. The words "ONE CENT" are in the centre of the coin, while former varieties are slightly above the centre in this respect. Bow at tie of wreath, slightly depressed at top, while the corners of bow are rounded. Letters of ONE CENT small, the "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," similar in size to No. 6.

No. 8.—This variety is made on a smaller planchet than any other type or variety, excepting perhaps, No. 3. *Obverse*, Hair of LIBERTY flows straight back, is short, and not so wavy as No. 7; date and letters smaller than any of the preceding. *Reverse*, "ONE CENT" in centre of wreath. This variety exhibits a marked contrast upon the *reverse* to that of any other wreath '93, there being more blank space, and exhibits but few of the dotted sprigs, which mark so prominently the other varieties.

No. 9.—*Obverse*, Hair of LIBERTY fine, flowing back in nearly straight lines. The tri-leaved sprig under the bust well separated and starting from a horizontal stem, extending a short distance either side of the leaves—in this respect differing from all preceding varieties of the wreath cent of '93. Letters of LIBERTY small; date, very large. *Reverse*, No. 9 variety can always be known by the crowded appearance of the wreath and *legend* of this side, as it scarcely presents sufficient space to separate its designs. The wreath is full leaved and overcrowded with dotted sprigs (evidently intended to represent wheat). The bow at tie of wreath is flat at the top; letters medium size, 1-100 rather larger than Nos. 7 and 8; ONE CENT slightly above the centre of coin.

(To be Continued.)

NEW JOHNSON MEDAL.

By reference to an advertisement on last page, it will be seen that Mr. Cogan is agent for a very beautiful medal, recently struck by parties in N. Y. We have not yet received a copy of the new medal, or should give a detailed description of the same. Collectors wishing to obtain the medal can address, E. Cogan, 100 William St., New York.

I. O. O. F. MEDAL.

Jas. Bingham, Jr., chairman committee on Medals, has issued a white metal medal, size 32, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the organization of Odd-Fellowship. This medal is struck by authority of the Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment of Penna. *Obverse*, male and female figures, emblematic of the

Order, surrounded by semi-wreaths. Label below the figures containing the legend FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND TRUTH. At the top an all seeing eye in the centre of radiating sun rays. Reverse, inscription as follows in seven lines: I. O. O. F. GRAND NATIONAL Celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary, Philada., April 26, 1869. Beneath the inscription are two twigs, interlocked in centre with three chain links. We mail this medal on receipt of 75 cents. Address this Office.

MASON & CO'S GREAT PHILA. SALE OF COINS AND CURI- OSITIES.

[Embracing near 50,000 relics and curiosities, and several thousand silver and copper coins].

Being the valuable collection of Dr. W. W. Morgan, of this State.

Our readers may have noticed the advertisement and editorials which have from time to time appeared in this journal, concerning Dr. Morgan's vast cabinet of curiosities, which have been offered at private sale. As the proprietor is about to leave this country for the sunny clime of Italia, the entire collection will be offered at public sale, by catalogue, sometime in June, of which due notice will be given in our next month's issue, and catalogues sent to every person wishing to get a relic, or curiosity from the multifarious articles which compose this unique combination of varieties.

This collection embraces many things of rare merit, some of which were found in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; but they are principally from South America, i. e., Brazil, Peru, Chili, Paraguay, Buenos Ayres, Corrientes, Entre Rios, Bolivia, Montevideo, Maldonado, Matto Grossa, Rosario, Salto, Gualaguay-chu, Catamerca, Andes, Pysandu, Patago-

nia, Amazon, etc., etc. Included in this collection there are four others, formed by as many distinct persons. Namely, that of General L. Gomez, who fell in 1865, at the bombarding of Pysandu, and who spent a large amount of money, and more than a quarter of a century in forming it. Much of the collection of a French Naturalist who had them on exhibition in the city of Montevideo, also, the entire *mineral* collection of a German Naturalist, who spent six years and a considerable amount of money in forming it, in the very heart of the mineral regions of South America.

And the entire collection of a scientific gentleman who resides in Rio de Janeiro, which makes, including his own, five distinct collections *now combined in one*. Most of the minerals which he offers have been exposed to view only by the rains of centuries; and you doubtless know that surface minerals, in said regions, are now very seldom found, because European Naturalists, scientific men, and their agents, have for several years been scouring those regions, buying up all the minerals that could be found upon the surface of the earth and shipping them off; consequently, such as are now found must be dug for. Hence, you readily see that in all probability an opportunity to purchase such a combined and magnificent collection of minerals from said regions as he now offers, can never occur again at any price. Most of the minerals are not only valuable in scientific and geological points of view, but they possess rare beauty, both in form and color. The collection also contains ores from various regions, among which there are some dozen or more specimens of gold from the different mines in Brazil. And three very handsome Brazilian *crystals* containing silver, exceedingly rare. Several very fine specimens of petrified

wood, from Paraguay, also petrified leaves, worms, sea-stars, etc. A stone found in Rome whilst excavating in 1857, used by the Pagans to torture and kill the early Christians, and is believed to be the only one in America. A number of mounted birds and several hundred bird skins, many of which shows species never before seen in the United States. Skulls and skins of animals and reptiles, a gas-light lake, bows and arrows of various tribes of South America, Indians, spears, war-clubs, lassos, ballos, etc.

Also, fragments of St. Paul's Cathedral at Rome, the Forts at Montevideo, the Rock of Gibraltar, the principal ancient Temples of Athens—Greece. A Chinese junk, harp, their reckoning table, and a coffin composed of ivory, ebony, sandal and camphor wood. Japanese cups, and waiters of mosaic work in wood. Serpents, lizards and phenomena. A few quadrupeds, such as monkeys, etc. A lamb with two heads, one body, two tails, and eight legs, accurately formed and in excellent condition; a calf with six legs; also a most extraordinary phenomena, *i. e.* a large calf with but two legs, its eyes are in its mouth, the skeleton is preserved entire; a chicken with four legs. Gaucho's equipage for horse; Bolivian saddle, and ancient stirrups of Chili and China. Shells, marine and terrestrial; some hundreds of prepared insects; teeth of the whale, walrus, monkeys, and other animals.

Also, many antedeluvian fossils, including shells, teeth, vertebra, and other bones, among which are some of the Megotherium. Photographic views of the present Paraguayan War, and the bombshell which was thrown from the camp into the tent of the President of Montevideo. Lithographic views of the ancient costumes of the Argentine Republic and Uruguay; wet prepara-

tions, consisting of serpents, jaccaraes, lizards, rare ocean fish, and other objects; a few medals and several thousand pieces of foreign coin; silver, bronze, etc., some of whose antique years may be counted by thousands; some were excavated in Rome, and some are among the exhumed wonders of Pompeii and Herculaneum, whilst others were found in various parts of the world. 2 petrified eggs, supposed to be of the Albatross and Sea-Gull; also eggs of the ostrich, and other foreign birds. Indian relics, and many other curiosities, excessively rare.

WARNER BRO'S MEDAL.

Warner Bro's of this city issued an Odd Fellow's Medal, for the great 26th of April—a day long to be remembered in Philadelphia. Warners' medal is certainly the finest piece by far, and will have the largest sale. Obverse, a correct bust of Thos. Wildey, the founder of Odd Fellowship in this country, over the bust is the name 'THOMAS WILDEY' below the bust, in two lines, "BORN JAN. 15, 1783; DIED, OCT. 19, 1861." Reverse, inscription "NATIONAL SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP, HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 26, 1869. The emblematic *all-seeing eye*, with radiating sun rays is at the top of reverse, while the three chain links are arranged between the word "Philadelphia and date." Altogether a handsome medal reflecting credit upon the engraver, W. H. Key, and far more meritorious in design than the official medal of Bingham's. It is struck in white metal. We mail beautiful proofs of these medals for 50 cents each, postage pre-paid.

OUR PHILATELIC SALUTATORY

In making our humble bow, as manager of the postage stamp department of this Journal, and in assuming charge of all matters, financial, editorial, or otherwise connected with the duties of a general stamp department, we know full well how arduous the task, and how intricate and difficult the details of this—to Americans—new, yet charming pursuit. It is no light task to arrange and classify the multifarious variety of postage stamps, which are now or have been in use throughout the civilized world; it is no child's play to keep up the international correspondence necessary to a proper knowledge of Philately.

We have entered the sanctum, we have stripped for the work, and it is our purpose, aided by our kind friends and European correspondents, to present a full and succinct account of all matters connected with postage stamp collecting—destined to become in the United States one of the most interesting historical and pleasing pursuits to which the mind of man can be given. All new issues from Europe and other portions of the globe will be faithfully chronicled, and it is our purpose also to encourage the true system of collecting stamps; discourage and expose the infamous trade in counterfeits, now so general with small and unprincipled dealers in the large cities of this country. With a desire to make Philately a science of permanence and pleasure, and one that will give interest and instruction to the participator, we confidently enter upon the good work, looking for the patronizing smiles of our readers, and promising to execute the duties faithfully and truly, that Philately may receive that respect and attention at our hands which, as a science, it so richly merits.

L. W. DURBIN.

NEW ISSUES.

It is stated that a new Wurtemberg is in course of preparation. It will be of the value of 14 kreuzer and in color yellow.

The new stamps for the Transvaal Republic will be of the following values and colors: 1 d. black on green; 3 d. black on white; 6 d. black on blue; 1 s. black on red.

We have received specimens of the new U. S. 3c., printed in dark blue, making three different shades that have come under our notice, viz.: light blue, blue and dark blue.

Two Stamps of the value of 10 and 30 groshen have been emitted by the North German Confederation. The design is very similar to the 10 and 30 gr. of Prussia, but they are printed on white paper and perforated. The colors are drab and blue respectively.

An envelope stamp has at last appeared bearing the arms of Bavaria. It is impressed in pink on white paper, and of the value of 3 kreutzer.

St. Thomas having recovered from her last earthquake shock, has emitted new set of stamps of the following values: $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2 and 3 centavos and $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2 and 4 reals. In the centre appears a steamship to right, surmounted by the arms of the mother country,—Denmark. St. Thomas, Porto Rico above, value below.

From the *American Journal of Philately* we learn that the new Wirtemberg 1 kr. has been impressed on a newspaper wrapper; and also that the United States of Columbia have emitted a stamp of the value of 5 centavos, identical in design to the 10c described in our Feby No., the color is yellow ochre.

VOLUME SECOND.

A bound volume of Vol. 2d on hand and for sale, price \$3 00.

STAMP EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Any of our correspondents having stamps to exchange, can have their requests placed under this head free of charge. All exchanges will pass through this office unless otherwise requested.

GENTLEMEN,

I have a number of Postage and Revenue stamps that I will exchange with D. W. C. If he will address a letter to me I would be very glad to exchange.

Yours respectfully,

BERNARD GASSELL,
St. Paul, Minn.

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

Under this head we intend inserting the address of all parties dealing in counterfeit stamps, when accompanied by undoubted evidence of the fact. We have received proofs that the following parties are not above suspicion, in regard to dealing in *fac similes*:

E. TRIFET & Co., Boston, Mass.

S. ALLEN TAYLOR, "

PHILATELIC BREVITIES.

Under this head we will be thankful to our friends for any "items" clipped from exchanges bearing upon the subject of Postage Stamps. In our next will appear an elaborate criticism upon the new issue of U. S. Postage Stamps.

ANSWERS TO PHILATELISTS.

B. D.—In making a collection of revenue stamps, it is necessary to collect the different varieties. The album we sell for \$1.00 and upwards contain spaces for from 1200 to 5000 stamps.

THE NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

Our old postage stamps were really neat and pleasing in their appearance. They were national and American, as

they ought to have been. The head of Washington was venerable, and our three cent stamps were as perfect as they well could be. So also, the one-cent stamp, with the head of Franklin, was equally appropriate. There was a fitness and congruity in putting the head of the old thrifty economist on the one cent stamp. Our youth were reminded thereby of the wise saws and sayings of "Poor Richard," and it taught them that if they learned to save the cents the dollars were more likely to take care of themselves. But now think of the miserable, confused-looking thing, with its wretched printing, that the post office has given us for the present three cent stamps. It is neither historical, national, beautiful, nor anything but a paltry evidence of the fact that some engraver has got paid or will get paid for a job that ought never to have been done. Can our authorities not let well enough alone?

Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia all have railroad engines such as ours. What is there in a big chimney on a railway carriage to indicate the nationality of our postal system? Aye, but there are the words "United States Postage" on the stamp. Just so. We remember to have seen a boy's drawing on a sheet of paper with the words "This is a church" underneath, and certainly the artistic performance needed the index; but not more so than the new stamps requires a similar proclamation to tell the world what it means. And then again look at the printing of the word "Postage." Can our engravers do nothing better than that? We hope that the contractors have been paid for their work. If so, then let the Post Office folks give us back again our old head of Washington, and save us from looking at the contemptible thing we are now getting in its stead.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

JUNE, 1869.

No 6.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

Continued.

In November of the same year, three millions came out in bills of various value, as low as one-third, one-half, and two-thirds of a dollar, and from one dollar to eighty. The Colonies were called upon to sink, proportionately, a sum of three millions.

In fixing the proportion to redeem that amount, Virginia was rated the highest, and stood charged with, \$496,000
 Massachusetts came next, at 434,000
 Pennsylvania third, at . . . 372,000
 Maryland, fourth, at . . . 310,000

And in the fifth class there are four Colonies, all rated alike, namely: Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, and New York, (!) each of these rated at 248,000

By the foregoing scale we find the relative wealth, by Congressional estimation, of those Colonies at the beginning of the war

It is worthy of remark that the State of New York, the capital of which was then unoccupied by the enemies, is placed at little more than Massachusetts, while Boston was in possession of the British. On the occasion of a subsequent recommendation of a new tax, when the city of New York was held by the British, Congress assessed the State of New York at one-fourth of Virginia and

Massachusetts, and at a less sum than New Jersey. The city of New York, at that period, was a town of small dimensions and moderate commerce. In the month of June, 1787, on my return from a residence of a few years in France, I arrived at that city, and found it a neglected place, built chiefly of wood, and in a state of prostration and decay. A dozen vessels in port, Broadway, from Trinity Church, inclusive, down to the Battery, in ruins, owing to a fire that had occurred when the city was occupied by the enemy, during the latter end of the war.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN N. Y. NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Shilling, 1652; a larger tree, but of the same general appearance as the last, MASSACHUSETTS; rev. NEW ENGLA; in fair condition, probably unique. \$14.

New England Elephant Piece, 1694; Obverse an Elephant, Reverse "God preserve New England." with date. This coin, which has long been known in Mr. Mickley's collection, was purchased in England at a very high price. It is genuine, beyond question; and having been so long known in this country, and abroad, without its duplicate being discovered, it seems but fair to conclude that it is unique. In very fine, uncirculated, and nearly proof condition, and certainly one of the most

important and desirable coins in the early Colonial series. \$235.

New England Stiver; obv. New England, M.; rev. I, S. V. C., two lions rudely executed to right and left in the field of the coin. See Dickeson, plate xx, 14. No one acquainted with the coins of Holland can hesitate for a moment as to the origin of this. It differs in no respect, in its general appearance and particular style of workmanship, from the Dutch Stiver of 200 years ago. Was there a Dutch settlement in New England at that early period? Mr. Mickley, with great ingenuity and probability, rendered the letters on the reverse, I S(tiver) V (on) C (onnecticut;) and here, for the present, speculation may as well rest. So far as is known this piece is unique. Interesting it must be to every American numismatist and student; and it was not without reason, that its late owner regarded it not only as one of the most valuable, but also as one of the most important coins in his vast collection. In fine condition. \$32 50.

(To be continued.)

THE FRENCH LINCOLN MEDAL.

Mr. Isaac F. Wood, of N. Y., has presented to the Union League Club a bronze impression of the medal struck in gold by means of a subscription by citizens of France. The circumstances of its production are interesting. Soon after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln a subscription was opened in France, limited to two cents for each person, for the purpose of offering to Mrs. Lincoln a gold medal as a testimonial of the sympathy of the French democrats with the American people in their bereavement. The French government threw every obstacle in the way of the success of the undertaking, prohibiting the publication of any appeal to the French people, and of the subscription list, and even forbidding the medal to be struck

in France. There was consequently much delay in the collection of the subscriptions—forty thousand in number—and in the completion of the work, which finally had to be done in Geneva. The medal executed by Franky-Magnias, is three-eighths of an inch thick and three and a half inches in diameter, with a well-executed likeness of the lamented President, and the inscription: "Dedie par la Democratie Francaise a Lincoln, President deux fois elu des Etats-Unis." On the obverse is a pyramidal-shaped monument bearing the inscription: "Lincoln l'honnete homme, abolit l'Esclavage retablit l'Union, Sauva la Republique, Sans voiler la statue de la Liberte. Il fut Assassine le 14 Avril, 1865." Supported on the left by a figure of Liberty placing a wreath upon the tomb; on the right a figure of a negro holding a musket and addressing a negro-boy with a book under his arm, and who is offering a branch of palm. In the background are the emblems of commerce—the steamship, locomotive, &c., and above, the eagle surrounded by the stars of the States.

A CHAPTER ON COINS.

(Continued.)

The branches of the U. S. Mint are distinguished by the letters: C., D., O., and S., denoting respectively, Charlotte, Dahlonega, New Orleans, and San Francisco. Those having no mark are from Philadelphia. In the United States the size of coins is determined by the American scale of 16ths of an inch, so that a coin of size 18, is 18-sixteenths of an inch in diameter.

Pattern pieces are those struck and proposed for adoption, but not adopted, and consequently not in general circulation during the year in which they were first struck. The first coins issued for America were struck in England, in 1612, for the Virginia company. They were of brass, with the legend, "Som

mer Island;” the value “XII,” and “a hogge on one side, in memory of the abundance of hogges which were found on their first landing.” The reverse shows a vessel under full sail, firing a gun.

The first coins struck in America, of which we have any account, were struck at a “mint howse” in Boston, Mass., in 1652, and were of the denominations of 12, 6 and 3 pence. Upon the obverse they bore the letters “N. E.,” and on the reverse, the value, “XIIId.,” “VIId.,” III.” During the latter part of 1652, they were succeeded by the more perfect Pine Tree coins, of the same denominations, and which were of the following description: Upon the obverse, the figure of a pine tree inclosed in a dotted circle, around which was the legend, “Masathvsets, In.” Reverse, in the center the date 1652, and the value expressed by the Roman numerals XII, VI, III. The date and value being surrounded by a dotted circle, and the legend, “New England, An. Dom.” In 1662, the two-penny piece was added to the pieces previously issued.

(To be continued.)

COINS, AND THEIR DERIVATIVES.

The names of coins and other money are curious derivatives. The word *coin* may be traced to the Arabic *kauna*, to hammer or beat out. We all know that *money* (Latin *moneta*) is from the verb *moneo*, to admonish and remind—a pleasant reminder only when received. A *guinea* was originally made in 1664, of Guinea gold. A *pistole* is from the Italian *piastrola*, which, changing the *i* into *l*, becomes the Latin *plastrum*, which is also the root of *piastre*. *Double* is simply a double *pistole*. The *soldi* is from *solidus*, and, like the Spanish *duro* for dollar, simply means “hard money.” The *sovereign* is the coin of a

monarch—the ducat, that of a duke. A dollar was a thaler, and that was so called because first coined in a silver mine in a Saxon *that* or valley. A florin was made in Florence—a mark, at St. Mark’s in Venice. Our own currency needs no explanation, except perhaps that *picayune* is a Carib word, that a *levy* was eleven pence, and that a *fip* was a five-penny piece. *Shinplaster* is as old as our Revolutionary war, for when the Continental currency became worthless, an old soldier might, and perhaps did, dress a wounded leg with his pay. *Greenbacks* are much more easily derived than picked up.

MASON'S & CO'S GREAT PHILA. SALE OF COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

[Embracing near 50,000 relics and curiosities, and several thousand silver and copper foreign coins.]

Being the valuable collection of Dr. W. W. Morgan, of this State.

Our readers may have noticed the advertisement and editorials which have from time to time appeared in this journal, concerning Dr. Morgan’s vast cabinet of curiosities, which have been offered at private sale. As the proprietor is about to leave this country for the sunny clime of Italia, the entire collection will be offered at public sale, by catalogue, June 9th, and catalogues have been sent to every person wishing to get a relic, or curiosity from the multifarious articles which compose this unique combination of varieties.

This collection embraces many things of rare merit, some of which were found in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; but they are principally from South America, i. e., Brazil, Peru, Chili, Paraguay, Buenos Ayres, Corrientes, Entre Rios, Bolivia, Montevideo, Maldonado, Matto Grossa, Rosario, Salto, Gualegu-

ayechu, Catamercha, Andes, Pysandu, Patagonia, Amazon, etc., etc. Included in this collection there are four others, formed by as many distinct persons. Namely, that of Gen. L. Gomez, who fell in 1865, at the bombarding of Pysandu, and who spent a large amount of money, and more than a quarter of a century in forming it. Much of the collection of a French naturalist who had them on exhibition in the city of Montevideo, also, the entire *mineral* collection of a German naturalist, who spent six years and a considerable amount of money in forming it, in the very heart of the mineral regions of South America.

And the entire collection of a scientific gentleman who resides in Rio de Janeiro, which makes, including his own, five distinct collections *now combined in one*. Most of the minerals which he offers have been exposed to view only by the rains of centuries; surface minerals, in said regions, are now very seldom found, because European naturalists, scientific men, and their agents, have for several years been scouring those regions, buying up all the minerals that could be found upon the surface of the earth, and shipping them off, consequently, such as are now found must be dug for.

In all probability an opportunity to purchase such a combined and magnificent collection of minerals from said regions as he now offers, can never occur again at any price. Most of the minerals are not only valuable in scientific and geological points of view, but they possess rare beauty, both in form and color. The collection also contains ores from various regions, among which there are some dozen or more specimens of gold from the different mines in Brazil. And three very handsome Brazilian *crystals* con-

taining silver, exceedingly rare. Several very fine specimens of petrified wood, from Paraguay, also petrified leaves, worms, sea-stars, etc. A stone found in Rome whilst excavating in 1857, used by the Pagans to torture and kill the early Christians, and is believed to be the only one in America. A number of mounted birds and several hundred bird skins, many of which shows species never before seen in the United States. Skulls and skins of animals and reptiles, a gaslight lake, bows and arrows of various tribes of South American Indians, spears, war-clubs, lassos, ballos, etc.

Also, fragments of St. Paul's Cathedral at Rome, the Forts at Montevideo, the Rock of Gibraltar, the principal *ancient* Temples of Athens—Greece. A Chinese junk, harp, their reckoning table, and a coffin composed of ivory, ebony, sandal and camphor wood. Japanese cups, and waiters of mosaic work in wood. Serpents, lizards and phenomena. A few quadrupeds, such as monkeys, etc. A lamb with two heads, one body, two tails, and eight legs, accurately formed and in excellent condition; a calf with six legs; also a most extraordinary phenomena, i. e. a large calf with but two legs, its eyes are in its mouth, the *skeleton* is preserved entire; a chicken with four legs. Gaucho's equipage for horse; Bolivian saddle, and ancient stirrups of Chili and China. Shells marine and terrestrial; some hundreds of prepared insects; teeth of the whale walrus, monkeys, and other animals.

Also, many antedeluvian fossils, including shells, teeth, vertebra, and other bones, among which are some of the Megotherium. Photographic views of the present Paraguayan War, and the bombshell which was thrown from their camp into the tent of the President of Montevideo. Lithographic views of the

ancient costumes of the Argentine Republic and Uruguay; wet preparations, consisting of serpents, jaccaraes, lizards, rare ocean fish, and other objects; a few medals and several thousand pieces of *foreign* coin; silver, bronze, etc., some of whose antique years may be counted by thousands; some were excavated in Rome, and some are among the exhumed wonders of Pompeii and Herculaneum, whilst others were found in various parts of the world. 2 *petrified* eggs, supposed to be of the Albatross and Sea Gull—Patagonia, excessively rare. Also eggs of the ostrich and other foreign birds. Indian relics, and many other curiosities.

Every object warranted genuine.

VALUABLE AND UNIQUE DOCUMENTS. ORIGINAL CREDENTIALS OF JOHN HANCOCK TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

We present below the original letter and accompanying document, showing the appointment of John Hancock to represent Mass. Bay in Congress at Phila., Jan. 19, 1776. This letter and document is now in our possession and for sale. Price \$100.

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, Jan. 19, 1776.

SIR:

Agreeable to the Direction of the enclosed Resolution, I am to acquaint you that by a joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly for the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. You are elected one of the Delegates to represent that Colony in American Congress until the first Day of January, A. D., 1777.

And the enclosed Resolve you are to make the General Rule of your Conduct.

By Order of Ye. Gen'l. Court,

Percz Morton,

Dep'y Sec't.

HON. JOHN HANCOCK, ESQ.

(No. 2.)

"MASSACHUSETTS BAY, WATERTOWN,
July 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN:

The House having taken into consideration the expediency of declaring the Colonies independant on Great Britain, have in consequence of its being the universal voice of this Colony which is collected by the instructions of the members from their constituents in every Town which have communicated their instructions, which are by far the greater number of the towns, that if the Honorable Continental Congress shall determine on such a measure, this Colony will with their Lives and Fortunes support them in it; since Great Britain have evidenced a determination to pursue her sanguinary measures with unremitting ardor to reduce not only this Colony but all America to the most abject Slavery. Therefore do by a unanimous Vote submit this letter to be made such use of as you think proper.

Timo. Damilson, Sec. p. Tem."

To the Hon'ble, John Hancock, Esq. and others, the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress.

THE GREAT CURIOSITY AND COIN SALE!

We have the pleasure of announcing as our *Third Philadelphia Sale*, the extensive collection of Relics, Curiosities, Coins, &c., of Dr. W. W. Morgan, of this city, recently from South America. We have carefully catalogued many of the principal objects of attraction in this sale, but on account of the immense number of articles—near 50,000—it will be readily seen that many really valuable and rare specimens have been omitted, and we trust all of those who feel really interested in possessing something

rare, curious and valuable from this extensive sale, will endeavor to be present in person. The sale will commence at 3 o'clock P.M., on Wednesday, June 9th, and continue daily at same hour, until the entire collection is disposed of.

We have sent each subscriber a catalogue, and invite all those unable to attend the sale in person, to send in bids for such articles as may be fancied in the catalogue. We will box all bulky articles such as minerals, birds, petrefactions, etc., and send per Adams Express, C. O. D. Explanation furnished in regard to any article in the catalogue upon receipt of a stamp for return postage. The objects embraced in this splendid collection will be on exhibition daily from 9 A. M., to the hour of sale.

THE N. Y. MACKENZIE SALE.

We have information, by *circular letter*, issued by Mr. Cogan, Coin Dealer of N. Y., that the above sale is arranged to come off about the middle of the present month at the Auction Rooms of Messrs Leavitt, Streibigh & Co., New York. We quote from Mr. Cogan's circular the following paragraphs in reference to Mr. M. L. Mackenzie's collection of Coins and Medals:

"The U. S. cents are, in my opinion, on the whole, the best set ever yet offered for sale.

The assortment of silver is very fine, containing *Proof* dollars, some of the rare *Proof* sets, as well as those from 1859 to 1868 inclusive; some very fine Half dollars, Quarters, Dimos, etc., some rare Colonials, Washingtons' Pattern pieces, and Medals, with a fine selection of English Gold and Silver. The Roman Gold is undoubtedly the finest ever yet offered in this country. There is in addition an extensive assortment of fine Tetradrachms Family and Imperial coins, together forming an extremely interesting sale."

We are informed that photographs of the coins will be plentifully pictured throughout the catalogue, and "every regular collector will be furnished with a catalogue, but a charge of one dollar will be made for duplicates.

Parties not known as collectors, will be charged fifty cents for the catalogue, and if they become purchasers, the amount will be deducted from their bill." In conclusion we would say that if the catalogues are received by us in time we shall send one to each subscriber, following the instructions laid down in Mr. Cogan's circular, but if we do not receive sufficient books for our patrons, we will endeavor to reprint the catalogue for the benefit of all parties who will be cut off by any partial plan of distribution. We have made every effort to obtain catalogues by addressing the owner and manager of this coin sale, but thus far have received no direct promise of any beyond our personal wants.

We learn that extensive means enable the proprietor of this coin collection to advertise his sale in several hundred papers, but we trust that publications devoted to the science of Numismatology will not be ruled out in the distribution of patronage. For our own magazine we ask no favors, and willingly publish this *gratuitous* notice of the coming coin sale. One thing we ask, nay, *demand* as a *right*, that our patrons shall not be neglected in the important matter of distributing catalogues for a public coin sale.

COIN EXCHANGE.

Troy, N. Y., May 11th, 1869.

MESSRS MASON & Co.,

Dear Sirs: I have some 140 coins for exchange, 100 of which are U. S. cents, 25 fine, 60 good, and 15 between good and fine, 15 English tokens all fine, and 17 half-cents, fine and poor, for 1825,

1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, the 4 1839, 1843; large letters, small date, 1845, 1747, 1848, 1849, 1854 and 1855, (stinting 5's all fine.)

Yours Respectfully,
M. L. S.

GENTLEMEN:

I have proof set of silver 1866, fine duplicates of Mass. cents and half cents, Conn., Vermont, N. Y., N. J., Washington, large eagle cents, and many other Colonials, which I would exchange for Liberty Cap, 1793 cent, Highley three hammer cent, Washington small eagle cent, Immune Columbia, or uncirculated cents of 1796, '97, 1801, '06, '07, '08, '09, or ten.

A. W. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

*Treasury Department, Washington,
April 19th, 1869.*

SIRS:

What will your readers give for a complete set of Maximilian coins consisting of 20, 10, 5, 3, 2.50, and \$1 gold, \$1, 50, 25 and 5 cents, in silver, all in good condition. Please let me hear from you soon and oblige,

N. B.

[We were not aware that 25c. Maximilian coins were struck, and now for the first time learn of the \$1, 2½, and \$3. pieces in gold. Can our readers verify this issue of gold? Our correspondent should have sent full address. We will pay 80 dollars for above.—ED.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AMATEUR, NORRISTOWN.—A splendid opportunity to add some rare specimens, in the line of minerals, to your cabinet is offered by the sale of Dr. Morgan's great museum of curiosities. Send word to your friends.

P. O., WILMINGTON.—The accoutrements of the Western tribes of civilized

Indians differ widely from those of the South American tribes. Look in at Birch's Auction Rooms, June 9th, and you will see a fine collection of Indian costumes and relics—all to be sold to the highest bidder, without reserve.

R. S. T., INDIANAPOLIS.—Your coins are poor specimens of common dates—not worth more than 2c. each. We buy all U. S. cents prior to 1814, and all of dates 1821, 1823 and 1857.

S. L., N. YORK.—Send us particularly the cents dating 1796, 1805, 1806, '08, '09 and '11.

K. A. P., CHICAGO.—No 1815 U. S. cent was ever made at the U. S. Mint, all statements to the contrary unfounded in fact. The cent in possession of party in New Orleans, bearing the date 1815, is an altered coin, probably changed from an 1813.

W. S. T., CAMDEN.—We shall have a splendid coin sale in this city, in September next.

H. L. S., FORREST CITY, MINN.—The Indian knife of no use to us. We have Gray's Stamp Instructor for sale. (\$1.50.) Size of photos., 11x14, and 19x24.

E. B. V., WINCHESTER.—We sent \$10 charter-party long since. What Photo's were you to receive Feb. 20th. All your orders were promptly filled.

R. P. Jr., DEERSVILLE, O.—Have no French coins of this year, but plenty of the present Emperor of France.

E. S. N., WHITE'S CORNERS.—Send on an impression of Wm. IV. Half Crown. It is evidently an overstrike.

F. P. R., WORCESTER.—You will soon receive a catalogue of curiosities to select from. Send on your bids and we will buy for you.

H. E. W., BOSTON HIGHLANDS.—Cannot make use of the books just now. Thank you for the offer.

C. P. N., SPRINGFIELD.—Sent you

the book for the Virginia piece; our price for the latter is 75c. Can you use some catalogues on Curiosities? Send us names of any scientific parties, or lovers of the antique, &c. We have something for them.

F. E. MEAD, N. YORK.—Very kindly received and "clipping" used. Hope to repay your kindness

GREAT SALE OF CURIOSITIES, COINS, &c.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1869.

The great labor of arranging and cataloguing the "50,000 curiosities" belonging to Dr. Morgan, is at last completed, and the sale will come off as announced.

We have combined the objects in attractive lots, to facilitate the sale. The crystals are arranged (large and small specimens) — amethyst crystals and quartz crystals in lots of from 12 to 20, and make a very handsome show; either lot we have catalogued would cost \$10 at a dealer's store. We box these specimens to any party sending bids, and send by express C. O. D. For particulars of this vast collection, we refer to the catalogue.

1st VOL. 1867.

We have had the 1st volume of our Magazine (bound), sent to us on sale. Price \$5.

A BRILLIANT IDEA.

The N. Y. *American Numismatic Journal* has issued a beautiful photographic plate of the different types, and varieties of the 1793 cents, as a frontispiece to the April number of that Journal. This plate is well arranged and reflects credit upon the skill, of J. N. T. Levick, Esq., by whom the plate was compiled. This picture of our early National coins is accompanied by an ar-

ticle, prepared by Crosby, explaining all the varieties of the 1793 cents, and forming a valuable table of reference.

MAGNIFICENT WASH STAND!

Among the valuable articles to be sold in our "Curiosity Sale" on June 9, is a beautiful inlaid wash stand, magnificently adorned with beautiful sketches, and picked in with gold, pearl and silver. It has a pure slab of Italian statuary marble, and for equipments has solid silver Pitcher and Basin, Soap Cups and a pair of exquisite, highly-decorated cut glass water decanters. The owner has refused \$2500 in gold for this rich piece of furniture.

N. Y. COIN SALE.

Messrs Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Broadway, N. Y., have a small sale of coins on the 31st day of May, and as our subscribers may receive this magazine a few days prior to said sale, we would say that catalogues can be had by addressing the auctioneer as above.

TO OUR READERS.

Please notify your friends fond of curiosities, of the great sale on the 9th inst., and show the catalogue. If you have any historical or other scientific association, call their attention to this matter.

CHOICE CRYSTALS.

We advise each of our subscribers to secure a lot of the beautiful amethyst and quartz crystals— either lot in catalogue is designed expressly for collectors, and contains large and small specimens of different kinds of crystals, as well as a few choice agates. There is an abundance of these crystals, and they will be sold low. Now is the chance to secure from 12 to 20 specimens of these rare minerals for the price a single piece commands at a mineralogist's.

NEW ISSUES.

The 40-cent French Laureated Head has made its appearance. It is of the same color as its predecessor—Orange.

ROMAGNA.

Four new stamps have been issued for this country, of the following values and colors. 5 (Cinci), Bain Orange; 10 (Dece), Blue; 15 (Cincispredece, Vermillion; 25 (Doudece), Blue and Orange. The design consists of head of Prince to left, Romagna to right, Posta to left, in a semi-oval band. Value in letters above and in figures in the lower corners. Bani below.

ST. DOMINGO.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ -real stamp of this country is now printed in greenish gray, and the 1-real in magenta, on thin paper.

FERNANDO PO.

From this far-off land comes a stamp said to have been emitted in September last. In design it is similar to the current Cuban, and is of the value of 20 centesimo d'escudo. The color is brown on white. It was superseded in January by the Cuban type, and having such a limited existence will undoubtedly become very rare.

URUGUAY.

We learn from the Stamp Collector's Magazine that the 1-centesimo journal stamp has become obsolete, there being no longer any use for it, as the journals are carried free of all charge.

ROMAN STATES.

The perforated set is now complete, by the addition of the 80-cents.

NORWAY.

A 1s. stamp of the same design as the rest of the set has made its appearance, color black.

REVIEW OF THE NEW U. S. POSTAGE STAMPS.

Our generous "Uncle Samuel," wishing to favor his proteges with something fresh in the national way, has kindly

furnished us with nine diminutive scraps of colored paper ycleped "U. S. Postage Stamps." These specimens of a new issue, so like the tiny advertising cards, of circulating libraries, local Express Companies, and decalcomania pictures, have already appeared in public on the right upper corner of love billets, mercantile correspondence, and other important mail matter. Upon first acquaintance, these little square Government advertising pecuniary appliances look odd, and the observer is at a loss to know whether the wee bit of a print, with a blue locomotive, and a big 3 is a local stamp, or a new advertising dodge of some enterprising rail road corporation. Upon better acquaintance the unequivocal fact that it is a veritable U. S. postage stamp stares him full in the face. Now that we are compelled to bid farewell to the "old issue" and sever the attachments that exist for the good old national stamps that once adorned and beautified our letter wrappers, let us become better acquainted with the little strangers, and speak of them as we find them, with the hope that our prejudices may be toned down sufficiently in the future, to command our respect, and esteem.

ONE CENT STAMP.

This, the lowest denomination of U. S. postage stamps, is in color a dirty-yellow brown, having a head very like our dear old Benny Franklin in respect to the bald head and flowing locks; while in the profile it resembles any other kind and good old gentleman who does not resemble Franklin. The bust is surrounded by a defective band, broken hoop, or any other circular thing whose proportions lack uniformity.

(To be continued.)

PHILATELIC BREVITIES.

It will be noticed in another column that the journal stamp of Uruguay has

been withdrawn, for the reason that the P. O. now carries the journals free. Happy country! if we had only the same law in our own land, our last month's journal could have been sent without the extra charge of six cents which was inflicted upon us.

The new three cent stamps, after passing through the post-office, are like pugilists emerging from a mill, quite black and blue in the face.

"PHILATELISM" AS A FINE ART.

•BY C. F.

The curious reader will search the dictionary in vain for the term "philately," and yet it expresses so widely-spread an interest that no future edition of Worcester or Webster will be considered complete without it. It is derived from the Greek *philos* a friend or lover, and *telos*, a tax. The derivation is not ingenious, nor does it represent with exactness, the idea meant to be illustrated. In default of a better, it has suggested the title of the "American Journal of Philately," an illustrated magazine for stamp collections, published by J. W. Scott & Co., No. 34 Liberty street, and of the New York Philatelic Society, whose transactions are published in that journal, and which meets once a month in its publication office. Perhaps this brief statement will sufficiently indicate that the interest in stamp collecting, so far from having died out in this city, is spreading and deepening in intensity. *Even in Philadelphia a monthly is supported, entitled the "Coin and Postage Stamp Collector's Magazine."*

The limits prescribed us compel us to be brief in the *resume* we propose to make of this philatelic mania. Hundreds of people in this city spend all their spare time and money in buying, selling, collecting and disposing of

American and foreign postage-stamps. Philately has risen into an art. Office boys are adepts in it, and peel the stamps from the foreign letters received by their employers. Albums are published, provided with a number of neat panels sufficient for the accommodation of every nationality and denomination of stamp, used or unused. Fortunes are made and lost in the barter and sale of stamps as in other businesses. The pursuit is a comparatively new one. It is not twenty years ago since a London dealer in *bijouterie* first applied himself to it. Eight years ago an establishment in Birchin Lane, London, became so literally besieged with stamp collectors, that they were frequently dispersed by the police. About the same time Mr. Pelletru's establishment in Paris became equally notorious, and for a similar reason. At present the largest and most celebrated Philatelic establishments in the world are those of Mr. Lincoln, in Oxford street, London; Stanley Gibbons, of Liverpool; and M. Mones, in Brussels. The United States boasts a dozen similar institutions, but none of these are as yet equal to the principal ones of Europe.

A large business is even done in the Internal Revenue stamps. When canceled, they sell for five cents on the dollar, and quite recently the cool sum of twenty-five dollars was offered for a two hundred dollar stamp, which had been but triflingly defaced. Even European receipt and bill stamps are extensively dealt in.

(To be continued.)

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

S. A. T., Boston, Mass.

E. T. & Co., do.

C. A. L., do.

W. B. T., West Chester, Pa.

VARIETIES OF THE U. S. TWO CENT ENVELOPE.

Have none of the sharp sighted followers of the French School, always on the alert to discover and herald the appearance of a variety, though hardly distinguishable, ever noticed the varieties of the U. S. 2-cent envelope or paper wrapper? Certainly we have never noticed them in print. We have before us twelve specimens, on as many different kinds of paper, viz.: yellow, dark yellow, buff, brown, light brown, white pink tinted, fine, coarse, plain, laid, and waved. The stamp exhibits almost as many variations. The width varying from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch, the length very near the same in all. In some the ovals at the side are longer than in others; the figure 2 large and small. The letters of the value below are cramped in some; in others well executed, and in one specimen they are broad and clumsy.

The head of Jackson exhibits various changes. In some his lips are compressed, in others curled; in another he looks sad, and again it does not resemble him at all.

The 3-cent envelope presents even more varieties than the 2-cent, and we think the amateurs in America should first make themselves acquainted with the stamps of our own country, before commencing upon those of foreign lands. In this respect we are far behind our brother amateurs on the other side of the water, and as the time will come when *varieties* will claim an equal recognition in our albums, as the normal type, it would be well for us to begin to study them, but by all means take first the U. S., as there are differences in almost every type. We believe the first intimation we had that there were varieties of the 1847 5-cent came from one of the English magazines. There is a large field for study in the 2 and 3-cent envelopes (alone), and we doubt not there are as

many variations (though perhaps not so distinct) as among the 1d. and 2d. views of Sydney.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

On the 10th of April, a number of the amateurs of London, England, formed themselves into a Society under the above name, by electing a President, V. President and Secretary, and the adoption of rules and by-laws to govern themselves. The London Society has been talked of for some eighteen months, and now that they are fairly under way, we wish them success. We have now, Philatelic Societies in England, France, and the United States. The next step should be for an international body. The subject has already been broached, but nothing has as yet been accomplished. We would suggest as the most feasible manner of bringing about the desired result, that a committee be appointed from each of the societies to correspond upon the subject, and take steps toward the organization of an "International Philatelic Society."

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE IN SEPTEMBER.

We are promised a fine collection of Coins, Medals, &c., for a three days sale early in September next. Particulars will be given in the August number of our journal.

DON'T MISS IT!

A chance to possess a fine lot of curiosities, etc., is offered by the sale of Dr. Morgan's museum. We advise our readers to send on bids and obtain a lot from the Morgan catalogue.

WANTED.

A December, 1868, number of the Magazine, for which we will pay 25c. cash, or 50c. trade

MASON & Co.

**MASON & CO.'S CHEAP COIN
PACKETS!
U. S. CENTS.**

Packet No.	Condition.	Price.
1	1793 Very poor.	\$ 50
2	1793 very fair.	1 50
3	1793 very good.	3 00
4	1794, '95 '96 good.	1 50
5	1794, '95 '96 extra good.	2 50
6	1797 1798 very good.	50
7	1799 very poor.	2 00
8	1799 very fair.	5 00
9	1799 very good.	10 00
10	1800, '01, '02 '03 very good.	1 25
11	1804 fair.	1 50
12	1804 very fair.	2 50
13	1804 good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07 poor.	25
15	1805 '06 '07 fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07 good.	1 50
17	1808 fair.	25
18	1808 good.	50
19	1809 poor.	50
20	1809 good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12 poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12 very good.	1 00
23	1813 '14 '16 good.	50
24	1817 1820 very good.	40
25	1821 1824 good.	50
26	1825 1830 very good.	30
27	1857 very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.)

U. S. CENTS.

Packet.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793 poor.	1 55
29	1793 good.	3 00
30	1794'95 fair.	50
31	1794 '95 good.	1 00
32	1797 1800 fair.	50
33	1803, '04, '05, '06 '07, very good.	50
34	1808, '09 '10, very good.	30
35	1825 1829 very good.	25
36	1832 1835 very good.	25
37	1849 1851 very good.	15
38	1853 1857 very good.	50
39	No. 28 to 39,	3 00
40	1802 1811 very fair.	3 00
COLONIALS.		
41	Conn. and N. J. good.	25
42	Va. Mass. good.	1 00
43	Ver. N. Y. good.	1 75
44	Const, 2, 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 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 50
57	do very fine.	1 75
58	do proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1855 nickel, good.	1 25
60	do do proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855 fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent, fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar, ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece, proof.	5 00
65	do proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

66	12 different coins, very good.	50
67	15 do do very good.	1 00
68	10 do dd 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 good.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

73	10 cards, good.	35
74	10 fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

STAMP ALBUMS.

"Mulready" Albums. Bound in cloth. \$1 and \$2.
Stafford Smith & Co.'s "Permanent Album." \$4.

Moen's new Album. Elegantly bound in morocco, gilt clasps and edges, embellished with upwards of 500 illustrations, and brought up to 1869 \$6.

LEON W. DURBIN
Agent for Alfred Smith & Co.,
Box 1893, Phila., Pa.

"Rowland Hill" Stamp Packets.

The best and cheapest ever offered, from 20 cents to \$1.75, post free, 1 stamp extra. For sale by

LEON W. DURBIN,
Box 1893, Philad'a, Pa.

We have in stock a large assortment of British Colonial and other Stamps which we offer at prices that defy competition. All Stamps warranted genuine.

MASON & CO., 56 N. 10th St., Phila.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

JULY, 1869.

No. 7.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF
CONTINENTAL PAPER
MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

The ruined walls of the burnt houses standing on both sides of Broadway, New York, testified to the poverty of the place five years after the conflagration; for, although the war had ceased during that period, and the enemy had departed, no attempt had been made to rebuild them. In short, there was silence and inactivity everywhere, and the whole population was very little over twenty thousand. One can scarcely realize her rapid increase from so small a condition, at so recent a period, to her size and importance in the present day, when she may be classed, for population, wealth and trade, among the chief cities of the world.

Before the close of the year 1775, a census of the inhabitants was ordered by Congress for a due apportionment of taxes; and, on the last day but but one of that year, it was resolved that the silver and gold in the treasury be counted and forwarded to the Northern army under a guard; and that the Treasurers be empowered to employ a broker to collect silver and gold in exchange for Continental Paper.

Early the next year, difficulties began to arise. The bills were sometimes refused, confidence was weakened and depreciation followed. Then came from Congress and the

Committees of Safety threatening resolutions, denouncing the refractory. It was the first serious emergency, and required prompt relief. Patriotic men, who had the means, stepped forward to redeem the bills at par; some of whom exchanged as much as a thousand pounds in silver for a like sum in paper. When Congress, hastening to propose a remedy,

"Resolved, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all virtue and regard for his country as to refuse to receive the bills in payment, or obstruct and discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the Committee of Safety of the district, such person shall be deemed, published and treated as an enemy of the country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of the Colonies."

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN
NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Bermuda Coin; obv. a hog, with the numerals XII. above SOMMER ISLANDS; rev. a ship under sail, firing a gun. A coin struck for circulation in the Bermuda Islands. It was long considered unique; but another has been recently discovered, and is now in the collection of C. I. Bushnell, Esq. A third one is said to exist in a museum in Bermuda. \$80.

Lord Baltimore, or Maryland Shilling; very fine indeed. \$21.

Lord Baltimore Sixpence; companion piece to the last but much finer, being in almost proof condition; rarer than the last. \$21 50.

Lord Baltimore Groat; perfectly uncirculated; nearly proof; the rarest of the Baltimore silver series. \$26.

Lord Baltimore Penny; obverse, profile bust of Lord Baltimore, facing left; legend, CAECILIUS, DNS. TERRÆ MARÆ, &c.; reverse, two flags issuing out of a ducal coronet, DENARIUM TERRÆ MARÆ. This piece, formerly in the cabinet of James Brindley, Esq., of England, is too well known to require its history to be particularly given. It is mentioned by many English and American writers on numismatics, all of whom agree in stating it to be unique. Purchased by Mr. Mickleley, at an English sale, at a price very little under £100 in gold; a sum compared with which, at that period, the price paid for any American coin, was but a trifle. In the finest possible condition, having never been in circulation. \$370.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF U. S. CENTS.

1793.

BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

No. 10 presents a larger planchet than any of the previous varieties. Obverse same as No. 9, with the exception of the length of the hair on bust of Liberty, which on No. 10 flows down nearer edge of coin than No. 9. Reverse: fine wreath, with larger letters than previous coins, and the 1-100 is also larger. The bow at tie of wreath is long and flat on top, with sharp angles. This side of cent is very handsomely outlined and most excellently designed.

No. 11 has short wavy hair on head of Liberty. The sprig leaves all incline to the observer's right, the only specimen having this peculiarity that has come under our notice. Letters and date small, the figures of latter well separated. Reverse has quite a small wreath, with large letters, and small 1-100, all together a beautiful coin, unequalled in workmanship by any of the 1793 cents, excepting, perhaps, the Liberty caps.

No. 12. This cent exhibits, for the first time on U. S. coinage, the addition to the head of Liberty of cap and pole. Liberty, on this coin, is limited in the quantity of hair, and loses many of the wavy ringlets which adorn the previous issues. The hair is closely confined to the top and back of head and lays smooth very nearly to the neck, where it flows out in short wavy tresses; the neck and breast is fully developed, and in this respect differs widely from all previously described 1793's. The head is facing the observer's right, which is the same on all the 1793 cents. A Liberty pole with cap crosses the left shoulder and extends the whole width of the coin. Around the extreme edge is a fine dotted circle or milling which adds beauty to the piece, and in this respect is alike on obverse and reverse. Reverse, leaves of wreath closed, well defined; a few dots resembling small berries, intermixed with wreath; points of wreath meet at top; letters large. This coin is at least an eighth of an inch larger than any other U. S. cent.

(To be continued.)

MICKLEY CATALOGUES WANTED.

One or two copies of this book wanted at this office. Subscription for two years to our magazine will be given for each copy.

THE MACKENSIE COIN SALE IN NEW YORK.

The well known, well advertised collection of coins, medals, etc., formerly the property of Mortimer L. Mackenzie, Esq., of New York, was disposed of by auction at Clinton Hall, Astor Place, on Wednesday and Thursday, 23d and 24th ultimo. The unusual condition and rarity of most of the pieces attracted a fine audience, composed of first class scientific and gentlemanly numismatists; by all odds, the most respectable in numbers and appearance of any body of men we ever saw assembled at a coin sale.

Mr. Cogan, who had the entire management of this sale, deserves great credit for the skill with which this fine cabinet was presented to the public; and also for the energy displayed in surmounting the trials and tribulations inseparably connected with the preliminary steps of a public coin sale. The prices realized for this collection in part, or as a whole, are most extraordinary when compared with the sales of previous years. We quote the most important, viz.:

1794 Dollar, purchased by Sanford, for	\$145 00
1793 Cent, American, purchased by Rhodes, for	145 00
1836 Dollar, "Gobrecht", purchased by Read, for	90 00
1804 Cent, Perfect Die, purchased by Anonymous, for	80 00
1811 Cent, Perfect Die, purchased by Anonymous, for	72 50
1796 Kentucky Piece, purchased by Elliot, for	57 00
1694 Carolina Elephant Cent, purchased by Mason & Co., for Fewsmith, for	55 00
1783 Libertas Americans C. C. purchased by Col. Cohen, for	55 00
1799 Cent, purchased by Sanford, for	55 00

1785 Immune Columbia, purchased by Wood, for	47 50
1854 Proof Set, purchased by Clemens, for	46 00
1838 Dollar, purchased by Payfer, for	45 00
1847 Proof Set, purchased by Levick, for	45 00
1849 Proof Set, purchased by Levick, for	42 50
1832 Cent, purchased by Keeny, for	41 00
1851 Proof Set, purchased by Bonham, for	40 00
1852 Proof Set, purchased by Bonham, for	40 00
1856 Proof Set, purchased by Clemens, for	40 00
1857 Proof Set, purchased by Clemens, for	40 00
1793 Cent, "Wreath," purchased by Rhodes, for	38 00
1793 Cent, "Chain," purchased by Betts, for	32 50
1795 Cent, Thin Die, purchased by Mason & Co., for	30 00
1809 Cent, purchased by Mason & Co., for	\$30 00
1792 Washington Cent, purchased by Cogan, for	30 00
1794 Cent, purchased by Keeny, for	28 00
1822 Cent, purchased by Mason & Co., for	28 00
1824 Cent, purchased by Keeny, for	28 00
1791 Washington Cent, with Small Eagle, purchased by Winsor, for	27 00
1795 Cent, thick die, purchased by Willey, for	25 00
1796 Cent, Liberty cap, purchased by Keeny, for	24 00
1825 Cent, purchased by A. S. J., for	24 00
1792 Half Dime, purchased by Betts, for	24 00
1809 Half Dime, purchased by Col. Cohen, for	24 00
1796 Half Dime, purchased by Keeny, for	23 00

1796 Half Dime, purchased by Keeny, for	22 50
1858 Proof Set, purchased by Read, for	22 50
1793 Cent, Liberty cap, purchased by Payfer, for	22 50
1821 Cent, purchased by Mason & Co., for	22 00
1793 Half Cent, purchased by Keeny, for	21 00
1796 Cent, Fillet Head, purchased by Sanford, for	20 00
1829 Cent, purchased by E. M., for	20 00
Washington Eccleston Medal, purchased by Winsor, for	20 00
Queen Elizabeth Crown, purchased by Col. Cohen, for	20 00
1795 Half Dollar, purchased by Keeny, for	18 00
Peace and Friendship, Washington Medal; unique; purchased by Levick, for	\$16 00

The building in which the sale occurred is centrally and beautifully located upon Astor Place, just far enough from Broadway to avoid the din and confusion of that remarkably noisy thoroughfare, and in sufficient proximity to the business centre to be readily reached, with little loss of time, by a city passenger railway on one side and omnibusses on the other. The auction room of the Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co. reminds one strangely and strongly of a lecture room or court house, with its high and semicircular rostrum and railed enclosure. Upon the occasion of the coin sale, we were almost convinced by the appearance of the quietly seated audience and our venerated friend, Cogan, who appeared behind the rostrum, with catalogue in hand, that we were about to be regaled with a capital sermon; but the sudden appearance of the handsome little auctioneer, mallet in hand, dispersed our reverie, and the sale commenced in capital style, the lively

and witty auctioneer rattling off the coins with a velocity unequalled by a first-class velocipede. Occasionally, as the sale proceeded, a quiet pun would be perpetrated at the expense of the possessor of some pun-inviting surname. One Mr. Keeny would be announced as "Keno," and thus *game* was made by the witty auctioneer at the expense of the purchaser, Mr. K., and created considerable merriment. An amusing comingling of surnames, having the same length and sound, produced a very clever little episode and relieved the sale of its monotony. There was a frequent calling of the name of "Mott" as purchaser, in the early portion of the sale, and when a new buyer was announced as "Nott," Mr. Cogan requested the book-keeper to observe the distinction in spelling, when a pun-loving coin dealer from a distant city remarked that the last buyer was *not* "Mott!" The auctioneer immediately replied, "After that *bon mot* we will proceed." And thus the sale went on to a successful termination, only interrupted by the applause, which occasionally burst forth as one of the series of fine American cents was knocked down for an almost fabulous price for a copper cent. When the 1793 "Ameri." cent was bid off at \$145, there was a disposition to applaud, and this applause was well merited, as all know who are familiar with the curious history of this particular coin. The sale realized nearly five thousand dollars; the set of copper cents, numbering 87 pieces, brought the handsome sum of \$1295, the highest price ever yet obtained at a public sale for a set of cents.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

We are pleased to announce a sale of coins, which will take place early this month.

A CHAPTER ON COINS.

(Continued.)

The Pine Tree money continued to be issued until 1686. The date upon the dies remained the same throughout the entire coinage, so that there is no way in which to distinguish the coins issued during the different years. Lossing, in his "Field Book of the Revolution," is responsible for the following incident: "The Mint Master, who was allowed to take fifteen pence out of every twenty shillings for his trouble in coining, made a large fortune by it. Henry Sewall, the founder of Newbury, in Massachusetts, married his only daughter, a plump girl of eighteen years. When the ceremony was ended, a large pair of scales was brought out and suspended. In one disk the blushing bride was placed, and Pine Tree shillings, as the coin was called, were poured into the other until there was an equipoise. The money was then handed to Mr. Sewall as his wife's dowry." The first coins issued by the United States were struck in the year 1787, and are called the Franklin Cents, from the supposition that they were designed by Franklin. Upon the obverse is a sun dial and above it the sun; below both is the legend, "Mind your business;" at the left, the word "Fugio," and at the right the date, 1787. The reverse shows thirteen links joined, representing the thirteen original States; within the circle formed by these links is a smaller circle, containing the legend: "We are one," this circle being surrounded by the legend, "United States." These coins were struck either at the Rhode Island or New Haven mint, there being at that time no government mint. In 1793 one was established in Philadelphia, and cents and half cents were issued. The coins of 1793 properly

commence the United States series, as they were the first struck by the government. In point of rarity, the cents rank third, those of 1799 being the most rare, 1804 next and 1793 next. The government first issued coins of silver in 1794, and gold in 1795.

(To be continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

No. 15.

Several of the U. S. cents, that present a markedly peculiar appearance in consequence of a broken die or dies having been used in their coinage were spoken of in previous articles. The Liberty cap 1793, where the die was severed into two nearly equal fragments, is well known; the line on the coin, passing through the E in the legend across the head and just grazing the last figure of the date. The most disastrous batters which I have seen on any of our coppers is found on a variety of the cents of 1831 and on a half cent of 1797. In the former instances, a crack commences at the first figure of the date and turning toward the observer's left, connects every star; thus almost completely encircling the piece. Another crack from the edge, touching the first mentioned star, strikes the face below the chin and passes to the hair, anterior to the curl in front of the ear. A third crack connects those just mentioned on the field from half way between the first and second stars to half way between the first star and the face. Crack No. 4 crosses the fillet into R. in the legend. No. 5 leaves the first crack between the twelfth and thirteenth stars, count from left to right. No. 6 leaves it between the eleventh and twelfth, each of them toward the head. The seventh crack between the

seventh and eight star, touching the corner of the letter, crosses the first mentioned outward to the edge. The eight crack touches the first star on the side next the date and runs into the lower part of the bust.

In the case of the '97 half cent (which by the way is the variety mentioned in the sixth article of this series), the cracks are four in number, as shown in the sample before me. Two of them run from the milling to the head, one passing through B, the other through Y in the legend. A third passes from the milling to the right of the Liberty pole, across the field to a point near the nose. The other extends from the junction of the pole and neck almost to the last mentioned break, not far from the chin.

With this article the writer proposes to lay down his pen for the present. He hopes that these sketches have not been altogether purposeless to his readers. Many things have been described or spoken of that were well known to some of them. The learner in numismatics has been kept in view in their preparation. Often written hastily, they are not without errors, some of which have been acknowledged. If all observers would contribute their stock of knowledge in this way, it has appeared to the writer that a deeper pleasure would accrue to collectors and light be thrown on the science. He is free, however, to acknowledge that he may have bestowed too much attention to trifles.

RARE AND VALUABLE GOLD COIN.

Colonel Cohen, of Baltimore, while in attendance at the McK. sale, in New York, exhibited his beautiful gold Washington Cent of 1791, which was much admired.

NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

We welcome with great pleasure a small pamphlet of 16 pages, entitled

VARIETIES OF THE COPPER ISSUES OF THE U. S. MINT, IN THE YEAR 1794. BY EDWARD MARIS, M. D.

This book, following so closely upon the recent publication of the Varieties of the 1793 U. S. Cents, in the New York and Philadelphia Numismatic Magazines, is a valuable and we may say exhaustive research upon the subject of the U. S. copper coinage of 1794. The author has presented to us a new field for the exploration of numismatists; a field rich in variety and interest, and one that affords renewed pleasure in the anxious search for a complete series of the different varieties of our country's coinage. This little and ably edited work on the cents and half cents of 1794 can be had on application at this office. See advertisement on cover.

COIN AND MEDAL CIRCULAR. BY HENRY COOK.

A small pamphlet, bearing the above title, and printed at Boston, Mass., has been sent us. This little work seems designed for the instruction of novices in the art of coin collecting, and has blank sheets of note paper bound in between the printed matter for marginal notes and references, we presume. This book will be mailed by us, to any address, for 25 cents, postage paid.

PROSPECTIVE COIN SALES.

Three large coin sales will take place in this city next fall, two in September and one in October. In each of these sales there will be some very rare and very fine coins in the American series. We hope to give more particulars of these sales in our next issue.

NEW YORK COIN SALE, MAY 31.

The sale of a private collection of coins, medals and tokens took place, as announced, on Monday afternoon, May 31, at the rooms of Bangs, Merwin & Co., Broadway, New York. The attendance was fair, and some of the coins realised fair prices. The highest price paid for a coin was \$15, and this sum was paid by us for No. 38, described in the catalogue as an 1805 cent, uncirculated. An 1806 cent, brought \$4, the "*beautiful green coating*" it possessed, *vide* catalogue, not enhancing its value to any marked extent. The coins in the catalogue were greatly overrated and the composition of the catalogue matter was evidently the work of a green hand unused to the terms "fine", "very fine" and "uncirculated". Among the numismatists represented at the sale were Messrs. Levick, Stennett, Merrill, Mott, Sansom, Petrie, Staebelin (B. M.), Clarke, Anthon, Dorrey, Letheridge, Nott, Illsley, Tilton, Haseltine, Huffer, Cook, Houston, Payfer, Downing, Bryan, Warner, Prime, Hodge and Brevoort. Messrs. Cogan, Levick and Mason were the principal buyers.

OUR THIRD PHILADELPHIA SALE.

The sale of Dr. Morgan's vast cabinet of Curiosities, Coins, Relics, etc., came off on June 9, occupying three days. A large crowd was in attendance on the 9th and 10th ult., but the last day's sale was interrupted, and in a measure injured, by the unfortunate occurrence of a similar sale at Thomas & Sons' Auction Store. The bidding was extremely spirited, and when the Crystals, Agates, etc., were offered, the competition was fierce and interesting, particularly to the owner

and auctioneer. One very beautiful piece of Amethystine Quartz (No. 284) was run up to \$46 50 and struck off to Prof. Wagner, of the Wagner Free Institute. Good prices were maintained throughout the Crystal collection. The animal rarities, relics and curiosities were sold low, the birds fairly slaughtered, and on the third day of the sale, for reasons before mentioned, the coins were murdered outright, Kline and Mason dividing the honors as purchasers. Prof. Wagner purchased the greater part of the collection for his museum at the Free Institute in this city; and we were pleased to see competitors give way for the philanthropist, philosopher and scholar, Prof. W. This sale was one of the most interesting that has occurred in Philadelphia.

UNIQUE WASHINGTON MEDAL.

We have in our possession one of Voltaire's medals of Washington (ugly head) struck in lead or white metal. We have heard of silver and copper medals designed by Voltaire, but cannot obtain any knowledge of this medal in the above metal. We believe this piece to be *unique*. Information is wanted of any collector who possesses a knowledge of the metals in which the Washington medal of Voltaire was struck.

ANOTHER PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

The collection of coins, curiosities, autographs, etc., formerly the property of John Bertram (deceased), will be sold early this month.

WANTED.

Autograph letters signed of Washington, Franklin and Arnold. A good price paid for each. Apply at this office.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. H., BOSTON.—In the Mackensie catalogue, the 1804 cent is pronounced the "King of 1804's." We should say this was a misnomer, as our dear Goddess, "Liberty" is the most prominent feature on the cent, and might more properly be termed the Queen of 1804's. If your 1804 is so perfect, why not bring it forth and take the conceit out of aforementioned "King."

T. T. R., CHICAGO.—We sent you a catalogue of the New York coin sale. We had but fifty-five copies, and our five hundred patrons were sadly treated in their distribution, but we were powerless to aid them.

L. H., JR., NEW HAVEN.—Your piece is valuable and would command a high price at any sale. The *Immune Columbias*' in silver are indeed rare.

P. S. M., CINCINNATI.—Get the new work on the "Varieties of 1794 Cents and Half Cents." See cover of magazine. We shall soon issue a new and greatly improved priced coin catalogue.

E. E. P., TROY.—Yes, of course. Send on the collection, and we will add it to the next sale.

E. G., P. L., S. M. T., R. A. and others.—The crystals were carefully packed and sent per express.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROVIDENCE, May 24, 1869.

MR. MASON:

DEAR SIR—One word in relation to calling the dot on the reverse of U. S. cent and half cents a mint mark. I have looked over about 100 specimens and with dividers find that the dot is always in the centre. From this I deduct that it is formed by a depression in the centre of the die from which the die is laid out. I have a cent of 1816, proof, on the obverse of which to the left of the

ear the same kind of a dot occurs, and there is a fine line, hardly to be seen but for the brightness of the piece, running through the centre of each of the stars, the centre of which circle is the afore-mentioned dot. Is my theory right.

Yours, etc.,

N. W. P.

MACKENSIE COIN SALE, NEW YORK.

For a full account of this interesting sale, which occurred the 23d and 24th ultimo, see next month's issue. We had but fifty-five catalogues of this sale, and distributed them as far as they would go. If any of our subscribers failed to receive one, the blame is not ours.

COIN SALES TO COME OFF.

We announce, as likely to occur in the fall, four coin sales, viz.: one in September and two in October at Philadelphia and one at New York, in November, all under the management and direction of Mason & Co.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

On Wednesday afternoon, June 30, a sale of coins, comprising 205 lots, came off at Birch & Son's auction rooms, in this city. There was nothing remarkable in the sale. Attendance and prices poor.

WANTED.

A good reliable party to take the control of the Philadelphia Coin Depot, as we purpose opening a branch in New York, in September. A good opportunity for an enterprising man with small capital.

NEW FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

The U. S. Treasury Department is at work upon new designs for the fifty cent, twenty five cent and ten cent notes.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

REVIEW OF THE NEW U. S.
POSTAGE STAMPS.

(Continued.)

The lettering "U. S. POSTAGE" and "ONE CENT" appear to be the work of an apprentice to the art of engraving, whose style has not been fully perfected—the letters being of unequal size. There is a piece of No. 1. court plaster fixed upon the left breast of Franklin which interrupts the view of our departed philosopher, and gives to the head an appearance similar to that of a policeman, or fireman, as the badge with the figure *one* is in about the right place for either.

TWO CENT STAMP.

Now the color changes from the dirty yellow brown to a dingy dark brown, and here we have a beautiful frame work, or banner, such as carried in processions, with picture in the field of a 2.40 horse going over a race course, well fenced in, with a Dutch cavalry soldier, having his canteen or beer keg strapped in his rear. The large letters of "POSTAGE" and "TWO CENTS" are very irregular in size, and the letters T and C in lower line seem to have been hurriedly executed and left unfinished. It was a happy idea in the engraver to affix the the big 2 between the words TWO and CENTS as no mistake can now possibly occur in giving this stamp its proper denomination. The scroll work and lace on the upper curtain are very neat and would make a fair sign for a country carver, painter, or a city dry goods store. The rail-fence at the left, in the rear of field, is slightly inaccurate, there being but two rails between the posts. This portion of the stamp seems to have been left half finished.

THREE CENT STAMP.

This stamp is an improvement on the *two cent* issue, as here the horse and rider is displaced in the field by the locomotive, and therefore it is better in regard to *time* than the previous stamp. The color is also better, it being a *true blue*, or a *marine blue*, or an *ultra marine* (no doubt an error in design, as the *ultra marine* ought to have a sailing vessel, and not a locomotive,) either will designate its tint when not blurred in the printing. This stamp has the same faulty lettering, with an improvement in the label containing the word "POSTAGE". As the 3c. stamp will be more generally used than others of the new series, we will not give a more detailed description of its beauties until time has toned down our prejudices and caused us to forget the former 3c. stamp with its good color, and its portrait of the glorious and God-like Washington.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES.

HOLLAND.

We have seen specimens of a one and a half cent stamp, hailing from Holland. The design is the same as the one and two cent, and the color a delicate rose.

ANTIOQUIA.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine chronicles the emission of a series of postals for this state or would be state. It seems, the citizens of that peaceful land are again on the "war path;" this time Antioquia is trying to dissolve her connection with the Republic of New Granada. We presume they have so far succeeded as to warrant the belief that their cause has triumphed, and have issued the following labels:

2½ centavo,	blue.
5 do	light green.
10 do	mauve.
20 do	chocolate.
1 peso,	dark rose.

The design is somewhat similar to the last issue of the Granadine Republic. In an oval are the arms of Colombia, surrounded by nine stars, encircled by the inscription E. S. Antioquia; E. E., U. U., D. E. Colombia. At the top of each stamp coirreos, and at the foot is given the value.

ITALY.

The old *segna tassa* stamp is shortly to be superceded by a new design. Supplies have already been forwarded to the postmasters, but the stock of the old ones will first be used up.

NEW GRANADA.

The current 10 centavos is now printed in bright violet, and the 50 centavos, bluish green.

CEYLON.

The *American Journal of Philately* gives us news that the word *service* is now printed across the face of the stamps of this island.

GAMBIA.



We annex an engraving of the four penny stamp of this colony. The set consists of two values: the four pence, dark brown, and the six pence, dark blue.—

The design is in relief.

ROUMANIA.



The annexed cut is one of the issue described in our last number.

FRANCE.



We give an engraving of the French Journal Stamp. There are six values and colors, viz.
2 cents and 5 cents, violet.
2 cents and 5 cents, blue.
2 cents and 5 cents, red.

"PHILATELISM" AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

(Continued.)

Those who take an interest in stamp collections may be divided into amateurs and artistes; and the value of collections is very differently gauged by members of these two classes according to the intelligence they may possess or the ardor they may feel on the subject. The collection of Mr. Stewart, the sugar merchant, for instance, is variously estimated by the postage-stamp *dilettanti* from five hundred dollars to two thousand dollars, and it is probable that the first figure is the more correct.

Descriptive catalogues give the denomination, color, date, device and value of both used and unused American and foreign postage stamps, issued since 1840, and representative of nearly one hundred and forty nationalities. The uniform rate of one penny per half ounce for letters came into operation at the General Post Office, London, January 10, 1840. The use of stamps, which formed one of the numerous means suggested by Rowland Hill for facilitating the dispatch of letters, was introduced on the tenth of the following May. During 1840 and the two following

years, all other nations hesitated. At length, republican Switzerland and imperial Brazil took courage in 1843. New York, Providence, St. Louis, Brattleboro' and New Orleans anticipated the decision of the of General Government in 1845, simultaneously with Finland. In 1847, the use of stamps became general throughout the United States and Russia. France and Belgium followed in 1849, after which the postage stamp became indispensable and ubiquitous.

It has been said that the use of postage stamps was suggested by Rowland Hill, but that gentleman probably is partly indebted for his invention to the fact that as early as 1653 a plan existed for the collection of postage by that means. About that year, a certain M. de Valayer obtained from Louis XIV permission to place, throughout Paris, boxes for the receipt of letters with stamped covers. The stamped covers sold for a *sou* apiece. A veritable letter thus stamped is still extant, and is doubtless the oldest prepaid communication in existence. Sir Rowland Hill's suggestion is also claimed by a Mr. Whiting and a Mr. Stead, but his own account gives the original credit of it to Charles Knight. From whatever source, however, the idea of postage stamps originated, Sir Rowland has made it his own by his ingenious application and modifications of it.

To return, however, to the use of the postage stamp by the more refined civilization of the nineteenth century. Simultaneously with the issuing of the first English postage stamp, in 1840, appeared the penny envelope, of most novel and artistic design. The device, was the joint production of Queen Victoria and Mulready, the great painter. It represents Britannia seated, the con-

ventional lion at her feet. With extended arms she dispatches winged messengers to all parts of the world. The design covered three-fourths of the entire envelope and represented heavily-laden ships of commerce bearing to civilized shores the exchangeable products of all quarters of the globe. For some reason, never clearly understood, this unique envelope was soon withdrawn from circulation and many thousands of copies were destroyed. Copies are therefore now quite scarce, and are valued at two and a half dollars apiece.

(To be continued.)

Le Timbrophile for April 30, has the following upon the new St. Thomas stamps: "Were these stamps really required by the Olara Rothe Company, which has ceased to exist, or are they the fruits of a speculation, like so many others that we have seen? We should be inclined to adopt the latter opinion; the prices, more than moderate, at which we have seen these stamps sold, give us good reason to think that they have never made the voyage from St. Thomas to Paris, and that they ought to find place in that "timbropostal mythology" which we purpose shortly to write."

Commissioner Delano is considering the propriety of adopting new stamps for Tobacco, and also a new method of cancelling stamps, a patent for which has just been taken out by a citizen of Ohio (probably a Philatelist). It is claimed that the stamp cannot be counterfeited and it will be impossible to use it a second time.

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

E. W. W. & Co., Boston, Mass.

W. H. & Co., do.

**MASON & CO'S CHEAP COIN
PACKETS!
U. S. CENTS.**

Packet No.	Condition.	Price.
1	1793 very poor.	\$ 50
2	1793 very fair.	1 50
3	1793 very good.	3 00
4	1794, '95 '96 good.	1 50
5	1794, '95 '96 extra good.	2 50
6	1797, '98 very good.	50
7	1799 very poor.	2 00
8	1799 very fair.	5 00
9	1799 very good.	10 00
10	1800, '1, '2 '3 very good.	1 25
11	1804 fair.	1 50
12	1804 very fair.	2 50
13	1804 good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07 poor.	25
15	1805, '06 '07 fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07 good.	1 50
17	1808 fair.	25
18	1808 good.	50
19	1809 poor.	50
20	1809 good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12 poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12 very good.	1 00
23	1813, '14 '16 good.	50
24	1817, '20 very good.	40
25	1821, '24 good.	30
26	1825, '30 very good.	30
27	1857 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 No.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793 poor.	1 50
29	1793 good.	3 00
30	1794, '95 fair.	50
31	1794, '95 good.	1 00
32	1797, 1800 fair.	50
33	1803, '4, '5, '6, '7, very good.	50
34	1808, '09, '10, very good.	50
35	1825, '29 very good.	25
36	1832, '35 very good.	25
37	1849, '51 very good.	15
38	1853, '57 very good.	50
39	No. 28 to 39,	3 00
40	1802, '11 very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

41	Conn. and N. J. good.	25
42	Vir. and Mass. good.	1 00
43	Ver. and N. Y. good.	1 75
44	Const., 2, 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	do 1791, poor.	3 50
53	do 1791, good.	5 00
54	N. A. Token, 1781, good.	50
55	Pitt Token, 1776, fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

56	1856 Nickel, good.	1 50
57	do very fine.	1 75
58	do proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1858, nickel, good.	1 25
60	do do proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855, fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent, fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar, ex. good.	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece, proof.	5 00
65	do proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

66	12 different, very good.	50
67	15 do very good.	1 00
68	10 do extra fine.	1 50
69	5 Roman coins, good.	1 00
70	5 silver coins, good.	50
71	10 do do	1 00
72	25 do do	5 00

STORE CARDS.

73	10 cards, good.	35
74	10 cards, fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.

THE OLD COIN.

A massy lump of brass and bronze,
Molded by ponderous blow on blow,
For Nero or Vespasian's son,
In ages dim and long ago.

A cruel mouth, a swinish chin,
A wolfish eye, almost erased;
But half the date—a victory—
Two words, and those almost defaced.

Where is the Golden Palace now
That on the Palatine arose?
Where are the statue-guarded doors?
Where are the temple porticos?
For disks of metal shaped like this,
Swords have been drawn and Lethæ
crossed;
For this, in greedy hope, men's souls
Have been by passions tempest-tossed.

This is Ambition's rich reward;
This is a buried Cæsar's fame;
Upon a lump of rusty bronze,
The two-thirds of a doubtful name.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

AUGUST, 1869.

No. 8.

**AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF
CONTINENTAL PAPER
MONEY.**

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

On the 26th of December, 1776, General Washington was authorized to arrest and confine those who rejected the Continental Currency, and to make a return of their names to the authorities of the States in which they resided. The Council of Safety of Pennsylvania was invited to take most vigorous and speedy steps for punishing all such as refused the bills, and the General was directed to give aid to the Council; meantime, Virginia and the other States were besought to furnish all the gold and silver they could procure and take paper in exchange.

In May, 1776, five millions were again emitted, and in the autumn five millions more. Although some specie was imported, it could not avail against such profuse issues. Credit, already on the wane, continued to sink. The States did not respond to the call for aid; the power of taxing was virtually denied by its shackled conditions in the Articles of Confederation, and paper continuing to depreciate, an attempt was made, in imitation of the mother country, to raise a revenue by the establishment of a national lottery. The trial was a failure, for the scheme, which was to sell tickets for specie at twenty dollars, and pay the prizes in Treasury Notes bear-

ing four per cent. interest, did not induce many to adventure; so that no other resource was left for the prosecution of the war than a fresh emission of paper money. But the people refusing to sell their produce for it at par, Washington was authorized to seize the supplies for the army whenever he could find them, and imprison those who rejected the bills offered in payment.

The years 1776 and 1777 proved as unpropitious to the paper credit as the preceding, and very strong measures were resorted to for the purpose of fixing, by restraint, a value on the currency; of compelling the people to receive as substance a mere shadow; of putting the stamp of reality on fiction; measures which were at variance with justice and expediency, and which operated on the people with the harshness of despotism. The resolutions which follow show the bad temper of the great men who ruled at the head of affairs, and their momentary forgetfulness of the rights of their constituents.

(To be continued.)

**GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN
NEW YORK.**

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Carolina Elephant Piece; obverse an elephant; reverse, "God preserve Carolina and the Lords Proprietors, 1694;" perfectly uncirculated, and a very fine impression; quite equal to that from the Colburn collection,

which in the McCoy sale brought \$81; extremely rare. \$38.

London Elephant Piece; obverse, an elephant; reverse, a shield, "God preserve London;" the obverse struck from a die used on the New England and Carolina pieces; uncirculated, scarce. \$2.

Louisiana Cent, 1721; obverse, two L's crossed and crowned; reverse, Colonies Francoises; in fine perfectly uncirculated condition, very seldom seen so good. \$3.

Louisiana Cent, 1721; different die from the last; very fine, but not quite so good; on a thin planchet, scarce. \$2 50.

Louisiana Cent, 1722; very good and scarce. \$1.

Louisiana Cent, 1767; obverse, two sceptres crossed; reverse, a wreath, &c., countermarked R. F.; very fine indeed, and scarce. \$1 25.

Louisiana Cent, 1767; same as the last, without the countermark; nearly uncirculated and really rare. \$3 50.

Virginia Penny, 1773; bronze proof, extremely rare. \$5 50.

Virginia Half-Penny, 1773; large size, bright and uncirculated, almost a proof impression. \$2 25.

Virginia Half-Penny, 1773; planchet of small size, condition equal to the last. \$2 50.

Virginia Half-Penny, 1773; of size intermediate between the last two; as fine as either, though not bright. \$1 25.

The Florida Piece, 1760; obverse, bust of Charles III of Spain, CARLOS III. D. G. HISPAN. REX; reverse, a full blown rose, with leaf and bud on a stem; JUAN ESTEVAN DE PENA FLORIDA, 1760. This piece is about the size of a Half-Dollar, for which sum it was taken in the way of business by Mr. Mickley. It has no history, and it is not known whether it was designed for a coin or medal, but is in either case equally inte-

resting. With the exception of a hole above the rose, it is in very good condition; *without doubt unique.* \$52 50.

(To be continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

NEW SERIES. No. 1.

BY E. MASON, JR.

It is our purpose in presenting a new series of "varieties" of American Coinage, to find *something new* and at the same time, *something interesting* in the many peculiarities which are continually discovered upon American coinage. The subject is not merely a study for the curious, but a scientific labor valuable to the numismatic student in the arrangement of his cabinet and knowledge of the varieties (in many instances exceedingly valuable) it contains.

THE 1839 CENT.

Our worthy coadjutor "\$" has given the readers of this magazine able and interesting papers on the different types and varieties of this coin; but there is one variety that has apparently escaped his notice, viz.: an over-strike, "1839 over an 1830." We have seen two specimens of this peculiarity, and it is difficult to determine whether the date is really 1839 or 1830. When reference is made to reverse, the cent is found to be an exact copy of the 1839. Upon the obverse, the head of Liberty is precisely that of the so-called "1839, with 1838 Head." It would seem rather strange that the die of 1830 should be selected for striking an 1839 cent, and the incongruities and contradictions plainly show that such was not the case. The remarkable peculiarity of this cent consists first, in its being dated 1830, while beneath the unit there is plainly discernable a figure 9; secondly, it is

not an 1830 over an 1829, from the fact that both obverse and reverse present the characteristics of the 1839 cent, vastly different from the 1829; thirdly, it is to all intents an 1839 cent, having on reverse the small letters *United States of America* and same wreath, while the obverse has the Liberty head of 1838; and yet in the face of all this there stands the cipher 0 under the 9 as bold and prominent as die can make it. If not an 1839 over an 1830, or 1830 over 1829, in numismatic wisdom's name, what is it?

(To be continued.)

ESSEX CO. NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

At the last regular meeting of this society there were exhibited by Mr. Charles J. Paterson, a Queen Anne sovereign of 1713 in fine condition, together with a gold piece, eagle-size, of beautiful design and workmanship for the period, having been issued in 1611, and is now in an entirely uncirculated condition. This piece cost Mr. Paterson \$45 in gold in Wurtemberg. Also, a gold crown, eagle-size, of the Duchy of Wurtemberg, of similar workmanship, date 1690, also uncirculated. These pieces are seldom met with by European collectors, and very rarely found anywhere in such fine preservation. A "bibliomaniac" member of the society offered for inspection some rare pamphlets and books, the latter being especially delightful to the book-hunter by reason of their lovely uncut condition, and stainless preservation from the vandal work of that abandoned old reprobate, Father Time—from whom it is the province of the above society to rescue and preserve mementoes of the past, interesting alike to the numismatist, book-hunter and antiquarian.

JEFFERSON HEAD CENT.

There is a beautifully designed U. S. cent of 1795, which presents a type entirely different from the thick, medium or thin dies of the copper coin of that year. Strange to say, this peculiar coin has not been described in detail in any published work on numismatics. In what manner and by whom this cent was dubbed the Jefferson Head, is unknown. The only knowledge we have of its name is derived from a sale of coins in New York, in 1864, where this piece was thus named. There is not the slightest resemblance in profile to Jefferson, and we think the name a misnomer, unless the report we have heard is correct—that Jefferson designed the coin. In our next we purpose giving a detailed description of the so-called Jefferson Head cent of 1795, having the opportunity to examine the fine piece of this description in the cabinet of J. Colvin Randall, of this city.

GEORGE PEABODY, ESQ.

Our city was honored by a visit from the above named gentleman, on the 20th ult. Mr. Peabody has concluded to try the virtues of the White Sulphur Springs, Virginia, for the improvement of his health. Every lover of science and every friend of humanity will unite with us in the wish that this benefactor of his country, this philanthropic friend of man, may live many years, and have the pleasure of witnessing the result to mankind of his acts of benevolence, so remarkable in their nature and of such unexpected magnitude, that his name will stand out in all future time as the greatest, wisest and grandest philanthropist the world ever saw. Good health, long life and much happiness to the "King of Benefactors," say we,

HISTORY OF U. S. CENTS.

1793.

BY E. M., JR.

(Concluded.)

No. 13. The obverse of this cent is similar to the last described piece, having the addition of a crack extending entirely across the centre of the coin; the letters of LIBERTY are smaller than No. 12; date, the same. Hair finer and more waved. Leaves of wreath open and a less number than on reverse of No. 12; also, fewer berries than on the latter. Double bow at the top of wreath. Letters of U. S. A. and One Cent larger than No. 12, and the words *One Cent* are separated by a wider space than preceding variety. The figures of 1-100 large.

No. 14. Obverse same as last, excepting the crack; some of the letters of the word *Liberty* are out of line, apparently dropped by the carelessness of the engraver. The Liberty pole is smaller and more distant from the bust than Nos. 12 or 13. In other respects this piece is similar to the preceding Liberty Cap Cents.

THE NEW FRACTIONAL CURRENCY has been issued in small amounts from the United States Treasury, and the new fifteen cent notes bear some resemblance to the new ten cent notes recently issued, though they are nearly an inch longer than the ten cent notes. In the left hand upper corner is a fine vignette of the head of the Goddess of Liberty, with a head-dress something like that on the bronze figure surmounting the Capitol dome. This is surrounded by a wreath with the faces at the base. In the right hand upper corner are the figures 15, legibly printed. The face bears the words, "Fractional Currency, United States, fifteen cents; furnished only by the Assistant Treasurers and

designated depositories of the United States." In the lower margin are the words, "National Bank Note Company, New York." The back is green, and has the figures 15, while the usual conditions of exchange for larger United States notes are printed in two segments of a circle, nearly enclosing a blank space, instead of being printed in the middle of a circular space, as on the other notes.

ELLIOTT'S INDIAN BIBLE.

The Indian Bible of the New England missionary, John Elliott, which was disposed of recently at the sale of the effects of the Marquis of Hastings, has, it is announced, been secured by an American antiquarian, for the sum of \$600. This price, however, it is stated, was not paid for the Bible by the purchaser at the sale. The London booksellers, it is asserted, entered into a combination not to bid against each other at the Hastings sale, and by this means the lot containing Elliott's Bible and other books was sold at the auction for \$12 50. The large amount mentioned was obtained at the resale. At more recent auction sales in London of old books, prices were obtained which exceeded those paid when Bibliomania was encouraged by the Duke of Roxborough, Sir Walter Scott and others of the past generation. A copy of Froissart's *Chronicles*, two volumes in one, small folio, black letter, edition of 1525, with autographs of Ph. Mainwaringe, secretary to Lord Strafford, brought four hundred and seventy-five dollars. An imperfect copy of Huon of Bordeaux—"Here begynnythe the boke of Duke Huon of Burdeux and of them that issyd fro him"—printed from the types of Wynkyn de Worde and Pynson, was sold at the same time for four hundred and five dollars.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

A private collection of American and Foreign Coins was disposed of on the 29th ult, at Birch & Son's auction rooms. Attendance good and the prices realised fair. We mailed one hundred catalogues to subscribers, all we could obtain. There were 272 lots and among them some very rare and good American pieces. We shall refer in detail to this sale in next month's magazine.

The following prices were realized for some of the principal pieces:

1838 Pattern Dollar, proof,	\$38 00
Set of 67 American Copper Cents, all in fair to good condition, with an extra good 1799,	35 00
1839 Pattern Dollar, proof,	32 00
1794 Dollar, poor,	20 00
1791 Washington Cent, with small eagle,	13 00
1792 Washington Cent, half dollar pattern, very poor,	12 50
1785 Immunis Columbia, good	12 00
1858 Dollar, proof,	9 00
<i>Auctori Plebis</i> ,	4 00
1838 Pattern Half Dollar, tarnished proof,	7 00

We noticed the familiar faces of nearly all the coin collectors of this city at the sale and our good humored friend and fellow-dealer, Co-gan, of New York. Two things are decisively proved by this sale: one is the fact that coin sales are more numerously attended and more successful in the hot July days than has been supposed or believed would be the case; another and melancholy fact is fixed—that the "Can't-get-away Club" has among its members many, very many of the numismatists of this city.

COIN SALES.

We are promised two sales of coins in September, and three in October. We have no particulars as to exact date.

NEW UNITED STATES NOTES.

In addition to the new fractional currency 10, 15, 25 and 50 cent notes, our government is preparing a series of notes of larger denominations, viz.; ONE DOLLAR NOTE, with vignette of Washington and "Columbus discovering America" on the obverse; TWO DOLLAR NOTE, with vignette of Jefferson and a view of the Capitol on the obverse. The designs for the reverse side of these notes have not been decided upon. The *fives, tens, twenties, fifties* and higher denominations will be entirely new in design. The one and two dollar notes will be issued about September 1; the others a month later. The backs of the ones will be printed by the National Bank Note Company, of New York; and those of the twos by the American Bank Note Company, of the same city.

INDIAN RELICS.

The Indian mound, in the outskirts of St. Louis, which has heretofore been one of the most interesting monuments of the labors of the inhabitants of America in remote antiquity, now no longer exists. The *Republican* complains that the opening of this mound, demanded by the necessity of using the ground for building purposes, was not controlled by scientific persons. A few private individuals alone showed an interest in collecting the innumerable shell beads and occasional bones dug out of the mound. The workman were surrounded by boys, who gathered the beads and bones, and afterwards sold them for a few cents. It is believed that by a few hours of careful digging, under scientific superintendence, several entire skeletons might have been obtained, but the remains are now scattered in the hands of many persons.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. A. M.—The dies of the "God Our Trust" pattern pieces, issued from 1860 to 1869 by U. S. Mint, have been totally destroyed. An "eye witness," who was present on the occasion, informs us that he saw the dies thrown into the melting furnaces at the Mint.

S. T., JR.—You are not familiar with the details of the business. We want a party to take the Philadelphia store *entire* and manage it, forming a connection with our New York house and having all the advantages of publications, exchange of coins, stamps, etc. This affords the right kind of a man an excellent opportunity to make a handsome living and "lay up something for a rainy day." Mention the subject to your western correspondent, who wishes to enter the business.

S. P., NEW ORLEANS.—For a list of our packets, we refer you to the cover of Magazine. We can supply you with the best album now extant (Mon. Moen's) for \$4 50.

O. M.—Shall want a party about the first of September. Our stamp partner goes with us to New York. First applicant having a knowledge of the business, will have the first chance to obtain an established coin and stamp depot with a large patronage. Come on and investigate the matter. If you are not satisfied we will pay your board bill and traveling expenses.

W. W.—Large Eagle Washington Cent, 1791. Small eagle has date beneath the eagle on *reverse*, while the former has date on *obverse*.

T. P. J.—The English coins having the words "Brittania" or "Hibernia" are of little value.

M. R.—You can get a very handsome black walnut cabinet, 12 to 16 drawers, for \$15 to \$25. We keep them on hand at those prices.

H. S.—Money received. Delayed us somewhat in closing accounts of the Morgan sale. Reasons perfectly satisfactory. Shall be pleased to serve you.

K. R. L. M.—In the discussion of numismatics we have no political bias and rejoice at the success of any one of our fraternity, let their political faith be what it may.

W. H. P., CHICAGO.—All the stamps enclosed are counterfeits. They resemble very closely some of the same kind that we know came from Boston.

J. H. F., BOSTON.—If as you say it is difficult to purchase genuine stamps in your city, why not correspond with some reliable dealers?

S. S. J.—Have sent the book on Varieties of 1794 Cents. Also entered your name for third volume. The fourth volume of our magazine will, we think, be a vast improvement on the preceding volumes.

HIGH PRICED COINS.

The time has come to enter an earnest protest against paying exorbitant prices at public sales for coins. The Mackensie sale resulted in an advance of 25 to 50 per cent. upon coin collections, and in making a multiplicity of speculators instead of numismatists. For our own part we are opposed to the unhealthy state of the coin market, caused by the extraordinary prices certain coins have brought at recent sales in New York and Philadelphia. A numismatic convention will correct the evils of high prices. Let a convention be held by all means. We should be pleased to hear from our readers on this subject.

MAGAZINES WANTED.

We will pay 25 cents each for January numbers of our Journal, 1869, and 50 cents each for December numbers, 1868.

THE NEW COIN.

[Written in reply to the verses, entitled "The Old Coin," published in our last issue.]

BY THE EDITOR.

A piece of shining copper and bronze,
Molded by gentle, careful blow;
For a nation's use in war, or peace,
A genuine coin, and sure to go.

A handsome head, a pretty mouth,
A motto never yet defaced;
The word complete 'tis Liberty,
A word that cannot be erased.

Where is the Foreign Monarch, now
That claimed Columbia for his own?
Where are the statue-guarded doors?
An answer on our Coins is shown.

For disks of metal shaped like these,
Swords have been drawn, the
Ocean crossed;
For these, in earnest hope, men fought,
By these we won and Britain lost.

This now, our country's great reward;
This shows a living glorious fame;
Upon a piece of bronze to find,
Liberty—not a doubtful name.

NEW FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

A new ten cent U. S. note has been issued by the Treasury Department and the new fifteen cent note is soon to make its appearance, with out the portraits of Grant and Sherman, which have appeared on all the specimens of this denomination. We shall be prepared to forward the two notes in advance of their general circulation, on receipt of twenty-five cents each.

POSTPONED.

The sale of Bartram's collection of coins is postponed until September.

FOR SALE.

First volume of our Magazine, bound, \$5.

GOLD COIN.

The first certain record of gold being coined in England occurs in 1257. The first regular coins were struck in the reign of Edward III, 1337. The English florin was struck in 1354, when the method of assaying gold was established by law. The standard of purity was altered in 1527, all the old coin being called in for recoinage to defray the expense of which the famous "window tax" was established. Guineas were first coined in 1673 and reduced in value from twenty-two to twenty-one shillings in 1717. The "gold peices" we read of in the old writers were called in, and recoinced into guineas in 1732. Sovereigns were first coined in 1816. Nearly one-half of the gold coins of England from the accession of Queen Elizabeth in 1558, to the year 1840, were struck in the reign of George III. Gold is too soft to be coined in a pure state, as the wear of it would be great, and is therefore alloyed with copper, usually in the proportion of twelve of gold to one of the latter. The guinea was worth thirty shillings in 1696, and was so called from having been first coined from gold brought from the African coast, and in further illusion to this fact, the first guineas had the impression of an elephant. The United States Mint was established in 1792. Gold dollars were first struck in 1849.

NEW FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.

The Treasury has issued \$50,000 worth of new 15-cent fractional currency. The new 25 and 50-cent will not probably be issued before the 1st of August.

