

PROPOSED BUILDING FOR THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Crawford 2013

The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

A current rumor has it that we are to have new designs made for our own coins, and that the gold coinage, the least useful, will be the first to be redesigned. While the present coinage may be mechanically and commercially perfect, it falls below the English and French types in point of artistic merit. In fact, it barely excels the work on coins of Kamehameha, king of Hawaii, while it is vastly inferior to the coinage of Menelik, Negus of Abyssinia.

The Philadelphia mint will, at an early date, begin the coinage of 400,000 ten peso gold coins for the Mexican government. These, with several orders from other South American countries, executed in the past, attest the good reputation of the mechanical work at the mint.

Advanced copies, for limited distribution, of the report of the director of the Philadelphia mint are now out. The report maintains the high standard set in previous reports by Director Roberts. A new feature is the report on the numismatic collection in the mint cabinet. This is the first report making direct reference to the mint collection and takes the form of a condensed monograph on the "utility of a cabinet of coins."

The new Denver mint will be put in operation in a very few months, turning out coins bearing the D mint-mark. Collectors, do not get your Dahlongas mixed with the Denverites.

Extensive additions have just been made to the Polish and Russian series in the Philadelphia mint cabinet. The new accessions render the two series almost continuous throughout, but not complete in each reign. The Polish collection now includes one of the rare thalers of John Casimir. The completion of the very instructive Russian series was desirable. A small beginning has also been made toward a collection of coins of the fourth Crusade.

That Numismatics is not a dead issue in America is evidenced by the activity at present among the different societies here and in Canada. The New York Society, thanks to Mr. Huntington and several other generous persons, is to have a \$47,000 home—the finest of its kind in the world—and over 1,500 specimens have been donated to its cabinets in the last year. The American Numismatic Association is very much alive, and equally so is the new Chicago Society. The latest addition to the collecting ranks is the Columbus Numismatic Society, with R. T. King as president, H. E. Buck vice-president, A. B. Coover curator and librarian, and Dr. J. M. Henderson secretary and treasurer. Good for Ohio! We can see how this youngster may attain a healthy growth. Ohio is a hotbed of collectors. We hear of a flourishing Society in Montreal, and news of these collecting bodies will be printed in the MONTHLY.

The American Numismatic and Archæological Society of New York held its annual meeting on the evening of January 15th, last, with a large attendance. Archer M. Huntington and most of the officers of last year were re-elected. The Society is in prosperous condition, with many recent acquisitions to its cabinets, the most important being



gifts from Daniel Parrish, Jr., and Charles Gregory. Huntington has donated two fine pieces of property for a building site. The Society is fortunate in having such a generous and progressive man as Mr. Huntington for its president.

Any of our readers who fear that the MONTHLY may share the untimely fate of most of its predecessors and are reluctant about sending in their subscriptions on this account, may become subscribers, deferring payment until the end of the present year.

Many good things are in store for our readers. Historical, mineralogical and other good articles, as well as much news of the different Societies, has been crowded out of this issue through lack of space. Professor Moorehead promises a fine illustrated article in the near future. We hope to enlarge the MONTHLY in a short time.

Read our advertisements. Our advertisers are reliable and will do just as they say. A strict censorship will be observed, and all questionable classes of advertising and all doubtful individuals will be debarred.

Popular Fallacies About Coins.

Whether the matter be directly chargeable to the newspapers or not, the writer has seldom read a press report bearing on the subject of coins which has not been more or less erroneous. A recent long article dated Washington, D. C., informs us that a "twenty-cent piece of 1877 or 1878, bearing the mint-mark C. C. commands a premium of from \$10 to \$15." Have any of our readers noted such mint-marks in their collections of twenty-cent pieces? "The dime of 1894, made in San Francisco," the article continues, "with the letter S, is worth from \$5 to \$10." \$50 to \$100 would be nearer the mark. This article gives as the reason for the record price of "\$5.50" realized for the 1904 Philadelphia mint dollar the fact that "all 1904 dollars were struck in proof sets," whereas there were millions coined in 1904 which were not in proof sets. The editor appreciates the compliment of the Associated Press in doubling the net receipts when reporting his September sale.

Recently a jovial reporter set the public at straining its eyesight by an article offering a prize to the first person who could find mint

marks or letters on a United States silver coin spelling the word "South." Many thousands of excellent spellers are still sputtering away with large prospects of "getting South"—by train only.

We must go slow in criticizing the newsmakers, however, as they probably mean well and in the long run do no harm to the science of Numismatics.

There is no American coin about which there is so much popular delusion as the "centless" V nickel of 1883. The writer, although at the time on the sunny side of ten, has a distinct recollection of talk about this coin during the year it was issued. It is absurd that it should take the population of our country nearly twenty-five years to get over such a delusion. The poor coin dealers hate to think of the annoyance in prospect for them in the next twenty-five years on account of the Columbus half dollar bugaboo. One of the smoothest bunco games ever palmed off on the people was the issuing by Uncle Sam of the Columbus half dollars at a dollar apiece. Even Abe Lincoln was wise in admitting that "All the people might be fooled a part of the time," and fooled they were into buying over 5,000,000 of these coins at \$1 each. Collectors regard Louisiana Purchase Exposition gold dollars at \$3 each an imposition, and even a Lewis and Clark Exposition gold dollar of 1904 at \$2 is unreasonable. A profit of fifty per cent. would be none too small, and had these dollars been issued at \$1.50, the sales would have at least tripled the number sold at \$2. And as to the quarters and half dollars of 1853, with arrows at date and rays on the reverse, the public bring them into the shops of the coin dealers by the hatful. These poor, deluded people have not their sense of the ridiculous bump developed to any extent, in their failure to realize that so great rarities as the arrowless and rayless quarters and half dollars of 1853 could not be picked up by the pocketful.

The interest of the public at large in coins centers in the prospect of their getting something for nothing, and only dealers with premium books to sell welcome such curiosity and inquiry. It is by no means complimentary to Numismatics.

Coins Which are "Good Property."

People who are guessing as to what particular classes of coins will enhance in value in the near future, may depend upon it that ancient Greek silver and copper, United States cents and half cents, dated prior

to 1857, American silver dollars, excepting the common dates of standard dollars and private gold, if in choice condition, are good property.

The writer remembers that less than five years ago he paid in London \$2.50 for a Syracuse tetradrachm of splendid workmanship, a like specimen of which now costs from \$5 to \$8—an advance in price of at least one hundred per cent. Many other of the Greek pieces have taken similar jumps forward in price. In America collectors may look for an immediate advance in silver dollars, especially in proofs. Although several million silver dollars were coined in 1904, there will be a general scramble by the public for a dollar of this date when it becomes generally known that the year 1904 marks the discontinuance of this coinage. Proof dollars of 1904 have already reached auction records of over \$4.50 apiece.

Choice cents and half cents will appreciate in value, because almost every old garret and cellar the country over has been ferreted for old coins and postage stamps, and the prizes are practically all in the hands of collectors and dealers.

A Comment on the Coins of the United States.

By CHARLES J. CONNICK.

On coins are stamped brief, accurate indexes to the vital qualities of nations; often they are artistic achievements as well: always their distinguishing features are most significant.

There have been many valuable papers written to attest the artistic and historic worth of ancient coins. It is a subject to enlist the enthusiasm of all who love things of character and beauty.

W. J. Stillman, the eminent connoisseur, once closed a sympathetic and discerning essay on Greek coins with these words:

“It will remain probably a dream that in our new republic, where in some respects the conditions of political existence so resemble those of old Greece, we shall employ our coinage as the Greeks did; though if we can not rival Kimon and Evainlos, we might at least from afar and, at our best, emulate Greek beauty. As it is even the coins of the least Central American States are examples to us; for, of all civilized nations, our mint mothers the most barbarous products.” Truly a humiliating conclusion!

And yet as a nation our interest in æsthetics is growing appreciably.

6 A Comment on the Coins of the U. S.

Not all of our millionaires need to be guarded by a competent critic when roaming at large in search of pictures and objects of beauty for private collections. Our art galleries are frequented by intelligent people; our young men and women are studying painting and architecture and sculpture with gratifying results. From among our own ranks have come some of the mighty ones in the world of modern art; and yet it needs but a casual inspection of present day coins to convince us that Mr. Stillman's last statement is but too true.

We know that the shallowness and stupidity expressed in coins can not be lightly set aside as having no real importance. To one who would know the truth about a man or a nation the slightest and most casual expression be it ever so gross and stupid, is significant certainly; and the symbols a nation chooses to distinguish her coins may at once be assumed to be accurately expressive in every slightest feature.

So very much may be said—so very much has been persistently emphasized throughout the centuries by the coins of empires and republics and dependencies, that the most complaisant philistine can not but understand and appreciate the enthusiasm of the collector who gathers and treasures them. They tell of great achievements, they commemorate acts of patriotism, they suggest lofty national ideals, deep and true æsthetic impulses; they reach the placid heights, some of them, of a pure expression of beauty so comprehensive and so convincing as to declare as do the loftiest works of art, always, whatever their medium, that beauty, like goodness and truth, is immortal—that the three are a great eternal unity.

And so we turn to these coins of ours frankly to question them. What mean the distinguishing features thus given so prominent and so significant a national setting?