The new fractional currency will not be in general circulation for a few weeks.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.
REVIEW OF THE NEW U. S.
POSTAGE STAMPS.

(Continued.)

SIX CENT STAMP.

The six cent stamp has a well executed portrait of Washington in a dotted circle surrounded with a pattern of checkered calico, conveniently cornered at the four angles of the frame—this latter is well surrounded with labels, making it utterly impossible to mistake it for a "gum sticker" or bottle label. Washington is bounded on the north by "U. S. and Postage;" on the east by "United States;" on the south by "SIX (6) CENTS;" on the west by "United States" and the Capitol is *indigo*. The same objection exists against the use of this stamp as all others of the new issue—*too small*. Had the stamps have been oblong, with same width as at present, there would have been *one* improvement, with room for several more.

TEN CENT STAMP.

Ah! here comes the Bird of Freedom—the Eagle—mounted upon a shield, a novel design for a postage stamp, but rather common for an advertising label; something similar having been used rather extensively for that purpose by the Metropolitan Express Company, of New York. This stamp would be beautiful if the color were any other than *orange*. It would be a pleasing picture if the stars, which form a semi-circle above the eagle, were printed bolder, so that the observer could count the full number of thirteen, without seeing more stars than necessary to complete the National Emblems. A waved label or scroll, containing the value, is situated at the lower end of the stamp. An additional stroke of policy on the part of the designer is exhibited in

the big 10, which is boldly printed on lower centre of the shield. The "United States" on this stamp appears very small; and a good sight of the retreating "States" can only be had with a magnifier.

TWELVE CENT STAMP.

This bright, green, distinct and handsomely designed stamp deserves appropriate praise. The steamer in the centre, a regular Cunarder, is ploughing the green white crested waves like a thing of life. The lettering is all distinct and artistically executed. Oh! that this pretty stamp were a quarter of an inch longer, we could send it over the ocean it represents with a proper patriotic pride, and feel confident it would be received by our "early relatives" o'er the seas with as much consideration and respect as the letter it ornaments.

(To be continued.)

REVIEWS OF PHILATELIC
PUBLICATIONS.

Our trans-atlantic philatelic namesake, published by Alfred Smith & Co., Bath, prints in their July number a review of some of our newly issued stamps, with illustrations. To the editorial critique upon said stamps we have nothing to say contradictory to their well timed views upon our sadly designed new issues, but we must protest in earnest language to the work of the artist, who has distorted and disfigured the faces of our much loved and departed patriots, Washington, Franklin and Lincoln. The portrait of Washington, on the six cent stamp, is made to appear like a venerable sleepy headed, forlorn and depressed countryman, the very reverse of our glorious and venerated hero. Franklin's profile on the one cent stamp represents an exact picture of Elias Howe, the inventor of the Sewing Machine; while the portrait

of Lincoln, on the ninety cent is sadly deficient as a *fac-simile* of that good and honest patriot. The three and twelve cent stamps are, however, faithfully represented. It is unfortunate that a journal, usually so exact in its cuts of new issues, should give such poor representations of faces as familiar to the world as household words. In several other respects, our worthy neighbor from over the water is up to the mark and has its usual variety of interesting philatelic matter. As the English S. C. M., is the largest, so also is it the best of all stamp magazines that reach our sanctum. Our wish is that it may live long, grow strong and have the support of all who wish to be properly posted on philatelic matters of the old world.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.

The first indication of a change in government on the postage stamps of Spain appears in the impression of the words *HABILITADO POR LA NACION* (authorized by the nation) on a certain specimen of the 12 cuartos, 1867, and of the words *HABILITADO POR LA JUNTA REVOLUCIONARIA* (authorized by the revolutionary assembly) on copies of the 20c. d'esco. of the same date. Both these surcharged inscriptions are printed in black, the first in a vertical position (reading from bottom to top) the second in an oblique position. The former is also found on the current 10c. and 20c. of Cuba. Their employment is really, as M. Moens points out, entirely superfluous, unless it is to be understood that stamps destitute of the magic words have *not* been issued by order of the nation, and therefore are not legal tender for postage. If we look for an explanation of the appearance of these inscriptions, we may find it in

assuming that the stock in hand at the post-office is exhausted, and that it is the fresh supplies which are now being issued that bear the surcharged words which are at once an intimation of the change in government and an obliteration of the portrait of the dethroned Queen. (*Stamp Collector's Magazine.*)

RUSSIA.

The *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* chronicles the emission of an envelope to supercede the five Kop, which has for so many years been in use in St. Petersburg. The stamp is round and contains the russian arms in the centre, and the same inscription as upon the old one around them. The value is five Kop, and the color reddish violet. It is pleasing to see a change once in awhile, but do not see in this new arrival any change for the better.

TRINIDAD.

The five shilling stamp issued for Trinidad is very similar to the English stamp of the same value. The design consists of Queen's head to left in a circle: "Trinidad" above; FIVE SHILLINGS, below. The color is lake on white paper, watermarked CC and crown.

HOLLAND.

The color of the one cent has been changed from black to green.

ROUMANIA.

The two bani stamp is now printed dark orange, the four bani deep blue, the eighteen bani carmine.

WURTEMBERG.

The fourteen kreutzer, orange yellow, has made its appearance.

NORTH GERMANY.

The one and seven kreutzer are now perforated.

URUGUAY.

The *American Journal of Philately* says a new set of stamps are being prepared for this country by the American Bank Note Company.

"PHILATELISM" AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

(Continued.)

Stamp collecting has become a business as well as an art, and sad it is that demoralization has crept into it as into every other business. This is the case in this country almost as much as in Europe, where swindlers often endeavor to palm off as genuine, upon connoisseurs, counterfeits of rare and expensive stamps. Bogus post-office cancellation marks are not unfrequently added to impart the semblance of authenticity. The sale of foreign stamps in this city commenced in 1862, the pioneer in the business, Bailey by name, still retaining his old open-air stand on the corner of Chambers street and the Park. The profits of dealers in stamps are almost invariably enormous. Dealers in this city realise sometimes as high as five hundred per cent., particularly those who devote themselves to the importation of stamps of the lower denominations. The reader may verify this statement by examining their catalogues and priced albums. Saturday is their great market day. Many of their patrons are school-boys, who devote their weekly holiday to exciting investments and speculations of this nature. In the long run, these juvenile philatelists lose more than they make; for, after having completed a collection entitled to more than an average rank, they nine times out of ten sacrifice it for one-fourth its value.

A complete collection of stamps would include no less than twenty-five hundred varieties. About one-tenth of these are engraved with the features of Queen Victoria, and distributed among the citizens of the nation upon whose colonies the sun never sets. The prices paid for

the various stamps vary from two cents to twenty-five dollars. An English (V. R.) penny stamp, uncancelled, is so very scarce that it commands twenty-five dollars. A Buenos Ayres four-pesos, twenty dollars; a New Grenada ten-pesos, twenty dollars; a Nova Scotia violet shilling, twelve dollars. As immense prices must be paid for unused stamps, the more wary object to these, as but few can be obtained in complete sets, the early issues becoming scarce. There is a prejudice to the effect that, if carelessly handled, they do not look as well in an album as used ones do. It should seem as though an additional value ought to attach to a stamp which has already paid postage in some distant land, and bears the name of the remote city, town or hamlet where it did duty. Some very choice and curious collections are made up entirely with reference to post marks.

(To be continued.)

THE July *Journal of Philately* contained a article from Mr. J. A. Petrie confirming the authenticity of the Honduras two reales rose stamp, giving the authority of the American Minister Resident of the United States to Honduras that it was the only color issued. It seems the statements of these officials cannot always be received with credence, as we have an undoubtedly genuine specimen of the two reales, *green*, in our own collection.

FOUR men, named Achille Patey, Martin Frank, Paul Benon and Nicholas P. Larsen, were arrested, a few days ago, charged with counterfeiting revenue stamps and had an examination before U. S. Commissioner Shields. All of them pleaded guilty and were committed for trial in default of bail.

INTERNAL REVENUE STAMPS.

During the absence of Commissioner Delano, arrangements have been made for a change in the printing and renewing of revenue stamps. It has been the study of the officers of the revenue for a long time to remedy the evil of lack of responsibility in this branch of the revenue, and therefore it is believed the corrective will be to print and issue the stamps in the same manner as the currency of the country is printed and issued, namely, the stamps, new designs, printed in Philadelphia and New York, to be forwarded to the Department for the impression of a seal upon them prior to their being issued, and then issued all from the Department direct.

A NEW COUNTERFEIT.

We were shown a specimen of an ocho (8) real stamp purporting to hail from Ecuador; the color is cinnamon. It was received from an agent of one of the doubtful Boston firms, and coming from such a source we are inclined to doubt its genuineness. The engraving is excellent and well calculated to deceive. We would caution collectors to be on their guard until we learn more about it.

THE Post Office Department of the North German Confederation has addressed a communication to our own Post Office Department, stating in substance that its intention is to have all its mail matter to and from the Pacific coast, China and Japan, carried over the Pacific railroad, and is making inquiries on the subject of such an arrangement. No reply has yet been made, but there is no doubt that the response will be satisfactory to the German Post Office Department.

THE exhibition of Postage Stamps recently held in one of the apartments of the Paris Mint attracted great attention. The finest display was made by England, with her thirty-four colonies, each one having a different design on the stamps. The United States ranked next on account of the beauty of the designs. The Turkish stamps merely contain the year of the flight of Mohammed, the year of the reign of the Sultan, and the value of the stamp in oriental characters. Finland commenced to issue stamps in 1868.

WE were always under the impression that Covington, Kentucky, was quite a large city until we read the following sentence in the *Philatelist*. "President Grant's father fills the humble office of post master of Covington, an insignificant town in Kentucky."

BY the completion of the Pacific railroad, the expenses of the western mail service have been reduced \$503,882 91.

NEW YORK is to have a new Post Office Building. We hope it will be such a one as will be an ornament to the city.

WE are again under obligations to Messrs. J. W. Scott, New York, for the use of the cuts of stamps in our last number.

PARIS is holding an Exposition Universelle of postage stamps.

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

E. W. W. & Co.,	Boston, Mass.
S. A. T.,	do.
E. T. & Co.,	do.
C. A. L.,	do.
W. H. & Co.,	do.
W. B. T.,	West Chester, Pa.

COINS FOR SALE.

U. S. CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	very poor	\$ 50
1793	very fair	1 50
1793	very good	3 00
1794, '95 '96	good	1 50
1794, '95 '96	extra good.	2 50
1797, '98	very good.	50
1799	very poor.	2 00
1799	very fair.	5 00
1799	very good.	10 00
1800, '1, '2 '3	very good.	1 25
1804	fair.	1 50
1804	very fair.	2 50
1804	good.	5 00
1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
1805, '06 '07	fair.	50
1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
1808	fair.	25
1808	good.	50
1809	poor.	50
1809	good.	1 50
1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
1813,	good.	50
1817, '20	very good.	40
1821, '24	good.	30
1825, '30	very good.	30
1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.)

U. S. HALF CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	poor.	1 50
1793	good.	3 00
1794, '95	good.	1 50
1794, '95	good.	1 00
1797, 1800	fair.	50
1803, '4, '5, '6, '7,	very good.	50
1808, '09, '10,	very good.	50
1825, '29	very good.	25
1832, '35	very good.	25
1849, '51	very good.	15
1853, '57	very good.	50
No. 28 to 39,		3 00
1802, '11	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

Conn. and N. J.	good.	25
Vir. and Mass.	good.	1 00
Ver. and N. Y.	good.	1 75
Const., 2 var.	good.	1 00
Louisiana R. F.	good.	1 00
Rosa Ameri.	penny, fair.	2 00
do do	good.	3 50
do	halfpenny, fair.	1 00
do do	good.	2 00
Washington, 1783,	good.	50
do	1791, poor.	3 50
do	1791, good.	5 00

Franklin cent,	good.	75
N. A. Token, 1781,	good.	50
Pitt Token, 1766,	fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

1856 Nickel,	good.	1 50
do	very fine.	1 75
do	proof.	2 50
Indian Head, 1858,	nickel, good.	1 25
do	do proof.	1 50
Flying Eagle, 1855,	fine.	1 25
1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
1836 silver dollar,	ex. good.	5 00
1863 2 cent piece,	proof.	3 00
do	do proof.	3 00

FOREIGN COINS.

12 different,	very good.	50
15 do	very good.	1 00
10 do	extra fine.	1 50
5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
25 silver coins.		5 00

STORE CARDS.

10 cards,	good.	35
10 cards,	fine.	50
All the above sent by mail.		
Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.		

A FEW MORE LEFT.

Having obtained a fresh supply of about one dozen of Mackenzie's Coin Priced Catalogues, with Photographic Plates, we will mail, free of postage, a single copy for \$1 50, or two copies for \$2 75. Address

MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

A few scarce Canadian Coins can be exchanged for others. Full particulars can be obtained by addressing

COINS,

Box 310, Post Office,
Montreal, Canada.

CRESTS AND MONOGRAMS.

We can now supply collectors with Crests and Monograms at the following prices: 20 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 25 cents; 50 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 75 cents. Address

MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS

MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

SEPTEMBER, 1869.

No. 9.

ALASKAN RELICS AND CURIOSITIES.

While we were attending the sale of Mackenzie's Collection of Coins, at Clinton Hall, New York, we were invited by Captain E. G. Fast (late Engineer Officer on General Jefferson C. Davis's staff, Sitka), to examine his wonderful collection of relics and curiosities, recently brought from our newly acquired territory of Alaska. In company with another invited guest and friend of the writer, Ex-Governor Caleb Lyons, we visited Captain Fast's apartments at Clinton Hall, and intended writing out a descriptive article in relation to the visit for this journal; but we find the following communication from the *Churchman*, of New York, is a more intelligible account of the collection than we could possibly prepare and with which we fully coincide.—*Ed.*

A splendid contribution to American archæology has been made by Edward G. Fast, Esq., late engineer officer on the staff of Gen. Jeff. C. Davis, at Sitka. Though less than a year on duty at this post, Capt. Fast collected a museum of about two thousand specimens of relics—utensils, ornaments, idols, amulets and articles of clothing found among the Alaskans, many of them important as illustrating their ancient mythology. By conciliating the natives and gaining their confidence, Capt. Fast was able to secure the assistance of a "medicine

man" and several other courageous explorers, who, at no little personal risk, scoured the country, buying up the old charms and amulets, at present little valued, and in many cases digging open graves to obtain curiosities that in ages past have been buried with the dead. The result is a collection that throws in the shade all the other antiquarian cabinets in the country, and will give a new stimulus to the researches of ethnologists, archæologists and philologists everywhere.

Capt. Fast has spread out his museum in a suit of rooms at Clinton Hall, New York, where they are daily visited by the curious. A brief catalogue of the most important articles has been published by Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., which serves as a partial guide to the visitor. The relics are arranged in ten classes, the first five being the most important. These were chiefly found among the Kalochee, a people embracing eight or ten different tribes, distributed over the region south of Mount St. Elias. Class first consists of relics found in ancient graves, among which are two wooden war helmets; twelve masks; ten idols of wood, ten of ivory and bone, four of stone; twelve wooden charms, and fifty in ivory and bone. The charms or amulets are distinguished by a hole through which a string was passed for suspending them around the neck.

Class second embraces imple-

ments of war, hunting and fishing, the most noteworthy of which are the helmets, visors and coats of mail, and the double pointed daggers. With the latter, the warrior could give a plunging or cutting stroke as with a sword, and also a back stroke, without turning round, if pressed at the same time in front and rear. The armor is composed of wooden plates two or three inches wide, resembling the primitive armor of the Saxons and Goths.

Class third is composed of charms and idols used by the medicine men, numbering twenty-five specimens. Class fourth contains ancient dresses embroidered and ornamented, mostly of skin. A few are painted in brilliant colors. It is remarkable that one of the skin coats is covered with old Japanese coins! These may give an important clue to dates. Class fifth includes miscellaneous ornaments, combs, wigs, necklaces of walrus teeth, smoking pipes, horn combs and spoons, and one hundred and forty ivory and stone idols and amulets of the same general character as those in class first.

On entering a museum of American relics, the visitor is always struck with surprise at the great variety of forms. In Roman, Egyptian, Indian or Chinese collections, the images appear to be shaped after a few well-defined patterns, so that we easily recognize them as Thoth, Krishna, Jagannath, Buddha, etc. At first sight, one would say these Alaskan images had been made after no pattern, but according to the taste of individual artists. Closer observation, however, shows us four or five tolerably distinct classes. Very prominent among them we find the frog or fish head, with large round eyes; the alligator head, with its enormous jaws, is

also very common. Several of the carvings in Capt. Fast's collection are almost fac-similes of the great crocodile head at Kopan, figured at page 156 of Stephens' Travels in Central America. Such a resemblance shows an undoubted connection, near or remote, between the two mythologies.

A still more noticeable resemblance is that of the Alaskan image of the sun to the same, as painted in the Mexican hieroglyphics. Two wooden disks in this collection are as like as possible to the central sun in the celebrated Mexican stone calendar. In one of these disks the tongue is protruded, as it is in the Mexican, and also in the central figure of the Palenke tablet, which Mr. Stephens has inserted in the frontispiece of his work. What confirms the impression that these northern disks represent the sun, is that they have thirteen smaller circles or moons surrounding the idol's face. This agrees with the divisions of the year among the Tahitians, of whom Humboldt, quoting the journal of a missionary, writes:

"The inhabitants of Otaheite divide the year not into twelve, but into thirteen months or moons, to which they give the name of *sons of the Sun*."

There are in Capt. Fast's collection several other images of the same deity, engraved on walrus ivory, so that we may as certainly affirm sun worship of the ancient Alaskans as of the Mexicans, Peruvians or the Indian tribes formerly inhabiting Wisconsin. A full description of the mode of sacrificing to the sun at the great pentagonal altar northeast of Prairie du Chien in Wisconsin, is happily preserved in the "Traditions of Dekoodah," page 89.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF
CONTINENTAL PAPER
MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

On the 3d of December, 1777, Congress recommended to the legislative authorities of the respective States to enact laws requiring persons possessed of bills of credit struck under the sanction and authority of the King of Great Britain, forthwith to deliver the same to be exchanged for Continental Money, and those which shall not be so delivered in shall thenceforth become utterly irredeemable. Again, they "Resolved (in 1777), That the Continental Money ought to be supported at the full value expressed in the respective bills by the people of these States, who stand bound to redeem the same according to the like value, and to guard against the pernicious artifices of the enemies of liberty, who impair the credit of said bills by raising the nominal value of gold and silver." It was further "Resolved, That all bills of credit emitted by Congress ought to pass current in all payments, trade and dealings in these States, and be deemed in value equal to the Spanish dollar; and it is recommended to the Legislatures of these States to pass laws inflicting forfeitures and other penalties on all who do not sell their lands, houses, goods, &c., for Continental Bills at specie value; and that the said Legislatures be requested to enact laws to make the bills of credit issued by Congress a lawful tender in payment of public and private debts, and a refusal thereof an extinguishment of such debts; that debts payable in sterling money be discharged with Continental dollars at four shillings and six pence sterling per dollar (that is to say, at par), and that in discharge of all other debts

and contracts, Continental dollars pass at the rate of a Spanish milled dollar."

Buoyed up by these enactments, Congress sent forth, on the 22d of May, five millions of dollars of various denominations, decorated with new emblems, escutcheons, and secret marks, to prevent counterfeiting. And this emission was followed by another of one million, and on the 7th of November by one million more.

The pernicious legislation just adverted to could result in nothing but the ruin of the confiding patriot, while it enabled the unprincipled debtor to pay his debts at an enormous discount. That result soon became evident, and to a degree so alarming that Congress earnestly besought the States to repeal their iniquitous tender-laws those very laws which had been so pressingly recommended by that body itself, not many months before.

*(To be continued.)*GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN
NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Rosa Americana Penny, 1722, uncirculated; rare.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1722; perfectly uncirculated.

Rosa Americana Farthing, 1722; companion piece to the last two, equally fine. \$40 were obtained for the above set of three.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1722, "Vtile Dvlci;" in splendid condition, scarcely less than proof. \$6 25.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1722, with edge engrailed, uncirculated and almost proof. \$15.

Rosa Americana Farthing, 1722; GEORGIUS DEI GRATIA REX.; reverse, ROSA AMERICANA; fine, scarce. \$2 25.

Rosa Americana Farthing, 1722; GEORGIUS D. G. REX; reverse. ROSA AMERI; uncirculated, almost proof, very rare. \$4.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1722, different die from the first described, fine. \$2 25.

Rosa Americana Money, 1723, crowned rose. A set of three pieces, all fine and sharp impressions. The farthing, in this condition, is very rare. \$37 50.

Rosa Americana Penny, 1723; splendid, nearly proof impression; struck on a silvered planchet, or else in a metal composed in part of silver. \$9.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1723, crowned rose; very fine indeed, uncirculated. \$3 50.

Rosa Americana Farthing, 1723, on silvered planchet; companion piece to the Penny last described, and quite as fine a piece, rare in any condition. \$8.

Rosa Americana Farthing, 1723, uncrowned rose: *this date, with the rose uncrowned, is exceedingly rare*: uncirculated. \$17.

Rosa Americana Half Penny, 1724, crowned rose, on silvered or silver planchet; nearly proof, without doubt unique. \$28.

Rosa Americana Penny, without date, uncirculated, very rare. \$8.

(To be continued.)

PECULIARITIES OF AMERICAN COINS.

NEW SERIES. No. 2.

BY E. MASON, JR.

1795 JEFFERSON HEAD CENT.

This United States Cent differs in every respect from either of the the other types or varieties of the 1795 Cent. *Obverse*, a small and very delicately outlined head of Liberty, the Cap and Pole (resting over the left shoulder) being a trifle smaller than upon the obverse of any other Liberty Cap Cent.

The profile, neck and lower portion of bust of Liberty are handsomely portrayed; face, neck and breast well exposed, while the fine locks of hair are brushed well back from the forehead, giving the face an intellectual expression. The hair is short, exceedingly fine, slightly waved from beneath the Liberty Cap to lower rear portion of neck. The letters of *Liberty* are handsomely executed, the date small and well separated and well down between bust and edge of coin, in this, as in all other respects, a vast improvement over all other 1795 Cents. A fine dotted milling, extends around the very outer edge of the piece, on either side. The *reverse* presents a rather crowded appearance when the designs are compared with the roomy and well balanced obverse. The wreath is large, the twigs or leaves of which are open, and broadly and irregularly arranged, as if carelessly engraved, and cover nearly a third of the coin's surface. The letters of "United States of America," and "One Cent" are depressed or hollowed out at top and bottom. There are three bows on tie at foot of wreath and two ends, giving a fair representation of a clover leaf. Letters "1-100" rather large.

There are one type and two varieties of the "Jefferson Head" Cent. One variety consists in the letters being formed perfectly straight at top and bottom.

(To be continued.)

CHOICE COINS ON SALE.

Attention is called to the coin sale on September 6, in this city. Among the good things are quite a number of uncirculated cents prior to 1814; an 1804 cent which is not readily excelled, if equaled; some fine half cents; a beautiful assortment of Colonials, many of them

fine and very rare; a series of dimes beautiful to gaze upon, the gem of the latter being the very fine 1797 dime, the finest we know of and an unusually rare coin to find in any condition. The collection is not large, but has some choice pieces in almost every series of United States coins or medals, and some very rare store cards, etc. We solicit early notice of bids, as it not unfrequently happens that bids come in too late for the first day's sale. The sale will commence on Monday, September 6, at 3½ P. M. and continue three days. A very neat, new black walnut cabinet, containing twelve drawers, will be sold at close of sale.

CORRESPONDENCE.

GRANT, SHERMAN AND DELANO'S LIKENESSES ON THE REVENUE TOBACCO STAMPS.

The modest old gentleman at the head of the Internal Revenue Bureau has ordered a new series of revenue tobacco stamps, which are to be issued next week. They comprise twelve designs, and the stamps for five pounds are ornamented with the "phiz" of the Commissioner himself, the forty-pound stamps with a vignette of General Sherman, and the sixty-pound stamps with the likeness of President Grant. There is a delicate touch of gratitude in this, as well as a stroke of policy in Delano putting the President's likeness on the stamps, as Grant is believed to be rather susceptible to this kind of flattery. But the worthy Commissioner made a mistake. He should have put Grant's likeness on the cigar boxes, and represented him with a "smoker" in his mouth. As it is now, the President's placid features will scarcely ever be seen, while Delano's "prepossessing countenance" — he

cigar, too, as he is as inveterate a smoker as Grant—will be handed around in the cigar shops whenever they sell a five-pound package. This species of toadyism and mutual and self admiration is only equaled by that of Clark, formerly Chief of the Printing Bureau of the Treasury Department, who, with equal modesty, had his own likeness engraved on the five cent notes. Congress, next winter, will have something to say, about placing the likenesses of living men on the national currency and revenue stamps.—*Dispatch.*

WOBURN, MASS. Aug. 25, 1869.

MESSRS MASON & Co.:

DEAR SIRS—I cannot refrain from taking the liberty of writing to you, to make a suggestion in connection with the Magazine, and one that would I think add greatly to its value. And that is the want of an index, that information on any particular subject might be readily obtained, without having to look one or more volumes through before finding that which is desired. It seems to me, Messrs. Editors, that you might, at the close of the present volume, print a full and complete table of contents, for the three volumes, on one sheet, in a suitable manner, of course, for binding in the third volume, and in the future devote the last page of each volume to such a table. That you might not be at any expense, I for one would be perfectly willing and glad of the opportunity of paying a fair price for the same, and I doubt not but that every one who takes the Magazine would willingly do the same; for so valuable an acquisition would be worth by far more than what the cost of it would come to. I would not take for my two bound volumes twice the whole cost of them, if I knew I could not obtain others in their place, and an index

would greatly enhance their value. I hope you will think favorably of the subject, for you have time enough between now and the close of the year so to do. Give us an index, and "Let us have peace." Speaking about peace puts me in mind that I wish to know if any one is to get up a medal of any kind to commemorate the Great Peace Festival recently held in Boston. If so, I should like to know particulars if you are not too busy to inform. Yours,

MARCELLUS LITTLEFIELD.

[An answer to the above will be given next month.—Ed.]

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 6, 7 and 8, we shall offer at public auction the collection of Capt. Edward P. Thorn, of Plainfield, New Jersey, consisting of a fine series of United States Cents, Half Cents, Colonials, Paterns, silver and copper coins, medals, &c., also a few choice Roman and Grecian silver and copper coins and an assortment of foreign coins, medals and tokens. To be sold, without reserve, at the rooms of Thomas Birch & Son, No. 1110 Chestnut street. Catalogues now ready.

THE LAST CHANCE.

A partner is wanted to unite with us in the coin and stamp business. Choice of New York or Philadelphia for base of operations is given to new partner. To a party having the use of capital—say a few thousand dollars—unusual arrangements will be made, wherein one hundred per cent. can be realized, and a large business permanently established. Address at this office. A party with eight hundred dollars can have entire control of Philadelphia Coin Depot.

VARIETIES OF THE 1839 CENT.

We have received the following lucid and satisfactory explanation of a variety of 1839 cent alluded to in the last number. We are greatly indebted to our valued correspondent, "\$," for his careful examination of the coin, and feel confident that the variety is correctly described.—Ed.

WHAT IS IT?

The writer desires to acknowledge the receipt of the coin that originated the question in the last number of the Magazine, "What is it," kindly presented by the editor. It is a cent of the year 1839, made from altered die of 1838. Truly it is readily distinguishable from each of the issues of 1829 and 1830. I have found the cent of 1838, having small figures rather widely separated from each other, made by the die previously to the alteration being made. The reverse of the coin is manifestly, I think, the work of the die of the Silly Head variety of 1839, having the line under the word cent, but without the Mint mark. See my article on the varieties of the cent of 1839, published in last year's Magazine. This, I confess, is a new wrinkle for me. \$.

NEW MEDAL.

Charles K. Warner, of this city, has just issued a few proof copies of the new Geary Medal, in white metal. Obverse, bust with inscription, "For Governor, Major General J. W. Geary, 1869." Reverse, a large star surrounded by thirteen smaller stars; motto, "I vote as I fight," size, 30. As special agents for Warner's medals, we solicit orders for all the old or new medals that have been issued from his establishment. The Geary Medal mailed on receipt of 25 cents Mason & Co.

WILLIAM MULREADY, R. A.

BY J. C. WILSON.

The celebrated painter, William Mulready, was born in Ennis, Co. Clare, on April 1, 1786. When about five years old, he was taken to London with his father (a leather breeches maker) and family. His early skill in drawing soon attracted attention, and he became, in consequence, the pupil and protege of Banks, the sculptor, who qualified him for admission into the school of the Royal Academy, in 1800.

He lived for a time by designing book illustrations, and by scene painting. In 1804, he was married to a sister of the painter and astrologer Varley, but the union was unhappy, and a separation took place after a few years.

He first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1804, was chosen A. R. A. in 1815, and in less than a year after, R. A.

When the scheme of the postal service was matured, and the emission of a postal envelope decided on, recourse was had to Mulready for its design, and he produced that peculiar combination of allegories, which, among philatelists, at least, has always borne his name. Whether the design was strictly his own conception or was "done to order" we know not, but should be inclined to think the latter was really the case. On the whole it certainly did not add much to his fame, and caricaturists were not slow to seize upon its (unintentionally) humorous features. If it were the expectation of the government that the design would be difficult to reproduce, that expectation was certainly not fulfilled, for the frontispiece to *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine* proves that a respectable copy is not difficult to make. By the side of the stamped envelopes and finely-engraved adhesives of the

present day, it has an almost mediæval appearance; and indeed its singular, and we may say primitive style, renders it a very appropriate occupant for the first page of our albums. It was engraved in relief on brass with the utmost care and delicacy, by Thompson, who devoted the labor of twelve entire weeks to its execution. The envelopes and covers were printed from casts stereotyped, and on Dickinson's paper.—*S. C. Magazine, Eng.*

(To be continued.)

HIGH PRICED COINS.

In our last number we solicited an expression of opinion in relation to the above subject, and take pleasure in presenting two communications showing the opposite side of the question :

GENTLEMEN:—In your August number of magazine you refer to the great fictitious value certain coins have commanded in public coin sales. It is rather strange that you overlook the fact that certain coins and medals of known scarcity are constantly increasing in value. A reference to the sales of the past ten years will prove the truth of this assertion. The fact is that the demand for rare coins is always greater than the supply.

Yours, truly,

AMATEUR.

PHILA., Aug., 1869.

ALBANY, August 20, 1869.

GENTS:—It seems to me you have erred in your statement that coins are getting to be too high priced for the state of the market. It is true some of us poor collectors cannot pay the steep prices many of our American coins fetch at coin sales; but there are collectors always able and willing to pay high prices for pieces to complete their collections.

Yours, &c.,

A. L. G.

FOR SALE,

A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY,

Embracing a complete set of Continental Issue from May 10, 1775, to January 14, 1779.

Also, a set of Colonial Issues, embracing Connecticut, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and a collection containing over two hundred different Bills and Notes of Red Bank, United States Lottery Ticket, New Jersey Bills of Credit, genuine Confederate, original Bank Notes, Store Card Notes, Stamp Tax, one Tea Scheme (this was posted up in the old Coffee House of Philadelphia), Catalogue of New Jersey Bills of Credit, Catalogue of Autographs and Continental Paper Money and a review of the article on Continental Paper Money, two pages.

For this entire collection, the owner requires three hundred dollars. Address Mason & Co., 50 North Tenth street, for full details.

THE WIDOW'S MITE.

In the cabinet of the United States Mint, in this city, may be seen a very ancient and diminutive object labelled "The Widow's Mite." It is inclosed, with other Jewish coins, in a small case near the entrance; and the printed slip attached, which gives it its name, states that it was found in the ruins of Jerusalem. It is the smallest of copper coins, its metallic value being scarcely one-tenth of a cent. Yet, from the associations connected with its name, as well as from its rareness, it is valued beyond price, or, as the attendant says, "No money would buy it." The lover of antiquity should not fail to see it on visiting the Mint.

ERRATA.

Our patrons who have received Catalogues of Coin Sale, to come off September 6, 7 and 8, in this city, will please correct the following numbers, which in haste of print were erroneously described:

Nos. 32, 33 and 34 should be *Mitad* instead of *Trinidad*.

No. 60. This piece (a very rare card) *Omnibus Unus*, G. O. F., is a Masonic card.

No. 198, 1793 *Cent*, in place of 1795.

No. 381, struck in nickel.

No. 430, 1-000 variety.

Nos. 806 to 845, inclusive, *bronze* medals; all finest proofs.

No. 896, 1793 *Cent*.

No. 939 should be 1791 Washington *Cent*; *small eagle* proof.

We hope these corrections will reach our readers in time to send in bids. Those of our Canadian or extreme western subscribers can send their bids by telegraph.

NEW WASHINGTON MEDAL.

Charles K. Warner will shortly issue a beautiful Washington medal, dies by Key. This medal will be struck expressly for collectors in sets of silver, bronze and white metal. As agents for the new medal, we shall send circulars to all our subscribers, with details of size, price, &c. A very few sets will be struck, and those wishing to obtain them will oblige by handing in their names to Mason & Co.

POSTAL CONVENTION.

A postal convention, establishing and regulating a reciprocal exchange of correspondence between the United States and the colony of British Honduras, has been concluded with Great Britain, and will be carried into operation October 1, 1869. The rate of postage is twelve cents per half ounce.

WILDEY ODD FELLOWS' MEDAL.

A few copies of the above medal (issued by Warner Brothers, April 26, 1869, in white metal) will be struck in bronze, proof condition, for collectors. All orders must be addressed to Mason & Co., Agents, No. 50 North Tenth street, Philadelphia.

N. B. As the number of medals is limited, early application should be made. Price, \$1.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. T., NEW YORK.—Some half a dozen sales here, or we would move over by October 1. Sent you the \$10 1804 cent; also the manual.

R. P. W., BOSTON.—There is a silver Washington Dollar in this State, for sale. Price, \$500. We can get it for you. Shall charge ten per cent. commission.

A. A., WILMINGTON.—You will find some splendid coins in our "Fourth Philadelphia sale." Have sent you a catalogue.

P. R. V., JR., NORFOLK.—It is a brass French token, worth twenty-five cents. This piece always has the word "Unity" instead of *United*, on reverse.

J. W., GREENWICH, N. Y.—Subscription received. Thanks for your patronage. Send your bids in early for coin sale on the 6th inst.

L. W. R., CHICAGO.—Three days' sale of coins in this city, 6th, 7th and 8th inst. There are some excessively rare pattern pieces, and some very fine cents.

J. H. S.—We have not heard anything of a five cent stamp of the new series of United States Postage.

J. F. C.—The Reunion and Austrian Mercury are forgeries. You should have known so by the price they were offered.

C. S. J.—There were two editions of the German Envelopes, the first with the inscription in lilac; the second with the inscription the same color as the stamp. The Wurtemberg Envelopes on white paper are quite scarce.

F. L.—The stamps of Cashmere are a genuine issue. We can supply you with some of the values.

E. V. A.—The fact of your 12 ore Sweden being unperforated does not detract from its genuineness. We have one in our own collection that has a broad margin, with no sign of perforation. The Turkish fiscal label is a counterfeit.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

PHILATELISM AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

(Continued.)

The thought of calling in the powers of art as an auxiliary to the civilising agency of the postage stamp was exceedingly felicitous. Such an opportunity of distributing models of beauty over the face of the globe, and among all classes of people, had never previously occurred in the history of the race. To New York is due the honor of having engraved the most beautifully executed stamp in the world—namely, the Nova Scotia twelve-and-a-half cent stamp, known as the "Queen of Postage Stamps." Among stamps in general, a few of the designs, by way of illustration, are not unworthy of mention. The Chili stamp, for instance, has a profile of Columbus; and is inscribed "Colon;" Peru presents a mountain view, with two lamas; Egypt is garnished with geometric figures, bearing an Arabic inscription—also with a sphynx and pyramid. Western Australia is emblemised in a swan, and Tasmania (old) in a view

of Sidney; Costa Rica paints two oceans, divided by mountains; San Salvador, a volcano; Nicaragua, a mountain landscape; and Liberia possesses three large colored stamps, red, blue and green—but no black! Nevis, in the West Indies, illustrates Hygeia giving water to an invalid from a healing well, and the Virgin Isles rejoice in a draped female figure surrounded by lighted lamps. British Guiana is a ship in full sail, and Uruguay a sun in glory. Cape of Good Hope shadows forth itself in a figure of Hope, seated between a vine branch and a ram, and New Brunswick is symbolised by a locomotive and a steamboat. A codfish, a seal, a crown and stars, a shamrock, rose and thistle indicate Newfoundland. Vancouver's Island finds expression in a large capital V, embellished with the same floral trio. Canada sets up a beaver; Barbadoes and Trinidad find consolation in the well-worn figure of Britannia. France (1849) impressed upon postage stamps a profile of Liberty, the only way in which liberty ever is seen in France; Russia finds a post-official mouthpiece in the imperial arms and some post horns. Turkey, upon one of its stamps, bears a fac-simile of the Sultan's sign-manual, and upon another a crescent, moon and star, the Greek and Mohamedan religions forbidding portraits of rulers to be engraved. Mexican stamps are fortunately scarce, since they are most abominably executed. Among the latest stamps issued are those of New Caledonia; the Orange States, in Africa; Strait's Settlements in China; and the Isthmus of Suez. The design on the latter is a vessel under steam passing through the great canal. The likenesses of only four of our presidents are commemorated upon the federal stamps.

Those four are Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln. Our earlier issues bore the portrait of Franklin, our first postmaster general.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES.

CANADA

It is shortly to have a new set of stamps. Taking lessons in economy from our own country, it seems they are about altering their stamps to make them smaller, so as to save paper. The head will still remain exactly the same as now, but the frame and margin around the head will be considerably less. We cannot see how this can be done without spoiling the beauty of the stamp. As to whether they are to retain the same color, we are unable to say.—(*American Journal of Philately.*)

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The provisional series are now in use. They are of the following values and colors:

- 5 cents, orange red.
- 10 do pink.
- 25 do yellow.
- 50 do lilac.
- 1 dollar, green.

DENMARK.

The letter S, following the figure of value, has been suppressed on the 2 skilling envelope.

LA GUIRA.

There has appeared what purports to be a genuine stamp from LA GUIRA. The stamp is rectangular, printed in carmine on white unwatermarked paper and perforated. In the body of the label is a steamboat, with the value DOS REALES in a scroll above, the initials of the firm issuing it, and CURACAO below. On the left is LA GUIRA; on the right, PORTO CABELLO; PAQUETTE above and SAN THOMAS below. The figure 2 in each angle.

REVIEW OF THE NEW U. S. POSTAGE STAMPS.

(Concluded.)

15 CENT STAMP.

This stamp commences the series of the larger denominations by an improvement in size, though so slight as scarcely to be noticed by the casual observer. Now, for a change, thought our worthy Post Office Department, and *presto*, appears a little semi-oval, quarto-octagonal blue picture of Columbus discovering America, it should be, *Landing in America*. We take pleasure in giving the subject of diminutive engraving for the benefit of our foreign cousins, who will be sadly perplexed to find date or name over or under the narrow little but excellently engraved picture. We think the interesting event pictured out on the 15 cent stamps occurred about 1492. The view of Columbus and his adherents is in the centre of an elaborately engraved brown frame. Either the stamp is too small for the picture, or the latter too large for the stamp. As a *postage stamp* we consider the 15 cent article a failure; as a pretty picture for an illuminated A B C book, a decided success.

24 CENT STAMP.

This stamp is open to same objections as the last, excepting in one respect, *the date* under the representation of the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, which occupies the centre of the stamp. The picture should have been named directly over or beneath it. It is true, the date 1776 is there, but what does that signify? Strangers, especially foreigners, would stare at the group of stately looking Quakers, and wonder whether they were enjoying a peep of Congress or gazing into the President's House at Washington. The color of the picture is either a purple, lilac or brown, we

cannot well designate which, and the octagonal view of the "Signing of the Declaration" is surrounded by a highly ornamented green frame, lettered and figured appropriately.

30 CENT STAMP.

This, like the ten cent stamp in design, has the inevitable eagle and shield, with the usual admixture of stars and flags found on many of our national emblems. The eagle mounted on a shield, printed in vermillion, occupies the centre of stamp, while upon either side depend two of our national flags printed in blue. A semi-circle, composed of thirteen stars in white, ornament the blue background, thus blending the red, white and blue very neatly and harmoniously. A large "30" is printed on lower portion of shield, while the addition of "Thirty Cents" in a wavy line across lower end of stamp, fully sets forth its value as a letter carrier.

90 CENT STAMP.

A very correct portrait of the late President Lincoln, in oval frame, occupies the centre of this stamp; although the beauty of the picture is greatly marred by the harrow-like cross bars imprinted on the back, and it is harrowing to one's feelings to see all that we hold dear to our patriotic hearts compelled to gaze through the *prison bars* so unfeelingly impressed upon the centre of all our pretty little postage stamps. No wonder such action on Uncle Sam's part has raised our ire and our backs, and that's not all—it has raised even the backs of the stamps. Lincoln is printed in black, very appropriate, and surrounded by a handsomely labeled carmine frame, with value in *figures* at upper corners and in *letters* at lower corners. This is a very neatly arranged stamp and concludes the series.

DEALERS IN BOGUS STAMPS.

E. W. W. & Co., Boston, Mass.
S. A. T. do
E. T. & Co., do
C. A. L., do
W. H. & Co., do
W. B. T. West Chester, Pa.

COINS FOR SALE.

U. S. CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	very poor	\$ 50
1793	very fair	1 50
1793	very good	3 00
1794, '95 '96	good	1 50
1794, '95 '96	extra good.	2 50
1797, '98	very good.	50
1799	very poor.	2 00
1799	very fair.	5 00
1799	very good.	10 00
1800, '1, '2 '3	very good.	1 25
1804	fair.	1 50
1804	very fair.	2 50
1804	good.	5 00
1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
1805, '06 '07	fair.	50
1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
1808	fair.	25
1808	good.	50
1809	poor.	50
1809	good.	1 50
1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
1813,	good.	50
1817, '20	very good.	40
1821, '24	good.	30
1825, '30	very good.	30
1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents).

U. S. HALF CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	poor.	1 50
1793	good.	3 00
1794, '95	good.	1 50
1794, '95	good.	1 00
1797, 1800	fair.	50
1803, '4, '5, '6, '7,	very good.	50
1808, '09, '10,	very good.	50
1825, '29	very good.	25
1832, '35	very good.	25
1849, '51	very good.	15
1853, '57	very good.	50
No. 28 to 39,		3 00
1802, '11	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

Conn. and N. J.	good.	25
Vir. and Mass.	good.	1 00

Ver. and N. Y.	good.	1 75
Const., 2 var.	good.	1 00
Louisiana R. F.	good.	1 00
Rosa Ameri. penny,	fair.	2 00
do do	good.	3 50
do halfpenny,	fair.	1 00
do do	good.	2 00
Washington, 1783,	good.	50
do 1791,	poor.	3 50
do 1791,	good.	5 00
Franklin cent,	good.	75
N. A. Token, 1781,	good.	50
Pitt Token, 1766,	fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

1856 Nickel,	good.	1 50
do	very fine.	1 75
do	proof.	2 50
Indian Head, 1858,	nickel, good.	1 25
do do	proof.	1 50
Flying Eagle, 1855,	fine.	1 25
1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
1836 silver dollar,	ex. good.	5 00
1863 2 cent piece,	proof.	3 00
do do	proof.	3 00

FOREIGN COINS.

12 different,	very good.	50
15 do	very good.	1 00
10 do	extra fine.	1 50
5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
25 silver coins.		5 00

STORE CARDS.

10 cards,	good.	35
10 cards,	fine.	50
All the above sent by mail.		
Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.		

A FEW MORE LEFT.

Having obtained a fresh supply of about one dozen of Mackensie's Coin Priced Catalogues, with Photographic Plates, we will mail, free of postage, a single copy for \$1 50, or two copies for \$2 75. Address

MASON & CO.,
No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

CRESTS AND MONOGRAMS.

We can now supply collectors with Crests and Monograms at the following prices: 20 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 25 cents; 50 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 75 cents. Address

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MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

OCTOBER, 1869.

No. 10.

ALASKAN RELICS AND CURIOSITIES.

(Continued.)

But what interested us most in this collection was a stone amulet, with an inscription, part of which was supposed to be in Runic letters, and which Mr. De Costa conjectured to be the work of some Northman of the eleventh or twelfth century. As no one, we believe, has yet ventured to interpret this writing, we will submit an opinion of its import, hoping that, if in error, some member of the Philological Society will favor us with a better solution.

Above the inscription are two eyes, with a hole in the centre of the forehead, and two small circles below, which may, perhaps, be supposed to answer for nostrils, though rather too small. In that case the face would find its class with several others in the collection, where the face is foreshortened, leaving very little space below the mouth. Some of the images of this class have a great resemblance to the fish god of the Polynesians. In this specimen the letters occupy the place of the mouth. The characters are sharp and well cut, six in number, as follows:

DIOIWD

The first and last character has the stem slightly elongated, like the runic letter D or TH. The fifth letter may be read as K or G, both these sounds being represented among the Norsemen by the same

character. We have then to make our choice between *Dio Igd* and *Thio Ikth*. Either way, it is the *God Icht* or *Ikth*, which it seems is the usual name by which their heathen deity was designated.

Now we are to suppose that the old Norse God Ygg, under whose ash tree (hence called *Igdrasil*) the gods sat in council, wandered over in person or by his priests to America, and that here his older name has been preserved while the more modern one of Odin or Woden has sunk to oblivion? That Ygg is the older appellation, we learn from the *Grimnis Mal*, verse 54:

"I that am Odin, before was called
Ygg,
Still earlier known by the name of
Thund,
Waker and Skling, Walfother,
Throptur;
Among the gods, I was Gautur and
Ialk,
Ofni and Swafni; all, as I deem,
Names that belong to none but me."

If instead of the soft pronunciation G and D, we give the consonants in this inscription the sharper sounds K and Th, which they usually had in the old Norse, the words become *Thio* and *Ikth*, the former corresponding to the Greek *deos* rather than the Latin *deus*, the Indian *deo* or *deva*, the Chinese *tao* or *tau*, the Hawaiian or Tahitian *a-tua*, and the *teu* or *teut* of Mexico and Central America.

But if we accept the reading *Thio Ikth*, the idea suggests itself whether this idol, after all, may not be a corruption of the Christian emblem *Ixodus* or *ichthus*, a fish, which we know was, in very early ages made to symbolize Christianity, this word being used as a sort of monogram, composed of the initials of the words *Iesus Xristos deus (h)uiois Soter*—Jesus Christ, the Savior, Son of God. As if to lend countenance to this interpretation, one of the wooden idols dug up from the graves represents a man holding in his hand a cross; not the common cross, so often found on pagan images, but a true Latin cross, with the foot longer than the arms. But the figure holding this cross is nude, a circumstance too heathenish to allow the supposition that any form of Christianity could have sunk so low; unless, indeed, it be taken to signify that like the Hindu sanyasi the votary of this religion has attained to the primeval sinlessness and purity of Eden. We should at any rate require very strong evidence before believing that the Alaskan mythology ever had any connection with Christianity, directly or indirectly.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Rosa Americana, Half-Penny; obverse, bust of the king laureated, GEORGIUS DEI GRATIA REX; reverse, a rose bush with full blown flower and bud, ROSA SINE SPINA, very rare. \$52 50.

Laureated head of George II. facing left, GEORGIUS II., D. G. REX. The famous *Rosa Americana* struck in steel; for an account of which see Snelling, page 40; in splendid condition, unique. \$18.

Rosa Americana, without date; uncrowned rose, bright and uncirculated, extremely rare. \$10.

Nova Constellatio Dollar; obverse, a wreath surrounding the inscription "U. S. 1000," legend "Libertas Justitia, 1783;" reverse, an eye, surrounded by rays, forming a sun, between the rays thirteens stars, NOVA CONSTELLATIO. This coin is the pattern and earliest design for a United States Dollar or piece of 1000 mills, and it is not unlikely that it is one of the pieces referred to in the diary of Robert Morris, who, under date of April 2, says: "I sent for Mr. Dudley, who delivered me a piece of silver coin, being the first that has been struck as an American coin." From the absence of any "ring," I infer that this piece is not silver, but some soft metal. Believed not to exist in any other collection, size 21½. \$70.

Nova Constellatio Half Dollar, 1783; design like the preceding, with the exception of a mint mark of three leaves, and a difference in the arrangement of the legend; within the wreath "U. S. 500." Companion piece to the preceding, and one equally as rare, size 17½. \$32 50.

James II. Tin Piece; original, nearly proof, scarce. 50 cents.

Nova Constellatio, 1783, perfectly uncirculated, almost proof, in this condition a very rare piece. \$1 12.

Nova Constellatio, 1783, small U. S.; as fine as the last. \$1.

Nova Constellatio, 1783, large U. S.; very fine. \$1.

Nova Constellatio, 1783; sun, with blunt rays, fine, scarce. \$1 25.

Nova Constellatio, 1783; perfectly uncirculated, and a very full, sharp impression. \$1 12.

Nova Constellatio, 1785, U. S. in script; very fine indeed. \$1 12.

Nova Constellatio, 1785, equally fine. \$1.

Nova Constellatio, 1785, a different die, fine. \$1.

Three Nova Constellations, both dates, all different varieties, all good, two being uncirculated; a desirable lot. \$1 50.

U. S. A., or Bar Cent, of the rare variety, in which the S. passes over the A.; very fine indeed, and guaranteed original. \$5.

U. S. A., or Bar Cent, the other type, with the A. passing over the S.; in a perfect, uncirculated condition, and genuineness guaranteed, rare. \$5.

U. S. A. or Bar Cent. The peculiarity of this piece consists in its small size, being only about half the weight of the preceding, and in the peculiar arrangement of the letters U. S. A., which stand entirely separate, instead of being combined as in the Cent. Slightly pierced, in all other respects in fine condition; without doubt a contemporary issue with the Cents; *believed to be unique.* \$18.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

The whole amount of paper money issued during the war was about three hundred millions of dollars; but the collections made by the Continental Government in various ways cancelled, from time to time, the one-third; so that the maximum of circulation at no one period exceeded two hundred millions. Nor did it reach that sum until its depreciation had compelled Congress to take it in, and pay it out at the rate of forty paper dollars for one in hard money.

It kept nearly at par for the first year, during which period only nine millions were issued; an amount

about equal to the specie then held in all the Colonies. And when used in that moderate way, it passed with very little depreciation; but soon after, when the emissions increased rapidly, it fell proportionably in value, going on from year to year in its downward course, until Congress, as we have seen above, fixed the scale, by law, at forty for one. But million following million, in quick succession, lessened its exchangeable rate, from day to day, to the value of five hundred, and then one thousand for one, when it ceased to circulate.

Congress had exchanged some of the notes at forty for one, by giving the holder loan-office certificates at par, and offered to redeem the whole in the same way, at one thousand for one when they had sunk to that price. But those very loan-office and other certificates of debt bore in market no higher price than two shillings and sixpence on the pound, or eight dollars for one; so that very few availed themselves of that offer.

Those public securities bearing various names, such as loan-office certificates, depreciation certificates, final settlements, etc., were given to the public creditors who had demands for moneys lent, supplies furnished, services rendered, etc., and constituted the congressional debt at the end of the war. They consisted of obligations or bonds, bearing interest at six per cent., and were entirely distinct in character and tenor from the money bills, which bore no interest, and were used altogether as currency. The value of those certificates in market, as I have already said, was not more than seven or eight for one, until the adoption of the present Constitution, in 1789, when they were funded, and rose to par.

(To be continued.)

WILLIAM MULREADY, R. A.

BY J. C. WILSON.

(Concluded.)

Mulready also designed a series of thirty-two illustrations for an edition of the "Vicar of Wakefield," published in 1840, some of which he afterwards painted; and, as examples of book wood-cut illustrations, they are almost perfect.

In the year 1848, a great many of his pictures were brought together for exhibition by the Society of Arts and excited general admiration. He was a learner during his whole life, and remained a life student of the Academy till within a day or two of his death. For many years he lived at Bayswater, where he died on the 7th of July, 1863, and was buried at Kensal Green Cemetery. There is now a bust of him, by Weekes, in the National Gallery.

Reviewing his career as an artist, we find that Mulready first began with "high art," but soon took to landscape painting and subjects of character and humor. He was at one time a most diligent student of the Dutch masters, fruits of which study were visible in the numerous figure pictures which he painted from 1810 till his death. His early pictures were of small size. From about 1824 he aimed at greater freedom in drawing and richness of coloring, and had an unequivocal success. The most admired of his works were: "The Flight Interrupted," 1815; "Idle Boys," 1815; "Wolf and the Lamb," 1820; "The Last In," 1835; "First Love," 1839; "Fair Time," 1840; "Train up a Child," 1841; "Crossing the Ford," 1842; "The Whistonian Controversy," 1843; "Choosing the Wedding Gown," 1845; "Women Bathing," 1849; and "The Toy Seller," not finished, 1861.

In the library of the British Museum are: "The Grasshopper's

Feast," "The Butterflies' Ball," and several other children's books, the illustrations of which are said to be by Mulready. In 1866, a work appeared, entitled "Memorials of Mulready," collected by F. G. Stephens, which contained photographs from fourteen of his paintings. The Arundel Society also have published thirty photographs from his best pictures. William Godwin, the celebrated political writer, gave, in the form of a child's book, a most interesting account of the early life and studies of Mulready, under the title of "The Looking Glass; or, True History of the Early Years of an Artist," by Theophilus Marcliffe. This little book, which was published in 1805, has now become of the greatest rarity, and contains facsimiles of some of Mulready's earliest sketches.—*S. C. Magazine, Eng.*

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

The drawings for the new academy, upon which Mr. J. H. Windrum has been engaged, were finished on the 20th ult. The proposed structure will have a frontage of 180 feet on Race street, and 60 feet on Nineteenth. It will afford three times the accommodation of the present building on Broad street. It will have a basement, and rise to the height of two stories above. The lower story, to be circled by one gallery, will serve as the library of the institution; the upper, to be circled by two galleries, will be the museum. The library will be 60 by 134 feet. The space below the gallery will be divided into fifteen or twenty small rooms for the purpose of study, the remainder of the ground floor being occupied by apartments for artists and the curators, and rooms for the society's publications. There will also be a

printing office and bookbindery on this floor, together with every appliance for study. As mentioned, the second floor, with its galleries, will hold the museum. It will be excellently well lighted by tall windows reaching from the floor to the ceiling up past all the galleries without a break. There will be forty of these windows.

Complete and spacious, however, as the new structure will be, it is only designed to serve as a wing to the main building to be erected at some future time, when the needs and resources of the society will warrant the undertaking. A *fac simile* of it will be built, when, the curators themselves do not know, at the corner of Cherry and Nineteenth streets. Between these two will rise the main edifice, which we can well believe will be no shame to the architecture of the city when finished.

A SCIENTIFIC DISASTER.

The following "pome" relates to untoward circumstances that terminated the recent session of the Academy of Natural Sciences, at Smith's Crossings, Tuolumne Co, California. It is to be deplored that organizations undertaken in the highest interests of humanity should come to so abrupt a smash:

I reside at Table Mountain, and my name is Truthful James;
I am not up to small deceit, or any sinful games;
And I'll tell in simple language what I know about the row
That broke up our society upon the Stanislaus.

But first I would remark, that it is not a proper plan
For any scientific gent to whale his fellow man,
And, if a member don't agree with his peculiar whim,
To lay for that same member for to "put a head" on him.

Now nothing could be finer or more beautiful to see
Than the first six months' proceedings of that same society,
Till Brown of Calaveras, bought a lot of fossil bones
That he found within a tunnel near the tenement of Jones.

Then Brown he read a paper, and he reconstructed there,
From those same bones, an animal that was extremely rare;
And Jones then asked the chair for a suspension of the rules,
Till he could prove that those same bones was one of his lost mules.

Then Brown he smiled a bitter smile, and said his greatest fault
Was that he had been trespassing on Jones' family vault:
He was a most sarcastic man, this quiet Mr. Brown,
And on several occasions he had cleaned out the town.

Now I hold it is not decent for a scientific gent
To say another is an ass—at least to all intent;
Nor should the individual who happens to be meant
Reply by heaving rocks at him to any great extent.

Then Abner Dean, of Angels, raised a point of order—when
A chunk of old red sandstone took him in the abdomen,
And he smiled a kind of sickly smile, and curled up on the floor,
And the subsequent proceedings interested him no more.

Then, in less time than I write it, every member did engage
In a warfare with the remnants of a paleozoic age,
And the way they heaved those fossils in their anger was a sin,
And the skull of an old mammoth caved the head of Thompson in.

And this is all I have to say of these improper games,
For I live at Table Mountain, and my name is Truthful James;
And I've told in simple language what I know about the row
That broke up our society upon the Stanislaus.

ADDENDA.

BY THE EDITOR.

We grieve for the sad tidings that
 "Truthful James" has sent,
 If science has no better boys, it's well
 they let her went;
 But from the crash and ruin, boys, when
 things become serene,
 Remit the change you owe us for the
Monthly Magazine!

Oh! "Truthful James" be "Honest
 Jim," and quiet down the fuss,
 And gather up the debris resulting from
 the "muss;"
 Fix up the broken fossils and patch
 each shattered jaw,
 And reorganize the society upon the
 Stanislaus!

Let "Abner Dean, of Angels" be
 made the president,
 Provided he recovers from the sand-
 stone accident;
 Expel Brown, of Calaveras, for the
 fraud of fossil bones,
 Which was a personal ass-ault on the
 family of Jones.

Pray call a stated meeting; but lock
 the fossils safe,
 That tempting skulls and minerals may
 not your temper chafe;
 And in your *book of minutes* record a
 solemn vow,
 That "scrimmages" are done for upon
 the Stanislaus.
 September, 1869.

NUMISMATIC VISITORS.

Two representatives of the Essex
 County Numismatic and Archæo-
 logical Society, of Newark, N. J.,
 popped in upon us, rather unex-
 pectedly, last month, and a very
 pleasant and agreeable visit it was.
 Joseph Lelarge and J. W. Poinier,
 Jr., both enthusiastic collectors and
 perfect gentlemen in every sense of
 the word, are names that will here-
 after add lustre to our long list of
 patrons and friends. The reader
 may suppose our visitors to be
 French gentlemen, as their names
 incline to that belief, but we can
 assert that both are fine specimens
 of genuine American citizens.

PECULIARITIES OF AMERI-
CAN COINS.

NEW SERIES. No. 11.

BY E. MASON, JR.

"OVER-STRIKES."

What are termed "over-strikes"
 on coins occur by the successive
 use of dies for two different years.
 The earliest known "over-strike"
 on the U. S. copper cents is the
 1798 over the '97, followed by 1800
 over 1799; 1807 over 1806; 1810
 over '09; 1811 over '10; 1819 over
 '18; 1820 over '19; 1823 over '22;
 1824 over '23; 1839 over '38. In
 the case of the U. S. copper half
 cents, the earliest and perhaps the
 only "over-strikes" are 1802 over
 1800 and 1808 over 1807. The
 American colonial copper coins
 present many curious and interest-
 ing "over-strikes". In some in-
 stances, these dies of the Con-
 necticut cents were used on the well
 worn George III farthings and on
 Nova Constellations of 1783, pro-
 ducing confused and amusing read-
 ings of the different mottoes and
 dates.

In regard to the silver coinage of
 the U. S., the earliest "over-strike"
 occurs in the 1802 (dollar) over the
 1801.

(To be continued.)

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

Edward Cogan announces a sale
 of coins, September 27 and 28, at
 Bangs Merwin & Co., Broadway,
 New York. We have received and
 forwarded catalogues to our patrons.
 This sale includes the usual variety
 of American and foreign coins, med-
 als, etc., and has the additional at-
 traction of many rare and valuable
 United States pattern pieces. As
 we go to press, the 25th of Septem-
 ber, for the following month, we are
 unable to give farther particulars.
 A full account of the New York sale
 will appear in November number.

NEW YORK SALE.

SEPTEMBER 27 AND 28.

THE TAYLOR COLLECTION, PHILADELPHIA.

This sale was rather slimly attended, but there was no abatement of interest or disposition to buy on the part of the audience. Monday evening, the first night's sale, the receipts reached \$1021, which was wonderful when the character of most of the pieces is considered. It is true there were some very fine and rare pieces in Monday night's sale, but if the ordinary coins had not sold high, the sequel would have been much different.

Tuesday night presented the same array of intelligent faces, and was rather more attractive than the first night, in consequence of the splendid display of pattern pieces which were to be sold, as Mr. Cogan frankly avowed, "without the slightest reserve to the highest bidder."

Notwithstanding the fact that all the dies of the patterns of dates previous to 1869 have been destroyed, the patterns in the sale were disposed of at very low rates. The following are the chief pieces, with price realized:

1795 silver dollar, . . .	\$10 50
1797 " " . . .	9 75
1855 " " proof, . . .	18 00
1856 " " " . . .	19 00
1857 " " proof set, . . .	41 00
1858 " " " . . .	23 00
1792 Washington cent, . . .	49 00
1793 cent, wreath, . . .	35 00
1793 " Ameri, . . .	51 00
1792 half disme, . . .	42 50
1838 proof dollar, . . .	41 00
1839 " " . . .	27 50

Pattern five cent pieces, copper, about ten dollars each.

Pattern five cent pieces, nickel, from four to eight dollars each.

The entire lot brought the sum of \$2375.

THE CURIOSITY SALE.

Catalogues of this sale, to take place 13th and 14th inst., have been mailed to all our subscribers. There are many interesting relics in this collection from the old Peale's Museum, Chestnut street, Philadelphia. Indian dresses, stone implements, philosophical instruments, Revolutionary documents, relics and autograph letters; fossils, shells, portraits and plates. A very interesting and valuable painting by the Elder Peale, founder of Peale's Museum, entitled "Pratt's Garden," is among the choice gems of the sale. Pratt's Garden afterwards became Lemon Hill, now a portion of the celebrated Fairmount Park, of this city. Washington's nightcap, shoe buckles and shaving brush (from Peale's Museum), Lady Washington's reticule, gold embroidered mitts and silver thimble are among the relics. Bids will be received by us, and ten per cent. commission charged on all articles purchased.

INDIAN RELICS.

Prof. Morse, with a party of some half dozen others, a short time since, were searching for relics on the hill in Throgmorton's Cover, near Pine Grove, in Marblehead, and dug up two human skeletons, supposed to be those of Indians. Both the bodies were found under a heap of shells, from which it is inferred that they had been buried ages ago, especially as some of the shells were scallops, of which bivalves it is stated there is no record of any being found in Massachusetts Bay.

OUR FIRST NEW YORK COIN SALE.

By reference to another column, it will be seen that we shall offer a fine collection of United States coins, medals, pattern pieces, etc., at public sale, in New York.

UNIQUE NEW JERSEY COIN.

The coin sale of the 6th, 7th and 8th of September, in this city, had among its rare pieces a very peculiar New Jersey coin, dated 1787, "Horse Head Left." This piece presented several peculiar features, first, in date (the horse head being to the obverse left); next, the plow being reversed from the usual position on the New Jersey coins, of 1788, *horse head left*; and last in the small twig or ornament beneath the horse's head. There was considerable competition to possess this remarkable coin. Dr. E. Maris, of this city (author of a work on the U. S. Copper Coinage of 1794) was the successful bidder. The piece, has fallen into proper hands for preservation and examination. We understand that Dr. Maris is about to photograph the rare New Jersey piece, and is also preparing, for the numismatic public, an article fully describing each peculiarity of the coin. The price obtained was \$25—far too low for a coin in such good condition and of such extraordinary rarity.

A FINE CABINET OF COINS.

By special invitation, we recently visited the residence of Wm. Few Smith, Esq., Camden, N. J., and feasted our numismatic eyes upon a rare collection of fine coins. Mr. Few Smith heads his cabinet with a number of unique pieces, the valuable Washington Cent, alluded to in previous numbers of our magazine, among the number. The United States cents are nearly complete, and form a set, with but few exceptions, of entirely uncirculated pieces. We can only mention a few of the interesting and beautiful pieces, in this splendid collection, as follows: Copper Disme; Immune Columbia; Nova Constellatio; small 1792 pattern; Carolina Elephant; British

settlement of Kentucky; Annapolis threepence; proof silver Washington funeral; 1794 dollar; 1823 quarter (finest known); pair 1724 Wood, farthing and half farthing; uncirculated Rosas, penny, halfpennies and farthings; finest New Jersey known; 1796 half cent, etc.

OUR FIRST NEW YORK COIN SALE.

It is with pleasure we announce a sale of rare and valuable American coins, to take place on the 18th and 19th of this month. Among the rare pieces to be sold are 1794 U. S. silver dollar; 1838, '39, '51 and '52 proof dollars; splendid series U. S. cents, including Randall's celebrated Jefferson Head Cent of 1795 (*finest known*); a fine series of dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, half dimes, proof nickel and bronze coinage; a large and valuable assortment of pattern pieces, many of them excessively rare; rare medals; foreign and American gold and silver coins; also, a choice lot of extremely rare Grecian and Roman pieces, with a miscellaneous variety of coins, cards, medals, etc. Catalogues have been mailed to each of our readers, in ample time to examine and send in their bids. Parties living in or near New York can obtain catalogues at our office, No. 54 Wall street.

THE HUMBOLDT MEDAL.

The Humboldt medal, struck in the United States to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the birthday of the illustrious German philosopher, naturalist and traveler, is a work of great merit. The medal, two inches in diameter, is composed of bronze; the obverse presents a profile head of Von Humboldt, copied from the best models to be procured in Germany, with the inscription, "Alexander V. Humboldt," in large letters, and

underneath the name, in smaller letters, "Born Sept. 14, 1769; died May 6, 1859;" the reverse contains the legend, "Earth and Heaven he explored, revealed nature and freed the mind." This medal was executed by Anthony C. Paquet, of Philadelphia, the skilled die sinker, whose other medals and whose seven years' service in the United States Mint, have proved his ability as an artist.

OUR FOURTH PHILA. COIN SALE.

The sale of Captain Thorn's collection of coins came off on the 6th, 7th and 8th of September, as announced. The bidding was rather tame compared to previous sales, and prices realized rather below the market value. The *unique* New Jersey piece was sold to a gentleman of this city for twenty-five dollars, and was certainly worth one hundred dollars. The sale was well attended; but the announcement of a New York sale of similar coins no doubt affected the prices somewhat, and we cannot therefore mark the sale as anything more than an ordinary affair.

SECOND PHILADELPHIA CURIOSITY SALE.

We announce a second sale of curiosities, relics, etc., to come off some time this month. Catalogues will be ready about the 15th inst. and mailed to all our subscribers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHITE'S CORNERS, Sept., 1869.

GENTS:—I took my collection to the Erie County Fair, and got the first premium, \$5. There were three entries of collections.

Yours, truly,

EDWARD S. NOTT.

[Pleased to hear of your success. Editor.]

SOCIAL VISIT.

We had the pleasure of a visit, last month, from Mr. Edward Buckley, of Birmingham, England, a most ardent collector of postage stamps. We enjoyed a pleasant chat upon matters and things trim-brophilic, and found Mr. Buckley an agreeable and perfect gentleman. He was in possession of some excessively rare United States proofs and essays, and kindly presented us with a rare specimen. Mr. Buckley's name adds one more to the list of subscribers to our Monthly in Europe.

OUR NEW YORK BRANCH.

Having opened a Coin Depot in New York city and supplied it with a good stock of fine coins, medals, etc., we shall be pleased to see our patrons and are prepared to buy, sell or exchange coin of all kinds. Our office is at No. 54 Wall street.

COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

I offer the first volume of Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, bound in good style, for an 1804 U. S. cent. This cent *must* be in good condition.

C. R. S.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. S. & Co., BRIGHTON, ENG.—The United States Internal Revenue stamps cannot be used for the payment of postage. A great many persons use a cancelling stamp with the date and name of the town in which they reside, which accounts for the "postmarks" on those in possession of your correspondent "Alpha."

A. S. & Co., BATH, ENGLAND.—The design of the Ecuador humbug, described in our last, is the same as that of the genuine issue.

R. M., BOSTON.—Keep on “gunning”—faint effort never won rare coin. Take courage by honest Curio's example (your search for 1804 Dollar being similar to his for the medal, to fill a long existing gap in the series); but do not forget the coin when found. The poet says of Curio:

“What toil did honest Curio take,
What strict inquiries did he make,
To get one medal wanting yet,
And perfect all his Roman set;
’Tis found! and oh! his happy lot!
’Tis bought, locked up and lies forgot!”

J. W. H., PHILADELPHIA.—By the kindness of Robert C. Davis, Esq., of this city, the only competent authority on U. S. pattern pieces, we are enabled to give you the number, composition and ascertained weights of the postal currency, viz:

No.	1863.	weight.
1.	Aluminum,	8 grs.
2.	“	11 “
3.	“ milled edge,	11 “
4.	“ with $\frac{3}{4}$ silver,	28 “
5.	Silver, standard,	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ “
6.	$\frac{1}{4}$ “ and $\frac{3}{4}$ copper,	25 “
7.	Tin, block tin,	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ “
8.	“ and copper,	25 “

* 9. Aluminum, 1868. 12 “

M. S. T., SAN FRANCISCO.—Sent you sale catalogues; also coins purchased at our fourth Philadelphia sale. Sorry to hear the news from “Smith's Crossing.”

J. F. S., CHICAGO.—It is now generally believed that the CLARE ROTHE stamps are Paris forgeries. Doubts of the genuineness of the Fernando Po stamp have also been expressed.

A. P. G., ST LOUIS.—All the English envelopes now in use have the day, month and year of their fabrication on them. We can supply you with any of the values, uncancelled.

A. S. DEOKER, COLUMBUS, O.—All link or chain cents of 1793 have fifteen links on reverse. We never saw one with thirteen links. Send on a rubbing of a thirteen link '93. Snowden gives 1793 half cent with Washington's bust on obverse, in his Manual of Washington Pieces; but we must whisper in your private ear that such a piece does not exist in the collection at the U. S. Mint; nor do we believe there ever was such a coin made in 1793. The rubbing of 1795 is a common variety of that cent.

C. B., ST. LOUIS.—The Lubeck envelopes are found with the inscription on both the right and left of the stamp. Those with the inscription on the left were the earlier emissions.

O. S. M., NEWARK.—The value of the yellow Ionia Isles is one obolus, or half penny; that of the blue, 2 obolus, or one penny; and that of the red, 4 obolus, or two pence.

F. A. S., WILMINGTON.—The Malta half penny, was first issued on blue paper and is now seldom met with.

C. F. W., SALEM.—There is a lithograph of the 10 cent French unpaired stamp.

H. J. B., PATERSON.—We cannot promise to get you a V. R., but if you wish, will write to England for one.

C. MCK., DETROIT.—The Hamburg adhesives have been issued both perforated and unperforated.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

PHILATELISM AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

(Continued.)

Great variety is observable in the shape, color and size of stamps. Triangular stamps are or have been

used in New Granada, Newfoundland and the Cape of Good Hope. Those of a diamond or lozenge shape are in vogue only in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The square, the circular, the oval, the oblong, the octagonal, the rectangular have also been current from time to time, in various portions of the world. Every kind of color, and nearly all shades of every kind, have been exhausted in the effort after beauty and originality of treatment. Stamps in two or three different colors are issued by Russia, Heligoland and Helsingfors, and among this class of stamps we may now include the United States fifteen cent stamp. The new United States two and three cent stamps, by the way, are excessively unpopular. They have a cheap and common look, without being bright enough to look tawdry. The United States has issued the largest stamp ever engraved. It is four inches long by two inches wide, and was intended for newspapers in quantities, but was soon withdrawn. The smallest of all postage stamps comes from Bolivia, and is under half an inch square. A few English merchants enjoy the privilege of using peculiar stamps with their names attached. These stamps are circular and of the size of a silver (American) dollar.

It comes natural to collectors to use a peculiar jargon. Adhesive stamps, for instance, are distinguished as perforated and unperforated, and envelopes as single and compound. Mysterious phrases are rife, such as "transverse oblong discs with surrounding spandrels," "sinuous edged shells," "right and left heads," "pearl circles with engine turned on network frames."

Among the caprices connected with the subject of stamps, it might be mentioned that in New Brunswick, Connell, the postmaster, had

his own likeness engraved on the local stamp. The home authorities suppressed the issue, however, and the vain official resigned in disgust.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.

General Terrill, the Third Assistant Post Master General, in order to remove the dissatisfaction expressed against the present postage stamps, proposes to change them, and, with this view, he has directed the bank note company which furnishes them to prepare the designs for new issues. The heads of Washington, Jackson, Franklin, Lincoln and Jefferson are to be restored in place of the present designs, to be represented as profile busts, each to represent the various denominations. The stamps are to be larger than those now in use, and oblong. A month or two may elapse before the new stamps are ready.

SERVIA.

A very neat and tasty set of labels have been emitted by this country. The design consists of the head of the young Prince Michael Obrenwich IV to the left; value above, in Servian characters; Para below and value in each angle. The values and colors are as follows:—

1 para, yellow.	25 para carmine.
10 " brown.	35 " pale green.
15 " orange.	40 " mauve.
20 " blue.	50 " dark green.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

The set of labels for this Transvaal Republic will, ere long, be in use. There are three values, one penny, sixpence and one shilling. What the designs and colors will be have not yet been decided. Full particulars will be given as soon as reliable information has been obtained in regard to them.

ANGOLA.

This Portuguese colony has just been endowed by the mother country with a series of postage stamps of the same colors and values as that employed by her, but of a new type. The design consists of a crown on a ground of waved lines in a rectangle, having at each side a Grecian ornament; at each angle is the figure of value and the name of the colony is inscribed in the upper margin and the value in full in the lower. The stamps are not perforated.—(*Stamp Collectors' Magazine.*)

FRANCE.

The 1 centime stamp with the laureated head has appeared.

LA GUIRA.

We are informed that another of the issue described in our last has appeared of the value of half real, green.

COINS FOR SALE.

U. S. CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	very poor	\$ 50
1793	very fair	1 50
1793	very good	3 00
1794, '95 '96	good	1 50
1794, '95 '96	extra good.	2 50
1797, '98	very good.	50
1799	very poor.	2 00
1799	very fair.	5 00
1799	very good.	10 00
1800, '1, '2 '3	very good.	1 25
1804	fair.	1 50
1804	very fair.	2 50
1804	good.	5 00
1805, '06 '07	fair.	50
1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
1808	fair.	25
1808	good.	50
1809	poor.	50
1809	good.	1 50
1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
1813,	good.	50
1817, '20	very good.	40
1821, '24	good.	30
1825, '30	very good.	30
1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents).

U. S. HALF CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	poor.	1 50
1793	good.	3 00
1794, '95	good.	1 50
1794, '95	good.	1 00
1797, 1800	fair.	50
1803, '4, '5, '6, '7,	very good.	50
1808, '09, '10,	very good.	50
1825, '29	very good.	25
1832, '35	very good.	25
1849, '51	very good.	15
1853, '57	very good.	50
No. 28 to 39,		3 00
1802, '11	very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

Conn. and N. J.	good.	25
Vir. and Mass.	good.	1 00
Ver. and N. Y.	good.	1 75
Const., 2 var.	good.	1 00
Louisiana R. F.	good.	1 00
Rosa Ameri. penny,	fair.	2 00
do do	good.	3 50
do halfpenny,	fair.	1 00
do do	good.	2 00
Washington, 1788,	good.	50
do	1791, poor.	3 50
do	1791, good.	5 00
Franklin cent,	good.	75
N. A. Token, 1781,	good.	50
Pitt Token, 1766,	fair.	1 25

PATTERNS.

1856 Nickel,	good.	1 50
do	very fine.	1 75
do	proof.	2 50
Indian Head, 1858,	nickel, good.	1 25
do	do proof.	1 50
Flying Eagle, 1855,	fine.	1 25
1854 no stars cent,	fine.	1 75
1836 silver dollar,	ex. good.	5 00
1863 2 cent piece,	proof.	3 00
do	proof.	3 00

FOREIGN COINS.

12 different,	very good.	50
15 do	very good.	1 00
10 do	extra fine.	1 50
5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
25	silver coins.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

10 cards,	good.	35
10 cards,	fine.	50

All the above sent by mail. Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

NOVEMBER, 1869.

No. 11.

ALASKAN RELICS AND CURIOSITIES.

(Continued.)

Captain Fast informs us that the Kaloces have properly no idea of such a being as God, the good and beneficent. Their worship, like that of all idolaters, has chiefly to do with objects of terror. Their principal deity, Ikth, like the destroying Siva and Kali, is the harbinger of death, and the great business of the medicine man is by conjuring and charms to cast him out of the sick and thus heal their maladies. To them the world of nature is full of enemies; all things, in their estimation, are in a state of war. "Everything," says Captain Fast, "which, within the realm of creation, is of preponderating importance to their existence, as water, rain, wood, the fish, the bear, etc., they represent to themselves a hostile principle, and as one whose protection for themselves and help against their enemies they must endeavor to obtain. Their imagination gives to such beings those grotesque and horrid forms which we find expressed on their old articles of furniture and dress, and in the carvings of their old weapons, idols, charms, and their smaller utensils, with stereotyped unity and precision."

The god Ikth is represented in these relics under a variety of forms; some of the most striking are wooden images of human beings; others, grotesque faces and forms,

combined in various shapes. It was probably supposed that the collective virtue of an image compounded of many forms would be greater than that of a single figure. The tutelary images of the Huron and Algonkins, if we may credit the following statements of Charlevoix, quoted in McIntosh's North American Indians, were generally selected in accordance with some dream:

"It is remarkable, however, that these tutelary deities are not supposed to take men under their protection till something has been done to merit their favor. A parent who wishes to obtain a guardian for his child, first blackens his face and then causes him to fast for several days. During this time, it is expected that the spirit will reveal himself in a dream, and, on this account, the child is anxiously examined every morning with regard to the visions of the preceding night. Whatever the child happens to dream of most frequently, even if it happens to be the head of a bird, the foot of an animal, or anything of the most worthless nature, becomes the symbol under which the *Okki* [Huron term for *Manito*] reveals himself. With this figure, in the conception of his votary, the spirit becomes identified; the image is preserved with the greatest care; is the constant companion on all important occasions, and the object of consultation and worship."—*Charlevoix' Journal*, let. xxiv. p. 345.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Fugio or Franklin Cent, 1787; obverse, a sun and dial, but without inscription or date; reverse, in the centre a depression, around which is a ring inscribed "American Congress," rays radiating from the ring, the whole surrounded by a chain, the links of which bear the names of the thirteen original States; uncirculated; only one other known. \$28.

Fugio or Franklin Cent, 1787; obverse, from a rare die, but bearing a general resemblance to the ordinary type; reverse, a sun in the centre, "We are one;" outside of these words, on a raised ring, "American Congress," the whole surrounded by an endless chain of thirteen links, bearing the names of the original States; uncirculated; bright; unique. \$35.

Fugio, 1787; obverse, from the same die as the last; reverse, of the ordinary type; uncirculated. \$3.

Fugio, 1787; bright and uncirculated. \$1 25.

Fugio, 1787; bright; different variety. \$1 25.

Fugio, 1787, with club shaped rays; fine, scarce. \$1 12.

Fugio, 1787, "States united;" uncirculated. \$1 25.

Fugio, 1787, "United States;" the rings appearing on the obverse; uncirculated. \$1.

Fugio, 1787; a selection of four pieces, all fine. 75 cents.

Fugio, 1787; struck in silver from an original die, recently discovered; splendid impression. \$2 50.

Fugio, 1787; same as the last, in copper, bright. 62 cents.

Immune Columbia, 1785; Liberty seated; reverse, Nova Constellatio; silver, in beautiful condition, and of the highest rarity. \$40.

Immune Columbia, 1785; same variety as the last, struck in copper; perfectly uncirculated; excessively rare. \$30.

Immune Columbia, 1785; obverse, bust; reverse, Liberty seated; in fine condition; extremely rare \$10.

Vermonts Res Publica, 1785; reverse, Quarta Decima Stella; very fine and rare. \$5.

Vermonts Res Publica, 1785, from another die; fine and scarce. \$1 50.

Vermontis Res Publica, 1785; very fine. \$9.

Vermontensium Res Publica, 1786; seven trees; fine. \$4.

Vermontensium Res Publica, 1786; eight trees; very fine. \$3.

Vermont Cent, 1786; baby head; very fine; scarce. \$1 75.

Vermont Auctori, 1787; struck over another coin. \$1.

Vermont Auctori, 1787; fine. \$1 12.

Vermont Cent, 1787; obverse, bust in armor, Georgius III. Rex; reverse, Britannia. 50 cents.

Vermont Cent, 1787; same design as the last but, from a different die. 25 cents.

(To be continued.)

REMINISCENCES OF A COIN COLLECTOR.

NEW SERIES.

No. I.

BY E. MASON, JR.

Years may pass away, but the remembrance of a coin hunting trip we once made in company with Chas. K. W. and Wm. F. S., of Philadelphia, will remain with us while memory holds her own. One delightful summer morning, in 1867, the above mentioned numismatists and the writer assembled at the office of the Reading railroad and purchased tickets for Schuylkill Haven, with a view of obtaining a

well known cabinet of coins, the property of a Mr. B., residing a few miles distant from the last named locality. The ride was pleasant, made doubly so by the prospect, upon reaching our journey's end, of seeing some remarkably rare coins.

Upon arriving at Schuylkill Haven, we obtained a light wagon and a spirited 2.40 light-footed pony and drove to the residence of Mr. B. The latter gentleman, anticipating our visit, had arranged his collection of coins for examination; and in a short time each of our little party was carefully looking over the treasures, fully confident that we should become the happy possessors of the entire cabinet, and return to the Quaker City joyous over our numismatic acquisitions; but "man proposes," and our readers know the rest.

After spending an hour or two in the happy employment of estimating the value and rarity of the collection, and learning that the price required for the cabinet was two thousand dollars, we retired to a country hotel, just opposite our friend's residence, and compared notes. In the meantime, the landlord had prepared a very tempting sandwich for each of us, as the dinner hour had long since passed, and we were obliged to be at Orwigsburg station within an hour, to return to Philadelphia or remain all night in a rather lonesome country borough.

We fixed upon a sum to offer the owner of the collection, and after giving him our decision and requesting him to consider the matter and notify us by letter to Philadelphia, we ordered our wagon up in front of the hotel, and prepared to reach the station before named, some three or four miles distant. Our wagon was provided with but one fixed seat, and there were three of us besides

the driver. The driver borrowed a box seat with back affixed, before leaving Schuylkill Haven, and put it in the back end of the wagon. Mr. F. S., having an eye to personal safety, and no doubt, wishing to learn something of the country through which we were about to pass, selected a seat upon the front with the driver, while Charley W. and the writer took a back seat. The landlord just popped out with the ham sandwiches and distributed them. As we were somewhat hungry, riding one hundred miles without refreshment, we soon commenced our hasty meal, while the driver crying out, "All aboard!" gave his horse the whip and the latter leaped forward in such eager haste that the two unfortunate passengers, occupying the rear seat (with its comfortable back) were thrown suddenly a back somersault, landing on the hard paved road in the rear. (The *cause* and *effect* are briefly explained by an adapted phrase altered to suit circumstances: "Not that we loved *safety less*, but *sandwiches more!*" Having just crammed a big end of the double sliced condiment—ham, mustard and bread—far into our capacious mouth, while each hand grasped the sides of the sandwich, Oh! that we had grasped the sides of the wagon instead); but to proceed:

We wish we could paint this scene, as witnessed by the crowd around the hotel, who were gathered to see us take our leave; but, as the writer (only two hundred pounds avoirdupois) had the sandwich and wind knocked completely out of him, and his friend Charley was in the same predicament, while F. S. and the driver were striving to hold in the spirited nag, we must trust to the spectators' description, which was seriously laughable at first and expensively serious afterwards

Charley and the writer were knocked insensible and picked up by the bystanders, carried to the hotel steps, where restoratives were used (ice water) to bring them to.—Charley was the first to become sensible and immediately searched for the remnants of his ham sandwich, while the writer soon after remembered *eating something* just before the accident, and upon opening his eyes, what a sight! letters, handkerchiefs, jack-knives, hats, pocket books, coin catalogues, bread, butter and ham promiscuously scattered about. Notwithstanding the writer received severe injuries which cost him a week's confinement, and considerable money for cupping and doctor's attendance, yet a smile will imperceptibly steal over his countenance when he thinks of the sad mishap which befell the party devoted to the accumulation of numismatic wealth. Poor Charley shrugs his shoulders when the coin hunting trip is alluded to, and says the pain is in his back to this day; while the writer, although kindly aided home and attended by the faithful and humane efforts of F. S., will carry the marks of that backward somersault for many a year. This true sketch is related simply to show some few of the trials and tribulations attending coin hunting. We would add, the coins were not purchased and one more expensive and unfortunate trip "gunning up" collections has been added to the already full catalogue of futile efforts in that direction.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

In the Journal of Congress of the 29th of April, 1783, an estimate of the whole Revolutionary debt is

given (except the paper money), and it stands thus:

The foreign debt to	
France and Hol-	
land,	\$7,885,085 00
Domestic debt, in va-	
rious certificates,	
as above,	34,115,290 00
	<hr/>
	\$42,000,375 00
The foreign bearing	
interest at four or	
five per cent., . . .	369,038 06
The domestic at six	
per cent.,	2,046,917 04
	<hr/>
	\$2,415,955 10

When the Constitution by which we are now governed went into operation, Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury, added to the domestic debt the claims held by several States against the National exchequer, to the amount of twenty-one millions five hundred thousand dollars, and then funded the whole by putting a part on interest at six per cent. immediately, postponing a part without interest for ten years, and then to bear six per cent., and the remainder on immediate interest at three per cent. The arrears of six years' interest were added, which, with some other unsettled claims, made the whole debt amount to ninety-four millions. Accustomed as we are, at the present day, to the large expenditures of the Federal Government, we may well be astonished at the economy of the first year of Washington's administration, when the civil list was estimated at two hundred and eight thousand dollars, and the War Department at only one hundred and thirty-seven thousand, even including the Indian supplies. The establishment of a revenue to pay the interest on the debt in 1789, was equivalent to a capital (by bringing that debt to par) of nearly

one hundred millions, the greater part of which was held by our own citizens. This was the cause of immediate prosperity, and of the brilliant career which continued for many years after. Every dollar of this aggregate debt was, as we all know, most honorably paid.

(To be continued.)

NEW JERSEY CENT, 1787.

HEAD TO LEFT.

This remarkably peculiar coin, which was recently sold by auction, in this city, for twenty-five dollars, has attracted great attention in the numismatic world. Dr. Edward Maris, the purchaser of this unique piece, has had it thoroughly examined by the Boston experts, who express the opinion that the piece has been tampered with. If an altered coin, it is certainly an ingenious piece of workmanship, and one most likely to deceive the experienced numismatist. We received the coin back from Dr. Maris, and refunded the money he had paid for it. As soon as the piece was returned, it increased wonderfully in value. J. Colvin Randall, Esq., of this city, offered fifty and subsequently one hundred dollars for the coin, and this, too, without a guarantee of its originality. We confess, for once, we are puzzled as to the character of this New Jersey cent. We have considered it genuine beyond a doubt, since we purchased it in the "Thorn Collection; we now believe it genuine, *with a doubt*, and as that doubt arises from the argument presented by Messrs. Maris and Crosby, we cannot yet acknowledge the coin an altered nor counterfeit piece; nor will we say it is *genuine*. One thing certain, the coin will not be sold to any one unless the doubt of its originality is fully explained. It is rather strange our worthy friend, the doctor,

whose sagacity numismatically is unquestioned, should allow the "Boston Boys" to be the first to throw a doubt upon the coin. If the piece is not genuine, and ultimately so proved (beyond question), then we shall humbly remove our hat in honor of the ability and sagacity of Mr. Crosby, of Boston.

NEW YORK COIN SALES.

Since our last issue we have two coin sales to chronicle—one made under the auspices and *mis-management* of a Mr. Robinson, of Connecticut, which took place October 15, at the sales rooms of Bangs, Merwin & Co. The catalogue of this sale was an outrageous infringement on good numismatic taste, and reflects great *dis-credit* upon the author, Mr. R. The coins were as a whole as poor a congregation of trash as we remember to have seen offered at public sale. We pity the buyers of the pieces in the Robinson sale, and trust they will control their feelings, when comparing the coins purchased with the catalogued description of the same. The other coin sale was under the auspices of the publishers of this journal, and was a success, realizing nearly \$2000. The following are some of the principal pieces, with the prices at which they were knocked down:

Woodgate & Co.'s liquor dealers' card brought \$5 50; Isle of Man penny, \$2 12; Barbadoes penny, \$2 25; U. S. half eagle of 1821, \$12 50; Maximillian \$20 gold piece of 1866, \$27; U. S. silver dollar of 1794, \$41; U. S. silver dollar of 1796, flowing hair, \$5 50; U. S. silver dollar of 1851, brilliant proof, \$31; U. S. silver dollar of 1856, brilliant proof, \$17; U. S. silver half dollar of 1794, \$5 50; U. S. silver quarter dollars of 1831, 1854 and 1857, brilliant proofs, \$5 a piece; U. S. silver dime, 1797, \$15 50; U.

S. copper cent, 1793, Liberty cap, \$3; do., wreath, 1793, \$7 75; do., 1793, chain, \$7; do., 1795, Randall's celebrated Jefferson Head (this is the finest cent of this variety known to exist in any cabinet, in very fine condition, bearing the slightest marks of circulation, olive color, one of the most beautifully designed of the American series, and the rarest of all cents without exception), \$141; U. S. cent of 1799, \$11 50; do., 1848, brilliant proof, \$15 50; flying eagle dollar, 1838, \$40; pattern half eagle, 1860, \$27 50; pattern half dollar, 1861, \$24; pattern five cent piece, 1867, \$16 50; pattern ten cent piece, 1868, \$26; Peale Museum medal, \$48; Gen. Meade medal, \$20.

By referēce to another column, it will be found that we shall have another fine collection of coins and medals to offer at public sale in New York.

THE LUCKY MAN.

J. W. Haseltine, Esq., of this city, is the lucky owner of Randall's celebrated "Jefferson Head" Cent of 1795, which was sold for \$141 in the Randall sale of October 18 and 19. This piece follows close upon the value of the Mickley "Ameri" Cent of 1793, which sold for \$145, in the sale of 27th and 28th of September, in New York.

THE UNIQUE NEW JERSEY COIN.

This piece, which was sold in the "Thorn collection," in this city, for \$25, and subsequently returned by the buyer (who doubted the originality of the coin), has fallen into the hands of a gentleman of this city, who has put the piece to the severest test by fire and mechanical appliances, as well as submitted it to experts at the U. S. Mint and elsewhere; and we now have the plea-

sure of stating that the New Jersey coin is pronounced a *genuine and original piece*. To make "assurance doubly sure," the owner of the coin addressed Capt. Thorn, of Plainfield, the former proprietor of the cabinet in which the New Jersey Cent was found, and we are permitted to copy the reply, which, in our opinion, goes a great way towards disproving the assertion that the New Jersey piece came from a dealer in bogus coins in New York:

PLAINFIELD, N. J., Oct. 9, 1869.

DEAR SIR:

I have just received your letter and will answer it immediately. I remember both of those reversed Jersey cents, 1787 and '88. I have had them both over four years, and the dark one* I got of an old man that had a farm about three miles from here. He has since sold his farm and moved away, and I think he had the piece a number of years, for in 1858 or 1859 I was building a house opposite his farm house, and he used to come over and see us at our work, and one day, in talking about coins (as we found some in tearing down the old house), he told me he had a lot of coins; so, a few years after, I went to see him and bought all he had, and that Jersey cent was among the lot, for I knew when I saw it in his lot that it was valuable.

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD P. THORN.

*This refers to the 1787 New Jersey cent, which was very dark in color, while the other 1788 had a very brassy appearance.

JAMAICA COINS.

The nickel coins of Jamaica, just struck, represent Queen Victoria as of her actual age, and not, as on the English currency, as a very young girl.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF GREENBACKS.

Texts of scripture have often been inscribed upon coins. One of the most remarkable is on a copper coin issued by the Papal government, on which are the words, *Væ vobis divitibus*—"Woe to you who are rich!" When the greenbacks were first issued by the United States, Mr. Chase, then Secretary of the Treasury, consulted, among others, the president of one of the Philadelphia banks in regard to placing a motto upon them—such, for example, as has since been impressed upon the five cent pieces—"In God we trust." After mentioning several scriptural texts that had occurred to him, the Secretary asked our banker's opinion. "Perhaps," was the reply, "the most appropriate would be; 'Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee!'" The project was abandoned.—*Lippincott's Magazine*.

ANOTHER NEW YORK COIN SALE.

We are now cataloguing a very valuable collection of American and foreign coins and medals, which will be offered for sale on the 16th and 17th inst., at the sales room of Bangs, Merwin & Co., 694 Broadway, New York. Among the choice pieces will be found some desirable pattern pieces, never yet offered at public sale; also, some fine cents, half cents (including patterns), colonials, rare silver coins and a valuable collection of medals. Catalogues will be ready on November 6, and forwarded to all our subscribers.

NEW YORK COIN SALE OF NOVEMBER 16 & 17.

Send for catalogues to this office, or to No. 54 Wall street, New York.

RARE COINS.

At a recent sale of rare coins and medals, in New York, a pattern ten cent piece of 1868 sold for \$26. A cent, known as "Randall's head of Jefferson," sold for \$141. If some of the Berks county people, who have been putting coins away all their lives against a time of need, would send some of them to auction they would be prizes to the collectors and little fortunes to the owners. *Philadelphia Morning Post*.

CONTINUATION SALE.

RELICS, AUTOGRAPHS, CURIOSITIES, INDIAN IMPLEMENTS, MINERALS, FOSSILS, SHELLS, &c.

The sale of Peale's museum relics, etc., of October 13 and 14, will be continued early this month, at Birch & Son's auction rooms, in this city. Due notice will be given by catalogue to all our regular customers in time to send in bids.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. H. W.—The report is false, and was started to injure us in our New York business. We know the author, and shall, 'ere long, measure swords with him.

P. S.—The copper 5 cent patterns of 1866 are held at \$15; the nickel at \$8; and it is almost impossible to get them at those prices. There will be some of these patterns in our next New York sale, on the 16th and 17th insts. Coin dealers can get them only by public sales.

R. M., JR.—*Immune* Columbia coin is the rare variety—the *Immunis* is worth say \$10 to \$20.

J. W., GREENWICH.—No returns from C. O. D. package of coins sent you, September 30. The package is at Adams Express Office in G.

M. O. J.—We want an assistant, but he must invest and share profits.

S. S., NEW YORK.—Letters were written from Philadelphia to New York, and thence communications passed to Boston. We are sifting the whole thing. It is a base insinuation, as the party well knew that Mr. M. was a very cautious bidder at coin sales. A good refutation of the slander is the fact that half a dozen bidders exceeded the ten dollar bid on the pattern 5's at R.'s sale in New York.

ALPHA, SPRINGFIELD.—The cents in last sale sold very low. We can supply you from stock we bought at that sale at 50 cents for fine 40's; 25 cents for fine 50's; \$1 for fine 30's; \$2 for fine 20's; \$1 50 for bright 1816's, 1817's, 1818's and 1819's; \$2 50 for bright uncirculated small-date 1819's; \$2 for bright 1820's; all uncirculated.

S. H. L. M., CINCINNATI.—Please be prompt to take C. O. D. packages when delivered, as each day of delay puts us to considerable trouble.

T. S., BALTIMORE.—C. O. D. package for you at Adams Express Office in B.

UFFORD & Co., W. TROY.—The same reply to you. Package is at your office.

NOTICE.

All parties indebted to us for sales in New York of September 27 and 28, October 15, 18 and 19, are requested to pay up.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

HOW OUR NEW POSTAGE STAMPS ARE MADE.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

Let us commence at the very beginning, and follow step by step the different and interesting processes these little bits of paper are subjected to. In the first place, a number of designs for stamps are fur-

nished the Government by the Bank Note Company. These designs are upon steel, and engraved in the finest style of steel line engraving, and are perfect marvels of art. Should a design be accepted it becomes necessary to duplicate it, as it would be impossible to print the large number of stamps required from a single plate. To do this the original die is transferred to steel plates, three hundred designs being on each. The machines for accomplishing this transferring are beautifully made and mathematically correct in work, and so accurate that millions of stamps printed from perhaps hundreds of plates are all exactly alike. The plates being finished, they are sent to the press-room, and are ready to receive the ink used in printing. This ink, or rather the different colored inks are made upon the premises, their formulas being very valuable to the company. The printing is done by hand presses, and although seemingly laborious, the company are now printing one million and a half stamps daily. The plate is first inked by an ordinary roller, then wiped with a cloth, and finally with the operator's hand. This is a very nice operation, and requires much dexterity. The paper used is of a fine variety, manufactured expressly for the company by a firm in Massachusetts, the amount per annum consumed being over sixteen tons. Before being placed upon the plate it is wetted down to enable it to receive the ink evenly. As the sheets of stamps are printed, they are laid carefully away to dry. As soon as they are dry they pass to the "Gumming Room" and receive their coat of mucilage. This mucilage is dextrine, a preparation of starch, and is the same as used by calico printers. It is laid on the backs of the sheets (which are held fast by an iron

frame) with large brushes somewhat resembling those used for white-washing. A dexterous young woman can easily gum thirty or forty sheets per minute. After receiving the gum they are placed on wire frames and deposited in a drying room, where they remain until dry. This operation being finished they are consigned to the "embosser," who, with a remarkably complicated and delicate machine, leaves the little square chequer board mark we see upon our stamps. This mark is to permit the obliterating ink to sink into the fabric of the paper so that the stamps cannot be readily cleansed.

(To be continued.)

PHILATELISM AS A FINE ART.

BY C. F.

(Concluded.)

The varieties of German stamps seem innumerable, but among them are included those of the former postal territory of the Princes of Thurn and Taxis. The designs upon the latter being merely numerals indicating value, they have no artistic value. Austria has one hundred different varieties of stamps, and Spain hardly, if any, less. Italy has one hundred and thirty-five; France (republican and imperial), forty; the Pope, twenty; Greece, fifteen; the Dutch Indies, Sierra Leone, Malta, and puhy, pugulistic Paraguay, each but one.

The best philatelic album extant used to be Lalier's, but it has been superseded by a polyglot edition compiled by Van Rinsum, and giving a minute description of every stamp in the English, French, German and Dutch languages. It is published in Amsterdam, is an exquisite specimen of typography, and has but one fault—it lacks an index.

If we be asked what is the use of

philately, and what corresponding reward is returned for the bestowal of so much time, money and patience in its pursuit, we shall make but an indifferent reply. Yet we might argue that an old postage stamp becomes a brief and imperfect index to some epoch in a nation's existence. In process of time these little labels become historic. Impressed as they are with the arms of the state, the portrait of the national ruler, or with the name of some denomination of money, it will readily be believed that they might become valuable exponents in the case of some buried Herculaneum, when even the slightest clue would be counted as great. At present, if nothing more, they are an interesting and elegant study, and afford a subtle and innocent relish to young and old alike among the graver pursuits of life.

THE STUDY OF PHILATELY.

I would place as benefits accruing from this study some of which have not hitherto been placed to its credit, such as improvements in health or tone of mind in invalids or hypochondriacs, resulting from their having been drawn out of themselves by interest in their stamp albums. Any other engrossing pursuit—numismatology or entomology, etc.—it is true, would have done as well; still, as an essay touching on all the benefits to be derived from stamp collecting, this must not be overlooked, such cases being on record. Far more substantial benefits than these may be mentioned as specially due to philately. Education is advanced in the young and in the older members of the fraternity, also. I would note two points in which, educationally, philately is of special benefit—geography and history. With regard to the first point, geography.

Many of us never heard of the island of Nevis, nor its famed mineral springs, before the small red label introduced itself to our notice; now the youngest philatelist has that fact engraved on a safe memory tablet. We learn also the change of names in the designation of countries—how Van Dieman's Land became Tasmania. Our West and East Indian pages form a valuable *memoria technica*, whereby we are enabled to remember to which several country each island belongs. We have evidence, too, of the *character* of the people in different lands. The stamps of Spain and her colonies, with their changing issues, fill pages of her albums; some changes, the acknowledged result of the abundance of forgeries, some, for apparently no reason but caprice, marking an unsettled habit of mind. In contrast, *vide* conservative John Bull sticks to his original penny stamp for more than a *quarter of a century*. In considering the point of geography, it is almost impossible to separate from it the second point, of history—political history, when we see how the countries in the neighborhood of Prussia became subject to the over ruling influence of that country years before their governments were swamped by the all-conquering Bismarck.

(To be continued.)

GOOD NEWS.

Our prayers and petitions in behalf of the old U. S. postage stamps, with their venerable and revered portraits of the patriots of the past, have not been in vain; our humble but decided expressions of dislike for the tupenny "gum stickers," together with our caricatured review of these "new issues," have, in a measure, influenced the government to discard the pretty little pictures

of jockey riders, blue locomotives and class room views of history, and now we have the cheering news that the postage stamps are again to bear the likenesses of our departed heroes.

The designs of the new stamps are rapidly approaching completion, and soon we can unite with our countrymen in a general and joyous enthusiasm over the defeat of the present abortion of postage stamps, and throw up our hats in a frenzy of patriotism when the new postage stamps adorn and honor the right upper corner of all American letters entrusted to Uncle Sam's post bags.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR.

Deem not his mission all in vain,
Who with his album in his hand,
In fancy travels o'er the main
Collecting stamps from every land.
The little stamp collector learns
Each country's latitude and place
Upon the map, and soon discerns
Their longitude, clime and race.
Thus eager in the task he loves,
With cheerful heart he hurries on,
While through the field of art he roves,
Where other youthful friends have
gone
Collecting stamps from every clime,
Detecting spurious from the true,
And like a banker learns in time,
The stamp that's obsolete or new.
With the feelings of a connoisseur
Doth he behold the stamp that's rare,
Which often did elude his search
Thro' many months of anxious care.
But still in patience and in hope,
He wanders on 'neath sun and rain,
Until the album is complete,
When toil and love is paid with gain.
Curiosity Collectors' Magazine.

SCOTT'S AMERICAN POST-AGE STAMP ALBUM.

BY J. WALTER SCOTT.

New York. J. W. Scott & Co.

We have just received advance sheets of the above work and must say that, when bound, it will form the most complete stamp album yet published. Spaces are provided for

every stamp issued to date of publication, including panels for variety of types but not of color. The indefatigable energy of the compiler, and his desire to make his book as acceptable to collectors as possible, is shown in the fact, that spaces are provided for the newly issued stamps of Angola and Antioquia. We think this album will supply a want long felt among American collectors. It is printed on good paper, strongly bound in cloth or morocco, and does not require the collection of a couple of dozen varieties of New Zealand, South Australia, etc., to make those pages look full, as is the case in the majority of foreign albums. We predict a large sale for this work, both at home and abroad. Orders received at either of our offices, No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia, or No. 54 Wall Street, New York. Price, \$5 in cloth, \$6 in half morocco.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.

The best reason we have yet seen for the retention of the head of Isabella on the Spanish stamps we noticed in the New York Times, a few days since. It is as follows:

"The portrait of Isabella is retained on the Spanish postage stamps because of the gratification it affords revolutionary patriots to lick it, and revolutionary clerks to stamp it."

WEST INDIES.

It is rumored that the islands of Barbadoes, Tobago, Grenada, St. Kitts, Dominica, Antigua, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Montserrat, Nevis and the Virgin Isles will be united under one government, and a set of postage stamps issued for general use.

NICARAGUA.

From the Stamp Collectors' Magazine, we learn that two new

values, identical in design with those now in use, have been emitted for this republic. The new values are as follows:

10 centavos, light vermilion.
25 " greenish blue.

VICTORIA.

The three penny stamp has made its appearance in orange instead of lilac.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. M. F., BOSTON.—There are two shades of the one penny Antigua—red and brick red.

W. P., ZANESVILLE.—Prussian envelopes with the head of the king are becoming very scarce.

J. H. B., WASHINGTON.—The 1869 issue of U. S. stamps are now obsolete and sell for fifty per cent. in advance of facial value.

F. H., NEW YORK.—You will find a fine assortment of stamps at our New York office, No. 54 Wall street.

RELICS, MINERALS, ETC., FOR SALE.

The following lots, left over at Relic sale of October 13, will be closed out as follows:

No. 1. A lot of 250 Minerals, &c., all labeled and all different, consisting of amethyst and quartz crystals, beautiful agates, lead, copper and zinc ores; California gold specimen (worth \$2 50); caldony, &c.; a fine cabinet, well assorted with choice specimens; will be carefully packed and sent by express for \$25.

No. 2. A lot of 3 varieties of Tuppa cloth, made from the coconut bark by the South Sea Islanders, (12 inches square each); \$1 50 for the lot.

No. 3. A prepared Buffalo Hide, elaborately ornamented, used as a bed by a Comanche chief; (from Peale's Museum). Price, \$3.

No. 4. Bridle and Reins from South America, made of hide, in perfect order. Price, \$1.

No. 5. Skin of a Wild Cat. Price, 50 cents.

No. 6. Riding Whip of Bolivia, seamless stock, perfect. Price, \$1.

No. 7. A pair of Powder Horns, from South America; made and stained by the Indians. Price, \$2 per pair.

No. 8. Chinese Shoe, embroidered. Price, \$1.

No. 9. Indian Silk Boot, imperfect. Price, 50 cents.

No. 10. A beautiful Grass Bridle, from South America, (Peale's Museum). Price, \$1 50.

No. 11. A Shell found on the battle field of Germantown. Price, \$1.

No. 12. A Grass Belt (South America), 2½ inches wide, 6 feet long; from Peale's Museum. Price, 75 cents.

No. 13. A Chinese Sword, tortoise shell scabbard, in good order. Price, \$3 50.

No. 14. A Hide Hobble or Fetter, South America. Price, 50 cents.

No. 15. An Indian Feather Head Dress. Price, 50 cents.

No. 16. A Spy Glass, from Peale's Museum. Price, \$1 50. Address
MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

SCOTT'S AMERICAN POST-AGE STAMP ALBUM.

We can supply collectors with these albums, at the following prices:

Cloth, plain edge, . . . \$5 00

Half morocco, gilt edge, . . . 6 00

By mail, 25 cents extra. Address

MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

I would like to exchange European and United States Stamps, of present and obsolete issues, for United States Coins.

For further particulars, address

R. COLBURN,

Second Auditor's Office,

Washington. D. C.

CRESTS AND MONOGRAMS.

We can now supply collectors with Crests and Monograms at the following prices: 20 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 25 cents; 50 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 75 cents. Address

MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Parties having duplicate medals, either English, French or American, &c., can get a good exchange for rare Canadian medals by addressing

ALFRED SANDHAM,

Montreal, Canada.

COINS FOR SALE.

U. S. CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	very poor	\$ 50
1793	very fair	1 50
1793	very good	3 00
1794, '95 '96	good	1 50
1794, '95 '96	extra good.	2 50
1797, '98	very good.	50
1799	very poor.	2 00
1799	very fair.	5 00
1799	very good.	10 00
1800, '1, '2 '3	very good.	1 25
1804	fair.	1 50
1804	very fair.	2 50
1804	good.	5 00
1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
1805, '06 '07	fair.	50
1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
1808	fair.	25
1808	good.	50
1809	poor.	50
1809	good.	1 50
1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
1813,	good.	50
1817, '20	very good.	40
1821, '24	good.	30
1825, '30	very good.	30
1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents).

U. S. HALF CENTS.

1793	poor.	1 50
1793	good.	3 00
1794, '95	good.	1 50
1794, '95	good.	1 00
1797, 1800	fair.	50
1803, '4, '5, '6, '7,	very good.	50
1808, '09, '10,	very good.	50
1825, '29	very good.	25
1832, '35	very good.	25
1849, '51	very good.	15
1853, '57	very good.	50
No. 28 to 39,		3 00
1802, '11	very fair.	3 00

All the above sent by mail. Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. III.

DECEMBER, 1869.

No. 12.

ALASKAN RELICS AND CURIOSITIES.

(Concluded.)

The Kaloc tradition of the creation is given by Captain Fast as follows:

"A being, which they represent to themselves as of human form and furnished with wings, and which they call Crow, created first itself, then the world, and finally the first two Tshingits (as Kaloshians call themselves collectively), male and female, who were formed of grass. The Tshingits began to increase and spread, but suddenly there was universal darkness, and all life stopped in the entire world. The sun had disappeared—a powerful Tshingit had stolen it in order to keep it for himself, and it was discovered that he kept it hidden in a large strong box in his house on the island of Japan (a small island in the bay of Sitka), where nobody could obtain it; when, lo! there appeared for the second time that winged being, the Crow, who changed himself into a real crow, and in this shape found opportunity to steal secretly into the robber's house, and to open the box where the sun was stowed away. Thereupon the Crow set the sun so high over the horizon that it could not be stolen again. The world began to live afresh, and the Tshingits multiplied and spread all over the earth. Suddenly there appeared a tremendous flood, which swallowed up all living things upon the face of the world, and all the

Tshingits perished with the exception of a single couple. The Crow appeared for the third and last time, and saved the couple by depositing them on the summit of a high mountain, and when the flood subsided the twain descended to the valleys, built a hut and became the progenitors of all succeeding generations."

We think this tradition must have had some connection with the myths of Japan. According to Klaproth, Isanangi and Isanami, the last of the seven celestial generations, were the first pair who married, and whose children were a daughter, Tensio-daisin, the spirit of the solar light, Chukino-kami, the goddess of the moon, and Firuko, the god of the sea, winds and tempests. He committed all sorts of outrages, and so vexed and affrighted his elder sister that she hid herself in a rocky cavern of the sky, and fastened herself in with a large stone. The world was immediately covered with darkness, and the gods assembled to consult how they could induce her to come out. This was effected by setting all the birds to sing before her cave. Charmed by their singing, and wondering at the music and dancing when the universe was in darkness, she from curiosity stepped her foot outside, and instantly one of the gods closed the entrance behind her. They all besought her to hide herself no more, and punished Firuko by pulling out his hair and the nails of his hands and feet.

Bro. Goble has given us substantially the same story.

The Japanese tradition of the flood has less resemblance to that of the Alaskans. It is in substance this: that Fikofoko demi, the fourth in succession from the gods who descended to earth, lost his brother's fish-hook and was compelled to go down to the bottom of the sea to recover it. There he found the god of the ocean dwelling in a magnificent palace, and becoming attached to his beautiful daughter, he married her. After remaining three years, he proposed to visit his brother and deliver to him the fish-hook. They consented, and at his departure gave him two talismanic stones, the one to produce a flood, the other an ebb of the ocean, that in case his brother should attempt to detain him he might use these powerful weapons against him. As anticipated, the elder brother would not let him go back; so he threw the flood stone into the sea, and immediately the waves inundated the whole land. His brother, in alarm, made his submission and pleaded for his life. Fikofoko then threw in the other stone, and the waves retired to their ancient bounds.

It may not be without significance that the crow also plays an important part in Japanese, as well as Alaskan legends. When Jimmu-Teno, their first emperor, was in the height of his troubles, he dreamed of a crow that was to be his guide and deliverer, and immediately on his awaking saw his dream verified in the descent of a crow from the sky. The legend states that it was the god of thunder who, assuming this form, flew before the Mikado and led him on to victory. The Athapaskan Indians, like Alaskans, attribute creation to the crow or raven, tracing their descent from "a mighty bird, whose eyes were fire,

whose glances were lightning, and the clapping of whose wings was thunder. On his descent to the ocean the earth instantly rose and remained on the surface of the water. This omnipotent bird then called forth all the variety of animals." *Myths of the New World*, p. 195.

Such wide-spread common traditions triumphantly establish the unity of the race.

ENGLISH COINS

Struck for the American Colonies and Coins issued by the Federal Government previous to the establishment of the Mint, in 1792.

Under William and Mary (1694), a coin was struck having on the obverse the figure of an elephant, and on the reverse, "God preserve New England, 1694." Another with the same obverse bore upon the reverse, "God preserve Carolina and the Lords Proprietors, 1694." No such coins were ever in circulation, and specimens are exceedingly rare.—During the reign of William and Mary, the colony of Massachusetts petitioned for permission to coin money, as they had done; but the request was denied. So great was the scarcity of small change, that many persons stamped pieces of brass and tin, passing them to their customers for a penny each. An act was passed forbidding this practice.

An American coin or medal was issued in 1776, an inch and a half in diameter; on one side was inscribed in a circular ring near the edge, "Continental Currency, 1776;" within the ring, a rising sun, with the word "Fugio" at the side, shining upon a dial, under which was the motto "Mind your Business." On the reverse were thirteen small circles joined together like the rings of a chain, on each one of which was inscribed the

name of some one of the thirteen States; on another ring within these was inscribed "American Congress," and in the centre "We are One." No coins were ever in circulation, as currency, of this type, but copies of the medal are extant, struck in white metal.

A copper coin issued in Massachusetts in 1776, nearly of the size of half a dollar, had upon the obverse "Massachusetts State," with a pine tree in the centre of the coin. Reverse, "Liberty and Virtue, 1776," a female seated on a globe, holding in her right hand an olive leaf, in her left a staff. It is believed that the die for this coin was cut by that celebrated patriot of the Revolution, Paul Revere, who was by trade a goldsmith and engraver. Paul Revere and Nathaniel Hurd, of Boston, Amos Doolittle, of New Haven, and an Englishman, named Smithers, in Philadelphia, were the only engravers in America at that time. In 1766, Revere engraved a picture emblematic of the repeal of the Stamp Act. This, and a caricature called the Seventeen Rescindors, were very popular and had an extensive sale. He engraved and published a print in 1770, representing the "Boston Massacre," and in 1774 he engraved another of a similar size, representing the landing of the British troops in Boston. In 1775, he engraved the plates, made the press, and printed the bills of the paper money ordered by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts.

In 1787, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a copper coin, having on one side an Indian with his bow and arrow, near his forehead a star, around the coin the word "Commonwealth;" on the other side, the American eagle holding in his right talon an olive branch, in the left a bunch of

arrows, on its breast a shield, on which is inscribed the word "Cent;" around the edge of the coin "Massachusetts, 1787." Half cents of the same type were struck.

In 1776, was coined a New York cent. Vermont coined cents for four successive years. One variety has on the obverse an eye with rays extending from it, which are divided by thirteen stars. Around the coin are the words "*Quarta Decima Stella*;" reverse, the sun rising from behind the mountains, a plow in the foreground, with the legend, "*Vermont, Ensium Res Publica*," and the date 1785. The Connecticut cents bear dates 1785, 1786 and 1787. A coin struck in Lancaster, England, in 1761, for circulation in America, called the Kentucky cent, bore the mottos, "Unanimity is the strength of society," and "Our cause is just." On one side were fifteen stars in the form of a triangle; on the three stars are indented the initials of the several states, Kentucky heading the column.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

I have deviated from the main subject for a moment, in order to give a brief exposition of the first national debt, under the funding system of a celebrated financier, and now return to the consideration of the unredeemed paper money. The illustrious statesmen of the Revolutionary Congress had the best disposition to pay that currency, and they professed to have the ability so to do. They felt themselves bound in honor to discharge, at their full value, bills emitted by themselves, and bearing on their face a solemn engagement to redeem them in Spanish dollars, or

the value thereof in gold or silver. To do this, however, required a season of tranquility; but the country was invaded by land and by water; it required power to levy taxes, and this was denied them; it required the industry of peaceful times to enable the people to contribute; but the war, in constant activity, baffled every attempt at regular employment. Congress had not even a choice of evils; they had no alternative. One source of revenue only was at their command, and that was the emission of bills of credit. The very necessity of the case forced them to misuse and abuse it; for even in its depreciated condition, paper money offered facilities so attractive that the great men at the head of affairs, always intending to pay them, were glad to find the people willing, at the current exchange, to receive that which could be so easily and liberally supplied.

"Who," said a member, during a debate upon this subject, "will consent to load his constituents with taxes, when we can send to our printer and get a wagon load of money, and pay for the whole with a quire of paper?" And with wagon loads, thus cheaply obtained, they carried on the campaign of the two years, 1778 and 1779, keeping an army of thirty or forty thousand men in the field, issuing paper to the amount of sixty-three millions for the former year, and seventy-two millions for the latter, and thus, with an active printing press, and a few commissioners hired by the day or by the job to sign the bills, ways and means were found to defray almost the whole expense of the civil list, the army and navy, and contingencies. There was, indeed, a little hard money passing through the treasury. The exact sums received in both those years, having

been officially reported to Congress, stand recorded on their journals. If it were not attested in this authentic shape, it would be difficult to believe it. Marvellous as it may appear, the aggregate of gold and silver received into the treasury for the year 1778 was only seventy-eight thousand, six hundred and sixty-six dollars (\$78,666), and for the year 1779 the sum of seventy-three thousand dollars (\$73,000); so that the whole machinery of government was carried on for two entire years, as far as concerned the agency of specie, with one hundred and fifty one thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars! So small an expenditure in metallic currency shows the powerful agency of paper in the belligerent operations at that critical period; performing, as it did, in spite of counterfeits and depreciation, the office of hard money.

This handful of solid coin, which in gold would weigh only seven hundred pounds, and might be put into a wheelbarrow, was all that came, as we have seen, into the public chest for two years; and we may not be surprised at the Government being so chary of it as to refuse General Washington's demand of a small share to pay a part of the bounty to enlisted soldiers. In denying him, they declared that the precious metals must be kept for the commissaries of prisoners, to be used where paper would not pass.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Vermont Cent, 1788; Vermon Auctori; reverse, Liberty seated; uncirculated; rare. \$2 25.

Vermon Auctori, 1788; bust laureated and in armor on the reverse; uncirculated. \$2 12½.

Vermont Cent, 1785; obverse, bust, Georgius III rex; reverse, Liberty seated, Immune Columbia; fine; extremely rare. \$8.

Vermont Cent, 1788; obverse, bust, Georgius III rex; reverse, Liberty seated, Inde. et Lib. 62½ cents.

Vermont Cent, 1788; obverse, bust of George III, but of an entirely different design from the last; reverse, Inde., &c.; fine. 62½ cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; bust in armor, with a band across the breast; legend on the reverse, punctuated with a cross, a dot and a cross. 75 cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; obverse, like the last; reverse, without punctuation; very fine. 75 cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; legend on the obverse, punctuated with dots; very fine. 62½ cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; similar design, but obverse and reverse without dots; very fine. 75 cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; a selection of four pieces, all different; one uncirculated and two fine. 75 cents each.

Vermont Auctori, with head of Connecticut Cent; scarce. 87½ cents.

Vermont Auctori, 1788; reverse, Britannia; fine. 62½ cents.

Massachusetts Cent, 1787; in this piece the olive branch and arrows are in reversed positions; of this type only one other is known, and this was formerly in the collection of Seth E. Pecker, Esq., of Boston; very fine. \$40.

Massachusetts Cent, 1787; the reverse has heavy letters, the head of the Indian bowed; fine. \$2.

Massachusetts Cent, 1787; the reverse with light letters; fine. \$2 62½.

Massachusetts Cent, 1787; uncirculated. \$4 50.

Massachusetts Half Cent, 1787; uncirculated. \$2 50.

Massachusetts Half Cent, 1787, from a different die; uncirculated. \$1 12½.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788; uncirculated. \$1 50.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788. In this variety the letter S resembles the figure 8; uncirculated. \$1 50.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, with two distinct lines over the date; bundle of seven large arrows; very fine. \$1 25.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, two lines over the date; bundle of seven small arrows; very fine. \$1.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, one long and one short line over the date; eight small arrows; very fine. 62 cents.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, with long line over the date, extending beyond the figures. 62½ cents.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, with a single sharp pointed line: very fine. 55 cents.

Massachusetts Cent, 1788, single pointed line, but short; uncirculated. 50 cents.

Massachusetts Half Cent, 1788, uncirculated; very fine indeed; scarce. \$1 87½.

Massachusetts Half Cent, 1788; another die; almost as fine; scarce. \$2.

ROMAN FAMILY COINS.

While transferring an article upon this subject from the columns of the September number of the American Journal of Numismatics to our magazine, we take occasion to rejoice at the commendable spirit displayed by the writer (Prof. Anthon) in adopting an *explanatory system* when giving the titles, legends, etc., found upon the interesting and instructive ancient family coins of Rome. Prof. Anthon has inaugurated a move in the right direc-

tion; and as one of the dealers to whom he refers as complaining of *too much learning*, we thank the Professor in behalf of the unlearned numismatic fraternity. The article we copy is a plain, convincing argument that we were right in asking our high stilted philosophers, who were delving among the debris of the dark ages, to come down among the *every-day world folks*, who admire without comprehending the wonderful knowledge they possess. Those of our readers who supposed a collegiate course of study necessary to qualify them to interpret the puzzling signs, symbols and characteristics of the ancient coinage of the world, will be astonished after perusing the following lucid article, to know how simple and easy the work can be accomplished:

"The charge of an unnecessary and unpopular degree of *learning* has been recently reiterated in print against this Journal. In resuming, therefore, after a long interval, a subject which certainly ranks with justice among the *learned ones*, we intend, in deference to the opinion of objectors who entertain that view, to translate, literally, in *Italics*, every Latin word or abbreviation which may present itself; while, in the way of historical reference, we shall confine ourselves to Liddell's History of Rome, an excellent book, indeed, but as accessible and as easily read as any history of the United States. Farther than this we cannot stoop; and, in deviating to such an extent from our previous course, we are in fact likely to give offence to more judicious readers, who rightly consider—like the distinguished personage who once told a teasingly explanatory lawyer that there were "some things which a Chief Justice of the United States might be expected to comprehend"—who rightly consider, we

say, that there are some few things which a professed numismatist, may probably know.

Confining ourselves, as before, to those Roman families of whose coins we ourselves possess specimens, and our desire being to show, by examples, how much interest attaches to the whole class, we proceed to take up:

AQUILLIA. *Obv.* III VIR VIR TVS. *Triumvir*, that is, "Triumvir Monetalis," or one of the Three Commissioners of the Mint, whose office established, as Niebuhr thinks, B. C. 269, when the Romans first began to coin silver, was one of great importance—though its term was but a single year—and preceded every other in the career of public honors; *Valor*. Head of Valor as a youth, in helmet with two plumes, to right.

Rev. M' - AQVIL M' - F-M' N Exergue SICIL. This legend is "Manius Aquillius, Manii Filius, Manii Nepos," the first letter which, according to custom, we represent by M' being on the coin a peculiar character indicating Manius, *i. e.*, literally one born *mane*, in the morning. The meaning, therefore, is *Manius Aquillius, son of Manius, grandson of Manius*. The word "Sicilia" affords the explanation of the device, *viz.*: a kneeling woman supporting herself with her right hand, and raised from the ground by a soldier in a tunic, with a shield on his left arm.

The triumvir of the mint celebrates here a great action of his grandfather, who when colleague of Marius in the latter's fifth consulship. B. C. 101, tranquilized the province of Sicily after a servile war, and obtained in consequence the honor of an ovation. This Sicilian servile war which Aquillius extinguished was the second. The first occurred B. C. 133, and was sup-

pressed by L. Calpurnius Piso, called "Frugi," or "the man of honor," and P. Rupilius (Liddell, 500) during the next two years. The leaders of the slaves in the second war were Slavius and a Cilician named Athenio. Slavius assumed the name of Tryphon; on his death Antonio succeeded him. In a single combat Arquillius was severely wounded and Athenio killed (Lidd. 562-4). When Arquillius was tried for rapacity, his advocate Antonius, the celebrated orator, grandfather of Mark Antony, displayed to the public view the scars on the old soldier's breast. The spectators, including Marius, wept, and Aquillius was acquitted (id. 572). At the beginning of the Mithridatic war, B. C. 88, Aquillius was delivered up to the Mithridates by the Lesbians, paraded about on an ass, and then put to death by having molten gold poured down his throat (id. 596).

Now, in our way of thinking, this knowledge is of value to those who possess the denarius, or may in time possess it. If it be "learning," it is of the kind termed "cheap" learning, even as the piece itself is cheap, being common and worth from half to three-fourths of a dollar. Yet we venture to assert that in point of fact such a coin, with its historic associations, so easily traced out, is more interesting to an intelligent person than any one in the whole Mint Series of the United States; and we believe, moreover, that dealers will find it to their advantage to encourage this well-founded persuasion and contribute to its acceptance in the public mind, rather than by stupid complaints about excess of "learning" to lower their own trade and endeavor to to drive from the market a vast proportion of their own merchandise."

(To be continued.)

RETROSPECTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE.

1869 AND 1870.

One more year has nearly passed and one more volume of our journal completed. It becomes proper to take this occasion to chat with our readers on the past history of the coin trade, and speculate, as far as human foresight will permit, in regard to the future prospects of the subjects upon which this publication treats. During the year now rapidly drawing to a close, several important numismatic collections have been brought to the hammer, and dispersed to make more complete the cabinets of those who prefer to hoard and hold their numismatic treasures. 1869 will always be remembered as the year in which more coin cabinets were disposed of at public auction than any previous twelve months in the history of the coin trade. An explanation of the multiplicity of coin sales is found in the extravagant prices coins have realized at auction—a remarkable instance being at the sale of Mackenzie's coins, where an 1811 U. S. cent was sold for \$72 50. Another noted fact is the increase of coin collectors. In 1868, there were in this country and British Provinces, as near as we can estimate, from unusual facilities, about one thousand regular and experienced numismatists. In 1869, this number increased to two thousand; of the latter number, about two hundred collectors are in possession of fine cabinets. In 1868, there were but two journals devoted to numismatics; in 1869, three; historical, archæological and numismatic associations have nearly doubled in the United States since 1867. Thus we go, increasing year by year, and adding to the scientific knowledge of the world. At the present writing there is a lull in

the coin trade—in fact, we might say, a lull in every branch of business throughout the country, and this is the harvest time to gather fine pieces for a coin cabinet. Many collectors are necessitated from want of money, to dispose of their coins; and when times again become good and money plenty, these coins will increase in value and cannot so readily be purchased. Now is the accepted time for beginners and others to lay in choice pieces, and our word for it another year's time will prove the wisdom and correctness of our assertion.

A word for our journal, and we close this lengthy article. It has been a favorite idea with the publishers to make this magazine acceptable to all who have favored us with their patronage. That we have succeeded, our subscription book fully proves. That we have not increased and illustrated our journal to the extent we desired is a fault of our exchequer, which can be readily remedied by an increased list of subscribers. If we succeed in doubling the list of subscribers, we will double the size of the journal and add plenty of illustrations of the interesting coins of our country. To each and all our patrons we return the warmest thanks for their kind and generous support, and trust that the new year will add prosperity and happiness with increased health to all.

HASELTINE'S COIN SALE.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 16 AND 17.

This sale was a decided success, and more than realised the anticipations of the owner. It seems, from the following article in the New York Tribune, that some despicable knave furnished the reporter or editor with a "back-handed notice," with a view, doubtless, of interrupting the sale of Philadelphia

coin collections in the New York market, or with a determination to injure the managers of said sales. If we succeed in obtaining the name of the vile miscreant who furnished the report, as given in the New York Tribune, and that, too, without making an effort to ascertain the truth or falsity of the charges there so confidently asserted, we will engage to bring him to a humiliating confession of his vileness, or give him a public cowhiding, which ever he prefers. To those of our citizens familiar with the facts, it is unnecessary to offer a refutation of the slander; but as many other persons may read and believe the Tribune's article without explanation, we give the account of the sale, as published in the Tribune, together with our communication in reply. In justice to our management of Haseltine's sale, and the gentlemen who entrusted us with their bids upon that occasion, we would say that every lot in the catalogue was sold without the slightest reserve.

"Mason & Co.'s seventh coin sale was concluded yesterday. Fewer buyers than usually come out on such occasions were attracted. Nos. 530 to 681 on the catalogue consisted wholly of cents and half cents. A somewhat suspicious *furor* was created over '1795; Randall's celebrated Jefferson head, differing materially from the ordinary 1795 cents.' The said cent was entered in the catalogue as having been sold at the Randall sale, on the 18th ult., for \$141. It was struck down yesterday, after a good deal of noise, for \$145. There is excellent reason to believe that in both cases no genuine bids were obtained at anything approaching that sum. A cent of 1821 went for \$23, and all other cents for much less. A half cent of 1852 was

struck down for \$7, and one of 1795 for \$3. Medals went cheap. Pine tree shillings of 1652 were struck down for \$5, \$3 50 and \$3 62½, according to the slant of the roots and general condition of the tree.—*N. Y. Tribune, Nov. 18.*

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 18, 1869.

Editor New York Daily Tribune:

DEAR SIR: In your daily issue of the Tribune of November 18, you give an account of our "Seventh Coin Sale," which recently occurred at the auction rooms of Messrs. Bangs, Merwin & Co., No. 694 Broadway, New York. In this account you assert that there is not the slightest reason to believe that genuine bids were given or offered for the "1795 Jefferson Head Cent." We trust you will do us the justice to refute the story which has gained currency from your report of said sale, to the great injury and detriment of our business. Mr. J. W. Haseltine, Treasurer of several of our mining companies, whose office is at 506 Walnut street, Philadelphia, is a gentleman of unimpeachable integrity and one of our most respected citizens. This gentleman purchased the cent above alluded to, in Randall's coin sale of the 18th ult., for \$141, with a special view to placing it in his own collection to add attractiveness to a disposal by auction of his own cabinet of coins, which were then being catalogued for the sale to which you allude, viz.: Haseltine's coin sale of last Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, 16th and 17th inst., at Bangs, Merwin & Co's, Broadway, New York. At the latter sale, J. C. Randall, Esq., 1209 Race street, of this city, visited New York expressly to purchase the Jefferson Head Cent of 1795, at any price, having regretted parting with it at his own sale of the 18th ult. Mr. J. C. Randall is a well-known,

wealthy and respected citizen of Philadelphia, and regrets that a paper of such influence and standing as the Tribune should give currency to such a *slandrous* and unjust intimation of his actions at the late coin sale. With those acquainted with our mode of doing business, as coin dealers and publishers, a refutation of the slander might be unnecessary, but that the names of two gentlemen of this city, of unblemished reputation, should be connected with such a serious charge as given in your article of the 18th inst. is, to say the least, grievous and unbearable. You will oblige us by substantiating the innuendo, or at least give the public the benefit of this statement of facts. If necessary, we will furnish you with the affidavits of a dozen prominent citizens, who were aware that Mr. Haseltine bid for and bought the 1795 cent for \$141, in the Randall sale, and that Mr. Randall bid for and bought the same piece at a subsequent sale, for \$145, and now owns this excessively rare and valuable coin, believed to be the finest of the kind in the world. At Mackensie's coin sale, at Leavitt & Strebeigh's auction rooms, Clinton Hall, New York, an Ameri cent of 1793 brought, at public sale, the same amount, \$145—and there are in existence a dozen 1793 Ameri variety where there is one of the celebrated Jefferson Head Cent of 1795. By inserting this communication, you will do an act of justice, and in a measure counteract the effects of the injurious statement you have given publicity to.

MASON & Co.

SALE OF BARTRAM'S COLLECTION.

A small collection of coins, medals, etc., from the estate of John Bartram (deceased), was sold, at

public auction, by Martin Brothers, Chestnut street, of this city, November 29 and 30. For some reasons, the knowledge of this sale was kept from the public until within a few days prior to the time fixed upon for its disposal, and catalogues were received too late to send to our distant subscribers. Parties offering coin collections for public sale should always give dealers and publishers at least three weeks' notice of an intended sale. Had we received catalogues of Bartram's sale in time to get in our outside bids and notices in our journal, there would have been a better exhibit, pecuniarily, at the result of this coin sale. The meagre results of this sale should be a warning to others having in view public coin sales, and teach them to give at least a month's notice of any intended sale. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

COIN SALES.

Leonard & Co., auctioneers, Boston, had a small sale of coins on the 18th of November—very few fine or valuable pieces offered in the badly arranged catalogue. If that sale was "Trifet & Co's *first*," we hope it will be their *last*, unless they learn some of the first rules of numismatology, familiar to every beginner, and give the buyer some little knowledge of the coins they offer for sale.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. N.—Get up a club of ten for 1870, only ten dollars. Our terms remain the same next year, \$1 50 per annum.

P. H. L.—Only nine pieces in the set of "Postal Currency," although some collectors claim ten, the tenth being simply a pattern dime without the words "Postal currency."

G. M. P.—The Bartram sale was rushed through in such hot haste that we had no opportunity to send you catalogues. We regret it, as the coins will sell at a sacrifice. Of course, dealers will harvest the best pieces at extremely low prices.

RELIC SALE.

A continuation sale of Professor Dickeson's Peale's Museum relics, prints, autographs, books, minerals, curiosities, precious stones, etc., will be held on the 1st of December. Catalogues forwarded to all interested.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

THE STUDY OF PHILATELY.

(Concluded.)

As we see the square Holstein stamps with their Denmark like appearance, giving place to the Prussian oval, we trace the rumblings of the storm which deafened Europe with the thunders of war. * * * I pass to chronological history. * * * If we cross the water we find our French neighbors with four changes. A fruit crowned goddess of Liberty tells of a time of sad dissention.

A second issue for the Republic is before us; this time with the head of Louis Napoleon, President. In how short a time that lasted, we gather from the fact that but two values were printed during his term of office.

Next follows a series, both imperforated and perforated, as Empire Français, telling of growing stability, rendering fitting at last the laurel crown, which we welcome as a pleasing variety on our French pages.

The change of portraits (as in Saxony) tells us of a new king, united arms (as in Moldo Wallachia) betokens amalgamated states. Our albums remind us, also, how

the East Indian Company, perpetuated in the Scinde Dawk stamp, gave way to our British Government; how Buenos Ayres and Corrientes became swallowed up in the Argentine Confederation; how the north west provinces of South America have amalgamated and split and re-amalgamated; all plainly put before us in the several issues of those countries. * * *

Those who go more deeply into the study of these matters, amongst other advantages, gain a knowledge of paper manufacture, discerning wove, surface laid, pelure, etc.; engraving, also, so as to tell at a glance, lithograph or steel engraving, surface printing and aniline colors, wood cut or hand stamp. It has been well said "to know any one thing perfectly is a long way in the knowledge of other things," so a perfect knowledge of philately combines some knowledge at least of geography, history, portraiture, engraving, paper manufacture, heraldry and currency.—*Philatelist.*

HOW OUR NEW POSTAGE STAMPS ARE MADE.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

(Concluded.)

After passing through the embossing press they are perforated by young girls on peculiarly constructed and beautiful machines, the invention of this company. After being perforated they are subjected to the action of a powerful hydraulic press to get rid of all wrinkles and give the stamp a finished, smooth appearance. The sheets are then cut in half, leaving one hundred and fifty stamps on a sheet, and in this condition are ready for the post masters to whom they are sent in registered letters upon a requisition approved in Washington. The stamps printed in two colors require to pass through the press twice, as only one ink can

be used at a time on a plate. Have my readers any idea of the number of stamps used in the United States and printed by this company.

They reach the fearful aggregate of from four to five hundred millions per annum. Of the three cent stamp there were used 37,879,100; of the two cent stamp 6,322,500, and the other values in proportion.

I was surprised to find upon inquiry that it is very seldom the company lose any stamps by their employees. At the present time this company employ about four hundred workmen and women, but the system is so thorough, and the surveillance so searching, that it is impossible for theft to be committed without detection. At present the National Bank Note Company are working upon two and three cent stamps only, as the post office authorities propose to call in the rest of the new issue, owing to the manifold objection made by the community at large. The principal cause of complaint is that the stamps are not sufficiently national in character. This objection does not hold good. Take the one cent Franklin head—nothing could be more appropriate, Franklin having been the first postmaster in this country. The three cent stamp is certainly indicative of this nation, thoroughly a go-ahead one, and nothing could be better, according to my ideas, than Cornwallis's Surrender and the Declaration of Independence—two great events that should be kept perpetually before the eyes of the people. But the fiat has gone forth, and we must submit to the powers that be. New designs are now in course of preparation, and before long we may expect their issue. I am informed that all the new stamps will either represent heads, or busts of prominent public men.—*Am. Journal of Philately.*

NEW ISSUES.

NICARAGUA.

We note the emission of a one centavo of same design as the rest of the set, and bistre color.

TRINIDAD.

The *Philatelist* mentions having received all the values of this colony with the words *too late* stamped thereon.

ST. VINCENT.

From the same journal, we also learn that a four penny of a different color and one shilling brown are now ready and will be emitted as soon as the old stock is exhausted.

UNITED STATES.

We have lately seen a specimen of the three cent stamp of 1861, printed in dark purple, which the owner stated was bought by him at the Philadelphia P. O., about two years since.

FRANCE.

The long expected five franc has at last made its appearance. The color is lilac and the stamp double the size of the rest of the series.

PHILATELIC ITEMS.

The single rate of postage in Mexico is twenty-five centavos, which the officials generally manage to collect at both ends of the route. In addition to paying postage, the merchants in some of the seaport towns have to employ couriers to carry their correspondence, the government not furnishing the proper facilities.

It is expected the postage to England will shortly be reduced to six cents per half ounce.

CRESTS AND MONOGRAMS.

We can now supply collectors with Crests and Monograms at the following prices: 20 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 25 cents; 50 varieties, beautifully stamped in colored relief, 75 cents. Address MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

COINS FOR SALE.

U. S. CENTS.

Date.	Condition.	Price.
1793	very poor	\$ 50
1793	very fair	1 50
1793	very good	3 00
1794, '95 '96	good	1 50
1794, '95 '96	extra good.	2 50
1797, '98	very good.	50
1799	very poor.	2 00
1799	very fair.	5 00
1799	very good.	10 00
1800, '1, '2 '3	very good.	1 25
1804	fair.	1 50
1804	very fair.	2 50
1804	good.	5 00
1805, '06 '07	poor.	25
1805, '06 '07	fair.	50
1805, '06 '07	good.	1 50
1808	fair.	25
1808	good.	50
1809	poor.	50
1809	good.	1 50
1810, '11 '12	poor.	25
1810, '11 '12	very good.	1 00
1813,	good.	50
1817,	'20 very good.	40
1821,	'24 good.	30
1825,	'30 very good.	30
1857	very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents).

U. S. HALF CENTS.

1793	poor.	1 50
1793	good.	3 00
1794, '95	good.	1 50
1794, '95	good.	1 00
1797, 1800	fair.	50
1803, '4, '5, '6, '7,	very good.	50
1808, '09, '10,	very good.	50
1825, '29	very good.	25
1832, '35	very good.	25
1849,	'51 very good.	15
1853,	'57 very good.	50
No. 28 to 39,		3 00
1802, '11	very fair.	3 00

FOREIGN COINS.

12 different,	very good.	50
15 do	very good.	1 00
10 do	extra fine.	1 50
5 Roman coins,	good.	1 00
25 silver coins.		5 00

STORE CARDS.

10 cards,	good.	35
10 cards,	fine.	50

☞ All the above sent by mail. Prices furnished and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Lists corrected monthly.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
Coin and Stamp
COLLECTORS'



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PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Brinckloe & Marot, Printers, 23 North Sixth Street.

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A rare collection of South American Minerals, 700 Bird skins, Insects, Wet and Dry Preparations, Natural and Artificial Rarities, Indian and Goucho Implements of War, Fossils, Phenomena, &c. Also, Fragments of the Ancient Temples of Athens, and Curiosities in general, with 5000 pieces of Foreign Coin, which were collected with the express intention of opening a Museum, and offered a few months ago to the Commissioners of Central Park, New York, for \$100,000; but as the proprietor intends to leave the United States, he will now dispose of the entire collect on for \$25,000. \$5000 cash, the balance to be paid in yearly instalments of \$2000; or will close it out in parcels, from \$100 upwards to suit purchasers.

Independent of the above he has 3000 decorative Brazilian Beetles to dispose of at \$12 per hundred or 15 cents each.

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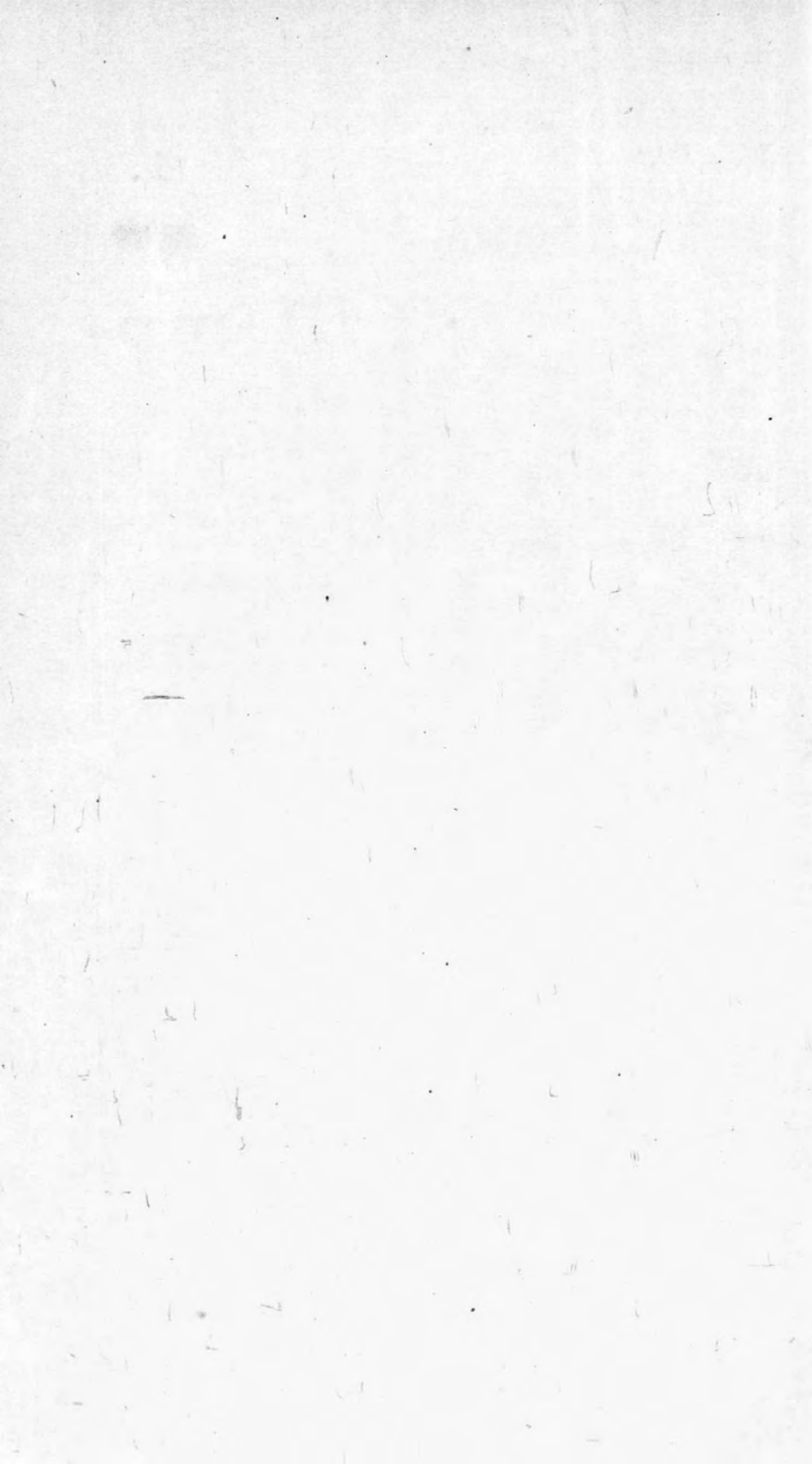
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6	1797 1798 very good.	50
7	1799 very poor.	2 00
8	1799 very fair.	5 00
9	1799 very good.	10 00
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11	1804 fair.	1 50
12	1804 very fair.	2 50
13	1804 good.	5 00
14	1805, '06 '07 poor.	25
15	1805 '06 '07 fair.	50
16	1805, '06 '07 good.	1 50
17	1808 fair.	25
18	1808 good.	50
19	1809 poor.	50
20	1809 good.	1 50
21	1810, '11 '12 poor.	25
22	1810, '11 '12 very good.	1 00
33	1813 '14 '16 good.	50
24	1817 1820 very good.	40
25	1821 1824 good.	50
26	1825 1830 very good.	30
27	1857 very good.	15

(All other dates, 1831 to 1856 inclusive, 5 cents each. Special terms by letter for finer cents.

U. S. CENTS.

Packet.	Condition.	Price.
28	1793 poor.	1 55
29	1793 good.	3 00
30	1794 '95 fair.	50
31	1794 '95 good.	1 00
32	1797 1800 fair.	50
33	1803, '04, '05, '06 '07, very good.	50
34	1808, '09 '10, very good.	30
35	1825 1829 very good.	25
36	1832 1835 very good.	25
37	1849 1851 very good.	15
38	1853 1857 very good.	50
39	No. 28 to 39,	3 00
40	1802 1811 very fair.	3 00

COLONIALS.

41	Conn. and N. J. good.	25
42	Va. Mass. good.	1 00
43	Ver. N. Y. good.	1 75
44	Const., 2, 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 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 50
57	do very fine.	1 75
58	do proof.	2 50
59	Indian Head, 1858 nickel, good.	1 25
60	do do proof.	1 50
61	Flying Eagle, 1855 fine.	1 25
62	1854 no stars cent, fine.	1 75
63	1836 silver dollar, ex. good	5 00
64	1863 2 cent piece, proof.	5 00
65	do proof.	5 00

FOREIGN COINS.

66	12 different coins, very good.	50
67	15 do do very good.	1 00
68	10 do dd 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 good.	5 00

STORE CARDS.

73	10 cards, good.	35
74	10 fine.	50

All the above sent by mail free of postage. Prices furnished, and rare coins obtained, in any condition, upon application. Packet Lists corrected Monthly.

We have for sale a few of those popular Baltimore Albums, price \$1.25, post free.

These Albums are the best in America, being brought up to 1869, illustrated with numerous engravings, and every Stamp accurately described and numbered so as to cause no confusion in mounting. A brief history of each country is appended, giving name of Monarch or Ruler, population, form of Government. In boards, cloth back

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Have on hand and for sale the following rare Stamps:—Set of St. Louis P. O. Stamps 5 & 10 cts, \$15. (guaranteed original.) British Guiana, 1851, 1c. magenta, \$2. 4c. ultramarine, \$2. 1853, 4c., blue, \$2. Journal Stamps, 2c., yellow, 75 cents. Memphis, Tenn., 5c., rare, \$4. Natal, 1857, 3d., rose, \$1; 6c., green, \$1.50. New South Wales, Laureated Head, 8d., orange, \$2. Polish Envelope, 1½k, large arms, \$2. Geneva 5c., dark green, \$1.25. St. Domingo, 1862, value in *italics*, \$2. All warranted genuine.

TO
COLLECTORS.

THE JOHNSON MEDALET

Referred to in the February Number of the **NUMISMATIC JOURNAL** will be ready about the 15th of April.

OBVERSE.—A bust of the late President; legend, "Andrew Johnson, 17th President of the United States "

REVERSE.—Combined Arms of United States and New York City: inscription, "Public Reception and Banquet by the Municipal Authorities of New York City, Aug. 29, 1866."

SIZE.—About that of the half-dollar.

NUMBER STRUCK.—Silver, 5; Copper, 50; Tin, 75.

Price, in Silver, \$3.00; Copper, \$1.00, Tin, 50 cts.

The work is being done by Mr. G. H. LOVETT.

All orders should be addressed to

EDWARD COGAN,
100 William St, N. Y.

New York, March, 1869.

COINS AND MEDALS OF CANADA

Wanted by the undersigned, either for purchase or exchange,

COINS AND MEDALS,
mentioned as scarce in the work on "Canadian Coins and Medals." Condition from good to proof. Good American given in exchange. Dealers and Collectors address,
JOHN HENNESSEY,
Box 933 P. O., Montreal, Canada.

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The 1869 (old style) 1c, 2c, 3c and 5c pieces mailed for 25 cents per set of 4, new & bright
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BY G. F. JONES.

Containing a description of the Gold, Silver, Copper and other Coins of the U. S.

Together with an account of actual sales in Philadelphia and New York. Designed as a Guide Book for Collectors.

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Send 25 cents for the best illustrated priced Catalogue of Postage Stamps extant All Stamps warranted genuine.

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OF THE

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BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

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25 cents per dozen, all different.
50 " " "
1 00 " " "
Small views \$1 per 100.

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" " " Morocco, Gilt.....4 00
These Albums are superior to any Album issued America. Address

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MAGAZINE.

VOL. III

JUNE, 1869.

No. 6.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.

No. 50 North Tenth Street,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Brinckloe & Marot, Printers, 23 North Sixth Street.

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SALE OF 50,000 CURIOSITIES!

MASON & CO.'S THIRD PHILADELPHIA SALE

AT

Thos. Birch & Son's Auction Rooms, 1110 Chestnut St.,

Commencing Wednesday, June 9th, 1869, at 3 P. M.,

To continue each day until the entire collection is disposed of.

THIS COLLECTION EMBRACES

Coins, Minerals, (including Agates, Amethyst and Quartz Crystals,) Indian Implements, Chinese and Japanese Curiosities, Birds, Animals, Fossils, Petrifications, Gems, Wet Preparations. Skins of Rare Animals, Shells, Antidiluvian Fossils, Relics and many other curious and interesting objects.

To which is added a private collection of valuable Autograph Letters, Medals, Coins, &c.

The entire Collection on free exhibition daily from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., to day of Sale.

Catalogued by Mason & Co., Coin and Stamp Dealers

Orders by mail, or otherwise, promptly executed by Birch & Sons, Auctioneer; A. C. Kline, Philadelphia; E. Cogan, 68 Williams St., N. Y.; and by Mason & Co., 50 North 10th Street, Philadelphia.

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New York, March, 1869.

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JULY, 1869.

No. 7.

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MAGAZINE.

Vol. III. AUGUST, 1869. No. 8.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

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VARIETIES OF THE COPPER ISSUES OF THE UNITED STATES
MINT, IN THE YEAR 1794 (INCLUDING THE CENT AND
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BY E. MARIS, M. D.

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In great variety and at lower prices than can be bought from any other dealers.

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CHEAP SETS OF STAMPS.

Set of Saxony; six varieties,	15
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Set of Lubeck, complete, with the exception of the 1½ S. Envelope, 17 varieties,	\$1 50

All unused and warranted genuine.

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Packet No. 1. contains 25 varieties, used,	25
“ 2. “ 13 “ unused,	25
“ 3. “ 12 “ unused,	25
“ 4. “ 13 “ used (scarce),	25
“ 5. “ 50 “ used,	50
“ 6. “ 20 “ unused,	50
“ 7. “ 20 “ used and unused,	50
“ 9. “ 40 “ unused,	1 00
“ 10. “ 50 “ used and unused (scarce),	2 00

All stamps in the above packets are warranted genuine. For sale by

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Priced catalogues of this sale mailed for \$1 50. The Photograph catalogue (priced) mailed for \$3 00.

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A bound volume of Jenks' Portland Gazette, 1799 and 1800, containing particulars of Washington's death and funeral, columns draped in mourning. Very rare.

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MAGAZINE.

Vol. III. SEPTEMBER, 1869. No. 9.

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10 cent note, Goddess of Liberty,		25
15 " " entirely new,		30
25 " " " " " " " " " " " "		50
50 " " " " " " " " " " " "		75

Sent to any address, by enclosing price to

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1839 PATTERN DOLLAR.

We have a Silver Dollar of this date, in extra good condition, for sale at \$14.

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Packet No. 1.	contains	25 varieties,	used,		25
" 2.	"	12	unused,		25
" 3.	"	12	unused,		25
" 4.	"	12	used (scarce),		25
" 5.	"	50	used,		50
" 6.	"	20	unused,		50
" 7.	"	20	used and unused,		50
" 9.	"	40	unused,		1 00
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COLLECTION OF

CAPT. E. P. THORN, of Plainfield, N. J.,

AT

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No. 1110 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia,

ON

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, September 6, 7 & 8.

One thousand lots of Gold, Silver and Copper Foreign and American Coins; Roman Silver and Copper Coins; United States Pattern Pieces, Store Cards, Medals, &c. Catalogues now ready.

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" 2.	" 12 "	unused,	25
" 3.	" 12 "	used and unused,	25
" 4.	" 12 "	used (scarce),	25
" 5.	" 50 "	used,	50
" 6.	" 20 "	unused,	50
" 7.	" 20 "	used and unused,	50
" 8.	" 100 "	used,	75
" 9.	" 40 "	unused,	1 00
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25 "	40
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Vol. III. OCTOBER, 1869. No. 10.

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" 5.	" 50 "	used,	50
" 6.	" 20 "	unused,	50
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MASON & CO.'S FIFTH COIN SALE.

THE PROPERTY OF

J. COLVIN RANDALL, of Philadelphia,

AT

Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s Auction Rooms,
No. 694 Broadway, New York,

ON

Monday and Tuesday, October 18 and 19, 1869,

*Consisting of Gold, Silver and Copper Foreign and American
Coins; Roman Silver and Copper Coins, very rare and valuable;
United States Pattern Pieces, Store Cards, Medals, &c.*

Catalogues now ready.

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" 5.	"	50	used,	50
" 6.	"	20	unused,	50
" 7.	"	20	used and unused,	50
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" 5.	"	50	used,	50
" 6.	"	20	unused,	50
" 7.	"	20	used and unused,	50
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THE PROPERTY OF

JOHN W. HASELTINE, of Philadelphia,

AT

Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s Auction Rooms,

No. 694 Broadway, New York,

ON

Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 16 and 17, 1869,

*Consisting of Gold, Silver and Copper Foreign and American
Coins; Roman Silver and Copper Coins, very rare and valuable;
United States Pattern Pieces, Store Cards, Medals, &c.*

Catalogues now ready.

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" 5.	"	50	used,	50
" 6.	"	20	unused,	50
" 7.	"	20	used and unused,	50
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MAGAZINE.

Vol. III. DECEMBER, 1869. No. 12.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.

MASON & CO.'S SEVENTH COIN SALE,

THE PROPERTY OF

JOHN W. HASELTINE, of Philadelphia,

AT

Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s Auction Rooms,
No. 694 Broadway, New York,

ON

Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 16 and 17, 1869,

*Consisting of Gold, Silver and Copper Foreign and American
Coins; Roman Silver and Copper Coins, very rare and valuable;
United States Pattern Pieces, Store Cards, Medals, &c.*

Catalogues now ready.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

" " No. 54 Wall Street, New York.

WANTED.

Cancelled United States stamps of all issues of the following denominations, for which a good price will be paid in cash or trade; 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

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Mason & Co.'s Stamp Packets are the cheapest and best now in the market. Try them.

Packet No. 1.	contains	25 varieties,	used,	25
" 2.	"	12 "	unused,	25
" 3.	"	12 "	used and unused,	25
" 4.	"	12 "	used (scarce),	25
" 5.	"	50 "	used,	70
" 6.	"	20 "	unused,	70
" 7.	"	20 "	used and unused,	50
" 8.	"	100 "	used,	75
" 9.	"	40 "	unused,	1 00
" 10.	"	50 "	used and unused (scarce),	2 00

All stamps in the above packets are warranted genuine. For sale by

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Beautifully stamped in colored relief, on white laid paper.

15 varieties,	25
25 "	40
50 "	75

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

" " No. 54 Wall Street, New York.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. III. DECEMBER, 1869. No. 12.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.

SCOTT'S AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

The best Album extant.

Cloth, plain edge, \$5 00
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 Post free, 25 cents extra.

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Contains the new issue of Servia, Holland and ten other good uncancelled stamps.

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Set of fifty Portraits (Washington, Lincoln and Grant, together with all the foreign rulers), \$1 00

All letters or orders for coins or stamps must be addressed to

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

U. S. MINT MEDALS, BRONZE PROOFS.

We have in stock and for sale a complete set of Medals, all in the finest condition—originals, 15 per cent. below mint prices—separately, as will be seen below. Also, the following rare medals at reduced prices:

Field Medal. Mint price, \$12. Reduced price, \$10. Size 64.
 John Adams Medal. Former price, \$12. Reduced price, \$8. Size 32.
 Johnson Medal. Former price, \$12. Reduced price, \$8. Size 48.
 Grant Medal. Former price, \$12. Reduced price, \$10. Size 64.
 Philadelphia School Directors' Medal, incorrect inscription. Former price, \$5. Reduced price, \$2.

	Old price.	New price.
Any single mint medal,	\$2 50	\$2 25
“ “	2 00	1 75
“ “	1 50	1 25
“ “	1 00	75
“ “	50	25
“ “	25	20

Steam coinage, March, 1836. Price, 15 cents.

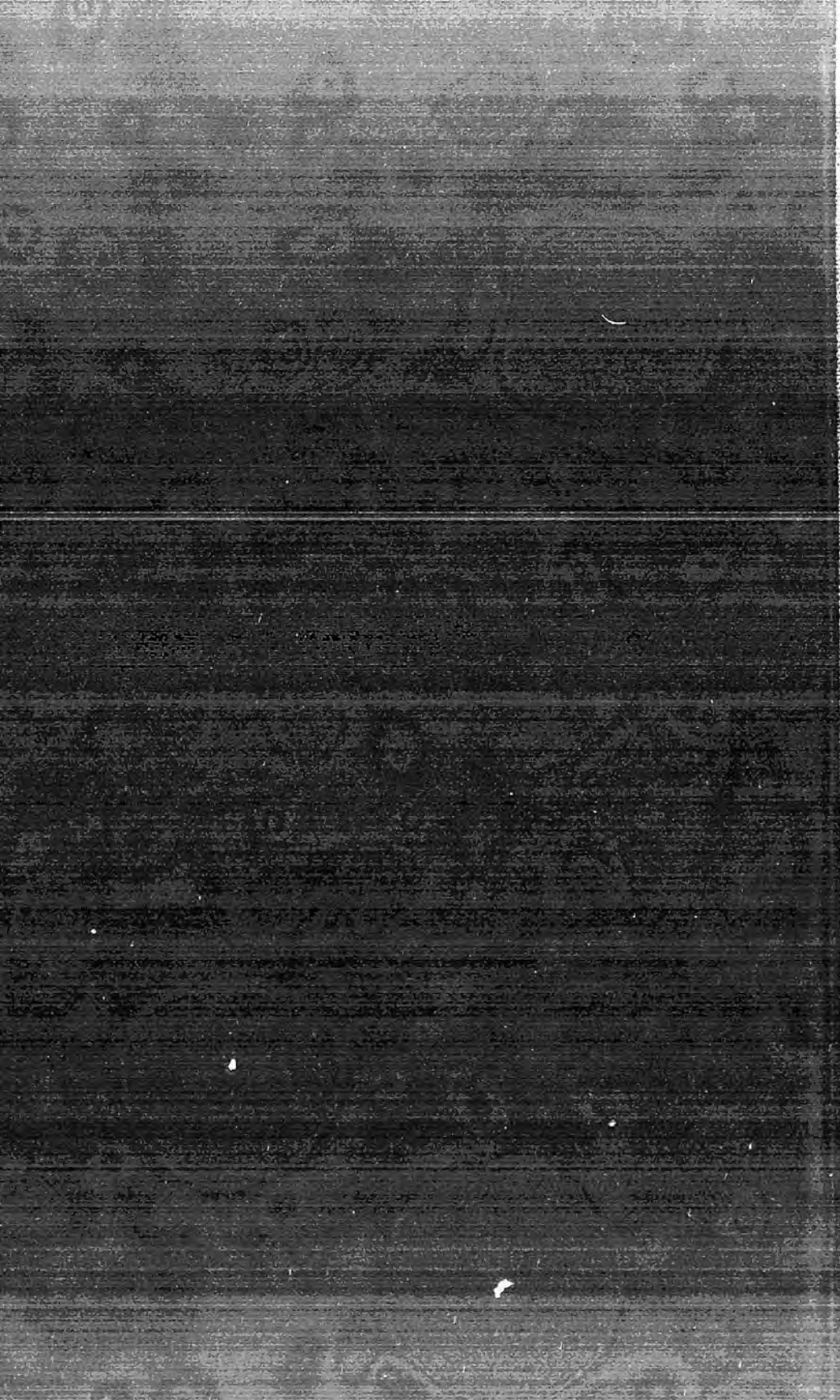
We have the Army, Navy, Presidential, Congressional and Miscellaneous Medals. Address

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent; sharp; uncirculated; red. Price, \$6.
 1791 small eagle Cent; sharp; very fine; a beautiful impression. Price, \$12.
 Granby or Higley Copper; obverse, deer, "Value me as you please;" reverse, broad axe, "I cut my way through;" extra good condition. Price, \$35.
 Five Cent Pattern Piece, 1866: reverse, Dutch 5; silver; excessively rare. Price, \$10.
 1858 Nickel Cents; patterns; 12 varieties; proofs. Price, \$15, set of 12, or \$1 50 each.
 1793 Liberty Cap Cent; extra good; very rare. Price, \$8.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.





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JOHN K. TIFFANY.

The central emblem is a circular seal. At the top, the words "SAINT LOUIS" are written in an arc, with "1867" in the center. Below this, two bears stand facing each other, flanking a central circular seal. The seal contains a landscape scene with a ship and a building. The text "UNITED WE STAND DIVIDE WE FALL" is written around the inner edge of the seal. Below the seal, a banner reads "SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX ESTO".





Brawford 1703

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

VOLUME IV.

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BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.



MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

JANUARY, 1870.

No. 1.

WOOD HALF PENNIES AND FARTHING.

COLLATED BY JOHN W. HASELTINE.

There had long been a great deficiency of copper coin in Ireland. Probably this coinage had never been fully restored since James II exhausted it in payment of his forces and endeavored to supply its place by half pence, minted from old pans and kettles. The deficiency was so great that manufacturers and shopkeepers were compelled to pay their workmen and give change to their customers in bits of card-board bearing their seal and signature. The Government undertook to remove this pressing want of so useful a medium, and they set about it in an honest and honorable manner as regarded the quality of the coin. Tenders were issued and various offers received for the coining of farthings and half pence, to the value of one hundred and eight thousand pounds. In 1721, the proposal of Mr. William Wood, an iron and copper founder of Wolverhampton, was accepted; but the quality of the coin, both as to weight and fineness, was determined by the advice of Sir Isaac Newton, then Master of the Mint, and Wood was bound under heavy penalties to furnish it according to this stipulation. Every means were used by the Ministers, Solicitor and Attorney General to ensure the supply of a much better copper coinage than Ireland had ever possessed before.

There were some circumstances, however, which came out, that created considerable suspicion and displeasure in Ireland. Wood had given a bribe to the king's mistress, the Duchess of Kendal, to procure him the contract, and the Government had ordered the coinage without paying the Irish Privy Council and Lord Lieutenant the compliment of consulting them on this occasion. Swift saw these errors and seized on them for his own purposes. He did not stop to inquire whether, after all, the proposed coinage would not, under any circumstances, be much better than the present distressing scarcity of copper money, and whether the farthings and half pence might not turn out as good, though they were contracted for. It was enough for him that there was a cause for discontent which he could fan into a flame against the English Government. He threw all his spiteful soul into it. The public mind was inflamed by the indus-

trious circulation of representations that the English were going to enrich a stranger at the expense of the whole of Ireland and that a universal robbery was about to be committed on the nation by means of a base and worthless coin. The irritation grew; the Irish Parliament met full of resentment, and both houses passed addresses to the King, declaring that Wood had not kept to the terms of the patent; that even if he had, the loss to the country, by the coinage, would be one hundred and fifty per cent.; that now it would be still more monstrous. Walpole received the addresses to present to the King, declaring that the assertions were untrue, and showed that it was an excellent coin and of due value. Still, by Walpole's advice, a mild answer was returned by the King to the addresses.

A committee of the Privy Council was appointed to make a strict scrutiny into the matter, and Sir Isaac Newton was ordered to assay the new coin with all care. He returned for an answer, as the result of his assay, that the coins, in goodness and fineness, so far from falling short, even exceeded the conditions of the contract; that although, on account of the difference of exchange between the two countries, it was necessary to make the Irish half pence rather less weight, yet that this difference was more than made up in fineness, which was superior to that of the English.

This report would have been enough to allay all irritation, but it did not in the least deter Swift. He continued his onslaught on the coin, the patentee and the English Government with only greater virulence and audacity; he attacked Wood and his half pence in poetry and prose; he launched forth ballads and lampoons of the most popular and at the same time unscrupulous character.

(To be continued.)

ROMAN FAMILY COINS.

(Concluded.)

AURELIA. *Obv.* Head of Rome, helmeted, to right; behind it X. This latter character, sometimes made with a third stroke, so as to form six arms, is the ordinary sign of the denarius, or silver penny as the equivalent of ten asses.

Rev. AV (monogram) RVF (monogram), Exergue Roma. Jupiter in a quadragi at speed to right, holding in his right a thunder-bolt, and in his left a sceptre and the reins.

The number of monograms which the denari present to our notice is remarkable, Riccio giving a table of ninety-one fac-similes of these ingenious combinations by which the ancient die cutters diminished their labors. They lead to some confusion on the part of moderns. Thus the blended AV on other coins was mistaken by the Vaillant for AN, and he accordingly assigned them to the Gens Annia, or Annian House, but the consideration of this very piece, on which that monogram is united with the one which denotes "Rufus," characterizing a family of the Gens Aurelia, or Aurelian House,

caused the numismatists to unite in giving to "Aurelia" all denarii bearing the disputed monogram, as well as the *Aurelius Rufus* under our notice. The coiner of this latter is not known. The simplicity of the style indicates that it was struck about the time of the second Punic War.

BARBATIA. *Obv.* M-ANT-IMP-AVG- (monogram) III-VIR-R-P-C-M-BARBATI-Q-P. This legend unabridged is Marcus Antonius Imperator Angur Triumvir Republicae Constituendae Marcus Barbatius Quaester Provincialis," and may be translated *Mark Antony, Commander in Chief, Augur, Triumvir for reconstructing the republic, Marcus Barbatius, Provincial Quaester.* Head of Mark Antony, undraped, to the right.

Rev. CAESAR-IMP-PONT-III-VIR-R-P-C. "Caesar Imperator Pontifex Triumvir Republicae Constituenda" equivalent to *Caesar, Commander-in-chief, High-Priest, Triumvir for reconstructing the republic.* Head of Octavian, slightly whiskered, undraped to the right.

This common but very interesting coin presents us with authentic portraits of the two triumvirs, who, with Lepidus, formed the celebrated league after Caesar's assassination. We call the young grand-nephew of the murdered dictator by the name which properly belongs to him until some time after Antony's overthrow at Actium, B. C. 31. Not till B. C. 27 was he entitled "Augustus." His full name, previously, as a son of C. Octavius Rufus, and testamentary adoptive son of the great Julius, was Caius Julius Caesar Octavianus, the last word indicating his transference from the Gens Octavia to the Gens Julia. This denarius was struck, as its lettering indicates, by a certain M. Barbatius Philippus, provincial Quaester or treasurer of Antony. It is worthy of observation, as a key to the system of classification pursued by writers on Roman Family Coins, that this one may be placed with almost equal propriety under either of the heads ANTONIA, BARBATIA and JULIA, and is in fact described under all of them—a method of proceeding which of course swells the dimensions of such works, though unavoidably, while it is nevertheless manifest that the moneyer Barbatius has the best right to attach it to his Gens or House.

CAECILIA. (1) *Obv.* ROMA Head of Rome, to the right, helmeted, the top of the helmet resembling the head of a serpent; in front, *.

Rev. C. METTELVS, *Caius Metellus*, Male Figure crowned by a flying Victory, in biga to the left, drawn by elephants, one of which has round its neck a bell.

Struck by C. Caecilius Metellus, fourth son of Quintus Caecilius Metellus Macedonicus. The elephants refer to the victory gained at Panormus, now Palermo, in Sicily, by Caius' great-grandfather, Lucius Caecilius Metellus, over Hasdrabal, B. C. 250, in which 120 elephants were taken, and were afterwards conveyed to Rome on rafts, to adorn the triumph of Metellus (Liddell, 275).

(2) *Obv.* ROMA Head of Rome, helmeted, to the right, before it, X.

Rev. M-METELVS-Q-F., equivalent to "Marcus Metellus, Quinti Filius," that is, *Son of Quintus*. This legend encompasses a Macedonian or circular shield, in the middle of which is an elephant's head; the whole surrounded by a laurel wreath.

Struck by M. Caecilius Metellus, third son of Q. C. Metellus Macedonicus who, enjoyed a triumph for conquering Andrisæus or Pseudo-Philippus, B. C. 149 (Lidd. 477).

The two last named coins are common and cheap. Have we proved in regard to them, as well as to others, that their investigation rewards the labor and requires no wonderful amount of learning.

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Granby or Higley Copper; obverse, a deer facing left within a circle, "Value me as you please;" reverse, three hammers crowned, "I am good copper; 1737;" good condition; very rare. \$25 50.

Granby or Higley Copper; obverse, like the last; reverse, a broad axe, "I cut my way through;" good condition; extremely rare. \$12 50.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; weak impression, but uncirculated, scarce. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; negro head, scarce. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; large head; the best cut die of any of these pieces, very fine and scarce. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; bust in armor, head laureated; fine. 25 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; very fine, differs from any of the preceding. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785; quite unlike any other variety, the die broken; very fine. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1785. 25 cents.

Connecticut Cents, 1785; a selection of seven pieces, no duplicates, and all in good condition. 30 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; large head, facing right; reverse, "Et Lib Inde." This variety, quite unlike the following, is very rare. \$1.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; bust facing right; reverse, "Et Lib. Inde;" the ordinary type, good, scarce. 30 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; large, round head, facing right; a scarce variety. 38 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; grotesque head, facing left; fine and a rare variety. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; obverse, like the last, but reverse from a different die; good, scarce. 75 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; large bust, facing left; very fine. \$1 75.

Connecticut Cent, 1786; a selection of four varieties, one Et Lib. Inde; all good. 25 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; projection from the bust resembling a horn; very fine. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; ordinary type, uncirculated. \$2 12.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; reverse, "Et Lib. Inde; on extra large planchet, fine and scarce. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; "Et Lib. Inde;" small size, fine. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; "Auctopi;" very fine, scarce. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; "Auctopi;" from another die. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; broken die; fracture extending entirely across the head; fine. 38 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; laughing head, uncirculated. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; "Inde et Lir;" uncirculated; scarce. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; uncirculated, the letters unusually large. \$1 50.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; in perfect condition, portions still bright, and a very fine, sharp impression; rare. \$2 12. *

Connecticut Cent, 1786, "Auctori Connfe;" very fine and scarce. 87 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; another variety, with Connfe; fine and scarce. 65 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; Inde et Lir.; unlike the other, good and scarce. 75 cents.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

Paper money continued to be the chief instrument in the hands of Government. The press was kept in perpetual motion. Printers who labored at it obtained an exemption from militia duty. Ragged and torn notes were replaced, and bills of every denomination were issued in millions.

The form of those bills, as settled by Congress, was thus:

CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

No.

Dollars

This bill entitles the bearer to receive _____ Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of Congress.

On each bill was stamped a rudely printed emblem, with a Latin motto, amounting in number to twenty. Those devices and pithy sentences are said to have been composed by Benjamin Franklin and Charles Thompson, aided by the Latinist of the Continental Congress.

Those mottoes, placed opposite to each denomination of the bills, are as follows :

1 Dollar.	Depressa Resurgit.
2 "	Tribulatio Ditat.
3 "	Exitus in dubio est.
4 "	Aut Mors, aut vita Decora.
5 "	Sustine vul Abstine.
6 "	Perseverando.
7 "	Serenabit.
8 "	Majora Minoribus consonant.
20 "	Vi concitatæ.
30 "	Si recte facies.
30 "	(On the reverse) Cessante vento conquies cemus.
35 "	Hinc opes.
40 "	The only English motto—"Confederation," except on the bills of a fractional part of a dollar.
45 "	Sic floret Respublica.
50 "	Perennis.
55 "	Post Nubila Phœbus.
60 "	Deus regnat Exultet Terra.
65 "	Fiat Justitia.
70 "	Quadrennium Sustinuit, Vim Procellarum.
80 "	Florscebit et in secula Seculorum.

Eighty was the highest denomination issued.

On the small bills, of one third, one half and two thirds of a dollar, "Fugio" was the Latin motto, and in English, "Mind your business."

Decorated with these fine maxims, Congress sent forth this cheap defence of the nation, with a recommendation to the Legislatures of the States not only to make the bills a lawful tender in payment of public and private debts, but, in case of refusal to receive them, to declare such refusal an extinguishment of the debt.

They were requested, likewise, to stop the emission of their own State paper, and to adopt the Congressional currency for a circulating medium.

Conventions, to consist of four or five adjacent States, were, moreover, designated by Congress as necessary, in order to regulate the price of labor, manufactories, country produce, and all imported goods, as well as the charges of inn-holders, and to enact suitable laws to empower the commissaries of the army to take from forestallers, engrossers and others who might have a larger supply than their families required, all such articles for government use as were wanted, and at such cost as the law thus enacted should fix. The price of provisions, and of everything needed by the army, was to be settled also in this arbitrary way; and all for the purpose, say Congress, of checking "a spirit of sharpening and extortion, and the rapid and excessive rise of everything."

(To be continued.)

GEN. LAFAYETTE'S WATCH.

A GIFT FROM GEN. WASHINGTON TO GEN. LAFAYETTE DISCOVERED IN A
PAWNBROKER'S SHOP.

We extract from a Nashville journal the following interesting account of the finding of a watch presented to Gen. Lafayette by Gen. Washington, and stolen from him during his visit to this country, forty-five years ago.

While the Revolutionary war was going on, there lived in Philadelphia a Switzer, named Weitzel, a watchmaker by trade, a man of great ingenuity and inventive genius. Having a great admiration for Gen. Washington, he constructed a watch with peculiar care, which, having placed in a valuable gold case, he presented to Gen. Washington, with instructions to present it to any man he might find who deserved more of the American people than himself. Gen. Washington carried the watch until the efforts of Gen. Lafayette had impressed him with the value and distinguished character of the man, and believing that he had found the man designated by Weitzel in his instructions, he compelled Gen. Lafayette to accept the watch. Gen. Lafayette carried the watch until his return to this country, in 1825, when, as the guest of a grateful free people, he made a tour through the country, receiving everywhere the plaudits and welcome of a people of whose history he had written the brightest page. While pursuing his triumphal journey, he arrived at Nashville, and while at that city, receiving the congratulations of the citizens of Tennessee, the watch was stolen. Every effort possible was made to recover it; the papers throughout the whole country advertised it; large rewards were offered, and the detective officers in all the cities were on the alert to recover the watch. But in spite of all that was done at the time, the watch was not found, and in time the matter was forgotten.

Not many days since, in a Western city, a watch exposed for sale in the window of a pawnbroker attracted much attention from people passing by its peculiar make and value. One day, an old gentleman, passing the window, saw the watch, and, on looking at it closely became satisfied that he knew something about it, stepped into the shop and requested the pawnbroker to let him examine it. This was readily granted. After a moment, the old gentleman exclaimed, "This was Gen. Lafayette's watch, presented to him by Gen. Washington, and stolen from him on his visit to this country in 1825. I know it from the description published at that time." The pawnbroker was astonished to hear this, and proceeded at once to exculpate himself by assuring the gentleman that he did not have the slightest suspicion that it was stolen property; he had loaned some money upon it to a young girl who was in great distress, and who represented that it was a family relic which had been given her by her mother. The old gentleman insisted that the girl should be produced; he wanted to hear her story himself. He was much excited, remarked that he was

one of the marshals that arranged the procession to receive the great guest on the day the watch was stolen, and his honor, as well as that of every man then living in the nation, was involved. The pawnbroker said nothing was easier, as the girl, who danced at some place of entertainment, occupied a room in the next house, and if the gentlemen would walk back and take a seat, he would send for the girl. The old gentleman took the proffered seat, and in a few minutes the girl came in. She looked weak and feeble, though young, and when questioned about the watch did not evince the least want of composure, but without hesitation proceeded to give in answer to questions the following narrative: She was born among the mountains of East Tennessee, and when she was about eight years old her parents removed to Memphis, where they remained three years; then they went to St. Louis, where they lived until both her parents died—her father died first, and about one year after her mother died. The watch had been in the possession of her father all her life; she could recollect seeing it in her youth distinctly; that her father, when importuned to sell it by visitors, invariably resisted, saying that it had been in his family many years, he having received it on the death of his father, with positive instructions not to sell or dispose of it, but to keep it in the family; her mother had charged her not to sell it, but keep it. She was then saving money to redeem the watch; would not have pawned it, but a severe fit of sickness had reduced her to such straits that she was obliged to resort to the watch to raise money for absolute necessaries to sustain life. The old gentleman heard the girl's story with astonishment, and being satisfied from her manner that she told the truth, he felt convinced that the theft of the watch was still a mystery—or, at least, it would be impossible after so many years to learn who committed the robbery.

It is creating some excitement to know what disposition shall be made of this interesting relic, with its singular history. To whom can it be given? Who should properly be its custodian? Is there any heir of Gen. Lafayette who can legally claim it? Or should the United States Government come forward, pay charges, and place it in the Patent Office Museum with other relics of the great men of a former generation.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALES.

Our ninth and tenth coin sales were brought to a successful and satisfactory issue on the 21st and 22d ult. The first of the sales was remarkable in the number of spectators. At one time there were not less than two hundred persons present at the sale. The coins, with a few exceptions, were not remarkably rare nor fine, and with this fact in view we can safely assert the sale was a success. Our tenth sale was also well attended and the prices obtained liberal in the extreme. This sale ended the long series of public sales of coin collections which characterized the year 1869.

THE WELSH COIN SAID TO HAVE BEEN FOUND IN THE GIANT'S BED.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Dec. 10, 1869.

In relation to the copper coin said to have been found among the loose dirt thrown up from the bed of the excavation where the "Cardiff Giant" was found, allow me to give a description of a coin in my possession, which I think is the same thing:

Obverse—A head in profile. "Jestyn-ap-Gwrgan—Tywysog Morganwg, 1091."

Reverse—A figure of Britannia, with spear and shield, sitting on a globe, pointing to a ship at a distance; behind her a crown on a pedestal, and olive branch. Y Brenhin-ar-Gyfraith. 1795."

Edge—"Glamorgan Halfpenny."

This is nothing more nor less than an English token or Glamorgan halfpenny—South Wales—struck in 1795. They can be obtained in this country and in London in almost proof condition. It may be that the "Cardiff Giant" was a Welshman and the coin found was his last "red," but, previous to 1795, I should not connect them together. I give you this information for what it is worth, not wishing to spoil a good story, or deduct from the value of the coin, which would be worth, in good condition, twenty-five cents.

Yours, respectfully,

C. P. NICHOLS.

AN AMUSING COIN SALE.

On the 17th of December, and the following day, there was sold in New York a collection of coins, comprising 1958 lots—copper and silver, foreign and American—the cataloguing of which must have forced a smile, even from our impetuous and somewhat irate friend, Mr. Cogan. It was a rich treat to receive and read the catalogue. What must have been the fun and excitement attendant upon the actual sale of such a conglomeration of unmitigated trash as the 1958 lots presented? Oh! how we pity the compiler of that catalogue. How his patience and equanimity of temper must have been tried as he waded through the repetitions of conditions from "poor" to "rascally poor!" To show our readers the ingenious twists and remarkably large number of degrees of comparison friend Cogan has added to our simple-minded Lindley Murray's definitions of a little bit of an adjective, we reproduce a few of the most amusing terms so profusely peppered throughout this enjoyable condiment of a catalogue: "poor," "very poor," "unusually poor," "very poor indeed," "miserably poor," "exceedingly poor," "extremely poor," "still poorer," "wretchedly poor," "rather poor," "poor impression," "decidedly poor," "poorer still." After all this severe handling of the diminutive adjective, friend Cogan loses his patience, and on number 1716 he comes down with vindictive emphasis and says, "rascally poor." This rather poor collection realised the sum of \$205 net. What a wonder!

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LEX, PHILADELPHIA.—Your clock has knocked "time" out of our calculations regarding the inventions or discoveries of Galileo. We give our readers the benefit of your remarks: "I am aware that popular belief is divided between Galileo and Huyghens as to introducing the pendulum; but, whoever was the inventor, I can furnish ocular demonstration that neither of them is entitled to that credit. I have in my possession a portable brass clock, with pendulum movement, made in 1566; and Galileo was born in 1564, and Huyghens not till 1629. My clock is very similar in appearance to the "Annie Boleyn clock," as represented under the head of Horology in Chambers' Cyclopaedia; and it is a remarkable fact that, with the exception of the engraving, these usually voluminous authors dismiss that clock without a single comment as to its maker or the date of its construction. The history of my clock is exceedingly romantic, but is far too lengthy to be presented at present. Suffice it to say that it originally belonged to Mary Queen of Scots; and as the subject of ancient clocks seems lately to have attracted considerable public attention, I purpose depositing mine, at no distant period, in some public place, where it can be seen and examined by the curious in such matters. Meantime, I give you my real name and address, which you are at liberty to furnish to any one having immediate curiosity to gratify.

S. M., JR., BOSTON.—Mr. S. S. Crosby, of your city, is engaged on a work giving the history and peculiarities of the colonial coins of this country. The history of pattern pieces was interrupted in consequence of the information given us that R. C. Davis, Esq., of Philadelphia, was preparing a full and complete history of the experimental and pattern issues of the United States Mint. Our medal list is not yet completed, but will receive early attention in the present volume.

EYES RIGHT, NEW YORK.—Engravers and die-sinkers, of course, have a knowledge of tooling and cutting coins. If they are not experts, where shall we find them? If a lump of copper is electrotyped upon the centre of a coin, of sufficient thickness to cut a horse's head, the ring of the piece is materially affected; but if a thin coating is evenly deposited thereon, the ring of the piece will produce the same sound as the original coin.

B. B., RICHMOND.—We have no back numbers, excepting a few in 1868 and 1869. Our first volume is valued at \$10, the second at \$5 and third at \$2. We only print enough for original subscribers, and all persons subscribing after the 1st of February cannot expect to get the January number.

NUMIS, CAMDEN.—Most of our patrons bind the covers in the volumes of our journal, thus dispensing with a title page. An index would cover too much ground with each volume. We propose publishing supplementary leaves at some future time, combining title pages with index to each volume. Have patience.

A. N. S., NEW YORK.—In the language of Shakspeare and Horace Greeley, the article in the *New York Tribune* concerning our sale of November, in New York, was a tissue of unmitigated, unwarranted, unparalleled *black lies* from beginning to end. A certain *pretended friend* of ours in New York has written and spoken so nearly akin to the *Tribune's* remarks that we think we smell a fair sized rat; and if this blustering Iago does not cease his intimations, we shall speak out more plainly and give a few chapters of his career in New York. Parties who have received intimations of a "put up sale" will know the miscreant who pens the infamous and libelous communications without seeing his address in full in our columns.

L. T. P., CHICAGO.—All communications on coin or stamp business should be addressed to this office. We have no other firm nor office but Mason & Co., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia. If we remove, ample notice will be given.

S. M. C. A., ST. LOUIS.—A set of U. S. Cents, without rare dates, is worth, in common condition, \$3 50 to \$5. Including rare dates, \$8 to \$50. An uncirculated set is worth about \$1000.

L. M., TROY.—Beware of bright pennies of old dates. Buy them as restrikes, but not as originals. We can send 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819 (large and small dates) and 1820 U. S. Cents for 25 cents each, or fair ones for 2 cents each.

P. R. T., MONTREAL.—The "naked bust" Washington piece is next in value to the 1804 dollar, it having realised at auction \$480.

R. C., WASHINGTON.—Have replied to yours of recent date and alluded to your request editorially.

S. T., ALBANY.—No one should make unfair use of individual names found in our magazine.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

This number of our journal is increased from twelve to sixteen pages, and if our hopes of the future are realised it will not be long before the illustrations of our country's interesting coinage, and the ancient coinage of the old world, will be fully represented. All of our patrons to whom we mail the January number are earnestly requested to subscribe before the fifteenth of next month, and thus secure a complete volume. Back numbers will not be reserved for dilatory subscribers.

THE MICKLEY SALE.

The catalogue of this sale, which has from time to time appeared in our columns, will be completed in a few more numbers, and those of our subscribers who are not fortunate enough to possess a Mickley catalogue, will be pleased to know that the entire series of American coins, medals, etc., as possessed by J. J. Mickley, Esq., with their value, can be found in our journal, and will eventually make this magazine a valuable work for reference.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

By reference to the advertisement on the cover, it will be seen that the valuable collection of James B. Longacre (deceased), late of the United States Mint, consisting of rare silver and copper United States pattern pieces, medals, works on art, paintings, proof engravings, etc., will be sold about the 21st of January, due notice of which will be given by catalogues, to be forwarded to such of our subscribers as are interested in the sale. The sale will take place at Thomas & Sons' spacious auction rooms, Nos. 139 and 141 South Fourth Street, in this city. As Mr. Longacre was for many years the engraver at the United States Master Mint, our readers can be assured that the coins and medals offered in this sale will be choice and valuable specimens.

CORRESPONDENCE.

GENTS:—Could you not commence your new volume by reproducing some essential information contained in previous ones? For instance, why not commence and give a statement of the issues in different years—giving dollars to three cent pieces, patterns and copper, nickel and bronze pieces. It would undoubtedly add to the circulation of the Magazine, for *new* subscribers cannot often afford to buy up back volumes. I wish you would do this. R. C.

[What say our readers about this matter? Ed.]

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Dec. 16. 1869.

MASON & Co.:—GENTS.—We shall have fourteen subscribers to your magazine for 1870. C. P. NICHOLS.

[Good for Springfield! Ed.]

UNIQUE PUBLICATION.

Bachelor Bros., a couple of waggish numismatists, have conceived the idea of publishing a newspaper devoted to the interests of that unfortunate class yeapt "old maids" and "old bachelors." Having had a peep at the advanced sheets, we predict a rich treat for the lonely bipeds among our readers who have the misfortune to be "left out in the cold," these long winter evenings. Terms, \$1 per annua. See advertisement on the cover.

PRESTO! CHANGE!