What means this vulgar and mean profile, with its coarse and badly-drawn features, that graces the obverse of our silver coins? Why this brutal nose and crude, flabby mouth, whose lines are those of cruelty and discontent? Why this low forehead and small, flat skull, which are so eloquent of the entire absence of brains? Why is this grotesque and ugly thing tolerated as the symbol of what is sublime and beautiful, and of great power in this country, where beauty and truth and goodness are so often given real consideration; where character, when all is said, is finally appreciated and extolled?

When we remember our many national weaknesses, and note them one by one, we may be saddened for the moment, but we are undismayed;

for we are a nation of hopeful optimists. We love pure light and free air, we reverence noble manhood's sanity and vigor, and true womanhood's lofty intelligence and beauty of character. All this is reflected more and more in our expressions in literature and art. Tho' we build paper mache arches, and strange and flimsy theaters and churches, we also erect Lincoln statues and Shaw monuments and Boston public libraries. Tho' we indulge in "hysterical" novels and in tawdry "pretty" things, we have always with us, producing an ever-widening circle of influence, many of the immortal achievements in literature and art.

And yet, staring at us persistently, early and late, intruding its sordid ugliness upon the poorest of us everywhere, is this reminder, not of our real achievements, our vital characteristics, our lofty ideals, but rather the symbol of our puerility, our grossness, our brutality, our low, crude æsthetic standards.

It would afford a grateful relief to any honest observer to note some redeeming features in the design, obverse or reverse, of some of our coins. The quest is hopeless. The eagle on the reverse of the silver coins—a whimsical, childish imitation of the forceful, characteristic conventionalized eagle of Germany—reminds one of the creation of a skillful pastry cook. On the five-cent piece the head lacks some of the brutality of the one on the silver coins, but that is only because it is more weak and silly.

However, for sheer inanity, the meaningless profile on the obverse of our one-cent piece is supreme. Not a line nor a modeled feature of it could possibly be construed as characteristic of the American Indian, yet it is confidently crowned with feathers as a child would naively use a label: "This is an Indian."

Contrast with this the bronze French coin, with its noble, intelligent head obverse, and the pleasantly designed reverse, or the beautifully modeled head of the girl queen Victoria on the Hong Kong penny issued some years ago, or the coin distinguished by the tenderly modeled head of the queen of the Netherlands, or the current English penny, or the penny of the late Boer Republic, or "the coins of the least of the Central American States," or any coin that may come into your possession. Verily, comparisons are odious!

But let us be fair. One feature may be urged for these coins of ours: they are designed to be stacked in piles, and can be readily handled in large quantities—a consideration which evidently did not trouble the

æsthetic Greeks, but the lack of which forced promptly into seclusion an admirable design by one of our distinguished artists. One can imagine the professional scorn of the mighty ones of a practical turn of mind, in noting that the great artist's dollars would not stand in piles!

Our dollars will stand in piles! And they may be rolled up into neat packages of twenty-five most attractively. A handsome appearance they make, too, when wrapped and sealed and labeled!

"The head," (on the obverse of our silver coins) the director of the mint gravely states, "is an ideal one." The design for half, quarter, and dime is the work of Charles E. Barber, engraver United States mint, and it can not be changed for twenty-five years except by special act of Congress. This is official. Hasten the special act of Congress!

Some of us were proud and hopeful when the handsome and distinguished Columbian half-dollar appeared. We thought, reasonably, it must be admitted, that the dignity and strength of it, and its national appropriateness, would soon force into obscurity the unsightly things of our present coinage.

We have been disappointed, but we are not hopeless. We know that the wholesome, vigorous good sense and loyalty to truth and simple goodness that is constantly asserting itself in our city governments and in our national assemblies, is sure to strike, soon or late, these minted misrepresentations; for to beat "graft" and "special privileges," and to follow them relentlessly, demands an unswerving loyalty to all that is true and sound. One day intelligent and discerning leaders shall awaken to the fact that our nation's coins are as misleading in their subtle misrepresentations as they are offensive in their ugliness, and then, with less desire to emulate Greek beauty than to stamp them simply and honestly with the symbols of fundamental "Americanisms" shall come coins worthy this alert, keen-eyed, productive nation of ours.

The Collectors' Debt to the Museum.

Museum curators consider that the answering of numerous letters from collectors of archæological specimens is a part of their duties. Naturally, from his position, the curator has access to material both literary and scientific that is denied the average collector. And so long as the requests made by many correspondents are within the bounds of reason, the curator is glad to furnish such assistance as may be within

his power. However, I often wonder if the collector realizes that he is in any way indebted to the museum man.

One can best argue from one's own experience, and I trust that readers will pardon personal references. There are few curators who have a larger correspondence or acquaintance with collectors than have I. This is said in no boastful or bombastic spirit. It is simply a statement of fact. For twenty years I have spent a considerable portion of my time answering letters from collectors. A few of these men have presented collections to the various institutions with which I have been connected. Several hundred have purchased my books or our reports. Many of them have sent us duplicates or have exchanged material with us. But by far the greater majority have asked for information, advice, etc., all of which has been freely given.

It seems to me that if the man in charge of a museum gives his time and knowledge (without compensation) to the collector, that that person would be willing, in all justice, to do something for the museum. He could not be expected to present the institution with a large and valuable collection, but he certainly might have sent it a few of his duplicates. Therefore, since this journal will fall into the hands of some thousands of collectors, I make bold to suggest that the Department of Archæology of Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., is ready and willing to pass opinion upon specimens or collections provided that postage or express charges are prepaid. On our exchanges, we pay charges ourselves, but on specimens which are sent with request that they be returned, it is no more than right that the owners prepay charges. The department is also glad to have drawings or photographs of rare and interesting things, descriptions of sites and other archæologic information.

If the department is willing to take the trouble to investigate specimens—a work requiring as much trouble as the assay of ores—the owners should be equally willing to do something for us. So, I would like to remind collectors that there are in their cabinets a class of specimens which they, the collectors, usually care little about. These are not pretty, are usually rude and have no value. I refer to the unfinished tubes, ornaments, "ceremonials" and "banner stones." The department is making a study of such forms and needs the rougher, unfinished ones in order to trace their manufacture from the crude block of slate or granite to the completed form. If collectors will only co-operate with us they will render science a service. The removal of two or three of

these unfinished and rough forms will not hurt collections in the slightest degree.

I have never been quite able to understand why collectors do not particularly care for material from some especially famous site. Yet it is a fact that the average collector will prefer an ordinary pipe to a selection from an exploration that proved the antiquity of man. I do not mean by this that collectors would be expected to fill their cabinets with materials from excavations to the exclusion of highly artistic objects. But they certainly ought to have in their cases *some* of the results of exploration of very primitive sites. As an illustration, consider Jacob's Cavern in the Ozark Mountains, near the edge of Arkansas, in southwestern Missouri, which was explored by us two years ago. We found the remains of man and numerous implements, pottery, etc., under a limestone floor (and under stalagmites) formed by the slow drop of water carrying lime, during an unknown period of time. The discovery was of the greatest importance. With a view of exchanging some of the material, we secured duplicates.

In the Delaware Valley Mr. Volk, a very patient and thorough worker, has dug in gravel terraces and among the ancient hearths for twenty years. Year after year he has sunk trench upon trench. There is no man in the United States who has done more to prove the antiquity of man than Mr. Volk. The specimens he found were sent to Cambridge and Chicago, and the duplicates given us. Now, these two sites are of the utmost importance to all intelligent persons, and I should think that collectors would be glad to have a few specimens from each in their cabinets.

There is yet another place, not so old, but much better known—Fort Ancient, in Ohio. It is the largest earth-work in the world. We made quite a collection from inside and outside of the walls. The place has been bought and preserved by the State of Ohio, and a book and several pamphlets have been published describing it.

Briefly, these places named are known throughout the scientific world. They have a direct bearing upon great questions—the age of man upon the American continent. I should think that any intelligent person would desire to possess a few of the specimens found in or near these sites. To be sure, the specimens are not very pretty, but their scientific value is in excess of any surface-found polished object now in the possession of a collector. And since illustrated reports on Jacob's

and Bushey Cavern go with the lots we send out, they are rendered intelligible even to beginners.

If a man—or a woman either, and there are many women who collect—confines his cabinets to the highly polished slate objects exclusively, collecting becomes a fad merely and is of no real value, aid or education to the person concerned. The department at Phillips desires to further serious study rather than idle and ignorant accumulations of objects that have no history. And to that end we are willing to send any person who is seriously interested our report of the exploration of Jacob's Cavern, and also a few objects from the front of the cave, a small Fort Ancient and a Delaware Valley (Volk) collection. We ask some of the unfinished objects previously mentioned in return. This is a liberal proposition and we trust that readers will take advantage of it.

W. K. MOOREHEAD,
Curator of the Museum, Andover, Mass.

Notables Who are Members of The British Numismatic Society

The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, the Princess Christian, the Princess Henry of Battenburg, Leopold II, king of the Belgians; Christian IX, king of Denmark; the Crown Prince of Denmark; George, king of Greece; the Prince Royal of Greece; Victor Emanuel, king of Italy; the Queen of Italy; Carlos, king of Portugal; the Queen of Portugal; Alfonso XIII, king of Spain; Christina, queen of Spain; Field Marshal Earl Roberts; Joseph Choate, late American Ambassador to Great Britain; the Countess of Yarborough, Marquis De Soveral, Count De Lalaing, Count Albert Mensdorf, Count Paul Wolff, Viscount Tadasu Hayashi, Baron Gericke-Van Herwinjen, Count Beckendorff, Baron Bildt, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Grantley, Sir Richard Nicholson, the Earl of Powis, Sir James Thomson, Sir Alfred Scott-Gatty, General (Sir) Charles Warren.