We have concluded to change the style of our printed pages from double to single columns, by which we avoid the constant necessity of dividing words. The present style is more convenient for the reader and we think presents a neater appearance generally.

SUBSCRIBE NOW.

We again solicit early notice of renewed subscriptions, as we shall not print extra copies, and will not be able to fill orders for back numbers after February.

A CURIOUS COIN.

A great rarity in the shape of coins has lately been sold at Paris, namely, a silver one struck off at Breslau in 1761. Among the persons employed at the time in the mint was an Austrian, who, out of hatred to Frederick II, of Prussia, who had taken possession of Silesia by right of conquest, conceived the idea of revenging himself on that monarch in the following manner: The motto on the coin, "Ein reichs thaler" (A crown of the kingdom), he had divided in such a manner as to make it read, "Ein reich stabler" (He stole a kingdom). The king ordered these insulting coins to be all melted down, but some few of them still exist.

WANTED.

January, February, March, April and November numbers of our magazine, 1867; June and December numbers, 1868; January, April, June, and August numbers, 1869. We will enter any person as a subscriber for 1870 sending us a first, second, or third volume.

PLEASING NEWS.

From every portion of the country we have the joyful intelligence that our list of subscribers is to be greatly increased during the present year.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

THE NEW ISSUE UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS.

It is not generally known that nearly all the postage stamps made for the country are manufactured in New York, in the upper stories of Cooper Union, by the National Bank Note Company. More than four hundred millions were last year sent thence, and very few were stolen in process of manufacture. In answer to the complaint of the public in general with regard to the quality of the sticking gum used in the last issue of stamps, the company begs leave to explain that the trouble arises from the supersalivary use made of them by that public. The gum is just as adhesive as that formerly used, but is of so light a color that people suspect none is on, and moisten it too much. That's what's the matter. The designs of some new postage stamps having been decided upon, the company will very shortly prepare the plates from which they are to be printed. The smaller denominations will probably be ready by the first of February. Changes have been made in some of the busts of public characters. Hamilton, for instance, is presented without his pigtail, which has been for so many years his honored appendage on postage stamps; and Jackson is left out in the cold, so to speak, for he is denuded of that historical coat which has swathed his figure for a time beyond the memory of the oldest post office Vet. Those who have seen the new designs pronounce them superior to the present postal frauds, both the color and execution of which are so offensive.

THE STAMP'S LAMENT.

I am a little Postage Stamp,
 And not unknown to fame—
 Through every clime, both dry and damp,
 I bear my country's name ;
 And any one who looks, can see
 My gracious Sovereign smile on me.

And yet withal I'm badly used :
 No matter *what* I do,
 It seems that I must be abused,
 And you would think so too ;
 Should I but tell of many a scene
 Of violence through which I've been.

When I was born, I was a twin,
 And I had brothers many,
 But I've been torn from all my kin,
 Of *all* remain not any ;
 And he who took me from my friends,
 He "licked" me well to make amends.

He "sticked" me on an envelope,
 I fell down a dark place—
 For me, another fiend did grope,
 And struck me in the face ;
 So hard the blow his hand did give,
 I shall be black while I shall live.

Then I was thrust into a bag,
 'mong letters large and small,
 And knocked about nor let to lag—
 I'm just alive—that's all !
 But stamp collectings all the rage ;
 I may find rest on album's page.—*Postman's Knock.*

THE NEW UNITED STATES POST OFFICE STAMPS.

Some of our friends smiled incredulously when we claimed an influence, through this journal, in causing the proposed change in the postage stamps in present use from little blue locomotives and funny postboys to the representation of our distinguished patriots and statesmen, whose profiles are to do honor to our postage system. Several of our most famous Philadelphia collectors are members of the Union League, and they are subscribers to our journal, and have agreed with our remarks in burlesquing the stamps now in use. Read what the League says: "In the early part of the summer a single point of public interest invited and received the attention of the Board. The banishment of the heads of Washington and

Jackson from the postage stamps most in use, and the remarkable substitution of the representations of a locomotive engine and a mounted postboy in their places, had been publicly criticized in the League with great dissatisfaction and regret, and subsequently the subject was brought directly to the attention of the Board. In such an unworthy change we were satisfied the administration of President Grant had taken no part. The new stamps had been prepared by the contractors under President Johnson. A committee was appointed to communicate to the Postmaster General what the Board believed to be the general feeling in the League on the subject, and such a representation was accordingly made. The miscarriage of this letter appears to have deprived the Board of the receipt of the Postmaster General's acknowledgment of our communication. We learn, however, that the memorial of the committee was received, and its suggestions carefully considered. We have reason to suppose that our views coincided with those of the Postmaster General, as we have the satisfaction to learn that new dies are now in preparation and five profile and five full-face heads of Washington, Hamilton, Franklin, Jackson and Lincoln are to be substituted for the ten denominations of stamps, and that the present stamps are to be withdrawn as soon as possible."

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—The Post Office Department has accepted designs for the new series of stamps to supply Randall's nondescripts. We expect to see the thing announced after the manner of the merchants now-a-days somewhat as follows :

THE HOLIDAYS!

GREAT INDUCEMENTS IN PICTURES!

J. A. J. CRESSWELL,

Post Office Building, Washington, will offer in a few days, on behalf of Uncle Sam, a choice list of

NATIONAL PORTRAITS,

embracing some of the most distinguished statesmen and heroes of our history, and at prices which defy competition.

OUR TWO CENT DEPARTMENT

includes portraits of Andrew Jackson, the hero of New Orleans, after a bust by Powers.

OUR THREE CENT DEPARTMENT

is made up of heads of George Washington, father of his country, etc., after portraits by Houdon.

OUR SIX CENT DEPARTMENT

shows handsome profiles of Abraham Lincoln, after Volk's bust. None cheaper in the market.

OUR TEN CENT DEPARTMENT

contains portraits of Thomas Jefferson, author of the glorious Declaration of Independence, founder of several political parties, etc., after a bust by Powers.

OUR FIFTEEN CENT DEPARTMENT

is devoted entirely to Daniel Webster, the expounder of the Constitution, counsel in the gutta percha case, etc. Very choice and warranted adhesive.

OUR TWENTY-FOUR CENT DEPARTMENT

consists of steel portraits of General Winfield Scott, whose hasty plate of soup will go down to posterity; very seasonable.

OUR THIRTY CENT DEPARTMENT

presents Alexander Hamilton, the Jay Cooke of early Federal times, and whose early and melancholy demise prevented his being photographed by Brady; very rare.

OUR NINETY CENT DEPARTMENT

is enriched with accurate likenesses of Oliver Hazard Perry, who, like Fisk, won his fame on Erie; limited edition of choice proof impressions.—*Chicago Post*.

BELGIUM.—This kingdom begins the new year with an entirely new series, consisting of the following values and colors:

1 centime, arms, green.	10 centime, head, green.
2 do do blue.	20 do do blue.
3 do do amber.	30 do do amber.
6 do do carmine.	40 do do carmine.
8—do do violet.	1 franc, do violet.

The design of the arms series is as follows: In the upper part of the stamp are the national arms surmounted by a crown, with the motto in a scroll below, "L' UNION FAIT LA FORCE." The Belgium lion again appears in the lower part, reposing on a tablet, bearing the simple inscription, "Belgique." In the centre, an oval containing the value. The higher values bear the head of King Leopold II.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—The Stamp Collectors' Magazine has received copies of the three values for this State, viz.:

- 1 (een) penny rose.
- 6 (zes) pence, blue.
- 1 (een) shilling, chrome green.

PERU.—The same magazine also learns from *Le Timbrophile* that a yellow 1 peso stamp, which was engraved at New York, is now in circulation.

HINTS TO AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS.

Henry Ward Beecher lately replied as follows to an autograph seeker:

BROOKLYN, Nov. 24, 1869.

Your request for an autograph finds me in the deacon's spirit, who declined his pastor's request that he should "lead in prayer." When expostulated with and told that he "had the gifts, and could pray," he replied that "he knew he could pray, but he always hated to."

I so dislike autographing that I neglect all letters on that subject, and I answer yours only for charity's sake.

I am, truly, yours,

HENRY WARD BEECHER.



MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

FEBRUARY, 1870.

No. 2.

ANCIENT COINS IN THE CABINET OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

We present our patrons this month with a plate, representing some of the interesting ancient coins in the cabinet of the United States Mint, in this city:

No. 1. Denarius. This piece was struck by Lucretius, A. V. C. (i. e. in the year from the foundation of Rome) 535, or thereabouts, corresponding to B. C. 218.

No. 2. Denarius of Augustus. R. Civic crown. S. P. Q. R. (Senatus Populus que Romanus)—OB CIVIS SERVATOS. Augustus died A. D. 14.

No. 3. Silver coin of Valerius Maximianus. Died A. D. 310. The type represents the gateway of the camp of the Pratorian guards.

No. 4. An aureus of Nicephorus II and Basil II, emperors at Constantinople from A. D. 965 to 969.

No. 5. A didrachma of Corinth, struck prior to the capture of that city by the Romans under the Consul Mummius, B. C. 144.

No. 6. A coin of Neapolis, in Macedonia. The type represents the mask worn by actors on the ancient stage.*

No. 7. A coin of Menander, King of Bactria, of uncertain date. The coins of the Bactrian dynasty were first brought to light by the British during the Sikh war.

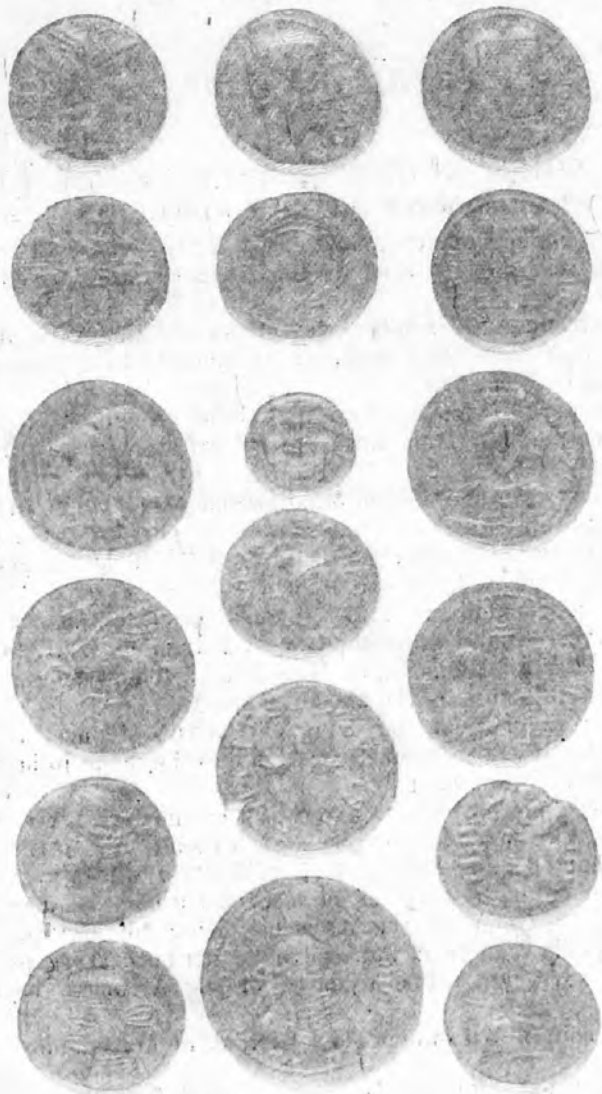
No. 7. These pieces present a remnant of the Greek civilization introduced by Alexander the Great in his expedition into India. It is probable that the first Greek King of Bactria was a satrap, left behind by the conqueror when he commenced his homeward march.

Nos. 8 and 9. Coins of the Arsacidae, Kings of Parthia. The absence of legends renders it impossible to attribute these pieces to any specified sovereign. The dynasty of the Arsacidae began to reign about B. C. 200.

No. 10. A coin of Alexander III, or Great, of Macedonia. B. C. 333-324.

No. 11. A shekel. The reverse only is given. It bears a triple *ly*, with the legend, which translated signifies, Jerusalem ha

*Vide Eckhel, Tom. II, p. 72.



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No. 11. A shekel. The reverse only is given. It bears a triple lily, with the legend, which translated signifies, Jerusalem ha

Kedoshah—Jerusalem the holy. These pieces were struck in the time of the Maccabees. The legend is in the Samaritan character. All coins bearing the square Hebrew letters are forgeries.

No. 12. A coin of Artaxerxes I, King of Persia, of the dynasty of the Sassanidæ. He reigned from A. D. 226 to A. D. 240. The legend is in Sassanian characters. The reverse of this piece (not given in the plate) gives a view of the ancient ceremonies of the fire worshippers, restored by the Sassanidæ.

WOOD HALF PENNIES AND FARTHING.

COLLATED BY JOHN W. HASELTINE.

(Concluded.)

As a sample of the ballads which Swift issued, and which were received with immense applause by the excited populace, we may furnish the following:

Here are some verses from "Will Wood's petition to the people of Ireland," being "an excellent song," supposed to be made and sung in the streets of Dublin, by William Wood, iron-monger and half-penny monger :

"My dear Irish folks,
Come leave off your jokes,
And buy up my half-pence so fine :
So fair and so bright,
They will give you delight :
Observe how they glisten and shine.

"When tradesmen have gold,
The thief will be bold
By night and by day for to rob him :
My copper is such
No robber will touch,
And so you may daintily bob him."

"The half-pence are coming, the nation's undoing ;
There's an end of your ploughing, and baking and brewing ;
In short, you must all go to rack and to ruin,
Which nobody can deny."

On an ignorant and excitable people, the effect of this style of address was amazing. It was followed up by a series of letters called "the Dranier's letters."

When the Government published the result of the examination at the mint, he boldly treated it as a farce. When it declared that no one should be compelled to take this money unless he liked, that the Government's object was not compulsion, but accommodation, he more than insinuated that this was all pretence, that Government and its officers would find means of compelling its acceptance in payment.

The Government, to remove the clamor, reduced the amount to be issued from one hundred and eight thousand pounds to forty thousand pounds, and proposed that no more than five-pence half-penny should be a legal tender at one payment. No matter; the unscrupulous Swift raised an alarm lest the King should agree to take his Irish taxes in this copper, so as to bring it into circulation. Now the taxes amounted to four hundred thousand pounds, and only forty thousand pounds' worth of copper was to be minted; so that the folly of such a suggestion as forty thousand pounds paying ten times that amount was too palpable to escape any but the most frantic factionists, but it escaped the Irish.

In the Drapier's letters, Swift had called on the public to issue a declaration binding themselves not to take Wood's money; and many persons of station and property did so, and called on their tenants also to refuse it.

The new Lord Lieutenant, Carteret, landed amid this tempest. The fury and tumult were indescribable. All parties, Catholics and Protestants, Whigs, Tories, Orangemen and Rapparees, were equally frantic. The merchants to whom the coin had been assigned would not receive it, and publicly announced that they had nothing to do with it. The shopkeepers refused it, declaring that such wretched stuff would neither procure them news, ale, tobacco nor brandy. Wood's effigy was dragged through the streets of Dublin and then burned. Lord Carteret and the privy council published a proclamation, offering a reward of £300 for the discovery of the author of "The Drapier's letters."

The upshot was that the Government was compelled to withdraw the copper coinage.

Wood was indemnified to the extent of three thousand pounds a year, for twelve years.

THE NEW UNITED STATES SILVER PATTERN COINS. FIFTY, TWENTY-FIVE AND TEN CENT PIECES.

The plan of this coinage is briefly indicated in the recent annual report of the Director of the Mint. It might interest our readers to present it in detail, although it would be impracticable to state all the arguments urged by those in favor of the change in our silver coinage. The following are its main features:

First. To reduce the present weight.

Second. To make a close limit of legal tender.

Third. To limit the amount of issue.

It is also proposed to keep this coinage in good condition by recalling the pieces when too much worn or defaced, and reissuing pieces of full weight in their stead, without loss to the depositor.

The advocates of this measure claim that, by this change of legal weight, the Mint can proceed at once to supply the country with a fractional currency of silver, in place of paper, without delaying for

the resumption of gold payments. They also claim, by such reduction in weight, hoarding and exportation would be prevented, and that in the future the people would not be deprived by war, panic, or gold suspension of their change, as has been the case three times within the memory of many. These silver coins would be equally current whether gold was at par with paper money or at a premium say of from 20 to 25 per cent: their value for payments depending on statute, and not on the price of bullion. Our present silver coinage under the dollar, considered as bullion, is also below the gold value; yet not enough to keep them now in circulation and out of the melting pot and exporters' hands. How much the reduction should be is an open question. These specimens given weigh respectively 154, 77, and about 31 grains, which is four-fifths ($\frac{4}{5}$) of the present standards, *while they are of equal purity*. This last sentence is emphasized, as many persons have been misled respecting the proposed coinage, by reading or hearing that it was an attempt to *debase* our coinage. The standard fineness remains the same as at present; the standard weight is reduced, as was done by act of Congress in 1853. To the eye the pieces look as large as our present silver coins, the difference in diameter being very trifling—in the half dollar one (1) millimetre, in the quarter dollar one and one half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) millimetres, and in the dime one (1) millimetre less in diameter.

Small change is one of the necessities of civilized life, and nothing is so well adapted to this use as silver. Fractional currency in paper soon becomes dirty, ragged and worn out, so that it has to be called in every few months to be reprinted. No other country has such a currency. The convenience of the people in procuring the new coin would be complete. Instead of sending silver to obtain the coins, all that would be necessary would be to deposit greenbacks at the Mint, or at any agency designated by law, and receive in return the silver change. The Mint cannot indeed make ingots out of paper, but with the paper it will manage to replenish its stock of bullion. It is claimed that by a strict adherence to the second and third points named, viz.: making a close limit of legal tender, and limiting the amount of issue, these coins may be kept from any possible depreciation—say make the limit of the former not above two or three dollars in any one payment, and the latter limited within the absolute requirements of the people. Under these restrictions the storekeeper would never find them accumulating on his hands; on the contrary, the demand upon him would require him to pay them out as fast as received. When a profit is derived from the coinage it becomes the positive duty of Government to keep the currency in good condition. England and Germany now act upon this assumption, although in this country it has never been done in our silver coinage. The public should not be annoyed, as in former times, with smooth, illegible pieces. To avoid this would not require a recoinage more than once in twenty or thirty years. The advocates of this coinage argue that gold is the only unchanging standard of value the world over, and

that silver is only used for the purposes of change, or manufacturing, and therefore no country, no matter what its situation may be financially, should be without a currency in silver, to meet the requirements of the people for change. They also argue that there is now, and will continue to be, an ample product of silver from our own mines, which had better be employed at home than sent abroad; and that what remains of the present legal silver coins, being hoarded and lying idle, could quickly be brought into use by recoinage at the new rate. Nearly all of our silver coin has been drawn off to Canada, the West Indies, and South America, or else converted into bars of commerce in Europe, so that we are in the best possible condition for taking a fresh start, with a practicable standard. They also argue that the introduction of the new coinage would pave the way to a gradual and more certain resumption of gold payments, by accustoming the people to the daily use of a precious metal currency, thus establishing confidence, which is the great element in the accomplishment of the desired end. The views and arguments above mentioned, are presented that our readers may know upon what grounds this important change in our coinage is urged.

The fifty cent coins present on the obverse the head of Liberty, surrounded by the usual words "United States of America;" beneath the bust a label bearing the legend, "In God we trust;" reverse, Fifty Cents, the word cents slightly curved upward beneath the figure 50. Above the wreath the words "Standard Silver"—forming a semi-circle on the upper portion of the coin; date below, 1869. The reverse of the fifty cent, twenty-five cent and ten cent coins are alike; there are three varieties of obverse of each denomination, consisting of a difference in the formation of the Liberty heads; two of the latter have diagonal bands across the side of the head bearing the legend, Liberty; one has a helmet, bearing stars on the chaplet. There are nine varieties in the set (three of each denomination). Price of the set, \$15. All sets obtained from the mint after the present month will bear the date of 1870.

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

The lapidary divides the precious stones into ten principal grades, which we shall give in their respective order of hardness: 1. The Diamond. 2. The Sapphire, the Ruby. 3. The Topaz, the Emerald, the Amethyst. 4. The Carnelian, the Carbuncle, the Garnet, the Onyx, the Sardonyx, the Heliotrope, the Chrysolite, the Hyacinth, the Cat's-eye. 5. The Opal. 6. The Pearl. 7. The Turquoise. Under the 8, 9 and 10 grades are classed substances not falling under the denomination of Precious Stones, such as Amber, Coral, Lava,

Ivory, etc. The substance given under each of these grades will scratch all those substances classified under subsequent grades, and the ancients engraved them all save the Diamond, and the art of engraving that was discovered by Ambrosius Caradossa, A. D. 1500. We will now proceed with the consideration of the Diamond, the first in the above order.

The Diamond, by unanimous consent, is placed at the head of all gems, and this rank it has always held. It was named by the Greeks "adamant," from two words signifying "unconquerable." This title was given it from its hardness, it being then supposed indestructible in its atoms, though it might be reduced to atoms by the hammer or otherwise. But the magical electric current reduced this hardest of substances to mere gaseous products—though it had before that been somewhat volatilized in the focus of the great lens of Cosmo III, Grand Duke of Tuscany, in the middle of the seventeenth century. The degree of temperature required for its combustion is 5000 degrees Fahrenheit. It is just three and a half times as heavy as an equal bulk of water. Its refractive power exceeds that of any other body, and thus endows it with its extraordinary brilliancy. It seems, however, to incorporate light within itself, or to be phosphorescent, as it will at times emit rays of light of its own in total darkness. This light is oftener observed upon rubbing the stone with the finger, or with any silk, woolen or fur substance. It is a non-conductor of electricity, and is not acted upon by any solvent. The Diamond has never been found in rocks, as are all other minerals, but only in gravel and mud conglomerations in beds of rivers, in deep ravines on the slopes of mountains, and in cavities and water courses on the summits of (sometimes) the loftiest elevations; and hence it is believed to be the product of vegetable secretion. This supposition is confirmed by the results of the experiments upon it, which seem to demonstrate it to be pure crystalized carbon. The primitive form of the Diamond is the regular octohedron, or two four sided pyramids, whose sides are equilateral triangles, placed base to base. Diamonds are generally found nearly colorless and those that are entirely so are most esteemed. However, they have been found rose colored, yellow, blue, green, red, gray, brown and even black. But the latter are extremely rare. When colored, it is by the presence of some adventitious substance, as by the oxides of iron, manganese, nickel, chromium, etc. Those Diamonds which are only tinged with the various colors are of less value than those colored deeply.

The modes of testing the Diamond are various. The most convenient are submitting them to a white heat and rubbing them with a pointed Sapphire. They will undergo the former test without melting and the latter without being scratched; and the Sapphire is the second in the order of hardness as we have above stated, and will scratch every other substance but the Diamond.

Frequent attempts have been made to produce the Diamond through artificial chemical processes, but without the least success.

The two principal regions yielding the Diamond are portions of Hindostan and Brazil. At present, the latter country yields most of these gems, though the most celebrated now existing were produced by the former. We say celebrated, since, from the fact that Diamonds are the gems especially appropriated by monarchs and nobles, and the wealthiest of the people, many of them are subjects of historic fame. Indeed, more than once a large Diamond has affected the fate of an Asiatic kingdom.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

Amid all these coercive regulations, it could not but be obvious to every thinking man that the only cause of the derangement of the prices was the excessive issue of paper. In the year 1778, a very laudable effort was made to create a sinking fund, by establishing an annual tax of six millions of dollars for eighteen years. A committee was directed to prepare a plan that should specifically appropriate that sum to the extinguishment of the Continental debt. Yet very little confidence was placed in those good intentions, if we may judge by the rapid depreciation at this period; which, indeed, was such that Congress could no longer force the circulation at prescribed rates in reference to metallic money, and it was, therefore, resolved by that body, on the eighth of October, 1778, "that all limitation of prices of silver and gold be taken off."

The circular to the States, when the tax for the year 1779 was called for, is a very moving address, replete with ardent feelings, and contains, among other matters, the following in relation to paper money:

"Being in the outset at war, without arms or ammunition, without military discipline or permanent finances, without an established government or allies, enfeebled by habitual attachments to our very enemies, we were precipitated into all the expensive operations incident to a state of war, with one of the most formidable nations on earth; we, from necessity, embraced the expedient of emitting paper money on the faith of the United States; an expedient which had often been successfully practiced in separate colonies while we were subject to British dominion. Large issues were, of consequence, necessary, and the paper currency multiplied, of course, beyond what was required for the purpose of a circulating medium. To raise the value of our paper money, nevertheless, and to redeem it, will not, we are persuaded, be difficult. They only ask for time and patience, and fix on the first day of January, 1797, or about eighteen years, for the full payment of their debts."

A few months after, when the depreciation of the currency kept on

increasing, that illustrious Congress raised its voice again in the following appeal:

"America, almost totally stripped of commerce, and in the weakness of youth, as it were, with a staff and a sling only, dared, in the name of the Lord of Hosts, to engage a gigantic adversary prepared at all points, boasting of his strength, and of whom even mighty warriors 'were greatly afraid.' Our enemies, prosecuting the war by sea and land with implacable fury, taxation at home and borrowing abroad, in the midst of difficulties and dangers, were alike impracticable. Hence the necessity of new emissions."

The whole of this address, too long for insertion, is evincive of strong anxiety, but without despondency; on the contrary, it speaks throughout the language of patriotic firmness, never for a moment admitting a doubt of success. Neither does it attempt to disguise the appalling state of affairs. The naked truth is told, and a remedy proposed for every calamity. Among the numerous vexations which annoyed Congress, loud and frequent complaints refer to monopolizers and the prodigality of the inferior officers, both civil and military.

(*To be continued.*)

From Harper's New Monthly Magazine.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

A stranger in the Quaker City is naturally desirous of visiting the objects of particular interest, one of the greatest of which is the United States Mint. Philadelphians are rather proud of possessing the general Mint, and are a little anxious lest their rival, New York, should succeed in obtaining a branch, which would perform the great bulk of the work, as the United States Sub Treasury in that city in reality is the nation's banking house. Leaving our hotel, we walk up Chestnut Street, and between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets come to a fine, substantial, two-story marble building, entirely fire-proof, and inclosing within its quadrangular walls a spacious court yard.

Ascending the massive marble steps, we enter an airy hall, freshened by a gentle breeze which sweeps through into the Court-yard beyond. Between the hours of nine and twelve visitors are admitted, who are escorted about the building by gentlemanly conductors, of whom there are seven. Passing through the hall, on one side are the Weigh Rooms for bullion and the office of the Chief Clerk of the Treasurer, and on the other the offices of the Cashier and Treasurer.

We cross the paved court yard, spacious and orderly, with boxes piled neatly around, and stacks of copper and nickel ingots ready for rolling. The well-proportioned chimney, one hundred and thirty feet high—somewhat bullet marked by pistol practice of the night watchmen—towers above the surrounding roofs, which look low by contrast. Thus we are conducted into the melting, refining and assaying rooms; but having witnessed these processes in the New

York Assay Office, we will linger for a moment only to see the melter run the gold and silver, now reduced to standard quality, into ingots. The standard of nine-tenths fine gold is now adopted by all the principal nations of the world, except England and Russia.

The ingots are bars sharpened at one end like a chisel blade, and are about a foot long, three-fourths to two and a half inches broad, and half an inch thick, according to the coin to be cut from them. Continuing our walk through a short entry, we come to the Rolling Room.

Those massive machines are the rolling mills—four of them in a row, with their black heavy stanchions and polished steel rollers. The old man who runs this mill has been in the Mint nearly forty years, and young girls who came to see him work are now grandmothers, perhaps, with the tally of their good works marked on their foreheads, a virtue in every wrinkle; and he has gone on rolling out the ingots year after year, handling more gold in a twelve month than you and I shall see in all our lives. He has not tired of showing his machine to visitors, and caresses the surly old iron with a motherly pride and affection. He measures two ingots, and shows us they are of the same length; puts one of them between the rolls, just above the clock dial, chisel end first, and it is drawn slowly through. He measures it with the other ingot, and we see it has grown about an inch longer and correspondingly thinner. This is the "breaking down." But it is not yet thin enough; it must be rolled ten times if gold, or eight if silver, to reduce it sufficiently, occasionally annealing it to prevent its breaking. No wonder the rollers look bright, they breakfast on silver and dine on gold.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Connecticut Cent, 1787; large figures; fine; scarce. 38 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; punctuated with trefoils; rare; fine. \$1.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; fine; scarce. 87 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; AUCTORI CONNEC.; very fine. \$1.

Connecticut Cents, 1787; a selection of twenty pieces; good. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1787; AUCTORI CONNECT.; almost uncirculated; very rare. \$2 25.

Connecticut Cents, 1787; a selection of eleven varieties; good. 50 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; INDE. ET LIE.; uncirculated; very rare. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; struck over a Nova Constellatio; fine. \$1 25.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; uncirculated; scarce. 37½ cents.

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Connecticut Cent, 1788; the shield distinctly marked with three figures; very fine; scarce. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; struck over another coin; very fine. 25 cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; small round head; die broken. 37½ cents.

Connecticut Cent, 1788; large bust; very fine. 62 cents.

Connecticut Cents, 1788; eight pieces; good. 45 cents.

Puctori Plebis, 1787; reverse, INDEP. ET LIBER.; very fine; very rare. \$3 25.

George Clinton Copper, 1787; obverse, bust of George Clinton; reverse, arms of New York, with the motto EXCELSIOR; very fine; extremely rare. \$32 50.

Non Vi Virtute Vici, or New York Washington Cent; obverse, bust of Washington; reverse, Liberty seated, NEO EBORACENSIS, 1786; finest known; very rare. \$40.

New York Cent, 1787; eagle and stars, E PLURIBUS UNUM; reverse, arms of the State, with the motto, EXCELSIOR; eagle at the top; fine; very rare. \$11.

New York Cent, 1787; EXCELSIOR; same as the last, but with the eagle at the top of the shield; finer than the last and of the rarest variety. \$20.

New York Cent, 1787; Indian standing, with bow and tomahawk, LIBER NATUS LIBERTATEM DEFENDO; reverse, arms of the State of New York, with motto and date; very rare. \$90.

New York Cent, 1787; obverse, in design similar to the last, but from another die; reverse, an eagle standing on a portion of a globe, NEO. EBORACUS EXCELSIOR, with date; this variety of the Liber Natus is even rarer than the last, and being in about as fine condition, it is considered more valuable. \$80.

New York Cent; obverse, Indian standing; legend like the last two, LIBER NATUS LIBERTATEM DEFENDO; reverse, bust facing right, GEOR. III. REX; unique; uncirculated. \$36.

New York Cent, 1787; IMMUNIS COLUMBIA; Liberty seated on a globe; scarce. \$7.

New York Cent, 1787; NOVA EBORAC; fine; scarce. \$6.

New York Cent, 1787; NOVA EBORAC; rare; very good. \$2.

New York Cents, 1787; NOVA EBORAC; a pair, one facing right, the other left; the one to the right from a die distinctly different from the one last described; both fine. \$1 25.

New York Cent, 1787; goddess to the left; very good. \$1.

New York Cent, 1787; NOVA EBORAC; large head facing right; reverse, VIRT. ET LIB.; totally different from the other varieties; extremely rare. \$7 50.

New York Cent, 1794; obverse, like the last; reverse, "Birmingham Half Penny, 1793;" proof; rare. \$1 50.

New York Cent, 1795; Talbot, Allum & Lee; uncirculated; rare. \$1 50.

New York Cent, 1794; Talbot, Allum & Lee; proof; rare. \$2 25.

New York Cent, 1794; Talbot, Allum & Lee; very fine. \$1.

New York Cent, 1789; Mott's Token; scarce. \$2 25.

New York Piece; obverse, bust to right, NEW YORK; reverse, Liberty seated, COLONY OF; tin, of recent origin, but rare. \$1.

New York Cent, Church Penny; on the 4th of January, 1790, the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany "Resolved, that one thousand coppers be stamped *Church Penny*, and placed with the treasurer to exchange with members of the congregation, at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collection;" good condition and of great rarity. \$4.

(To be continued.)

THOMAS & SONS' COIN SALE.

THE LONGACRE COLLECTION.

The collection of coins, medals, etc., belonging to the estate of James B. Longacre (deceased), late of the United States Mint, was sold at public auction, by Messrs. Thomas & Sons, of this city, on Friday afternoon, January 21. A very respectable audience was present at this sale, and coins realized good prices, as follows:

1836 gold dollar; pattern piece; \$6.

1849 silver half dime; pattern piece; \$13.

1856 half cent; nickel; \$4 75.

1856 cent; nickel size, in copper, without date, \$5.

1857 quarter eagle; copper; \$3.

1858 Indian head cent, nickel; broad planchet, without date, \$8 25.

1860 half eagle; in copper; concave planchet; pattern piece; \$8 50; worth \$20.

1861; God our trust silver half dollar; \$31.

1863 ten cents; postage currency; pattern piece; \$6 50.

1866 five cents; copper; pattern piece; \$11.

1867 five cents; nickel; pattern piece; \$10.

1867 five cents; aluminum; pattern piece; \$6.

1867 five cents; copper; pattern piece; \$19.

1868 dime; aluminum; \$10.

1868 postage currency; one dime; aluminum; \$19.

Field medal in aluminum; \$26; this medal should have brought \$50, as but ten were struck, and no others will be issued in aluminum.

The metal alone in this medal cost the government \$12; lucky Cogan was the buyer.

Vanderbilt medal; copper; \$19.

1824 silver half dollar; medallions of Washington and Lafayette; a beautiful and very rare piece; sold for the small sum of \$11;

lucky Cogan was the buyer.

Set of English coinage, William IV; gold, silver and copper; \$72 50.

Set of French coinage, Napoleon III; gold, silver and copper; \$26.

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English medal, by Wyon; Queensland Pastoral Society; obverse, horse, bull, etc.; bronze proof; \$6. This medal was one of the choice pieces of the sale, and was highly esteemed by Mr. Longacre as a most beautiful specimen of Wyon's skill. The anatomy is very fine.

Adam Eckfeldt medal; silver; \$7.

Other medals sold very low. The plaster casts realised all they were worth. The sale was a success.

The valuable library of choice books on Art, profusely illustrated; also the very valuable collection of proof engravings and oil paintings belonging to the estate of James B. Longacre, deceased, will be sold early this month. Catalogues preparing.

ARMS, CRESTS AND MONOGRAMS.

The collection of crests and monograms is one of the most pleasing occupations that one could wish for a leisure hour. They form, when well selected and neatly arranged, a beautiful and attractive array of devices, legends and colors, many of them being embossed and highly colored, or richly emblazoned in gold and silver. The royal families of Europe, nobility of England, colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, etc., have their arms, while the ships of the line and regiments of the royal army have each their crest, many bearing devices appropriate to their names, as for instance: the crest of H. M.'s ship Reindeer, containing a representation of the reindeer; the crest of H. M.'s ship Simoon, which shows a caravan upon the desert—the camels kneeling upon the earth and the air filled with clouds of sand. The collector of stamps should have the crests and monograms of the rulers of the countries represented on the pages of his album, and those who are not stamp collectors could find no better mode of becoming acquainted with the names, titles and mottoes of the nobility of England and other countries than to form a collection of their crests and monograms. Being neither expensive nor rare, a good collection is within the reach of all.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW LONDON, CONN., Jan. 11, 1870.

GENTS:—Enclosed find \$1 50 for one copy of the Coin and Stamp Magazine for 1870. Willing to aid in giving it a circulation to the extent of my ability, and also wishing you an abundant success, I remain, yours,

DANIEL LEE.

[Many thanks for your kind aid. Will reciprocate all your intentions, if opportunity offers. Ed.]

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Jan. 13, 1870.

GENTS:—Enclosed please find \$1 50 for your magazine for the ensuing year. Accept my congratulations on the addition to its size and improved appearance of your January number.

Respectfully, yours,

A. S. F.

WOBURN, MASS., Jan. 1, 1870.

GENTS:—As you have so generously tried to please me, *one* of the subscribers to your excellent magazine, I can do no less than try to return the compliment by sending along my subscription money for the present year, which please find enclosed, and also my humble congratulations upon the healthy and improved appearance of the magazine. Concerning the remarks of R. C., in the January number, I must say that I, as a regular subscriber from the beginning, am not in favor of his proposition. I do not feel as if I could pay for the same thing twice, even if it be in a little different form. If the desired information is worth anything to anybody, it is worth paying for, and as the old subscribers have once paid for it, it is no more than right that the new ones should do the same thing; not that the old ones should pay twice. As to its adding to the circulation of the magazine, I must say that I cannot see it in that light, but believe the contrary would be the effect for the reason above stated. I do not pretend to know anything about this for a certainty, but this is simply what I think. I am glad of the change from double to single columns, and think it one for the better. I am glad, too, of the enlargement, which looks as if you meant to give us our money's worth, and I shall be still gladder (as a little fellow once said) when I get my next number. Glorious success be with you, and a happy new year from, sincerely, yours,
M. L.

UNADILLA, OTSEGO Co., N. Y., Jan. 19, 1870.

GENTS:—I notice in your magazine for January that one subscriber wishes you to publish in the succeeding numbers matter that has appeared in the past, because he has just commenced taking the magazine and consequently has not the back numbers. As this would injure the value of the first, second and third volumes, would it not be unjust to those who have those volumes? I think there is enough that has *not been published* that would be as interesting and valuable as anything that has. What think you Mr. Editor?

Wishing success to your magazine in the future, as in the past, I remain, yours, truly,
W. H. P.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA., Jan. 14, 1870.

DEAR SIR:—I have an excellent library, the accumulation of a life time, but I have not given special attention to rare books; very many of those I own, however, are rare. Coins, medals, etc., have been my hobby. I have *one* of the best, if not the *very best*, private collections in Pennsylvania since Mr. Mickley's has been scattered. That collection should have been kept intact, and preserved by some numismatical or historical society having a perpetual charter. We may not hope to see such another collection in our day. Not being a bidder for the rare book to which you refer, and thanking you for your kind offer, I am, truly, yours,
WILLIAM F. PACKER.

NEW SHARON, ME., Jan. 11, 1870.

MASON & Co.—GENTS.—Why in the name of all that is good and great do you not send me catalogues of your coin sales? I occasionally receive one. Enclosed I send you \$1 50 to cancel my obligation to the magazine for the present year. Cannot keep house without it. We are having *glorious* sleighing these days. Should be extremely happy to take you into my cutter any of these days and give you an airing. Will also give you plenty of nice apples and cider for the evening entertainments and lots of pretty girls to chat with. What do you say, will you come?

Yours, respectfully,

J. F. PRATT, M. D.

[We should like to visit you for the sake of the apples, cider and sleigh ride, and we should honestly add, the "chat with the pretty girls;" but, then, what would our "other half" say to the pleasant little excursion? We like Maine, was born there and know what sleighing is. Sorry we cannot go. Ed.]

CABINETS OF COINS FOR SALE.

We are authorised to offer for private sale two handsome cabinets of coins. The first collection, comprising a fine series of American silver and copper coins—nearly complete; also, nearly a full set of mint miscellaneous medals, in fine condition; rare and fine colonials, 200 different pattern pieces, foreign coins and medals, store cards, etc.; value, \$5500. The second cabinet embraces a full collection of cents and half cents, dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars, dimes, half dimes, etc., proof sets, patterns, etc.; value, \$2000. Full details by mail.

LOYAL UNION.

No. 2. Vol. 2, of a neat, spicy, readable juvenile paper, under the above title, is on our table from Messrs. Terhune & Campbell, publishers, Newark, New Jersey. This publication circulates largely among stamp and coin collectors, and is a good medium for stamp advertisers, to reach an excellent class of customers. All of our juvenile patrons should subscribe. Only 30 cents per annum, and eight pages of short and entertaining articles. Success to the *Loyal Union*.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. R.—Infallibility in numismatics can scarcely be claimed, even by the erudite "S. S. C.;" and as for the errors in our journal, we always admitted them, and regretted their appearance.

R. P.—Always proud to hear from you and esteem all your favors highly.

S. W. P.—Dickeson's Coin Manual, \$10. Snowden's Medals (illustrated), \$10.

L. R. S.—The 1836 cent in "Trifet & Co.'s First Coin Sale" was described as a "proof," and we purchased it for you for two dollars, relying upon the description as catalogued. Upon receiving the cent from the auctioneer, in Boston, we discovered the error of description, and returned the coin, as a piece not properly described and *not worth five cents*. The auctioneer, Mr. Leonard, handed the coin to Messrs. Trifet & Co., requesting them to refund the two dollars, which up to this date have not been received. If this is *fair and just* we lose two dollars and you lose nothing. Put the saddle on the right horse.

T. W. T.—Eliot's "INDIAN BIBLE" was printed by Samuel Green, Cambridge, 1663. Shephard's "SINCERE CONVERT" was translated into Indian by the Reverend John Eliot, and licensed to be printed by Grindal Rawson; and was printed by Samuel Green, Cambridge, 1689. The Bible is valued at \$500, and the "Sincere Convert" at \$15. The old chest from the Mayflower would be valuable if properly authenticated; but its value would depend greatly on its credentials and appearance. Write to the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.

S. W. A.—Ex-Governor Packer, of this State, is reported to be in possession of a fine cabinet of coins. We publish a communication from Williamsport (from the Ex-Governor), which will give you an idea of his collection. Mr. Packer was a customer of ours as early as 1860, when we occupied the little curiosity shop in Second Street, in this city.

E. S. N.—The cents you inquired about are all sold. Will notify you when we get a fresh supply. 1850's, uncirculated, are worth from \$1 to \$2.

E. C. L.—Rejoiced to know you are still alive. For nearly seventeen years you have been away. Have you collected any good coins?

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.—The Stamp Collectors' Magazine announces the emission of a series of stamps for Spain. The design consists of an effigy, in an oval, intended to symbolize Spain: value and date (1870) in a scroll below. Upon those intended for Cuba the inscription, *CORREOS* appears in a scroll above the head; upon those for Spain the inscription is *COMUNICACIONES*. The series for Cuba will consist of 5, 10, 20 and 40 centimos; that for the mother country, 1, 2, 4, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 and 400 millesimas d' escudo.

1 escudo 600 mil, 2 escudos, 12, 19 cuartos.

NATAL.—From the Stamp Collectors' Magazine we learn that a provisional has made its appearance. It is the current shilling stamp, with the word *POSTAGE* surcharged in black ink on the upper part.

DUTCH INDIES.—The inhabitants of Java have become tired of the solitary stamp that has been doing duty for them since April, 1864, and have withdrawn it to give place to a set of four values, viz :

5 cents, green,	20 cents, deep blue,
10 do bistre,	50 do carmine.

The design is very similar to the current issue of the mother country, except that the head of the king is to the *right*; NED INDIES above, value below.

NEW GRANADA.—Another value, 20 centavos, blue, similar in design to the 5 and 10 centavos, issued last year, has made its appearance.

VICTORIA.—The Philatelist announces the emission of a 2 penny envelope, color pink, for this colony.

CANADA.—We have just received a specimen of a 3 cent Canada stamp, identical in design and color with the 3 cent stamp of 1868, but of the same size as the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent of the same issue.

UNITED STATES.—The Post Master General has recommended the issue of a 1 cent envelope.

The convention of postmasters assembled at Washington have recommended the reduction of fees for registered letters to six cents, and the charges for money orders, in amounts not exceeding ten dollars to five cents.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

A Massachusetts contemporary does not want the postage stamps changed again. It says the post office clerks can now demolish locomotives all day long, and save the railroads the expense and trouble; whilst for them to punch the heads of Washington, Lincoln and other fathers of their country (according to the new designs) would be highly disgraceful.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COLLECTOR, WASHINGTON.—We do not know what the rates of postage were in 1800. Probably the same as in 1803, which were as follows: any distance not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents; not exceeding 60 miles, 8 cents; not exceeding 100 miles, 10 cents; not exceeding 150 miles, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; not exceeding 200 miles, 15 cents; not exceeding 250 miles, 17 cents; not exceeding 350 miles, 20 cents; not exceeding 450 miles, 22 cents, and to any greater distance, 25 cents. Newspapers for any distance not exceeding 100 miles, 1 cent and for greater distance, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

J. E. L., ALBANY.—We cannot say when the new issue of U. S. will come into use.

F. S. H., TROY.—The unperforated 2 and 4 real stamps of Costa Rica are catalogued by Mons. Moens, but we have never seen them. Your Paraguay stamp is a humbug.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

MARCH, 1870.

No. 3.

COINS OF JAPAN IN THE UNITED STATES MINT.

COMPILED BY C. M. WILKINS, U. S. M.

The Oban (the penalty is death to take this coin out of the country intentionally, and ten years imprisonment if taken out accidentally) was recently procured. The weight 5.30 ounce, fine 667, value \$75. The coins are of gold, silver, copper, brass and iron. The principal gold coin is the Cobang, of which we have three sizes, according to the changes which have been made during the past sixty years. This coin is of oval shape, very thin and easily bent. It is largely alloyed with silver, but the silver being taken out of the surface by a solvent the coin looks like fine gold, until it has been a good deal worn. This accounts for the very pale color of the first specimen, and of another in which we have scratched off part of the surface, to show the true color.

No. 1 is a Cobang, supposed to be about sixty years old. It weighs $201\frac{1}{2}$ grains. It is two thirds gold and one third silver, or as we express it by 1000, it is 667-1000 fine. Its value, including the silver, is \$5 95.

No. 2, Cobang coined within a few years past, weighs 174 grains. It is four sevenths gold and three sevenths silver. The exact fineness in 1000 is 568. Value, including the silver, is \$4 44.

Nos. 3 and 4, Cobangs of very recent date, brought by the embassy for assay. They are exactly alike except one small mark. Weight, 135 grains. Their fineness about 571 grains, which is precisely four sevenths and appears to be definite legal standard. Value, including the silver, is \$3 57 each. Without the silver, \$3 41.

Nos. 5 and 6, two small and rectangular coins, with a gold surface, which (by specific gravity) are about one third gold. The weight is $25\frac{1}{2}$ grains. Their name and place in the series are not known to us.

No. 7, rectangular coin, is half the value of the Cobang No. 2, but (by specific gravity) contains little more than one fourth gold. The remainder appears to be silver. This piece is not understood.

No. 8, also rectangular, is called the gold Itzibu, one fourth the weight of the Cobang No. 2. Same fineness very nearly. Value, \$1 11.

Nos. 9 and 10 are the even gold Itzibu, bought by the Am-

bassador for assay and are one fourth of the weight of the Cobang brought by them. Value, \$89 25.

No. 11, an old one half silver Itzibu, is one of the several pieces which were given to an officer of the United States Exploring Expedition, about the year 1840, by some Japanese sailors who had drifted far out into the Pacific Ocean and were picked up and taken care of. Afterwards by the wreck of one of our vessels, all the coins were lost except this one. It was our first specimen of Japan coins. Weight, 41 grains, and being near fine silver is worth a little over 11 cents.

No. 12 is a silver Itzibu, coined some years since. Weight, $134\frac{1}{2}$ grains. 9.98 to 990-1000 fine. Worth \$36 9.

No. 13 weighs $28\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and appears also to be nearly fine. Value, 8 cents. Name not known.

No. 14, a new silver Itzibu, brought by the embassy. Weight, same as the old Itzibu, $134\frac{1}{2}$ grains, but is only 890-1000 fine, which is near our standard, 900. Value, \$33 28.

No. 15, a large thick piece of brass, oval and cast with a square hole in the centre. Said to be a piece of one hundred Pesenny.

No. 16, a copper coin. Circular. Square hole in the centre.

No. 17, an iron coin (circulated), with a rough edge, with a hole in the centre.

No. 18, Half Itzibu of Hakadadi. Size of half eagle.

No. 19, gold coin, round. Has various characteristic Japanese emblems. Name unknown. Value, \$1 75.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

In presenting the following dictionary of the terms in use by the majority of numismatists in the United States, we are actuated by two motives: one to furnish a guide to the novice; the other to urge upon the collectors the necessity of adopting a few proper terms that correctly designate the condition and variety of a coin, medal, etc., and thus dispense with the useless and meaningless titles and phrases now of such common occurrence.

Altered.—Frequently used in reference to date, although referring to any alteration whereby the coin presents a deceptive appearance.

Abrasion.—(See *Rubbed.*)

Alloyed.—Most generally used in reference to the nickel and bronze coinage.

Battered.—Hammered or beaten—used to express an intentional injury to a coin, differing from an accidental bruise.

Blemished.—Expresses a slight injury to a proof piece—such as finger-marks, or discolorations caused by the dye in velvet, which is used extensively for lining drawers of cabinets or cases.

Base.—Used to express a counterfeit piece.

Blistered.—Coin presenting slight elevations on the surface.

Bold.—A sharp or fierce impression, showing all the designs in good relief.

Booby Head.—Referring to the stupid looking head of Liberty on some of the U. S. cents of 1839.

Bright Red.—Representing the color of the coin when first minted.

Bright and Uncirculated.—(See *Bright Red.*)

Brilliant.—Used only in relation to proof impressions that have an extra brightness, much like the polished surface of a mirror.

Bronze.—Composition of copper and nickel, of which metals our present one and two cent pieces are made, and are termed "bronze coins."

Bronzed.—A coin or medal covered with a chemical preparation, to imitate the action of nature.

Broken Die.—A piece struck from a die that has been broken in two or more pieces and banded together for further use.

Bruised.—Rough nicks or furrows in the metal or ugly marks on any portion of the piece.

Burnished.—Polished by mechanical means to represent a proof.

Carved.—(See *Tooled.*)

Cast.—Moulded to imitate a genuine piece.

Classic Head.—A term applied to the head of Liberty. Found on some of the United States silver coins, and the copper cents, 1808 to 1814 inclusive, and the half cents from 1809 to 1811 inclusive.

Clipped.—Piece cut from the edge of a coin, etc., as in the case of some of the United States cents of 1795, and many of the London Elephant tokens.

Cleaned.—Showing bright portions of copper, as if brushed or rubbed.

Cracked Die.—Raised lines or marks, at various angles on the surface of a piece.

Corroded.—Metal injured by rust or verdegriis.

Colored.—When a copper piece is cleaned, brightened and heated, it produces an olive color.

Cross Boned.—Cleaned with a poisonous acid, which is obtained of the druggist in bottles, labeled with death's head and cross bones; hence the name. Used on coins to reproduce a proof polish.

Copy.—An electrotype or imitation, however made.

Circulated.—Worn, rubbed or injured by abrasion.*

Damaged.—Pierced, bored or portion of the metal injured.

Double Head.—Two heads upon the obverse of a coin or head upon each side, as on some of the Washington cents.

*It will be noticed by the reader that this term is not used particularly to designate coins circulated from hand to hand, but has a general application to rubbed or worn pieces, without regard to the literal application of the word; so also, as regards the term *uncirculated*. No matter how often a coin passes from one to another, if uninjured, numismatists generally term it "uncirculated."

Double Strike.—A planchet struck twice. Of frequent occurrence on our colonial coins. (See *Overstrike.*)

Dropped L.—A variety in date, where the figure 4 is below the line of the other figures, as on some of the 1794 cents.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(Continued.)

Diamonds were first found in Brazil in 1738. and during that same year it is stated, in the history of the period, that about eighty pounds avoirdupois (!) were taken to Europe by the Portuguese. This statement must be taken doubtlessly *cum grano*, or rather with a great many grains, if not indeed pounds, of allowance. They were, however, brought in sufficient quantities to alarm those in possession of the already discovered Diamonds, and they disseminated the worst slanders against the new stones, alleging that they were less hard than the Oriental ones, and calling them contemptuously Portuguese Diamonds. But they came forth unscathed from the most searching tests, and public opinion was at last obliged to acknowledge their legitimacy.

They still continue to be found in Brazil in considerable quantities, and the pursuit constitutes a large and important business. The Diamonds are found in a loose gravel, consisting principally of rounded quartz pebbles, mixed with sand and oxide of iron, and accompanied with blue, yellow and white topazes.

In the centre of the Diamond region is the town of Diamantina; situated upon the Rio Preto, a branch of the Trapajos, itself one of the great southern tributaries of the Amazon. This region consists of broken highlands, constituting the dividing ridge between the streams flowing north into the Amazon, and those running south into the La Plata. Up to the year 1849. it had yielded ten million dollars worth of these stones; and it is now said to produce about fifteen thousand carats per annum, less than a tenth of which however is fit for jewelry. Its climate is very unhealthy, and has already cost Brazil the lives of one hundred thousand men.

The expenses of living in Diamantina are excessively high; the various species of merchandise bringing eight hundred per cent. advance on their price at Para. Traders between these two places exchange their goods for Diamonds and gold, for the latter also exists most abundantly in this region, and return to Para, after an eight months' absence, with a realized profit of five hundred per cent. on their original outlay.

The principal Indian mines are named Raolconda, Gani, Soumel-

pour and Saccadan, and are located in the kingdoms of Golconda, Visapour and Bengal, and in the island of Borneo. The first of these is rocky; the second terraqueous; and the other two are sandy or river mines.

In the first, the Diamonds are washed out of earthy and gravelly matter, that is, drawn by hooked iron instruments from the fissures in the rocks, into which this matter had been carried by rains or desiccated streams.

In the second, they are washed in sieves from certain earthy and vegetable deposits, lying about twelve feet beneath the surface of the ground. In these mines the stones are generally found enveloped in earthy lumps.

The workers in these mines, men, women and children, are all slaves—the overseers alone being freemen—and, while at work, must be perfectly nude, with the exception of a strip of cloth round the loins. And yet, despite all precautions, the workers sometimes secrete these stones, by swallowing them, by hiding them in ulcers, and by secreting them in the corners of their eyes. As an incentive to activity and faithfulness, every slave, on finding a Diamond of prescribed weight, is pronounced free, and may go where and engage in what he chooses. The required weight differs perhaps in each mine; but both in Asia and South America it varies not under fifteen nor above twenty carats.

The mine of Soumelpour is nigh a town of the same name. This town, lying on the banks of the river Gouel, is large, and the houses are built of earth covered with cocoonut tree branches. The Diamond hunting period at this place and at Saccadan is immediately after the rainy season in December. The stones are obtained by sifting the river sands. In each of the above named mines, from fifty to sixty thousand persons are employed.

The other Asiatic mines of less importance are in the central and southern part of India proper, and in the peninsula of Malacca.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

WILLIAM I, A. D. 1066, AND WILLIAM II, A. D. 1087.

Obverse.—The coins of these two kings are not in all cases to be distinguished from each other, but those with the two sceptres, and with the sword in the right hand, are generally assigned to the Conqueror. Those with the stars on each side of the head, or with a single star, are attributed to Rufus, as they are always on his great seal. The portraits on the coins of these kings are generally full faced, but there are some of each with the head in profile. The legends round the head are PILLEMVS . REX A . PILLEM . PILLEMV, etc.; some have also ANGLOR . ANG ., &c.

Reverse.—The reverses are various, and consist for the most part of ornamented crosses. The legends are the names of the moneyers, a practice which continued until the beginning of the reign of the first Edward: thus, GOD PINE ON LIN, on the reverse, signifies that the piece was coined by Godfrey, of Lincoln, the *on* being then generally used for the preposition *of*. The names of towns and moneyers are very numerous on the coins of the two Williams.

Rarity.—The coins of William I and William Rufus are scarce, and some with rare types bring, of course, a higher price than the others. The coins of the first William, which have a kind of canopy over the head, are very rare. These kings coined pennies only.

HENRY I, A. D. 1100.

Obverse.—The coins of Henry I are not known from those of Henry II. The types of the pennies ascribed to Henry I are various. Some have the head full faced, others in profile, and several have stars on the left side of the bust. The legends are generally HENRI REX. HENRIC. HENRICUS. with the style R. RE. A. AN., etc.

Reverse.—There are many reverses of the coins of Henry I; but, with a few exceptions, they consist of ornamented crosses; some have quartfoils, with pellets or bezants within them; some have the word PAX, and others a Gothic ornament, with an annulet in the centre of the crosses. The legends, like those of the preceding monarchs, consist of the names of the moneyers and the towns in which the pieces were struck. Of these there are upwards of forty. Only pennies are known of this king, although the chronicles tell us of the coinage of half-pence and farthings.

Rarity.—The coins attributed to Henry I are all rare, and three or four types particularly so.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

Castorland Half Dollar, 1796; proof; silver. \$3 25.

Castorland Half Dollar, 1796; milled edge; bronze proof. \$1 12½.

Castorland Half Dollar, 1796; plain edge; bronze proof. \$1.

Immunis Columbia, 1786; Liberty seated; reverse, shield, E PLURIBUS UNUM; New Jersey Immunis Columbia; uncirculated; one of the rarest Colonials. \$32 50.

New Jersey Cent, 1786; obverse, plow and horse's head. The peculiarity of this piece consists in having the date directly under the plow beam; extremely rare. \$65.

New Jersey Cent, 1786; obverse, long low plow; nearly proof. \$1 25.

New Jersey Cent, 1785; horse's head without ears; nearly proof; rare. \$1.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow large; beam much curved; nearly proof; rare. \$1 25.

- New Jersey Cent, 1786; plow handles with knobs. 30 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1786; plow nearly straight; uncirculated. 75 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow low and much curved; scarcely circulated. 75 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1786; small plow with knobs. 25 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1786; large broad shield; fine. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1786; small shield; good. 30 cents.
 New Jersey Cents, 1787; a selection of nine pieces; no duplicates; all good, and several strictly fine. 50 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; large planchet; perfectly uncirculated. \$1.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; planchet of the largest size; condition very fine; rare. \$1.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; two sprigs under the shield; very large size; proof; rare. \$1.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; shield without the sprigs; uncirculated. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; small, high plow; uncirculated. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; horse's neck very long; a curious variety; uncirculated. 75 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow with knobs; small size; uncirculated. 50 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; struck in brass; fine and exceedingly rare in this metal. I have never met with another. \$2.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; small, straight plow; uncirculated. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow beam perfectly straight; uncirculated. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; horse's head, with long neck; arched; fine. 50 cents.
 New Jersey Cent, 1787; horse's head very small, smaller than in any other variety; very fine. $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

New emissions continued until two hundred millions of dollars were in circulation at one time; that is to say, seven or eight times as much as was wanted for a circulating medium: consisting, too, of bills bearing no interest, having no specific fund for its redemption, nothing, in short, but the promise of a government ill-organized and in a state of revolution. They could not fail to break down. No patriotism, however ardent, could sustain them. Yet the brave men at the head of affairs went into a computation suited to allay the

fears of the people, and showed by a state paper, which will be presently cited, that resources belonged to the country sufficient to meet all demands.

But the last day of the usefulness of Continental Paper Money was fast approaching. The bills of the individual States had generally become so worthless that even Congress would not receive them into its treasury. Congressional bills were, however, kept in circulation at a great discount until May, 1781, when they fell to five hundred, and subsequently to one thousand paper dollars for one silver, and ceased as a currency. Two hundred millions lost all their value, and were laid aside. The annihilation was so complete that barber shops were papered, in jest, with the bills; and the sailors, on returning from their cruise, being paid off in bundles of this worthless money, had suits of clothes made of it, and with characteristic light-heartedness turned their loss into a frolic by parading through the streets in decayed finery, which, in its better days, had passed for thousands of dollars!

The campaign of 1781 was carried on in solid coin. Nevertheless, the bills of a few of the States still lingered in circulation. I have in my possession the receipt of Thomas Knox, dated at Boston, in that year, for three thousand three hundred dollars, for piloting in and out of port, a distance of nine miles each way, the French frigate *L'Astree*, commanded by the celebrated Laperouse. The specie price was twenty dollars. I possess, likewise, original documentary papers, in tabular detail, showing a loss by the public chest of Rochambeau's army of one million six hundred and sixty-one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two dollars. The intendant of the army endorsed on the bundles, "This paper being at present valueless, the loss must be charged to the king." But it must be recollected that for some years its most favorable discount was forty for one. In General Washington's account current with the United States, the last transaction in paper currency is dated May, 1781.

The discredit and final rejection of that money was owing, in a great measure, to the illiberal terms of the confederation. Had Congress possessed, unfettered, the power of taxation and levying of imposts, the emissions would have been moderate, and somewhat proportioned to the specie in the country. But what could they do under such a compact as follows?

1. They were authorized to recommend to the several States, and nothing more; the consent of every one of which was necessary to give legal sanction to any act so recommended.
2. They could not assess or levy taxes.
3. They had no power to execute punishments, except in the military department.
4. They could not regulate trade.
5. They could institute no general judicial powers.
6. Neither could they regulate public roads or inland navigation.

(To be continued.)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

That dial is not exactly a clock, though it looks like one. Do you see the little crank handle on it, above the hands? That is to regulate the space between the rollers. By turning it, the distance is increased or reduced, and the hands of the dial are moved by the same means, to show the interval between them. For instance, when the hands indicate twelve o'clock the rollers are as far apart as they can be. By turning the crank until the hands are at, say, half-past one o'clock, the distance is reduced about the sixteenth of an inch. It has been ascertained that when the hands point to, for instance, half-past six, the rollers will be at the right distance from each other for rolling the strips thin enough for half eagles. So instead of saying, "Roll that strip the eight of an inch thick," it is "Roll it to half-past six." The rollers can be brought very close together. Give him that visiting card in your hand—there, it is pressed so hard that its texture is destroyed, and it crumbles like crisp pie crust.

This dial arrangement, and some other improvements in the mill, are due to Mr. Franklin Peale, former chief coiner of the Mint, who devised it for the purpose of securing greater accuracy in measuring the distance between the rollers.

The pressure applied is so intense that half a day's rolling heats, not only the strips and rollers, but even the huge iron stanchions, weighing several tons, so hot that you can hardly hold your hand on them.

Every mill can be altered to roll to any degree of thinness, but usually the ingot passes through several mills, each reducing it slightly. This is quicker than altering the gauge so frequently.

When the rolling is completed, the strip is about six feet long, or six times as long as the ingot.

It is impossible to roll perfectly true. Now and then there will be a lump of hard gold, which will not be quite so much compressed as the rest. If the coin were cut from this place, it would be heavier and more valuable than one cut from a thinner portion of the strip. It is, therefore, necessary to "draw" the strips, they first being softened by annealing.

Just turn to your right and see those long round copper boxes, into which that clever, plump-looking man is putting the gold strips. He'll tell us all about it.

"Yes, mum; ye see we have to anneal this here gold, to make it soft so we can draw it. So we puts it in these boxes, and put on the cover and seals it up air tight with clay. It don't do to anneal gold in the open fire like as we can silver; for if we only get a hole in the box no larger than the head of a pin, it will let in the air and turn the color of the whole gold. They call it oxydizing. In that furnace we anneal the silver, but we don't put silver into boxes, 'cause we can heat that in the open air without its turning. We put these boxes into this furnace—you can look in at the door while I lift it up.

Those in there are red hot, and we keep 'em in about an hour, mum, till all the gold gets red hot, too. It would twist about like a snake, if we took out a strip while it was so hot. When it is well *het* we take the boxes out with tongs, and put 'em into that tank of water to cool 'em, mum. There's from a thousand to twelve hundred dollars in every one of those strips, mum."

(*To be continued.*)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." *Addison.*

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

[We propose, in the present series of articles upon ancient coins, to give the most interesting facts connected with the history of the Greek and Roman coinage; also, a description of the coins, furnishing the student with a key to the mysterious abbreviations, legends and figures found upon these peculiar coins, selected and arranged from the best authors, in easy lessons for the instruction and benefit of the novice.]

GREEK CIVIC COINS.*

Coins of Aegina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

The first coins possessing the least interest are those of Greece: the earliest of these have on one side an indented square, and on the other the rude representation of a tortoise, or turtle, for it is impossible to say for which of these two creatures it is intended. They are supposed to have been struck in the island of Egina, by Phidon, king of Argos, 820 years before the Christian era. This king, as we are informed by the Chronicles of the Marbles of Paros, first taught the Greeks the art of coining money, and there is every reason for supposing that the pieces alluded to were their first essay. The earliest coins of the Greeks are without letters, and the most ancient are those with the indentations on one side. In progress of time letters were added, and then reverses; the latter, although in relief, being within an indented square. The early coins of Rhodes may be cited as an example. The silver coins of the Greeks were the Tetradrachm, or piece of 4 drachms; the Tridrachm, or piece of 3 drachms; the Didrachm, or piece of 2 drachms; the Drachm, of which there were many divisions, as the Tetrabolion, weighing about 44 grains; the Hemidrachm, or Triobolion, of 33 grains; the Diobolion, one third of the drachm, and weighing about 22 grains; the Obolus, of 11 grains; the Hemiobolion of $5\frac{1}{2}$ grains; and the Tetartobolion, or quarter Obolus, a coin of $2\frac{3}{4}$ grains! They had also a coin of half the size of the latter, but none of these have yet been discovered.

The coins of Athens and Corinth are the commonest, and it is

* Ackerman, London, 1832.

somewhat singular that the former are inferior both in design and execution to those of other Greek cities.

The period when copper was first coined in Greece cannot be precisely ascertained, but it is supposed to have been about four hundred years before Christ. Athenæus says that Dionysius the poet was called "the Brazen Orator," because he persuaded the Athenians to coin money of that metal. The first and largest piece of brass was the chalcos, two of which were only equal in value to the tetartobolion. The Greeks appear to have held this money in contempt, and in those days, "not worth a chalcos" was a common expression; it is frequently used by Demosthenes and other writers. Subsequently, however, the chalcos was divided into parts, till at length it had eight divisions.

(To be continued.)


CORRESPONDENCE.

NO. 68 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK, Feb. 7, 1870.

DEAR SIR:—I hope you will give me credit for stating *sincerely* that I am pleased to notice a very decided improvement in the last two numbers of your magazine. The entire absence of abuse will do much to encourage the circulation of it and I have looked over it with more pleasure than I have for a considerable time. I shall want another copy, and if you will let me know whether you can supply it and some more if I want them, I will send you the money.

Yours, faithfully,

EDWARD COGAN.

[Thank you, brother Cogan, for the kind remarks you have favored us with, and trust you will not find fault with us for letting the public know that the long standing case of "Cogan vs. Mason" has been satisfactorily adjusted. Give us your  for ninety days: but do not make a note of it. Ed.]

BOSTON, December, 1869.

GENTLEMEN:—The volume of your Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, for 1869, which I sent for early this week, is received.

I am just resuming an interest in coins, after a recess of thirty or forty years, when I was a boy. Of course, that makes me about the same as a green hand, and as they say in Congress, "I rise for information." Therefore, please send me the Coin Collectors' Manual, muslin, and the Coin Priced Catalogue, for which the money is enclosed. I should like to make a collection of good coins, but the prices of many of our coins, which cannot be considered scarce, especially for uncirculated or proofs, are appalling to a man of shallow pockets and weak nerves. Do you not think the profits are piled up a little too high on some of these things? Now I love to pay a handsome price for a good article, but it *does* go against the grain to be skinned alive.

Then there is another thing,—this buying pigs in a poke. Something is advertised that I want, but it happens to be two hundred

and fifty or three hundred miles off and I cannot see it. It is described as "fine," "uncirculated," "sharp," "scarce," "rare," "red," "proof," and what not. Well, the "fine" turns out to be not so "demnition fine" after all; showing that tastes differ, and that though I paid my money, I cannot take my choice. This, you see, makes it kind o' bad for the uncultivated victim who still hangs on to his original confidence in human nature. I wish I could see those 1791 cents that you advertise on your December cover, but eighteen dollars is more than I can lavish on a sight of them in case they should not suit. And that 1793 Liberty Cap, too,—is it really "extra good?" and how much is it worth? Come, be human!

Perhaps you will think I am crazy to ask such questions, and I suppose I am. At all events, do not forget to send me the Manual and Priced Catalogue, and believe me,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. R.

[If our good hearted and generous natured correspondent will give us a trial, we promise to please him with a good selection of coins at fair prices, with the privilege of returning those not satisfactory and having his money refunded.—Ed.]

NUMISMATIC PERSONALITIES.

BRIGHT RED CENTS.

We have had occasion to speak frequently, through these columns, concerning the *restrrike* U. S. cents of 1804. In December last, we received a letter from a correspondent in Troy, N. Y., inquiring if the 1804 cents (having the reverse of the 1820's) were genuine. To save postage and time, we abbreviate our patrons' queries, and insert them in the magazine under the title of "Replies to Correspondents," and in the January number appears the following reply to our Troy correspondent:

"L. M., TROY.—Beware of bright pennies of old dates. Buy them as *restrikes*, but not as originals."

This reply was intended for the party who addressed us the inquiry above alluded to, not as advice to the public generally, yet, Mr. Cogan, of New York, has jumped at the hasty and ill-timed conclusion that we have pronounced *all* the bright cents from 1817 to 1820, inclusive, to be *restrikes*, and in the *New York Numismatic Journal* for January commits himself to an error of judgment, which we trust, in justice to J. S. Randall and ourselves, he will take the earliest moment to correct. Here is what Mr. Cogan writes to the *New York Journal*, under the date of January 11:

ALLEGED RESTRIKES OF 1817, 1818, 1819 AND 1820.

When I presented to our society, through my friend, Mr. Betts, at the last meeting, the cents of 1817, '18, '19 and '20, I did so upon the full conviction that they were from the issues of the U. S. Mint, struck in the years of which they bear the date. Judge, then, of my

surprise to find, in Mason & Co.'s Magazine, of this month, a caution against buying these pieces, as being restrikes.

The reader can compare this statement with our own, and he will find it requires a stretch of the imagination to prove our condemnation of the apparently recent coins of 1817 to 1820. We bought some of the bright red cents of above dates from Mr. Randall, and know them to be genuine, have sold them as such, and regret that Mr. Cogan should apply the matter intended for a correspondent to himself, and publish the incorrect version of our remarks in an influential and highly reputed numismatic contemporary. We have written to the New York publication, in which Mr. Cogan's charge appeared, and trust that Prof. Anthon will give our remarks the same publicity as Mr. Cogan's.

MINT DROPS—ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

KELLEY'S BILL, in the United States Congress, recommending the issue of one, three and five cent nickel pieces, has been smothered at Washington. Next comes the fifty, twenty-five and ten cent silver pieces of reduced values. The latter pieces will never pass on their beauty, but as *light weights* may be recommended to Congress. We shall see.

OTIS BALKE, at Warrensville, Ohio, fired four balls at squirrels, killing three. He took them home and in dressing them found in one a gold dollar.

[The above comes to us from a western exchange, but we find it hard to swallow; perhaps the squirrel had better luck. Ed.]

UP THE NILE.

J. J. Mickley, the respected father of the numismatic fraternity of this city, has been for the past year wandering over the world in search of pleasure and profit as found in scientific pursuits. At last accounts, Mr. Mickley was sailing up the Nile, on a voyage of discovery *a la* Bayard Taylor. Good luck and good health to brother Mickley on his tour through Egypt.

COIN SALE.

A small collection of coins, medals and pattern pieces will be offered by catalogue, in this city, about the 25th inst. The collection will embrace several sets of U. S. cents, colonials, medals, rare patterns and a miscellaneous collection of continental and colonial paper money, prints, etc.

FOR SALE.

We offer for sale Randall's celebrated Jefferson Head cent of 1795, the finest piece of this rare type known. Price, \$175. J. C. Randall, the owner of this valuable cent, will warrant it genuine, and we will endorse the warrantee. Address this office for further particulars and an impression of the coin.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. R.—“Please inform me what kind of a coin has a bust on one side and the inscription on the other: ‘The man who, having saved the parent, pleaded with success for the children.’ Also please give date of the different Washington Cents.” First, the William Pitt Medal, struck in 1766, in England, in honor of the repeal of the stamp act. Second, 1783, 1791 and 1792 includes the usual variety of the so-called Washington Cents, although there are Washington pieces of other dates that might have been designed for coins.

ARTIST.—The plate of ancient coins in our last issue is not a photograph, but a copper plate impression. You will see the original coins at the Mint in this city.

W. P. A.—Will pay 25 cents each for January numbers of 1870. Have sold the bound book containing three volumes. We do not pay the price named as the value of each volume of the magazine. The book sold was expensively bound. All subscriptions must date hereafter from March 1, unless we can secure back numbers by purchase, which will add to the subscription price 25 cents for each back number.

F. J. M.—Club of ten subscribers received, and magazines mailed. Your efforts to circulate the magazine are kindly appreciated.

N. R.—Mailed the January and February numbers, the last we had.

T. S., BALTIMORE; S. S. C., BOSTON; R. W. McL., MONTREAL; F. P. R., FORT WAYNE; T. R. M., RAVENNA; J. E. C., HOLYOKE; J. E. H., WAVERLY.—All received with thanks no time to answer each separately.

C. P. M., SPRINGFIELD.—Club of four received.

WM. C., SPRINGFIELD.—Club of eleven received.

T. R. M., RAVENNA.—The 1817, 1818, 1819 and 1820 cents, bright red, are not restrikes, nor counterfeits. Those we send for twenty-five cents are fine, but not bright.

BACK NUMBERS.

Our patrons, who possess duplicate copies of this journal, will confer a favor and be rewarded by mailing to us such numbers as they may have no use for. It happens frequently that we mail two copies, by mistake, to subscribers.

UNIQUE.

We had the pleasure of picking up a copper half dime of 1795 recently, supposed to be a “trial piece” from the United States Mint. Has any of our readers a duplicate? If not, we pronounce the piece *unique* until further developments disprove the title.

NEW CURRENCY.

The U. S. fractional currency, now in circulation, is to be called in and exchanged for notes more durable, made of a stiff, heavy paper.

THE UNITED STATES MINT.

Col. Wm. M. Runkel, of this city, has recently issued a neat and valuable little pamphlet, under the above title, containing a history of the Mint, with a full description of the manner in which gold, silver, nickel and copper are converted into money. Upon receipt of thirty-five cents, we will mail a copy of this work, free of postage.

ATTENTION ALL.

J. N. T. Levick, one of our early patrons, and an enthusiastic numismatist, has opened a banking house at No. 54 Wall Street, New York. Mr. Levick has our warmest wishes for his success, and all who know him personally know, if honest effort will succeed, his success is assured. Mr. Levick has some rare coin catalogues on sale.

ROCK OIL.

Having prepared a most excellent oil for cleaning coins, we are prepared to send bottles of the preparation to those wishing to clean black or rusty coins. The oil will not tarnish the brightest proof polish. Fifty cents per bottle, free by mail.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

THE STAMPS OF BERGEDORF.

Bergedorf, situated on the river Bille, about twelve miles from Hamburg, prior to the great war between Prussia and Austria, was under the joint protectorate of Lubeck and Hamburg. The stamps composing the unique set of Bergedorf are square and printed in black upon colored paper, bearing the combined arms of the Free Cities of Lubeck and Hamburg—(Eagle and Castle), and the size of the stamp increases in proportion to the value. In the four corners of the square are the four letters L. H. P. A., meaning Lubeck, Hamburg Post Amt (post office.)

There are two varieties: $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, black on violet, and 3 schilling, black on rose, that were in use but ten days, and are consequently rare and command a high price. The rest of the set, consisting of $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, blue, 1 schilling, white, $1\frac{1}{2}$ schilling, yellow, 3 schillings, blue on rose, and 4 schillings, brown, are also obsolete, but comparatively common, selling for fifty cents the set. The stock left on hand by the issues of the war not being receivable for postage was sold to dealers, and when their supply is exhausted they will be more difficult to obtain and increase greatly in value. A set of essays have lately been discovered, which are said to have been prepared to take the place of the set then in circulation, but their emission was prevented by the war. They consist of the same values, and do not differ materially from those they were to supercede. The peculiarity of the design and size of the Bergedorf stamps make them a desirable acquisition to the collector's album.

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—There is now being printed a new three cent stamp for this Government. It has the profile of Washington in the centre in an oval, and is the prettiest and best stamp this Government has ever issued.

ITALY.—We have received a set of labels from this kingdom, consisting of the following values and colors, 1, 2, 5, 30, 40, 50 and 60 centesimii, bistre; 1 and 2 lire, blue. The design is an oblong, with the figure of value in carmine, in the centre of an oval. The lower denominations have *centesimi* below; the two higher, *lire*. Above the oval, *segnatasse*, from which we infer that they are issued for unpaid letter stamps.

SPAIN.—We have received two values of the new series—50 mil d' esco, blue, and 200 mil d' esco, light lilac.

COLUMBIAN STATES.—The *Philatelist* describes a $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp, triangular in shape and printed in black on dull violet.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—Upon the authenticity of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, we chronicle the emission of a set of official stamps. The shape is oblong, and the entire space is covered with the repetition of a stone colored minute inscription—*Nord Postbezirk*. Over this is printed, in black, an octagonal frame, inscribed *Nord Deutsche Post*. In the middle of the lower side, *Gröschchen*. On the left the word, *Dienst*, on the right, *Sache*. The values are $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 2 sqr., all in the same colors, light stone and black.

PERU.—A series of new stamps is now being prepared by the National Bank Note Company for this Government.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—The three-penny mauve has appeared.

PHILATELIC ITEMS.

THE postage to Italy has been reduced from fifteen cents to ten cents per half ounce.

PARIS has founded a museum of stamps at the Mint. [*Continental Philatelic Magazine*.] [We hope the United States Mint will profit by the example. *Ed.*]

NOT TRUE.

The report that the Postmaster General had solicited the "Double Headed Girl," now on exhibition in Newark, N. J., to sit for a photograph, that he might have an appropriate illustration on the new six cent stamps, used for *double postage*, is without foundation in fact.

ST. LOUIS STAMPS.

An article on these stamps, with the affidavit of the engraver, will appear in our next issue.

NEW SERIES OF PACKETS.

Send stamp for price list.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

APRIL, 1870.

No. 4.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

D.—Dahlongena, Georgia Branch Mint. The D on the coin makes an important variety to the collector, distinguishing it from the California coins, marked S, Orleans pieces marked O, and North Carolina coins marked C.

Dateless.—A "trial piece," struck without date; or any place upon which a date properly belongs and is omitted in engraving the die, as in the nickel cents, which are known by their general designs, though dateless, to belong to the 1856 and 1858 issues.

Denarius.—Small ancient Roman gold and silver coins.

Eagle.—This refers to United States ten dollar gold coin and its subdivisions. There are other references to the eagle as crow eagle, spread eagle, eagle on a rock, small eagle, buzzard eagle, etc., each of which furnishes its own explanation.

Egged.—Covering the surface of a coin with the white of eggs to protect it from rust or corrosion.

Electrotype.—A cast or imitation of a coin in lead; a piece made by the use of an electric battery.

Engraved.—Cut by a tool; an inscription on a medal not made in the die.

Engrailed.—Irregular or diagonal curvatures on the outer border or edge of coins, etc.; differing from milled or reeded edges.

Exergue.—Space where initials, date, etc., is placed on lower portion of coins.

Experimental Piece.—See *Pattern Piece*.

Fierce.—See *Bold*.

Fillet Head.—Hair confined closely and tied with a bow at the back, as on obverse of United States coins of early dates.

First Brass.—Large ancient brass coins of Greece and Rome. These coins are known as *first, second and third* brass, according to size.

Flowing Hair.—Where the hair on head of Liberty is unconfined, as on the 1793 cents, etc.

Flattened.—See *Battered*.

Forty Head.—Referring to a variety of the cents of 1839, which has the head of 1840.

Franklin Cent.—The first cent issued by order of the United States Congress, 1787; supposed to have been designed by Benjamin Franklin.

Freckled.—A coin spotted on the field, the result of cleaning a copper piece with acid.

(To be continued.)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

It is too hot to stay here long, so pick your way carefully among these boxes of gold, silver and copper strips, and ingots, to the other end of the room. Be careful of that stand; it is terribly dirty. It is where they are greasing the silver strips and waxing the gold, to enable them to pass through the drawing bench easier. Wax is a better lubricator than grease for gold.

That long table, with the odd-looking, endless chain, running from right to left, making a deafening noise, is the drawing bench. In fact, there are two benches, one on each side of the table. At the right end you see an iron box secured to the table. In this are fastened two perpendicular steel cylinders, firmly supported in a bed, to prevent their bending or turning around, and presenting but a small portion of their circumference to the strip. These are exactly at the same distance apart that the thickness of the strip must be. One end of the strip is pinched somewhat thinner than the rest, to allow it to slip easily between the cylinders. When through, this end is put between the jaws of a powerful pair of tongs, or pincers, fastened to a little carriage running on the table. One carriage, you see, has a flag fastened to it, and has drawn a strip nearly through. The carriage to the further bench is up close to the cylinders, ready to receive a strip, which is inserted edgewise. When the end is between the pincers, the operator touches a foot pedal which closes the pincers firmly on the strip, and pressing another pedal, forces down a strong hook at the left end of the carriage, which catches in a link of the moving chain. This draws the carriage away from the cylinders, and the strip being connected with it has to follow. It is drawn through the cylinders, which, operating on the thick part of the strip with greater power than upon the thin, reduces the whole to an equal thickness. When the whole is through, the strain on the tongs instantly ceases, which allows a spring to open them and drop the strip. At the same time, another spring raises the hook and disengages the carriage from the chain. A cord fastened to the carriage runs back over the wheel near the head of the table, and then up to a couple of combination weights on the wall beyond, which draw the carriage back to the starting place, ready for another strip.

The original machine was invented by Mr. Barton, Controller of

the British Mint; but this table has been so far improved by Mr. Peale as to be almost his own creation. Barton's table required two men to operate it, while Peale's requires only one. The arrangement of the combination weights to draw back the carriage, fast at first and slower as it reaches the starting point; the application of the pedals to close the tongs and attach the carriage to the chain, are Mr. Peale's invention. His machine is arranged to run with much less noise than Barton's, and has other minor improvements.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

With such an inefficient form of government, they failed in almost every appeal for pecuniary aid. They were even denied, by the single veto of Rhode Island, the establishment of an impost of only five per cent. on imported goods, which, after great delay and difficulty had been ratified by all the other States. Unanimity being a constitutional requirement, that measure, so obviously necessary, so moderate in its amount, so gentle and equal in its operation, was defeated by the negative of the smallest State in the confederation. Nor could the entreaty of Congress, contained in a long argumentative report addressed to Rhode Island, and drawn up by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and Thomas Fitzsimmons, cause that State to retract.

A letter from Benjamin Franklin, on this subject, dated Passy, December 23, 1782, says: "Our people certainly ought to do more for themselves. It is absurd, the pretending to be lovers of liberty, while they grudge paying for the defence of it. It is said here that an impost of five per cent. on all goods imported, though a most reasonable proposition, had not been agreed to by all the States, and was therefore frustrated."

Sustaining the bills of credit, by the public, under such circumstances, and for the length of time they did so, appears to me one of the most praiseworthy passages in our Revolutionary history, pregnant alike with honor to our forefathers for their confidence in the illustrious administrators of the government, and with fidelity to the glorious cause for which they fought. And this reliance on the honorable intentions of the Congress of that day is fully vindicated by a manifesto issued by that body, which, although inserted in a former essay on this subject, is, from the noble sentiments it contains, worthy of a second transcript here.

"Suppose," says the Congress of 1779, "that at the conclusion of the war, the emissions should amount to two hundred millions, that the loan should amount to another hundred millions, then the whole national debt of the United States would be three hundred millions. There are at present three millions of inhabitants in the thirteen

States. Three hundred millions of dollars, divided among three millions of people, would give to each person one hundred dollars, and is there," they ask, "an individual in America unable, in the course of eighteen or twenty years, to pay that small sum? Again, suppose the whole debt assessed, as it ought to be, on the inhabitants in proportion to their respective estates, what would then be the share of the poorer people? Perhaps not ten dollars! And if twenty years be taken to pay the debt, the number of inhabitants will be more than doubled, and the ability to pay increased, of course, more than two fold."

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Aegina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

The latest coinage of Greece is that of gold, which appears to have been first used by Philip of Macedon. The coinage of gold in Sicily is, however, of a much earlier date, as there are pieces of Syracuse with the indented square, an infallible mark of antiquity. The gold pieces of Cyrene are exceedingly small. In conclusion, the only gold coins of Greek cities at present known are of Tarentum and Brettium, in Magna Grecia, Panticapæa and Cosa in Thrace; Cyrene, Syracuse, Lampsacus in Mysia, Arcanania, Thebes, Carthage and Athens; of which Carthage, Cyrene and Syracuse are common; the others are of great rarity.

To give a list of all the coins of Greek cities would be impossible, as almost every year brings to light numbers not before known; and, but a few weeks since, the compiler of this work was informed by a gentleman that a friend of his had in his possession upwards of five hundred Greek civic coins which were hitherto unknown. The list which follows will, therefore, perhaps, be deemed unnecessary, but it is presumed that though incomplete, as any such list ever must be, enough is given to enable the beginner not only to distinguish Greek coins from those of other nations, but also to familiarize him to those upon which the names of cities are given in a contracted form, or which are known only by the badges of their respective states.

It should be remarked that many Greek coins without letters are attributed to particular cities in consequence of the figures represented on them; but it must be obvious that in such cases much is left to conjecture. May we not infer that the symbols of a buckler, an owl, or a pegasus, though belonging to Thebes, to Athens, or to Corinth, might be used by cities of minor importance, or islands dependent on or acknowledging the laws of those cities? It is evident that in the arrangement of Greek civic coins, presumptive evidence

alone can guide us. To those who require a more particular account of these pieces, a perusal of Dr. Comb's catalogue of the collection formerly in the possession of Dr. Hunter is recommended. There is also a work of a much more recent date, published in Paris, which contains notices of a great number of unpublished Greek coins, together with some admirable drawings.

The Greek civic coins are more common in copper than in silver, there being double the number in the first metal. This is supposed to be owing to the poverty of the states, but other reasons may be assigned, though it is singular that the coins of Greek princes in silver are commoner than their copper.

(*To be continued.*)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. B.

The Brazilian Diamond districts are in Government hands, and are worked on the same general plan with the Indian.

Full particulars of the stringent measures adopted in the former country, throughout the whole Diamond district, to prevent the stones from being taken unlawfully out of the boundaries, may be found in the Travels of Doctors Von Spix and Von Marlius, made in Brazil, by the command of the King of Bavaria.* The whole region is marked out by a cordon encircling it, extending many miles.

Diamonds have also been found in conglomerates of recent volcanic origin, called geologically amygdaloids; in gold and platinum sands in the Ural mountains; and one is reported to have been found lately in Virginia; and another in the district of Fermanagh, in Ireland; and, as they are commonly found wherever gold exists, it is not unlikely that they will eventually be discovered in quantities in various quarters of our widely extended territories (particularly in California), in Australia, and in Africa. Indeed, mention is made in the classical authors of Diamonds received from the latter country.

The Diamond when found possesses by no means the brilliancy for which it is famous. In its natural state it is not even transparent—it is at best but translucent. To art, therefore, it owes in a great degree its renown; for its fires, which so dazzle the eye, are only released by removing the external crust, and may indeed after that be greatly increased by cutting the stone into peculiar shapes.

The method of polishing and cutting the Diamond was first discovered by Louis de Berguem, of Bruges, in 1476. The former is done by means of Diamond powder, which is obtained by rubbing

*Reise in Brasilien auf Befehl S'r Magestat Maximilian Joseph I Königs Von Baiern. Gemacht und beschrieben Von D'r Von Spix und D'r Von Marlius. Munich: 1828. 4to.

two Diamonds together—the latter by fragments of Diamonds set in convenient instruments. The stone to be operated on is itself firmly set by cement or soft solder in some suitable body, and requires a different setting to produce each *facet*. A *facet* is the name of any one external *plane* upon the Diamond.

The shape of these planes or *facets* is generally triangular and quadrangular, in consequence of course of the shape of the whole Diamond, which is required to be of a certain peculiarity, which, it is believed, is that which renders the Diamond in the highest degree brilliant. This shape will be described presently.

These operations (of polishing and cutting) are generally performed over a small, strong box, which serves to retain the powder that may be produced by abrasion as well as the fragments that result from cutting. These pieces are called technically *dort*.

The first polished stone is said to have belonged to Charles the Bold, and many romantic stories are related of it.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Continued.)

New Jersey Cent, 1787; large planchet; splendid; nearly proof impression; a very scarce variety, having E PLURIBUS on the reverse. \$3 75.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow of the largest size, fine; the variety is very rare. 75 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; large plow, with knobs; very fine. 30 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; long plow, with beam and handles much curved; large size, very fine. 50 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; high straight plow; very fine. 40 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; very curiously double struck; fine; unique. 35 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; long straight plow; fine. 25 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787, with an arm projecting from the shield; a very curious variety, rare in itself, and probably struck over some other coin; fine. 30 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787, broken shield; very fine. 30 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; long low plow, large shield; uncirculated; scarce. 35 cents.

New Jersey Cents, 1787; a selection of twelve pieces; all strictly fine; no duplicates. Each 50 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; plow very large and high; fine; a scarce type. 50 cents.

New Jersey Cents, 1787; another selection of twelve pieces; all good; several fine; no duplicates. Each 35 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; a knob appearing on the horse's neck; shield on the reverse of a peculiar type; unique. 75 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; head facing left; long low plow. \$2.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; head facing left; splendid; uncirculated; a full bold impression; altogether the finest I have ever seen; rare. \$5 25.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; head facing left, die broken across; very fine indeed; rare. \$2.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; head to left; very good; differs from any of the preceding. \$1 25.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; head facing left; a fifth variety, very fine. The last five lots described are all distinct varieties. \$1 62½.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; the dog type; fine and rare. \$1.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; plow of large size; uncirculated. 50 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; almost proof. \$1.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; the plow handles very large and clumsy; uncirculated. 75 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; horse's head small; very fine. 50 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; uncirculated. 62½ cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1788; broken die. 25 cents.

New Jersey Cents, 1788; two pieces; varieties; fine. 50 cents.

New Jersey Cent, 1787; long plow, with knobs on handles; uncirculated. 62½ cents.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

STEPHEN, A. D. 1135.

Obverse.—The portraits on the coins of this king are generally in profile, with a sceptre, a mace, or a lance, in the right hand. The name is always oddly spelt STEFN, STEFNE, STIEN, etc.; sometimes with the addition of R and RE, but mostly without the style.

Reverse.—The names of the moneyers, and crosses of various kinds. A coin is engraved in Snelling which has no legend on the reverse, but in its place flowers and various emblems.

Rarity.—All Stephen's money is very scarce, and one or two types are exceedingly rare. At a sale in London, in 1827, the penny of Stephen, with the horseman's mace, brought thirteen pounds. His coins are generally very rude and illegible. This king coined pennies only.

There are pennies, on the obverse of which Stephen and Henry are shaking hands. Legend STIEFNE. R.; reverse, an ornamented cross, with ornaments in the place of the moneyer's name. They are very rare.

There are, besides, pennies of Eustace, Stephen's son; obverse, a lion or leopard rampant, with the legend EUSTACIVS; reverse, a cross of eight points fleurie, without the moneyer's name; also, of Robert, Earl of Gloucester; obverse, a rude figure on horseback, with a conical

helmet and a sword in the right hand; reverse, an ornamented cross without the name of the moneyer, but with various emblems, like some of Stephen's pennies.

To these may be added, the penny engraved by Snelling, and supposed by him to be a blundered coin of Stephen, but with more propriety attributed by Folkes to Henry, Bishop of Winchester, Stephen's bastard brother. The bust on the obverse has a crozier, but the head is crowned. The legend runs thus:—HEN—VS. EPC.; reverse, a cross somewhat similar to that on the pennies of Robert, Earl of Gloucester, but with the king's name, STEPHANVS, in the place usually appropriated to the moneyer's name.

HENRY II, A. D. 1154.

Obverse.—The coins ascribed to this king have portraits full-faced, and in profile, with a sceptre, which on some is leaned on the shoulder. The legends are generally HENRI R. A. and sometimes REX ANG.

Reverse.—The names of the moneyers, and the towns in which they were coined, but generally illegible. A cross patee, with four others, one in each quarter.

Rarity.—The supposed coins of Henry II are all scarce. They are of very inferior workmanship.

(To be continued.)

A NUMISMATIC DREAM.

"I dreamed a dream."—*Mason.*

'Twas on a summer morning, within a dreary attic,
A numismatist, ill at ease, was snoring quite emphatic;
A bureau stood beside him—a sort of modern throne,
Stored with those cherished idols he fondly called his own;
Its drawers, soft pine, and varnished, had lost their pretty shine;
But the precious contents, one by one, were scanned as if divine.
Here lay his country's coinage, made at an early day,
The great achievements which they mark ne'er yet have passed away,
Historic stories known to all, engraved by skillful hand,
The sacred lessons which they teach have long preserved the land;
Here, in a drawer, the Jersey coins—horse head and "Spanish" mane;
There, side by side, Connecticut and Virginia long have lain;
Here, the flying eagle coins, and dollar of fifty-one;
There, the godlike features of the glorious Washington;
While curious legends, *oddly read*, most certainly do fib;
Here, he sees *Lib et Inde*, and there, *Inde et Lib!*
From quaint New England shillings to silver patterns *nine*,
Where Barber's skill gave Liberty a head almost divine;
Ah! what a living interest around these coins do cling,
When speculation's golden bird spreads out its endless wing!
But, look! what legend now has on his vision burst,
He strains his eyes, and looks, and reads the motto "God our Trust."
He sees in corners, lying loose, some coppers red and bright,
The date of each is *ninety-nine*—he's frenzied at the sight;
Then rising from the bed in haste, he started for the door,
A second after this, his length was measured on the floor.
"Lo! what a joke," he speaks aloud; "where! *where is all this cream?*
My hopes are turned to buttermilk, 'tis nothing but a dream."

Plain Greens, Pennsylvania.

E. M., JR.

INDIAN BOOKS.

Few of our readers have any knowledge of the Indian language, as used by the red men of New England in the seventeenth century; and fewer still have had an opportunity to examine the peculiarly constructed words forming the substance of Indian books. We do not know, that any living human being can read, write or speak the Indian dialect of "ye olden times;" nor can we throw any light upon the solution of this mysterious conglomeration of oddities; yet, we propose to give a specimen of the "Indian talk," as found in one of John Eliot's Indian Catechisms, published at Cambridge, Massachusetts, about the year 1664. The catechism is printed in English, upon one page, and in the Indian language upon the opposite page. We select, as a good specimen, the ten commandments from Exodus xx, 1, 3, 4.

"GOD SPAKE ALL THESE WORDS, SAYING :"

I. Have thou not for a God any other Gods before me.

II. Do not make to thyself an image.

III. Do not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy, etc.

V. Honor thy father and thy mother, that thou mayst long live in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Do not falsely bear witness against thy neighbor.

X. Do not covet, etc.

I. Ummanittoomuhkon onkatogeeg manittoog ut anaqunbeh.

II. Ayimaauhkon kuhhoh nunneu kontunkoh.

III. Neemunumooohon Owefuonk Jehovah Kummanittoom tahnooche.

IV. Mehquontagh Sabbath day woh kuppahketeauun, etc.

V. Quttianum Koosh kah Kookas, onk woh kussepe pomantam ut kutonkert uttiyeu Jehovah Kummanittoomun aninnumunkuean.

VI. Nushehteohkon.

VII. Manuffehkon.

VIII. Kommootuhkou.

IX. Panoowae wauwaonuhkon. Ketatteamunk.

X. Anchewontohkon, etc.

INTERESTING LETTERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON AND ANDREW JACKSON.

The following letters of two of America's distinguished patriots will be read with great interest, and deserve to be framed and placed in every household for the instruction and guidance of the youth of this country. These letters were written under the following circumstances :

Peter A. Grotjan, Esq., of Philadelphia, and his lady had for many years enjoyed a correspondence with Mr. Jefferson. In December, 1823, Mrs. Grotjan wrote to Mr. Jefferson, requesting him to bestow his name on her infant son, and write him a letter of advice as a

legacy to him. On the evening of the 9th of June, 1833, Mr. Grotjan introduced his son, now in the tenth year of his age, to General Jackson, and requested him to add his sentiments. He retired to his room, and returned in a few minutes with his sentiments written on Mr. Jefferson's letter.

TH. JEFFERSON TO TH. JEFFERSON GROTTJAN.

Your affectionate mother requests that I would address to you, as a namesake, something which might have a favorable impression on the course of life you have to run. Few words are necessary with good dispositions on your part. Adore God. Reverence and cherish your parents. Love your neighbor as yourself; and your country more than life. Be just. Be true. Murmur not at the ways of Providence; and the life into which you have entered will be the passage to one of eternal and ineffable bliss; and if to the dead it is permitted to care for the things of this world, every action of your life will be under my regard. Farewell.

Monticello, Jan. 10, '24.

Although requested by Mr. Grotjan, yet I can add nothing to the admirable advice given to his son by that virtuous patriot and enlightened statesman, Thomas Jefferson. The precious relic which he sent to the young child contains the purest morality, and inculcates the noblest sentiments. I can only recommend a rigid adherence to them. They will carry him through life safely and respectably; and, what is far better, they will carry him through death triumphantly; and we may humbly trust they will secure to all, who in principle and practice adopt them, that crown of immortality described in the Holy Scriptures.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Philadelphia, June 9, 1833.

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUMS.

At last, our citizens have shaken off the lethargy which for years has kept our beautiful city in the back ground. We are to have *two museums*; think of it! and both are to be models of elegance and attractiveness. One of these desirable institutions is to be erected at Ninth and Arch streets (half a square only from our new coin depot) and the other at Tenth and Arch streets, two of the best locations that could be found in all our broad and lengthy city.

DISSOLUTION, ETC.

Mr. L. W. Durbin, who for the past year has managed the Postage Stamp Department of our firm, retired from the company, April 1st. The name of the firm will remain the same, and, after we get in our new location, we promise to keep well supplied with everything pertaining to the coin and stamp business. We have now in press new coin and stamp catalogues, and expect to have our new store ready for occupancy the 10th of the present month.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TRIFET & Co., BOSTON.—You say that you are entitled to an *exchange* for a certain "kick" you gave our journal in a "candid opinion" published in your *January* issue. The "kick" you allude to has not been received; but a friend, who perused the *kind* remarks you were supplied with by a member of the Numismatic Association, concerning this journal, informs us you asserted that the only *original* matter in our magazine was "Replies to Correspondents." We must confess that in the matter of those "two dollars" you owe us, *originality*, as well as the *money*, is wanting, this being the third call. When you pay the money due for the 1836 cent returned to you several months since, we will cheerfully *exchange*. A *hint* is as good as a *kick*.

A. R. P.—"Why is it you charge from \$5 to \$40 for half cents from 1840 to 1848? Trifet & Co. advertises 1825 to 1848 half cents five cents to twenty-five cents each, according to condition." *Ans.*—The half cents of 1831, 1836, 1840 to 1848 and 1852 inclusive, are all very rare, and range in coin sales from \$5 to \$40 each, the rarest being 1842 and 1847. Of course, Trifet cannot sell *genuine* half cents of those dates for the prices named. You will notice the need of a numismatic critic on the coin matter in Trifet's publication, as he advertises the very common nickel cents of 1857 on sale at from fifty cents to \$2 50 each! We all know that the ordinary 1857 nickels are very plenty, and are worth about one cent each.

P. A., JR.—The New York Numismatic Journal is \$3 per annum. Fifty cents monthly. The London Numismatic Chronicle is \$2 50 per number; \$10 per annum, issued quarterly.

H. L. S., FOREST CITY.—Do not think No. 2 will be published inside of three months. February and March numbers mailed twice.

S. S.—Heath & Co., Philadelphia, are getting up an illustrated coin manual, similar to Dr. Dickeson's, oblong in shape.

R. L. P.—We have very few back numbers, and none of the dates you name.

L. H. M.—Two sales in New York. See editorial.

NEW COIN PRICED CATALOGUE.

We have in press a new and improved coin catalogue, containing a very full list of the different series of United States coins, silver and copper, with fictitious value added. Price, 25 cents. Also, a price list of the coins we have for sale, which will be sent free to all persons enclosing stamp for return postage.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

The private collection of coins, medals, books, curiosities, minerals, etc., of L. Montgomery Bond, of this city, will be offered for public sale next month, date not fixed. Catalogues forwarded on application.

MINT DROPS.

AUSTRIAN COINAGE.—The Government of Austria, it is announced, intends issuing new gold coins, corresponding in value to the French Napoleons and half Napoleons, or twenty franc and ten franc pieces, in U. S. currency, \$3 84 and \$1 92. The Austrian sovereign is worth \$6 75 and the Union crown \$6 64, so that the new coin will furnish an exact standard of exchange with France and Western Europe.

NOT MINT DROPS.—Bogus five cent nickel coins are flooding the country. They are of a dull lead color, inclined to yellow and not as heavy as the genuine. The legend, "In God We Trust" is a trifle larger in the counterfeits.

THE COPPER COINAGE of Great Britain, according to a royal proclamation recently issued, ceased to be current December 31, 1869. It has been superceded by the bronze currency.

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

It is gratifying to the publishers of this journal to be able to announce that our subscribers have or can realize over two hundred per cent. on the money originally invested in subscriptions to the volumes of this magazine. The February number of the *New York Numismatic Journal* has a flaming advertisement on the inside cover, which we copy in the strong hope that the number wanted may be obtained. We could not supply the June number, 1869, for three times the amount offered in the following advertisement:

WANTED.

The June number of Mason's Coin Magazine for 1869. \$1 will be paid for a good copy. Address WILLIAM WOOD & CO., Publishers, No. 61 Walker Street, New York.

All subscribers wishing to sell their magazines, bound or unbound, separate numbers or completed volumes, will please fix a price, and send their address to this office.

ALLEN'S COIN SALE.

A valuable and unique collection of silver medals and coins, the property of John Allen, Esq., (*the cleverest man*) of New York, will be sold at public auction in May. Due notice given.

WANTED.

This Magazine for April, 1867; December, 1868; January, February, March, April, May and June, 1869; January and February, 1870. Cash or trade for one or more. Complete volumes purchased.

REMOVAL.

The office of this magazine has been removed to No. 139 North Ninth Street. All orders hereafter should be addressed to Mason & Co., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

A very rare and choice private collection of coins, medals and pattern pieces (336 lots) will be offered at public sale on Tuesday, April 12, at Birch & Sons' auction rooms, in this city. The gold and silver are very choice pieces, and some of the pattern pieces are of great rarity, never before offered at public sale. We have sent handsomely printed catalogues (wide tinted paper) to those of our patrons who favor us with orders. All others will be supplied on receipt of twenty-five cents. This course is rendered necessary on account of the small quantity we have for distribution. Priced catalogues, broad margin, tinted paper, will be furnished after the sale at one dollar each.

PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT.

THE ST. LOUIS STAMPS.

The English, French and German Philatelic Magazines come to us filled with heavy communications and editorials upon the authenticity of the stamps of St. Louis: the five cent and ten cent issues, which were used by that office about the year 1845. In justice to Mr. L. W. Durbin, who has faithfully adhered to the bold stand taken by him in behalf of these much abused stamps, we admit his communication, which should forever set at rest any doubt that St. Louis was the pioneer in this country in the matter of government postage stamps. In addition to the papers of Mr. Durbin, in defence of the stamps, we have had the pleasure of perusing a letter in the possession of R. C. Davis, of this city, from the General Post Office, at Washington, enclosing a pair of the above named stamps, originally obtained from the Post Master at St. Louis:

PHILADELPHIA, March, 8, 1870.

GENTS.—In the November, 1869, No. of the *Le Timbrophile*, appears an article upon the St. Louis stamps, in which the writer, M. Marcou, intimates that they were forgeries and manufactured by me. The affidavit which Mr. Kershaw very kindly made for me, and which I append, will I trust, be sufficient to refute that charge. If M. Marcou will carefully peruse the article in the September, 1868, No. of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, he will find that it reads as follows, "The engraver of these stamps * * * * informs us that *about* the year 1848, etc." Mr. Kershaw's papers were destroyed during the late war, and he could not remember the exact year. It will also be noticed, that in his (Mr. Kershaw's) affidavit, he says, "during or *about* the year 1845." Mr. Kershaw does not state that he engraved the plates for these stamps, either in 1845 or 1848, but *about* that time. M. Marcou affirms that all the St. Louis stamps that have been sold came from me and were new. This statement is false. I have never owned but four sets, three of which I sold, but not one of them in Europe; nor have I ever offered any for sale

there. If I remember rightly, all I had were cancelled with pen-strokes, and I do not know of a single uncanceled specimen. The French are noted for their politeness, but M. Marcon has shown himself utterly devoid of some of the qualities of a gentleman in the closing remarks of his communication to *Le Timbrophile*, and for him to draw his conclusions that the St. Louis stamps are forgeries, from such a source, *The Timbrophilist* shows that he is clutching at the last straw to prove his position. In conclusion, I would say that the affidavit of Mr. Kershaw shows that but two values were engraved, viz.: five and ten cents, and therefore the twenty cent stamp, that has lately been noticed in the *American Journal of Philately*, is a forgery.

LEON W. DURBIN.

Be it remembered that on this twenty-fifth day of February, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, came James M. Kershaw, an engraver in the City of St. Louis, County and State aforesaid, and who is personally known to me to be the same person who executed this instrument of writing as per his hand and seal, and being by me duly sworn on his oath, deposes and says: That during, or about the year eighteen hundred and forty-five (1845), he did, upon the order of John M. Winner, Post Master for the said City of St. Louis, engrave a copper plate, containing thereon the engraving of six Postage Stamps, bearing the coat of arms of the State of Missouri, for the use of the Post Office Department in said City of St. Louis, and that he believes the fore-mentioned stamps to have been of the denomination of five and ten cents, and further deponent sayeth not.

JAMES M. KERSHAW. [SEAL.]

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this twenty-fifth day of February, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy.

CYRUS G. HOYT,

Notary Public for St. Louis County, Missouri.

RICHMOND CITY POST STAMP.

We have lately seen a specimen of the much doubted *Richmond City Post* Stamp. The one we examined differed from any of the numerous counterfeits of the *Richmond Post* we have ever seen, and has a really genuine appearance. It is printed in blue upon thick white paper. RICHMOND above, CITY Post below, and two cannons crossed in the centre; no value expressed. It was post-marked and was taken from a letter written by a gentleman, who was in the South during the late war, to a brother in this city. From an inspection of the above stamp, and the information received from the gentleman in whose possession it is, we are inclined to believe that the stamp above described is one of a genuine emission from the city of Richmond during the war.

COUNTERFEIT STAMPS.

A gang of postage stamp counterfeiters has been discovered and broken up in Toronto. Postage stamps to the amount of several thousand dollars have been counterfeited and sold in large quantities to dealers at a heavy discount.

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—In our last number, we referred to the new three cent stamp, with the bust of Washington, now being prepared, together with the balance of series of new stamps for this country, by the National Bank Note Company of New York. We are now able to add that the new three cent postage stamp will be printed either in two colors, red and green or green alone, the selection not yet decided upon. The three cent issue has Washington's bust, profile, in an oval on a shield in a rectangular frame; "United States Postage" over the head in a scroll; "Three Cents" in lower margin.

The National Bank Note Company of New York has submitted specimens of the new postage stamps to the "powers that be," at Washington. The designs, as announced at "head quarters," are as follows:

- One cent, bust of Franklin, blue.
- Two do do Jackson, dark brown.
- Three cent, do Washington, green.
- Six do do Lincoln, red.
- Ten do do Jefferson, light brown.
- Twelve cent, bust of Clay, purple.
- Fifteen do do Webster, deep yellow.
- Twenty-four cent, bust of Scott, violet.
- Thirty do do Hamilton, black.
- Ninety do do Perry, scarlet.

There is yet some uncertainty in regard to the colors of the stamps, a portion of them may be printed in two colors, but the above is probably correct in the main. We regret to hear that the new three cent issue is to be *green*, as it will be in general appearance much like the 20 cent confederate stamp.

Assistant Post Master General Terrell has received specimens of the new issue. They will be ready for sale about the middle of this month.

TURKEY.—The Sublime Porte has at length decided to issue envelope stamps. The type which it has chosen presents in itself no very extraordinary features, but it is impressed in a truly unique manner, one half appearing on the flap and the other on the envelope below, so that when the latter is opened, the design, so to speak, "comes in two." The stamp, which is in relief, is colored yellow, but the surcharged characters are in black, and the paper itself is of a grayish tint. Its value is 1 piastre, but we believe a second value also exists, $1\frac{1}{2}$ piastre. *Stamp Collectors' Magazine.*

The design of the 1 p. stamp, is an octangular frame containing a crescent and the value. Turkish characters in the four sides, and a star in each angle.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—In addition to the official stamps described in our last, the *Journal of Philately* chronicles the emission of a set for the Southern States, of the same design, consisting of the following values: 1, 2, 3 and 7 pr.

THE DECCAN.—*The Philatelist* announces the reception of a $\frac{3}{4}$ anna stamp from Hyderabad, the capital of the above government. "The shape is rectangular oblong; Indian characters over a running pattern of florets; the outer space being a ground of engine-turned design. It is printed in blackish green, and is perforated."

CANADA.—In addition to the three cent stamp described in our February number, we have received the one cent, orange.

ANTIOQUIA.—*Le Timprophile* notices the existence of a 5 centavo stamp of a different design to that of the present issue.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

A variety of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavo has turned up. The designs differ from the $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavo described in our July, 1869, number, but the color is the same.

BAVARIA.—M. Moens announces the apparition of a returned letter stamp for the exclusive use of the city of Spiers, in Rhenish Bavaria.—*Philatelist*.

FINLAND.—After a careful research, Dr. Magnus has ascertained that there were two issues of the 10 and 20 p. envelopes of 1845, the colors being reversed.

SPAIN.—The colors of the new series, as far as ascertained, are as follows:

—25 mills, lilac.	50 mills, blue.
100 do red.	200 do brown.
400 do green.	1 ese, 600 do violet.
2 ese brown.	12 cuar, lake.
19 cuar, green.	

NATAL.—The one penny stamp is printed in yellow instead of carmine.

PORTUGAL.—The 240 reis has appeared; color, violet. We are also informed that the 100 reis is to be printed in red instead of lilac.

POSTAL PUBLICATIONS.

The Continental Philatelic Magazine, C. Van Rinsum, Amsterdam, Holland.

The January number of the above journal is before us, and contains much of interest to the stamp collector. It is embellished with a number of engravings of newly issued stamps, and will be sent free to every one who sends in a good article on philately.

A Descriptive Catalogue of all American and Foreign Postage Stamps, New York. J. W. Scott & Co.

This, the eighteenth edition, comes to us in a new dress, illustrated with numerous engravings, and containing descriptions and price of all stamps issued to date.

BEHIND TIME.

Our magazine has been delayed by the removal of our store. We trust our patrons will overlook this delay, which was unavoidable. Parties wanting coins, stamps, etc., will remember the location.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

MAY, 1870.

No. 5.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

Just turn around and we shall see the next process the strips undergo, after being washed free from grease or wax in warm water. Round pieces, called *planchets*, a little larger than the coins they are to make, are being cut from them. Four cutting presses of one kind are in a row; but more being required, Mr. Peale constructed two on about the same principle, but much more compact and handsome. They are not, however, quite so conveniently adjusted as the old ones; and as these show the mode of operating more plainly, we will examine them.

The press consists of a vertical steel punch, which works in a round hole or matrix cut in a solid steel plate. The action of the punch is obtained by an eccentric wheel. For instance, in an ordinary carriage wheel the axis is in the centre, and the wheel revolves evenly around it. But if the axis is placed, say four inches from the centre, then it would revolve with a kind of hobble. From this peculiar motion is its name derived. Suppose the tire of the wheel is arranged, not to revolve with, but to slip easily around the wheel, and a rod is fastened to one side of the tire which prevents its turning. Now as the wheel revolves and brings the *long side nearest the rod* it will push forward the rod, and when the long side of the wheel is *away from the rod* it draws the rod with it.

The upper shaft on which are placed the three large wheels has also fastened to it, over each press, an eccentric wheel. In the first press there are three upright rods running from near the table to the top. The middle one is connected with a tire around the eccentric wheel, and rises and falls with each revolution. The eccentric power is very popular among machinists, as it gives great rapidity of motion with but little jerking.

The operator places one end of the strip under the punch and cuts out a couple of *planchets*, which are a fraction larger than the coin to be struck. As the strips are of uniform thickness, if these two are of the right weight, all cut from the strip will be. They are therefore weighed accurately. If right, or a little too heavy, they are allowed to pass, as the extra weight can be filed off. If too light, the whole

strip has to be remelted. The strips that are correct are quickly cut up, the press striking two hundred and twenty double eagle planchets, or two hundred and fifty smaller pieces, in a minute. A man has cut over a million dollars in double eagles in a single day. As fast as cut the planchets fall into a box below, and the perforated strips are folded into convenient lengths to be remelted. From a strip valued at about eleven hundred dollars, eight hundred dollars of planchets will be cut. They are still in a very rough, ragged state, and look but little like coin. The second press, rather smaller than the rest, is the first introduced, and has been in constant use for about forty years; has never been broken, nor had fifty cents' worth of repairs done to it.

(To be continued.)

GREAT MICKLEY SALE IN NEW YORK.

NOVEMBER, 1867.

(Concluded.)

Annapolis, or Chalmers' Shilling, 1783; obverse, J. CHALMERS, ANNAPOLIS; fine. \$50.

Chalmers' Shilling, 1783; in perfect uncirculated condition. \$11.

Chalmers' Shilling, 1783. \$6.

Chalmers' Sixpence, 1783; very fine. \$12.

A set of Chalmers' money, Shilling, Sixpence and Threepence; fine. \$41.

Baltimore Town Piece; obverse, bust; reverse, "Standish Barry Threepence, struck July 4, 1790;" very fine; extremely rare. \$21.

Kentucky Piece. "British Settlement of Kentucky, 1796;" splendid bronze proof; rare. \$37.

Kentucky Piece; obverse like the last; reverse, "Half Penny, Copper-Company of Upper Canada;" splendid bronze proof; rare. \$40.

Kentucky Token, "Our cause is just;" lettered edge; uncirculated; scarce. \$2 50.

Kentucky Token; plain edge; proof; scarce. \$1 75.

Confederatio; obverse, TYRANIS IN PERPETUUM AB EIT TERRA; reverse, CONFEDERATIO AMERICANA JUVENUS; fine. \$75.

Philadelphia Shilling; obverse, arms of the city; reverse, "Corporation of Philadelphia, One Shilling Token;" very fine; rare. \$30.

Continental Currency, 1776. \$3 25.

Continental Currency, 1776; error in spelling; tin; fine proof; \$3 25.

Continental Currency. E. G. FECIT; tin; fine proof; rarest variety. \$5 50.

Georgius Triumpho, 1783; uncirculated; rare. \$3 25.

North American Token, 1781; uncirculated; rare. 35 cents.

Pure Copper preferable to Paper. 25 cents.

A ship; a shield, surrounded by thirteen stars; called by Dickson the North Carolina Copper. \$2 12.

- Ships, Colonies and Commerce; American flag; fine. 20 cents.
 Pitt Token; "The restorer of commerce, 1766;" fine; scarce.
 \$3 25.
 Franklin Press Half Penny, 1794; fine; proof; scarce. \$1 75.
 An oval Token in tin, "Philad. 1799;" reverse, "Associate Church;" very rare. \$5.
 Cut Quarter of a Dollar; without date; obverse, an eagle, "Nouvelle Orleans; reverse, "P. B.;" rare; fine. \$7.
 Slave kneeling; "Am I not a Man and a Brother?" large planchet; copper; proof; scarce. \$1 75.
 Same as the last, but on a small planchet; uncirculated, but not quite proof; scarce. \$1.
 "Am I not a Woman and a Sister?" copper; fine. 25 cents.
 Liberia Cent, 1833; fine. 15 cents.
 Silver Coin of Ferdinand and Isabella; pierced, otherwise good; scarce. \$2 75.
 Massachusetts Button; Indian standing; very fine. 45 cents.

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M. JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

RICHARD I., A. D. 1189.

There are no English coins of this king in any collection. The pennies engraved by Snelling were forged by a celebrated collector of the name of White. The only pennies yet known of Richard I were coined in Poictou and Aquitaine.

Obverse.—A plain cross; legend, the name and style, RICARDVS REX.

Reverse.—PICTAVIENSIS in the field of the coin.

The Aquitaine pennies resemble those of Poictou, excepting, of course, the name Aquitaine. There are, however, other types of this money, all of which are very rare.

JOHN, A. D. 1199.

Although there were many mints of this king in England, none of his English coins have been discovered. There is a half penny of John:

Obverse.—His face, represented like a full moon, with the legend, JOHANES DOM. But most of his coins have his head within a triangle.

Reverse.—A cross voided between four annulets or rings, with the moneyer's name, NORMAN ON DIW.

Obverse.—The obverse of the Irish penny has the head of John within a triangle, and a rose on the left side, the right hand holding a sceptre, with the legend JOHANNES REX. The half penny has a star on each side of the head, which is also in a triangle, and the legend JOHAN REX. The farthing has the same obverse as the half-penny, but the moneyer's name WILLEM ON. instead of the king's.

Reverse.—The reverse of the half penny has a triangle, within

which is a crescent, and a cross above it. On each side of the crescent is a small star: the legend WILLEM ON WA, William of Waterford. On the farthing is a star within a triangle, and the name of the king, JOHANES, and the addition of DW., which belongs to the legend on the obverse, and is meant for Dublin. The penny has a crescent and a star above it, both within a triangle, with the moneyer's name, WILEM ON LIME. There is a star at each point of the triangle, and one on each side of it, near the edge of the coin.

Rarity.—The pennies and half pennies of John are rare, and the farthings still more rare.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

This encouraging language was held on the 13th of September, 1779. Subsequently, they recur to the same subject thus: "Paper money is the only kind which will not make unto itself wings and fly away. It will remain with us; it will not forsake us." They then repeat their conviction of the ability of the country to redeem it, and having pledged for the support of independence their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor, the same pledge is given to the public for the payment of all their paper emissions. A contrary sentiment is rejected with scorn and proceeding in their address. With the earnestness of honest men they speak of a bankrupt, faithless republic as a novelty in the political world. "It would appear," say they, "like a common prostitute among respectable matrons. The pride of America revolts from the idea. Her citizens know for what purposes these emissions were made, and they must be redeemed. He must entertain a high opinion of American credulity who supposes the people capable of believing that all America will act against the faith, the honor and the interest of all America. Knowing, as we all do, the value of national character, and impressed with a due sense of the immutable laws of justice and honor, it is impossible that America should think, without horror, of such an execrable deed."

Thus spoke the band of able statesmen who governed in those days. No thought of repudiation was for a moment tolerated. They had created the paper currency, they suggested a feasible scheme of its redemption, and they held the honest purpose of executing that scheme. But they had no power. The jealousy of the States counteracted their good intentions. What they could not redeem themselves was assumed by a generous constituency. The people who bore the blunt of an eight years' war, and victoriously established independence, sustained, without a murmur, the whole tax, and voluntarily reduced to nothingness the greatest item in the cost of the Revolution, and thus waived all claim upon posterity for its payment.

This was undoubtedly a severe tax; yet, when examined with care, it will be found less heavy than it appears at first sight. Let us take the largest sum by which the people could have been affected, say three hundred millions at twenty for one, which is only half the rate fixed by Congress. Twenty for one on three hundred millions will give fifteen millions of sound money. These fifteen millions, having been used as currency for six years, give an annual average of two millions and a half. That sum, among a population of three millions, would not be a poll tax of one dollar; or, if the three millions of inhabitants be divided into families of six persons each, making five hundred thousand families, the annual loss per family would be only five dollars! In all probability the real loss was less to many than this proportion, because the bills passed with great activity from hand to hand to their last days, even when five hundred for one, never remaining locked up nor long withdrawn from circulation. They were divided, too, into small sums, from one dollar to eighty, and always convertible, at the current exchange, into every kind of real and personal property, and, in their hourly, rapid passage, leaving with each temporary possessor the trifling loss only of their daily depreciation.

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Gilder or Gulder.—A Dutch coin, worth about 42 cents.

Guinea.—An English coin, worth about \$5.

Gilt.—See *Plated*.

Leated.—A coin having a purple appearance produced by a red hot iron, or flame of a light.

Highest Rarity.—A term used in describing coins; by some collectors called "nearly unique."

Hacked.—See *Battered*.

Hair Line.—A very fine line produced by the die in coining.

Hog Piece.—A term sometimes used to designate the Somer Islands' coin.

Horse Head.—Referring to the New Jersey coinage.

Horse Head Left.—A rare variety of the Colonial coins.

Hunched Up.—A piece altered by forcing the designs into different shapes with mechanical implements.

Indian Head.—On obverse of 1858 to Pattern Nickel Cents, and regular coinage of Nickel Cents 1859 to 1870.

Imperial.—A Russian gold coin, worth about \$7 84.

Iridescent.—Colored with rainbow tints by contact with velvet.

Itzebu.—Japanese coins, such as gold and silver Itzebus; the former worth about \$1, the latter worth about 35 cents.

(To be continued.)

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 1.

Many interesting and amusing scenes are witnessed in the store of a coin dealer. Human nature, in its varied phases, exhibits itself here as elsewhere; but, the novelty and mysteries of the coin business, to the uninitiated, produces, at times, some queer scenes, which are highly appreciated by the knowing few who have made numismatics a study.

We shall endeavor to give the reader an insight into the trade, and almost daily experience of a dealer in coins, curiosities, etc., by means of a few sketches illustrating incidents occurring between the dealer, his customers and visitors.

Scene First represents the interior of a coin store, the furniture of which consists of a counter, show case, coin cabinets, a few arm chairs, desk, pigeon holes for letters, and a glass partition separating a small portion of store which is used for private bargains, such as buying and exchanging coins, conversation room, etc. The coin dealer is behind the counter waiting upon customers, while in one corner sits the active *smart* coin collector, eagerly watching the visitors in hopes of snapping up a coin at a bargain, ere the usual patrons flock in, and by competition, run a good piece beyond its fictitious value.

(Enter a lady, very handsomely dressed, who presents a small slip cut from a city paper, which reads in large capitals, "\$25 paid for a 1799 cent")

Lady.—"Is this your advertisement, sir?"

Dealer.—(Blandly). "It is, madam."

Lady.—"Do you really pay twenty-five dollars for a 1799 cent?"

Dealer.—"We pay that price for a perfect cent of that date."

Here the "smart collector" in the corner leans eagerly forward and becomes anxiously interested.

Lady.—(Smiling hopefully, dives her hand down deep into the recesses of her morocco satchel and produces a small paper parcel, which she carefully unwraps.) "I have it, sir—a copper cent of 1799—as perfect as the day it was made. My father was born that year, and always kept it carefully wrapped up. At his death we found it among some old papers, and on account of its brightness and beauty we laid it aside until we read your advertisement, when we concluded to sell it."

At this point of the lady's remarks the dealer's eyes widened; his face brightened up, the picture of hope so long deferred now to be, for the first time, realized. The "smart collector" was up from his chair in an instant, and stood near the interesting couple, who were negotiating for the long looked for perfect cent of 1799. The cent is finally exposed in all its brightness and beauty, and, there sure enough, is the date, 1799, sharply prominent; but, alas! that it must be said, it was an English half-penny of George III! Down fell the dealer's hopes, and down in the comfortable arm chair plumped the "smart

collector," while the lady gazed from dealer to collector in utter amazement.

Dealer.—"Madam, this is a pretty and perfect coin of 1799, but, unfortunately for us both, it is not an American cent, but an English half penny, worth about 25 cents."

Lady.—(Indignantly) "Why did you not say American cent in your advertisement?"

Dealer.—(Sarcastically.) "Because, madam, the word cent is understood to be an American coin; while the English use the word penny. We did not advertise for an English half penny of 1799."

Lady retires, muttering something about the obtuseness of advertisers and the humbuggery of the coin trade, while the smart collector and dealer indulge in a little good natured dialogue, not unmixed with merriment and patiently await the next visitor.

NUMISMATIC CRITICS AND PUNSTERS.

Witty sayings, puns and criticisms are constantly emitted in congregations of numismatists, which, if published, would rank well by the side of the writings of Tom Hood, and make a respectable appearance in the froth of *London Punch*, or be highly honored if associated with the emanations of our own *Punchinello*. The stores of coin dealers, and the rooms of auctioneers, when coin sales are in progress, are the chosen grounds for these scholastic utterances and scintillating sayings. The critics generally collect upon the appearance of a fresh coin sale catalogue, and then woe to the compiler of said catalogue if error of syntax, orthography, etymology, misquotation of inscriptions or blunders of a linguistic nature are allowed to appear.

Another occasion for this amusing and sometimes interesting display of the literary abilities of the critics, is the appearance of the monthly numismatic magazines. Our own journal is, of course, no exception, and frankly, we admit, furnishes frequent opportunities for the critic's dissecting knife. It matters not what the hurry or confusion may be in going to press, our kind friends suffer no apologies but look for perfection in these matters, and cry out in grievous alarm lest numismatics retrograde in the scale of the sciences.

The punning portion of the numismatic fraternity we have more patience with, for they serve a rich condiment to season the dry dishes of our diurnal aliment. Criticisms in a coin store often terminate with more or less badinage, and the inevitable puns creep wittily in between, like gleams of sunshine, to enliven, refresh, and make enjoyable all these numismatic discussions.

Upon the appearance of the last issue of this journal (All Fools' day!), our office was well filled with patrons, and the magazine was eagerly examined with a view of commencing the regular debate. One subscriber opens his battery upon the editor by asserting that the very first word in the book is an error. "The word "*Dahlongena*" is spelled wrong."

"Typographical," replies the editor. (Oh, what a capital *gate* that word *typographical* is to get an editor out of a difficulty at the expense of the printer.) Another subscriber adds to the confusion of the publishers by asserting that "the Latin word *denarius* is in the *singular* number, and you have used it in the plural."

"No 'typographical' there," puts in subscriber No. 1. At this point of the *one-sided argument*, the funny subscriber suggests that our "plate of the photographs of collectors could be improved by using a little powder on the faces." Now comes the editor's chance for the offensive in the reply, that "our journal is not a *powder magazine*." "I thought it was," says the funny subscriber, "as it is always *blowing up* somebody." The editor has the worst of the argument, and while all are enjoying a hearty laugh at his expense, a sarcastic subscriber turns the tables by pointing to the grey hairs of the funny subscriber, and saying, "Such a remark might be a decent pun in a young man, but I think it *bad-in-age*."

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE. Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cal's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

The last census of the United States informs us that there are twenty-eight lapidaries in its territories—sixteen of whom are in New York, nine in Rhode Island, two in Massachusetts, and one in New Jersey. But throughout the whole world the only diamond cutter of eminence at the present day (we mean to whom the cutting of a stone of extraordinary size would be entrusted) is M. Coster, of Amsterdam, if we except one of growing reputation in Paris, whose name we cannot recall. Within late years the steam engine has been employed at Amsterdam to do a great portion of the cutting.

The shape, as yet discovered, which renders the diamond the most effective in its lustre, is called the *Brilliant*, and was first adopted about a century and a half ago. This shape, in the absence of engravings, we will attempt to describe for the benefit of those readers who have not met with stones of sufficient size to have been the subjects of careful cutting. The *Brilliant* is of the shape of two pyramids, whose bases are hecdecagons, or sixteen sided, placed base to base, the upper half (in altitude) of one of which pyramid has been first cut off; the other pyramid is left complete, or at most is deprived of its vertex or mere tip. The truncated pyramid is the one which is presented to the view when the diamond is set in any piece of jewelry, the perfect pyramid being behind or under. The truncated and the perfect pyramids are called respectively the *table* and the *collet*, and their line of unison, or, what is the same thing, the perimeter of either's base is called the *girdle*. The largest *facet* on the *Brilliant* is the plane of dissection of the upper half of that pyramid of

which the *table* is formed, which *facet* we have already said in effect is that prominently exposed to view. This *facet* is a regular octagon—so is the minute one produced by the abscission of the vertex of the other pyramid—the other *facets* upon the remaining surface of the two pyramids, or rather what is left of the same, are all quadrangular and triangular.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

BRUTIUM.

Laureated head of Jupiter to the left.

Reverse.—BPETTION, a naked warrior in an offensive posture, armed with a helmet, lance and buckler; at his feet an owl.—Æ.

RHEGIUM.

Head of Diana to the right, a quiver on her shoulder.

Reverse.—PHINION, a lyre.—AR.

CAMARINA.

A lizard.

Reverse.—An indented square with four compartments.—Æ.

CANTANA.

Head of Apollo to the left.

Reverse.—KATANAION, a female in a long robe holding a flower. There are some on which the figure carries a bird.—Æ.

CENTURIPÆ.

Bust of Ceres, behind the head an ear of corn.

Reverse.—CENTYPINON, a plow, and a bird perched upon the share.—Æ.

LEONTINI.

Laureated head of Apollo to the right.

Reverse.—LEONTINON, a female with two ears of corn in her right hand, in her left a spear.—Æ.

MAMERTINI.

Laureated head of Jupiter to the right.

Reverse.—MAMEPTINON, a naked warrior to the right, armed with a lance and a buckler.—Æ.

PANORMUS.

Head of Ceres, with a wheat crown, to the left.

Reverse.—A horse.—AI.

Many of the coins of Panormus have Phœnician characters. The horse frequently occurs on the reverses.

(To be continued.)

RESULT OF PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE, APRIL 12.

The result of the public sale of coins and pattern pieces, was very satisfactory, if we except certain pattern coins, which exhibited a falling off in value, due, no doubt, to the dullness of the times.

The 336 lots realized about \$700.

- No. 28. 1851; proof silver Dollar. \$30.
 No. 29. 1851; uncirculated proof silver Dollar. \$21.
 No. 52. 1815; uncirculated Half Dollar. \$3 50.
 No. 59. 1822; proof Half Dollar. \$2 25.
 No. 60. 1823; uncirculated Half Dollar. \$2 63.
 No. 98. 1815; uncirculated Quarter Dollar. \$4 50.
 No. 101. 1820; proof Half Dollar. \$2 75.
 No. 124. 1807; Dime; very fine. \$2.
 No. 137. 1796; Dime; very fine. \$4.
 No. 154. 1855; proof silver Three Cent Piece. \$2 25.
 No. 179. 1795; Half Dime; copper. \$8.
 No. 190. Gold Ring Dollar. \$6 50.
 No. 208. 1861; pattern silver Half Dollar. \$8 50.
 No. 209. 1861; pattern silver Half Dollar. \$7.
 No. 214. 1863; copper Three Cent Piece; pattern. \$5 50.
 No. 219. 1864; Half Dollar; aluminum. \$8 50.
 No. 226. silver Cent; 1865; pattern. \$10.
 No. 240. 1867; pattern Five Cent Piece. \$13.
 No. 241. 1868; pattern Five Cent Piece. \$12 50.
 No. 246. 1858; set Five Cent, Three Cent and One Cent; copper. \$13 50.
 No. 261. 1869; set nine pieces; patterns. \$17.
 No. 289. Field Medal; aluminum. \$13.
 No. 308. block of ivory; unique. \$10 50.

COGAN'S NEW YORK COIN SALE, APRIL 22.

The result of this sale, we are happy to say, more than realized the expectations of Mr. Cogan: gross amount upwards of four hundred dollars for the 556 lots. The coins, with few exceptions, were very ordinary; and, in many instances, could be purchased at the coin stores for less, by fifty per cent. than prices realised at auction.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

A small sale of coins, foreign and American, came off at Messrs. Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s, Broadway, New York, April 22. As there was nothing remarkable to attract buyers, we have only to say the coins realised more than their full value.

UNITED STATES PATTERN PIECES FOR 1870.

The set of nine silver pieces, precisely in designs the same as the set of 1869, is now ready for collectors. Apply at the United States Mint, in this city.

NEW YORK COIN SALE, APRIL 28, 1869.

The collection of coins, medals and autographs (property of Mr. Maguire, formerly of Washington, D. C.) was brought under Messrs. Leavitt & Strebeigh's hammer on Thursday and Friday evenings. The most interesting coin in the American series was the 1800 Cent (a beautiful uncirculated piece), which was bid off by Mason & Co. at \$35. Many of the silver and some of the gold coins were slaughtered, selling below intrinsic value. Had we received the proper number of catalogues for distribution amongst our patrons, a much larger profit would have accrued to owner than under the *limited plan* of sending catalogues to a few and omitting dealers altogether in the matter of catalogues. When will owners of coin collections learn wisdom in the disposal, by auction, of their property, and the proper distribution of catalogues.

NEW EDITION OF DR. MARIS' BOOK.

Dr. E. Maris, of this city, has issued a second edition of his little pamphlet in reference to the variety of the United States copper coinage of 1794. This improved edition includes a description of forty-three varieties of the cents and seven varieties of the half cents. It will be remembered by our readers that the first edition contained but thirty-nine varieties of the cents and six of the half cents. Only one hundred copies of the second edition printed. Price 25 cents. For sale at this office.

NEW UNITED STATES FIFTY CENT NOTE.

The new issue of fifty cent fractional currency has appeared and is rather an attractive note. The prominent features of the late and lamented Secretary Stanton gives a decidedly handsome appearance to the new issue.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

L. Montgomery Bond's collection of coins, autographs, book cases and curiosities will be sold on May 7. No cards.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

EDITOR'S NOTICE.

In assuming the management of the Postage Stamp Department, we ask the kind indulgence of philatelic critics and readers until we get fitted to the harness. It shall be our aim and ambition to make this department of the magazine attractive and gain for it that popularity which the coin department is noted for. We solicit communications from stamp collectors, and suggestions in any manner connected with philately.

PHILATELY.

The query, a poser to the non-initiated in "Philately," is now readily responded to by the postage-stamp amateur, who triumphantly produces his postage stamp album. Therein, as we have hinted, lie geography, history, dates, peculiarities of produce and commerce, emblems, and, though not actually portrayed, wars and revolutions, their undoubted consequences accurately and permanently chronicled in due chronological order.

Writing as we are primarily for the benefit of the major or juvenile portion of our readers, we may take occasion to explain a word employed which may possibly be a novelty to some of them, and which they would vainly turn over the pages of any dictionary hitherto published to discover. We trust, however, this existing blank in our dictionaries and cyclopedias will ere long be filled up. We mean the word "Philately."

In the early days of postage stamp collecting, its amateurs, principally juveniles, were content to bear the unpretending legitimate English appellation. But when the *furor* was approaching its present respectable proportions, and became patronized by maturer age and more scientific minds, its acknowledged dignity demanded a proportionably suitable name. The French adopted at first the name of *Timbromanie*, Anglice, *Timbromania*. The *double entendre* implied in the word gave rise naturally to sarcastic remark from those who had not discrimination enough to discover the real utility of the novel pursuit: and a well-known Parisian collector, now, alas! seceded from our fraternity, proposed the word *philatelie*, with its corresponding derivatives.

The Greek words, *philos*, a friend, and *telso*, a tax, representing that they are free from further expense. This seems the best word obtainable from a classical source, the total impossibility of finding a Greek or Latin equivalent for what the Greeks or Romans never dreamed of—a postage stamp—precluding a less far-fetched synonym.

The propriety of application to the dead languages for the name of so very recent a fancy is questionable; but the heretofore used French word affording a handle for would-be wits to joke about what they had not sense to understand, and English not being well calculated for compound appellations, what was to be done? For our own part we should have been inclined to call into service the German tongue; more especially as the Germans were among the earlier, if not the earliest, postage stamp collectors. We question, however, whether such long-winded, crackjaw words as *Poststampelsammler* or *Postmarkenliebhaber* would have ever fallen into general vogue.—*Boy's Journal*.

NEW ISSUES.

The United States leads the world in the beauty of its new issue of a set of ten postage stamps; although there will be many severe

criticisms on the likenesses of the distinguished men whose heads are used to ornament the same. The most noted stamp for the critics to harp on will be the three cent (green) head of Washington, from Houdon's bust. This stamp, from its general use, will be analyzed and criticised at home and abroad. To our mind, a true conception of Washington's countenance could not be had by the study of Houdon's bust. All history of that great and good man's appearance, as well as all life portraits, give us, and no doubt the general public, a different idea of Washington's profile, from that which the new three cent stamp furnishes. However, the stamps are well executed, and will without doubt give general satisfaction.

UNITED STATES.—The new stamps for this country are larger than their predecessors and the same size as the issue of 1861. The designs and colors, fully corrected, are as follows:

- One cent, head of Franklin, blue.
- Two do do Jackson, brown.
- Three cent do Washington, green.
- Six do do Lincoln, red.
- Ten do do Jefferson, light brown.
- Twelve cent, head of Clay, dark purple.
- Fifteen do do Webster, orange.
- Twenty-four cent, head of Scott, purple.
- Thirty do do Hamilton, black.
- Ninety do do Perry, carmine.

HOLLAND.—It is reported that two unpaid letter stamps are to be issued, bearing for a design a large figure in the centre indicating the value. The impression is to be in black on colored paper, and the denominations will be 5 cent, blue; 10 cent, orange.

HONDURAS.—Another correspondent sends us a pink 2 reales, which he received on a letter direct from Amapala. After this, the most skeptical can hardly retain their objections to the genuineness of the Honduras stamps.

TURKEY.—Two more envelopes have been issued—

- 3 piastres, orange.
- 6 piastres, violet.

The rumored $1\frac{1}{2}$ piastre, brown, is also in existence.

NICARAGUA.—The normal hue of 25 c. is said to be *bright green*. In this case, the sun and air combined, must have had a wonderful effect on the color of all those that have been sent over to this country.

DUTCH INDIES.—We are informed that the 10 c. of the new type will not be issued until the exhaustion of the stock of the old type.

CEYLON.—We have just received specimens of the shilling, printed a rich deep mauve on the cc., and crown water-marked paper.

CUBA.—The following are the colors of three of the new stamps—5 c., blue; 10 c., green; 20 c., brown.

EGYPT.—The 10 paras is now printed in a very bright mauve, contrasting strongly with its previous hue.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

THE NEW UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS.

Cavil as we may at the profile views of the eminent men whose busts ornament our new stamps, there are points which will, we doubt not, be universally conceded in favor of the new comers, and among these, *beauty* and *uniformity*. It is, doubtless, a work of nice discrimination in the preparation of ten stamps of different values to avoid proximity of colors, and in the case of the new issues there is one noticeable instance in the comparison of the ten cent with the two cent stamp; the former is a light brown, and the latter a dark brown, and already instances have occurred—so nearly the two stamps approximate in color and design—of the ten cent stamp being affixed to newspapers and pamphlets requiring but two cents postage. This difficulty, we learn, is to be obviated by a change of the color of the stamps in question. The twelve and twenty-four cent issues are open to a like objection; it being difficult, in the hurry of the moment, to distinguish between the colors, especially at night. A change in the color of the latter stamps, however, is not so important, the lower values being more in general use, and the line of distinction in color is sufficiently drawn in the one, two, three and six cent stamps. Familiarity with the stamps will, in a measure, correct the evils we allude to; but a change is imperatively demanded in the color of the ten cent issue, without which it will be frequently confounded with the two cent issue, causing considerable loss and perplexity to correspondents.

We present, with pride, our new series for the critical examination of the philatelists and engravers of the old world; and ask, in all candor, for the production of an equal number combining such beauty and uniformity as these attractive postage stamps possess. The return, in proportion, from the little square bits of paper to the size of the earlier issues, is a reform greatly needed, and will win universal praise for the Government.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine, Bath, for April, is not filled with its usual variety of fresh reading matter; but there is a plentiful supply of personalities, refreshingly cool and original—some of which strike heavily on this side of the water.

Alfred Smith & Co., the publishers, seem determined to doubt every fact put forth in an American philatelic journal. In our March number, under the head of "New Issues," appeared the following paragraph:

"UNITED STATES.—There is now being printed a new three cent stamp for this Government. It has the profile of Washington in the centre, in an oval, and is the prettiest and best stamp this Government has ever issued."

Our kind and distant neighbor misquoted the above paragraph, but appropriated the news it conveyed in a very uncivil manner; stating, with extreme caution, that "except a *rumour* of certain forthcoming

emissions, which we quote elsewhere, there is really nothing in the magazine calling for notice."

What right have you, Messieurs Editors, to make and publish as a *rumour* an asserted fact?

The article you quoted (wrongly) did not give the new issue as a *rumour* (the italics are all our own), but spoke of it as a big, round, *solid fact*, without equivocation or affording opportunity for misconstruction.

You were certainly welcome to the news the article conveyed, but, while quoting an important fact from an exchange, you should not have descended to the uncivil treatment of the loafer, who, after obtaining the loan of a five dollar piece, pronounced the coin counterfeit, and then gave his patron a *complimentary* kick for loaning the money!

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine for April has two pages devoted to "Our Contemporaries," in which the editor gives his views of *The Philatelist*, *Le Timbrophile*, *Le Timbre-Posts*, *American Journal of Philately*, *American Stamp Mercury*, and *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

There is an exhaustive paper entitled "Our West Indian Stamps," by that clever and indefatigable Edward L. Pemberton, than whom, in our estimation, none stand higher in the rank of learned philatelists.

"The Franking Privilege in France" and the "Half Penny Postage Question" is next given from other publications, and we would say, *en passant*, that these articles are not exactly matter appropriate for stamp collectors.

"Papers For Beginners," by Overy Taylor, is very good in its way, but exceptions could be well taken to some of the points advanced by Mr. Taylor, had we the space to particularize. "Newly Issued Stamps," by the editor, contains considerable information and we do the publication in question the honor of quoting some of the same in our present number.

"Reviews of Postal Publications," "Postal Chit-Chat," "Correspondence," and "Answers to Correspondents," make the balance of the reading matter. There are twelve pages of advertisements and an equal number of pages are given to the articles enumerated above—equally divided and equally interesting.

The Philatelist, for April, Stafford, Smith & Co., Brighton, is also on our table. This number exceeds in interest its neighbor and rival. It is filled with entertaining and instructive stamp matter. Our space this month is too limited for a proper review of its contents.

The American Journal of Philately, April 20, is received, and is a fine specimen of the printers' skill, barring a few unimportant typographical errors, which, strive as we may, will creep into the best regulated journal. Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., printers, deserve great credit for the style of their printing; we speak *by the card*, having had a large order for *cards* and catalogues satisfactorily exe-

cuted by that firm. The present number of the *Journal of Philately* is handsomely illustrated with colored views of new issues of Switzerland, and a very correct copy, in the true color of the new U. S. three cent postage stamp.

Here we take occasion to open the question of priority of claim as to the subject of first presenting a description of the new green three cent U. S. postage stamp to the philatelic public. We hardly think the matter open to question, as our journal first published a general description of the new stamp in the March number, which was in press February 25, several days before the appearance of the *American Journal of Philately's* extra sheet, containing a full description of the new series. If the editors claim to be the first to publish a description of the three cent issue, we answer *negatively*; if they claim the first publication to the *whole issue* or complete set, we reply in the affirmative. Draw the line, Messrs. Editors, and award the proper credit.

CORRECTION.

The name of the Post Master of St. Louis, in the affidavit of James M. Kershaw, in the April number of this journal, was incorrectly given; it should have been John M. Wimer.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

We have issued a new catalogue, improved and corrected to date, fully illustrated, with illuminated title page. It contains 32 pages, printed on heavy white paper. This priced stamp catalogue will be mailed for 25 cents, or 15 cents when a packet of stamps is ordered. Our packet list will be found on the last page.

TO STAMP PATRONS.

In our store, 139 North Ninth street, will be found a large supply of foreign and American postage stamps and a great variety of albums; also a nicely furnished and fitted retiring room, where the collector can assort or arrange stamps and read all the philatelic publications of the day at leisure.

MASON & CO.'S CHAMPION STAR PACKETS.

We have prepared a series of packets, termed as above, at prices varying from 25 cents to \$5. Desirable stamps will be found in the lower priced packets (such as we sell from 25 to 50 cents each), and rare stamps in those from 75 cents to \$5 each. We can supply dealers with stamps in any quantity desired, and at very low prices.

JUST OUT.

Our large handsome (priced) postage stamp catalogue (illuminated covers), illustrated, corrected and improved to May 1, 1870, is now ready for collectors. Price 25 cents.

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'

MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

JUNE, 1870.

No. 6.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

We will leave this room and go into a much more cheerful one for a moment, to see the sorting of the planchets. They are thrown upon a table with two holes in it, and a woman picks out all the imperfect pieces or chips, which are slipped into one hole, and the perfect ones into the other, where they fall into different boxes. It is not much to see; so come into the entry, up the marble stairs into the second story, past the Director's room, out upon a gallery looking down upon the court yard below. At the further end of the gallery we pass through a small entry and enter a room. What a peculiar noise like a young ladies' school at recess, only a strange filing sound withal! Nearly sixty females, some young and pretty, some—middle aged and fine looking. Jessie will have to do the examination: we cannot stand the one hundred and twenty eyes brought to a focus on us.

She tells us it is the Adjusting Room. Each operator has on the table before a pair of assay scales. Seated close to the table, a leather apron, one end tacked to the table, is fastened under her arms to catch any gold that may fall. In short sleeves, to avoid sweeping away the dust, and armed with a fine flat file, she is at work, chatting and laughing merrily. She catches a double eagle planchet from a pile at her side and puts it into the scale. It is too heavy. She files it around the edge and weighs it. Still too heavy. Files it again, and weighs it. Almost right. Just touches it with the file. Right; the index is in the centre. She tosses it into the box and picks up another to undergo the same operation.

The proper weight of the double eagle is five hundred and sixteen grains and the smaller gold coins are in the same proportion. Absolute perfection is impossible in the weight of coin, as in other matters, and the law therefore allows a variation of one half of a grain in the double eagles; therefore, between a heavy and a light piece, there may be a difference of one grain. This is so slight, however, not two cents in value, as to be deemed sufficiently correct. The weight of the silver half dollar is one hundred and ninety-two grains and the smaller pieces in proportion, with the exception of the cent,

which, being composed of 88 per cent. copper and 12 per cent. nickel, the weight is seventy-two grains. The weight of the silver coin was reduced in April, 1853. Prior to that date the half dollar was two hundred and six and a quarter grains.

To adjust a coin so accurately requires great delicacy and skill, as a too free use of the file would quickly make it too light. Yet by long practice, so accustomed do the operators become, that they work with apparent recklessness, scarcely glancing at the planchet or scales, but seemingly guided by their touch.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

Life Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal.

We have no account of the early currency of Canada beyond that quoted until 1700, when the Copper Company of Upper Canada issued a coin of which a full description is given in this work. [The Coins of Canada can be had in book form, postage free, for \$1 25, by addressing this office.—Ed.] This coin was struck in England for the company, and cannot have been very extensively circulated, from the fact that, as far as we are aware, no cabinet in Canada possesses a specimen. The description given in this book is taken from a work published in England by Rev. Mr. Christmas.

In the sale of the Mickley collection, at New York, in October, 1867, a coin was sold as a Kentucky piece, which had the obverse of this coin, Copper Company, &c., and for the reverse Hope presenting two children to Liberty, who stands surrounded by emblems of peace and plenty, with inscription of "British Settlement in Kentucky." This piece (a proof) sold for forty dollars.

The first coin or token of Canadian home manufacture is the very coarsely executed, but scarce and interesting politico-satirical token, commonly known as the Vexator Canadensis, issued in 1811.

The native artist who labored in the production of this token evidently had not been a student for any length of time in a school of design, but still it appears he was pleased with his own work, for several different specimens of this spoiled piece of copper are found in circulation.

The next issues were the various trade tokens of Nova Scotia, issued in 1814. Nova Scotia was the first colony which issued a regular coinage. In 1823 appeared the penny and half penny tokens, bearing the bust of George IV on the obverse. Similar coins were issued in 1824 and 1832. It is somewhat remarkable to find coins of the latter date bearing the bust of George, as those who study history (which every numismatist must necessarily do) are aware that William IV had then reigned two years. Passing over the intermediate years and their issues we arrive at 1837. It was in this year that the Canadian rebellion burst forth, and one of its results was

the introduction of a great proportion of those tokens which now fill the cabinets of collectors.

It was about this time that the "Un Sou" series made their appearance, also many trade tokens, some of which such as Molson, Brown, Mullins, etc., were struck to the order of the several firms, whose names they bear. The banks of Montreal also issued a large number at the same time.

In 1838 and 1839 the Bank of Montreal issued a penny and half penny token, known as the side view penny, etc., from the fact of its having for its obverse a front and side elevation of the building then occupied by them, and now known as the "Bank du Peuple" (People's Bank). These coins are now rare, particularly those of 1838, but few specimens of which are known, and these command very high prices.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

HENRY III, A. D., 1215.

Obverse.—The pennies of Henry III have only the head, without the neck and shoulders, as in the coins of all other English kings. It is crowned, but the crown is of a curious shape, and as they differ on the pennies of this king, as well as on those of his predecessors, it is likely that they existed only in the imagination of the moneymers, and were not copied from the crowns then worn by our English princes. On the pennies of Henry's first coinage the style is HENRICVS REX and HENRICVS REX III; but on those coined after his thirty-second year there is the addition of TERC and ANG. These latter coins have also a star, or a crescent and star over the head.

Reverse.—The reverses on his first coinage are the names of moneymers, and a voided cross within the inner circle, in each quarter of which are four pellets conjoined; but in the pennies coined after his thirty-second year an alteration took place, which is described by Matthew Paris, who lived in the reign of this king. The double or voided cross terminating with pellets was then carried to the edge of the coins, and in each corner were three pellets instead of four, not conjoined.

Rarity.—The pennies of this king are very common, except those with TERC and REX ANG., which are very rare. He coined half pence and farthings, but no collection can boast of either.

EDWARD I, 1272; EDWARD II, 1307.

Obverse.—The coins of these two kings, which consisted of groats, pennies, half pence and farthings, are confounded, and the supposition that those pennies with EDW. are the father's, and those with EDWAR. and EDWARD belong to the son, is a distinction as nice as it is absurd. The heads on the obverse are crowned

with an open crown, and the hair flows on each side of the face; the shoulders are just shown, but the bust is entirely within the inner circle, and the die is altogether more even and perfect. A new coinage, formerly attributed to Edward I, now appears, and is supposed to have been intended for groats. Some are of the opinion that the heavy groats here mentioned were struck by Edward III which is by no means unlikely.

Folkes states that he weighed several of these pieces, and found them to vary from eighty to one hundred and thirty-eight grains, so that it would appear they were only trial pieces. They have the king's bust and a star on each side, within a sort of quartfoil, formed by a double dotted line, with four roses in the angles between it and the inner circle. The legend is EDWARDVS. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. The obverse of the pennies, half pence and farthings has the king's head, as before stated, within the inner circle. The legend of the two former is EDWAR. OR EDW. R. ANG. DNS. HYB. The farthing has E. R. ANGLIE.

Reverse.—The reverse of the groats, pennies, half pence and farthings is a plain cross extending to the edge of the coin, and having within the inner circle three pellets in each quarter. The legend of the groat in the outer circle (for this piece has two lettered circles) is the continuation of the style from the obverse; namely, DNS. HIBNE. DVX. AQVT. In the inner circle is CIVI. LONDONIA. The other coins have merely the names of the cities in which they were struck, though some few of Edward I are found with ROBERT DE HADLEIGH and ROBERTVS DE HADL., the last moneyer whose name appears on English coins.

Rarity.—The groat is of the first rarity. The pennies of Hadleigh, Chester and Kingston are scarce; the other pennies are extremely common, and scarcely a year passes without a discovery of new hoards. The half pennies and farthings are somewhat scarce. From this time to the reign of Henry VII, the English coins bear a great resemblance to each other.

The groat of Edward I sold for five and a half guineas at a public sale in London, in March, 1827.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BECK.

(Continued.)

No system of credit, as we all know now by sad experience, can be made durable when, in the shape of currency, the issues exceed the want of a medium of trade; or when, in the more permanent form of bonds or certificates of public security, they come forth without a competent tax to pay the interest and a sinking fund to discharge the principal. The over issues in Continental money, being excessive, fell off in value, of course, while, as a natural consequence,

property of all kinds rose in proportion. This increase of price in goods was attempted to be remedied in most of the States by acts of limitation, fixing, under high penalties, the maximum at which property should be sold. These ordinances were rigidly executed; stores were broken open by authorized committees, and goods seized and sold at the limited legal prices, while the owners stood accused before the public of a design to depreciate the currency, and were called tories and speculators and otherwise stigmatized as enemies to their country. But those high-handed persecutions and robberies did not arrest the depreciation on one side, nor the appreciations on the other. Money sank and goods rose; yet an army of more than thirty thousand men, and a small navy, were supported, the wheels of government kept in motion, and the enemy kept at bay! How could such paper funds sustain such an expense? A writer, in the year 1779, says "posterity will hardly credit it; but," continues he, "the universal rage and zeal of the people, through all the States, for an emancipation from a power that claimed a right to bind them in all cases whatsoever, supplied all defects, and made apparent impossibilities really practicable."

Another great error was the making this money a legal tender. It was a source of immense injustice between debtor and creditor. It favoured most, in the language of a contemporary, the slack, the dissipated, the lazy and dilatory, who paid their creditors often at one-twentieth of the value of the debt when it was contracted. This sad expedient was suggested to the States by Congress itself. But that body, which consisted of about fifty members, whose great ability and spotless integrity stand unimpeached, had the candor to confess their mistake, and urged upon the States an immediate repeal, which was, after much solicitation, effected; yet not until thousands of fortunes had been ruined, including chiefly the most generous and patriotic, while the benefit went alone to the avaricious and idle.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." *Addison.*

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Aegina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

MELITA INSULA.

Head of a female with an Egyptian head-dress and the flower of the lotus, MEAITAION.

Reverse.—A male figure kneeling on one knee, with wings on his shoulders and at his hips. In his hands a whip.—Æ.

Some have a lyre on the reverse and some a tripod.

SYRACUSE.

Helmeted head of Minerva to the right.

Reverse.—A winged sea dog to the left.—Æ.

Some have the head of Jupiter on obverse;—

Reverse.—Victory in a car, and Σ YPAKO Σ ION.—Æ.

LOCRI.

Head of Pallas, to the left behind which a crescent and the letters
M O.

Reverse.—A pegasus to the left, below the letter Λ .—AR.

GAULOS INSULA.

Head of female with a diadem to the right.

Reverse.—Three Egyptian figures, above them Phœnician characters.—Æ.

A tripod is a common reverse.

SEGESTA.

Female head to the right.

Reverse.—A dog regardant, underneath, a globe.—Æ.

CORINTH.

Helmeted head of Minerva to the right, within an indented square.

Reverse.—A pegasus to left.—AR.

CÆNE INSULA.

A horse in full gallop, a star above.

Reverse.—A griffin running to the left, a grasshopper below.

On some the griffin is winged.

SARDINIA INSULA.

A male head with shaggy hair to the right.

Reverse.—Three ears of corn on one stalk.—Æ.

PANTICAPEUM.

Head of Pan.

Reverse.—IIANTI, a tripod.—Æ.

OLBIA, OR OLBIOPOLIS.

Head of Apollo to the right.

Reverse.—An eagle with a fish in his talons.—Æ.

The types of the coins of Olbiopolis are very numerous; some have a dolphin on the reverse, some a club with a bow in a case, an axe, the fore quarters of two horses conjoined, an eagle and a bow and spear. Many of them are countermarked. A work was published by Didot, in Paris, a few years since, containing descriptions of a number of the coins of this city, accompanied by beautiful engraved plates.

ISTHRUS.

Two male heads joined.

Reverse.—I Σ TPIH, an eagle with a dolphin in its talons.—AR.

ABDERA (IN THRACE).

Head of Apollo to the left.

Reverse.—A lyre, with the letter A.—Æ.

Some have the bust of Bacchus with the panther's skin.

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 11.

There is no greater source of annoyance to a coin dealer than the visits of the "knowing ones," those who have studied the science of numismatology sufficiently to become familiar with the set phrases constantly in use among coin collectors, and who have heard and believe many strange fictions in regard to the origin and history of coins, and have puzzling questions and ready information at their tongues' end. The "Knowing One" selects his time for volunteering numismatic information and putting perplexing inquiries. The accepted time for a successful "strike" is when the dealer has a store full of intelligent visitors and purchasers. We cannot describe more particularly the "Knowing One" further than to say he is an *intelligent* fool, who always has a little time and small change to spend at the coin stores. We shall never forget one of this class who paid us a visit not long since, while we were explaining to a purchaser, who was selecting a set of United States cents, the well-known fact that in the year 1815 no coinage of cents was made at the United States Mint:

Patron.—"You say there was no cent coined in 1815?"

Knowing One.—(Interrupting).—"Allow me to correct the gentleman; he means 1814. In 1815 there was a number of copper cents coined, but by some error the melting pot for gold, containing some of the precious metal, was used, and the copper and gold united, so that the cents of 1814 were part gold, and worth five dollars each. The people soon discovered the fact, and the cents were eagerly snapped up and melted, which accounts for the scarcity of that coin."

Dealer.—(Smiling).—"You have been imposed upon, sir; there never was a die made at our Mint for an 1815 cent."

Knowing One.—"I have one of the identical coppers in my pocket, and—"

Patron.—(Interrupting).—"Will you have the kindness to show it to us, sir?"

Dealer.—(Ironically).—"Show it, sir, by all means, and if it is a genuine United States cent of that date, we will give you five hundred dollars for it."

Knowing One.—(Fumbles in all his pockets, and finally uncaps a small box and unwraps a coin, which he triumphantly exhibits to the customer).—"There it is, sir; I can't be wrong; never was; give it to the dealer, and he can oblige me by handing over the five C's."

Dealer examines the coin, pronounces it an altered piece, and returns it, to the intense disgust of the "Knowing One," who passes it around to those present, all concurring with the opinion of the dealer that it is an 1813 cent altered to 1815.

Knowing One.—(Excitedly).—"One moment, gentlemen! This dealer asserts that there was but one omission in the coinage of cents, and the omitted date was 1815. Now, as I have proved there

was an 1815 cent, and exhibited it, I ask him to tell me how it comes that the Mint was destroyed by fire in 1814, and that no coinage of any kind was made in that year?"

Dealer.—(Interrupting).—"You are again in error, sir; there were half dollars, dimes and cents coined in 1814."

Knowing One.—"Never, sir; not a red cent. If you can show me one of that date, I will confess I am a fool and know nothing of coins."

At this point a country store keeper entered, and placing a bag of coppers on the counter, requested the dealer to buy them, saying he had heard a certain date was valuable, and had only collected one date, 1814. The "Knowing One" stood aghast while the dealer emptied the bag, and sure enough there were over one hundred cents, and all of the very common date, 1814. Suffice it that the intruder quit the premises amid a storm of jeers and laughter from a dozen witnesses of this peculiar incident.

[Our next sketch will give further characteristics of the "knowing ones."]

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(Continued.)

First, as to the *table*: this contains eight square *facets*, the diagonals of which, as they are arranged, form an imaginary perfect octagon, parallel with that really produced by the truncation of the pyramid. One side of the octagon *facet*, one side of one square *facet*, and one side of the adjacent square *facet* form a triangular *facet*, and thus in all are formed eight triangular *facets*. Now there are still sixteen more triangular *facets* about the *table*. They are formed as follows. As the square *facets*, united diagonally around the *table*, incline to each other, the angles formed outside of them by the conjunction of their corners, are much more obtuse below, or next to the *girdle*, than above. In order, therefore, not to reduce unnecessarily the size of the stone, it is not ground down to one triangular plane between one lower side of one square *facet*, the uniting lower side of an adjacent square *facet* and one-eighth of the *girdle*, but to two triangular planes each of which two has one side that is identical, one side formed respectively by the two adjacent square *facets*, and the third side by a sixteenth of the *girdle*. Thus are formed upon the surface of the *table* sixteen triangular *facets* below the eight square *facets*. These sixteen, the eight square ones, and the eight upper triangular ones before described, and the large octagon shaped *facet*, forming in all thirty-three, embrace the whole external surface of the *table*.

Second, as to the *collet*. This, when not at all truncated, contains around the vertex eight lozenge shaped *facets*, whose upper sides

(we speak of the *collet* as a pyramid) are all united. The spaces between the lower sides of the lozenges and the *girdle* are ground into sixteen triangular *facets*, in the same manner as in the *table*. The eight lower corners of the lozenges unite upon the *girdle* with the eight lower corners of the squares, and the sixteen lower triangles in the *table* all abut on the sixteen triangles in the *collet*. Now the vertex of the *collet* is generally cut off; this produces a small octagonal *facet*, and at the same time converts the lozenge shaped *facets* into pentagon shapes. Thus the *collet* is included in twenty-five planes.

The whole surface of the *Brilliant* is then divided as follows. two octagons, eight squares, eight pentagons and forty triangles—in all fifty-eight *facets*, and the *girdle* is a perfect heccadecagon.

The *Brilliant* is generally set in open work which attaches only at intervals at the *girdle*, allowing the light to enter under the stone. Thus the *Brilliant* when set exposes the thirty-three *facets* of the *table* and reveals, through its large octagon *facet*, the small octagon *facet* of the *collet* and the eight pentagons springing therefrom. It is a very beautiful mode of cutting, we must confess, and we doubt much if a superior form will ever be elicited.

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Jacobus.—English gold coin, valued at about \$6.

Jane.—Genoese coin.

Jefferson Head.—Referring to a variety of the United States cents of 1795.

Jetton.—Metal counter, stamped to indicate its character.

Keg Rubbed.—Coins having very slight marks, often caused at the Mint by packing, counting, etc. Kegs of copper cents were frequently sent South from the Mint, and subsequently returned, having all their original brightness, but being slightly scratched by transportation—hence the term.

Kesitah.—Gold Hebrew coin, value about \$4.

Kopek.—Russian coin, 1-100 part of a rouble.

Kopfstuck.—Bavarian coin, about 16 cents.

Kreutzer.—German coin, chiefly confined to Austria and Baden.

Larin.—Persian wire coin, about 12 cents.

Laureated.—Head on a coin crowned with laurel.

Legend.—Inscription on a coin or medal.

Lettered Edge.—Having letters or words around the outer edge, as on the United States cents and half cents of 1793, 1794 and 1795.

Leopoldone.—Tuscan coin, worth about \$1 05.

Liberty Cap.—Early United States coins having the cap and pole.

Lira.—Silver coin, south of Europe, worth about 18½ cents.

Libra.—Roman and Spanish coins; the former worth about \$16 50; the latter worth about 56 cents.

Livre.—Old French coin, worth about 18 cents.

Loth.—German coinage.

Louisd'or.—French gold coin, worth about \$4 50.

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC OBITUARY.

Called upon to chronicle the demise of a worthy numismatic journal, we approach the subject with sympathetic feelings, and regret, what, as faithful numismatic journalists, we are obliged to make public. Prof. Anthon, the able editor of the *New York American Numismatic Journal*, informed us long since that his publication would be suspended with the April number; but hoping that the Numismatic Society in New York would reconsider the matter we omitted any allusion to the sad fact in our May number. Now that the decease of the said journal is beyond question, and wishing to be "in at the death," we give place to this obituary, and adopt the usual mourning. The decease was well and favorably known in the numismatic community, and lived to the extreme old age of four years; respected (*not supported*) by a choice circle of warm admirers. Although we differed in opinion with the managers as to the conduct of the *New York Journal*, yet we bear cheerful witness to the scientific ability of its editors. Our wish, in concluding this melancholy article, is that some sympathetic pen may deal kindly with our errors and tread lightly on the ashes of this journal when its turn may come to shuffle off this mortal coil.

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

Attention is particularly directed to our sale of 17th inst., at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co.'s auction rooms, Clinton Hall, New York. This sale will be remarkable as embracing many excessively rare coins and United States pattern pieces, the international currency, postage currency, gold pieces of 1865 of the "In God we trust" series, and pattern gold of 1868; several fine and extremely rare colonials; the celebrated Randall's Jefferson Head Cent of 1795; rare medals, and many other desirable pieces. The sale will commence at half past seven o'clock in the evening (sharp.) Parties at a distance wishing to send bids can have catalogues by addressing this office.

CANADA SHINPLASTERS.

We have received from Montreal a specimen twenty-five cent note of the new issue of small notes lately authorized by the Dominion of Canada. This note resembles in general appearance the United States currency, and is a handsome specimen of art, creditable alike in design and execution. All praise should be awarded to the British American Bank Note Company for this pretty little greenback shin-plaster. These notes can be had for forty cents at this office.

J. MONTGOMERY BOND'S NEW YORK COIN SALE

This sale was confined to a supplementary catalogue issued in connection with Mr. Bond's book sale, and sold at the conclusion of the latter, on Saturday evening, May 7. There was a large audience present at the coin sale, a large portion having been attracted to view the gold medal presented to Washington by Congress. This medal was limited to four thousand dollars, and only one thousand was bid; consequently, the patriotic owner can hold it a few years longer. Gold medals of this description can probably be struck from the dies, said to be in France, for about \$200, and if this is the case, it would be the height of folly to pay the large sum demanded for this medal by owner, unless it is authenticated beyond the shadow of a doubt that Bond's medal is the identical one presented to Washington. The coins, autographs, curiosities, etc., were sold at high prices. Common dates of half cents, such as we sell at 3 and 5 cents each, brought 25 to 50 cents each.

NEW BUSINESS CARD.

We have just issued a store card, having on obverse Washington's bust (full face), "Born Feb. 22, 1732. Died Dec. 14, 1799." Reverse, "Mason & Co., Coin and Stamp Dealers, 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia, 1870." This card is from dies made by Charles K. Warner, medalist, No. 1021 Chestnut Street, in this city, and for beauty and perfectness of design, as well as sharpness and uniformity of impression, is not excelled by any card in America. We have had proof sets struck expressly for collectors, comprising silver, nickel, copper, brass and white metal. Price, \$1 the set of five pieces. Three of these cards only were struck in gold for private parties. Any person sending us a new subscriber to this magazine will receive a set of these beautiful metallic cards.

WARNERS' NEW LINCOLN MEDAL.

We have a supply of this medal struck in white metal. Obverse, "A. Lincoln, President of the United States, 1864." Reverse, "Born Feb. 12, 1809. Assassinated April 14, 1865." Size 18; proofs. Price, 15 cents.

WARNER'S FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT MEDAL.

We are now prepared to fill orders for sets of this medal, in silver, bronze and white metal; all fine proofs (size 18) for \$2 per set of three pieces.

CORRECTION.

We wish to contradict the impression prevailing in New York and elsewhere that pattern pieces are restruck at the United States mint. All patterns in our sale, June 17, are from a private collection and all dies of the same are destroyed. Pattern pieces will eventually bring enormous prices, as the supply will fall short of the demand.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PATTERN.—The statement made in reference to similarity of designs on the United States pattern silver 50 cent, 25 cent and 10 cent pieces, 1869 and 1870, was an error, the party giving us the information (published in our last issue) having been wrongly informed. The designs on the nine patterns for 1870 differ materially from those of 1869. The price is the same for each set, viz, \$15.

R. T.—The Pacific Railroad medal is out. Price, \$1 25 for bronze, \$5 for silver.

S. H. M.—Have anticipated your suggestion, and shall shortly issue our first trade token or business card. See editorial.

R. C. S.—"The Numismatic Dream" was a little burlesque suggested by a similar dream in the March number of the *New York Journal of Numismatics*. This was explained by a foot note in the MSS. omitted by the printer.

A. C., NEW YORK.—The editor of the coin department is also editor of stamp matter, and will make an effort, at least, to improve the stamp department of this magazine. We have now no assistant in either department.

S. S. CHILICOTHE.—Is this your proper address? Dr. Gray's Catalogue, now ready; price, \$1. Send for our price list of cheap coin and stamp packets.

A. R. W.—By all means bind the covers in with the volumes of the magazines, as it not unfrequently happens that matter appears on the covers worthy of preserving for future reference. The article you refer to in a Boston quarterly stamp journal is a libellous slander, which in due course of time will be thoroughly ventilated. We do not believe the letter from Leonard & Co. is a genuine production of that firm, as the ear marks of a concoction for the occasion are too prominent; it being impossible for us to deduct \$2 from a C. O. D. Express Co's bill, as the letter asserts. We have written L. & Co., and await their answer before proceeding legally to punish the authors of the libel. As an *advertising dodge* the article might have some merit, but will not meet with success as far as this journal is concerned.

R. S., JR.—The new issue United States Post Office stamps will cost you \$2 25 for the complete set of 10 stamps, 1 cent to 90 cents, inclusive.

T. T.—Priced stamp catalogues of New York sale, 50 cents.

ALLEN'S SILVER SALE.

On the 25th, 26th and 27th of May, the celebrated collection of the late John Allen, the antiquary, was sold at the rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, New York. This collection consisted entirely of silver medals and coins, and was the property of J. C. Newcomb, who purchased it some years previous to the death of Mr. Allen. At another time we will give the chief points of interest in the sale.

NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

On the 28th ult., a unique sale came off at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co.'s auction rooms, Astor Place, it being the first public sale of foreign and American postage stamps in this country, if not in the world. Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co. deserve credit for the able manner in which this sale was managed, and great credit is also due to the auctioneers who exhibited remarkable patience and perseverance in obtaining the highest possible price for each lot in the catalogue. The sale was well attended, nine-tenths of the audience being adults, refuting the general opinion that boys and girls only are engaged in collecting postage stamps. It will be seen by the following priced catalogue, which we shall publish in full, that the sale was a decided success.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

- 100 mixed Foreign Stamps. 60 cents.
- 200 mixed Foreign Stamps. 90 cents.
- 300 mixed Foreign Stamps. \$1 10.
- 400 mixed Foreign Stamps. \$1 55.
- 500 mixed Foreign Stamps. \$2 00.
- 750 mixed Foreign Stamps. \$2 37.
- 1000 mixed Foreign Stamps. \$3 50.
- Philatelist's Stamp Album, boards. 50 cents.
- Philatelist's Stamp Album, cloth. 80 cents.
- Scott's American Stamp Album, cloth. \$1.
- Scott's American Stamp Album, morocco. \$1 62.
- American Lallier's Stamp Album, cloth. \$2 75.
- American Lallier's Stamp Album, half bound. \$3.
- American Lallier's Stamp Album, morocco. \$4.
- American Lallier's Stamp Album, interleaved. \$5 50.
- Vol. I American Journal of Philately. 60 cents.
- Vol. II American Journal of Philately. 50 cents.
- Vols. I and II American Journal of Philately. \$1.
- Vol. I Philatelist \$1 37.
- Vol. II Philatelist. \$1.
- 10 Colonial Stamps, including Bermuda, Grenada, etc. 60 cents.
- Set of 9 German Official Stamps, uncanceled. 45 cents.
- 4 scarce English Revenue Stamps. 62 cents.
- 7 scarce Revenue Stamps, including Cuba, Nova Scotia, etc. 55 cents.
- 7 scarce Revenue Stamps, including Cuba, Peru, etc. 40 cents.
- 7 scarce English Bill Stamps, high values. 40 cents.
- 6 scarce Revenue Stamps, including a very scarce Canadian. 60 cents.
- 7 scarce Revenue Stamps, Denmark, etc. 37 cents.
- 1 Corrientes Stamp, uncanceled. \$1 12.

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

1869 ISSUE OF UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS.



We present the full issue this month of one of the most remarkable sets of postage stamps issued by any government since adhesive stamps were originated.



To rescue the ornamental labels from obscurity, and hand down to posterity a series of pretty pictures, as well as to caution other governments from falling into the error the United States has just recovered from, are the only apologies we have to offer for printing these stamps.



Compared to the new series, now in use, the issue of 1869 is an abortion, exhibiting an attempt to associate bright colors with elaborate pictorial historical representations, lacking in uniformity, finish and design. We regret that the colors are not given in our otherwise correct representations of the postage stamp issue of 1869.



NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—The American Bank Note Company is preparing a full set of revenue stamps (1 cent to \$200) for this government; also, a full set of envelope stamps. The revenues will partake somewhat (in the matter of pictorial views) of the character of the adhesive postage stamps of 1869, judging by proofs we have seen.



DOMINICA.—A London correspondent of ours has very obligingly communicated to us a proof impression of the type which has just been engraved for this island, obtained by him from the engraver himself. It is a very charming stamp, rivalling the St. Lucia in its fineness of execution, and to a certain extent resembling it in design, though it is by no means a slavish copy. The profile of the Queen, diademed and with pendant curl, occupies the centre, on a solid ground, formed of very fine waved vertical lines. This is enclosed in a light and rather narrow oval frame, with double lined edges, bearing the word DOMINICA in a clearly cut type, slightly raised and enclosed within a kind of label, just over the portrait; and in the lower half is a similar label left blank for the value. The spandrels are filled in with a delicate open engine-turned pattern and the stamp is completed by an exterior double-lined frame. The proof before us is struck in chrome yellow on thickish cartridge paper. Our correspondent gleans from the engraver that the emission will take place about the end of the year, but neither the colors nor the values appear to be fixed on as yet.

ST. CHRISTOPHER (or ST. KITTS).—Passing now to the second novelty (for information respecting which we are indebted to *Le Timbre-Poste*) it appears that two stamps are, or shortly will be, emitted, namely: One penny, rose. Sixpence, green.

The design is said to consist of the Queen's head to the left, in a circle inscribed with the name of the island, ST. CHRISTOPHER, and the value in words. The impression is on white paper, watermarked CC. and crown, and, without doubt, perforated.

VICTORIA.—Still keeping among the colonies, we have next to chronicle a change in the type of the Victoria twopenny, which no doubt foreshadows a change in the whole series. Although the type here given has rather a bald appearance, it is, after all, preferable to its predecessor. It is, at least, neatly engraved and printed on a surfaced paper, whilst the latter, though itself a considerable advance on the green penny, which it superseded, was, after all, but a rough and uncouth production as compared with the engravings of Messrs. De La Rue, who, it is scarcely necessary to state, are the fabricators of the new type. Judged by itself, however, the De La Rue stamp shows many defects: the letters of the word VICTORIA are widely spaced and poor; the side discs, and the figures they contain, are insignificant; the spandrel ornaments common and tawdry, and the oval too narrow; besides which, the design is too evidently a copy of the Natal, and shows an utter want of originality. In the land of blind, the one-eyed man is king, and so this stamp will lord it over most of the other Victorians; but as a specimen of what the first English engravers can do, it is not a thing to be very proud of. So much by way of criticism. We have now only to add that the old color—lilac—is maintained for the new type, that the "V and crown" watermark appears in the paper, and that the stamp is already in circulation.

BELGIUM.—If we have reason to complain of the lack of talent shown by our English stamp designers, the Belgians make far louder objections on the same score. For our own part, we cannot see that the new Belgian series is so dreadfully bad as those who have to employ it make it out to be; but, perhaps they are the best judges after all. Whether or not the newly-issued types deserve the severe strictures passed upon them, our readers must judge for themselves. At any rate, it must be admitted the authorities themselves are by no means hasty in courting public opinion, for hardly had any of the stamps been issued at the date prescribed by the official decree. The 30 centimes came out some time in March. The 40 centimes and 1 franc are just out. The colors are

30 centimes, amber. 40 centimes, carmine. 1 franc, violet.

The 5 centimes, amber, identical in type with the 8 centimes has made its appearance. The 6 centimes will be modelled on the design of the 8 centimes.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

A PHILATELIC TRANSATLANTIC COMPLIMENT.

The editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, Bath, England, in the May number of that journal, takes occasion, in referring to the new issue of United States postage stamps, to indulge in a characteristic left-handed compliment to Americans, in the following article: "This new series, if it at all answers our expectations (*suppose it does not, what then? Ed.*) will be a very handsome and interesting one, forming, as it will, quite a picture gallery of the leading American celebrities, but it is a pity that there is no room in it for portraits of Vanderbilt, Fisk and Barnum, for they are all representative men." We dislike to call names, and indulge in the vituperation of angry school urchins, but cannot resist the temptation to suggest to the aforesaid editor the propriety of his circulating a petition for the substitution of some of the busts of England's representative men (on the next series of English postage stamps) for the pictures now in use of that excellent woman, Queen Victoria. We might offer, for example, the Lloyds, Lairds, or CAPT. EYRE for the maritime representation, or some of the early kings for the civil list, but we dislike to be uncivil and will leave the selection to the petitioners, knowing that either Vanderbilt, Fisk, or Barnum will outshine in manliness, physical beauty and uprightness any three representative men England can produce.

NEW ENVELOPE AND REVENUE STAMPS.

A new series of envelope stamps, beautifully designed and artistically executed, will shortly be issued by the United States Government; also a new series of revenue stamps, from one cent to two hundred dollars, inclusive. The two hundred dollar stamp of the new revenue issue is especially attractive, having a large spread eagle in the centre. This stamp is of about the same length as the former two hundred dollar issue, and somewhat wider.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

JULY, 1870.

No. 7.

**ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CON-
QUEST.**

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

EDWARD III, 1326.

Obverse.—The groat and half groat of this king have the head within a space formed by nine arches, having their angles fleury, that is, as a sort of fleur-de-lis where the ends conjoin, pointing inwards. The head resembles that of his father and grandfather; indeed, the English money, from the time of Edward I to the reign of Henry VII cannot be distinguished by the *portraits*, if they may be so called. It is quite evident that the effigies of the English monarchs on their coins are not *likenesses* until the time of Henry VIII, whatever the ingenious may say to the contrary. Some have supposed that the rude figures on the Saxon coins are likenesses, but the idea is ridiculous. Folkes, in his "Table of English Silver Coins," remarks that the kings of England are represented *bearded* on their great seals, but always *smoothfaced* on their coins. The legends on the farthings and half pence are generally EDWARDVS REX. Some have the addition of A and ANG. The penny has EDWARDVS REX ANGEIE or ANGLI. Some have also DI. GRA. and the title DNS. HYB. The half groat, mostly, EDWARDVS, REX ANGLI DNS. HYC, Z FRANCI. The groat has EDWARD. DEI. G. REX. ANGL. DNS. HXBZ. Z. AQT. OT Z. FRANCI. Leake says, that the groat and half groat, with the titles Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine were struck before the year 1360, or subsequently to 1369, and that such as have FRANCI were coined between those periods.

Reverse.—Very similar to those of the first and second Edwards, except the legend POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM, in the outer circle of the groat and half groat, which was continued until the reign of James I.

Rarity.—The groat and half groat of Calais (*VILLA CALEISE*, in the inner circle) are very rare. All the rest are common, except the half pence and farthings, which are rather scarce.

(To be continued.)

THE STUDY OF COINS AND MEDALS AS CONNECTED WITH POETRY, PAINTING AND ARCHITECTURE.

It may justly be observed that the knowledge of Greek medals is most necessary for a sculptor and perhaps an architect; while that of the Roman is the more interesting to a poet and a painter. This is owing to the former containing chiefly the head of some king, some god or goddess of exquisite relief and workmanship on the obverse; while the reverse seldom in the early Greek coins affords much fancy of symbol, and in the Imperial Greek coins is chiefly impressed with temples of their deities.

To a man of poetical imagination, the Roman coins are most entertaining, from the fine personifications and symbols to be found on their reverses.—To instance in a few:

Hope is represented as a sprightly girl, walking quickly and walking straight forward. With her left hand she holds up her garments, that they may not impede the rapidity of her pace; while in her right hand she holds forth the bud of a flower, an emblem infinitely more fine than the trite one of an anchor. This personification, with some others, must have been very familiar to the ancients, for often in this and a few more instances, no name, as *SPES AVG.*, or the like, is inserted in the legend.

Abundance is imaged as a sedate matron, with a cornucopia in her hands, of which she scatters the fruits over the ground, and does not hold up her cornucopia and keep its contents to herself, as many modern poets and painters make her do.

The emperor Titus, having cause to import a great supply of corn during a scarcity at Rome, that supply, or the *ANNONA*, is finely represented as a sedate lady, with a filled cornucopia in her left hand, which she holds upright to indicate that she does not, however, mean to scatter it, as Abundance hath a title to do, but to give it to Equity to deal out. This last particular is shown by her holding a little image of Equity, known by her scales, and *basta pura* or pointless spear in her right hand, over a basket filled with wheat. Behind the *ANONNA* is the prow of a ship, decked with flowers, to imply that the corn was brought by sea (from Africa), and that the ships had a prosperous voyage. The best poet in the world could not have given us a finer train of imagery; the best painter would be puzzled to express so much matter in so small a compass.

Security stands leaning on a pillar, indicative of her being free from all designs and pursuits; and *teras atque rotundus*, round and polished, as Horace phrases it, against all the rubs of chance.

The emblems of Piety, Modesty and the like are equally apposite and poetical.

The happiness of the state is pictured by a ship sailing before a prosperous breeze; an image than which the superlative genius of Gray could find none more exquisite; and he has accordingly used it in his most capital production, *The Bard*, with due success.

(To be continued.)

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 3.

"The Knowing Ones."

The next visitor from the class denominated "Knowing Ones," was in the person of a neat, staid, plainly dressed gent of about middle age, arrayed in a white choker, who entered our little curiosity shop in silence, and gazed with evident interest upon a collection of silver Roman coins displayed in a show case upon the counter. There was about half a dozen visitors present, and we were busily engaged in mailing catalogues of a coin sale, occasionally entering into conversation concerning the ups and downs of the coin trade. Our quiet visitor, after a cursory glance of our little stock in trade, opened his batteries by the inquiry:

"Have you, among your Roman pieces, a coin of Alexander the Great?"

Dealer.—(Concealing a smile.)—"No, sir."

Knowing One.—"Humph! Have you a Roman Tiberius?"

Dealer.—(Suppressing another smile.)—"No, sir."

Coin Collector.—(Who prides himself on a knowledge of ancient coins.)—"Perhaps the gentleman has forgotten that the coins of the Cæsars are Greek.

Knowing One.—(Turning round and facing the company.)—"Humph! Do you understand Greek, sir?"

Coin Collector.—"I understand the difference between Greek and Roman coins."

Knowing One.—"Humph! Do you understand Greek?"

Coin Collector.—"Sufficiently well to distinguish between a Greek and a Roman coin."

Knowing One.—"Humph!" (Turns again toward the dealer.) "Will you please show me a specimen of Roman coinage."

Dealer.—(Maliciously presenting a bogus shekel.)—"Perhaps, this is what you allude to."

Knowing One.—"Humph! Will you oblige me by reading the inscription on the piece?"

Dealer.—(Somewhat nonplussed.)—"I do not profess to understand Greek or Roman. Will you, sir, oblige us by a translation."

Knowing One.—"Humph! I have not my glasses by me and am near sighted. However, our classical friend, here (turning and presenting the piece to the coin collector), will no doubt inform us whether or not the coin is Greek or Roman."

Coin Collector.—"The characters do not seem to be either Greek or Roman, but from the designs I should suppose the piece of a religious character."

Knowing One.—(Now fully convinced that the entire party is in ignorance of the history of the so called shekel, volunteers a description.)—"This coin, gentlemen, was struck in Macedonia, a Roman city of some note, about A. D. 250. The adherents of Hadrian, after

the capture of Constantinople, joined the forces of Trajan, and gained a great victory in a combined effort against Alexander the Great. In consequence of the valor displayed by a daughter of Nero, the distinguished warrior and musician, a silver medal was struck and a sacrifice offered to commemorate the event; and Hadrian—that is Trajan—or, I should say, Alexander—or Nero presented this coin to his daughter as a keepsake. The successful emperor was overthrown subsequently, the dies of the coin captured, and all the silver plate melted up into these Roman pieces and distributed among the”—

Dealer.—(Interrupting).—“Excuse me, sir: I handed you a Jewish shekel. The resemblance to a Roman coin being so great, you were lead into a small historical error, and have so confused us with your Roman and Grecian history, that I fear”—

The remainder of the remarks were cut short by a clean cut black coat tail suddenly disappearing out of the door, and our clerical (?) “Knowing One” has ever since avoided the stores of coin dealers.

(*To be continued.*)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(*Continued.*)

The exceedingly delicate scales were made under the direction of Mr. Péale, who greatly improved the old ones in use. So delicate are they, that the slightest breath of air affects their accuracy, rendering it necessary for them to exclude it from the room, which, being poorly ventilated, on a hot day is an uncomfortable and probably an unhealthy place. The chief coiner exercised great care to counteract this difficulty by occasionally stopping work and opening the windows. The whole process, however, is behind the times. Hand work cannot compete with machinery. Sixty adjusters cannot keep the coining press supplied, and genius must find a quicker way of performing the work. It is here that the delay occurs, keeping depositors waiting from twenty to thirty days for the coin they should receive in a week. It is astonishing that our mint has not made the advancement here that it has in every other department.

Only the gold pieces are adjusted in this manner. The silver has merely the adjustment of the two planchets weighed at the cutting press. A greater allowance is made in the weight of a silver coin, as it is less valuable, and it would be almost impossible to have such a vast number of small pieces separately examined. Mr. Peale ordered from Paris a beautiful and delicate coin separator, which he intended to apply to silver (although the one received is adapted to the half eagle only), but owing to its not arriving until he had been removed it has never been put in operation. It is so arranged that the planchets, being placed in at one end, are carried through the hopper and dropped singly on a balance. If too light, it is tipped into a box at one side; if too heavy, into another box; if exactly right, into a third box. The instrument does not adjust the weight. But merely separates the heavy and light planchets. For silver, however, this

would be desirable, as a more uniform weight could be preserved. Why it has never been put in use, we are unable to learn.

The females in the adjusting room are paid \$1 10 a day for ten hours' work. They look happy and contented. Behind the screens, at each end of the room, are dining halls, where they eat the dinners they bring with them. On the whole, it is the pleasantest workshop for woman we have yet seen, and the pay, in comparison with that ordinarily given to women, is good.

(*To be continued.*)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

Life Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal.

In 1840, the first Prince Edward Island token made its appearance, specimens of which are extremely rare. There are but four or five tokens from this island, the one named and the 1855 and 1857 coins.

In 1843, New Brunswick launched her Frigate coins, which are very fine, and, when in uncirculated condition, vie with any of the other provincial issues.

In 1856, Nova Scotia parted with the insignia of the land from whence she took her name, and in place of the Thistle donned the May Flower. These coins, however, were doomed to a short existence.