In a recent bright article on Coins and Medals, *The New York Herald* admits that "Numismatics is a branch of art." The *Herald*, we are glad to mention, has always given generous space to things Numismatic.

The Chicago Numismatic Society.

The twenty-fourth regular meeting of the above Society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, January 5th, 1906, President W. F. Dunham presiding.

A communication was received from Lyman H. Low, who presented the Society with some statements regarding the poor Confederate half dollars, which the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge.

Chas. Blumenschein, Eswald Pettet, Clayton C. Herr, Capt. Emile Dietrich, Thos. L. Elder, J. B. Holmes, Edward T. Newell, J. M. Henderson, C. C. Northern, and W. E. Pearse were elected to membership.

The President appointed V. M. Brand, M. P. Carey, and H. C. Whitehill a committee on revision of the constitution and by-laws, and instructed them to report at next meeting.

The following officers, having been duly elected at the December meeting, were then installed:

President, G. W. Tracy; Vice-President, E. C. Verkler; Secretary, Ben G. Green; Treasurer, F. Elmo Simpson; Librarian and Curator, Virgil M. Brand; Censor, W. F. Dunham; Executive Committee, Dunham, Brand and Green.

The President appointed Messrs. Green, Brand and Dunham a committee to audit the books of the Treasurer.

Under exhibitions, Mr. Pearse showed a gold mohur of India, Mr. Dunham a fine ancient aes, Mr. Brand some double and triple thalers, and Mr. Green his collection of United States freak coinage. Those present were supplied with sets of the nickel coinage of Jamaica for 1905, and one set was placed in the cabinet.

Books received since last meeting were: *Histoire Monetaire de Geneve*, by Demole; *Nineteenth Century Tokens*, by W. J. Davis; and *Histoire Numismatique Belge*, by Guioth. Spink's *Numismatic Circular*, *The Numismatist*, Arnold's *Numismatic Guide* and catalogues of sales of Low and Green were also received.

The Secretary reported a total of fifty members, of which twenty-six were elected in 1905.

Adjourned to meet Friday evening, February 2d, 1906.

BEN G. GREEN, *Secretary.*

One Hundred Dollars Worth of Prizes.

In order to stimulate the interest of the younger generation in the various branches of collecting, the editor begs to offer the following prizes:

For the best article on ancient Greek coins, a collection of ancient Greek silver and bronze coins valued at \$20. For the second best article a \$5 lot.

For the best article on modern foreign copper coins, a collection of foreign copper and nickel coins valued at \$20. For the next best article a \$10 collection.

For the best article on American Colonial coins, a collection of United States and Colonial copper coins valued at \$20. For the second best article a \$5 collection.

For the best article on American Archaeology, an archaeological collection valued at \$20. For the second best article a \$5 collection.

For the best article on Gem stones, either cut or in the rough, a cut gem collection valued at \$20. For the second best article a \$5 collection.

For the best article on stamp collecting, a collection of stamps worth \$20. For second best article a \$5 collection.

RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST.

The contributors must be under 25 years of age.

Articles must not exceed 1,600 words in length.

In the mineralogical contest, the articles may deal with either precious or semi-precious stones.

The manuscripts must be plainly written and must be in the hands of the editor before April 1st, 1906.

The names of the winners of the first and second prizes will be announced and the articles of the winners of the first prizes will be published in the MONTHLY.

Any person, whether a subscriber or not, may enter the contest.

The following gentlemen have agreed to act as judges with the editor in deciding the contest:

Numismatics.—A. R. Frey, Esq., President of the American Numismatic Association, 673 Green Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

14 One Hundred Dollars Worth of Prizes

Mineralogy.—Walter F. Webb, Esq., 202 Westminister Road, Rochester, N. Y.

Archæology.—Prof. Warren K. Moorehead, Curator of the Museum, Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.

Philately.—H. E. Deats, Esq., Ex-President of the American Philatelic Association, Flemington, N. J.

The Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal

This Society was founded in 1862, with headquarters at the Chateau de Ramezay, the most interesting public building in Canada, and the residence of the governors of Montreal under the French regime. The Chateau was built by its best and most popular governor, Claude de Ramezay, and contains the numismatic collection, the national portrait gallery and a library of over 20,000 volumes and pamphlets.

A meeting of the Society was held at this famous old Chateau on January 16th, last, with Vice-President Judge Sicotte in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting and those of the Council were read and approved.

The Committee in the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the building of the Chateau reported progress.

The Curator reported donations as per donation book numbers 2662 to 2670.

Mr. Rudolph Forget having contributed \$100, was elected a life member.

Mr. R. W. McLachlan exhibited 166 Canadian coins and medals, added to his collection during 1905, including a very rare Louis XV Indian medal, picked up in Boston. Mr. McLachlan read a paper on Franklin and the Chateau de Ramezay, of both of which this year is the bi-centennial, which led to a very interesting discussion among several members present.

Through the generosity of the President, Hon. Justice Baby, and Vice-President W. D. Lighthall, four fine old oil portraits were added to the national portrait gallery, including Marquis de Lobtiniere, Marquis de Vaudreuil, governor general of New France, from 1703 to 1725; Marquis de Vaudreuil, the last governor general of New France, 1760; Count de Vaudreuil, the last governor of Montreal, 1760. The latter three governors were Canadian born.

Stamp Department

PROF. C. ABBOTT DAVIS, SUPT.

Curator Roger Williams Museum, Providence, R. I.

Stamp collecting has as many styles or new phases as costume. Every year sees a new hat or coat adopted, worn for awhile, then replaced by another. Just at present the stamp collectors are hunting for king's heads or are filling in blank spaces of English or American colonies.

Current events are apt to change a series, so Norway, Hayti, Turkey and Russia come in for their share of attention.

For some reason envelopes and cut squares are side-tracked, while revenue, telegraph, railway, and express stamps are in great demand. Perhaps this is partly due to the talk in the papers about municipal ownership, and the study of conditions in foreign countries where the state operates the telegraph, railways, and express business.

Again, our Postoffice Department is bitterly criticizing the other Departments for their abuse of the franking privilege, which causes one writer to assume that there will be entire re-issue of the popular department stamps. This announcement was immediately hailed with delight by the boys of today, who never had the joy of peeling off five 7-cent Treasury's from one envelope (as I did in 1875) and selling four of them for the enormous sum of five cents each. Seriously, the stamp business was never on as secure a foundation as today. Frauds are being run down, and although the public do not bite at "Seebecks" as they once did, yet there is good profit, provided the dealer "has the goods." Large dealers are putting in United States and foreign revenues. Why? Because there is a demand for them. A club formed entirely of revenue collectors, is called the Metropolitan Fiscal Association. By means of its Exchange Department (which now contains over 5,000 revenues) any beginner may, at small expense, get a collection of 500 varieties in a surprisingly small time. The Sales Department has six foreign, as well as several local dealers, to back it, and offers the best sheets possible at surprisingly low net prices.

With the exception of the United States, the prices of revenues are about one-third that of similar postage, simply because the demand

is below the supply, but these conditions are bound to change, and a word to the wise is sufficient.

It is simply impossible to lose money on Canadian law, king's head revenues, Philippine revenues (U. S. issue), even in big lots.

One of the Metropolitan Fiscal Association members has a private collection of 20,000 varieties, and the average is nearly 10,000 varieties. Argentine alone has issued over 1,500 revenues, and is a good field for the specialist.

It is said that the United States has issued an entirely new revenue series for 1906 in the Philippines, hence the sudden tremendous jump in the prices of the other issues.

A publication has been started down in Saco, Maine, devoted wholly to revenue collecting.

Mineralogy.

Written for the MONTHLY by Forest Gaines, Head of Mineralogy
Department American Society of C. C.

In this short article I shall endeavor to give a synopsis of the valuable training which may be had from a systematic study of mineralogy. The study of this science is especially valuable to the young, as it helps to form greater powers of perception and study. These reasons alone are enough to recommend the study to all, aside from its ultimate scientific training. "Mineralogy," as the term is now understood, refers to the inorganic substances, composing the solid crust of the earth. Every known mineral species has a fairly definite chemical composition.

Take, for example, the most common mineral, quartz, which is composed chemically of silicon dioxide, the latter being usually expressed by the formula, Si O_2 . There are now known, about one thousand distinct mineral species.

According to their chemical composition, minerals are divided into various groups, as the hydrocarbons, oxides, sulphides, etc. Some collectors prefer to specialize in one of these groups, but the majority are general collectors.

Every collector should have some kind of cabinet in which to display his various specimens. Some prefer glass cases, in which the specimens are all neatly laid, while others have upright cabinets in which are many drawers, each of the latter being divided into many small compartments for the reception of the various specimens.

Under favorable conditions, nearly all mineral species will crystallize into certain definite geometrical forms. The writer has seen many collections, which were wholly given over to the various forms of crystals. With their many brilliant colorings, these crystal collections usually form a very beautiful sight. It is my intention to give most of my time in the future to the collection of crystals.