As early as the year 1822, a movement was made toward the introduction of a regular colonial decimal coinage, but no definite action was taken until the year 1858, when the Canadian coinage, consisting of 50, 10 and 5 cent silver and 1 cent copper coins made their appearance. These coins were issued through the banks in the provinces, but the supply was not equal to the demand; consequently the old coppers and tokens, and the American and English silver still continue to form the greater bulk of the medium of exchange. Several ineffectual efforts have been made to lessen the quantity of foreign silver in the Dominion, but with no other coinage to replace it, the supply has soon reached its former amount. It is earnestly to be desired that some steps should be taken whereby we may have a Dominion currency, and we have no doubt but that a few years, at most, will find the Wellingtons, sous, half pennies and similar tokens replaced by a coinage of which the New Dominion shall have no reason to feel ashamed. To return to our subject, Canada was not long permitted to stand alone in her experiment; for in the year 1861, New Brunswick introduced her really fine coinage of the same denominations as Canada, but adding to the list the half cent. As if moved by the same spirit, Nova Scotia makes her appearance almost simultaneous with her sister province, and issues the cent and half cent, but does not issue any silver coins. This supply was supplemented by the issues of 1862 and 1864. Determined not to be out-

stripped by these colonies, old "*Prima Vista*" (Newfoundland), in 1865, appears in the field, and without condescending to notice such *small* coin as half cents, strikes in nobler metal and issues a \$2 gold coin. To this was added a 20, 10 and 5 cent silver and 1 cent copper, all of very neat design.

(*To be continued.*)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

The gain upon forging imitations of ancient coins being so immense, it is no wonder that this species of imposition has been much cultivated. Restricted by the laws of no country, and far from being considered as a crime, but, on the contrary, regarded as an exertion of masterly skill in their profession by the most eminent modern artists, this kind of forgery, which arose at the beginning of the sixteenth century, has spread and continues to spread to an amazing degree.

It is unnecessary here to mention several medals, of which the forgery is so apparent that he must be a novice, indeed, upon whom they impose. Such are those of Priam, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΡΙΑΜΟΥ, with a view of Troy, ΤΡΟΙΑ, upon the reverse; those of Æneas, Cicero; and Cæsar, VENI, VIDI, VICI; with several others of the same stamp. Of this kind is the emperor Heraclius likewise, with Greek and Latin sentences, representing that prince stroking his beard; with a chariot on the reverse. This last piece imposed upon Scagliar and Lipsius, but would not now impose upon any one, so much has this science improved.

It is from other artists and other productions, that any danger of deceit arises. And there is no wonder that even the skillful are misled by such artists as have used this trade; for among them appear the names of Victor Gambello, Giovanni del Cavino, called the PADUAN, and his son; Alessandro Bassiano, likewise of Padua; Benvenuto Cellini, Alessandro Greco, Leo Aretino, Jacobo da Trezzo, Federego Bonzagna and Giovanni Jacopo, his brother; Sebastiano Plumbo, Valerio de Vicenza, Gorkæus, a German, Carteron, of Holland, and others; all, or most of them of the sixteenth century; and Cavino, the PADUAN, who is the most famous, of the beginning of it, if I am not mistaken. The forgeries of Cavino are held in no little esteem, being of wonderful execution. His and those of Carteron are the most numerous; many of the other artists here mentioned not having forged above two or three coins. Later forgers were Dervieu, of Florence, who confined himself to medallions; and Cogornier, who gave coins of the thirty tyrants in small brass.

The chief part of the forgeries of Greek medals, which have come to my knowledge, are of the first mentioned and very gross kind, representing persons who could never appear upon coin, such as Priam, Æneas, Plato, Alcibiades, Artemisia and others. The real Greek coins were very little known or valued till the works of Goltzius

appeared, which were happily posterior to the era of the grand forgers. Why later forgers have seldom thought of counterfeiting them cannot easily be accounted for, if it is not owing to the masterly workmanship of the originals, which sets all imitation at defiance. Forgeries, however, of most ancient coins may be met with, and of the Greek among the rest.

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Marred.—See *Rubbed*.

Medal.—A large piece stamped in honor of individuals and remarkable events.

Medalet.—A small piece. See *Medal*.

Medalist.—A person skilled in medals.

Medallion.—Antique medal.

Mint Mark.—Private mark to indicate where a coin was minted.

Mint Lustre.—Original brightness of a piece, produced by well polished dies; sometimes termed "mint surface."

Milled Edge.—Having reference to the inner rim of a coin; sometimes, though erroneously, used to express a reeded edge, frequently found on the outer edge of United States gold and silver coins of recent dates.

Mis-strike.—See *Overstrike*.

Mule.—The obverse or reverse of one coin or medal used in connection with the obverse or reverse of another, to strike an odd or unique piece.

Model.—See *Trial Piece*.

Moulded.—See *Cast*.

Natural Bronze.—A color on a copper coin or medal, difficult to imitate, and produced by natural causes alone.

Nicked.—Showing slight indentations or notches.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

The people, "worried and fretted" by tender laws, limitations of prices, and other compulsory means used by the States to force the circulation and bolster up the value of paper, occasionally appeared heartless and out of patience. That feeling prevailed especially at the time when Congress, in 1780, recommended a monthly tax of fifteen millions, payable in specie or in paper at forty for one, and was the cause of its failure. The intention of this act was to destroy the bills as they came in, and to issue other bills at par, bearing an

interest of six per cent., to an amount not exceeding a twentieth part of the nominal sum thus brought in to be destroyed.

But the community had become momentarily paralyzed, and turned a deaf ear to all new projects. They stood, as an eye witness says, "amid impending destruction, when all occupations of town and country were nearly at a stop." Government not having power to compel the payment of taxes, could only entreat or menace. In vain, however, did they proclaim, threaten, vilify and decree that, "whoever should refuse to receive in payment Continental Bills should be treated as an enemy of his country, and be precluded from all trade and intercourse with the inhabitants;" in other words, be outlawed. In vain did they accompany these threats with penal, tender and limitation laws, associated, too, with military force; all proved ineffectual. This brow beating and coercion seemed, says Pletiah Webster, who wrote in 1781, "like water sprinkled on a blacksmith's forge, which, indeed, deadens the flame for a moment, but increases the heat and force of the internal fire." One instance of arbitrary power flowed from these laws which would disgrace the annals of an absolute government, and it was exercised, too, by Pennsylvania. The General Assembly, on the 25th of March, 1780, issued one hundred thousand pounds of paper bills, founded on the faith of the State, on some city lots in Philadelphia, and on the province island at the mouth of the river Schuylkill, which, at that time belonged to the State—(hence the emission was called island money.) This issue was followed up by an act, dated December 23 of the same year, making the bills a legal tender. The penalty of not taking them in payment of goods, lands, etc., was, for the first offence, forfeiture of double the sum offered, and for the second offence, a confiscation of half the offender's lands, goods and chattels, and imprisonment of his person during the war. This debt was subsequently paid in full.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(Continued.)

When the stone in its natural state resembles more in shape a single cone than two conjoined at the base, or, to use a plainer simile, is more like the half of an egg than a whole one, it is apparent how great a portion of its bulk must be removed in order to give it the Brilliant shape. In such case, then it is ground for the Rose pattern. This is a simple pyramid, whose base is a perfect dodecagon, and whose surface is cut into twenty-four equilateral triangles, which are also nearly equal in area. They are thus arranged: six of them have each an angle in the centre at the top; upon the bases of these, or the sides opposite the angles at the centre, about six other triangles, whose

vertices reach the base of the stone. The six triangular spaces, between the latter six triangles, are ground each into two equal triangles. Thus the Rose is covered with twenty-four nearly equal, equilateral triangular *facets*, and the base is a single plane with twelve equal sides. The upper portion of the surface, consisting of the six triangles around the centre, is called the *crown*; the remainder, consisting of eighteen triangles, is called the *teeth*.

A Diamond of *unusual superficial* extent in proportion to its *depth* is polished upon its flat surfaces, and the edge is ground to any regular shape best adapted to the natural conformity of the stone, whether it be made round, oval, square or any other regular form. This style of cutting is called the Table, and is the last we have to describe.

Of three Diamonds of equal weight and purity cut respectively in the Brilliant, the Rose and the Table form, the first exceeds in value the rest, and the Rose rates higher than the Table.

The cutting and polishing of the Diamond involves a loss of nearly one half of its weight; and, according to a rule we will give presently, a cut Diamond weighing any certain number of carats is worth about three times as much as an uncut one of the same weight and to the value of the former must be added the cost of cutting, which will make its actual worth about quadruple the latter.

Diamonds are estimated in value according to their weight, purity of water, regularity, fullness of form and freedom from specks, veins and flaws. Specks generally consist of grains of red or black sand embedded in the stone. By flaws are meant indentations in the surface—and *water* signifies *color*—the first water meaning white. These imperfections are sought for at night by dealers and cutters in the Indies. European lapidaries prefer making their close examination in the daylight.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Aegina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

(Continued.)

MARONEA.

The fore part of a horse to the right; in the field, a monogram.

Reverse.—MA, a cluster of grapes in an indented square.—AR.

CARDIA.

Head of Ceres, with a wheaten crown.

Reverse.—KAP A IA, a lion to the left and an ear of barley.—A.

There are coins of Cardia with the fore part of a lion on obverse.

Reverse.—An indented square.

BYZANTIUM.

Head of Diana to the right, ; behind the head, a crescent, before it a bow.

Reverse.—BYZANTI Δ N, a crescent and star.*—Æ.

MESEMBRIA.

Helmeted male head.

Reverse.—A crescent, with the letters ME.—Æ.

THASSUS INSULA.

Head of Bacchus crowned with ivy.

Reverse.—OA, a branch of the vine with a bunch of grapes.—Æ.

MACEDONIA.

Female head crowned with a garland of ivy and vine leaves.

Reverse.—The prow of a vessel, with the letter M.

Some have the Macedonian shield, and some a helmet.—AR.

ACANTHUS.

The fore part of a bull to the left.

Reverse.—An indented square.—AR.

ÆGAL.

An ass sucking a chimera.

Reverse.—An indented square.—AR.

AMPHIPOLIS.

A trophy.

Reverse.—AMPHIO Δ IT Δ N, Diana seated on a bull, to the right.—Æ.

CHALCIS.

Laureated head of Apollo to the left.

Reverse.—XA Δ KIDE Δ N, a lyre.—AR.

NEAPOLIS.

Head of a female to the right.

Reverse.—NEOH, the minotaur.—AR.

THESSALONICA.

Head of Jupiter to the right.

Reverse.—Prow of a vessel, OEEE.—Æ.

*When Philip of Macedon approached by night, with his troops, to scale the walls of Byzantium, the moon shone out and discovered his design to the besieged, who vigorously repulsed him. The crescent was afterwards adopted as the favorite badge of the city. When the Turks took Byzantium they found the crescent in every public place, and, believing it to possess some magical power, they adopted it themselves.

(To be continued.)

OUT! GONE!

The last or April number of the *New York American Journal of Numismatics* has been issued and is full of interest, exhibiting a decided improvement upon former issues. The articles are, with one exception, short and of sufficient variety to interest the reader. As this publication has ceased to exist, we may be pardoned for finding fault with its editor, Professor Anthon, who, for some reason un-

known to us, has treated this journal, editorially, with silent neglect. From first to last, though receiving our publication regularly, and recognising our claims sufficiently to exchange, he has, professionally, ignored the existence of this journal. It is true, there have appeared a number of communications in reference to our publication during the past three years, but they were not of our selection, and were more sarcastic than complimentary. During the existence of this journal, we have treated our New York contemporary with courtesy and respect, frequently recommending it to our patrons, and though occasionally suggesting an improvement in the variety and character of its contents, yet always entertaining the highest respect for its editors and appreciating their numismatic ability and standing as professional gentlemen. Under these circumstances, more is the wonder that our journal was never reviewed nor criticised by its managers. The number now before us contains the editor's valedictory strangely associated with a cut of a rare type of colonial pieces. We regret the brevity of the farewell remarks of Professor Anthon. Knowing that he wields a caustic quill, well guided by a knowledge of the ups and downs of the coin trade, we anticipated an explanation of the causes which led to a suspension of his journal. The April number contains a full index to the four volumes, and also a roll of the members of the American Numismatic and Antiquarian Society. In the latter, we recognise many subscribers to our own publication. In conclusion, and in justice to the New York journal, we would state that arrangements have been made with the Boston Numismatic Society to continue the publication, and the first number from Boston will appear in July. We shall await its appearance with much pleasure not unmixed with anxiety to scan the columns of the forthcoming periodical. We propose to make up a club for our Boston friends, and request our patrons to send their names, accompanied with two dollars, for one year's subscription to the *Boston Numismatic Journal*. We have already received names sufficient to warrant us in starting a club. We bespeak the support of the numismatic fraternity, in advance, for the *Boston quarterly*, knowing full well that there is an ample supply of brains at the Hub, and that is not all: we have a deep seated conviction or prejudice that everything undertaken of a literary or scientific nature will be well and thoroughly performed in the tri-mountain city.

APOLOGETICAL.

We regret to be compelled to announce that, in striking our new metallic store cards, the dies were broken and we succeeded only in striking one hundred copper, one hundred brass, one hundred white metal, twenty nickel and twelve silver pieces. The specimens or trial cards were very fine, but the dies failed from the start, and, when striking the nickel pieces, were completely ruined. We have now sets in copper, brass and white metal at twenty-five cents per set.

NEW YORK COIN SALE, JUNE 17.

This sale was well attended, notwithstanding a sale of coins by Mr. Cogan, on the same day. The gold patterns, international pieces and Jefferson head cent were withdrawn by the owner of the collection, as the bids were not sufficient to cover half their market value. The balance of the collection was successfully disposed of and the pattern pieces were bid off at higher prices than were obtained at the last sale of those pieces, showing a decided appreciation in value. Continental and colonial paper money realized good prices. We noticed a fair representation from distant cities—Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia were represented at the sale. It was unfortunate that Mr. Cogan should get out a catalogue a few days prior to our New York sale, and fix upon the same day. However, both sales were well attended and successful, although a little better result financially might have gladdened the hearts of owners if the sales had been a few days separated. The coin market will not *bear bulling*, and those who think two sales upon one day preferable to one sale upon two days, had better sell their own property instead of managing that of others. We will always be careful to avoid trespassing in the way of sales, upon a fixed date, when notice is received in time to avoid it, and we trust hereafter to be treated with a proper courtesy in the arrangement and disposal at auction of coin or other collections.

SALE OF ANCIENT COINS.

Bangs, Merwin & Co., No. 694 Broadway, New York, sold a collection of about four hundred Greek and Roman coins, on Friday evening, June 17. We received the catalogues only three days prior to date of sale, and beg our patrons at a distance to consider this an ample apology for not mailing the catalogues, as is customary upon occasions of this kind. We send a large number of catalogues to dealers and others from two to three weeks prior to date of sale, and when coin sales occur in other cities, we have frequent cause of complaint in the small quantity of catalogues sent us and the short time allowed for their circulation. We trust, hereafter, that parties disposing of collections will have catalogues out at least one month before an intended sale. A hint to the wise is better than a kick to the foolish.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HAMBURG, GERMANY, May 10, 1870.

MASON & Co., PHILADELPHIA.

With your Monthly Collectors' Magazine, I am very much pleased and it gives me much pleasure to be ahead of the German collectors in American coins. By your paper, I know directly if the United States issues some new pieces; it is also the only paper known by me which brings so many news for a collector in American coins. I ordered your paper by my stationer and news dealer; it cost me

four Prussian thalers. I do not know how to get some catalogues, so that I have time to send you my orders; generally, the sale is over before the letter can reach you. I hope with next German post to get the catalogue and magazine for May.

Yours, etc.,

G. F. U.

P. S.—If you have some wishes for coins or stamps inform me through your paper.

G. F. U.

[Will our Hamburg correspondent kindly oblige us by forwarding by post anything rare or curious in the American line, such as coins, medals, relics, old books, letters, etc. We should like a box of crystals or handsome agates; also, a lot of Continental used stamps. Will send good exchange or cash. Send us any German, French or Italian periodicals, and names of dealers. Ed.]

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. N. S., CHICAGO.—We sent a catalogue to each buying subscriber. We cannot send to each name on our list, as there are seldom more than five hundred catalogues printed for our coin sales. Mr. Cogan gets one hundred, auctioneers get seventy-five, seventy-five more are distributed among small dealers, and we have but two hundred and fifty left for our own distribution. Follow this hint and buy something at a public sale, or send a bid, however small, and you will have a catalogue every time, sure.

R. S., BOSTON.—Thanks for the history of the freckled adventurer. May work it up in the stamp sketches at some future period.

G. L. W., HAMBURG.—Have attended to your request. Do you receive the magazine regularly?

C. T. R., GLASGOW.—Have written to you by last steamer. Send a good assortment and you will have a good patron.

R. P. N., NORWICH, ENGLAND.—Subscription received via Charles Scribner & Co., New York, and magazines forwarded. Do you require the back numbers of the present volume? Can you furnish any American coins, books, etc.?

L. S.—Can send you the copper, brass and white metal cards for 25 cents per set. Dies broken, and can be seen at our office.

C. R. S.—The firm of Warner & Brother, 1021 Chestnut Street, is broken up, and all stock in trade, tools, etc. of that firm was sold at public auction, June 22.

A. M. Y.—Maris' first and second edition of 1794 cents mailed on receipt of 25 cents each.

G. H. P.—We have small round white paper boxes for \$1 50 per hundred; 2 inch round white boxes, for medals or dollars, \$2 per hundred; morocco cases, velvet lined, cut for two medals—size 4½ by 2¾—25 cents each by mail.

W. A.—Our new stamp packet list will be published in July, with a new series of stamps. Enclose 25 cents, and name special stamps for any packet you require. Priced stamp catalogue, 15 cents.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—We have received information that it is the intention of the Post Office Department to issue another stamp, and that of a value that has not heretofore been employed in this country. There have been two designs prepared, one bearing the profile of Baron Steuben, and the other of Lafayette; the framework will conform in design to the present issue. The colors have not been decided upon.—*New York Journal of Philately.*

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—As the adhesive stamps for this country were not ready for issue at the commencement of the present year, the Postmaster General decided upon emitting a few more provisional envelopes for the benefit of local traders and the public. The die used for the previous ones having been destroyed, a few were impressed with a small hand-stamp, bearing round the circle POTCHEFSTROOM ZUID AFRIKA, and in the centre, Z. A. R., with the value written in by hand, 6d. *pence*. These were placed upon exactly the same style of envelopes as the first issue, and were printed in black. They are, of course, now obsolete. Similar envelopes were provided for PRETORIA and RUSTENBURG, inscribed respectively, with the names of those towns.

SAN SALVADOR.—A doubtful rumor is in circulation to the effect that a one centavo stamp, color *blue*, is shortly to be issued, the type to be similar to that of the current series; it is, however, little likely, even if such an emission has been decided on, that choice has been made of a color which would inevitably clash with that of the half real.

HANOVER.—M. Moens has discovered that the 1 gruten gr. of 1850, which has hitherto been supposed to be on unwatermarked paper, in reality possesses a watermark, consisting of a simple square of the form and about the size of the stamp itself. He adds, "It is not such a watermark as is generally found, but still is one none the less for that; manufacturers' marks alone ought to be excepted from the category of watermarks."

FRANCE.—The laureated 1 centime has at last made its appearance. The design is identical with that of the 2 and 4 c., the color is exactly that of its predecessor. The new comer has a very neat appearance, and, in reviewer's phrase, we can predict for it a very large circulation. As yet it is only in partial use, the stock of the old type being used up before the new is employed. Our own specimen, the only one we have as yet seen, we took off a circular from Dunkerque.

BELGIUM.—It appears that this country is about to follow the Austrian lead in emitting correspondence cards. The project has been approved by the chambers and the cards are to be issued within

six months after the promulgation of the law. M. Moens has faith in their *ultimate* appearance.

PARAGUAY.—It is reported that the provisional government has issued a series of postage stamps, which have been in use since the 1st of March. We await confirmation of this rumor.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

STICK vs. LICK.

One of our city subscribers, in an irritable mood, complains that the new series of United States stamps will not stick to the letters, and another, in a humorous vein, says "they stick too much," he invested in a sheet of two cent stamps, and separated them so that he could carry them in his pocket, when he found, after a game of base ball in which he indulged, that the stamps were stuck together in sixes and dozens; while his handkerchief, shirt collar, wristbands, etc., were ornamented profusely with brown views of the head of Jackson. Our advice is for the complainants to meet in the vestibule of the post office and take part of the stick from one stamp and stick it on another; when dry, give each stamp a slight lick to make it stick. If this plan fails, secure a bigger stick, from the nearest wood pile, and give the postmaster a lick; the latter, in turn, can stick the blame on the National Bank Note Company and give that firm a lick with another stick. If the matter "sticks" after repeated "lickings," stick a pin through the stamp and envelope and let it slide, thus dispensing with stick licking all together. The above is the only consolation we have to offer stick lickers, unless we send them over the river Styx, were stamps and stick-lickings are unknown.

NEW LOCAL STAMP.

The Adams Express Company will soon issue several adhesive stamps designed for use on money orders and to prepay packages sent by that company. We have examined two proofs, made by the American Phototype Company, as specimens for the express company, the stamp, however, will be engraved and printed by the National Bank Note Company from the Phototype Company's specimens. The stamp is of about the same size and appearance as the new three cent issue of United States. It contains a bust of Mr. Adams, the founder of the express company, in an oval frame, with the value in the upper corners. The specimens we have examined are printed in green and blue; there will, however, be a variety of colors and values.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

4 scarce Revenue Stamps, two uncanceled, worth \$1 50, gold. 80 cents.

- 1 10 reals, 1851, Spain, cancelled. 60 cents.
 1 set Hamburg Envelopes, M. O. included. 80 cents.
 1 set, 1851 issue, U. S. Stamps, uncancelled. \$1 12.
 1 set, 1865, U. S. Envelope Stamps, 11 kinds, uncancelled. \$1 70.
 8 obsolete Stamps, including Montevideo, Luzon, etc. \$1 25.
 1 set, first issue, Bavaria, uncancelled. 80 cents.
 1 Bolivar, 10 centavos, cancelled. 55 cents.
 1 set of 3 (View of Sydney) Stamps, uncancelled. \$1 75.
 1 Buenos Ayres, 2 pesos, 1858. 75 cents.
 1 set of two, wood block, Cape of Good Hope. \$2.
 1 complete set, Chili, clean and cancelled. 75 cents.
 1 2 cent, green, Confederate States. \$1 10.
 1 10 cent, red, Confederate States. \$1 30.
 10 1 cent, orange, Confederate States. \$3 12.
 100 5 cent, blue, Confederate States. \$1 10.
 100 10 cent, blue, Confederate States. \$1 65.
 100 20 cent, green, Confederate States. \$2 62.
 1 Knoxville, 5 cent, red, uncancelled; this is one of the provision Confederates and is very scarce. \$2 25.
 1 set of 3, 1870, Dutch Indies, uncancelled. \$1 12.
 25 official, Egypt. \$2 62.
 1 set French Republic, uncancelled. \$3 12.
 1 set, French Republic, presidency, uncancelled. \$2 12.
 1 10 cent, lithograph, French unpaid Letter Stamp.
 1 India proof Mulready Envelope; this is one of the scarcest proofs known, one having been sold in London for 10 guineas. \$3 25.
 1 complete set, Lubeck, 18 stamps, uncancelled. \$1 37.
 1 10 cent, carmine, 1854, Luzon, uncancelled. \$2.
 1 10 cent, carmine, 1854, Luzon, uncancelled. \$3 62.
 1 2 real, green, 1854, Luzon, uncancelled. \$5.
 1 1 real, 1863, violet, Luzon, uncancelled. \$2 12.
 1 2 real, 1863, blue, Luzon, uncancelled. \$2 25.
 1 1 penny, 1858, Mauritius, red. 25 cents.
 A collection of 389 uncancelled Postage Stamps, nicely mounted in a handsomely bound album. Amongst other scarce stamps will be found complete sets of Sicily, Romagna, Modena, etc. \$9 50.
 1 set, 1856, Mexico, cancelled. \$3.
 1 set, 1852, Modena, uncancelled. \$1 12.
 1 set, 1859, Modena, uncancelled. \$1 10.
 1 set, 1861, Naples, uncancelled. 90 cents.
 5 sets, Photographs, New Caledonia. \$1 12.
 1 set, Romagna, 1859, uncancelled. \$1 12.
 1 ½ real, 1865, St. Domingo. \$1.
 24 2 real, Salvador. \$1 12.
 25 2 can., black, Shanghai, uncancelled. \$1 37.
 1 set, Sicily, uncancelled. \$1 12.
 1 set of 8, Spanish Official Stamps. 62 cents.

(To be continued.)





INDIAN ANTIQUITIES FOUND AT MONTREAL.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

AUGUST, 1870.

No. 8.

INDIAN ANTIQUITIES DISCOVERED AT MONTREAL,
CANADA.

On the 2d day of October, 1535, the French navigator, Jacques Cartier, landed upon the island now known as Montreal. Much opposition had been made by the Indians at Stadacone (Quebec) against the proposed visit; but Cartier was not to be deterred, and on his arrival he gorgeously attired himself, and having arranged his company, he proceeded to visit the Indian village of Hochelaja, which was situated on this island and ranked as the "metropolis of the Forest State." He was cordially received by the natives, who at once directed him towards the town (?), which stood in the midst of "goodly and large fields, full of such corn as the country yieldeth." Cartier describes it as being near a great mountain, called by him Mount Royal, a name which, with small change, has since extended to our city. The town was round, encompassed about with timber, and had but one gate for entry thereto. In the town were about fifty houses or cabins, fifty paces long and fifteen paces broad.

At what date the inhabitants, who were Algonquins, were driven from this spot, we have no record, but about seventy years later (1608), when Champlain visited the island, there was no village nor even native inhabitant; but, from the records of the Jesuit fathers, we learn that the Indians told them that between the dates named, the Hurons and Iroquois had driven the Algonquins off.

The question as to the original site of the village would have remained unsettled until the present day, had not the extension of the city of Montreal led to the discovery of relics which has placed us in possession of indubitable proofs as to its position, and it is not likely that anything farther will be discovered concerning the site of Hochelaja; but it is remarkable how well the actual remains found have agreed with and corroborated the account left of it by Jacques Cartier.

The restricted space at my command prevents me from giving a complete account of the original village, and the habits of its people, but this I may furnish at some future time. The relics were discovered in the fall of 1860, while some workmen were engaged in excavating near Mansfield street, in the sandy ridge of a terrace,

which runs immediately north of Sherbrooke street. They consisted of skeletons (male and female), the jaw bones of the beaver, with fragments of earthen vessels made of a red clay, several knives or chisels of bone, stone hammers, spear heads and some singular counters, supposed to have been used by the Indians in play. The most interesting relics were the tobacco pipes, some of which were handsomely fashioned in the shape of lotus flowers, with the hole through the stem perfectly preserved.

The following describes the relics delineated in the lithograph which accompanies this article :

1. Tobacco pipe, half size.
- 2 to 7. Fragments of sides of earthen vessels.
8. Handle of a flat earthen vessel.
9. Piece of the bottom of the same.
10. Disk of baked clay, ornamented on one side and supposed to have been used in some game.
11. A small knife or chisel, such as the Indians themselves may have made from a scrap of foreign iron obtained from their early European visitor.
12. Bone implement used in ornamenting the pottery formed with it, as the circular stamp fits into the pattern on some of the vessels.
15. Skull of an Indian.

Hoping this article, with its illustrations, may not prove uninteresting to your readers,

I am, yours,

ALF. SANDHAM.

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

RICHARD II, 1377.

Obverse.—The coins of Richard II are only to be distinguished by their legend and their weight. The groat has the style REX ANGLIE. Z FRANCIE. The legend of the half groat has besides the name, DI GRA REX ANGLIE. The half penny has the name, with REX ANG and ANGLIE, but the farthing only REX ANG. after the name.

Reverse.—The reverses are precisely the same as on the coins of the two former kings.

Rarity.—All the coins of Richard II are very rare, except the penny and half penny; the two latter, though not rare, are scarce.

HENRY IV, 1399; HENRY V, 1413; and HENRY VI, 1425.

Obverse.—The money coined by Henry IV, before the thirteenth year of his reign and that struck by Henry VI, after the forty-ninth year of his reign, may be ascertained by their weight. The groat of Henry IV, before his thirteenth year, weighs seventy-two grains troy, and the other pieces in proportion. Before the forty-ninth year of Henry VI, the groat weighed but sixty troy grains; after that

period it was reduced to forty-eight grains. The other coins of these three kings cannot be distinguished from each other. Some assign those groats with the annulets on each side of the neck of the bust to Henry V; those with the plain cross preceding the title, to Henry IV; and those with the cross crosslet to Henry VI. This is, however, mere conjecture. On the reverse of the first, the pellets in two of the quarters of the cross are conjoined by an annulet. The coins of these kings differ but very little from those of their predecessors, from the time of Edward II.

Rarity.—The light groat of Henry VI and the heavy groat of Henry IV are rare; the latter particularly so. The half groats are common; the pennies, half pence and farthings rather scarce.

EDWARD IV., 1460.

Obverse.—The coins of this king, though much like those of his predecessors, may be distinguished by the rose on each side of the neck of the bust: some have four pellets, others an annulet and a rose on the breast. Those of the country mint have on the breast of the bust the initial of the name of the town in which they were struck. The *weight*, however, is the best criterion.

Reverse.—The same as those of the coins of former kings, from Edward II.

Rarity.—The groats common, except those of Norwich and Coventry, spelled "Norwic" and "Covetre." The half-groat and half-penny scarce, the penny and farthing rare. The Bristol penny is extremely rare.

(*To be continued.*)

THE STUDY OF COINS AND MEDALS AS CONNECTED WITH POETRY, PAINTING AND ARCHITECTURE.

(*Concluded.*)

Speaking of the poetical imagery of ancient coins, it must not be forgotten that there is one, and, to add to the wonder, a colonial one, and of rude execution, of Julius and Augustus, inscribed IMP & DIVI F. which has a high claim to merit in this way. On the reverse the conquest of Egypt is represented by the apposite metaphor of a crocodile, an animal almost peculiar to that country, and at that period esteemed altogether so, which is chained to a palm tree, at once a native of the country and symbolic of victory.

But, of the poetical invention displayed in very many of the ancient coins, these few instances may suffice, considering, as has been said, that Mr. Addison has written so fully upon the subject of the connection of this study with that of Latin poetry; and to enter upon that in other languages falls not into the brief plan of this little performance.

I think we are told that Rubens had a very fine collection of medals, and indeed, to a painter who dealt so much in allegorical subjects, they must have been of the very first importance; for nowhere are the attributes of personification so finely preserved or delineated.

A cabinet of medals may indeed be said to form the classic erudition of a painter.

It may be added that, as the reverses are so useful for knowledge of personification, symbols of countries and actions, and the like, so the portraits to be seen on old coins are no less important to a painter; the high merit of a great number of them, in every character, justly entitling them to be regarded as the best studies in the world. Not to mention that, to a painter of the highest rank, an historic painter, the science of ancient medals is absolutely necessary, that he may delineate his personages with the features they really bore when in existence. This can only be attained in this way, or from statues and busts, any one of which will cost as much as hundreds of medals; and indeed a collection of such is only attainable by princes.

This naturally leads me to consider a little the advantages arising from this study to sculptors. Almost all the uses which connect the science of medals with painting likewise render it subservient to the art of the sculptor, but the latter will, from the study of the Greek coins in particular, derive no small profit. The heads of the several deities represented on them, in the most exquisite alto-relievo, will recommend them to his attention in a particular manner.

The wonderful skill of the Greeks in sculpture has always been a subject of admiration to the world. Nations, in which a taste for the fine arts has made any progress, have viewed, with universal applause, the wonderful efforts of Grecian genius; the character and expression of the faces, the contour and perfect nature and symmetry of the whole figure; the strength, chastised with inimitable *marbidezza*, that, if not life itself, is almost superior.

Yet, I know not how it is, that the Grecian coins, sister productions of art, have never yet been regarded, so far as I know, with proper attention by men of taste. I can only account for this by supposing that the study of Greek medals has hitherto been looked upon as the province of the mere antiquary. But I will venture to say, that, to the man who admires medals solely as pieces of workmanship, those of Greece will afford the highest satisfaction. Considered in this view, and indeed in most others, they excel those of Rome, the best times of Rome, to a surprising degree. The perfect beauty and tenderness of the female portraits, and the strength and expression of the male cannot be exceeded in any shape, by the largest efforts of Grecian sculpture.

In every quality of art Roman coins yield to the Greek alone. If any era were to be assigned to the Roman, as more eminent for workmanship than another, that from Augustus to Adrian must have the preference. In the days of Adrian, in particular, the Roman mint seems to have been the very seat of art and genius; witness the vast number of exquisite personifications, engraved with equal workmanship, which swarm on the medals of that prince. Yet, from his time down to the Posthumi, coins of admirable execution are to be found.

Those of the Faustinas and Lucilla deserve particular mention. There is one, and not an uncommon one, of the latter in great brass, which yields to nothing of its kind. The reverse is a Venus, with the name around her. The portrait on the obverse seems to spring from the field of the coin. It looks, and breathes; nay, talks, if you trust your eyes.

"Manca il parlar, di vivo altro non chiedi;
Ne manca questo ancar, s'agli occhi credi."

The connection of the study of ancient coins with architecture consists in the views of many of the most excellent ancient edifices, which are found in perfect preservation on medals, and there only. These furnish much pleasure and instruction to the architect, and serve to form his taste to the ancient manner; that manner which unites perfect simplicity with sublimity and grace; that manner which every age admires in proportion as it has genius to imitate.

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 4.

"The Knowing Ones."

Besides the *Numismatic Nero*, who positively asserts "he obtained an 1815 United States cent, when the mint was on fire," and that "there were but three coined that year," there are other *smart* and *knowing* individuals; one class we have already treated of, viz: the intelligent "Knowing One," but the insufferable ignoramus, without wit enough to amuse, or sense to learn the commonest numismatic fact, is by far the most annoying bore the coin dealer has to encounter. The stupid "Knowing One" enters the coin stores with a patronizing air and at once makes known the object of his visit.

Stupid Knowing One.—"What would yer like to offer for a Washington cent, 1798?"

Dealer.—"There are no Washington cents, 1798."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Ain't ther? well, I've got one with the old Washington head on—had it stowed away nigh on to twenty years."

Dealer.—(Impatiently).—"Well, let us see it."

Stupid opens a cadaverous porte-monnaie and exhibits an ordinary worn cent of 1798."

Dealer.—"This is the old Liberty head, sir, and the cent is worth about five cents."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Like to buy it, s'pose, wouldn't yer?"

Dealer.—"Pay you five cents for it."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Five cents! Come, now, honor bright, don't you advertise to give twenty-five dollars for 1799's."

Dealer.—"Yes, sir."

Stupid Knowing One.—"And this is one year older, and you give five cents for it. Guess not."

Dealer.—"It is the rarity of the coin which makes it valuable. You will not find a cent of 1799 among ten thousand old coppers."

We endeavored to convince our visitor of his error in regard to values and dates, but the argument was wasted, until a small boy entered with a cent of 1812 in splendid condition, and we paid fifty cents for it. Stupid watched the transaction, looked carefully at the coin purchased and then broke out again:

"See here, stranger, is 1812 a 'rarerty,' as you call 'em?"

Dealer.—"No, sir, the date is not rare, but the coin is in excellent condition; not worn nor injured."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Well, look at mine, yer can see the date plain."

Dealer.—"The date is plain, it is true, but the legend is entirely gone."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Legend gone! gone where? who's Legend?"

Dealer.—(Smiling)—"The word 'Liberty,' sir, is not on your coin."

Stupid Knowing One.—"No, his ain't like this; mine is a Washington head."

It was useless to beat any knowledge into Stupid's cranium, but we made one more effort:

"Let us explain by asking you a question:—Suppose you were offered the choice of two hats, one old and the other new, which one would you select?"

Stupid Knowing One.—"Regular bell top beavers?"

Dealer.—Yes, that kind, for example."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Wouldn't take neither on 'em."

It was useless to elaborate further, and thoroughly disgusted and impatient to be rid of our torment, we gave him the advice we had tendered to others of his ilk, to "call again when he had more time."

"Oh, I've got plenty of time, *now*," said Stupid, and pleading private urgent business we finally closed the door on our obtuse friend, the Stupid Knowing One.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Obsidional.—Having reference to a "siege piece."

Obverse.—The principal side of a coin or medal.

One-sided.—A piece with blank reverse.

Original.—A genuine or true coin.

Octagon Piece.—An eight sided medal or coin.

Over-strike.—A coin struck twice, showing two impressions.

Over-date.—A coin showing a date over a previous one, as in the cents of 1800, 1807, 1811, etc.

Paduan.—An ancient forged coin.

Patinated.—Coin covered with fine rust, as in some of the ancient coins dug up at Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Pattern Piece.—A coin having a new design, not adopted as a regular coinage.

Perfect Die.—Used to distinguish a coin from one bearing the same date with cracks caused by a broken die.

Pickled.—A piece placed in pure apple cider previous to bronzing; also used to explain a peculiar red or purple color, the result of soaking a coin in salt and water.

Pierced.—A coin or medal having a hole bored through it.

Plain Edge.—Not lettered nor ornamented.

Planchet.—Blank circular piece of metal used for coinage.

Proof Piece.—Showing a mirror-like surface.

(*To be continued.*)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(*Continued.*)

If you examine a double eagle, or, lacking one, a quarter of a dollar, a slight rim will be noticed around the edge, raised a little higher than the device. It is done to prevent the device from being worn by rubbing on counters, etc., and also that the coins may be piled one on another steadily. This edge is raised by a very beautiful piece of mechanism called a milling machine, the invention of Mr. Peale, and vastly superior to any other in use.

Some twenty or thirty planchets are placed in one of the brass vertical tubes, of which there are three, for different sized coins. At the bottom of the tube the lowest planchet is struck by a revolving feeder, which drives it horizontally between the revolving steel wheel on one side and the fixed segment on the other. The segment is on the same curve as the wheel, though somewhat nearer to it at the further end. The planchet is caught in a narrow groove cut in the wheel and segment, and the space being somewhat less than the diameter of the planchet the edge is crowned up about the thirty-second part of an inch. The planchet makes four revolutions when it reaches the end of the segment, and being released from the grooves falls into a box below. The edge is perfectly smooth, the fluting or "reeding," as it is termed, being put on in the process of coining. The work is so nimbly performed that about one hundred and twenty double eagles, or five hundred and sixty half dimes, can be milled in one minute. This is a vast improvement on the English milling machine, worked by hand, and operating on but two planchets at a time.

The planchets being milled are called blanks. They are very dirty and discolored by the processes they have undergone, requiring to be polished before coining. This is done in the Whitening Room, and an exceeding hot place it is. Sometimes in summer the thermometer will indicate 120 degrees, though the tall man by the furnace declares that it is often at 175 degrees. The room is too small and

poorly ventilated for the use to which it is put. There are two furnaces for annealing the blanks, they being placed in a copper box, with a cover sealed air tight with clay. Boxes and blanks are heated red hot and the blanks tipped into a vat containing a weak solution of sulphuric acid and water, to cleanse them. The stream of water in the other vat is hot, in which the blanks are washed free from acid, leaving them a beautiful white color, almost like silver.

The curious copper machine, looking like a large revolving squirrel cage, is the drying drum. About half of it is a tight copper drum, into which the blanks from the hot water are placed with a quantity of basswood sawdust. Steam is introduced through the axis to heat the interior, and the drum made to revolve, causing the blanks to roll among the heated sawdust and dry themselves. Basswood dust is used because of its freedom from sap, pitch or gum of any kind, It is extremely pure. In the language of one of the men, "It ain't got nothin' about it but just wood."

(*To be continued.*)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

Life Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal.

(*Continued.*)

We have thus briefly sketched the history of the coinage, but before closing we may be permitted to add a few facts, which may not be uninteresting to our reader.

During the rebellion of 1837 and 1838, several merchants and others issued paper currency, commonly known as shin-plasters, and among the most active in the work was a merchant at Laprairie (a village about nine miles above Montreal), who established a bank called Henry's Bank, from which a very large number of notes were issued, of course with a *small* profit to the banker. At the close of the rebellion the farmers in the vicinity held quite a large amount of this trash and were heavy losers, and even at the present day some specimens remain in their possession. They are, however, rarely offered for sale, and when in good condition are prized by Canadian collectors. Similar notes were issued by Messrs. Cuvillier & Sons, of Montreal. These, however, unlike the Henry issue, were redeemed by the firm who issued them, and are now extremely rare. There was a large variety issued by other parties, some of them being curiosities in their way, from the fact that the value is marked on the face of them, in almost every conceivable style. One in our possession is marked as good for—60 sous—half a dollar—two shillings and sixpence—30 pence—trois francs—un ecu—the whole having in the centre a cut of the American half dollar of 1825, so that the most fastidious person must certainly be satisfied.

There are in circulation in Canada a number of coins known as the Wellington series. These appear in many varieties, but we are

of the opinion that they were struck in England for export to any of the colonies where a scarcity of currency existed, the great bulk however finding its way to this colony. Wellington being a popular and familiar person, his bust was chosen as the most likely to meet the wishes of all parties. From the general circulation of these and other coins they are sometimes classed as Canadian; therefore, for the guidance of those who pursue this questionable mode of arranging their cabinets, we have given a description of some of the specimens, as well as of other coins, which we consider doubtful.

Before proceeding with the description of the various coins, we would say, that we place the Provinces in the order in which they stand in the history of our country, commencing with Newfoundland, which was discovered in 1499.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.
Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(Continued.)

The universal standard by which the Diamond is weighed is the carat. This was formerly exactly equivalent to four grains, Troy weight, even beam; for the stone was not allowed to decline a hair's breadth. But the carat now is never of the full weight of four grains. The word is said to have been derived from *kaura*, a species of bean of remarkable equiponderance, which serves, it is further stated, in Africa and India to weigh gold dust and Diamonds. But we cannot credit that so uncertain a substance would ever have been adopted as a standard to estimate the value of such precious articles. In confirmation of this opinion we find in Tavernier (whose works will be more particularly referred to) that the carat weight is unknown all through the East! He says at Raolconda, Gani and Visapour Diamonds are weighed by the *mangelin*, equal to one and three-eighths carats; at Somelpour and in the Empire of the Great Mogul by a weight called *ratis*, equal to seven-eighths of a carat. Its derivation, more probably, is from the Italian verb *caratate*, signifying *to weigh with great care, to scrutinize*. Or possibly from the Latin *caret*, *it is wanting*; for the caret falls universally short of four grains, its original weight.

The price of uncut Diamonds weighing one caret is from seven dollars and a half to ten dollars, according to their purity, shape, etc.; that of the Brilliant-cut Diamonds, from thirty to forty dollars.

Rose-cut Diamonds of one carat are worth about half as much as Brilliants of the same weight and quality, *i. e.*, from fifteen to twenty dollars.

The universal rule by which Diamonds of all sizes, both Brilliant and Rose, are estimated, is to multiply the square of the weight by

the above prices. Thus, stones of the first water, cut as Brilliants, and weighing as follows, are estimated as is respectively set opposite the weights :

1 carat.	1 × 1 × \$40 —	\$40
1½ "	1½ × 1½ × 40 —	90
2 "	2 × 2 × 40 —	160
3 "	3 × 3 × 40 —	360
4 "	4 × 4 × 40 —	640
5 "	5 × 5 × 40 —	1,000
25 "	25 × 25 × 40 —	25,000
300 "	300 × 300 × 40 —	3,600,000

One of the latter weight would be about the size of a small hen's egg, and would weigh about two ounces. There is no satisfactory evidence of a cut Diamond of this weight. The above rule is not always adhered to in the valuation of specimens of unusual size—as their owners may choose to put on them an entirely arbitrary estimate, oftentimes much exceeding that deducible from our rule.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

PYLUS.

Male head to the right.

Reverse.—LY Δ, a horse in full gallop to the right.—Æ

THESSALIA.

IHHAI, helmetted head of Minerva to the right.

Reverse.—PE ∞ ∞ AV Δ N, a horse walking to the right.—Æ.

LARISSA.

Full face of a female.

Reverse.—Δ API ∞, a horse to the right.—AR.

Some have indented square; obverse, a man overpowering a bull.—AR.

BÆTIA.

A Bæotian buckler.

Reverse.—BOIT Δ N, a trident and a dolphin.—Æ.

TANAGRA.

A Bæotian buckler.

Reverse.—TA, fore part of a horse in an indented square.—AR.

APOLLONIA (ILLYRIA).

∞ ENOK Δ E, a cow giving suck to her calf.

Reverse.—AHO Δ, XAIPHO ∞, plan of the gardens of Alcinous.—AR.

DIYRACHIUM.

ΑΕΠΝΙΑΑΞ, a cow giving suck to her calf and turning her head to the right.

Reverse.—ΑΥΡ.ΑΥΑΟΝΟΞ, plan of the gardens of Alcinous.

ΑΥΙΑ (LOCRES).

ΑΟΚΡΠΝ, laureated head of Jupiter to the right.

Reverse.—A thunderbolt.—Æ.

This coin is oval shaped.

OPUNTII.

ΟΓΟΝ, a bunch of grapes and an ivy leaf.

Reverse.—A star.—ΑΡ.

Some have the name at full length and an armed warrior, with the figure of a serpent or a griffin on his shield.

PHOCIS.

Head of a bull, full faced. with PO.

Reverse.—The fore part of a boar to the left.—ΑΡ.

Many of the coins of Phocis have the head of Apollo on their obverse.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

Bad as the Continental Bills had become in the latter period of their existence, they always bore the stamp of nationality and passed currently at the exchange of the day throughout the land; whereas, the emissions of the States, made on their individual responsibility, and at various rates of exchange, were not received beyond the limits of each State; so that one State would not take the bills of another State. They were only used for municipal purposes and local trade, as wampum had been in the early days of Massachusetts and other parts of New England, bundles of tobacco in Virginia and stamped wood or leather elsewhere.

Those persons who happened to be the last holders of the Continental bills put up quietly with their loss. The mighty monster, as that expiring currency was called in those days, departed unlamented. An attempt, which proved abortive, was made, some time after, to dig up its skeleton, but it never was resuscitated. Its services when alive were incalculable, and it cannot be too often repeated that it saved the State and gained our independence. It was the cheap price, and our emancipation the rich purchase. To posterity was that independence transmitted, by those who achieved it, and paid for it by bearing the whole loss of the paper currency, which was the principal item of its cost. The Continental money endured for nearly six years, and during that long period worked as a most powerful state-engine, and was, says a writer who saw its operation, "a prodigy of revenue, and of exceeding mysterious and magical agency.

Bubbles of a like sort, in other countries, lasted but a few months, and then burst into nothing; but this held out for years, and seemed to retain a vigorous constitution to its last, for its circulation was never more brisk than just before it died at five hundred for one, and when it expired it departed without a groan or struggle or being in the least lamented." As I have already observed, the loss was divided and subdivided into such fractional parts, during the five or six years' circulation of the millions of paper dollars, that they were laid aside not only unpaid and unhonored, but even unwept. The people were tired of the daily variation of prices, and felt how ridiculous was the state of a currency which required five hundred dollars in paper to pay for a breakfast that could be bought for a silver half dollar. It carried no regret with it, and it seems doomed to sleep in silence, unfriended and unsung; unless, indeed, some attempt be now and then made to awaken a transient touch of sympathy, such as I am at in this humble sketch.

With it disappeared that unjust and erroneous legislation of making paper money a legal tender. Happily such tyranny cannot return,—the Constitution of the United States forbidding the enactment of laws making any kind of money a tender, except gold and silver.

(*To be continued.*)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(*Continued.*)

It is in the Roman medals that this imposition reigns to an amazing degree. But the reader must beware of looking upon all forgeries in the more precious medals as modern. On the contrary, many pieces are of ancient forgery of the public money; and are often more esteemed than the genuine coins, because plated or otherwise executed in a way that no modern forgers could attain to; and of consequence bearing intrinsic marks of antiquity. The ancients themselves held coins ingeniously counterfeited in such high esteem that Pliny informs us that many true denarii were often given for one false one.

Even of the Roman consular coins not very many have ever been forged. The celebrated silver denarius of Brutus, with the cap of Liberty and two daggers, is the chief instance of a consular coin of which a counterfeit is current. But it is easily rejected by this mark: in the true coin the cap of Liberty is below the guard, or hilt, of the daggers; in the false the top of it rises above that hilt.

It is in the grandest series in the world, the imperial series of Rome, that modern forgery has almost universal prevalence; and rules for discerning it shall presently be laid down from the essay of M. Beauvais, the latest given on the subject. It may be premised that the deception of forgery at first extended to the most eminent writers, for William du Choul, who wrote more than two hundred

years ago, caused to be engraved in his treatise, On the religion of the ancient Romans, two medals of Agrippa; one of great brass, on the reverse of which is the Pantheon: and another of silver, with Neptune in his car drawn by two sea horses, with this legend, *AEQVORIS HIC OMNIPOTENS*. Both of these medals were undoubtedly false. Antony Le Poise, who lived at the same time, produces different medals of certain falsity; such as a Scipio Africanus; the Aelian bridge on a reverse of Hadrian; and a Pessennius Niger of gold; then undiscovered, though since found, and to be seen in the French king's cabinet. These instances must convince us that, almost as soon as a taste for coins began to spread among the curious, the trade of imposition arose.

Counterfeit medals fall into six classes, namely:

1. Medals known to be modern imitations of the ancient; but which being by masters, such as the Paduan, etc., have their value.
2. Medals cast from these modern masterly imitations.
3. Medals cast in moulds taken from the antique.
4. Ancient medals which are retouched, and the obverses or reverses altered.
5. Medals which are impressed with new devices, or which are soldered.
6. Counterfeit medals which have clefts, or which are plated.

(To be continued.)

FOUR DAYS' COIN SALE.—SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The valuable numismatic cabinet of William Fewsmith, A. M., of this city, has been purchased by Mason & Co., and will be offered at public sale at the rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York, October 4, commencing at 5½ P. M., each day of sale, to continue four days.

To those who are not familiar with the Fewsmith Cabinet, we would say it embraces many fine and valuable coins, selected at the sales of the most prominent cabinets in the country, including Mickle's, Mackensie's, Finotti's, Haines's, Zanoni's, etc. It also contains choice specimens from Dr. Clay's celebrated cabinet, and desirable pieces obtained from private sources.

The American silver series comprises nearly a full line of dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars, dimes and half dimes, nearly all in uncirculated or proof condition, including, with very few exceptions, the rare pieces, such as 1794, 1836, '38, '39, '51 and '52 dollars, 1796 and '97 half dollars, 1823 quarter dollar (finest in the world), 1796, '97, '98, 1800, '04 dimes, 1794, '96, '97, etc., half dimes.

The American silver medal series is also as complete and beautiful as any collection of similar pieces in the country.

The series of U. S. copper cents and half cents are complete and in condition unsurpassed. The cents form nearly an uncirculated set (1793 to 1857) excepting the 1799 and 1804; the latter pieces being as fine as any known and showing scarcely any marks of circulation. The

1793 Liberty cap cent from the Clay collection has been estimated in value as high as two hundred dollars, and most of the early dates are as sharp and beautiful as when dropped from the glistening dies at the mint, while a number of the later dates are brilliant proofs. A complete set of U. S. half cents is of such rare occurrence at coin sales, that the Fewsmith catalogue will form a pleasing contrast to many preceding ones. 1793, 1796, 1802, 1811, 1831, 1836, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849 small date, 1852, nearly all proofs, are among the rarities of the half cent series, while the common dates are uncirculated, forming, as a whole, a desirable acquisition to any cabinet not yet complete in this line.

The American colonial coins are a feature in this cabinet, whether we consider the silver series of Pine Tree coinage, or the no less interesting Rosa Americanas, all as fine as interesting in historical associations. Here we find a splendid impression of that excessively rare piece, "The Carolina Elephant Cent" of 1694; fine Immune and Immunis Columbias of 1785 and 1787; Lord Baltimore and the Annapolis coinage; rare and uncirculated types of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Virginia pieces.

Among the colonial coins is an uncirculated New Jersey cent, "Pluribus" variety, probably *unique* as to condition; also, a bright red uncirculated coin of the same colony. Many other colonial pieces, fine and rare, will be found in this cabinet.

The most interesting feature in the collection of pattern pieces is a complete set of U. S. coins from the twenty dollar to the one cent piece, inclusive, struck in aluminum, a metal resembling silver and so light that it is said to float on water. This set is handsomely mounted in a beautiful morocco velvet-lined case, made at considerable expense, and the set an exact counterpart of those sent to Paris and London as presents from our government. Six sets only were struck and the purchaser will receive the proper evidence of this fact.

There are a fine assortment of foreign proof coins, silver and copper; proof tokens and a great variety of coins and medals in various metals from various countries; some of which are extremely rare and valuable.

A Voltaire medal, struck in lead, and believed to be *unique*; also, a number of other pieces which cannot be described in this article for want of space. The medal collection is particularly interesting in silver and bronze, embracing all the rare American medals and in variety or condition difficult to equal.

Washington pieces are numerous and embrace a great variety of rare large and small silver medals and a rare assortment in bronze and white metal.

A collection of upwards of two thousand business cards, or trade tokens, is of considerable interest, and we regret that our catalogue, limited to three thousand lots, prevents a full description of the

pieces—as the line is a good one and has many very rare early cards in different medals.

What shall we say of *unique* pieces? First, the Washington cent with its peculiar crooked and twisted open-mouthed spread eagle reverse. This piece was found at Germantown, and sold to Mr. Fewsmith for fifty dollars. This cent was doubtless engraved and designed by Paul Revere, and intended as an experimental cent for 1791; but the design presented by the reverse evidently so shocked the patriotic Revere, that but one piece was ever coined, and that lost or hidden until turned up by the plowshare on the old battle ground at Germantown.

A miscellaneous variety of coins, medals and odd pieces, invariably found in a large coin cabinet, will afford sufficient attraction for those whose finances afford limited opportunities for the possession of rare and valuable pieces.

Now, a word to our patrons in behalf of the managers. It has been our aim and ambition to catalogue this collection correctly, assisted, as we have been, by some of the ablest numismatists in this city. That errors of description and composition will appear in the catalogue we cannot doubt; but in the main our friends will find the pieces carefully and correctly described. All parties wishing to send bids to this office, can have a rubbing and elaborate description of any piece in the catalogue, by giving us notice two weeks before the sale.

THE COPPER CENTS.

Parody on "The Bells."

BY E. M., JR.

I.

See collectors with their cents—

Copper cents—

What a world of excitement, full of wonderful events!

How they glitter, glitter, glitter,

When each specimen is bright!

While the novice on the "titter,"

Thinks by far it would be fitter,

With a pickaxe—main and might,

Digging dirt, dirt, dirt,

In a sort of flannel shirt,

Killing numismatologic and scientific cents

With their cents, cents, cents, cents,

Cents, cents, cents—

All the striving and the driving for the cents.

II.

See the ugly copper cents,

Rusty cents!

What a world of misery and peculiar comments,

By the "gunning up" at night,

Of a copper, dull or bright,

From the dusty, musty stores

Out on the street,

And the chatty, noisy bores
 Show the loving wives that listen, all their stores;
 Oh! how meet,
 Hunting coppers, full of dents,
 What a gush of Caudle music results from this offence;
 How she roars!
 How she pours
 On the darling and his pence;
 Then with anger he goes hence,
 To the finding and the minding
 Of his cents, cents, cents,
 Of his cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents, cents, cents,
 To the mixing and the fixing of his cents.

III.

Thus the novice daily vents,
 Lack of sense!
 His "titter" and his *bitter*;—but we'll defend the cents,
 In the cause of learned science,
 Where we place our chief reliance,
 Too much anger'd not to speak
 In behalf of every freak,
 Right in time;
 In a clamorous appealing, to the honor of the mass,
 In a firm expostulation, not to let the matter pass,
 Living longer, longer, longer,
 With a desperate desire,
 And commendable endeavor,
 Defend them now or never,
 While burns the numismatic fire!
 Oh! the cents, cents, cents,
 What pleasureable events
 They foretell!
 How the "four" and "six" and "nine,"
 Look so pretty in the line,
 On the bosom of each little velvet cell,
 Yet the owner only knows
 That the ringing,
 And the singing
 The true penny quickly shows,
 In the jangling,
 And the wrangling,
 Of the many arguments;
 Of the cents,
 Of the cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents, cents, cents,
 In the trial—not denial—of the cents.

IV.

See the handsome metal cents,
 Copper cents,
 How stirs the soul at "Liberty," tho' mar'd with dirt and dents,
 In the gloomy distant night—
 When Vict'ry crowned the right.
 And Britons menaced Freedom's happy home;
 On every coin is seen

"Liberty," our darling queen—
 There displayed;
 And the people, Freedom's people,
 And the "old bell" in that steeple,
 Havoc made,
 By the blending, blending, blending,
 And the sending, sending, sending,
 Britons home!
 We appeal to man or woman,
 To every breast that's human,
 Not to brutes,
 For the science numismatic—
 To the poet in the attic
 In behalf of cents,
 For we love them quite intense,
 Those old and pretty cents,
 And our flag is filled with rents,
 Making war, war, war,
 With numismatic jaw,
 For the cents,
 Keeping time, time, time,
 In this crooked sort of rhyme,
 In this battling for the cents,
 For the cents, cents, cents,
 For the rusty copper cents,
 Keeping time, time, time,
 In good sense, sense, sense,
 In a zigzag rattling rhyme,
 To the collecting of the cents;
 Of the cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents. cents, cents.

LARGE AND IMPORTANT COIN SALE.

We have the pleasure of announcing the purchase, by Mason & Co., of the well-known and valuable cabinet of coins, medals, etc., formerly the property of William Fewsmith, A. M., of this city, and the disposal of the entire collection by public sale, at the auction sales rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York, October 4, to continue four days, commencing each day at 5½ P. M. Catalogues of the collection can be had on application to the auctioneers, or Edward Cogan, 95 William street, New York; Henry Cook, 74 Friend street, Boston; A. C. Kline, 212 South Eighth street, and Mason & Co., 139 North Ninth street, Philadelphia. The collection embraces several thousand choice and rare American and foreign coins and medals. Catalogues, extra size, printed on tinted paper, wide margin, will be mailed on receipt of ten cents to prepay postage.

OUR FIRST POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

About the first of September we will offer a fine and rare collection of foreign and American stamps at public sale, including many rare and valuable stamps of obsolete issues, and assorted lots for dealers' uses. Catalogues ready the 15th of the present month.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. A. M., TOWANDA.—Send your subscription to Jeremiah Colburn, 17 Bromfield street, Boston. Our club is dissolved in consequence of our efforts to obtain the usual club rates proving a failure. We had hoped to have made a club of one to two hundred for our Boston contemporary, but must now direct all persons who forwarded addresses to this office to enclose two dollars to the above address.

L. T. H., MONTREAL.—You will find a goodly array of Canada pieces in the catalogue we send you of sale of October 4.

B. B. R., MORTONVILLE.—Have inserted your wants in Exchange Department.

C. C., MANCHESTER.—Would like to know if our last letter was received. If not please inform us by early post what can be done in the way of purchase. We could now arrange the matter, if price was low enough to suit the present condition of the coin market.

H. S., SAN FRANCISCO.—Can send you a bright red, uncirculated cent of 1797 for ten dollars, by registered letter. The gold quarters and halves were not as fine as the last lot received.

W. L. M., JR., NEW YORK.—Examine the 1799 and 1804 cents in the collection to be sold October 4. Two of those dates are fine and difficult to equal; in fact, we never saw finer cents of these dates.

P. A., PITTSBURG.—August 1 we issue our new series of stamp packets. Having purchased the stock of a dealer in France, we now have used and unused stamps of nearly every country on the globe using these modern epistolary conveniences. Our first postage stamp sale will occur September 1. Catalogue will be sent you.

TO OUR PATRONS.

All patrons sending us bids for the "Four Days' Sale," in New York, will please remember that we shall use our best exertions to obtain the coins, etc., at the lowest possible bid; and further, will use the greatest care to fill their orders to the letter. We hope all our subscribers will send, at least, one bid upon this occasion, even one dollar each will aggregate among our subscribers to a handsome amount. This sale, if successful, will add much to the appearance of our magazine, and we rely upon our friends for aid upon this occasion.

COIN COLLECTIONS WANTED.

We are prepared to buy collections of coins, or to make public sales of the same, when required; in Boston, New York or Philadelphia. Securities furnished and advances made on large cabinets.

TERMS AT COIN SALES.

Bidders are notified that our terms for purchasing coins or stamps at public sales will be as follows: All sums of twenty-five dollars or less, ten per cent. All sums over twenty-five dollars, five per cent. Bids for the sale of October 4 solicited.

WAR!

As we go to press, the war cloud in Europe thickens, and threatens to involve other nations besides the original combatants, France and Prussia. What effect this war will have on the coin and stamp trade is beyond our ken; but it is not beyond our powers of imagination to picture the various changes, incidental and prospective, as the result of an extensive conflict between important and powerful nations. That changes will occur in the character of foreign postage stamps is not unlikely, and many stamps now in use may, ere the lapse of a month, become obsolete. So, also, in reference to coins, for the same influence that produces a change in stamps, operates in a like manner upon coins. We can only wait and hope, waiting the termination of a deadly and terrible strife, and hoping that some good result may follow. Our sympathies are extended towards our French and German subscribers, who, though deprived of monthly news concerning their favorite hobbies, can indulge their leisure moments in perusing the war bulletins.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE.

Parties receiving circulars and catalogues of sales will oblige us by distributing the same among collectors in their vicinity.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.—The three low values that were announced some time back have at length made their appearance; the colors and values are as follows:

1	m. de escu,	black,	on brown paper.
2	"	plum,	" "
4	"	pistre,	on white "

We understand that two more will be out shortly of the same value, and to replace the 5 and 10 figures.

DENMARK.—The 48 shillings of the set, reported to be in preparation for this country, has made its appearance. The design is very simple, and consists of the figure of value of 48, in white, in a circle of solid ground, this is crowned and is supported by branches of laurel; this is enclosed in a solid oval band, inscribed DANMARK above, and POSTRIM 48 SK. below. This is enclosed in a simple frame, with corner ornaments to make the rectangle. The color of the outside frame is brown; the inside design is bright purple. It is rather smaller than the last issue, and is perforated.

ANTIOQUIA.—We now hear of another stamp that has been discovered belonging to this out-of-the-way State. The design is similar to the 2½ cent that figured in the March number of the "Journal;" the color is pale lilac on white paper.

UNITED STATES.—The seven cent stamp, that we described last month but omitted to state its value, has been printed off in a variety of colors, and has a very beautiful appearance. They were intended to have been issued last week; but the war in Europe and consequent stopping of the Bremen steamer, has made them useless for the present. It is very doubtful if they will be issued till peace has been established in Europe.

The 2 cent envelope stamp has now made its appearance, printed on newspaper wrappers. The design as was stated some months ago is identical with the oval of the 2 cent adhesive; this is surrounded with an oval engine-turned border, inscribed U. S. POSTAGE above; TWO CENTS below, with a figure 2 in circles at each side. The head is embossed, and the frame slightly so. The color is the same as 2 cent adhesive, but not quite as bright. They are watermarked with a monogram composed of U. S. P. O. D. which is repeated about six times on each wrapper.—*American Journal of Philately.*

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCIPE.—A new set for these Portuguese possessions will be shortly issued. We have a proof before us of the 5 reis, black, rectangular crown in a circle. CORREIO at top, 5 REIS at the foot. S. THOME E. PRINCIPE around the crown and upper part of the circle. There will be six stamps, viz:

5 reis, black.	25 reis, rose.
10 reis, yellow.	50 reis, green.
20 reis, brown or ochre.	100 reis, lilac.

We learn that Portugal, Maderia and the Azores will also issue new stamps shortly.

ROUMANIA has added another value to its lists of postals, namely, a 3 bani, violet; the design is like the 2, 4 and 18 bani, and is unperforated.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

1 cancelled, 2¼ real; Cuba, 1855. \$2.

1 uncanceled, 2¼ real; Cuba, 1855. \$3 25.

1 set, 1867, Straits Settlements, cancelled. \$1.

1 Geneva, 5 cent, green, warranted genuine. This stamp is very scarce, and out of the hundreds found in collections scarcely one is genuine. This has E. L. Pemberton's endorsement. \$4.

1-60 crazia, Tuscany, cancelled. \$3 12.

A collection of 430 American and foreign revenue stamps, nicely arranged in a good album, in perfect order. Amongst other scarce stamps may be named a complete set of Canadian proofs, worth \$20 and scarce English, New Granada, Finland, &c. \$10.

100 1 para, yellow, Servia, uncanceled. \$1.

96 2½, green, Hamburg, uncanceled. \$2 12.

(To be continued.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

SEPTEMBER, 1870.

No. 9.

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 5.

"The Queer Customers."

The coin dealer is pestered with a class known as "professional beggars" to a greater extent, probably, than other store keepers, due to the tempting display of coins in his show window, conveying to the minds of the impecunious the idea that the "coin man" is possessed of huge wealth, and money can be had simply "for the asking." Little do the poor innocents know that the coin mongers display their bright and shining pieces in the window as a species of advertising bait, and that most of the attractive and glittering "double eagles" are simply *brass* "counters," or *speil markes*, coin side up, most, while the dealer, within doors, is perhaps debating on the possibility of meeting some "promise to pay," or contriving to cover his assessments and avoid interviewing printers and exacting landlords.

We have often been amused at the remarks of "window gazers" who gather outside the coin stores, and in the simplicity of their hearts paint and picture the wealth of the coin dealer. "Oh, look at the money!" says one, "Wouldn't I like to own all that money;" when the whole contents of the window consist of, say, two hundred various sized imitation gold coins; three hundred German *tin foil* "silver" dollars; four or five hundred copper cents and half cents; a few, very few, silver pieces and the usual miscellaneous collection of foreign medals, coins and rare pieces done up to order in the highest style of electrotypy!

Knowing this, how we have pitied and even envied some of the "better off" folks who gaze with such longing eyes and susceptible feelings into our meagre—*financially* speaking—show window.

"Jimmy," said a bright eyed urchin, addressing a companion who was earnestly gazing in our front window, not long since, "Don't yer wisht yer owned all that 'ere money?" "Oh," replied the keen eyed little fellow, "them's all 'Dummies' and 'Farthings!'" A small, but highly respectable party of ladies were collected about the window and we smiled viciously as the precocious urchin let fall the un-

timely but truthful remark which knocked the stilts of competence from under us, in the feelings and respect of the ladies, who were wont, time and again, to pause at our brilliant show window and build airy castles of wealth and independence on the strength of the coin dealer's possessions.

But what has all this to do with "Queer Customers" or "Professional Beggars?" asks the reader. Only this; that the attractive display in the window front invariably invites the beggar and the "queer customer" into the coin stores, and one of the former, or rather one we *presumed* to be the former, proved upon one occasion to be a peculiar specimen of the latter. Standing at the door, one day, we observed a crowd of boys and girls following and surrounding some object too diminutive to be observed at a distance; on came the crowd, jeering and hooting, unwashed and ragged, and to our utter astonishment the object of the mob's confusion halted directly at our door, and as the crowd scattered we observed a poorly dressed fraction of a man—a mere trunk—lifting himself along by the use of diminutive carpenter's horses, or tressles, and making an effort to enter our shop door. We stood full in the passage and called loudly for "George," our youthful assistant, to bring a 5 cent piece for this poor beggar, and handing the cripple the money, said it was the "best we could do for him, was very sorry," when he cut us short by indignantly throwing the nickel piece back into the store and remarking in an angry tone, "Is this a coin store?" We said "yes," to shorten the interview and hasten his departure, when he pulled out a big fat pocket book, laid a ten dollar greenback on the counter and said he would take that amount of medals if we were disposed to sell them to such as he. A customer! Good Heavens! Here was a go; but facing the dilemma like a hero, there being no convenient trap in the floor to slip through and no rear door to retreat from, we drove the boys from the front steps and soon had our *queer customer* engaged in looking over a promiscuous lot of medals. He selected the ten dollars' worth and lifted himself modestly, quietly out of the shop to be again followed by a crowd of rude urchins. Oh! what a lesson was that to *judge not from appearances*. Our present plan is to await the development of a visitor's wishes before we rudely snub him at the portals and get snubbed in return by a cool kindness and generosity that makes one reflect upon the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC COMMUNICATIONS.

BY TRI-MOUNTAIN.

No. 1.

The resumption of specie payments is an event earnestly desired by all parties, but by none more than the numismatist who aims at a full series of all the United States coins, for a collection is far from perfect unless it contains fine specimens of our coinage in the pre-

cious metals. We do not expect that the generality of collectors would attempt to gather specimens of *all* the gold coins, even could they be obtained at par, for a "small fortune" would soon be expended in the attempt; but we see no reason why a complete series of *silver* coins should not be added to nearly all the cabinets in the country.

Some of our most noted collectors now make but very little effort to obtain anything but copper cents; but with the return to a specie basis, if not before, we hope they will commence the preservation of our silver currency. Let them commence with the half dimes and dimes, and eventually they will rise until nothing short of the "almighty dollar" will satisfy them.

A row of dollars is a pretty sight to any one, and the numismatist that can exhibit sets of dollars and half dollars, in all their original beauty, has got a prize of which he may well be proud.

There are pieces among our silver coinage that are as rare, as pretty, and as valuable, as any of the copper cents, and why the latter should entirely exclude the former is a matter that we do not fully understand. It cannot be on account of the expense, for a complete set of copper cents cost more than a set of quarter dollars or of half dollars; and some of the latter are full as rare as the rarest of the cents.

The supply of *fine* cents is nearly exhausted, so far as the market is concerned, for they are nearly all in the hands of collectors who prize them for their beauty, and who cannot be persuaded to part with them. Occasionally a fine and rare piece finds its way into the market from some obscure source; but it soon joins its fellows in some cozy nook of a carefully arranged cabinet. The fair and good pieces are still plentiful enough to supply the demands of the coming hosts of young numismatists.

If we wish to preserve to history and posterity a full knowledge of the early coinage of our country, let us, then, as collectors, at once begin to save the hitherto neglected silver coins of the United States.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Quadrans.—A farthing.

Quadriga.—Used in reference to ancient coins or medals having on reverse chariot drawn by four horses abreast.

Quan.—Cochin China money, about 85 cents.

Quattrino.—Copper coin, $\frac{1}{3}$ of a cent.

Quinto.—Spanish money, $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cent.

Quipo.—Mexican counter.

Quodlibets.—A scattered or mixed collection arranged without order.

Rupee.—Silver coin, about 45 cents.

Real.—Egyptian coin, about \$1. Spanish silver coin, 14 cents. Spanish base coin, 5 cents.

Rebellion Token.—A small metallic substitute for coin, issued during the civil war of 1861, having different mottoes and emblems referring to the war, union, etc.

Ree, Rei, Rea.—Portuguese coin, 1-10 of a cent.

Reeded Edge.—Having fine and regular crossbars on outer edge of piece similar in appearance to the edge of a cog-wheel.

Relief.—Figures standing out boldly on the surface of a coin or medal.

Re-strike.—A coin struck from obsolete dies.

Reverse.—The opposite side or less important side in designs, etc., of a piece.

Rial.—See *Real*.

Right Field.—Blank space on coin to observer's right.

Ring Dollar.—Pattern piece similar to ring cent, struck with a round hole in centre.

Rix Dollar.—German coin, 75 cents to \$1.

Roasted.—Coin that has been heated to a purple color.

Rose Noble.—Ancient gold coin.

Rouble.—Russian gold or silver coin, 75 cents.

Ruba.—Egyptian silver coin, 25 cents.

Ruble.—See *Rouble*.

Ryal.—See *Real*.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

Life Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal.

(Continued.)

NEWFOUNDLAND.

1. G. Obv.—Head of Victoria, to left, laureated. "VICTORIA : D : G : REG : NEWFOUNDLAND." Rev.—Within a beaded circle in three lines "2 | DOLLARS | 1865;" outside circle, above, "TWO HUNDRED CENTS;" below, "ONE HUNDRED PENCE." Milled edge.

2. S. Obv.—Bust of Victoria, to left, laureated. "VICTORIA D : G : REG : NEWFOUNDLAND." Rev.—"20 CENTS 1865" within an ornamented and beaded circle. Milled edge.

3. S. Obv.—Same as No. 2. Rev.—do., do., "10 CENTS 1865."

4. S. Obv.—Same as No. 2. Rev.—do., do., "5 CENTS 1865."

5. C. Obv.—Bust of Victoria, to left, laureated and draped. "VICTORIA : D : REG : " Rev.—Crowned date 1865 within a beaded circle, the whole surrounded by a wreath of oak, etc. "ONE CENT NEWFOUNDLAND." Plain edge.

6. C. Obv.—Arms of Rutherford. Rev.—A fleece suspended. "B. & I. S. RUTHERFORD. ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND."

7. C. Obv.—Same as 6, date 1841 below. Rev.—Same as 6.

8. C. Obv.—Same as 6, date 1846. Rev.—A fleece as in 6. "RUTHERFORD BROS HARBOUR GRACE NEWFOUNDLAND." The letter "H" in Harbour Grace comes immediately below the horn on fleece. In ribbon on top the first curves come immediately below letters "R B," and left end of ribbon under letter "E" in Rutherford. The right end extends towards "B" in Bros.

9. C. Obv.—Same as 8. Rev.—Same inscription, etc., but letters a little larger. "H" in Harbour Grace comes on line with the horn. The ribbon extends further to right and left, and is at a greater distance from inscription.

10. C. Obv.—Same as 8. No date. Rev.—do.

11. C. Obv.—"RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT AND FREE TRADE." Rev.—Within a circle "1860." Outside of circle "FISHERY RIGHTS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND." Edge plain.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

THEBÆ.

A Bœotian buckler.

Reverse.—OA, a club with an indented square.

Some have the head of Hercules in the lion's skin on their obverse.

THESPIÆ.

Veiled head of a female, to the right.

Reverse.—OEΞ HIEΠN, a lyre within a laurel garland.—Æ.

ATHENÆ (ATTICA.)

The head of Pallas most commonly occurs on the obverses of Athenian coins. The reverses are generally an owl. Some have the full length figure of Pallas, and some with that of Jupiter with the thunderbolt.

MEGARA.

Laureated head of Apollo, to the right.

Reverse.—METAPEΠN, a lyre.—Æ.

Or MET, between two dolphins.

ÆGINA INSULA.

A tortoise or turtle.

Reverse.—An indented square, with eight compartments.—AR.

Later coins of Ægina have letters and a dolphin in one of the compartments of the square.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

Vice and immorality were greatly encouraged, no doubt, by that ever-varying currency. This I grant, yet something I hope to offer in extenuation. We cannot deny that during the Revolution laws were broken, morals debased, and the nation turned into a gambling community, which upset the fortunes of thousands, broke down trade, paralyzed industry, and scattered ruin far and wide. Our own historians have dwelt in sorrowful and emphatic terms upon those sad times; nor are the notices of foreign authors less instructive and interesting. Gordon, in his history of the Independence of the United States, says that without paper money the Americans could not have carried on the war. The public benefit of it, in that instance, will compensate, in the estimation of patriotic politicians, for the immense evils of which it has otherwise been the occasion. The tender-laws on one hand, and depreciation on the other, rendered it the bane of society. All classes were infected. It produced a rage for speculation. The mechanic, the farmer, the lawyer, the physician, the member of Congress, and even a few of the clergy, in some places, were contaminated. The morals of the people were corrupted beyond anything that could have been believed prior to the event. All ties of honor, blood, gratitude, humanity and justice were dissolved. Old debts were paid when the paper money was more than seventy for one. Brothers defrauded brothers, children parents, and parents children. Widows, orphans, and others were paid for money, lent in specie, with depreciated paper, which they were compelled to receive. A person who had been supplied with specie in the jail of Philadelphia, while the British had possession of the city, repaid it in paper at a tenth part of its value.

(To be continued.)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

When the blanks are dry a door in the end of the drum is opened, allowing them to fall into the seive, where they tumble about, the dust gradually sifting out, leaving the coin clean. To brighten them they are kept revolving for an hour, and the friction of one upon another gives them a beautiful lustre. It is in this way that pins, brass buttons and the like are polished.

They are taken from the drying drum, and beaten in a large warming pan, steam pipes running under it, until Jessie would hardly hold a handful for the gift of them, though they are all double eagles. They are now ready for coinage, and that prettily painted truck is taking a couple of hundred thousand dollars to the other room for the purpose.

Before examining the coining we must visit the Die Room, to learn

how the dies are made. A coin has an impression on both sides, requiring, of course, a die for each. These are made with extreme care, must be of the finest workmanship, and all exactly alike. Their manufacture is one of the most important operations in the Mint.

Look at the bas relief of Liberty on one side of a coin. It would be exceedingly difficult to design this in hard steel and of so small a size; so they first make the design in wax, probably six times as large as the coin, by which means the beautiful proportions can be obtained. From this a brass cast is taken and reduced on steel to the size of the coin by a transfer or reducing lathe. This ingenious instrument was introduced from France by Mr. Peale, who also operated it for some time.

(To be continued.)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(Continued.)

MEDALS KNOWN TO BE MODERN IMITATIONS, BUT WHICH DERIVE A VALUE FROM THEIR MASTERLY EXECUTION.

Among these, as has already been observed, those of the Paduan stand in the first rank for masterly execution. They are so numerous that a complete series of imperial medals, of almost every metal and size, may be formed of them alone; nay, a numerous collection of medallions themselves. In France, particularly, they so swarm, and so impose upon the unknowing, that far the greater part of the coins in country cabinets, upon being brought to Paris for sale, are found to be of this stamp. A connoisseur, however, easily distinguishes them by these marks: 1. They are almost universally thinner than the ancient. 2. They are never worn nor damaged. 3. The letters are forked and modern. 4. They have either no varnish, or it is false, which is easily discerned, for it is black, greasy and shining, besides being very tender when touched with a needle or burin; while the ancient has none of these qualities and is as hard as the coin itself. 5. The sides are filed, which is discoverable by the least attention; or, they are too much smoothed by art, or bear marks of a small hammer. 6. They are always circular, which the ancient are not, especially after Trajan.

All medallions from Julius Cæsar to Hadrian are much to be suspected of this fabrication; those of the first fourteen emperors, when true, being of vast value, and only to be found in princely cabinets.

Hence, it may be observed, once for all, that the letters of the legend form the very surest test of medals, those of modern medals being always modern, while the ancient have many rude peculiarities such as the M always in this form \mathbb{M} , and not with straight strokes; which, with many other differences, constitutes an infallible distinction.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

RICHARD III, 1483.

Obverse.—The coins of this king resemble those of his brother, and the legend alone distinguishes them.

Reverse.—The reverse is the same as the foregoing, but generally with a boar's head for a mint mark, the well-known badge of Richard. There are some with the mint marks of a rose and a plain cross.

Rarity.—All this king's coins are very rare, except the groat, which is less rare than the others, some groats having lately been discovered. The Canterbury penny of Richard III, CIVITAS CANTOR, supposed *unique*, sold at public sale, a short time since, for seven pounds, ten shillings. The Durham penny of the same king brought four guineas.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

(Continued.)

The Sapphire in hardness comes next to the Diamond. It is one of the varieties of that genus, the *silex*. Its chemical composition is pure alumina crystallized. The color most commonly understood to attach to the Sapphire is blue, and therefore the poets are wont to sing of Sapphire skies. It is also found occasionally gray, white, green and yellow. In shape it is usually rhomboidal. Hauy names it the "telesie," and Bournon the "perfect corundum." Being silicious in its nature it approaches in its hardness close upon the Diamond, while, in its blue species, it is very beautiful. The deep blue Sapphire is named by the lapidaries the "male," and the pale blue the "female."

It is acted upon by neither the acids nor the blowpipe. It is found mostly in the beds of rivers, especially in Ceylon and in the southern part of the Burman Empire.

This stone through its blue color was the emblem of heaven, the firmament, truth, constancy and fidelity. The Jewish priests wore robes and breastplates of this color as significative of heaven.

The Hebrew Rabbis declare this to be the stone of which the rod of Moses and the Tables of the Law received on Mount Sinai were composed. Thomas Nicols, whom we have before quoted, says (as it is useful to know) that "the Sapphire if worn by an adulterer loses its splendor, and the wearing of it quells the animal senses;" "if put into a glasse with a spider it will quickly die;" "it keepeth men chaste, and therefore is worn by priests."

Fine specimens bring high prices. The late Mr. Hope purchased one from the Parisian Jardin des Plantes, paying therefor the considerable sum of £3000.

The French crown contains fifty-nine of these stones.

A Sapphire weighing seventy-five and half carats was sold, says Dr. Feuchtwanger, at the auction of Messrs. Rundell & Bridges, for \$2465.

(To be continued.)

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Boston *American Journal of Numismatics*, No. 1, July, is at hand, just six weeks behind its publication day reminding us strongly of its predecessor and namesake, the New York *American Journal of Numismatics*, whose managers had an eccentric habit of dating the journal one month previous to its reception by subscribers. This is an unfortunate error in commencing a new publication; impressing its patrons, as it will, with the idea that the enterprise may prove to be a slow coach. A good work should not be allowed to lag, and what better work than the dissemination of numismatic and archæological intelligence? A cursory examination of the pages of the new applicant for numismatic favor satisfies us that able hands are at the helm of the Boston journal; but, there are rocks ahead, and if the publishers wish to avoid them it can readily be accomplished by confining the limits of their journal to brief articles, full of suggestive intelligence, avoiding the heavy, dull, unintelligible (to the majority of subscribers), ancient and fabulous communications which are apt to lumber up and injure a good enterprise. Not that we would depreciate the ancient land marks of science, nor derogate one iota of interest and importance attached to archæological researches; but, on the contrary, make such labors of practical use and such subjects of absorbing interest; interlarding and associating incidents and anecdotes in a happy laconic style; always attractive and interesting to the majority of readers. A dry subject should be by clever management absolved from its dryness. Numismatics embrace modern as well as ancient subjects, and this fact should always be remembered by parties assuming to cater for the entertainment or instruction of a class far too few in numbers that the majority should be slighted to entertain and enlighten the fossils and fogies always barnacled and clogging the progress of the wheels of science. The Boston journal presents a very neat and attractive appearance, with a clever introductory editorial. A variety of interesting correspondence is furnished, and a number of selected articles, making the new periodical attractive and readable. We wish our Boston contemporary the success its merits may command.

The American Antiquarian.—This is the title of a quarterly journal, issued in New York, by Charles DeF. Burns, devoted to the interests of collectors of autographs, engravings, books, etc. The *Antiquarian* is published at \$1 per annum, printed on tinted paper

and is about the size of this magazine. The first or August number is full of interest, and we may safely predict a successful career for this new and ably edited periodical. Subscriptions should be sent to the publisher, No. 127 Mercer Street, New York.

THE COIN TRADE.

Upon all sides we hear the gratifying intelligence that the coin trade is steadily improving, and the coming winter will prove the correctness of our prophecy, that a fresh interest and increased value would before long mark the progress of numismatics. We do not substantiate our assertions in regard to the coming healthy movement in the coin market by empty meaningless sentences, but sustain it with evidence sufficient to satisfy the most exacting. The Boston *Numismatic Journal* makes its first appearance this month, the perfect picture of good health, strength and numismatic impetuosity, filled to overflowing with evidences of a coming activity not only in coins but in every branch of the sciences to which collectors are wedded. "*The Antiquarian*" also adds evidence of a new interest in the subjects upon which it treats. New collectors are uprising in consequence of the illustrated coin articles in one of Frank Leslie's most popular periodicals; the newspaper press of the country is dotted here and there with accounts of collections, coin sales, newly discovered pieces, and answers to correspondents forced from unwilling editors, who are daily queried by parties from every portion of the country, concerning coins, autographs, books and the kindred hobbies our friends so dearly love to ride. All this intelligence gives us renewed strength, and more firmly and proudly we buckle on the numismatic armor to fight for the good cause in behalf of science, so recently drooping its well worn banners, caused in part by the apathy of its followers. We long since advised our patrons to lay in choice pieces while the coin trade was at low ebb; and the sales of coins in the spring and summer of this year show a heavy falling off in price; a falling off not soon to occur again, judging by the present signs and prospective calculations based on the rise and fall of the coin trade and its causes. We believe the large New York coin sale of October 4 will show a decided improvement in prices compared with previous sales of the year; although, where so many coins are grouped in lots, as in this sale, it is not expected by the owners to realise full prices.

THE BOSTON AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS.

All parties enquiring concerning location and price of the above journal are informed that the subscription price is \$2 per annum, in advance. It contains 24 pages of matter, and we recommend our patrons to subscribe for the new periodical and lend their aid to a good work, which is in able hands, and cannot fail to give them the full worth of their money, judging by the index number which is before us. Address J. Colburn, 17 Bromfield street, Boston, Mass.

Œ KURIOSITI KABINET.

This is the title of a new journal to be published monthly by William P. Brown, New York. We have the first number on our desk, and after several abortive efforts to read the first page, have at last succeeded and proceed to annex a specimen :

TU OUR RIDURZ.

It iz not wigout muc hezitecun, dat ivn upon so smol a skel, wi entur æ perilus pæŕ ov jurnalizm, but hop our taitl will straik a kord in æ publik test hwic wil incur sukses. Qi inkrist dizair ov obtenin kuriositiz and historikal relikz iz intimetli konekted wiæ æ progres ov sivilizecun. It iz bai a kerful egzaminecun ov æ acivments and erurz ov æ past dat wi me hop to impruv in æ fucur.

At the first glance we accepted this lingo as Russian, another look convinced us the style was phonetic, while by a peep at the inside pages, editorial, we discover that the language is old Saxon resuscitated, and in use by the American Philological Society for several years. We hope Brother Brown will let his first effort in the line of mixed and lightning struck English suffice, for we cannot speak, nor spell correctly since reading this conglomeration of crazy alphabetical characters, which look, for all the world, as though they had been "out on a drunk," and were endeavoring to form a line of inverted fish hooks. The "Curiosity Cabinet" is devoted to postage stamps in the main; it is printed on tinted paper and contains four pages of matter. The terms are 35 cents per annum.

N. B. Our readers must not infer that the *Cabinet* is printed exclusively in distracting and confused English—not so, three pages are printed so clearly that "he who runs may read." We trust the Cabinet will have a long and successful existence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTREAL, July 23, 1870.

MASON & Co.:—DEAR SIRs.—I have lately stumbled over a "copper" which I have never met with before and I venture to ask you if you can give me any information about it, or, if worth while to ask the question through your "Maga.," if in time for the August number:—

Size, rather larger than a halfpenny, say, as large as the George III halfpenny of 1799, known as the Boulton halfpenny.

Obverse, a garter, with the motto, "Honi soit qui mal y pense," raised on the garter, the garter surmounted by a crown, in the centre a crescent, above "Esperance, the word divided by the crown, thus, "Espe ~ rance."

Reverse, "A Boundary Token."

Edge plain. No date.

I have shown it to my friends here, who, like myself, have not the pleasure of an acquaintanceship with it. Further, one of my comrades has unearthed a "variety" of our Bank of Upper Canada

Penny Token, within the last few weeks. It bears the date 1854₁, whilst that ordinarily in circulation is 1854, they are rare beyond a doubt, as only three or four have been seen, and we do not yet know if this variety is to be met with in the halfpenny of the same date. 1854₁ instead of 1854. I take this opportunity of enclosing a five cent and ten cent silver piece of our new issue, which I ask you to accept as a goodwill token, from,

Dear sir, yours, truly,

H. M.

[The "Boundary Token" we believe to be an ordinary English token, of which many varieties were issued in Great Britain, 1786 to 1799. The crossed 4 variety of the Canadian Bank Token, 1854, is new to us. Many thanks for the little silver pieces, new issues of the Dominion. Hope to reciprocate the favor when an opportunity serves. Ed.]

NEW YORK COIN SALE.

The sale of the Fewsmith Cabinet of Coins to take place on Tuesday, October 4, at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co.'s, Auction Rooms, New York, will be an interesting event. Great interest is manifested to know the result of this large sale of coins, as it is expected that the prices obtained for coins will, in a measure, govern the coin trade for 1870 and 1871, while the catalogue will stand as a sort of guide for future numismatic operations among collectors. We have received a number of communications from various cities in the United States making enquiries in regard to certain pieces, and many of the writers express an intention of attending the sale. We hope to see a large audience present when the sale takes place, and take the present opportunity to say there is no limit to the pieces. Every coin is to be sold, let the price be large or small. A few catalogues yet remain for those not supplied.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. M., MONTREAL.—Have mailed two copies of the Coin Sale catalogue October 4, as per request.

C. C., BOSTON.—Your communication is a seasonable one, and we look for more of the same sort. Catalogues of sale forwarded for distribution.

A. W. F., SYRACUSE.—Sent you a mixed lot of coins on 11th ult. Please report when more are wanted.

THOMAS H., BROOKLYN.—The address of the American Journal of Numismatics is 17 Bromfield street, Boston. Send your two dollars to care of Jeremiah Colburn, and you will get the Journal for one year. Coin Sale catalogue forwarded as per request.

G. F. MCINTIRE, NEW ORLEANS.—Half dollars, strictly uncirculated, sharp and bright, of dates prior to 1812, are worth a good premium; common dates, in ordinary condition, worth only the intrinsic value, premium on gold added. The specimen rubbings you send us are from Roman and German coins, worth as ancients 10 cents each.

B. B. R., MORTONVILLE.—Your letter was crowded out last month. We are not in want of any of the pieces you enumerate—poor stock just now. Send us some rare American coins, or good United States Cents prior to 1814 in date.

T. E. B., BOSTON.—Catalogues sent C. C. for distribution. Will send you an extra one, although the number issued is very limited.

E. B. VREELAND, WINCHESTER.—Send your stamps on approval, and fix the price before sending. You were an early patron to our publication, but neglected the 4th volume. We send you the present number to save letter writing.

D. HULICK, YORK.—Catalogue sent as per request.

J. M. TILTON, JACKSON, O.—We have parted with the business cards you name, but will keep a lookout for them. Sale catalogue and Magazine sent.

C. SPIERS, VISALIA, CAL.—Mailed you the catalogue of sale of coins in New York, Oct 4. You will find therein every coin you have enumerated, even the 1794 dollar. You can send your bids to us or to Mr. Cogan, just as you prefer. Cannot send coins to you only as we proposed in our last letter.

WILLIE HUNT, CAZENOVIA.—Stamp Sale catalogue sent on 25th ult. Send your bids to either of the names on front page of catalogue. Scott's two dollar and a half Stamp Album is just what you want.

O. A. J., LANSING.—The 1793 Cent when in very fine condition is valuable, but there are other U. S. Cents worth far more when in very fine condition; viz.: Jefferson Head 1795, 1899 and 1804.

C. R. S., MORTONVILLE.—Catalogues of Coin and Stamp Sales mailed.

R. P. N., NORWICH, ENGLAND.—Hope you will receive the catalogues in time.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES AT HOME AND ABROAD.

New York Journal of Philately.—This neat publication comes to us this month filled with an unusually large supply of readable items. An interesting article on the "Russian Locals" is given, with the addition of cuts of various issues, printed in colors. Another chapter of "The Chronological System" follows; then a couple of pages on the "Provisional Confederates." "Newly Issued Stamps" is fully illustrated in colors, and the new U. S. envelopes described. The balance of this month's issue is made up of Reviews, Exchange Table, Clippings and Correspondence; making a varied and interesting number. The publishers announce their determination to change the journal from a *monthly* to a *weekly* issue—the first number in the new form to appear on the 3d inst.

The Curiosity Cabinet, New York.—For particulars concerning this new applicant for philatelic favor see another article in this number under the above head.

The Philatelist, Bath, England.—The contents of the August number of this monthly are, as usual, full of interest. "The Envelopes of Germany" form a decided acquisition to our stock of knowledge upon this subject, so well handled by "A Parisian Collector." We have taken the liberty to transfer to the pages of our magazine a portion of article entitled "Recent and Undescribed Emissions," which are given in all their attractive detail by a capable author. We have not space for a thorough review of the *Philatelist* this month, and can only advise our readers to subscribe if they wish to read and profit by a well-posted stamp journal.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine, Bath, England.—The August issue of our over-sensitive, over-the-water friends, Alfred Smith & Co., is at hand, and is vastly improved owing to the absence of their usual slurs on the characteristics of Americans. A few wholesome lessons on good behavior, read to the publishers by the American stamp publications, has had a purifying effect, and the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* looks cheerful, healthy and blooming per consequence. We can now throw aside prejudice and recommend our distant cousins' magazine to the patronage of our readers. The August number is a prime issue, which we have read with great satisfaction, and only regret that our limited pages prevent the use of a number of capital articles that scintillate with philatelic brightness and make one's love for the science all the stronger and happier.

A FEW WORDS WITH OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We have mailed each of our subscribers a copy of the catalogue of the postage stamp sale, coming off, in New York, the 8th inst. Our advice to coin collectors who have not given philately any special attention, and who wish to keep pace with the march of improvement, is to commence a small collection of postage stamps. From personal experience, we know the indifference with which novices look upon this growing branch or offshoot of science. It was with great reluctance we entered into the stamp trade, looking upon it as a trifling, piddling sort of juvenile pastime, unworthy an adult's serious attention; but as we gained a more intimate knowledge of the novelty, we discovered that there was more in stamps than our philosophical brains ever dreamed of. New fields of learning were opened to us, and a new method of impressing the mind with geographical, statistical and historical facts. We observed, also, that stamp collecting was not confined to the juvenile portion of the community, but there were older and abler heads engaged in the fascinating study. Gentlemen and ladies of learning and wealth had given it earnest attention; parents had seized upon it as the stepping stone to aid and elevate their children in the scale of intelligence, and protect them from evil associations and idleness. We found, also, that a more intimate

knowledge of foreign coins could be gained by the study of foreign postage stamps, and after these discoveries we became infatuated with philately. With these facts in view, we earnestly advise our readers to commence the pleasing and profitable pursuit at once. Our stamp sale furnishes a fine opportunity at small expense for an indulgence in this useful luxury. To those who are not inclined to follow these hints, we ask the favor to hand the catalogue to some philatelist in their locality. By so doing they will confer a favor we shall appreciate fully. Bids at the coming sale, for any amount, however small, thankfully received.

ACTIVITY OF THE STAMP TRADE.

The coming winter will undoubtedly exhibit a vast increase in the number of postage stamp collectors in America. Premising our argument on the additional number of new journals devoted to this fascinating and useful study, and the increase of dealers throughout our country, we can safely assert that the trade in stamps will be doubled, if not trebled, within a twelvemonth. The New York *American Journal of Philately*, anticipating this fact, has announced that on and after the third of the present month, that publication will be issued as a *weekly*, making its welcome appearance every Saturday, at 4 P. M. In addition to this healthy and no doubt profitable change on the part of Messrs. Scott & Co., we have a rival to the New York journal in the first issue of a monthly quarto, entitled *The Curiosity Cabinet*, published in New York, and devoted to the subject of philately, etc.

Two large postage stamp sales by auction are announced to take place in New York, and everywhere, upon all sides, we hear of an activity and preparation which conclusively proves an awakened interest in philatelic matters.

POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

We shall offer, at public sale, at the auction rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., New York, on September the 8th inst., at 6½ P. M., by catalogue, a large quantity of foreign and American postage stamps. This catalogue embraces nearly five hundred lots, arranged to suit the wants of the collector or dealer. Many extremely rare stamps will be found in the collection; also, many lots assorted as to variety and rarity. All the stamps are clean and perfect. Bidders are requested to give early notice of their wants. Ten per cent. commission charged on all sums under five dollars; over five dollars, five per cent. commission will be charged. Catalogues can be had by application to auctioneers, or at this office. See cover for advertisement.

NEW ISSUES.

UNITED STATES.—*Seven Cent Adhesive Stamp.* This long promised "new issue" has not yet publicly appeared. Various con-

jectures have been given to the public in reference to the design of the new comer. "Head of Steuben," says one; "Head of Lafayette," cries another; and now it is decided that the bust of our late lamented statesman Edwin M. Stanton, is to add beauty to the *odd seven*. What puzzles us deucedly is how any stamp of the size now in use can have a presentable profile likeness of Stanton, when his huge whiskers must be given without abbreviation to make the picture a *fac simile* of our departed hero. The envelope stamps are nearly all ready for distribution. Already the lower values are on the market. The 1 cent and 2 cent of the new issue are intended to serve a double purpose, viz.: newspaper wrappers and letter envelopes. The following is a list of the set:

1 cent, blue.	10 cents, brown.
2 cents, brown.	12 " light purple.
3 " green.	15 " orange.
6 " red.	24 " dark purple.
7 " probably lilac.	30 " black.

90 cents, carmine.

The envelope stamps are oval in shape, the bust and values corresponding with the adhesive stamps of present issue, and in uniformity and finish they compare favorably with their brother issues.

The new 2 cent newspaper stamp has been issued by our government; also, the new 3 cent envelope stamp. The former is oval, head of Jackson facing left, "U. S. Postage" at top, "Two cents" at foot, figure 2 on each side of centre; color, dark brown. The 3 cent envelope stamp is green, with head of Washington, in other respects, excepting value, similar to the 2 cent issue. Other envelope stamps of this series will soon follow, all bearing the same designed oval frame, differing only in bust, value and color. We learn from a private source that the American Bank Note Company is now at work on a new series of envelopes, differing greatly from the aforementioned and all others that have preceded them. This set of envelopes will be printed from steel plates, not embossed. The designs of the 1 cent issue resemble the 10 cent 1869 issue, adhesive, with the addition of flags upon either side, cannon, guns, etc. at base, scroll at top; the color is black, and the stamp, though similar to the 10 cent orange, is larger and much handsomer in general appearance.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

100 2 centesimi, 1870, Italy, uncanceled.	\$1 50.
100 1 centesimi, 1870, Italy, uncanceled.	\$1 20.
150 3 kreuzer, 1868, Prussia, uncanceled.	\$2 25.
25 1 cent, U. S. newspaper wrappers, uncanceled.	60 cents.
1 18 kreuzer, Baden, envelope cut round.	\$1.
1 U. S. Carriers stamp, orange, head of Franklin.	\$4 50.

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

OCTOBER, 1870.

No. 10.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

The brass cast is fastened to the large wheel at the right hand side of the lathe. On the small wheel to the left of the cast is fastened a piece of soft steel, on which the design is to be engraved. Both of these wheels revolve in the same way and at the same speed. There is a long iron bar or lever fastened by a joint to an iron support at the extreme left, which runs in front of the two wheels. A spring at the upper end draws it in toward the wheels. Fastened to the lever is a pointed steel stud, which touches the cast. A very sharp "graver" is fastened to the lever below, which touches the steel. The wheels revolve, and the stud, when it is pushed back by the heavy relief of the cast, forces back the lever, which draws back the graver, and prevents its cutting the steel. So where there is a raised place in the cast the graver is prevented from cutting into the steel, but where there is a depression in the cast the graver cuts the same in the steel.

As the lever is jointed at the left, the nearer the graver is placed to that end the less motion it will have. So that the distance of the steel from the joint regulates the proportion of the reduction from the cast. After the graver has cut one small shaving around the steel, a screw is turned, which lowers the right end of the lever slightly, just enough to allow the graver to cut another shaving, and the stud to touch the cast a very little further from the centre. Thus the graver cuts a very little at a time; but the work is cut over several times, until the design is sufficiently blocked out. This machine will not finish off the die perfect enough to use; but it reduces the design in perfect proportion, and performs most of the rough work. The original dies for coins being now all made, the lathe is used mostly for medals, of which a great many are struck, by order of Congress, for various purposes. A very fine one was presented to the Japanese while they were in this country. There is now in the machine a cast of Washington's bust, merely to show how the cast is placed.

After the die comes from the lathe it is finished off by hand, and when all polished is a beautiful piece of work. It is still very soft,

requiring to be hardened before it can be used, which is done by heating it very hot, and holding it under a stream of water until cold. The relief is exactly like the coin—that is, the device is raised as in the coin. It will not do to use this in stamping, as it would reverse the appearance of the coin. Therefore this “hub,” or “male die,” as it is named, is used only to make other dies.

Round pieces of very soft steel, a little larger than the die, are smoothed off on the top, the centre being brought to a point a little higher than the sides. It is placed on a solid bed, under a very powerful screw press, and the hub placed on top of it—the centre of the hub on the point of the steel, like a seal on the sealing wax. The screw is turned with great force by several men, and presses the hub a little into the steel. It is necessary to have the steel higher in the centre, as, if the centre impression is not taken first, it cannot be brought out sharp and distinct. The steel is softened again by being heated and allowed to cool slowly, and the operation is repeated. This is done several times, until the whole impression is full and distinct. If there is any little defect it is rectified with the engraver's tool. The surplus steel around the edge is cut off, and the date put in by hand, when it is hardened and ready for use. The date is not cut on the hub or the first die—which is called a “female”—as perhaps the hub will last for two years, and the date cannot be altered. This die is never used to stamp with, but preserved, so that if the hub breaks it can be used to make another. The dies for use are prepared in the same way. About thirteen hundred a year are made for the various Branch Mints, and those for the New Orleans Mint were sent just before the State seceded, which the authorities have not had time to return. Sometimes a die will wear for a couple of days, and again they will break in stamping the first coin. Steel is treacherous, and no dependence can be placed in its strength. As nearly as can be ascertained their cost is sixteen dollars a pair.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

HENRY VII, 1485.

First Coinage.—Obverse.—The money of this king's *first* coinage is only distinguished by the weight from that coined by Henry VI; some of the half groats and pennies have a key on each side of the bust.

Reverse.—The reverse is still like those on the coins of the preceding kings, though on some the cross branches out from a hollowed lozenge, or mascle, in the centre.

Rarity.—None of the first coinage are rare except the penny,

which is of the very highest rarity; the half pennies are somewhat scarce.

Last Coinage.—Obverse.—This king issued a new coinage in the eighteenth year of his reign with a type very different from that of his first coinage. The head was exhibited in profile and crowned with an *arched* crown on his half groats, groats and shillings, the latter appearing for the first time. The penny had a full length figure of the king sitting in a chair of state, with the sceptre in his right hand and the globe in his left; the other coins have full-faced portraits.

Reverse.—The reverse also underwent a change. The three pellets, which must weary the eye of the collector, were discarded, as was also the inner circle of the larger coins, and the arms of England quarterly, on a shield, were substituted.

Rarity.—At a sale in London, in 1827, the shilling of Henry VII, with numerals, brought three pounds, eleven shillings. The groat, with HENRIC SEPTIM, ten pounds, fifteen shillings. The penny with the arched crown, six pounds, eight shillings and sixpence. The other coins are more or less common.

HENRY VIII, 1509.

First Coinage.—The money of Henry VIII, previous to the eighteenth year of his reign, resembles his father's in every respect, with the exception of an additional I to the VII after the name; but the statute of the fourteenth and fifteenth year of his reign enacts that the farthing shall have a portcullis (portcouse) on one side, and a cross with a rose on the other, as the farthings of Henry VIII and Henry VII, then current, could not be distinguished from each other. None of these farthings are at present known.

Rarity.—The Tournay groats, coined when Henry was in Flanders, are very rare. Some have the head and some are without it; the latter are much rarer than the others. They may be known by the legend on the reverse, CIVITAS TORNACI, or TORNACENCIS, which usually occupies the place of POSVI, etc. The full-faced penny is of the first rarity. The half groats are less common than groats; but the half groats of Cardinal Wolsey, marked T. W., and of Archbishop Bainbridge, X. B., are rare.

Coinage of his Thirty-fourth Year.—Obverse.—The money of this coinage was debased nearly ten per cent. The head is almost full-faced, but a little inclined to the left, and is, to all appearance, a *likeness*.

Reverse.—There is no difference in the reverses, except an annulet at each end of the cross; but the testoon or shilling has a full-blown rose, and above it an arched crown. On each side of the rose are the letters H. R., both crowned. On these pieces he is styled king of Ireland.

Rarity.—The base shilling is rare, as are also the shillings of the country mints, and the half penny. The rest are common.

Coinage of his Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Year.—Obverse.—

The money was again debased in his thirty-sixth year, and consisted of *one half silver and one half alloy*. In his thirty-seventh year it was debased to one part fine and two of alloy. The coins have the appearance of brass and are generally much defaced. The testoon, penny and half penny have the portrait full-faced.

Reverse.—The reverses are the same as on the pieces of the preceding coinage. Snelling mentions a testoon of this coinage with the legend, *REDDE CVI QVE QVOD SVVM EST*.

Rarity.—The same as that of the coins of his thirty-fourth year. Folkes mentions a piece weighing four hundred and sixty-four grains, which he supposes is a quadruple testoon, but which some are inclined to think is a *medal*.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE,
Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cal's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

(Continued.)

The Ruby is, chemically, the same as the Sapphire except so far as it is affected by its coloring matter. It ranks next to the Diamond in value. A fine specimen of the Oriental Ruby is rarer than even the Diamond itself. Anciently it went by the name of carbuncle, as it does occasionally now. It is a species of siliceous quartz, and therefore participates in the natural hardness of that stone. As its name indicates, it is red in color—a carmine red—and a very beautiful ornament for the “ornamental sex.” They are found in Hindostan, in Ceylon, in Bohemia and Hungary.

The largest Ruby known is said to be in the imperial Russian crown, in which it is placed under the cross. It was bought for the Empress Anne, in Peking, for 120,000 roubles, by her ambassador to that city.

Tavernier gives drawings of and describes several remarkable Rubies he saw in the East.

First is one that belonged to the King of Persia, nearly as large as an egg and of that shape, of deep color and of unknown weight. It had been for many years in the treasury of that monarch.

The second figure is that of a stone sold as a Ruby to Giaferken, uncle of the Great Mogul, for 95,000 rupees (\$285,000), and presented by him to the Emperor. A discharged old jeweler of the King, having found some opportunity of examining it, declared that Giaferken had been deceived, that it was not a Ruby, and was not worth over 500 rupees. The King's jewelers were convened to decide upon the matter, and they declared their belief in its genuineness. As in the whole empire of the Great Mogul there was no person more skilled, it was believed, in the knowledge of precious stones than Shan Jehan, then detained a prisoner at Agra by his son, Aureng Zebe, the latter sent the stone to his father, begging his

opinion. He confirmed the views of the old jeweler, and said it was not worth more than 500 rupees. The stone having been brought back to Aureng Zebe, it was returned to the merchant who sold it, and he was forced to disgorge the money he had received for it. This stone was of an egg shape.

The next is a view of one weighing seventeen and a half carats, in the possession of the King of Visapour, of the shape of half an egg. It is well cut and of the greatest beauty. It was bought in 1653, for 14,200 new pagodas (about as many dollars).

We have then described one "weighing fifty and three quarters carats, of the second water, uncut, and almond shaped. It was offered to me at Banarous for 55,000 rupees."

Tavenier says that Rubies were so scarce in Asia that he found it profitable to take them thither from Europe to sell.

He says he found them so preciously guarded that a merchant would never show a Ruby, even if a insignificant one, unless you agreed to give him some trifling present, as a cap or belt, in case you did not buy.

He speaks of one weighing five carats, found in Bohemia, and presented by General Wallestein, Duke of Fridland, to the Viceroy of Hungary.

In the Green Vault at Dresden there is a pair of Ruby ear-rings, which have been valued at 24,000 thalers, though at present they would probably bring a much higher price, owing to these gems being greatly in fashion. The above sum would be about 18,000 of our dollars. The English crown contains a large heart shaped Ruby.

Ludovicus Vatomannsus, a lying old Roman, says the King of Pegu, in India, had a Ruby which could illuminate a dark room as brilliantly as could the sun!

Andreas Baccius says in his book, *De Natura Gemmarum*, that if danger approaches the wearer of a Ruby, it will turn black, and upon the danger being past, resume its color again.

Nicols relates the following of Baccius and a Ruby he possessed enclosed in a gold ring: "On the fifth of December, 1600, he was traveling with his wife, Catharina Adelmania, to Studgard, and in his travel he observed his Rubine to change its glory into obscuritie, whereupon he told his wife, and prognosticated that evil thereupon would ensue either to himself or her, which accordingly did; for not many days after, his wife was taken with a mortal disease and died, after which he saith his Rubine of its own accord did again recover its former lustre, glory, beauty and splendour."

(To be continued.)

WHAT CONSTITUTES A SET OF AMERICAN CENTS?

BY T. W. T.

Should this interrogatory be proposed to a hundred of our best skilled and most scientific numismatologists, how vastly different

would be the numerical replies. But this proposition would first resolve itself into the more generic inquiry, "What really comprises a difference in kind?" a question, a direct and specific answer to which would embody a conglomeration of opinions according to the peculiar idiosyncrasies of each adept (?) who should utter judgment.

If a slight difference in the arrangement of stars; the distance of stars from each other, from any particular point or from the date; the spacing, size or general slope, slant or direction of the figures in the date constitute a separate kind or variety, then the labyrinth only becomes the more complicated, and *infallibility* is as foreign to the proficient's claim, in this instance, as would it be were he the veritable Pope of Rome.

Judging solely from much written authority upon this matter, there has been much misrepresentation and more errors on the one hand, and a lack of well skilled optics and well directed discernment on the other. Take, for instance, the cents of 1816, 1818, 1819, 1834, 1835 and 1842. Allowing the line of division of varieties to run close, there are of the above dates several distinct varieties of each, whereas many writers upon the subject have been able to discover but two.

The question which heads this communication, then, is one of peculiar interest, and one which ought, as a necessity and imperative demand of the science of numismatics, to provoke discussion; but brave must be he of *sterling* knowledge who dares announce the figures that would prove his make or ruin as an accepted guide.

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

(Continued.)

NOVA SCOTIA.

1. C. Obv.—Bust of Victoria to left, laureated and draped. "VICTORIA D : G : BRITT : REG : F : D : " Rev.—Crowned date, 1861, within a beaded circle, the whole surrounded by a wreath composed of the rose and May-flower. "ONE CENT NOVA SCOTIA." Plain edge.

2. C. Obv.—Same as No. 1. Rev.—do. do., do., "HALF CENT." There are issues of Nos. 1 and 2 bearing date 1862 and 1864, all plain edge.

3. C. Obv.—Small bust of George III, to right, laureated and draped. "HALF PENNY TOKEN 1815." Rev.—Ship in full sail to right. "PAYABLE BY JOHN ALEXR. BARRY. HALIFAX." Plain edge.

4. C. Obv.—Large bust of George III, otherwise same as No. 3. Rev.—Same as No. 3.

5. C. Small bust of George III, to right, laureated and draped; within a circle, "HALF PENNY TOKEN. 1814." Rev.—Front elevation of Government House. "PAYABLE BY HOSTERMAN & ETTER. HALIFAX." Plain edge.

6. C. Large bust of George III, without the circle, date "1815," otherwise the same as No. 5. Rev.—Same as No. 5. Although bearing a larger bust this coin is much smaller than No. 5.

7. C. Obv.—A large bust of George III, to right, laureated and draped. "HALF PENNY TOKEN, 1814." Rev.—A frigate under sail, to right, "PAYABLE BY CARRITT & ALPORT HALIFAX." Edge milled.

8. C. Obv.—Military bust, to left, "BROKE HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—Britannia seated. In the distance to left two ships, "BRITANNIA 1814." Edge milled.

9. C. Obv.—Indian with bow and arrow. A dog by his side. "STARR & SHANNON HALIFAX. 1815." Rev.—Ship under sail, to right, "HALF PENNY TOKEN NOVA SCOTIA." Edge plain.

10. C. Obv.—Indian as on No. 9. "COMMERCIAL CHANGE." Rev.—Same as No. 9.

11. C. Obv.—A cask marked "Nails and Spikes," between a scythe-blade and sickle; above it two spades crossed. "PAYABLE AT W. A. & S. BLACK'S HALIFAX N. S." Rev.—Front view of a house. "WHOLESALE & RETAIL HARDWARE STORE 1816." Edge plain.

12. C. Obv.—Same as No. 11. "HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—Same as No. 11.

(To be continued.)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(Continued.)

MEDALS CAST FROM THE MODERN BY FORGERS, WHO, WANTING GENIUS TO ENGRAVE DIES, ARE CONTENT TO MOULD THEM FROM THE PADUAN AND OTHER MASTERS.

These are sometimes more difficult to discern than the former, because that, in casting them, they give them what thickness they please; and filling with mastic the little cavities which the sand leaves, they retouch the letters with a graving tool, and masque the imposition with varnish. However, most of the instructions given for the first class likewise avail in this, with another distinction, which is, that coins of this class are always much lighter than the true medals of their size, because fire rarifies the melted metal, while that which is struck is condensed, and becomes of consequence more weighty.

Those which are cast in gold or silver, either in this way or from the antique, betray themselves, as these metals admit no varnished imitation of rust.

The marks of the file on the margin of these form a sure badge of falsity, as in the first class: but it must be observed that these marks, in gold or in silver coins, by no means declare them modern, when they constitute the sole suspicion, for the ancient Romans often filed coins in these metals, that they might be enchased in rings, around vases, or the like, as we sometimes have quarter guineas, etc., inserted in the bottom of punch ladles.

It is a common trick, in this class of counterfeits especially, to cover a false coin with wax, then pricking it on the margin, to drop aqua fortis into the holes. This destroys the sides of a coin more effectually than if it had been eaten into by time. The amateur must be upon his guard against this fraud, which is not easily distinguishable, and bear it in mind, that a medal eaten into on the sides may yet be modern, and a filed medal of gold or silver may, notwithstanding this suspicious appearance, boast indubitable antiquity.

(To be continued.)

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Scratched.—Ragged incisions; marks caused by contact with any hard substance, pointed or keen.

Set.—Arranged as a complete series in regular order of issue.

Sharp.—Designs well cut and prominently defined.

Shell.—Thin metallic impression, taken from a die or hub or made by electrotyping.

Singed.—Over-heated; slightly burned.

Sized.—Covered with a glutinous matter to prevent corrosion.

Sixteenths.—Used to express diameter or size of a piece by the American scale of inches, 14-16 being equal to 7-8 of an inch in diameter.

Slanting Figure.—Used to discriminate between varieties in date, as in the case of the straight and slanting figures of 1855 United States copper cents.

Store Card.—A metallic or other business token, having thereon the address or name of a business firm.

Straight Figure.—See *Slanting Figure*.

Sweated.—Soaked in acid until reduced in size.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

CHALCIS.

Head of a female, to the right.

Reverse.—XA Δ, an eagle with a serpent in its claws, in the field a trophy —AR.

Some have the addition of a crescent.

ELEUSIS.

Ceres in a car drawn by winged dragons.

Reverse.—EΛEYΞ, a sow walking, to the right.

ACHAIA.

Laureated head of Jupiter to the right.

Reverse.—Monogram of Achaia within a laurel garland.—AR.

CORINTH.

Most of the coins of Corinth have the head of Pallas on the obverse, reverse a pegasus. Some have a trident.

SICYON.

ΞI, a chimera walking, to the left.

Reverse.—A dove flying, to the left, in the field AO; the whole in a laurel garland.—AR.

LACEDÆMON.

A bearded head, to the right.

Reverse.—ΛA.EIII.ETPTKAE.OΞ, a club, the whole* within a laurel garland.

ARGOS.

The fore part of a wolf, to the left.

Reverse.—ΔAP, in an indented square.—AR, or ΛAE, underneath a bird perched on a club.—AR.

EPIDAUROS.

Laureated head of Esculapius, to the right.

Reverse.—AΞKΛHIII ΞΠTHP Ξ, a serpent entwined around a staff;

Or head of a lion full faced.

Reverse.—EI.—Æ.

ARCADIA.

APKAΛIΠN, head of a female, within an indented square.

Reverse.—Jupiter, turning to the left.—AR.

GORTYNA (CRETA.)

A young female sitting on the trunk of a tree.

Reverse.—TOPTYNION, a bull.—AR.

(To be continued.)

THE FEWSMITH COIN CABINET.

For the last time previous to the public sale of this extensive and valuable collection of coins and medals, known as the "Fewsmith Cabinet," we call attention to its merits, in the hope that collectors will not miss the opportunity of securing some one of the various pieces to be found in the large catalogue of this sale, which is to take place at the auction rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., New York, on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th inst.

We advise all persons attending the sale not to forget their catalogues, as it will be impossible to obtain them at the auction rooms. The great demand for the catalogues of this sale evinces a deep interest in the collection, and we can only argue from these premises that the sale will be well attended and moderately successful in a pe-

158 MASON'S COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

cuniary sense. One word to our subscribers in closing, or such of them as receive catalogues without even once sending on a bid. We are at great expense mailing catalogues of every sale to each non-bidding subscriber, and the present year the postage bids fair to exceed in amount our subscription price for the magazine. Under these circumstances, and in view of forthcoming sales, we solicit from each of our patrons desiring catalogues of all future sales, a bid, however small, for the sale of the 4th inst. To all bidders we shall most assuredly mail catalogues in future, and to others we can only send catalogues when a surplus is left after our regular distribution to bidders. It should be borne in mind that sale catalogues are intended for the use of buyers; it matters not to whom they send bids, the fact of a purchase or an intention to purchase entitles them to a catalogue.

COIN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

I will give a Norwalk-Washington medal in white metal, brilliant proof, for any five different brilliant proof silver three or five cent pieces, or three uncirculated quarter dollars, dated prior to 1860. An 1816 cent, fine; an 1817 cent; obverse, dark; reverse, bright and uncirculated; 1818 cent, cracked die; obverse, bright and uncirculated; reverse, dark; or an 1850 cent, perfectly uncirculated, for any perfectly uncirculated American, Spanish or Mexican silver quarter dollar, dated prior to 1845. A small proof set of 1870 for any uncirculated dime or half dime, prior to 1850. Lincoln medal; "He is in glory," etc.; brilliant proof; size 37; for any uncirculated half dollar, between the dates 1800 and 1870. Five nickels; proof; 1859, 1862, 1865, 1869, 1870 and a proof two cent piece, 1870, for any uncirculated or extra fine foreign silver coin of the size and value of twenty-five or thirty cents, and dated prior to 1820. Johnson's Public Reception medal, in copper and tin; limited number issued, and dies destroyed; proof; scarce; for any uncirculated or extra fine silver dollar, between the dates 1800 and 1850, or uncirculated gold dollar of any date prior to 1869, or 1869 or 1870 proof gold dollar, or any six different uncirculated dimes prior to 1845. Fine set of plates from Mackensie's catalogue, for an extra fine dime of 1814, 1820, 1825, 1832, 1833, 1834 or 1842. Send to
B. B. ROMANS,
Mortonville, Pa.

MONTHLY COIN CURRENT.

We shall shortly issue a Monthly Priced Coin Current exhibiting, by regular dates, such coins as we have on hand, monthly, with their retail prices marked; also showing condition of each piece. These coin charts will be sent to any address free of postage.

MAGAZINES WANTED.

A few January, 1870, numbers of this journal wanted, at 25 cents each; also, February, 1870, numbers, for which 50 cents will be paid.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. W., CAZENOVIA.—Thanks for compliments on coin catalogue and bids at last sale. You were lucky in obtaining the stamps so low.

R. M. Y., TOWANDA.—There was not a "*quantity*" of counterfeits in the sale of the 8th ult. in the generally accepted use of that term. There were two stamps returned as bogus and there may have been a few reprints.

B. Q., RONDOUT.—Have sent you a package as requested. Shall make up another of medals soon.

R. P. N., NORWICH, ENGLAND.—Have sent you all the numbers of the present volume, commencing with March. Many thanks for list of coin and stamp dealers. Shall make an effort to supply you with back numbers. Hope you received the catalogue of the four days' coin sale.

T. W. T., HOLMES' HOLE.—Your communication appears in this number. It is needless to say it is well written and full of interest to numismatists and will, no doubt, elicit further investigations and additional articles in pursuance of some settled policy in regard to the vast number of varieties which afflict and mystify collectors of our country's coinage.

H. G. L., HYDE PARK.—Have mailed the "Flags of All Nations," and the New England shilling.

P. R. S., NEW YORK.—Our new packet system will soon be inaugurated with a great reduction in the price; also, new catalogue, with fifty per cent. reduction on a large majority of the stamps. We fill orders now at twenty-five per cent. reduction on catalogue prices when ordered by the set or in packets.

M. L., WOBURN.—Yours at hand. A sale of autographs will be announced in a future number; also, a sale of relics, minerals, fossils, Indian implements, etc. Some very rare and valuable things in each sale.

P. S., JR., RONDOUT.—There are several varieties of the '93 issue. Your impression is from the Liberty cap cent of 1793. Value \$10.

THE FOUR DAYS COIN SALE.

NEW YORK, October 4, 5, 6 and 7.

A short time only to elapse when the result of the public sale of the valuable Fewsmith cabinet will be fully known. We anticipate a large audience at the sale, and, from present prospects, there will be sharp competition over some of the rarities of the collection. This sale presents a rare opportunity to obtain almost any known American coin or medal. For variety, rarity and condition of pieces this collection stands almost alone.

Parties delayed in sending bids by mail will please remember that bids are received at the auction rooms, by telegraph, each day of sale. Address Mason & Co., care of auctioneers, Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

GREAT BRITAIN will issue a stamp of the value of half penny, or one cent of our money, on the first of October. The design consists of the head Victoria in centre, with $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on each side; the stamp will be oblong, and about one-third smaller than the 1 penny stamp; the color will be pale pink; they are reported to be printed 480 on a sheet. This, we think, is the largest number of stamps that has as yet been printed together. Correspondence cards will also be issued at the same time, and we presume will have the new stamp impressed on them. This government will shortly issue the half penny post cards. The post cards are 4 4-5 inches by 3 2-5 inches, bordered with the simplest key pattern between two lines on a colored ground. Near the top is the royal crown surmounted by the words "POST CARD," and below are the words "THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE. To———." At the upper right hand corner is the stamp, rectangular; Queen's head to left, in circle; HALF PENNY in block letters below; corners filled in. Reverse, left blank for open correspondence. The whole impression is lilac on cream color. These cards will be issued in sheets perforated.

SPAIN.—We have lastly to chronicle four additions to the current set, type similar to that of the rest. There is a 4 m. de esc., orange-buff, and a 10 m. de esc., pink; these are on paper of the same consistency as the others now in use. The lowest two values are on much thicker paper; the 2 m. de esc. is black on salmon; the 1 m. de esc., plum brown on a similar but not identical tint. What possible postage these two values can represent is a mystery that remains to be fathomed. We presumed no collection will be wanting in them, knowing one dealer who has ordered 30,000 already. Our Bath contemporary states that the 10 m. will not be issued till the exhaustion of the current emission bearing the 10 in numerals. It has, however, been in use some time, having appeared previously to the lower values. A word of caution to inexperienced collectors may not be out of place, respecting certain fictitious varieties which have been lately manufactured. We refer to the Spanish stamps surcharged "Y $\frac{1}{4}$." We have seen this abbreviation struck in deep blue ink on the 1, 2 and 4 milesimas, and 12 c. of the new series, on the 2 reales Spanish of 1856, the 12 c. of 1860 and a number of others. The absurdity of the addition in connection with most of these values will be at once manifest. A stamp, value $1\frac{1}{4}$ or $2\frac{1}{4}$ milesimas should deceive nobody, but there might be a chance of collectors being taken in by a 2 reales bearing the surcharged Y $\frac{1}{4}$, and it is, therefore, as well to warn our readers that no Spanish stamp has ever been thus marked, and that varieties showing this surcharge are entire worthless.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—We have just received, through the kindness of an esteemed correspondent, a copy of a new stamp for this country, but whether it is a local for Montevideo, or is intended for some special service, is not stated. The design consists of the bust of some worthy with his hair parted in the middle, in oval, which is enclosed in a frame inscribed R. A. above, 20 CENTS below, OFFICIO to the right, PARTICULA on the left. The head has a decided Spanish American appearance, and the bust appears to be attired in the modern style. It is printed in pale blue on white paper, and is perforated. The specimen before us is on the left hand corner of the envelope, and is postmarked Montevideo, March 30, 1870. On the right hand corner of the envelope is a regular 5 centavo Argentine Republic stamp, which is postmarked Buenos Ayres, March 22.

ROUMANIA.—It is reported that a new type is being prepared at the Imperial Mint for this principality. Meanwhile the 2, 4 and 18 bani, color on white, have received a companion, value 3 bani. There are three varieties thereof: two shades of a rich mauve-lilac, and a single individual on each perfect sheet, showing a variation in the form of the figure 3.

ANGOLA.—The new stamps for this Portuguese colony have at last appeared, as follows:

5 reis, black.	25 reis, pale pink.
10 reis, orange.	50 reis, green.
20 reis, pale brown.	100 reis, lilac.

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE'S ISLAND.—

5 reis, black.	25 reis, brick red.
10 reis, bright yellow.	50 reis, green.
20 reis, light brown.	100 reis, lilac.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—The last philatelic importation from the seat of war is a field-post envelope for the use of the soldiers of the Prussian army. It is an ugly looking affair, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches by about $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches, printed on paper of a brownish white hue, and without any device of an ornamental character. Above is the inscription FIELD-POST BRIEF, and in the right hand upper corner a circle to contain probably the post mark. Lines are left for inserting the army corps, the division, number of regiment, company, squadron and battery; also, of course, for the name of the addressee. On the back are various instructions of the usual order, and a place for the name of the sender. It is certainly an article of more use than beauty.

DENMARK.—We may anticipate the appearance of a goodly number of essays for the new 48 sk., for no less than eight types were proposed by the engraver, of which the one engraved last month was accepted, leaving seven for the use of collectors only. Two of the rejected closely resemble the chosen design, differing only in slight details; the third has the figure of value in a shield, surmounted by a larger crown, with DANMARK POSTFRIMÆRKE above, and value below; the fourth resembles the adopted type, but has a triangle at each corner: the fifth has the same frame as the fourth, but the figure

of value is on a small circle in the centre of a fancy design; the sixth has a fancy design stretching from side to side; the seventh has the figure in an oval, and the space between it and the inscribed oval contains a Greek pattern. It is hardly necessary to quote the colors of the first proofs seen, as, no doubt, they will be rainbow series.

FRENCH REPUBLIC.—Rumors are current that postage stamps of the late French empire have been issued in the south of France, having an eagle printed on the bust of Napoleon; but the report cannot be traced to any reliable source. It will surprise us greatly to receive the new stamps of France (said to be in course of preparation) bearing republican emblems of Liberty and Equality. In the present condition of France postage stamps must give place to powder and ball, and are not to be thought of until peace, is announced between the blustering belligerents.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—A new stamp has just made its appearance for this colony, and is probably the forerunner of a series. It has been engraved, we presume, by the Canadian Bank Note Company, and is to some extent a reminder of the 5 cents New Brunswick, both in type and size. The portrait is in the same style, but is a fresh engraving, and the face looks even younger and more childish than on the New Brunswick stamps. It is contained in an oval, which is nearly surrounded by a border, inscribed **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—POSTAGE**; and below, within scroll ornaments, appears the denomination, **3D. STG.—CY. 4½ D.** The frame also consists of scroll work. The stamp is unwatermarked, perforated and printed in a warm brown on white.

MAURITIUS—The sixpence is now printed of a dark green hue, and, says our Belgian contemporary, the one shilling blue has been withdrawn from circulation, and replaced temporarily by the 1 s. yellow, pending the exhaustion of the stock of the 2 d. blue, the identity of color having brought about a confusion of the two stamps. As to the reported changes in color of the ninepence, of which Count de P. possesses a specimen in green, the postmaster of Mauritius says there never has been any idea of issuing a new tint, as he still possesses more than £4000 worth of the violet.

BOLIVIA.—It may be as well to notice here that there has been an extensive manufacture of blue 5 centavos, obtained by steeping the green of the "fourth period" in acid. These blue stamps are of a deep color, approaching to indigo, and have a very new look about them. *Caveat Emptor.*

HOLLAND.—Rectification of colors of the unpaid letter stamps; the 5 c. is brown on orange, the 10 c. carmine on blue. The colors originally given were those of proof copies.

PORTUGAL.—M. Mahe announces the approaching emission of a lithographed set, superceding the cameo designs hitherto exclusively adopted in that kingdom.

SWEDEN.—The *Timbre Poste* chronicles a change in the hue of the 17 ore, which is now lilac slate.

ST. DOMINGO.—There has lately appeared another variety of this very changeable series; the UN real is now printed in lilac grey on ordinary paper, and gummed.

TRINIDAD.—The 4 d., cc. and crown watermark stamp of this island is now of a very beautiful blue violet.

POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

Our first sale of foreign and American postage stamps, by auction, in New York, September 8, was not a marked success, either in point of attendance or pecuniary results, it having met with unlooked for opposition by envious, not to say *jealous*, rivals in the same line of business. Long before the sale we were solicited by a New York dealer to unite our proposed sale with one of the same character, in view, by said dealer. This was *hint No. 1*. We declined the proffered aid wishing to sail our own boat in our own way. Soon after this declension we received a New York philatelic journal containing a reference to our proposed sale there, and the kind editorial remark: "We wish our *confreres* every success, but should have thought it would have been better to have sold in Philadelphia." This was *hint No. 2*. In a subsequent issue of said journal, we received the following *kick*, under the caption of "Auction Sale.—This sale was arranged by Mason & Co., and was held at the rooms of Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., the scene of the former sale; but, we are sorry to say, it was not so well attended. This was owing to it not having been properly advertised."

In reply to the above, we would say that the most thorough distribution of catalogues was made prior to the sale, and this same carping, self-eulogistic critic received seventy-five catalogues for distribution, in ample time to advertise the sale. It is true, we did not send a full page advertisement to the aforesaid journal, fully relying upon our own method of advertising in the New York papers, and by circulating six hundred catalogues over the entire country. We are prepared to show that our bids for patrons at the sale of the 8th ult. were far in advance of prices that were, *by force of circumstances*, obtained at that sale, and notwithstanding the startling assertion in the *New York Journal* that we "purchased 207 out of the 464 lots," we can show a bona fide bid for every lot we purchased. Can the publishers of the *American Journal of Philately* show the same record, by their books and papers on the sale of stamps which preceded that of the 8th ult.?

Another postage stamp sale is announced for the 3d of the present month, composed of the "private collection of a Brooklyn amateur," interlarded with the property of dealers and collectors at home and abroad. The publishers of the *American Journal of Philately* announce that the sale will certainly bring eight hundred dollars under the hammer! Perhaps it may; and, if such a result should follow in the wake of an unsuccessful sale, we shall most assuredly make a note of it. This ends the first lesson.

LOOKING AHEAD.

We clip the following interesting philatelic scrap from the war correspondence of the *Philadelphia Bulletin*:

"A friend has just left, who showed me during his call some letters he received, yesterday, by post from Alsace and Lorraine. They have on them Prussian stamps of 20 centimes. It is evident these stamps were prepared before the war. They are not German stamps but specially made for the invaded department. They have on them *Prusse* in French, and only the figures 20 cent., without any national effigy."

UNIQUE LOCAL STAMP.

Robert C. Davis, Esq., of this city, has a Greenville, Alabama postage stamp taken from a letter which passed through the Greenville office during the rebellion. We shall give a description of this unique local in the next number of this magazine.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

- 6 varieties, large Canada, Law stamps, used. 60 cents.
- 1 4-reals, brown, 1858, Buenos Ayres, used. \$3 00.
- 1 2 reals, blue, 1858, Buenos Ayres, used. 50 cents.
- 1 12 cuartos, orange, 1859, Spain, cancelled. 50 cents.
- 1 yellow, Austria, Mercury, used, warranted original. \$2 75.
- 1 5 centavos, yellow, 1861, New Granada, used. \$1 00.
- 1 50 centavos, Bolivia, unused. \$1 75.
- 1 1 penny, yellow, 1857, Natal, used, original. 75 cents.
- 1 6 pence, green, 1857, Natal, used, original. \$1 12.
- 1 4 cents, blue, 1852, British Guiana, torn but all there. 60 cents.
- 7 scarce old Spain, 5 and 10 reals, 1851, 12 cuartos and 5 reals, 1852, 5 reals, 1853, 2 and 5 reals, 1854, all used but in good condition. \$4 75.
- 4 scarce old Spain, same as last. \$2.
- 2 scarce Luzon, used. \$2 25.
- Unused stamps in perfect order. This collection contain 625, many good stamps, amongst which may be named Mexico, Spain, New Granada and others. 11.
- 1 Trinidad, 1857, brown on blue paper, very slightly cancelled. \$1 25.
- 1 1 real, blue, Corrientes. \$1.
- 1 red lithograph, Trinidad, very slightly cancelled, warranted original. \$1 50.
- 1 4 cents, blue, 1853, British Guiana, used. 80 cents.
- An exceedingly scarce proof of New Brunswick, with heads of Connel and Queen Victoria. \$2 25.

(To be continued.)

MASON'S

COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS' MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

NOVEMBER, 1870.

No. 11.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Continued.)

We will now enter the Coining Room, a light, airy hall, filled with brightly polished machinery, kept as clean as the milk-pans in a New England dairy. A passage-way in the middle of the room is separated from the machines on both sides by a neat iron fence. The quantity of gold and silver lying about would make it unwise, especially in these times, to allow strangers to mingle among it. Visitors can see everything from this passage-way, but the pleasure of handling is denied.

There are two styles of coining presses, both working on the same principle, but some more compact and handsome than the others. They are the invention of Mr. Peale, the plan being taken from the French press of Thornnelier's. Peale's press works much more perfectly and rapidly, and is a vast improvement over the old-fashioned screw press still used in England. It seems to be as nearly perfect as anything can be. There is so little difference, save in form, that, essentially, they are the same. There are eight presses, all turned by a beautiful steam engine at the further end of the room. The power of the press is known as the "toggle" or, vulgarly, "knee" joint, moved by a lever worked by a crank. The arch is a solid piece of cast iron, weighing several tons, and unites with its beauty great strength. The table is also of iron, brightly polished and very heavy. In the interior of the arch is a nearly round plate of brass, called a triangle. It is fastened to a lever above by two steel bands, termed stirrups, and is connected with the triangle by a ball and socket joint, and it is this arm that forces down the triangle. The arm is connected with the end of the lever above by a joint somewhat like that of the knee. One end of the lever reaches behind the arch to a crank near the large fly-wheel. Now, when the triangle is raised, the arm and near end of the lever extend outward, as when one is resting his whole weight on one leg the other bends out at the knee. If the knee is drawn in and the leg straightened, the whole body will be slightly raised.

The press is on exactly the same principle. When the crank lifts the further end of the lever it draws in the knee and forces down the

arm until it is perfectly straight. By that time the crank has revolved and is lowering the lever, which forces out the knee again and raises the arm. As the triangle is fastened to the arm it has to follow all its movements. Thus we have got the motion, which is all-important.

(To be continued.)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

(Continued.)

The Topaz, according to Ure, is still another form of the siliceous quartz. It is found crystallized in rhombic prisms in Brazil, Siberia and Saxony. It is transparent and translucent, and commonly of a wine-yellow color, but frequent sulphur colored, and rose-red. Sometimes it occurs perfectly limpid. It is not affected by the acids. It becomes electric from heat or friction, and to such a degree as to make it distinguishable, by this property, from other stones that may chance to resemble it. The principal supply of this gem is from Brazil, where it is sought in the rainy season, in the same manner and in the same localities as the Diamond.

The annual production from this region is about forty pounds. The white and the rose-red are most valuable. The former are called by the Portuguese *pingos d'agua* (drops of water), and, when cut, they closely resemble the Diamond in lustre and brilliancy. The Brazilian yellow Topaz, when exposed to heat, becomes reddish, and bears a strong resemblance to the Ruby, but may be distinguished from it by the electricity it is capable of evolving. The Saxon pale-wine colored Topaz, when exposed to the heat, becomes colorless. It is said to have derived its name from an island in the Red Sea, where the first specimen was found by a Mauritanian king. The name however, *topazion*, has existed in the Greek language from time immemorial, but whether it was the name of the same mineral as our Topaz it cannot be with certainty affirmed.

Tavernier gives a view of a magnificent Topaz in the possession of the Great Mogul. It is beautifully cut, its girdle being a perfect octagon. "This," says he, "is the only gem I have seen him wear upon his person whenever I visited his court during my journey to the Indies. It weighs one hundred and fifty-seven and a quarter carats, and was bought for this monarch at Goa for 181,000 rupees (\$543,000)."

A Topaz valued at 10,000 roubles is among the jewels in one of the saddles of Catharine II, of Russia.

Albertus Magnus says that this stone is more beautiful in the morning than at any other time of the day. And is this not true of everything, animate or inanimate?

Cardanus says that with a simple powder of Topaz diffused in

wine, he cured one Cesar Palavicinus, Esq., of a fever that he had had for fifteen days, and another gentleman of melancholy, who had long been dosed in vain by prescriptions of the regular practitioners.

Thomas Nichols calls it "a very hard glorious sunshine gem."

He also says: "The powder of it is said to be good in asthmatick passions, and in the *orthopnoea* if it be drunk in a convenient liquor. If in fevers it be held under the tongue it is said to quench thirst. It is cold and dry as all other precious stones are."

(*To be continued.*)

REMARKS ON MODEL DESIGNS OF TWO ROYAL SEALS FOR MARYLAND IN AMERICA, AND THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, BY SIMON, IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II. (ABOUT 1662-3).

PREPARED BY DR. CHARLES CLAY.

A paper read by him before the Manchester (England) Numismatic Society, April, 1870.

I have to offer to the notice of this Society the models of two beautiful seals, designed by the medalist Simon, so celebrated for his exquisite, I may say unapproachable, pieces (both coins and medals) of the Cromwellian period; respecting whom I will quote a few remarks from Pinkerton: "Simon continued in his employment at the mint after the Restoration, but his skill was less visible in the hammered money of the second Charles, and was chiefly shown in the seals and medals. After the use of milling was adopted in 1662, Simon found himself neglected by his royal master, who had brought over two Flemish artists (brothers), called Roettiers, with him, and employed them in the mint. Other authors declare it was a necessity to call in their aid, as the works of Simon progressed too slowly. Stung by being discarded from the mint, Simon, in the pride of emulation, produced that exquisite crown piece, commonly called by way of eminence, the *Trial Piece* or the *Petition Crown*, which will ever be the wonder of the world. The petition indicated his wish to be reinstated in the mint. From the relief implored of the king in the petition round the edge, it would seem that Simon's large family encumbered him much, for the salary was £50 a year and he had made considerable sums by his works, for which he was paid besides, so as to be the proprietor of one or two farms. This wonderful *Petition Crown*, however, had no effect upon Charles, whose taste and faculties were rather inclined to low pleasures; consequently, the Rottiers continued at the mint, to the great disappointment of Simon. Of him we hear but little after, except that he died in 1665 (only two years after his great work of the *Petition Crown*), some say of the plague; others say he returned to Yorkshire, the place of his birth, and died broken spirited. Supposing him to have been about twenty years of age when taken under the care of Briot, in 1633, he lived only to his fifty-second year—but a very short time to build up a reputation as being the first artist in his line the world had ever seen.

Some say his works would have been more perfect with a higher relief; but his inimitable frost work fully atones, by deepening the shades, and thus giving the effect of high relief. Perhaps, had he confided this frost work to the flesh parts, for which its softness eminently fits it, and given the hair and garments in another style, his works would, if it were possible, add to their present almost perfect character. The mad predilection at the time for foreign artists cannot be better demonstrated than by the history of Simon and Croker, both of whom were British born, and whose works have done honor to the British coinage, and both shamefully neglected, whilst living, by their own countrymen."

(*To be continued.*)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COIN AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(*Continued*)

MEDALS CAST IN THE MOULDS FROM THE ANTIQUE.

The same distinctions which serve in the former classes are likewise to be used in this. Beauvais informs us that skillful workmen in this way, when about to forge coins of gold or silver, are sometimes so careful that the quality of their metal shall not betray them, that they will melt a common medal of the very emperor whom they mean to counterfeit, in order to give it the new device of a rare one of the same prince. This had been done in the silver Septimius Severus, with the reverse of a triumphal arch, for which a common coin of the same prince has been melted; and in other instances.

(*To be continued.*)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

(*Continued.*)

NOVA SCOTIA.

13. C. Obv.—Within a circle, a cask marked "Spikes, Nails, &c." "HALF PENNY TOKEN 1815." Rev.—"IMPORTERS OF IRON MONGERY HARDWARE &c." Within a circle in six lines, "PAYABLE | BY | MILES W. | WHITE | HALIFAX | N. S."

14. C. Obv.—Bust of George III to right, laureated and draped. "HALF PENNY TOKEN 1815." Rev.—Ship in full sail to right, in the distance to the left, another vessel. "HALIFAX." Edge milled. The bust on this coin is the same type as the English half penny of 1806.

15. C. Obv.—Bust of George IV to the left, laureated and draped. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—A two leaved thistle. "ONE PENNY TOKEN 1823." Engrailed edge.

16. C. Same as No. 15. Rev.—do., do., "HALF-PENNY TOKEN 1823." There are specimens of Nos. 15 & 16 bearing dates of 1824 and 1832.

17. C. Obv.—Bust of Victoria to right, filletted and the neck

bare. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—Two leaved thistle. "ONE PENNY TOKEN 1840." Engrailed edge.

18. C. Same as No. 17. Rev.—do., do., "HALF-PENNY TOKEN."

These coins (17 & 18) are very inferior in point of workmanship to those bearing the head of George IV. The penny and half penny of this type occur with the dates 1840, 1843 and 1856. Very fine specimens of Nos. 15 to 18 are sometimes met with, but no proofs are known to exist.

19. C. Obv.—Head of Victoria, to the left, wearing open coronet, of which only the front is seen, the neck bare. "VICTORIA D : G : BRITANNIAR : REG : F : D : 1856." Rev.—A large sprig of Mayflower. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA ONE PENNY TOKEN." Plain edge.

20. C. Oby.—Same as No. 19. Rev.—do., do., "HALF PENNY."

21. C. Obv.—Ship in full sail to right. "NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK SUCCESS." Rev.—Female seated on a bale of goods, holding in her right hand a pair of scales, in her left a cornucopia. A vessel in the distance. "HALF-PENNY TOKEN." Milled edge. Rare.

22. C. Obv.—Ship in full sail. "PAYABLE AT THE STORE OF J. BROWN." Rev.—Four leaved thistle. "NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT."

23. C. Obv.—"ROBERT PURVES, CHEAP FAMILY STORE, WALLACE." Rev.—"ENCOURAGE COUNTRY IMPORTERS."

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Tael.—Chinese silver coin, worth \$1 40.

Tampered with.—Tooled, cut or altered.

Tarnished.—Discolored by handling or by contact with dyed cloth.

Temin.—Algiers coin, worth about 40 cents.

Tempo.—Japanese coin, worth about 2 cents.

Testoon.—Italian silver coin, worth about 30 cents, or Portuguese silver coin, worth 14 cents.

Tetradrachma.—Greek silver coin, worth about 78 cents.

Thaler.—German dollar, worth about 70 cents.

Thirty-eight Head.—United States cent of 1839 having the Liberty head of the 1838 cent.

Tical.—Siamese silver coin, worth about 60 cents.

Token.—Money, or substitute for same; not coined by authority.

Toman.—Persian gold coin, worth about \$2 25.

Tonga.—Bokhara silver coin, worth 15 cents.

Trial Piece.—A piece struck in any metal to try the quality of the dies before making the regular coinage.

Triens.—Roman copper coins, $\frac{1}{6}$ of an ounce.

Tsien.—Chinese coin, worth $\frac{1}{3}$ of a cent.

Type.—A peculiar mark or form differing materially from a piece of the same class.

(To be continued.)

THE CASTORLAND HALF DOLLAR.

This medal, usually termed half dollar, has been recently beautifully described, in verse, by our old friend and fellow laborer (in the Washington relic hunting line), Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale, New York, formerly a member of Congress. Before transferring the verses from the *American Journal of Numismatics*, of Boston, we would add that Mr. Lyon was instrumental in restoring the head quarters of Washington, at Newburg, to its original condition, making that locality an interesting and attractive spot to Americans. Mr. Lyon and the writer were engaged during the war in restoring to the United States Government the Washington relics stolen from the Arlington House, after the flight of General Lee to join fortunes with the Confederates. The verses referred to are entitled:

THE OLDEN TIME OF LEWIS COUNTY, NEW YORK.

BY CALEB LYON, OF LYONSDALE.

In the land of vines and olives, over three score years ago,
Where the Bourbon Rulers perished in unutterable wo,
Plans matured for emigration sanctioned were with revel gay,
In saloons of *la belle Paris*, by the friends of Chassenais.

On a hundred thousand acres, never trod by feet of men,
He had mapped out farms and vineyards, roads o'er precipice and glen,
And, like scenes of an enchanter, rose a city wondrous fair,
With its colleges and churches, and its castles in the air.

Then was struck a classic medal by this visionary band:
Cybele was on the silver, and beneath was "Castorland,"
The reverse a tree of maple, yielding forth its precious store,
Salve magna parems frugum was the legend that it bore.

O'er the Atlantic, up the Hudson, up the Mohawk's dreary wild,
With his flock came Bishop Julien, ever gentle as a child:
His kind words dispelled their sorrows and their trials by the way,
As the darkness of the morning fades before the god of day.

By *la Riviere de la Famine*, ocean-tired and travel-sore—
They upreared a rustic altar, tapestried with mosses o'er;
Crucifix they set upon it where the oak tree's shadow fell
Lightly o'er the lighted tapers, 'mid the sweet *Te Deum's* swell.

Never *Dominus Vobiscum*, falling upon human ears,
Made so many heart-strings quiver, fill'd so many eyes with tears.
The Good Shepherd gave his blessing—even red men gathered there,
Felt the sacrifice of Jesus in his first thanksgiving prayer.

After toils and many troubles, self-exile for many years,
Long delays and sad misfortunes, men's regrets and women's tears,
Unfulfilled the brilliant outset, broken as a chain of sand,
Were the golden expectations by *Grande Rapides'* promised land.

Few among this generation little cared how lived or died
Those who fled from Revolution, spirit true and spirits tried;
Or of loves and lives all ended, orbs of hope forever set—
These the poet and the painter cannot let the world forget.

A RARE COIN.



The above illustration is taken from a silver coin in the possession of a young man in the city of New York, and was handed down by his grandfather as a family relic. A similar coin was described in Dickeson's Numismatic Manual, and was sold in the Mickley sale for \$32; also the 1000 piece for double the size for \$70. The figures represent 500 millesimos Spanish money, and it was the first pattern for a half dollar of Colonial (?) money. This coin is the only one known of this variety, and has never before been described. It is in fine condition, size 15½ American scale, with engrailed edge; but owing to a slight flaw has not a good ring. The one from the Mickley collection was size 17. and had "CONFEDERATIO" with a mint mark on the obverse.—*Curiosity Cabinet.*

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." *Addison.*

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

(Continued.)

CARYSTUS (EUBŒA.)

KA, ornamented head of a bull.

Reverse.—Head of Hercules with the lion's skin.

ERETRIA.

Head of a female.

Reverse.—EPEIPEΩN, a bull couchant.

Some have the counter mark of the letter K on their obverse.

HISTIAÆA.

Head of a female crowned with ivy, to the right, with earrings and a collar of pearls.

Reverse.—ΙΣΤΙΑΙΕΩΝ, a female sitting on the prow of a vessel, holding with her left hand to the mast to which a sail is attached, filled by the wind.—AR.

Some have the fore part of a bull, and some a bunch of grapes.

CEOS INSULA.

Male head with a diadem.

Reverse.—Fore part of a dog, to the left.—Æ.

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

EDWARD VI, 1547.

First Coinage.—Obverse.—The money of the first coinage of this king is of same baseness as that of the last coinage of his father. The head is in profile, looking to the left. The testoon has the legend TIMOR DOMINI FONS VITE. MDXLIX., the first time that a date appears on an English coin. This legend appears both on the reverse and obverse of the testoons; some have INIMICOS EIVS INDVAM CONFVSIONE., without the date, and the name and style on the reverse. The penny has a rose, and the legend E. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA. The half penny has also a rose, but the farthing a portcullus.

Reverse.—The reverse of the testoon has the arms of England in an oval shield, the letters E. R. on either side, with the legend before mentioned; but some have POSVI, etc. The penny has the cross and shield.

Rarity.—The base penny, the half groat and groat are very rare, as are also the testoons of his first year, and those with the countermarks of a greyhound and a portcullis, or harrow.

Last Coinage.—Obverse.—The crown and half crown have the king on horseback, armed and crowned, with a sword in his right hand. The shilling, and half and quarter shilling have a bust of the king, full-faced and crowned, a rose on the left side of the head, and the value, in numerals, on the right. The penny has the king sitting in a chair of state. These are all good silver. The half penny and farthing, although mentioned in the indentures, have never been found.

Reverse.—The arms of England on the cross, as before, and POSVI, etc., or names of towns.

Rarity.—All the fine or good money of this king is common, except the penny, which is very rare.

OUR NUMISMATIC COTEMPORARIES.

The October number of the *Boston American Journal of Numismatics* is on our table, prompt to date of issue, and is a vast improvement on the former issue, as far as regards variety and attractiveness to the general reader. Allowances should be made in favor of the New York publication in comparing the Boston journal to its predecessor; for the extra number of pages and extra time that elapses before publication day gives the *Quarterly* a vast advantage over the old monthly, and with this fact in view there is still room for improvement and *time* to accomplish it. There is spice and considerable vivacity in the triumvirate that publish the *Quarterly*, and we again recommend this journal as worthy the support of the numismatic fraternity.

Brown's *Curiosity Cabinet*, No. 2, is at hand, containing on first page another specimen of splintered English, saturated with marks of emphasis done diagonally and sprinkled plentifully with *b's* and *d's* printed backwards. We are at a loss to know how printers can maintain patience while setting such *incongruous* composition. We should as soon undertake to write Elliot's Indian lingo, mixed with Chinese and Arabic, as to compose one sentence of Brown's essence of incongruity. On the fourth page of this little quarto appears an illustration of a *unique* United States pattern piece, which also appears in the present number of our journal, and for which we are indebted to the publisher of the *Curiosity Cabinet*. We would enquire of our cotemporary whether, or not, he has erred in terming this piece "Colonial money." We regard it as a pattern for a United States half dollar, as the Revolutionary war had terminated in 1783, and several United States coins were issued bearing the date of that year, leading us to form the above conclusion.

Proceedings of the Manchester Numismatic Society.—A pamphlet of 44 pages, bearing the above title, has been received by us from that able and indefatigable numismatist, Dr. Charles Clay, of Manchester, England. This interesting work is copiously illustrated, and contains many interesting articles, one of which is of great interest to Americans, in reference to the newly discovered designs for two royal seals for Maryland. We have quoted the latter article, and hope to be able to present the illustrations in our next issue. We shall have frequent occasion to allude to Parts IX and X of the Manchester Society's reports, and beg to offer our thanks for Dr. Clay's kindness in forwarding the same.

OBITUARY.

We are under the painful necessity of announcing the death of one of our most highly respected and beloved numismatists, Ex-Gov. William F. Packer, whose decease occurred at Williamsport, Pa. on the 27th of September, from dropsy and disease of the heart, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. The life and distinguished services of William F. Packer are too well known to require more at our hands than the assertion that he lived a life of probity and died beloved and lamented by all who held personal or other relations with him. As a numismatist, he won the respect and esteem of collectors on both sides of the Atlantic; his urbane and gentlemanly address pleased and captivated every one with whom he came in contact. The last communication we received from the deceased was published in the January number of our Magazine, and exhibited a proud satisfaction at the result of his labors in the numismatic line. It seems scarcely creditable that we shall see the large noble manly form of William F. Packer no more; but the memory of his deeds will live with us and remain green in the hearts of his countrymen; adorning the pages of his native State and adding lustre to the history of the great men of America.

FOUR DAYS' COIN SALE.

The result of the public sale of the Fewsmith cabinet of coins and medals, in New York, last month, was satisfactory to owners and purchasers; if we except the pattern pieces, which were slaughtered in cold blood! *Purchasers*, no doubt, were pleased at the latter result; but, as *owners*, we protest earnestly against the *cause* which produced this *effect*. Pattern pieces coming from a private collection formed by nearly a lifetime of anxious care, should not be classed (as they were in the case of this coin sale), with pieces *said to be* recently struck, surreptitiously, at the United States mint. "Down with the patterns," has been the numismatic war-cry with those who fortunately disposed of all such pieces previous to taking up arms against them. We assert, that the day will come when pattern pieces will command fabulous prices; already they have touched bottom in regard to price and rebounded at least twenty-five per cent. higher than prices realised at the last public sale. Here, in Philadelphia, we know the truth in regard to pattern pieces; we know that the dies of all such pieces are destroyed up to 1869; and we know further that nearly all the patterns thrown upon the market have come from the collections disposed of by auction and otherwise; including the cabinets of Randall, Haseltine, Thatcher, Hodge and Fewsmith. The supply will one day fall short of the demand, and lucky is he, who, disregarding the false reports of large quantities of pattern pieces in circulation for a market, has quietly snapped up the bargains recently offered by public sales and "salted" them for future speculative purposes.

THE SALE OF THE FEWSMITH CABINET.

The rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Astor Place, New York, presented a scene of unusual interest during the week announced for the public sale of this collection. On each day, from October 4 to 7, coin collectors and strangers entered the auction rooms and gazed with evident interest and surprise upon the coins displayed upon the long tables used by the auctioneers for this purpose. How often the attendants were compelled to snub the uninitiated who handled coins as they would a wheelbarrow, dumping them down as a hodcarrier would bricks, it is needless to enumerate; but often, too often, would scenes like the following occur:

Attendant.—My dear sir, don't put your thumb and fingers on the surface of those proof coins; you will ruin them; every fingermark is left to stain, tarnish and injure the pieces."

Stranger.—(Staring at attendant as if he had just escaped from a lunatic asylum.)—"I won't hurt your old coins; they're on sale, ain't they."

Attendant.—"Yes, sir, but you should take them by the edge, this way (illustrating), between the forefinger and thumb."

Stranger.—(Holding up the beautiful Gobrecht dollar of 1836.)—"I want this dollar and s'pose I have a right to examine it."

Attendant.—"That dollar, sir, is worth about one hundred dollars, but, if you continue to handle it, the value will be lessened considerably."


The stranger indulged in a long low whistle of astonishment, and dropped the piece as he would a red hot coal, disappearing among the crowd. Other incidents equally annoying and amusing occurred during the sale; but our limits compel us to confine the balance of this article to prices obtained for some of the most interesting pieces in the sale.


200 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1794 dollar, . . .	\$25 00	922, 1825 cent, . . .	\$10 00
241, 1851 dollar, . . .	27 50	1063, 1796 half cent, . . .	16 00
242, 1852 dollar, . . .	25 00	1098, 1831 half cent, . . .	13 00
250, 1858 dollar, . . .	10 00	1111, 1836 half cent, . . .	13 00
288, 1796 half dollar, . . .	38 50	1112, 1840 half cent, . . .	15 00
467, 1815 quarter dollar, . . .	8 50	1113, 1841 half cent, . . .	15 00
474, 1823 quarter dollar, . . .	38 00	1114, 1842 half cent, . . .	42 50
536, 1796 dime, . . .	10 00	1115, 1843 half cent, . . .	15 00
626, 1794 half dime, . . .	7 50	1116, 1844 half cent, . . .	15 00
628, 1796 half dime, . . .	4 13	1117, 1845 half cent, . . .	15 00
802, 1795 cent, . . .	29 00	1118, 1846 half cent, . . .	15 00
808, 1796 cent, . . .	25 00	1119, 1847 half cent, . . .	35 00
822, 1799 cent, . . .	32 50	1139, 1792 disme, . . .	30 00
823, 1799 cent, . . .	17 00	1140, 1792 cent, . . .	41 00
824, 1800 cent, . . .	28 00	1165, 1838 dollar, . . .	40 00
840, 1804 cent, . . .	21 50	1169, 1839 dollar, . . .	28 00
841, 1804 cent, . . .	8 00	1171, 1839 half dollar, . . .	21 00
842, 1804 cent, . . .	15 00	1381, set aluminum, . . .	102 50
845, 1806 cent, . . .	14 00	1559, <i>unique</i> Wash. cent, . . .	60 00
911, 1821 cent, . . .	8 00		

The whole sale realized about five thousand dollars. Store or business cards brought extravagant prices, showing a decided interest and increased value for these hitherto neglected pieces. We noticed several buyers from Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and names called representing nearly every State in the Union.

MINT DROPS.

ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

 The "Packer Cabinet" of coins and medals will soon be offered at public sale, in New York. It is a large and fine collection, including many rare and valuable coins. We speak by the card; the late lamented Ex-Governor Packer having been a patron of our little coin depot on North Second street, in 1860, and at that time and place obtained a number of fine coins among them a series of the rare half cents, in brilliant proof condition.

 Two of our subscribers, viz.: Fred. Morrison and Fred. Smith, carried off a "special premium" at the great Union fair, held at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in September, for a collection of coins, medals and currency.

☞ The new French coin has made its appearance. It consists of a figure of Liberty, with the legend, "In the name of the French people;" and on the reverse, a garland of mixed oak and olive, with a wheat ear in the centre, and the inscription, "Republique Francaise Democratique, une et indivisible;" and around the periphery are the words, "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite."

☞ A "naked bust" Washington cent of 1792 has recently appeared in the Philadelphia market, genuine, and valued at three hundred and fifty dollars.

☞ Ex-Governor Caleb Lyon obtained the silver Castorland medal in the New York sale of October 4.

☞ The Four Days' Coin Sale, in New York, October 4 to 7, was a success.

☞ S. S. Crosby, of Boston, is preparing a work on Colonial coinage.

☞ "Old coins are the autographs of the ancients."—*L. F. Cist.*

☞ In press.—History of American Coins, by E. M., JR.

☞ Genuine "Liberty cap."—Night cap!

COMPLIMENTS.

We return thanks to our numerous patrons for complimentary allusions to the catalogue of the Fewsmith cabinet. Few know the labor and anxiety connected with the work of cataloguing a large coin collection; and it is a cheering consolation to receive compliments from fellow laborers in the good cause, such as the following, from W. S. Lincoln & Son, London, whose labors in cataloguing are well known and appreciated by numismatists the world over:

"Many thanks for the sale catalogue; well arranged and thoroughly well got up.

W. S. LINCOLN & SON.

"London, September 23, 1870."

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. T., WATKINS.—Money received for purchases at New York coin sale. Price List mailed you. The catalogues of Fewsmith Cabinet not to be had for less than \$5.

A. A. W., CLEVELAND.—Sent you our new Price List, and should be pleased to hear from you.

W. N., CALCUTTA.—Sent you balance of new issues United States; also a few more coins. Thanks for compliments via our mutual friend, W. H. N.

H. G. L., HYDE PARK.—Sent the Pine Tree and New England coins on approval.

B. Q., RONDOUT.—Sent package by express on 21st ult.

O. T., BALTIMORE.—Sent you the Fewsmith Catalogue, as requested.

GOV. LYON, ROSSVILLE.—Did you receive the Silver Castorland Medal? Answer and oblige.

A. S., MONTREAL.—Waiting patiently for the promised book.

A. W. F.—Make an order from Price List, or we will make up package, if you prefer.

J. S. K., MIDDLETOWN.—Yours received. Was too busy to arrange the reportorial affair.

J. B. C., PROVIDENCE—Cannot commence your subscription earlier than March. If it is possible to obtain January and February numbers, will forward them.

FRANK WAY, KENNETT SQUARE.—Subscription received, with thanks.

WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CLEVELAND.—Shall send all catalogues as requested by Secretary.

L. S., JR., BOSTON—The Virginia Cent, or Half Penny of 1773, has not the arms of Virginia on reverse; neither has it the arms of "England and Scotland," as you assert. The crowned shield on reverse is quartered by the arms of England, Ireland, France and Hanover. The story you relate is all a myth.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The adhesive alluded to, but underscribed in the last number, answers to its description given in July—being transverse oblong, small-sized, bearing her Majesty's profile within a central oval; value, "½d.," on either side. It is dull pink. Further notice is superfluous, because, in all probability ere these pages see the light, the new and welcome comer's appearance will be familiar throughout the length and breadth of the land. On the date of the publication of this number, will be issued a new adhesive of the value of three half-pence. Having been favored by an early inspection of some thousands of this stamp, we are able to give our readers a description thereof. Rectangular, diademed head of Queen to left, in a curvilinear triangle, inscribed POSTAGE on the left, THREE above, and HALF-PENCE on the right; interacements at sides, and letters in corners, as in the current penny and two-penny stamps. Color, a kind of lake. This stamp was engraved ten years ago, and thousands printed off; but, owing to the rejection, at the last moment, of the bill sanctioning their use, the whole of the stock was destroyed.

FRANCE—We understand the five centimes of the empire, with laurelled head, has been printed off for some time, though not for issue until the exhaustion of the undescribed stamp of similar value. It will be a mooted question between the broad school and the purists, whether these "remainders" should be admitted into albums. There are arguments *pro* and *con*. Uniformity and official authority, on the one hand, virtual non-existence on the other, two to one in its favor.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.—An absurd notice, which we read in several French journals, found its way into this magazine last month, being copied from *The Echo*, to the effect that, in Alsace and Lorraine, the imperial stamps are already replaced by the Prussian eagle; translator and reporter being equally in sublime ignorance that for more than two years the eagle has ceased to distinguish the Germano-Prussian adhesives and envelopes. Crude and facially uninteresting as the stamps are, they will ever remain "paper medals" of the marvellous postal revolution signaling (for a time, we trust) the most unnecessary and disastrous of wars. The set consists of five; the type being precisely alike, value of course excepted. They are rectangular, and printed in color, upon plain white unwatermarked paper, patterned with network so peculiar as to be almost undecipherable. It is formed by pairs of parallel curves crossing each other, rounded when descending, and almost peaked when ascending. The word POSTES shows above; the denominational value below; numeral in the centre.

1 centime, green.	4 centimes, grey.
2 " red-brown.	10 " orange.
20 centimes, blue.	

In any case they will be eventually exceedingly rare. Should the provinces remain under Prussian domination, they will, of course, be superseded by the issue of that authority: should the French succeed in rescuing them from the enemy's clutches, we presume the most philatelic timbromaniac in France would willingly set fire to the whole stock.

BOLIVIA.—Our Bath contemporary exposes the falsification of certain 5 centavos stamps of this republic, formed by steeping some green of that value in acid, to give them a deep indigo-blue color.

TRINIDAD.—From the same source we borrow the notice that the 4d. c. c. and crown watermarked current issue of this island is now of a beautiful blue violet color.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—A field post envelope has been issued for the use of the Prussian army. Its size is $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $4\frac{1}{2}$, printed on tinted paper; FELDPPOSTERIEF above, and a circle in the right hand upper corner. Lines are left for inserting the army corps, division, number of regiment, company, squadron and battery; and for the name of the addressee. The usual instructions on the back, and a place for the sender's name. We believe something similar was in use for the French army.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—A new stamp for this island bears her Majesty's portrait in an oval, nearly surrounded by the inscription PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND POSTAGE. Within scroll ornaments below, reads the monetary value, 3D. STG. (sterling), CY. (currency) $4\frac{1}{2}$ D. The stamp is brown on white unwatermarked paper.

BELGIUM.—When expectation was almost tired out, arrived the long promised chiffrage adhesives of this kingdom. They are very neatly and artistically designed and executed. The two values

are identical in every possible respect. Central numerals within broad oval frame inscribed **A PERCEVOIR** and **CENTIMES** in block capitals. Belgium crown above, national motto beneath. Impressed in color, on plain white unwatermarked paper.

10 centimes, green, 20 centimes, blue.

SPAIN.—Attention is also called to the 1, 2, and 4 milésimas and 12 cuartos of the present set and of 1860, and 2 reales of 1856, are found surcharged with " $\frac{1}{4}$ " in dark blue ink.—*Philatelist*.

UNITED STATES POSTAL CARD.

On the 1st ult., the British Post Office inaugurated a new and most important addition to the manifold facilities which the people enjoy for correspondence; we allude to the half-penny post cards. The United States Post Office Department now proposes to adopt this British idea, and to give our people the advantages connected with it. This new postal is the exact size of the English card, and about the proportions of a medium envelope. The material is a fine laid card paper, flexible and strong. It presents only the name and address side; the reverse is entirely blank, and ready to receive any one of those multitudinous messages which require no secrecy nor concealment. The price will be one dollar per hundred, and it is expected they will be used by the million. They will save envelopes, note paper, folding, stamping and all the other trouble attending the writing of short letters.

REVENUE STAMPS.

The revenue stamps of the United States are divided into five classes.

CLASS I consists of adhesive, general and proprietary, viz.:

General.—One cent, two cents, three cents, four cents, five cents, six cents, ten cents, fifteen cents, twenty cents, twenty-five cents, thirty cents, forty cents, fifty cents, sixty cents, seventy cents, one dollar, one dollar and thirty cents, one dollar and fifty cents, one dollar and sixty cents, one dollar and ninety cents, two dollars, two dollars and fifty cents, three dollars, three dollars and fifty cents, five dollars, ten dollars, twenty dollars, twenty-five dollars, fifty dollars and two hundred dollars. Total, thirty stamps.

Proprietary.—One cent, two cents, three cents, four cents and five cents. Total, five stamps.

CLASS II.—Beer stamps: hogsheads, barrels, half barrels, third barrels, quarter barrels, sixth barrels and eighth barrels. Total, seven stamps.

CLASS III.—Stamps for distilled spirits, tax paid, ten gallons, twenty gallons, thirty gallons, forty gallons, fifty gallons, sixty gallons, seventy gallons, eighty gallons, ninety gallons, one hundred gallons, one hundred and ten gallons, one hundred and twenty gallons and one hundred and thirty gallons. Total, thirteen stamps.

CLASS IV.—Stamps for distilled spirits, "other than tax-paid,"

distillery warehouse, rectified spirits and wholesale liquor dealers. Total, four stamps.

CLASS V.—Tobacco stamps: one half pound, one pound, two pounds, three pounds, five pounds, ten pounds, fifteen pounds, twenty pounds, twenty-one pounds, twenty-two pounds, forty pounds and sixty pounds. Total, twelve stamps.

A number of new issues, of many of the values above enumerated, will appear early in 1871, with entirely different designs from their predecessors. Thus it will be seen by the official list, prepared by C. Delano, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, that seventy-one stamps will comprise the United States Government issues of the Revenue Department for at least three years to come.

THE NEW REVENUES.

A complete set of revenue stamps has been prepared for the United States Government; also, a complete set of envelopes; the latter with the addition of martial emblems, as alluded to in our previous issues. It is questionable whether the envelopes will be issued for some time to come; not, however, until a fair experiment is made with the issue of which the lower values have appeared.

FRENCH STAMP ALBUM.

The French philatelists are apt to criticise and condemn American stamp albums with the full conceit that French albums are the *correct thing* for collectors; yet we find that the famous Lallier's French album for 1870 is open to severe and just complaints for many errors and omissions. We notice in Lallier's ninth edition, 1870, that Nova Scotia is left out in the cold, there being no place for the 1 cent, 2 cent and 5 cent stamps, head of Victoria to the left; and 8½ cent, 10 cent and 12½ cent stamps. At some future time we shall review this album in detail.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

A very scarce proof of the 1869, U. S. 30 cent stamp, color, green and orange. \$2 25.

Essay of \$200 U. S. revenue stamp. \$1 12.

5 Essays of different U. S. revenue stamps. \$1 50.

2 Essays U. S. 15 cent envelope stamps. \$2 00.

6 postage stamp Albums to contain 5000 each. 50 cents.

6 small monogram Albums, to contain 100 each. 25 cents.

6 monogram Albums, to contain 250 each. 50 cents.

1 Van Rinsum stamp Album, printed in four languages. \$7 00.

1 Van Rinsum stamp Album, gilt, cloth, printed in four languages. \$3 12.

(To be continued.)

MASON'S
COIN AND STAMP COLLECTORS'
MAGAZINE.

VOL. 4.

DECEMBER, 1870.

No. 12.

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(Concluded.)

Under the triangle, buried in the lower part of the arch, is a steel cup, or, technically, a "die stake." Into this is fastened the reverse die, or according to boys' dialect, the "tail" die. The die stake is arranged to rise about the eighth of an inch, but when down it rests firmly on the solid foundation of the arch. Over the die stake is a steel collar or plate, in which is a hole just large enough to allow a blank to drop upon the die. In the triangle above the obverse die is fastened, which moves with the triangle; and, when the knee is straightened, the die fits into the collar and presses down upon the reverse die.

Just in front of the triangle is an upright tube made of brass, and of the size to hold the blanks to be coined. The blanks are examined by the girl in attendance, and the perfect ones are placed in this tube. As they reach the bottom they are seized singly by a pair of steel feeders, in motion as similar to that of the finger and thumb as is possible in machinery, and carried over the collar and dropped upon the die. The knee is straightened, forcing the obverse die to enter the collar and press both sides of the blank at once. The sides of the collar are fluted, and the intense pressure expands the blank about the sixteenth of an inch, filling the collar and producing on the coin the fluted or reeded edge. It is put on to prevent any of the gold being filed away.

After the blank has been dropped upon the die, the feeders slide back on the little platform extending in front of the machine, in readiness to receive another. The knee is bent, which raises the die about half an inch above the collar. The die stake is raised at the same time, so as to lift the newly-born coin from the collar, and the feeders coming along with another blank, push the coin over into a sloping channel, whence it slides into a box underneath. The pressure on the double eagle is about seventy-five tons, yet so rapid are all these complex motions that eighty double eagles are coined in a minute; and while the reader has been studying out this explanation probably ten or twelve thousand dollars could be struck on a single press. The smaller pieces, such as dimes and half dimes, are coined

at the rate of one hundred and forty a minute. While usually only seventy-five tons pressure are applied, the large presses will stand a strain of one hundred and fifty tons. Sometimes government and other large medals are struck which require this heavy power.

After being stamped the coins are taken to the chief coiner's room and placed on a long table—the double eagles in piles of ten each. It will be remembered that, in the Adjusting Room, a difference of one half a grain was made in the weight of some of the double eagles. The light and heavy ones are kept separate in coining, and, when delivered over to the treasurer, they are mixed together in such proportions as to give him full weight in every delivery. By law the deviation from the standard weight, in delivering to him, must not exceed three pennyweights in one thousand double eagles. The gold coins—as small as double eagles being counted, and weighed to verify the count—are put up in bags of five thousand dollars each. The three dollar pieces are put up in bags of three thousands dollars, and one dollar pieces in one thousand dollar bags. The silver pieces and sometimes small gold are counted on a very ingenious contrivance called a "counting-board," somewhat resembling a common wash-board. They are all subsequently weighed, however, to verify the correctness of the counting. For the various duties of the Mint there are about two hundred persons employed as clerks, workmen, etc.—say one hundred and forty men and sixty women—the number depending, of course, upon the amount of work to be done.

REMARKS ON MODEL DESIGNS OF TWO ROYAL SEALS FOR MARYLAND IN AMERICA, AND THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, BY SIMON, IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II. (ABOUT 1662-3).

PREPARED BY DR. CHARLES CLAY.

A paper read by him before the Manchester (England) Numismatic Society, April, 1870.

(Concluded.)

The two beautiful model designs in plaster which I now offer for your inspection, and which are evidently the work of Simon, must have been executed after the Restoration; and as he was removed from the mint in 1662, they must have been designed before the date of the Petition Crown in 1663. The date of the models would certainly be about the year 1662, just before Simon's exit from the mint; and this view is strengthened by the subjects of the models themselves:—one being a design for the seal of the colony of Maryland, in America (the earliest coins of which are dated 1661); and the other being for the island of Jamaica, on which are full-length figures of Charles II and Catharine of Braganza, whose marriage was in 1661. Neither of these models were ever worked from; they are, therefore, unique. Most probably, when Simon was superceded by the Rottiers and ejected from the mint, all his models or works in progress were neglected and thrown aside; and his death occurring

so soon after, fully accounts for the want of documentary evidence respecting his unfinished labors.

That such valuable relics should not be lost is the object of these remarks; and perhaps no community will be more surprised than the Americans to find that a royal seal, unknown to them, was designed by Simon in the time of Charles II. The illustrations to these remarks were undertaken by our indefatigable treasurer, M. Delmard, and I need scarcely add they are most faithfully copied by his efforts. I append descriptions.

Fig. 1. Maryland Seal. Legend, SIGILLVM PROVINIÆ DE MARYLAND IN AMERICA. Royal cypher C R A under the crown. Circular. Size, American scale, 68; or English measure, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Fig. 2. Jamaica Seal. Charles II and Catharine of Braganza standing; at their feet an Indian kneeling, presenting fruit; above, the arms of Jamaica. No date.

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(Continued.)

The Emerald is a composition of silica, alumina and glucina, colored generally green by chrome oxide. It is of various shades of green, sometimes colorless, sometimes inclining to blue and yellow. Those species not green, however, are specifically known as beryl or aqua-marine—the coloring matter in them being iron peroxide. Emeralds are found in the shape of six-sided prisms, with lateral faces smooth, and varying from transparent to translucent. It is not affected by acids. It is found chiefly in Peru. Less beautiful varieties are met with in India, Ceylon, Greenland and Siberia. It is cut in various forms, the Brilliant, the Rose and the Table styles. It is usually set with a green substance behind it, unless of a very fine quality, when they are open-set. They sell at the price of twelve dollars per carat. One of twenty-four grains, at the auction of the Marquis de Dree, sold for 2400 francs. It may be very successfully imitated.

The Spanish conquerors of Peru heard there was in the Valley of Manta, a temple dedicated to the Goddess Emerald. Of course, they hastened to pay their devoirs at the shrine of so respectable a divinity. But, on reaching the temple, they found that the goddess had disappeared. However, finding there a large number of daughter of the "Mother of the Emeralds" (as the goddess was entitled by the priests), they took possession of these for their own behoof.

The Mexican kings prized these stone so highly that they were accustomed to pierce their nostrils and there hang one of the finest specimens they could procure. They put them also upon the faces of their idols.

If we may credit an old writer, the traffic in them from America must, at one time, have been enormous. For he says that, in the fleet which came from the Indies, in the year 1587, there were two great chests of Emeralds. If this be fact, the number in circulation must, we think, have diminished.

Highly as these stones have ever been prized by Europeans, it would seem that Orientals have valued them more highly still. For Tavernier says, that, in his day, Emeralds, and indeed nearly all the precious stones, except the Diamond, brought better prices in Asia than in Europe.

This stone is especially noted for the extravagant traditions concerning it.

Thus it is gravely recorded, that the victorious Saracens captured, at the Spanish city, Toledo, a table three hundred and sixty feet long, constructed of a single Emerald! Also, that an obelisk stood there, composed of four Emeralds only, which was sixty feet high! It is also stated that in the Cathedral treasury of Genoa was preserved, in 1780, a hexagonal bowl of Emerald, of which the broadest diameter was fourteen and a half inches. In 1319, this bowl was pledged to a certain cardinal for 1200 gold marks, and twelve years elapsed before the city could raise this sum for its redemption. In 1726, a volume was published in Genoa, which professed to demonstrate, by authorities, that this identical vessel had once belonged to King Solomon, and was an item of the presents brought to him by the Queen of Sheba.

It must be confessed that it is rather a sorry downfall of the romance concerning this stone, to find it more than probable that all these large specimens are neither more nor less than green glass, or at best rock-crystal, imbedded, perhaps, with portions of aqua-marine. For it is stated that in Peru, which yields the finest in the world, no one larger than an ostrich's egg has ever been mentioned, and that such a one ever existed is extremely doubtful.

Tradition says that the famous magician, Hermes Trismegistus, engraved on an Emerald a panacea for all human maladies, which was enclosed with his body in his tomb. Rather a selfish proceeding, it seems to us.

As a fact belonging to modern times, we would mention that the sceptre of Poland was a simple piece of beryl, two feet long. It has been broken in the middle, and is now in the possession of Russia.

(To be continued.)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COIN AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(Continued)

ANCIENT MEDALS RETOUCHED AND ALTERED.

This is the species of deception which is the most apt to impose even on the skillful; and one must know a good deal of medals not to be the dupe of it. The art exerted in this class is astonishing;

and a connoisseur is apt the less to suspect it, as the coins themselves are in fact ancient. The acute minds of the Italian artists exerted themselves in this way, when the other kind of forgeries became common and known. With graving tools they alter the portrait, the reverses, the inscriptions themselves, in a surprising manner. Of a Claudius, struck at Antioch, they make an Otho: of a Faustina, a Titiana: of a Julia Severi, a Didia Clara: of a Macrinus, a Pescennius: of an Orbiana, an Annia Faustina: of a Mamæa, a Tranquillina; of a Philip, an Emilian. Give them a Marcus Aurelius, he starts up a Pertinas, by thickening the beard a little, and enlarging the nose. In short, wherever there is the least resemblance in persons, reverses or legends, an artist of this class can, from a trivial medal, generate a most scarce and valuable one.

This fraud is distinguishable by the false varnish which sometimes masks it; but, above all, by the letters of the legend, which are always altered. Though this is sometimes done with an artifice almost miraculous, yet most commonly the characters straggle, are disunited, and not in a line.

Medals of this class are often met with of which the obverse has not been touched, but the reverse made hollow, then filled with mastic of the color of the coin, which is engraved with such device and legend as the artist knew was uncommon, and would bear a great price.

Others are only retouched in some minute particular, which however very much diminish the value of the coin.

Against all these arts severe scrutiny must be used by the purchaser upon the medal itself; and the investigation and opinion of eminent antiquaries had upon its being altered or genuine as it issued from the mint.

AUTOGRAPH LETTER OF LADY STANHOPE.

We are indebted to R. C. Davis, Esq., of this city, for a translation, from Italian, of the following unpublished letter, written by the celebrated Lady Stanhope:

Lady Stanhope was a niece of the celebrated English Minister Pitt. Through her great ability in literary pursuits and shrewdness in politics, she became his private secretary while he was in office as minister, and, after his death, a pension was awarded to her by the King of England. She afterwards went to Syria and settled down on Mount Lebanon, where she gained the reputation among the Mohametan people as a supernatural being. The fear and jealousy of the Pashas of the neighboring provinces was very great; and, while she sent her steward, Mattei Lunardi, to Livorno (in English called Leghorn) to buy provisions for her, she received a notice from England that Queen Victoria had stopped her pension. Hence the letter.

GIUN, 13th March, 1838.

You must know (and I do not say it to make you melancholy, for everything will be made right, as will appear), but you must know

that, at a time when I feel contented with the prospect of my affairs, the Queen of England has taken it in head, under pretence of having power over my pension, to direct that it should be taken to pay some of my old debts, as suits her pleasure. You know that I have no more fear of a crowned head than of a peasant; and, I imagine, she will never have received a letter similar to that I wrote to her, in which I resign my pension and abandon the name of English subject. It is possible that this step of mine will occasion, for awhile, some imbroglia in my affairs, and will be known throughout Europe. I told you in my last letter that the illustrious lady, who was to arrive here from America, had deferred her voyage for the present; wherefore, if you have the intention of coming to this country, there is no reason for delay as far as I am concerned. I had hoped to be able to send you a large sum to discharge my commissions, and to be able to give you some decided opinion as to what you had best do in case you should come here; but this is not the time for speculation. The Druses seeing their children taken by force to Nazairs (after having paid nearly 8000 *borse* (?) for their redemption), have fled in great numbers to Horan, which country is in rebellion and carries on a war with the Nablusunani. It is said that J. P. has lost 30,000 men; but the fact is he has lost nearly 12,000 and the greater part of his best officers. I believe that he has discovered that the Nazairs do not succeed everywhere, as was imagined, provided they are placed against resolute men, sword in hand. He has, therefore, ordered to be secured a great number of Albanians, and it is said that these have already disembarked, with orders to throw themselves suddenly upon Damascus. Further, three nations of negroes have risen against M. A., and have united to do all the damage possible; and even in other places affairs do not seem to present a more pleasing aspect. People, then, will not run the risk of speculation. The moment for this will be when affairs begin to flourish. For instance, some persons that had money hidden disinterred it, glad to find others to lend their name. Other persons, who had returned to their homes half ruined, wished to purchase certain things necessary to their well being. The wages of laborers are doubled, from the scarcity of people, and some of the lower class have gathered a fine sum of money by having substituted their own children in the place of the children of others. A Druse, that I know, had made an offer of 12,000 p. to L. for his black slave—smaller than Alledalla. There are those who have offered from 15 to 20,000 for one to substitute another. As everybody becomes, daily, an imitation of the French, spoons of iron whitened, and deep dishes, with covers, and stew-pans of wrought iron; likewise, tea and the vessels for making the tea (or teapots) of metal are in vogue. Some dozens of vases of Naples soap may be bought, in which a special pleasure is taken; but to distinguish it from other mixtures that might be made here, it is necessary to have prepared peculiar designs, well colored, to cover the vases—with Mount Vesuvius in red flames, and a gentle-

men and lady observing with a telescope, or some other similar idea; and then there will be no other talk than of the "*Sabunnin beled el Nar.*"

The porters have lately gained much at the inferior trades which are indispensable. All they gain they spend in superfluities for their wives and children. The peasants of Giun and of other villages clothed themselves for some time past in striped muslins—they scorn the idea of wearing the linen of Egypt—as they formerly did. Colored handkerchiefs, of every variety, square Boggi, printed with different flowers, a yard and a half broad, for the women, who use them as girdles. Common fans, with soldiers, shepherds, figures, etc.; others, without figures—with Mount Vesuvius, a palace, an edifice (but not a ruined edifice, the Turks do not love ruins); others with birds, animals, flowers, fruits; others of a fine workmanship, and of these each has its paper envelope; among these last you may have beautiful figures of women, shut up in the Cassa of some Effendi, to pass some months there before reaching the apartment of his wife. These, at the first or second selling, would be sold at four or five times their cost. The fans will sell—made of paper or of cock's skin—provided they be well colored and with various objects depicted. If there were only some chicken skins for certain personages it would not be bad. Spectacles, eye glasses, carpenters' tools, writing desks, with gilt heads, clocks of every quality—such are the articles from which one might gain some small profit at the present moment. It would not be proper to enter into an extensive speculation until it is seen how things will end. In regard to my commissions, it may be that I shall have to place them in the hands of Signor Chioppe, and so you will have the goodness to explain to him of what nature they will be. For instance, I do not wish those plates, cups, dishes and other blue Fayence ware of common English manufacture; but a dozen dishes of every kind, with covers, large and small; a soup tureen, large and small, for each dozen, with two dozen plates and one dozen suitable for the potage. In case, then, of sending, I shall have need of five kinds of different quality and beauty. Further various kinds of cups and things for tea, common or select; basins, urinals, vases, pitchers, a case of different articles in white ware that are always useful and can be bought in a large store for a small sum. German cloth for the table and house, of all sorts, and strong cloth that will not wear from the washing of the women of this country. Various other things to furnish the house. You can thus express yourself to Signor Chioppe, in case, only, that you see by the public journals, before your departure, that my affairs are progressing well. If I am rich, I will have the pleasure of serving you; if I shall be poor, I hope I shall not want the means to do you good by means of others. Mrs. James should not complain of your departure; perhaps, even to her and her children it will, in the future, be advantageous. It will not be useless to bring with you some specimens of porcelain and Fayence ware that

are found in Leghorn, for example, a cup, a basin, a water jug, etc., one article of each sort, with the price by the dozen. Have I credit for a piece of flannel like that from Majaini, that you can bring it with you? Mary is married to the husband of Madame Eugenie, who purchased her with large golden rings for the arms and legs.

HESTER LUCY STANHOPE.

To AL SIGNORE MATTEI LUNARDI,

In Casa di Madame Webb James,

In Livorno.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Concluded.)

Uncirculated.—Used by collectors, not as to its literal meaning, but to designate a piece as *perfect*; unworn and uninjured.

Union Token.—Medalets containing patriotic designs and mottoes, issued during the rebellion of 1861-65.

Unique.—Only one of a kind.

Varnished.—Having a coating of gum or other material to protect a coin from corrosion.

Variety.—Slight difference in design, lettering or date.

Yellow.—About 4½ cents, Spanish money.

Verd Antique.—Green rust on copper coins.

Vines and Bars.—Found on the edge of some of the 1793 U. S. cents, and used to discriminate between a cent of same date having the edge lettered.

Washington Piece.—Any coin or medal having the bust or name of Washington thereon.

Wampum.—Belts or strings of shells used as money by the Indians.

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

MARY, 1553.

Obverse.—The obverse of the coins of this queen, before her marriage, have her head crowned and in profile to the right. The base penny has a rose. The half shilling and shilling, after her marriage, have the busts of Mary and Philip facing each other, with a crown above. The half crown has the head of Philip on one side and that of Mary on the other, each with a crown above it. Some of the coins, after their marriage, have the date above the heads, some underneath, but many are without any date.

Reverse.—The royal arms and cross in the same manner as on the last coinage of her brother, except the shilling and its half, which

have the arms of England and Spain impaled in an oval shield, crowned, with the numerals XII and VI over it.

Rarity.—The base penny with the rose is very rare; the half crown of the first rarity; the half groat and penny are extremely rare. The groat common; those of the shillings and half shillings which have the date under the head are the rarest; those without date and value are very scarce; the other shillings are scarce in good preservation.

ELIZABETH, 1558.

Hammered Money.—The money of Elizabeth must be so well known that a description of it will be scarcely necessary, although a notice of the various denominations coined during her reign may be required. The type of her shillings, half shillings, groats and half groats must be familiar to every one. On her crown and half crown she appears with the sceptre in her right hand and the globe in her left. The half shilling, three penny, three half penny and three farthing pieces may be known by the rose behind the head, which distinguishes them from the shilling, groat, half groat and penny. The half penny has a portcullis; reverse, a cross and pellets. All the above are exceedingly common, except the three farthing piece, which is scarce, and the half shillings of the years 1563, 1597 and 1599. The half crown of her last year is rare. Coins with rare mint marks bear a high price.

Milled Money.—The artist first employed on the milled money of England was a Frenchman, named Philip Mestrelle, who was executed at Tyburn, on the 27th of January, 1569, having been found guilty of making counterfeit money. The milled coins of Elizabeth differ but slightly from the other. The types are nearly the same, but of much neater execution; the coins are also rounder; the edges are grained and the inner circle on the obverse is omitted. The three farthing piece of this coinage is very scarce and the half crown is extremely rare.

(To be continued.)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

(Continued.)

MAGDALEN ISLAND.

1. C. Obv.—Within a circle, a seal. "MAGDALEN ISLAND TOKEN 1815." Rev.—Within a circle, a codfish. "SUCCESS TO THE FISHERY, ONE PENNY." Edge engrailed.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

1. C. Obv.—Sheaf of wheat, with sickle. "PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HALF PENNY 1840." Rev. A plough. "COMMERCE AND TRADE." Very rare. Edge plain.