Probably the most enjoyment to be had from mineral collecting comes from getting out and finding the specimens yourself. This always makes a certain interest accrue, which would not otherwise be the case. Also it is conducive to habits of good health and inspiration. A greater part of my very large collection has been made personally. Of course, however, the rarer specimens must of necessity be acquired by purchase or exchange.

I will be pleased to give any assistance in my power to any of our young mineralogists who care to address me. If there is information concerning any certain species which you would like to have, address me at Glendive, Mont., and I will be pleased to give you an early reply. The dissemination of universal knowledge should certainly be the chief object of any collector's fraternity.

In conclusion, I wish to commend Bro. Elder for his enterprise in launching a new journal. May it prove a valuable means of bringing others into the fold. In the near future I hope to see some very good articles in print from the pens of some of our younger collectors. There is room for all, and every newcomer will certainly be gladly welcomed. Let the good work go on without interruption, is my earnest wish.

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Editorials

Splendid Work of the Newspapers.

During these days of political strife and financial upheaval, let us note the splendid work which is being done by the newspapers for the cause of Numismatics. The publicity given the subject of coins through the columns of such well-known newspapers as the *Tribune*, *World*, *Press*, *Mail*, *Globe*, *Herald*, and *Sun*, of this city, and the *Buffalo Evening News*, *Pittsburg Post* and numerous others, is really surprising and a just cause for gratification if not for jollification.

Especial thanks are due two pioneers in newspaper numismatics, Mr. John C. Shea, of the *Buffalo Evening News*, and Mr. J. S. Myers, Managing Editor of the *Pittsburg Post*, who, to the positive knowledge of the editor, have done for years, and are still doing, a faithful and

painstaking work in replying to the inquiries put to them by a myriad of embryo numismatists. Mr. Shea writes he is "being overrun with inquiries about coins, and that at present great interest is manifested in this subject by the people of western New York. We are invading Canada even," he adds.

Let us thank and encourage all of our journalistic friends who by their ready pens are giving Numismatics in America a mighty uplift toward the lofty position that it occupies at present in Europe. More power to them. Publicity is what we want. Several of the local writers seem infused with the real species of Numismatic enthusiasm. The *New York Mail*, a few days ago, printed a fine editorial on "The Glory of Coins." We reprint it in full.

"It is good news that the American Numismatic and Archæological Society is to have a building in this city which will be a worthy home for its valuable collection of coins and its library, and also a headquarters for the study of numismatics and the lore that goes with that science. The fine building that it is proposed to raise on 156th Street will be a pledge that the metropolis has an interest in coins which is above and beyond the mere accumulation and disbursement of them for purposes of self-gratification.

"It will be a Mecca of delight for the rising generation, that palace of coins. The interest in the science of numismatics begins early, and betokens many good things. The moment that a boy is willing to expend a hard-earned or hard-saved quarter for a copper coin that he does not intend to pay out for candy or a baseball club, but proposes to keep because it means something in the world's history, that moment his entrance into the circle of the world's elect minds is signalized. He is telling good-bye to mere self-indulgence, and concerning himself with events, with the movement of peoples from one stage of growth to another, with the history, the economy, the art of nations. He is in the full swing of world politics and its symbolization.

"Something of the significance of the science the humblest and most youthful collector feels, even if he has not progressed beyond the stage of fancying the coin just because it may be old, odd, or strange, and valued by others. The foreign and queer head upon it, and its cabalistic inscription, may not mean anything specific to him, but in an intuitive way he feels their true influence. And as he advances to a better understanding of their meaning, the rulers, the armies, the peoples of the

world begin to pass before him, and the meaning of their brief appearances on the world's stage to unfold themselves.

"It is a great science, this of numismatics. It includes all others. Perhaps the more it is encouraged in this city and country, the less we shall have of the crude and narrow grabbing of money for its own sake or for the sake of self-indulgence."

Music and Medals of the Composers.

We note one charming feature of the recent Bi-Centennial of the celebrated Chateau de Ramezay of Montreal, under the auspices of the Montreal Numismatic and Antiquarian Society—there was a musical program. Messieurs Saucier and Dansereau, and Mlles. Kellert and Plouffe gave selections by Tschiakowski and Grieg. We can take pointers in various things from our Canadian, as well as from our European brethren. May we have music at some of *our* meetings also.

Nearly all of the world's greatest musicians have been woefully neglected by the medal engravers, who evidently must not have been deeply "moved by concord of sweet sounds." The mighty Bach, who "spoke in the language of the fugue;" Mendelssohn of "Scotch Symphony" fame; Schumann, who wrote the beautiful "4th Symphony" and "Manfred"; Schubert, with his "Rosamunde"; Saint Saens, composer of "Phaeton"; Goldmark, who wrote "Sakuntala" and "Spring"; Rubinstein, who penned "Damon"; Massenet, whose piquant French style charms us; Moszkowski, who wrote a good thing in "The First Orchestral Suite"; Guilment, the greatest living organist, and Widor, founder of the modern toccata—all these are composers whose medals are rare or *do not exist*. Medals of Niels Gade, the Scandinavian, whose "Ossian" is perhaps the most impressive of overtures; Grieg, composer of the "A Minor Concerto," and the great Russian, Peter Tschiakowski, are pieces entirely unknown here in America. Beethoven, Wagner and Liszt have fared better, and are represented by jetons even. Professor Mayer, of Vienna, has recently engraved splendid medals of this trio in silver and bronze.

Stage Coach versus "flyer."

Two original and practically *unique* Colonial coins of the State of New Hampshire, bearing a harp, a cedar tree, the motto, "American

Liberty" and date of 1776, were sold at public auction in New York, in September last. We would like to ask, did the officers of the New Hampshire State Historical Society live up to the honorable traditions of their State, and did they show any of the "spirit of '76" in their failure to make some effort at least to add these priceless pieces to the Society's collection? A notice of the sale of the coins drew from the secretary the somewhat humorous, if not pathetic, statement that "the Society purchases only histories and genealogies." Communications sent to a number of the members of the Society, and advertisements inserted in newspapers throughout New Hampshire, failed to elicit a response, revealing a complete apathy and a slumbering patriotism. As a gentle rebuke to the sons of *old* New Hampshire, a progressive and wide awake collector of comparatively *new* Illinois stepped in and secured both of the coins, leaving the *genealogists* to the unruffled contemplation of crests and family trees.

Evidently the difference between the New Hampshire Historical Society and some other historical societies—that of Maryland, for instance—is the difference between the ante-bellum stage-coach and the modern "flyer." Verily, "comparisons are odious."

The Maryland Historical Society has the finest collection of Maryland Colonial coins in existence. Not only is the noted Lord Baltimore series, bearing the bust of Cecil Calvert, almost complete, but the Annapolis set is there in its entirety. The gem of the collection is an uncirculated and beautiful specimen of the precious little silver three pence of "Baltimore Town," bearing the bust of Standish Barry. This is the finest one known, and is worth over \$100. This Society never lets a good thing relating historically to Baltimore or Maryland pass by. In the getting together of its large and widely varied collections much credit is due to its progressive secretary, George W. McCreary.

Give Us New Coin Types.

There is a report abroad that Augustus St. Gaudens is to make some suggestions, or submit himself, some designs, for a new artistic series of United States coins. This subject demands constant agitation, and the matter will not down until the people, from banker to boot-black, are not compelled to glance morning, noon and night at the personification of ugliness presented by our dimes, quarters, half dollars—the whole outfit! Recently the writer noticed on 23d Street, this city,

several striking types of the American Indian (not wooden Indians), and they resembled the portrait on our one-cent piece as much as they did that of George Washington. We doubt if these braves would recognize what portrayal was attempted on the obverse of the cent. In each issue of the MONTHLY henceforth we are going to publish an apropos article until the new coinage, which must come sooner or later, appears.

“Prostitution of Intellect.”

A prominent member of the New York Numismatic Society remarked at the recent meeting that the collecting of “United States coins and *dates*” was “prostitution of intellect.” Whatever arguments may be made for collecting our own regular issues, it seems a pity that so many old, historic and artistic pieces, which often cost very little, should be so neglected by the American collectors. When auction cataloguers will tell you that their books are filled with bids for common United States cents, nickels and dimes, and that records opposite the Greek, Roman and foreign lots are often practically blank, there is something decidedly wrong. After all, does it not narrow down to this, that *the average American cares nothing for history?* The fact that comparatively few American collectors collect American Colonials evidences the fact that the history of their own country does not interest them, hence the plea that the American collector collects the regular issues of his own country from patriotic instincts does not hold good. It is all right to give attention to our own coins, but we should not lose sight of the fact that “there are others.”

B. N. S. Year Book.

We cannot laud too highly the splendid year book of the British Numismatic Society, which has just reached us. It contains 500 pages of a wide variety of numismatic matter, with many splendid plates. It is finely printed and is bound in red and green. The *Athenaeum* and other noted publications give the book lengthy praise. We regret we have not more space in this issue in which to describe this valuable work. It is entirely worthy of the great society which has issued it. W. J. Andrew, its secretary, has distinguished himself by the active part which he has taken in the publication of this year book, and we have ample cause for praising him for what he has done in other lines.

“Mint Marks.”

Recent acquisitions of the National Collection at the mint consist of classic Greek silver and Imperial Roman sestertii. It is understood to be the purpose of the present administration to acquire, as rapidly as the meager purchase fund will permit, a fair representation of coins of the classic Greek period. With few exceptions the best specimens of Greek coins now in the cabinet belong to the Hellenistic period.

Mr. J. C. Mitchelson, of Tariffville, Connecticut, has presented the collection at the mint with six early Japanese coins, and a very good specimen of Japanese bar silver, also of early date.

The distribution of the coinage of minor coins among the branch mints means inactivity for several months of the year for all the mints or a surplus of minor coins. So much for politics.

Exportation of Philippine Coins Prohibited

Owing to the present high price of silver, the Chinese have been using the Philippine silver for commercial purposes, with the result that the Philippine Commission has prohibited its exportation, inflicting a heavy penalty. As a direct result, these coins will soon be very scarce in the United States—in fact, they are even now uncommon.

The article recently contributed by Mr. T. Louis Camparette, Curator of the Philadelphia Mint, on the “Utility of a cabinet of coins,” is of such excellence and so scholarly as to convince us that Mr. Camparette is a man eminently fitted for the honorable position which he now holds.

An enthusiastic and good-natured gathering of philatelists may be found at any meeting of the New York Stamp Society. From its president, Dr. Heath, down to the Japanese member, they are all good fellows, a number of them specialists of high repute, and many having splendid collections. This society has had a phenomenal growth during the past year and has now a membership of nearly 100.

Prof. Moorehead has written a fine illustrated article on “Indian Pipes and Obsidian Knives” for our May number. Edward T. Newell will contribute an article on the “Macedonian Coinage,” and the philatelic article by Mr. Jenney will be continued.

Prof. Warren K. Moorehead, curator of Philips Academy, Andover, Mass., has in preparation a volume of 900 pages entitled "The Stone Age," which is to cover the arts of the American aborigines in pre-Columbian times. This fine work, which will be of interest to every intelligent American, will be published by the Funk and Wagnalls Company. It will be illustrated by over 500 figures and plates, representing more than 2,000 different objects, and the low price of \$5 will render it available to almost every collector.

Through the courtesy of the editor's good friend, Mr. James Risbeck, a prominent citizen of Brownsville, Pa., we are enabled to publish an interesting and hitherto unknown letter of Andrew Jackson. Mr. Risbeck showed the writer his interesting historical collection and this letter while he tarried at his home recently.

The Symbolism of Har-pi-Khrat.

Written for the MONTHLY by B. P. Wright, M. D.

Not long since it was my good fortune to secure a statue of the old Egyptian god, Har-pi-Khrat. The Greeks, on becoming acquainted with the mythology of Egypt, adopted this god, calling him "Harpo-crates." We designate him as the "God of Silence." Masons make frequent use of this god as a fitting emblem for placing on their coins and medals. The gold piece known as the "Free Mason's Ducat," which Merzdorf thinks was struck at Berlin in 1743, has for its obverse device a representation of this god leaning on a pillar, with the Latin legend of "*Favete Linguis*" (keep silence).

The Egyptian genealogy of our god is somewhat obscure, as he has been retained by the three great religious cults of the ancient people.

If we start with the oldest cult—that of the "Mother of the Beginnings"—we have the Brooding Mother, the Genitrix, who impregnated herself by breath. This cult was so early that the fatherhood was not known. The first offspring of the Genitrix was Sut, or Typhon, who, upon attaining to man's estate, became son-husband to his mother and begat Har-pi-Khrat. This cult is now known as the Sut

Typhonian, and their first offspring was our god of silence, who constituted the first Messiah of which we have record, who, being at first



HAR-PI-KHRAT, the Egyptian God of Silence

*From a Photograph of the original, through
the courtesy of Dr. Wright*

deformed, was to lie in the grave and be re-born for the salvation of mankind.

In tracing the old records, the word "Mesi," which equates with

the Hebrew Messiah, is often used to designate this god or some of his attributes. Also, the Egyptians' word for re-birth is "mesi," and the first month of the new year is called "Mesore" from this word, because the years are re-born every twelve months. As the year or time reaches back into the unfathomable past, we often see it stated that the origin of Har-pi-Khrat was pre-monumental—in other words, there is abundant evidence in the old legends that Har-pi-Khrat was known and recognized before the Egyptians began to record events on their monuments. These monuments give us an almost unbroken series of divine dynasties that covers a period of thirteen thousand four hundred and twenty years; and while this almost immeasurable period is sufficiently appalling for our minds to grasp, it is not long enough, by far, to reach the date when Time was first reckoned; and as the origin of Har-pi-Khrat was coeval with Time, we can claim for him an age that entitles him to respect, if nothing more.

The true beginning, in all mythologies, consists in figuring or measuring time and space by means of the circles formed by the spheres in making their revolutions; so that which had, heretofore, been boundless and unknown could now be measured and recorded.

The Osirian, in the Ritual (Ch. XCII), says: "My soul is from the beginning, from the reckoning of the years." After each re-birth of Har-pi-Khrat, he received a new name. Har-Khuti and his hieroglyphic sign was a brilliant triangle denoting immortality or ever-existing. Other hieroglyphic signs of this god are the level, the scales and the ostrich feathers of equal length. These he is often pictured as wearing, as he is here depicted. The feathers were also the signs of the ancient goddess "Ma," or "Mah," who was his wife, and the primordial personification of Truth.

With the Osirian cult our god was the son of Osiris and Isis, and was known as the Elder-Har, and is always portrayed with his index finger upon his lips—a visual sign of silence. Also he wears the coils of hair curled on his right as his symbol of perpetual youth or the "Revivifier of the soul forever." Sometimes he bore the title of the "god of the two horizons," and his place in the Zodiac is found midway between the two Solstices, to denote where the re-birth of the new year should take place.

The third great religious cult of ancient Egypt, that of Amon-Ra, do not give the origin of our god, and seem to have adopted him

without change, but this cult attribute to our god six attributes, viz.: 1, Immortality; 2, Truth; 3, Re-birth; 4, Silence; 5, Supporting; 6, Separating. These attributes are identical with those borne by Christ, and have been the bases of religions from pre-monumental times down to our own.

The first syllable of his name, "Har," denotes "dumb," or the "silent one." Like the one referred to by Isaiah (Ch. liii:7), "He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

All the temples of Isis and Seraphis had a statue of this god placed at their entrance to remind all of their duty of maintaining strict silence concerning the matters that transpired within the temples. The ancients believed that all religion should only be known to the priests and must be kept from the profane or uninitiated.

Apuleius, who was a member of an ancient brotherhood, has left this statement: "By no peril will I be compelled to reveal to the profane the things communicated to me on condition of my silence."

Pythagoras also instructed his disciples to maintain total silence for five years. The most difficult performance known to Aristotle was "to be secret and silent." The examples prove the high regard the attribute of silence held in the minds of the ancients. Even today silence is often regarded as one of the cardinal virtues, or, as the copybooks put it, "Speech is silver, but silence golden."

This attribute of silence or dumbness, as here indicated by the index finger upon the lips, is a very ancient myth that we have retained. Conjurors and persons said to be endowed with occult wisdom, are proverbially born dumb. The explanation of this belief can be bottomed by our god of silence when we bear in mind that in the astronomical allegory Har-pi-Khrat was the personification of the mystical "word" or truth. The old religions made it a crime for any one to utter the "mystical word"; hence the priests were always instructed "never to reveal the secrets, and to keep the mystic sayings carefully guarded." On an old tablet erected by Nebuchadnezzar is this sentence: "In thy divine name, which is not spoken aloud."

In resolving the symbolism of the statue we note that the god is represented as being seated wearing the cap of authority, with the high ostrich feathers set in the solar disc. The disc in symbolism de-

notes sovereignty, and among many ancient races the sun was worshipped as a glorious manifestation of deity.

On the front of the cap is the hawk, headed symbol of Kabh-Senuf, an ideograph for soul and immortality. Har-Apollo (Book i:7) says: "The reason why the Egyptians regard the hawk as a sign or type of the soul is because this bird did not drink of water, but drank blood"—blood being a "life sign" and water a sign of death or negation.

The feathers point to the zenith or midway between the two horizons. These feathers symbolize Truth as an emanation of Deity. On each of these feathers there can be noted *five* cross marks on each half, making a total of *twenty*. It has been a source of wonderment why, that in so many groups of inner-African languages, *man* and the number *twenty* should equate. The solution is that man has ten fingers and ten toes; hence this sum, or twenty, represents a perfect man.

Among the Tamanacs the king, on preparing for war, summons his fighting men; they are required to stand upright before him with hands extended palms downward, so that their fingers and toes may be counted. If none are found wanting the warrior is passed as being a perfect man. The cross marks on the feathers here denote that our god, while possessing divine attributes, was likewise a perfect man in his human nature. Har-pi-Khrat here wears the delta-shaped cap. The cap, hat, crown, etc., are symbols of power or authority. Examples of this sign are in common use today. The Speaker in the House of Commons, the Worshipful Master in the lodge, the judge on the bench, all wear the hat to express the same idea. It may be noted in passing that this symbol is a genuine relic of primæval period, when the hunter of the palæolithic age transferred the skin of the slain animal to his own body, as a token of his prowess, to prove that to man was vouchsafed dominion over the animal kingdom. The Cossacks of the Don elect their Hetman by casting their hairy caps at him, each cap being counted as an affirmative vote in favor of his chieftainship.