2. C. Obv.—A plough. "SPEED THE PLOUGH." Rev.—A codfish. "SUCCESS TO THE FISHERIES." Several varieties of this coin

(which was struck in 1840) are in circulation, the difference being in the shape of the plough.

3. C. Obv.—"PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND 1855." Rev.—"SELF GOVERNMENT AND FREE TRADE." Edge plain.

4. C. Same as No. 5, "1857." Rev.—do., do.

5. C. Obv.—"PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND 1855." Rev.—Same as No. 3.

6. C. Obv.—Steamship to left, "HALF PENNY TOKEN." Rev.—"FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURE."

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." Addison.

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Argina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

(Continued.)

CARTHEA.

Laureated male head, to the right.

Reverse.—K A P O, fore part of a dog, to the left, surrounded by rays; below, a bee.—Æ.

Some have the head of Bacchus.

ANDRUS INSULA.

Head of Bacchus, to the right.

Reverse.—A N, a vase with two handles, an ear of corn in the field.—A R.

CORESIA.

A male head to the right.

Reverse.—A star.—Æ.

Or, head of Apollo laureated, to the right.

Reverse.—K O P H, a bee.—Æ.

IULIS.

Laureated head, to the right.

Reverse.—I O Y A, a bee.—Æ.

Sometimes the head of Bacchus.

PAROS INSULA.

Head of Bacchus crowned with ivy.

Reverse.—T A P I, a goat, a star before it.—Æ.

Some are counter marked with a helmet.

AMISUS.

Laureated head of Jupiter, to the right.

Reverse.—A M I \neq O Y, an eagle on a thunderbolt with a monogram.

Some have the reverse of Victory, some a quiver.

(To be continued.)

CLOSED!

Another volume of our journal closes with the present number, and we may be pardoned for apparent egotism in remarking the improved condition of the fourth volume. The additional support we received in the early part of the present year enabled us to add four pages of matter to each number of this volume, and if our patrons conclude to unite with us in efforts to establish, permanently, a useful and interesting work, devoted to scientific objects, we can predict an increase in quantity and quality of matter for the ensuing volume.

The principal numismatic event of the year was the four days' sale of the Fewsmith cabinet, in New York. Other sales of minor importance have occurred; but the "four days' sale" will be remembered as an event second only in interest to the sale of the Mickley cabinet, in 1867. The increase of coin collectors and dealers during the year has been marked, and adds further evidence of the stability of the coin trade. New journals have been added this year to the list of those engaged in propagating the different sciences. Among the latter *The Numismatic Journal*, of Boston; *The Antiquarian* and *The Curiosity Cabinet*, of New York. Although the year now closing has not been, in a business or pecuniary point, a successful one; and money has not been at the ready command of many who indulge in the luxury of augmenting their collection of rarities; yet, take it all in all, we feel pleased to record the fact that collectors have steadily maintained an interest in and a determination to stand by their hobbies. Many of our readers presume that the fact of a prominent numismatist offering his cabinet for sale is *prima facie* evidence that coin collecting is on the back track or on the retrograde. This is not really the case. Mickley, who disposed of his collection from fear of burglars, and who had a narrow escape with his life when robbed of a portion of his splendid cabinet, in this city, was solely influenced by self-protection, and, we are happy to say, has returned to his early love, or, in other words, entered the numismatic brotherhood again as a collector. Mr. Fewsmith, also, has commenced the formation of a cabinet and exhibits his usual interest in rare and choice coins. So with others. "Once a Mason, always a Mason," is an old, and we might say, trite saying among a certain band of secret brothers, and the saying might apply with equal force, slightly changed, to numismatists: "*Once a coin collector, always one.*" Habits once formed have a special hold on the feelings, and it is difficult to forego the pleasures that attach to a pursuit so full of interest as coin collecting when one has been fully committed to it.

In closing the present volume, we return thanks to the many friends and patrons whose approving smiles have influenced the continuation of our good work, and whose kind aid, we trust, will carry us through another volume with mutual satisfaction to publishers and subscribers. Having nearly finished this article, the fumes of a roasted turkey convince us that another thing is to be finished ere long, and on this Thanksgiving day, with our little ones gathered at the board,

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awaiting the appearance of the carver, we can but wish a Merry Christmas for all, and *a la Taylor*, a Happy New Year *for the rest of mankind!*

PUBLIC SALE OF CONTINENTAL AND COLONIAL PAPER MONEY, COINS, AUTOGRAPHS, ETC.

The sale of Mr. Idler's private collection of paper money will come off at Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co.'s Trade Sales Room, New York, on the 21st inst. This collection includes a complete set of the Continental bills, in very fine condition. The Colonial notes form a very handsome collection, nearly all in the finest condition. Mr. Idler's collection was made while he was engaged as a coin dealer in this city, and is not the surplus, or left over, stock of a dealer, but his own private collection selected with great care and expense during almost a lifetime. In addition to the paper money will be sold a small collection of coins, minerals, Indian stone implements, etc., belonging to a private party. Catalogues now ready.

INFORMATION WANTED.

A handsome reward will be paid to any party informing us from whence and whom came the report that the Fewsmith Cabinet of coins had been tampered with before the sale of October 4, and that all the choice cents in that collection had been reserved for private parties. This vile report lessened the pecuniary results of said sale, and we wish to publish the name of the miscreant who would seek to undervalue and injure another's private property for selfish motives. The report was circulated extensively in Boston, and was mentioned to Elliot, of Lowell, Colburn, Crosby, Trifet and others of Boston. Mr. Trifet denies giving publicity to the report, but heard it frequently mentioned before the sale. All communications upon this subject confidentially considered.

MINT DROPS.

A PATTERN for a new silver dollar, it is said, was designed by the late Mr. Longacre, Engraver at U. S. Mint, and specimens have been struck—not for sale.

THE PACKER CABINET of coins will be sold early in February, in New York.

COINS of the new French Republic are out.

DR. CHARLES CLAY, Manchester, England, has a Virginia half penny, dated 1774.

UNITED STATES PROOF SETS FOR 1870 are all sold. The United States Mint sends applicants to Mason & Co.'s Coin Store.

REBELLION TOKENS AND STORE CARDS are looking up in price.

OUR FIRST SUBSCRIBER.

Prof. Anthon, of New York, heads the list of subscribers to Volume 5 of our magazine. Who is the next customer?

THE PACKER CABINET.

Of Ex-Governor Packer, who recently died, it is said that he had a collection of coins, ancient and modern, second only to one other in the country. His cabinet of coins is said to be worth from \$10,000 to \$20,000. This immense collection he had made with great labor and sacrifice of time and money. During the laying of a pavement near his house, three years ago, he was daily seen walking along the streets, where the workmen had made excavations and thrown up the ground, looking for coins, and in this way found several very rare ones. He knew the history of every coin in his cabinet, and all the associations connected therewith. His coins consist of specimens from before the Christian era down to the present time.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

That the late Ex-Governor Packer had a fine collection of coins is true, but the above extract places the value of the collection far beyond their real worth. We should suppose the collection worth about five thousand dollars. The idea of finding coins in the ground under a pavement is certainly new. We opine that the rare coins in the Packer cabinet were found at the coin dealers' stores at a heavy outlay for the find.

RARE CENTS.

The opportunities for obtaining U. S. copper cents of 1793, 1799 and 1804 are becoming few and far between; and, unless a better supply comes into the market for the ensuing year, from some, at present, unknown source, these rarities will advance in price greatly. We are now selling these pieces at an advance of twenty-five per cent. on last year's prices. Time was when a little call through the press, in the shape of an advertisement, would produce an ample supply; but, now, when scores of collectors are added to the list of hobbyists, it is extremely difficult to meet the demand. Parties having duplicates of these rare cents will oblige by sending rubbings, with their price in cash or trade, to this office.

AN AMUSING ERROR.

The *New York Evening Mail*, in an editorial notice of the sale of Fewsmith's cabinet, October 4, describes Lot No. 1605 (catalogued as the "ugliest of all known Washingtons") as follows: "Among some amusing pieces is a bust of the ugliest man in Washington in past times." It is difficult to perceive how such an amusing blunder could occur when we remember that the writer had correctly enumerated half a column of pieces from the catalogue.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We request our patrons who wish to continue their subscriptions to send early notice, as the January number will not be sent unless we receive notice of continuation. After January, 1871, we cannot promise to supply the preceding number.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

FRANCE.—Let us commence with that most popular thing at present—a rumor. It is rumored, then, that, on and after the first day of November, the imperial stamps will be deposed and a new republican series will take their place. It seems we are not to have the old design with the head of Liberty; this time Freedom is to sit for a full length portrait, and underneath will be written the words which the Mayor of Paris has been assiduously scrawling on the churches and public buildings of besieged Paris—*Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite*. The values no doubt will be the same; though, probably, only the 10 and 20 centimes will at first appear. These will be urgently required in Paris for the post cards and letters forwarded by balloon, and will also be needed in the provinces, where the supplies of the imperial stamps are beginning to run very short.

RUSSIA—Belozersk.—We have just received from our St. Petersburg correspondent specimens of a new stamp which does duty for the Belozersk village post, and is of the value of 2 kopeks. It is an upright rectangle, the frame being formed of a double line; the figure 2 on a black disk appears in each corner, and the centre of the stamp is occupied with the inscription; the ground consists of lines forming a kind of fluted pattern, and these lines are in red; the rest of the stamp is in black, and the whole is on white paper. Our copy is obliterated with a pen stroke.

CUNDINAMAICA.—Specimens of the 5 and 10 centavos for this State are before us; they are rectangular, on plain white paper, lithographed and not perforated. The two designs slightly vary; but the chief features consist of the eagle surmounting the arms and a trophy, as in the stamps of New Granada, and a fancy border, CORREOS CUNDINAMAICA. The values are:

5 centavos, pale blue.

10 centavos, red.

GREAT BRITAIN.—There are already two varieties of the post card in existence. The one measures $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the other, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 3 inches, and the former is uniformly found of a darker shade than the latter. We have it, on good authority, that no more of the former size will be made, because it is found that, when tied up with the ordinary letters, the large ones get cut by the string.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Two new stamps for this colony have appeared, each of which bears a portrait of her Majesty the Queen to right, in widow's weeds. They are very similar in design to the Canadian fiscal stamps emitted some time back. The word NEWFOUNDLAND, in curved label, appears immediately above the portrait; large figure of value in upper, and stars in lower corners. The values and colors are as follows:

3 cents, red.

6 cents, carmine.

NEW GRANADA.—M. Moens wittily remarks that the post office department at Bogota is a regular stamp *mitrailleuse*. The first stamp of a new series is out, intended to supercede the set which began to appear in 1868, and has never been completed. The color of this new arrival is pale yellow on white. As to the design—we abstain from criticism.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

CUBA.—Army stamps are rife in the present dolorous state of affairs. One emitted in Cuba, bears a circular impression in black on white, with Spanish inscription, the translation of which reads "General Command of the Operations of . . ." E. M. The 10 centimos, blue, and 20 c., green, of 1867, have been seen imperforate, with margins broad enough to leave no doubt on the subject.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—In addition to the proofs of the three penny value in pink and blue, we have received specimens of buff colored.

RUSSIA.—M. Moens chronicles a 20 kopeck on laid paper, unwatermarked.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A correspondent favors us by announcing the arrival of a four penny, blue, of this colony, surcharged with 3 PENCE in red across the value.—*Philatelist*.

UNIQUE CONFEDERATE LOCAL.

By the kindness of Robert C. Davis, of this city, we have received for examination the Greenville, Ala., postage stamp referred to in a preceding number. The stamp is printed on thick white glazed paper resembling fine wall paper, about the size and shape of our new three cent postage stamp. The designs are composed of scrolls, at the upper and lower ends, printed in blue ink, divided in the centre by two lines, running well across the stamp, printed in red ink, reading: "PAID . FIVE . GREENVILLE, ALA." The stamp was obtained by Mr. Davis from a brother who resided in Greenville, and was torn from a letter that passed through the Greenville post office during the rebellion.

FRENCH POSTAGE STAMPS.

The French postage stamps now bear a figure of Liberty, representing the Republic, with the legend, "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity." The foreign journals announce that after November 1, the stamps bearing the head of Napoleon III would not be recognized in payment of postage.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.

We have a few sets of stamps of these Franco-Prussian conquered provinces, viz.: 1 centime, green; 2 centimes, brown; 4 centimes, gray; 10 centimes, bistre, and 20 centimes, blue, for 75 cents per set, unused. These postage stamps will be in the future of great historical interest, as mementoes of the extraordinary Prussian invasion of France in 1870.

STAMP WASHERS.

So enormous are the losses of the government from the frauds of the stamp washers, who collect old stamps and clean and sell them for new, that the government would find it economy to furnish stamped envelopes free to the public except the usual postage duty.—*Exchange.*

We opine that the stamps alluded to are sold to collectors, and that the general public are in error in supposing that the desire for used postage stamps emanates from a disposition to impose upon the government by using the stamps a second time.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Concluded.)

- 10 good Colonial stamps, including View of Sydney. \$1.
- Vols. I and II, bound, American Journal of Philately. \$1 50.
- 1 American Lallier's Album, cloth. \$2 50.
- 1 American Lallier's Album, gilt, morocco. \$3.
- 1 American Lallier's Album half morocco. \$2.
- A collection of 215 stamps, nearly all unused, including sets of
— Sicily and other good stamps. in good morocco bound
album. \$6.
- 12 Canadian Law Stamps, used. 50 cents.
- 12 Canadian Law Stamps, used. 35 cents.
- 12 Canadian Law Stamps, used. 35 cents.
- 12 Canadian Law Stamps, used. 35 cents.
- 10 varieties of Mexican Stamps. \$1 00.
- 5 varieties of essays for new U. S. Revenues. \$1 75.
- 5 varieties of essays for new U. S. Revenues. \$1 50.
- 5 varieties specimens, two very scarce Greece. \$2.
- 6 varieties American Bank Note Co., specimens. \$1 75.
- 1 1 shilling, blue paper, New Zealand. \$1.
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ real, 1865, St. Domingo. 80 cents.
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ real, 1865, and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ real, italic letters, St. Domingo. \$1.
- 1 10 cent, St. Louis Stamp. \$3 25.
- 5 and 10 cent St. Louis Stamps; these are very scarce. \$9.
- 12 varieties of specimen U. S. 1861 issue. \$3 25.
- 1 proof, original design, 12 cents, 1869 issue, U. S.
- 7 good South American Stamps. 60 cents.
- 2 Confederate locals, Memphis and New Orleans. \$1 12.
- 3 scarce Stamps, Queensland and Mauritius, 5 shillings. 75 cents.
- 6 good Stamps, first issue, Nova Scotia, New Granada. 62 cents.
- 50 Colonial Stamps. 50 cents.

CROWDED OUT.

Replies to Correspondents, Coin Sales, Anecdotes and several other articles, all of which will appear in the next number.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. JANUARY, 1870. No. 1.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bayle & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.

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 5 varieties of essays for new U. S. Revenues. \$1 50.
 5 varieties specimens, two very scarce Greece. \$2.
 6 varieties American Bank Note Co., specimens. \$1 75.
 1 1 shilling, blue paper, New Zealand. \$1.
 1 ½ real, 1865, St. Domingo. 80 cents.
 1 ½ real, 1865, and 1 ½ real, italic letters, St. Domingo. \$1.
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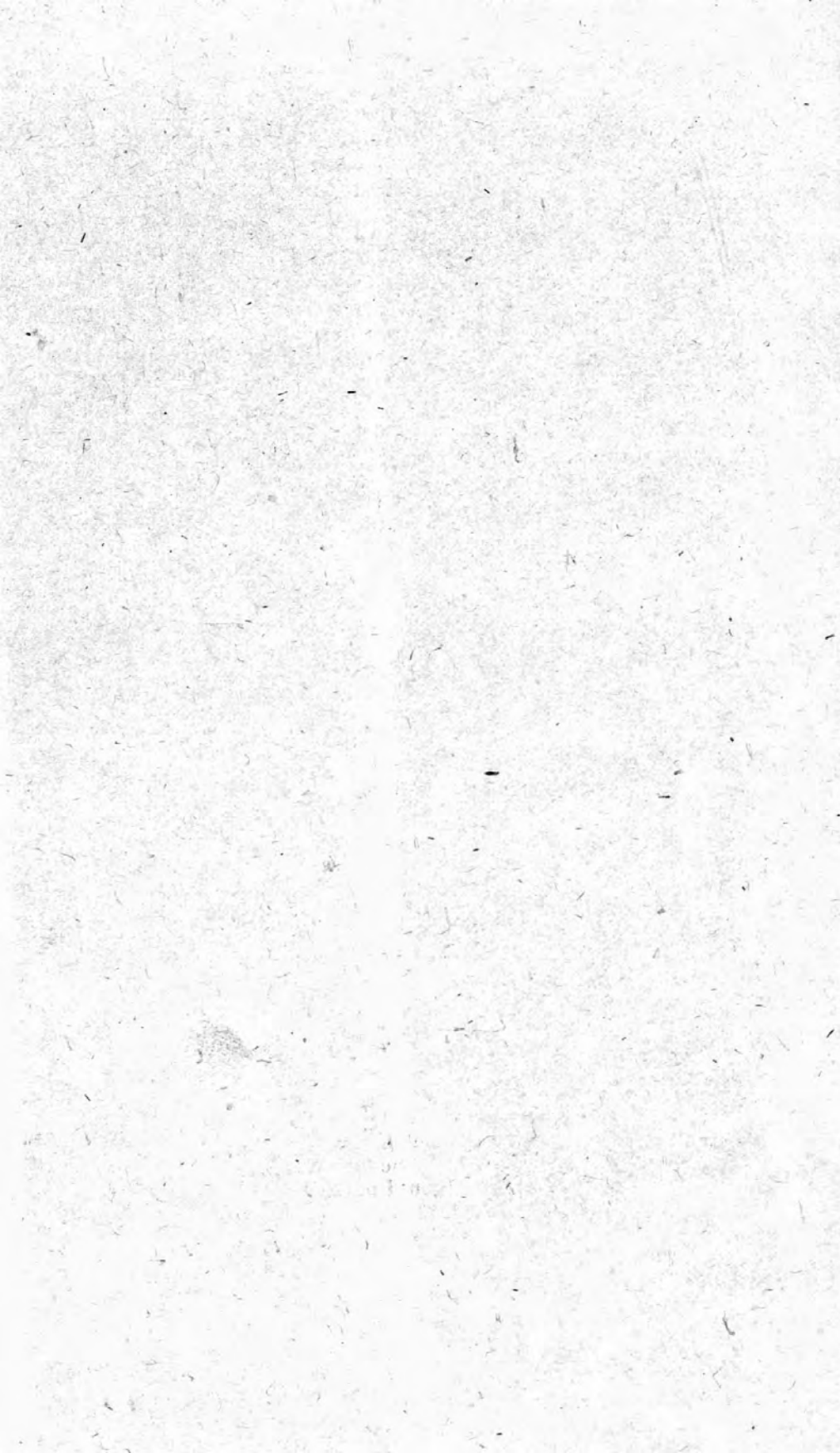
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S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.





**VALUABLE COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS, RARE BOOKS,
PATTERN PIECES, MEDALS, COINS, ETC.,**

AT PUBLIC SALE.

M. THOMAS & SONS, Auctioneers,

139 & 141 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia.

Estate of **JAMES B. LONGACRE, Deceased,**

Late of the United States Mint, Philadelphia.

Valuable Private Library, Rare Works on Art, &c. Fine Oil Paintings and valuable Proof Engravings. Also, a collection of choice Medals, United States silver and copper Pattern Pieces, uncirculated Coins, &c. To be sold by catalogue about the 21st of January, at Thomas & Sons' Auction Rooms. Date of sale in future advertisements. (See Philadelphia Newspapers.)

Catalogues of the above sale will be forwarded to subscribers of Mason's Coin Magazine in time for bids. All orders promptly executed by

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

SCOTT'S AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

The best Album extant.

Cloth, plain edge,	\$5 00
Half Morocco, gilt edge,	6 00
Post free, 25 cents extra.	

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

MASON & CO.'S No. 2 PACKET.

Contains the new issue of Servia, Holland and ten other good uncancelled stamps.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

**PORTRAITS FOR INSERTION IN LALLIER AND SCOTT'S
ALBUMS.**

Set of fifty Portraits (Washington, Lincoln and Grant, together with all the foreign rulers), \$1 00

All letters or orders for coins or stamps must be addressed to

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THE OLD MAID AND OLD BACH.

ORGAN OF THE UNMATED.

A new monthly newspaper, devoted to the discussion of celibacy and matrimony. First number issued, January, 1870. Price, \$1 per annum. Bachelor Brothers, Publishers, box 1893, P. O., Philadelphia. Subscriptions received by

MASON & CO., Agents, No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. FEBRUARY, 1870. No. 2.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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MONTHLY
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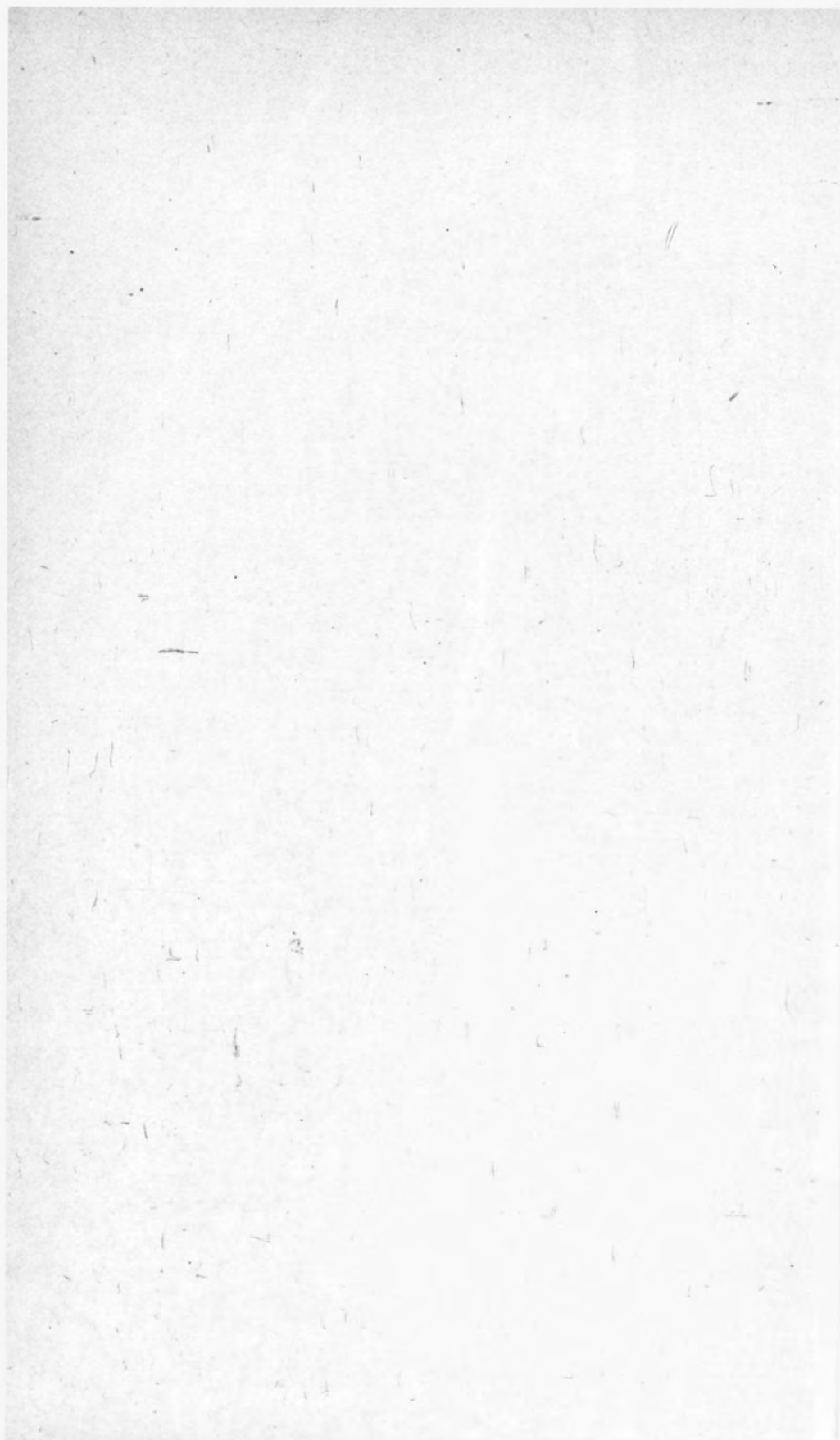
MAGAZINE.

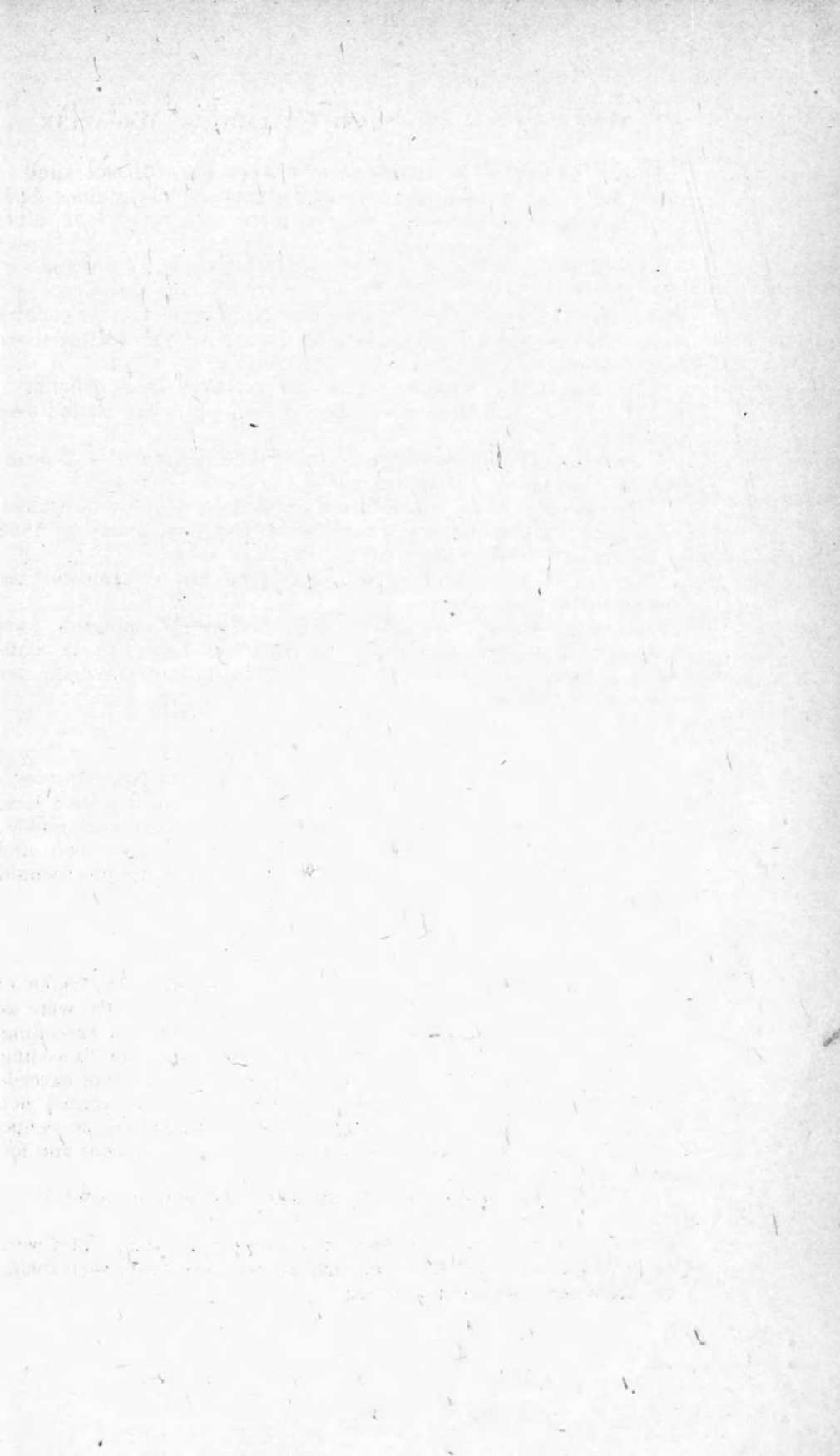
Vol. 4. FEBRUARY, 1870. No. 2.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia.





COINS, PATTERN PIECES, MEDALS, ETC., FOR SALE.

FEBRUARY, 1870.

1791 Washington Cent, fine condition,	\$5 00
1791 Washington Cent, small eagle, fine condition,	8 00
1791 Washington Cent, good condition,	3 50
1798 U. S. Cent (chain), good condition,	4 00
1798 U. S. Cent (wreath), fine condition,	5 00
1799 U. S. Cent, extra good condition,	13 09
1804 U. S. Cent, good condition,	4 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, copper proof,	5 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, nickel proof,	4 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, U. S. A., copper proof,	7 00
1850 Pattern Cent, copper proof,	5 00
1850 Pattern Cent, nickel proof,	5 00
Three Cent Piece, obverse, 3; reverse, III, silver proof,	9 00
1850 Three Cent Piece, liberty cap, silver proof,	3 50
1858 Cent, pure nickel, small eagle, tobacco wreath, proof,	5 00
1858 Cent, small eagle, tobacco wreath, copper proof,	6 00
1856 Cent, large eagle, tobacco wreath, copper proof,	6 00
1863 Ten Cents Postage Currency, composition, proof,	6 50
1863 Ten Cents Postage Currency, variety, proof,	6 50
1866 5 Cents, without rays, nickel proof,	5 00
1866 5 Cents, without rays, copper proof,	10 00
1866 5 Cents, divided date, Dutch 5, nickel proof,	5 00
1866 5 Cents, medium 5, copper proof,	10 00
1866 Bust of Washington, copper proof,	10 00
1866 5 Cents, cents in curved line, nickel proof,	5 00
1866 5 Cents, bust of Washington, short 5, nickel proof,	6 00
1868 5, 3 and 1 Cents, tobacco wreath, nickel proof,	16 00
1868 5, 3 and 1 Cents, laurel wreath, nickel proof,	6 00
1869 5, 3 and 1 Cents, laurel wreath, nickel proof,	6 00
1863 2 Cent Piece, size of old copper cent, copper proof,	14 00
1868 10 Cent Piece, size of old copper cent, nickel proof,	22 00
Immunis Columbia, copper, very fine,	12 00
Meade Medal, bronze proof, size 56, in case,	8 00
Mint Medals 15 per cent below the usual price.	

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

JOSEPH N. T. LEVICK,

No. 54 Wall Street (Care of Box 4314), New York,

Dealer in

**GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,
AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SPECIE.**

COMMERCIAL PAPER NEGOTIATED.

STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

ALSO, CABINETS OF COINS BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

ORDERS PROMPTLY EXECUTED IN PERSON AT COIN SALES FOR TEN PER CENT.

FOR SALE.—A Library of 240 Catalogues of Coin Sales; 187 being bound in uniform size, half calf and half paper sides, with names of owner and date of sale on the back of each; nearly all named and priced; 26 of which are previous to 1860. Some of the catalogues are excessively rare and valuable.

Also, 4000 Union Envelopes, neatly arranged in 4 volumes.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. MARCH, 1870. No. 3.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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1791 Washington Cent, good condition,	3 50
1793 U. S. Cent (chain), good condition,	4 00
1793 U. S. Cent (wreath), fine condition,	5 00
1799 U. S. Cent, extra good condition,	13 00
1804 U. S. Cent, good condition,	4 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, copper proof,	5 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, nickel proof,	4 00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, U. S. A., copper proof,	7 00
1850 Pattern Cent, copper proof,	5 00
1850 Pattern Cent, nickel proof,	5 00
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1850 Three Cent Piece, liberty cap, silver proof,	3 50
1858 Cent, pure nickel, small eagle, tobacco wreath, proof,	5 00
1858 Cent, small eagle, tobacco wreath, copper proof,	6 00
1856 Cent, large eagle, tobacco wreath, copper proof,	6 00
1863 Ten Cents Postage Currency, composition, proof,	6 50
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1866 5 Cents, without rays, nickel proof,	5 00
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1866 5 Cents, medium 5, copper proof,	10 00
1866 Bust of Washington, copper proof,	10 00
1866 5 Cents, cents in curved line, nickel proof,	5 00
1866 5 Cents, bust of Washington, short 5, nickel proof,	6 00
1868 5, 3 and 1 Cents, tobacco wreath, nickel proof,	16 00
1868 5, 3 and 1 Cents, laurel wreath, nickel proof,	6 00
1869 5, 3 and 1 Cents, laurel wreath, nickel proof,	6 00
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MARCH, 1870.

No. 3.

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SCOTT'S AMERICAN ALBUM.

This is undoubtedly the best and cheapest stamp album extant. Brought up to the present time, and with blank pages for future issues.

Bound in cloth, \$5 00
" half morocco, 6 00
Postage, 25 cents extra.

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PORTRAITS FOR SCOTT'S AMERICAN ALBUM.

The set of fifty portraits, post free, \$1 00
MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

UNITED STATES STAMPS.

The issue of 1851 (set of eight), unused, post free, \$1 25
MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

STAMP AND MONOGRAM ALBUM.

A large assortment at prices ranging from \$1 00 to \$6 00. Send stamp for list of publications.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

JUST RECEIVED.

Set of the New South African Republic, 1 penny, 6 penny, 1 shilling, post free, \$1 15
1 penny, red, 15
MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

UNITED STATES STAMPS.

A few of the 1869 issue of United States stamps, unused, for sale at 50 per cent advance on facial value. These stamps will soon be superceded by the new issue, and it would be well for collectors to procure the higher values before the price advances.

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

CHEAP SETS.

Bergedorf, set of five, \$ 50
Saxony, " six, 10
Brunswick, " five, 15
Nicaragua, " two, 35
Servia, " eight, 1869, 1 05

MASON & CO., No. 50 North Tenth Street, Philada.

ALBUMS.

Stamp Albums, from \$1 00 to \$6 00
Monogram Albums, from 50 to \$3 00

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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

APRIL, 1870.

No. 4.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

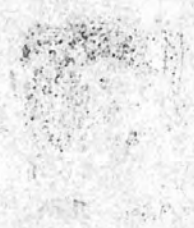
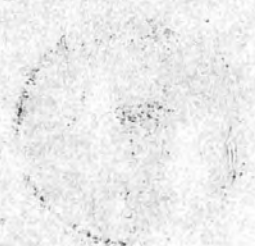
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PHILADELPHIA COIN SALE.

PRIVATE COLLECTION OF GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER
COINS, MEDALS AND A RARE AND VALUABLE
ASSORTMENT OF U. S. PATTERN PIECES,

ON

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 12, 1870.

Commencing at half-past three o'clock,

AT

THOMAS BIRCH & SON'S AUCTION ROOMS,

No. 1110 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

Orders promptly executed by

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

All orders under \$25, 10 per cent. commission, over \$25, 5 per cent.

Priced catalogues, broad margin, tinted paper, \$1.

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A large assortment at prices ranging from \$1 00 to \$6 00. Send stamp for list of publications.

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Set of the New South African Republic, 1 penny, 6 penny, 1 shilling, post free, \$1 50

1 penny, red, 15

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

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A few of the 1869 issue of United States stamps, unused, for sale at 50 per cent advance on facial value. These stamps will soon be superceded by the new issue, and it would be well for collectors to procure the higher values before the price advances.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

CHEAP SETS.

Bergedorf, set of five, \$ 50

Saxony, " six, 10

Brunswick, " five, 15

Nicaragua, " two, 35

Servia, " eight, 1869, 1 05

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Monogram Albums, from 50 to \$3 00

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MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

MAY, 1870.

No. 5.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

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S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.

WASBURY
COIN AND TAMP COLLECTORS
MAY 1911
TAMP AND COIN
COLLECTORS



RECEIVED
MAY 1911
WASBURY
COIN AND TAMP COLLECTORS
MAY 1911
TAMP AND COIN
COLLECTORS

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FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT MEDALS.

These medals for sale in great variety.

Plain, size 20,	\$ 15
Shield, size 20,	25
Eagle, size 20,	25
Slide and ribbon, size 20,	25

Proofs for collectors, not pierced, 25 cents, free of postage. .

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

RESURRECTION PLANTS.

These wonderful plants are dry and in good order for mailing. We box and send them free of postage for 50 cents each. See editorial description, inside pages, in June number.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

FLAGS OF ALL NATIONS.

A large sheet containing the flags of all nations, beautifully printed in all their respective colors, with the names of each country attached, mailed free on receipt of 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

IRISH FLAGS.

A large sheet of the flags of Ireland, their origin and history, printed in colors, mailed for 25 cents, free.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

NEW UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS.

A full set of these stamps selected with care to perfectness of shape and colors, mailed for \$2 25—face value about \$2.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

NEW ISSUE.

The new 50 cent fractional currency, head of Stanton, mailed on receipt of 75 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

PRICE LIST OF COINS.

Our list of coins for sale now ready. Enclose stamp for return postage.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

ALBUMS.

Stamp Albums, from	\$1 00 to \$6 00
Monogram Albums, from	50 to \$3 00

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

JUNE, 1870.

No. 6.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Davis & Co., Printers, No. 22 S. Tenth St.

FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT MEDALS.

These medals for sale in great variety.

Plain, size 20,	\$ 15
Shield, size 20,	25
Eagle, size 20,	25
Slide and ribbon, size 20,	25

Proofs for collectors, not pierced, 25 cents, free of postage.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

RESURRECTION PLANTS.

These wonderful plants are dry and in good order for mailing. We box and send them free of postage for 50 cents each. See editorial description, inside pages, in June number.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

FLAGS OF ALL NATIONS.

A large sheet containing the flags of all nations, beautifully printed in all their respective colors, with the names of each country attached, mailed free on receipt of 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

IRISH FLAGS.

A large sheet of the flags of Ireland, their origin and history, printed in colors, mailed for 25 cents, free.

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NEW UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS.

A full set of these stamps selected with care to perfectness of shape and colors, mailed for \$2 25—face value about \$2.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

NEW ISSUE.

The new 50 cent fractional currency, head of Stanton, mailed on receipt of 75 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

PRICE LIST OF COINS.

Our list of coins for sale now ready. Enclose stamp for return postage.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

ALBUMS.

Stamp Albums, from	\$1 00 to \$6 00
Monogram Albums, from	50 to \$3 00

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

JUNE, 1870.

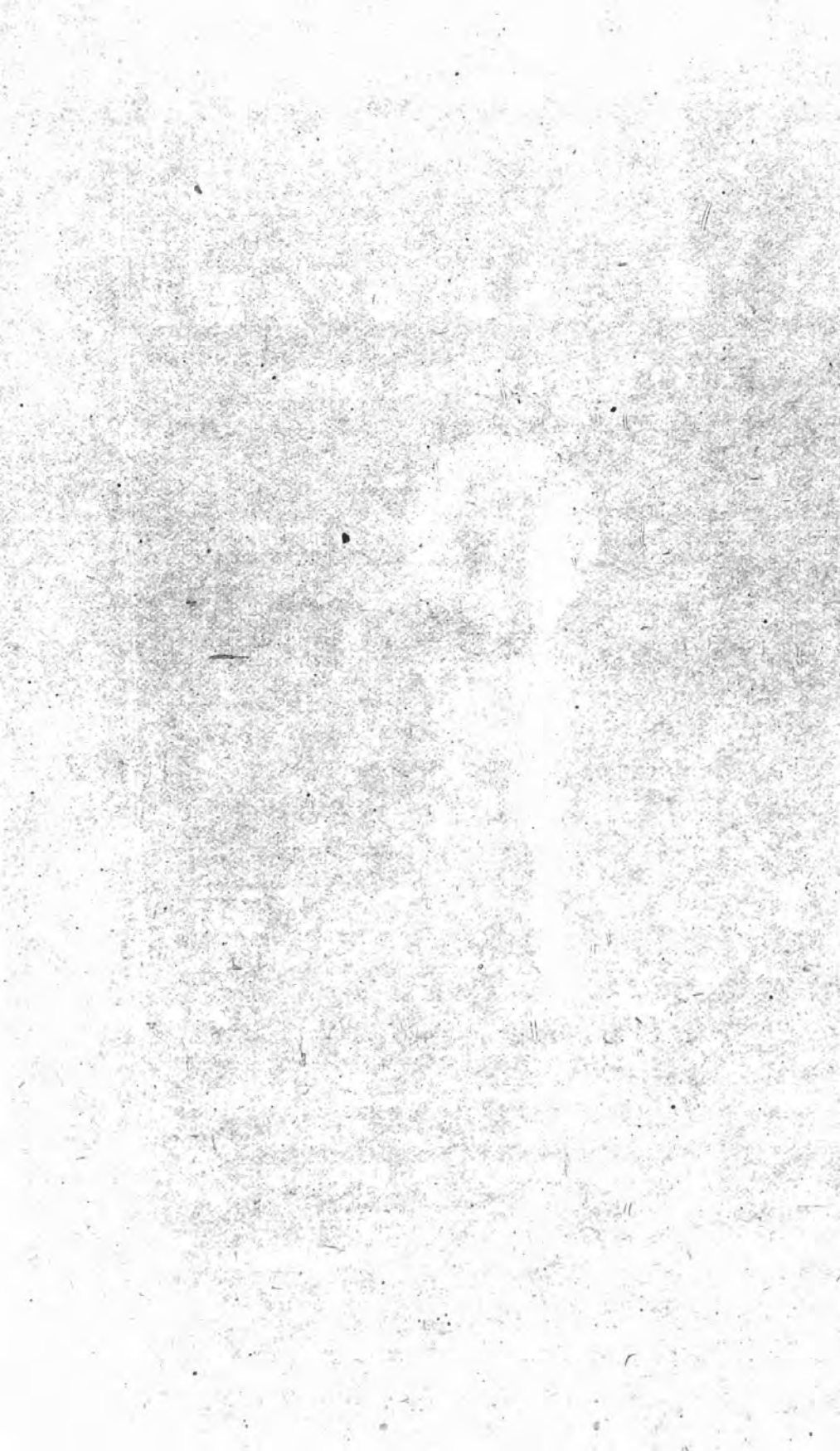
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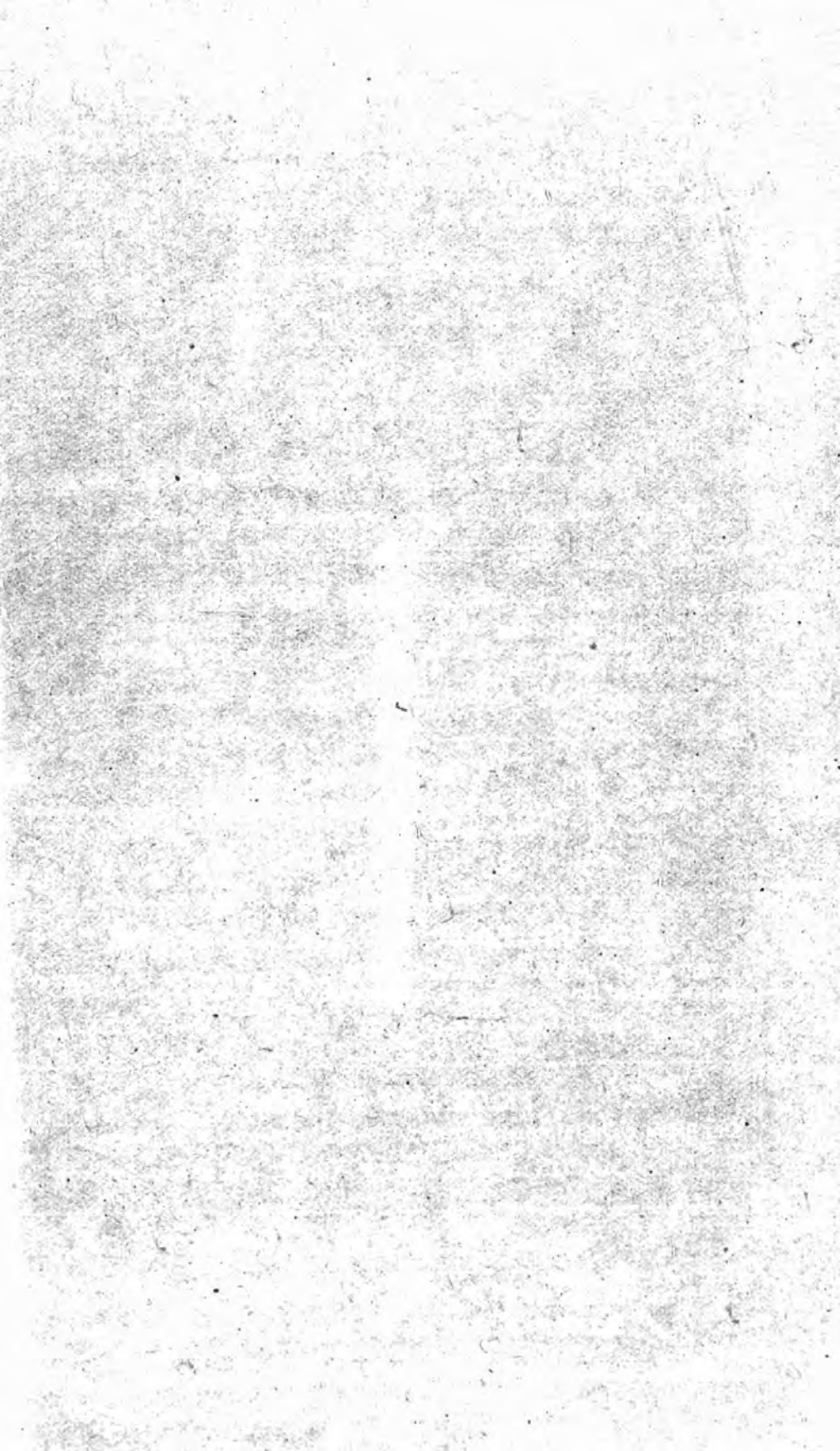
PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.





NEW YORK COIN SALE.

PRIVATE COLLECTION OF GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER
COINS, MEDALS AND A RARE AND VALUABLE
ASSORTMENT OF U. S. PATTERN PIECES,

ON

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 17, 1870,

Commencing at half-past seven o'clock,

AT

LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.'S AUCTION ROOMS,

CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK.

Orders promptly executed by

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

All orders under \$25, 10 per cent. commission ; over \$25, 5 per cent.

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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

JULY, 1870.

No. 7.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.

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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4.

JULY, 1870.

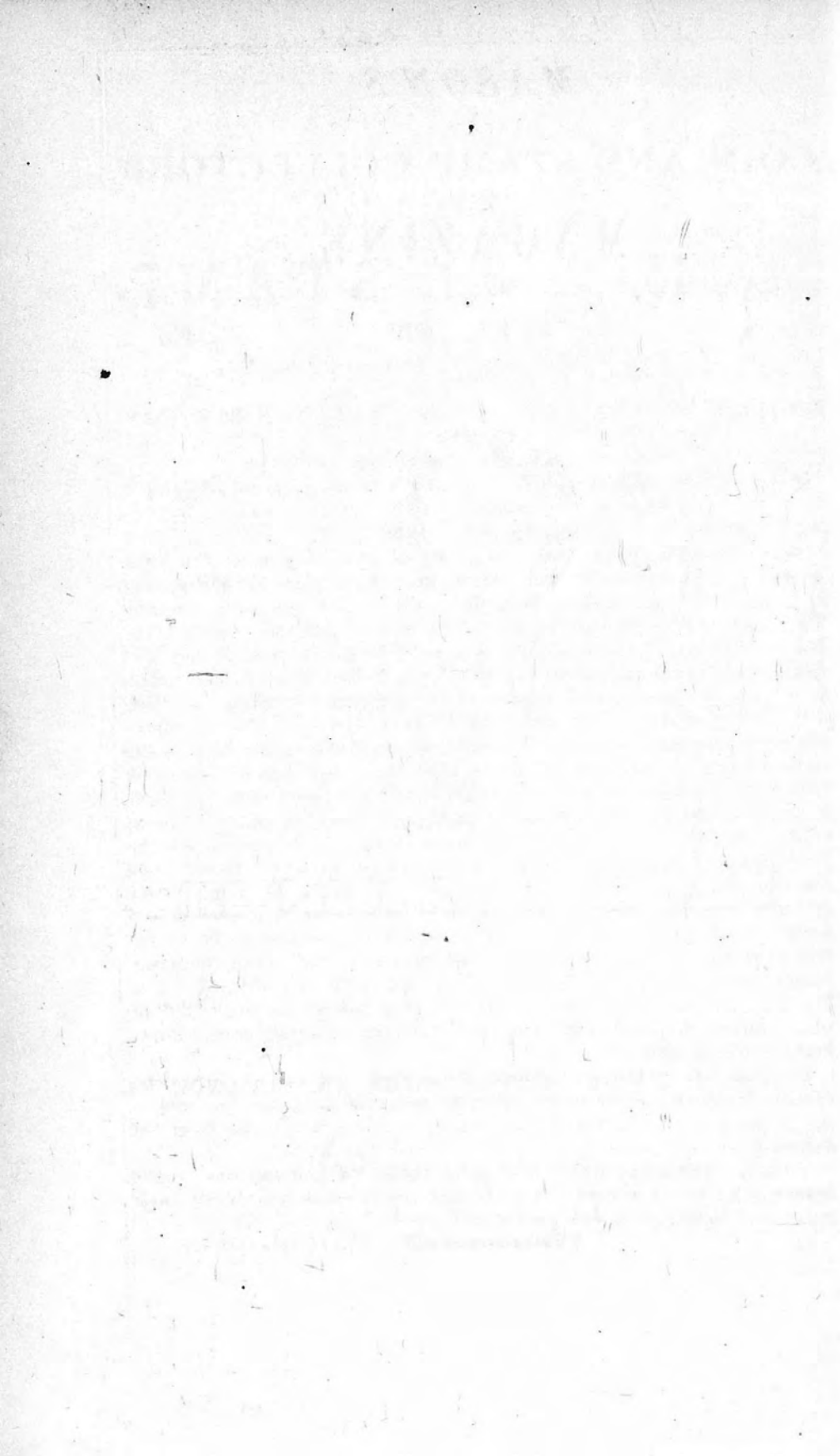
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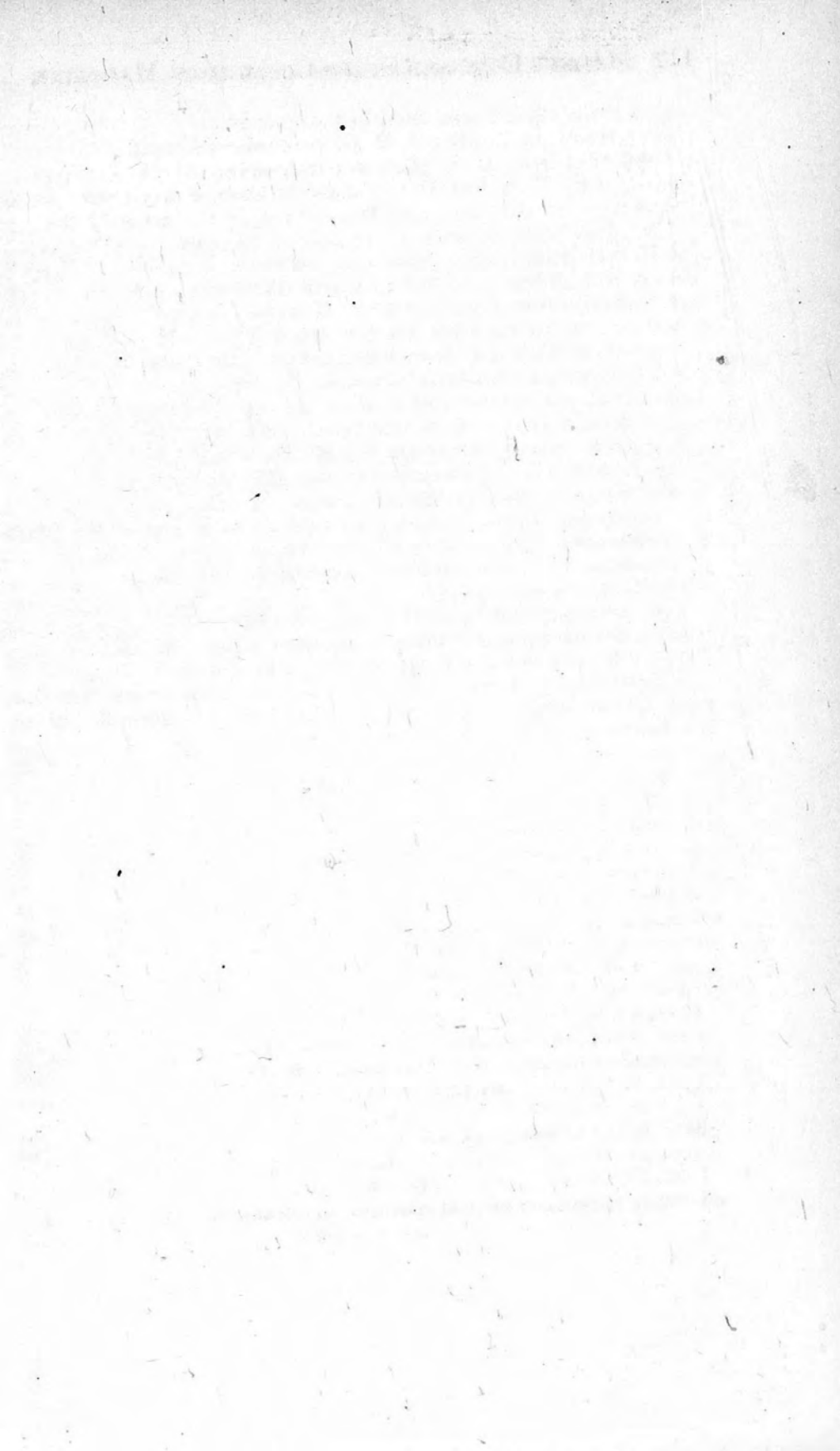
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No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.





COINS FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent, good, \$ 5 00	Vermont Cent, good, \$ 1 00
1798 Wreath " " 3 00	1794 Silver Dollar, good, 50 00
1798 Link " " 4 00	1796 Silver Dime, very good, 6 00
1798 Liberty Cap " " 10 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, v. good, 2 50
1799 & 1804 " poor, 2 00	1795 " " " 1 25
1799 & 1804 " good, 5 00	1796 " Quarter " " 2 00
1809 " " 1 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent, proof, 1 05
Rosa Americana Penny, " 3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12, 12 00
" Half Penny, good, 3 00	1858 " Indian Head, 1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, good, 5 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents, 1 50
" Sixpence, " 4 00	1787 & 1788 " v. fine 2 00
" Threepence, good, 5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each, 25
" Twopence, very good, 6 00	1859 Nickel, 1858 reverse, 1 00
Liberty and Security, 1795, " 3 50	1859 " 1860 " 1 00
" large, " 2 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, v. fine, each, 50
Louisiana Cent, R. F., " 1 00	1840 to 1849 " " " 1 00
" 1722, " 2 00	1830 to 1839 " " " 1 50
" 1721, " 3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " 2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " 1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " 3 00
" very fine, 3 50	1817, 1818 & 1819, uncir., " 1 00
N. Y. (Nova Eborac), good, 1 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.

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UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS. 1869 AND 1870.

A full set of these stamps selected with care to perfectness of shape and colors, mailed for \$2 25—face value about \$2.

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PRICE LIST OF COINS.

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ALBUMS.

Stamp Albums, from \$1 00 to \$6 00
 Monogram Albums, from 50 to \$3 00

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. AUGUST, 1870. No. 8.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Davis & Co., Printers, No. 21 S. Tenth St.

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1791 Washington Cent. good, \$ 5 00	Vermont Cent, good, \$ 1 00
1793 Wreath " " 3 00	1794 Silver Dollar, good, 50 00
1793 Link " " 4 00	1796 Silver Dime, very good, 6 00
1793 Liberty Cap " " 10 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, v. good, 2 50
1799 & 1804 " poor. 2 00	1795 " " " 1 25
1799 & 1804 " good, 5 00	1796 " Quarter " " 2 00
1809 " " 1 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent, proof, 1 05
Rosa Americana Penny, " 3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12, 12 00
" Half Penny, good, 3 00	1858 " Indian Head, 1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, good, 5 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents, 1 50
" Sixpence, " 4 00	1787 & 1788 " v. fine 2 00
" Threepence, good, 5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each, 25
" Twopence, very good, 6 00	1859 Nickel, 1858 reverse, 1 00
Liberty and Security, 1795, " 3 50	1859 " 1860 " 1 00
" large, " 2 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, v. fine, each, 50
Louisiana Cent, R. F., " 1 00	1840 to 1849 " " " 1 00
" 1722, " 2 00	1830 to 1839 " " " 1 50
" 1721, " 3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " 2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " 1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " 3 00
" very fine, 3 50	1817, 1818 & 1819, uncir., " 1 00
N. Y. (Nova Eborac), good, 1 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.

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MASON'S
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MAGAZINE.

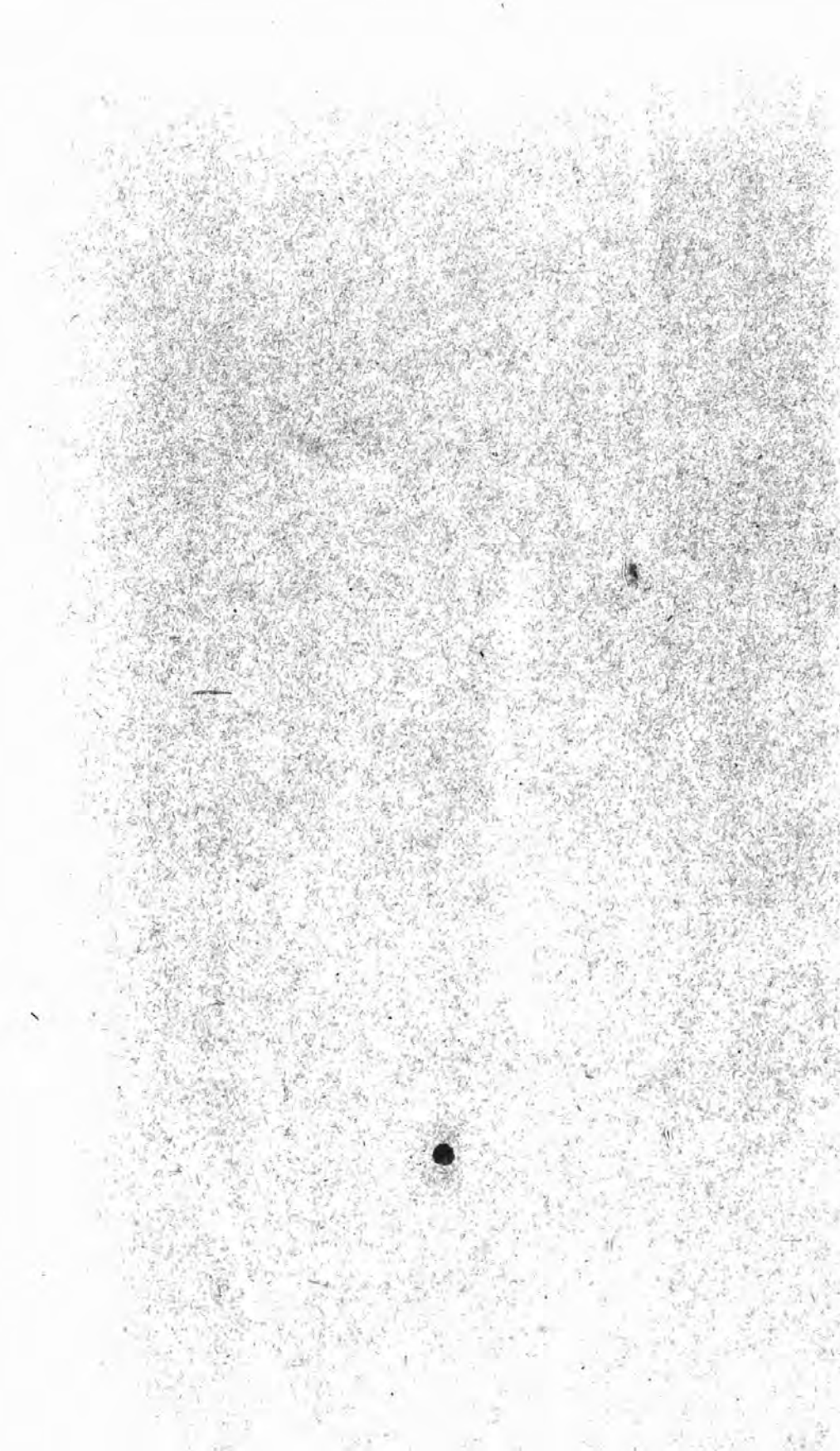
Vol. 4. AUGUST, 1870. No. 8.

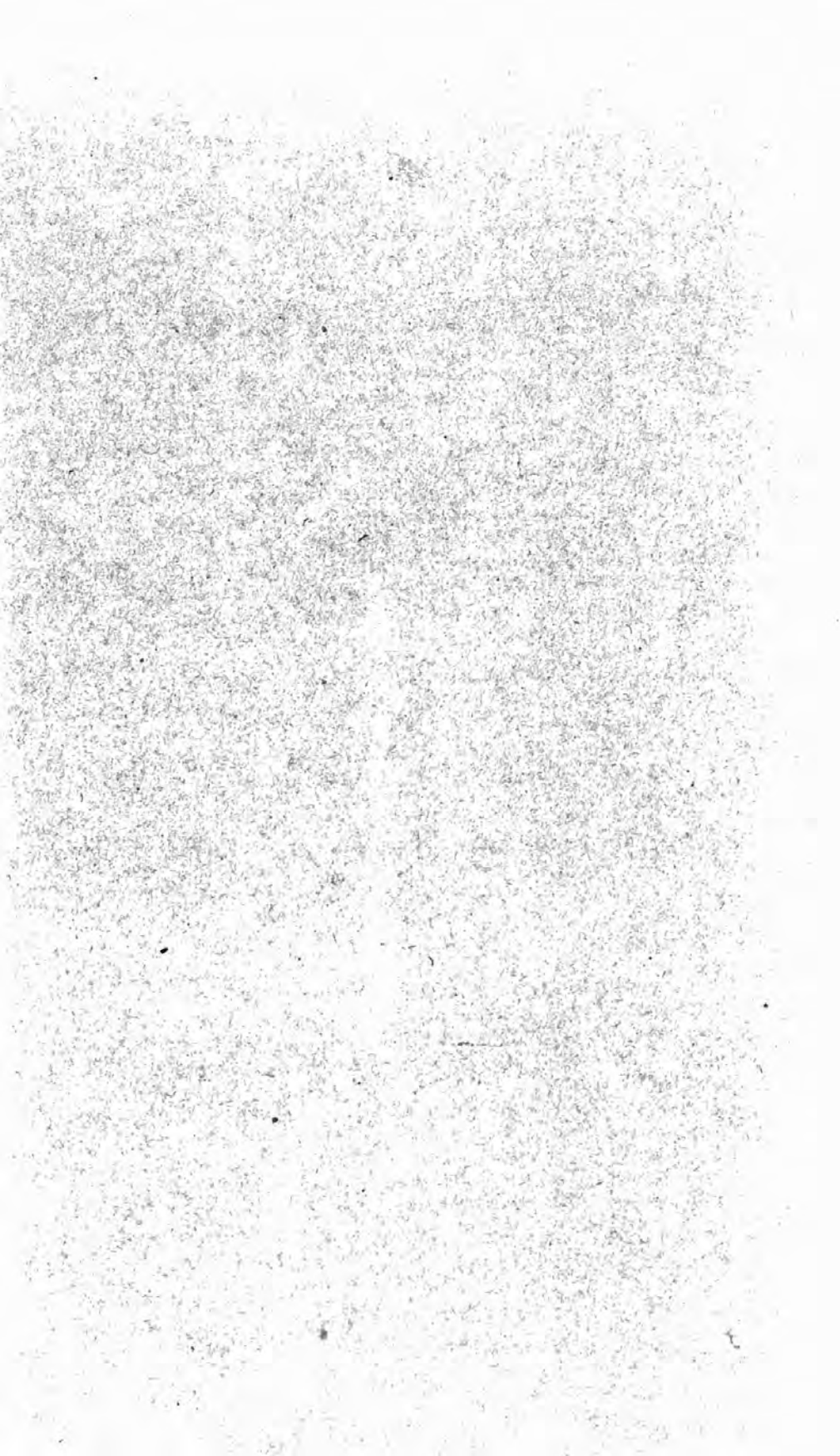
PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.

S. A. Bavis & Co., Printers, No. 23 S. Tenth St.





LARGE COIN SALE.

THE CELEBRATED FEWSMITH CABINET OF
COINS, MEDALS, ETC.,

CONTAINING NEARLY 3000 LOTS, OR ABOUT 5000 PIECES,
INCLUDING MANY RARE AND VALUABLE SPECIMENS, WILL BE OFFERED AT
PUBLIC SALE, BY CATALOGUE, AT THE ROOMS OF //
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,
ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 4, 1870, AT 5½ O'CLOCK,
TO CONTINUE FOUR DAYS.

Orders promptly executed by Henry Cook, No. 74 Friend Street, Boston ;
Edward Cogan, No. 95 William Street, New York ; A. C. Kline and Mason
& Co., Philadelphia ; and by the Auctioneers.
Catalogues ready about August 15.

MASON & CO.'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

AT THE AUCTION ROOMS OF
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,
SEPTEMBER 1, 1870.

This sale, by catalogues, will embrace many very rare foreign stamps,
used and unused ; also, lots (assorted) for dealers' uses.

Purchases made at the sale for bidders, by the Auctioneers and J. W.
Scott & Co., 34 Liberty Street, New York ; A. C. Kline, L. W. Durbin and
Mason & Co., Philadelphia.

COINS FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent, good, \$	5 00	Vermont Cent, good,	\$	1 00
1793 Wreath " "	3 00	1794 Silver Dollar, good,		50 00
1793 Link " "	4 00	1796 Silver Dime, very good,		6 00
1793 Liberty Cap " "	10 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, v. good,		2 50
1799 & 1804 " poor,	2 00	1795 " " " "		1 25
1799 & 1804 " good,	5 00	1796 " Quarter " " "		2 00
1809 " " "	1 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent, proof,		1 05
Rosa Americana Penny, " "	3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12,		12 00
" Half Penny, good,	3 00	1858 " Indian Head,		1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, good,	5 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents,		1 50
" Sixpence, " "	4 00	1787 & 1788 " " v. fine,		2 00
" Threepence, good,	5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each,		25
" Twopence, very good,	6 00	1859 Nickel, 1858 reverse,		1 00
Liberty and Security, 1795, " "	3 50	1859 " " 1860 " "		1 00
" large, " "	2 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, v. fine, each,		50
Louisiana Cent, R. F., " "	1 00	1840 to 1849 " " " "		1 00
" 1722, " "	2 00	1830 to 1839 " " " "		1 50
" 1721, " "	3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " "		2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " "	1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " "		3 00
" very fine,	3 50	1817, 1818 & 1819, uncir.,		1 00
N. Y. (Nova Eborac), good,	1 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.		

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
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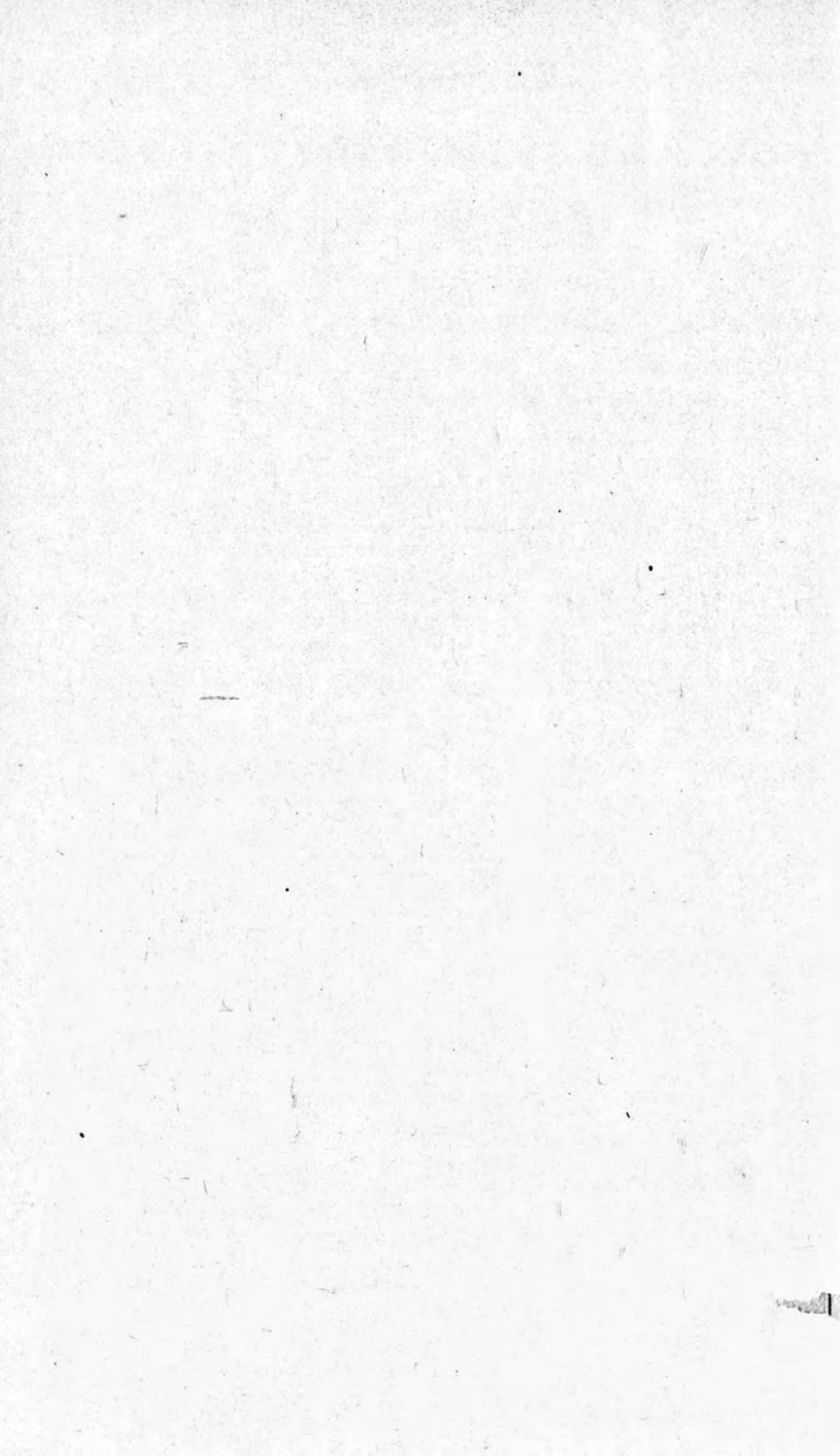
MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. SEPTEMBER, 1870. No. 9.

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BY MASON & CO.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia.





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MASON & CO.'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

AT THE AUCTION ROOMS OF
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,
SEPTEMBER 8, 1870.

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1799 & 1804 " poor, 2 00	1795 " " " 1 25
1799 & 1804 " good, 5 00	1796 " Quarter " " 2 00
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" Threepence, good, 5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each, 25
" Twopence, very good, 6 00	1859 Nickel, 1858 reverse, 1 00
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Louisiana Cent, R. F., " 1 00	1840 to 1849 " " " 1 00
" 1792, " 2 00	1830 to 1839 " " " 1 50
" 1721, " 3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " 2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " 1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " 3 00
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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. OCTOBER, 1870. No. 10.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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1809 " " 1 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent, proof, 1 05
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Pine Tree Shilling, good, 5 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents, 1 50
" Sixpence, " 4 00	1787 & 1788 " v. fine 2 00
" Threepence, good, 5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each, 25
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" " 1721, " 3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " 2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " 1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " 3 00
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N. Y. (Nova Eborac), good, 1 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

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MONTHLY
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COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

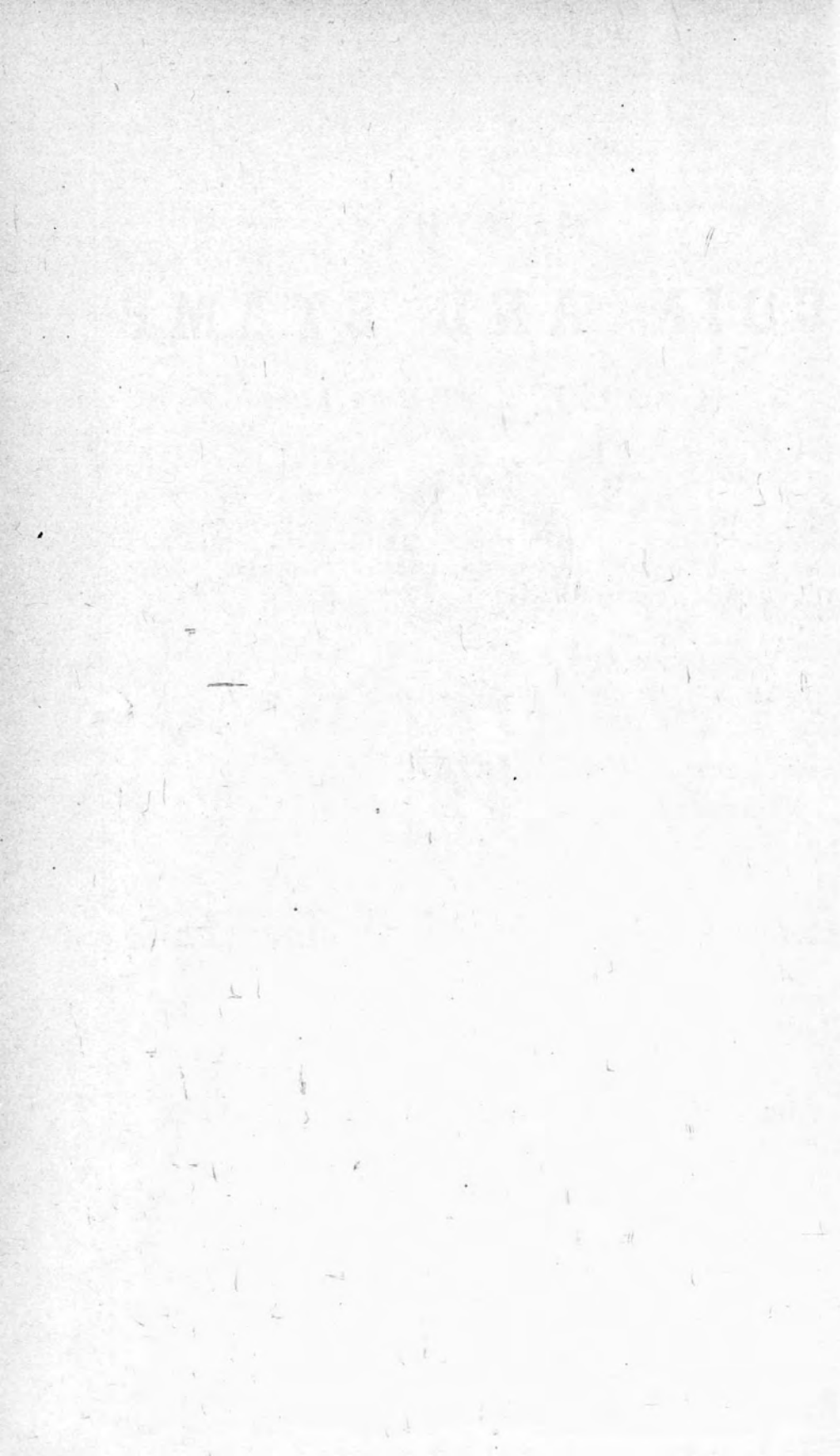
Vol. 4. OCTOBER, 1870. No. 10.

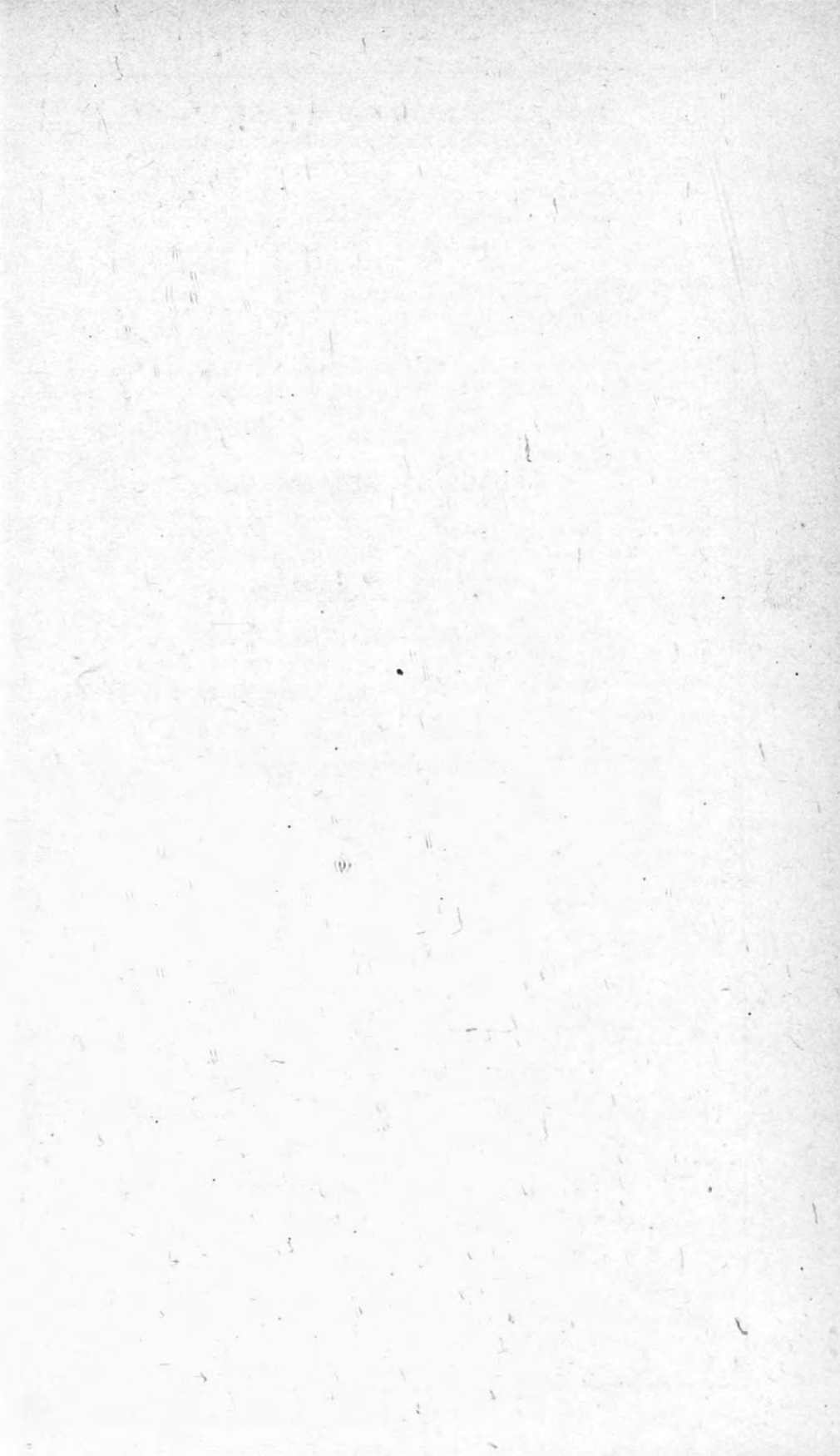
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Edward Cogan, No. 95 William Street, New York ; A. C. Kline and Mason
& Co., Philadelphia ; and by the Auctioneers.

FLAGS OF ALL NATIONS.

Large chart, containing flags of all nations, with description of countries,
population, rulers, etc., colored, 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

FLAGS OF IRELAND.

Historical view of Ireland's flags, in colors, 15 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MAPS OF THE WAR.

Bird's eye view of the seat of war in Europe, colored, 25 cents.

Plan of Paris and its surroundings, colored, 15 cents.

“ “ “ plain, 10 cents.

European war map, colored, 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

LITHOGRAPHS.

King William, of Prussia, *large*, 50 cents.

Prussian Generals, *large*, each 25 cents.

Photographic carte de visites of King William, of Prussia, and his
Generals, from life, 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

FOREIGN COINS.

Fine lot of coins of all nations, large and small, all different, \$5 per hun-
dred.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

Monthly Coin Price Current, ready October 15, containing a list of
coins on sale, with price of each.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

MASON'S
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MAGAZINE.

Vol. 4. NOVEMBER, 1870. No. 11.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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TO CONTINUE FOUR DAYS.

Orders promptly executed by Henry Cook, No. 74 Friend Street, Boston ;
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Large chart, containing flags of all nations, with description of countries,
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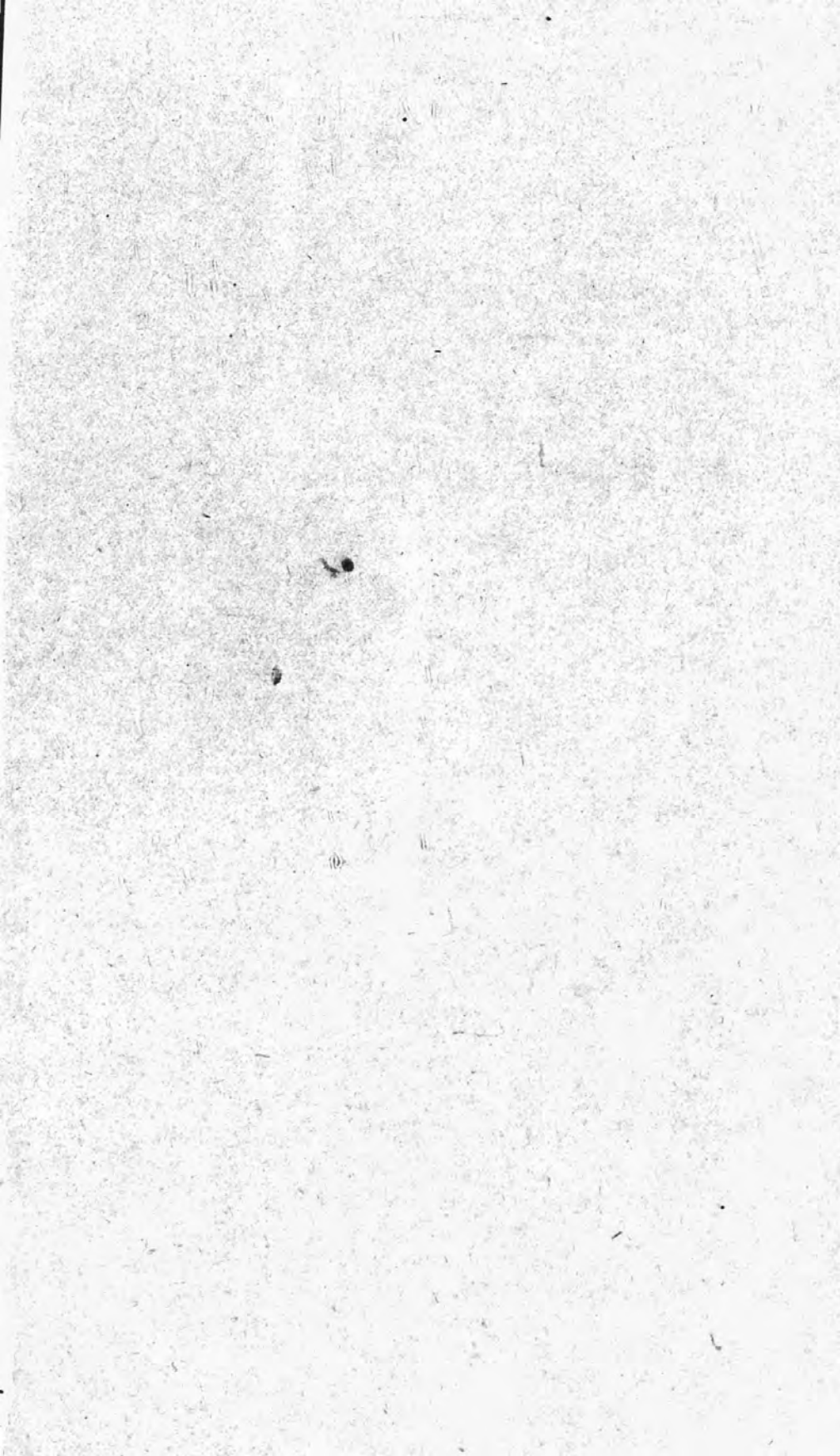
Vol. 4. NOVEMBER, 1870. No. 11.

PUBLISHED AT \$1.50 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE,

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Gold Dollar, octagon,	\$1 75.
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Gold Half Dollar, round,	1 00.
Gold Quarter Dollar, round,	50.

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100 Selected Coins, in fine condition,	5 00.

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UNITED STATES PROOF SETS.

Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1859,	\$5 50.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1860,	5 50.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1861 to 1869, each,	5 00.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1870,	4 50.

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Owing to the scarcity of the catalogues of the New York sale of October 4, 5, 6 and 7, our terms are as follows:

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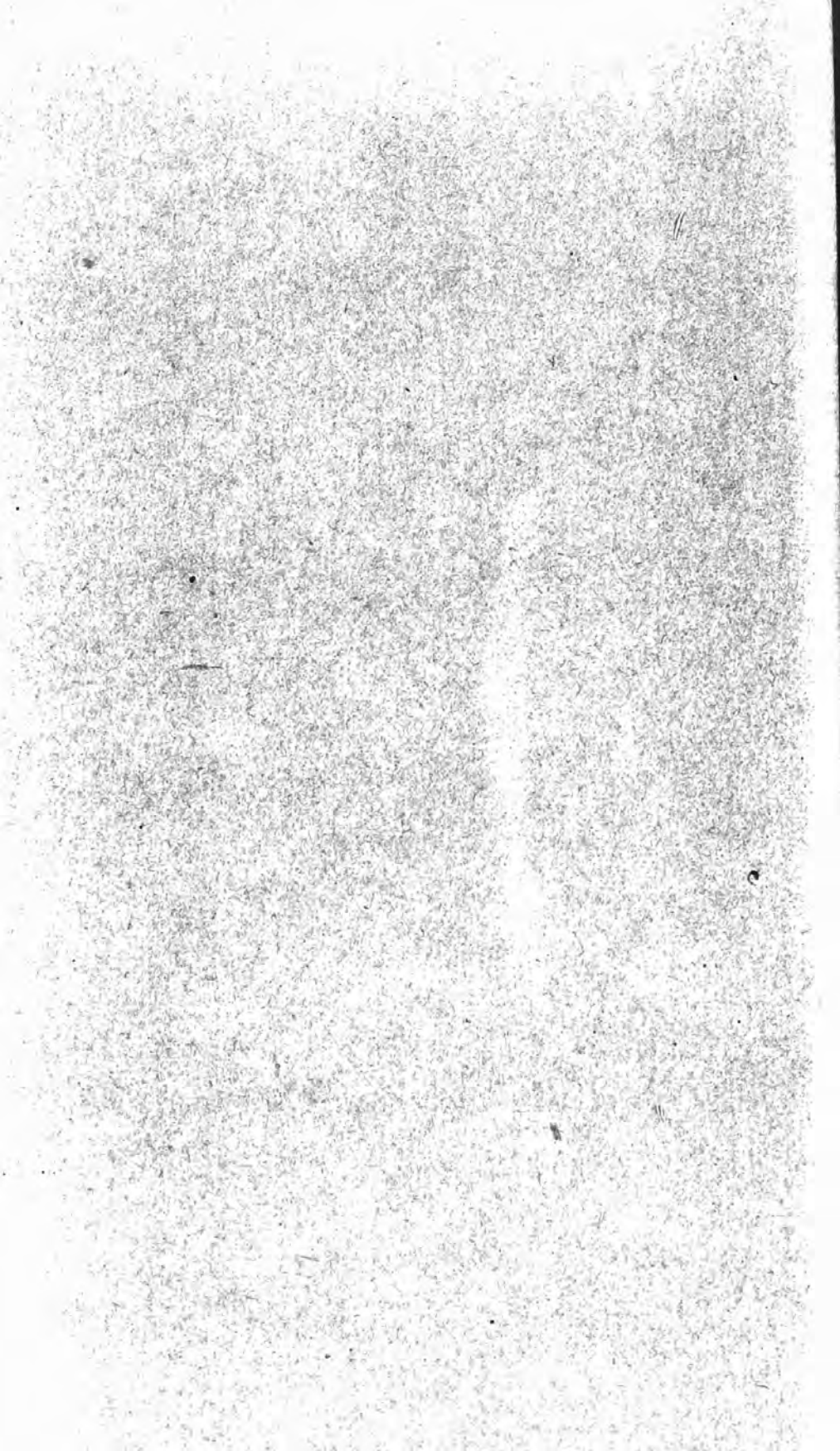
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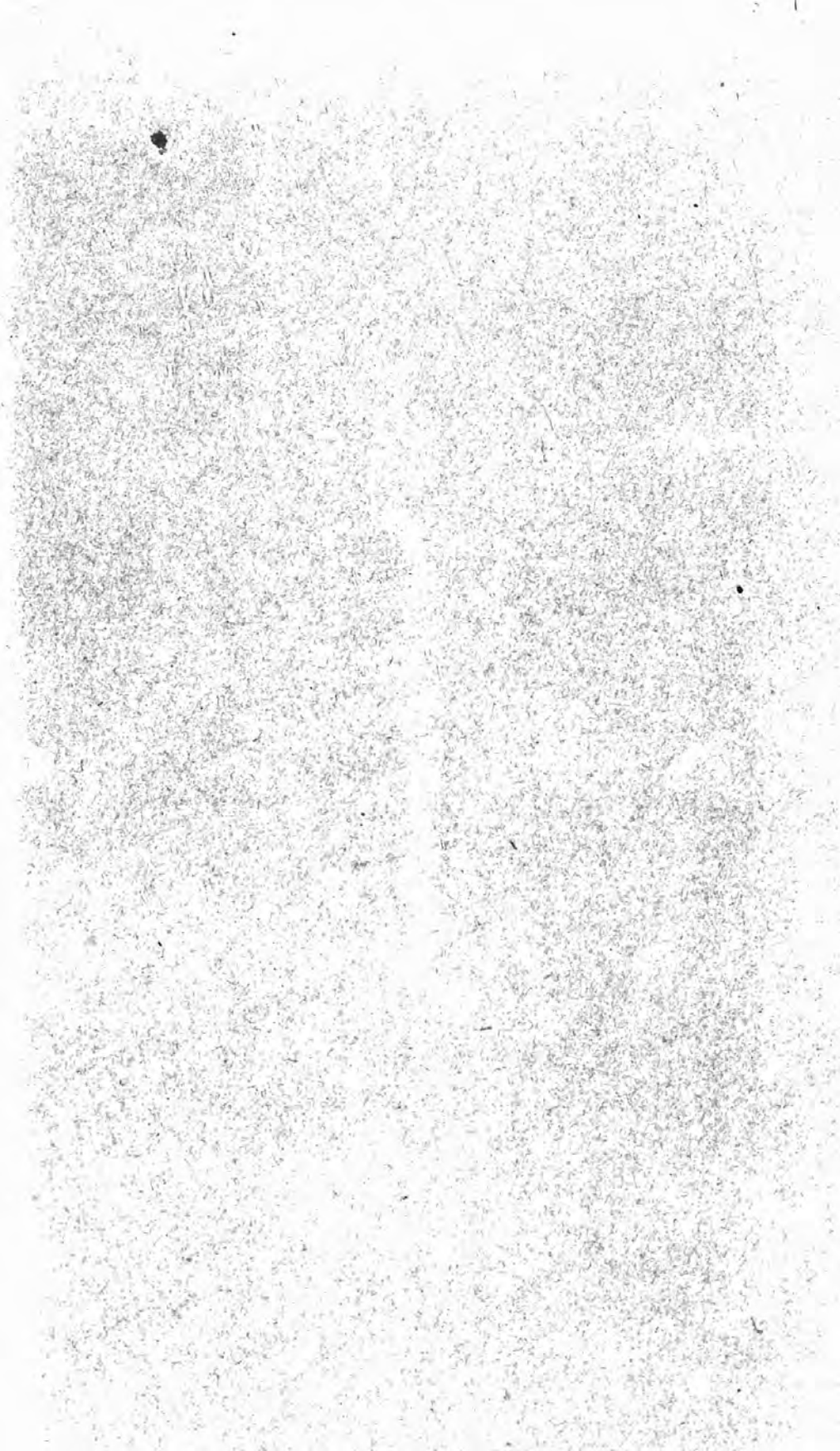
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SALE OF PAPER MONEY, COINS, ETC.,

AT

LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.'S ROOMS,

CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,

ON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1870,

AT 5 O'CLOCK P. M.

WILLIAM IDLER'S PRIVATE COLLECTION

OF

COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

ALSO,

A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF

COINS, MEDALS, INDIAN RELICS, AUTOGRAPHS, ETC.

Orders executed by Edward Cogan, 95 William Street, and Charles F. De Burns, 127 Mercer Street, New York; A. C. Kline and Mason & Co., Philadelphia, and by the Auctioneers.

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