It is a common practice in rural communities for old ladies and nurses to examine the head of a new born boy to discover if possible two locks of hair that curl in different directions, thus forming what they call the "double crown." If this is well marked, they are assured that a leader among men has appeared, or, as the saying runs: "Here is a hero who will eat his bread in two countries."

The left hand extended with the thumb and fingers in juxtaposition,

with palm downward, in gesture-sign-language, denotes negation, as the ancients always considered the left side the weaker or negative side. The Talmudists assert that woman was created from the left side.

There are old medals bearing a representation of the birth of Eve. Adam is figured as lying on his right side, the left being exposed. The hand of Jehovah grasps a rib, out of which our first mother is to be fashioned.

The rule of turning to the right when meeting is on account of the idea of the left being inferior; hence each offers the other the place of honor.

It is strange how wide these beliefs extend. Marshall, in "A Phrenologist Among the Todas," page 141, relates that the natives near Lake Maro kill a child should it cut an upper tooth before a lower, believing that ill luck would be its fortune through life if it was permitted to live. Other observers state that this custom is common among African races.

The position of the feet with soles resting squarely upon the ground is also symbolic. In Egyptian imagery everything is based upon the "Two Truths"; hence the god seated with the feet placed in this manner symbolizes the great "Lord of Truth." We have this duality of truth preserved in our English proverb: "A lie stands on one leg, both truth upon two."

Chateau De Ramezay Bi-Centennial.

The Bi-centennial of the Chateau-de-Ramezay was celebrated in Montreal on February 21st, last, by a very interesting reception given by the president and members of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal at the chateau, at which Governor-General Grey and Countess Grey were present. The famous house (over which the lilies of France, the thirteen stars and British lion have alternately floated), with its many reminders of Canada's early days, was a blaze of light. The Elgin Gallery was used for the formal reception and the Governor-General and officers of the Numismatic Society occupied a red-draped dais. The Society presented Governor-General Grey and its able president, Hon. Justice Baby, with gold commemorative medals, and its officers with silver medals, the guests receiving medals in bronze. What a live, interesting and influential society the Canadians must have!

**The American Numismatic and Archaeological Society of
New York.**

This Society held a meeting on the evening of March 19th, the last one to be held in its old rooms. President Archer M. Huntington presided. There was a good attendance considering the prevailing vile weather. The Building Committee reported that everything was in readiness to proceed with the erection of the "new palace of coins." During the construction of the Society's splendid building its valuable collections will rest in the rooms of the building of the Hispanic Society, of which Mr. Huntington is president.

Daniel Parrish, Jr., read an interesting paper on "A collection of coins of a New York collector, as described by himself in the year 1800."

A significant feature of the meeting was the enthusiasm shown by all. The Society is flourishing; has gained about 50 new members during the past year, has acquired 3500 coins, medals and tokens, and has already \$47,000 in available funds, without yet having made an appeal to the members. Charles Gregory has recently presented the Society with a splendid example of Japan's enormous oval gold coin, the Obang, bearing the monogram of the Emperor.

Dr. Martin Burke, a physician with probably the largest practice in New York, was an interested visitor. Dr. Burke is one of the few collectors of Greek copper coins in the highest preservation. He is interested also in rare portrait coins of noted personages.

President Diaz, of Mexico, was proposed as a member. Many persons of prominence have joined the Society recently.

The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

The Columbus Numismatic Society has blossomed into the Ohio State Numismatic Society, and was incorporated on February 12th last, with H. E. Buck as president, D. L. Ziegler vice-president, Dr. J. M. Henderson secretary, R. T. King treasurer, and A. B. Coover librarian. The president, Mr. Buck, is a prominent business man of Delaware, Ohio, and was formerly mayor of that place. We wish the new society all kinds of success.

Andrew Jackson to Brownsville.

The following interesting unpublished letter was written by President Andrew Jackson to his friends in Brownsville (an old Pennsylvania town on the Monongahela River) who entertained him the last time he came from Washington on his trip to the "Hermitage," his home in Tennessee.

Steamboat *Wm. Wirt*,
Ohio River, March 17, 1837.

GENTLEMEN:

I seize my first leisure moment to express my gratitude to my fellow citizens of Brownsville and Bridgeport for the warm and flattering manner in which I was received by them, through you as their organ, during the few minutes I had the pleasure to spend with them on the 14th instant on my journey to the Hermitage.

If my public services have contributed in any degree to elevate the character of our country, or to perpetuate our liberties, it will be the cherished and proudest consolation of my declining years, during the few remaining days which may under Divine Providence be allotted to me on earth.

Relieved as I now am of the cares of public life, and returning into that retirement to which I have looked forward with so much anxiety and anticipated pleasure, I shall not cease to feel an ardent attachment to my country, and an anxious desire for the preservation, in all its purity and vigor, of that constitution under which these states are united. That constitution, under a wise administration of public affairs, must continue to make us in all future time what we now are—a just, prosperous and happy people.

I have long entertained the opinion that upon the preservation of the union of the states depends the last hope of the world for rational self government among men. This opinion is not weakened by a long life of experience and observation of the practical operation of our system.

And it is with pleasure that I bear my testimony to the fact that no portion of my fellow citizens have manifested a more firm attachment to the union than the people of the great State of Pennsylvania, a portion of whom you represent, and my parting admonition to all my countrymen is, to preserve the union at all hazards.

The testimonial which my fellow citizens of Brownsville and Bridgeport have given me, through you, of their approbation of my efforts to serve my country, and of their personal esteem, is more gratifying to me, now that I have become a private citizen, and have ceased to exercise authority, and I beg you to assure them that I will bear with me to the Hermitage the recollection of the kind opinions which they have been pleased to convey to me.

I cannot forbear, with grateful feelings, to reciprocate the kind benediction you have invoked from the Almighty Disposer of Events, for the restoration of my health, and my eternal happiness, and I beg to assure you that

I am with great respect

Your friend and fellow citizen,

To Messrs.

ANDREW JACKSON.

HENRY J. RIGDEN,

W. Y. ROBERTS,

ELI ABRAMS,

BENEDICT KIMBER,

Committee.

NOTE.—As to the "*Committee*:"—

Wm. Y. Roberts was a prominent Democrat, and the fourth postmaster of the town.

Eli Abrams was an associate justice of the county, and a Democrat.

Benedict Kinber was a glass manufacturer and commander of the old-time boats running on the Monongahela River. His son, I believe, is now living at Morgantown, W. Va.

Henry J. Rigdon was a prominent citizen of Brownsville, and died in 1887 at the remarkable age of 99. He was a prominent 1812 veteran, and a Democrat of the old school.

Andrew Jackson's Colored Fighters.

Few people know that there were 1,000 negro fighters with Andrew Jackson's army at the battle of New Orleans. They were saluted from all sides as they marched through New Orleans on their way to the plains of Chalmette, 500 free colored men from San Domingo under their brave commander Savary, and 500 under the gallant Major D'Aguin. Jackson complimented these colored soldiers in general orders for brav-

ery. As Jackson's army only numbered 6,000 men, one-sixth were colored; yet when we write or talk about the battle we seem to remember only the Kentuckians and Tennesseans. Uncle Jordan, a mulatto boy eighteen years of age, beat the drum for Jackson's army, and my good friend Gabriel Montegut, of the parish of Trebonne, tells me that when he was a young man he never failed to shake his hand when he met him.

Historical "Coin Collectors."

The following worthies have "passed into history" as having in one way or another acted unfairly with the coin cataloguers and dealers. The MONTHLY will constantly endeavor to prevent their dying "unknown and unsung."

F. M. Pinkerton, Marshalltown, Iowa. Received \$43 in American gold coins which he secured at auction and failed to either pay for or return. The postal officials and a collection bureau are after him hot-foot.

The following bid at auction and refused to accept any of the lots secured:

J. F. Trowbridge, Piqua, Ohio. (Amount about \$35.)

Will A. Munroe, Battle Creek, Mich.

W. M. Gibbs, Fredonia, N. Y.

These are known "beats," or unworthy of credit:

Henry J. Anderson, 236 Union St., Napa, Cal. (Record especially bad.)

H. Glover Bennett, Louisville, Ky.

George Grinnell, Keene, N. H.

Roy Norris, Richmond, Ind.

D. R. Bogue, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Albert Boggess, Waco, Texas.

Bert T. Lee, Flint, Mich.

The entire space in the MONTHLY would hardly hold the supplementary list, so we are obliged to omit the less famed for the present.

Some Historical Postage Stamps.

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E. Jenney.

The history of no other department of social progress has been so faithfully and minutely recorded as that of the postal service from the first conception of the postage stamp to the present date, and these records appear not on printed pages, not in the archives of the post-offices of the different countries, but in the albums of stamp collectors.

From the issue in 1840 of the first postage stamp—an emblematic design representing Britannia on her little rock sending forth winged messengers to the waiting inhabitants of all parts of the globe—to the new stamps now appearing with the profile of Edward VII, there descends an unbroken line of pictorial history that the stamp collector can freely translate, and in a late authoritative count there are over five hundred thousand of these in the United States alone.

There have been issued by the various nations of the world in the past sixty years, between 20,000 and 30,000 different varieties of postage stamps, no one of which but has its *raison d'être*, and the most of which have not alone been of interest to the philatelist, but have caused considerable comment by the general press, although all but the more notable examples may have been forgotten.

The issue of the first stamp in England, the famous Mulready Envelope, the herald of penny postage, was the subject of many long articles in the press of the day, and the imitative cartoons of it that appeared and the sarcastic jokes of "Punch" are matters not yet forgotten by many persons still living. Caricatures, even by so celebrated an artist as Leech, were printed contemporaneous with it, and today copies of these caricatures are valued equally with the original stamps.

In 1841 England issued its first adhesive postage stamp, a beautiful, idealized profile of Victoria, in black, which also excited much ridicule on account of its putting the young queen in mourning.

From that day until the first of January, 1902, the effigy of the queen has adorned every postage stamp of England. Not only has the portrait of the young queen borne letters from the mother country, but from all the corners of the earth where the British flag flies—from the colonies of Australia and New Zealand, from the empire of India, from the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong, from her daughter of the north, Canada, from Honduras and Guiana, from the Cape of Good Hope, Central Africa and the Gold Coast, from the islands of the sea—Jamaica, Barbadoes, the Bahamas, the Falkland Islands, Malta and

Cyprus and Fiji, St. Helena, St. Vincent, St. Lucia and half a hundred other devoted colonies. But on the first day of January, 1902, a new issue of stamps appeared in London, bearing the face of His Majesty, King Edward VII.

There were crowded postoffices on that day in all the towns and cities of the kingdom to secure these first evidences of a new reign, and soon from all the colonies of the seven seas will be issued stamps of the new king, and the visible reminder of the great and good queen will gradually disappear from its current publicity.

In 1847 the United States issued its first postage stamps, a five-cent one with the portrait of Franklin, our first postmaster general, and a ten-cent one with the portrait of Washington from the painting by Stuart in the National Gallery. This latter is a beautifully executed stamp, although probably few except philatelists remember seeing it.

With all the advances in the art of printing and engraving in the past fifty years, the postage stamps of today, like the coins, are far behind those of the earlier issues in beauty and excellence as works of art.

Our postal history is not perhaps so well portrayed by our stamps as that of other countries, for the reason that we have made it a rule to permit portraits of only our dead statesmen and heroes to appear on them; still there is something told in the successive appearance of our martyr presidents, Lincoln on the black 15-cent stamp in 1868, and Garfield in 1882. The portrait of Grant, who made our nation so well known abroad, and whose name was during his career a prominent one in every foreign court of any importance, now always appears on the 5-cent stamp, the value that prepays the international rate. Our latest martyr, William McKinley, is honored on the postal card issued the first of February, 1902.

The late history of our recent colonies and dependencies is written plainly on their stamps.

Hawaii is an interesting example. The first stamps issued in Hawaii consisted of large numerals of value in neat scroll-work designs.

The year of issue was 1851, and these stamps are known today as the Missionary stamps, most of the letters in those early days coming from the missionaries to the then almost uncivilized country. Following these stamps come issues in many designs bearing the portraits of the native rulers of the kingdom. In 1893, when the kingdom came to an end, the stamps appear with the words "Provisional Gov't" surcharged on them.

In 1894 the stamps read “Republic of Hawaii,” and since 1900 letters from these mid-Pacific isles come with the stamps of Uncle Sam.

Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines tell a somewhat similar story with their stamps. Picturing the different Spanish monarchs, from Isabella down to the young Carlos, suddenly in 1899 we are made aware of a great change in the destinies of Spain by the appearance on letters from these countries of the United States stamps with the respective surcharges of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. No more do the inhabitants pay pesos and centavos for postage, but dollars and cents. In 1900 the stamps of the Republic of Cuba were issued, and in 1901 Porto Rico dropped its surcharge and simply used United States stamps.

In the fall of 1898 Aguinaldo established a Filipino government at Malolos and had printed a small issue of stamps representing Filipino liberty, but in less than six months he and his staff were fugitives, and all of his regalia, including the postoffice supplies and the printing plant, were seized by the United States troops. Most of the stamps that were saved are today scattered all over the world, carefully preserved in collections.

(To be continued)

“Coin” Questions.

It would tax the patience of readers to have a coin dealer go deeply into the discussion of the multitudinous questions which are being constantly put to him by the possessors of a few odd coins, by the freshman and senior collector, and by the general public. But occasionally the dealer is asked questions which, if sometimes posers, are such oddities as to help break the monotony of existence. One correspondent, evidently not a married man, dilates upon a “widow’s *might*.” A mild-eyed lady inquires the value of “an United States cent dated 1753.” Another, a man old enough to know better, asks the value “of an 1861 United States half dollar of the *Ohio* mint.” A lady with a slightly foreign accent says confidently: “You sell American gold dollars, don’t you? You sell them for \$1 each. Here is \$2; let me have two.” An unsuspecting individual presenting a half penny of George II bearing date of 1730 informs the dealer that “it must be very rare because it is so old,” and solicits an offer. People frequently offer him United States fractional currency, terming it “stamps.” But the climax is capped by an Ohioan, who actually requests “*a list of old and rair corns.*”

Many people, not knowing that Noah's ark would have held but a fraction of existing coins, want the dealer to tell them offhand "what coins have premiums."

Coin dealers are deluged with requests for "a book on coins," the correspondents assuming, of course, that the dealer keeps a large printing plant working day and night turning out free books to help educate the public, which, when educated, goes straightway and sells its coins to his competitor. The "free coin book" fiends should apply to Uncle Andy Carnegie. He gives away whole libraries.

Dealers frequently get cold feet listening to the unstinted recitals of individuals who offer for sale a coin with a family history, a piece, perchance, that "grandfather dug up in his back yard while planting tomatoes," or "it was carried through the War of 1812," or "through the Whiskey Rebellion," or possibly "Sitting Bull wore it on his necklace," or "it was given to Aunt Samantha when she was married."


The possessor of undoubted determination to attain his object, and, consequently, meriting success, is O. M. Moore, of Carroll, Iowa, who on March 12th last addressed a post card "*To-Some Dealer, or Collector, of Rare Coins, New York, N. Y.*" The editor was the flattered recipient.

On presenting a collection of coins for sale to a dealer, the owner invariably volunteers full information as to age, rarity, and value, assuming that coins is a subject about which the dealer knows the least. The most successful buyer has cultivated a sphinx-like attitude while listening to such harangues. He has tried "talking back," but has found that in nine cases out of ten the "sphinx" method wins. And often the facial expression of the prospective seller of a collection, upon learning its value, presents a rare and delectable opportunity for a caricaturist.

Canadian Auction Prices.

We give some of the prices realized at the recent Dow sale in Montreal. Canada Confederation medal, LeRoux 1185, \$10; Oliver Cromwell crown, \$15; Cromwell shilling, \$3; Kruger crown, \$10; Canadian "side-view" half penny, 1838, \$17; another, date 1839, \$17; Bridge token, Breton No. 541, \$13; Lauzon 4 pence token, Breton No. 560, \$9; Breton No. 729, \$7; Prince Edward Island token, with sheaf of wheat, \$13; Northwest Beaver token, Breton No. 925, \$20; Wellington bronze proof, Breton No. 974, \$8.

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The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

Vol. I

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Editorials

Pensions and "Muck Rakes."

The new Mexican silver coins are as crude and unattractive in design as any which have yet appeared. The new French types are very pretty, excepting the twenty-five centime nickel, by Patey, which shows some crudity, and is hardly up to the usual standard of this artist. At present we know of no more beautiful modern pieces than those of Holland bearing the latest portrait of Queen Wilhelmina. The tiny ten cent piece is just as exquisite as the guilder. It must gladden the hearts of the Dutch to look upon these splendid coins, and in gazing at such pieces we are reminded of the grossness and stupidity of our own coin types. Are Americans too intent on the

making of dollars to consider what kind of dollars they are *making*? Is Congress too busy discussing pensions and "muck-rake stories" to attend to such a mere incidental as our coins? We wonder if a petition signed by the coin collectors and artists would have any effect. We hope President Roosevelt found time to read the "Comment on the Coins of the United States," which appeared in the first issue of the MONTHLY. We sent him a copy.

J. N. T. Levick

If the question ever arises as to who is the youngest coin collector in this country, we would beg to be consulted, as we think a thorough canvass of the field will result in an unanimous vote for our friend J. N. T. Levick, of this city. As with the smiling maiden, the question of age is to Mr. Levick a sensitive subject, but it was some time in 1852 that he began to get the interesting little discs together. Known from the early days of his collecting as a numismatist of prominence, he afterwards came into possession of a collection of cards and tokens numbering fully 20,000 specimens—the largest assemblage extant. By hard squeezing Mr. Woodward managed to squeeze the collection into about 3,000 lots and sold them over twenty years ago.

An important point which we wish to make is that numismatics can hold a man in his later years—yes, can enthuse him with the fire of the raw recruit. Mr. Levick may be found at every sale, minutely examining the pieces, making careful pencil notations in his catalogue, buying whenever anything suiting his taste is offered, and pricing his catalogue with the precision of clockwork. We doff our hats to J. N. T. Levick, the "youngest" coin collector in America.

Dr. B. P. Wright will contribute a fine article on the "Typology of the God Sekhet," for our June number. Several fine illustrations of the queer cat-faced god will add to this scholarly contribution to Egyptology.

The Chicago Numismatic Society

At the twenty-seventh regular meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society, held April 6th, six new members were elected.

Several donations of books and catalogues were acknowledged.

Virgil M. Brand exhibited a medal of the United States Assay medal for 1906, a five mohur gold coin of India, some fine and rare encased postage stamps, and a number of silver mark pennies. Mr. Bryant showed a large collection of Colonial and Continental bills.

The Treasurer's report showed the Society to be financially prosperous.

The Ohio Societies

We now learn that there are two distinct Societies in Ohio, the Columbus Numismatic Society and the Ohio State Numismatic Society. Each of these Societies enjoys the distinction of having the same gentlemen for its officers, but R. T. King is president of the former, while Mr. Buck presides over the latter.

At the meeting of the Columbus Society, held April 4th, at the house of President King, G. W. Giebelhouse and Thos. L. Elder were elected to membership. President King read a short paper on "Coin Collecting," and exhibited his entire collection. The next meeting, to which the collectors' wives and sweethearts have been invited, will be held in Delaware, Ohio, with Messrs. Buck and Ziegler as hosts.

Special Notice

It has been found impracticable to hold my next Public Auction Sale of Coins, etc., until about June 7th and 8th, owing to the belated receipt of an additional but important collection of American coins, the property of Mrs. A. D. Patterson, and collected by her grandfather, a former director of the Philadelphia Mint. This collection contains many fine and rare pieces, especially patterns, including the rare flying eagle half dollar of 1838, choice cents, half cents and minor coins. This will be positively the largest and finest sale that I have yet held and will contain in the neighborhood of 2,000 lots. As to the unusual collection of mintmarks, I need only to state that there will be forty-five or more varieties of dollars alone. Send early for a catalogue.

THOMAS L. ELDER.

32 East 23d Street, New York City.

Some Pipes and Obsidian Knives.

Written for the MONTHLY by Warren K. Moorehead, M. A.

Northern pipes may be distinguished, in most cases, from similar objects found in the South. In the North the L-shape and the trumpet or cornucopia forms predominate. Naturally there is a larger percentage of Iroquois pipes than elsewhere in the United States. Fig. 1 presents thirty-three pipes from Mr. H. P. Hamilton's collection—chiefly obtained in Michigan and Wisconsin.

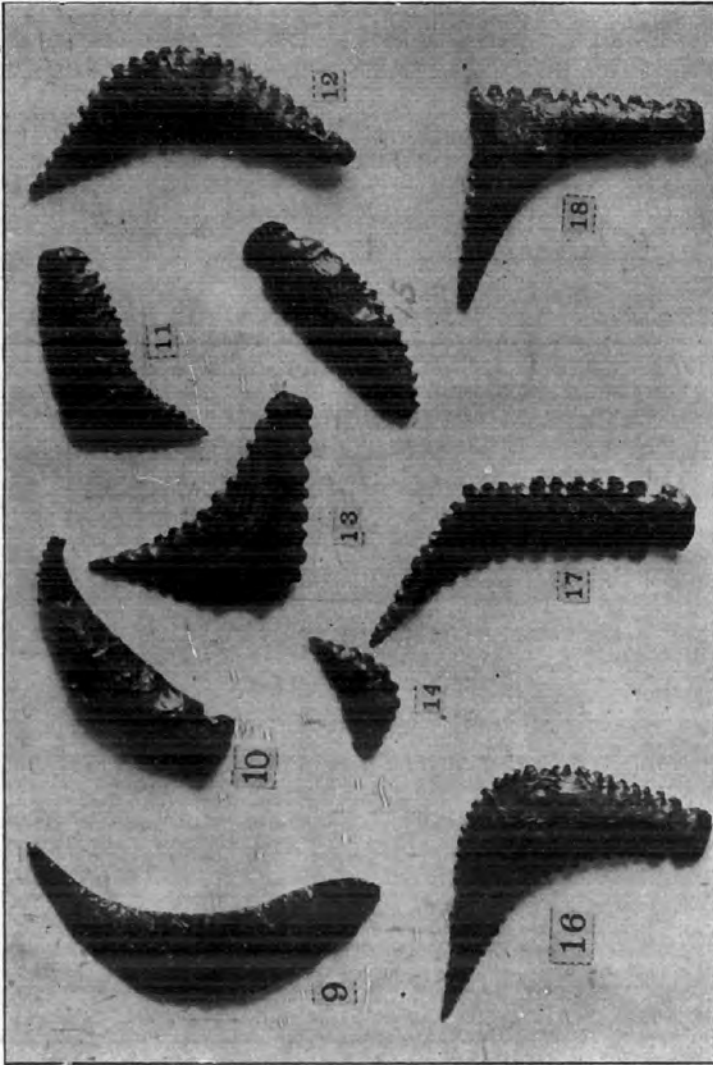
Fig. 1. S. 2-7. Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Oregon Pipes.

The tubular pipes are from Oregon; the others from Wisconsin and the North.

- | | |
|--|---|
| No. 1.—Wisconsin. Stone with short platform. | No. 15.—Wisconsin. Broken, platform type. |
| No. 2.—Clay. Found on same farm. | No. 16.—Minnesota. Catlinite. |
| No. 3.—Rare in Wisconsin. Both of these are of the trumpet form. | No. 17.—Oregon. Tube. |
| No. 4.—Disk, Catlinite, Wisconsin. | No. 18.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 5.—Disk, Catlinite, Wisconsin. | No. 19.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 6.—Minnesota. Catlinite. | No. 20.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 7.—Wisconsin. Catlinite. | No. 21.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 8.—Wisconsin. Catlinite. | No. 22.—Tube. Oregon. |
| No. 9.—Tube. Oregon. | No. 23.—Michigan. |
| No. 10.—Michigan. | No. 24.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 11.—Wisconsin. | No. 25.—Tube. Oregon. |
| No. 12.—Wisconsin. | No. 26.—Wisconsin. |
| No. 13.—Michigan. | No. 27.—Oregon. |
| No. 14.—Wisconsin. Catlinite. | No. 28.—Oregon. |
| | No. 29.—Wisconsin. |
| | No. 30.—Wisconsin. |
| | No. 31.—Wisconsin. Catlinite. |
| | No. 32.—Oregon. |
| | No. 33.—Oregon. |

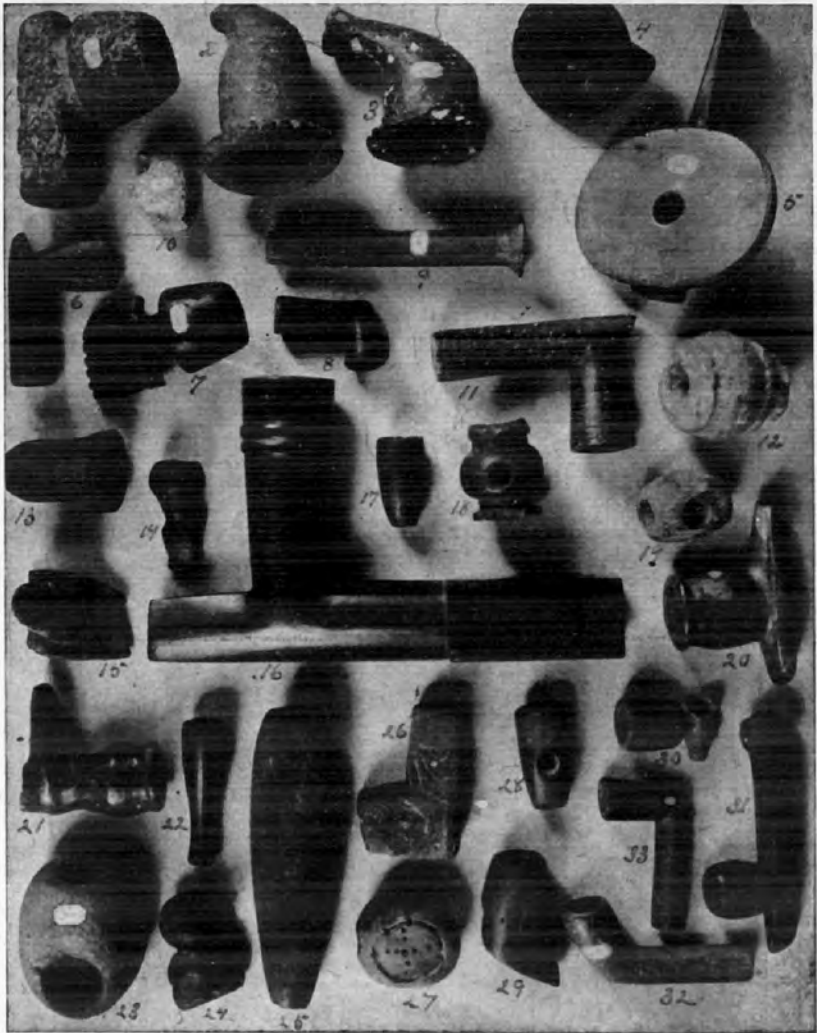
In portions of Canada human faced clay pipes are not rare and occur more frequently than representations of animals. Sometimes on the square mounted pipe bowls, there will be a miniature mask at each corner, and occasionally this is reduced to the three conventional masks for eyes and mouth. The trumpet type is modified often by

having a square or many sided top, with small various indentations and crenellations on the rim. Some of these plain cornet pipes have a very large, wide mouthpiece several inches across, and some have a



beautiful gloss, nearly as fine as a polish, and vary in color from light reddish yellow to jet black, and are far more numerous than the whole gamut of ornamented pipes.

Mr. John A. Beck now owns the largest private collection of American pipes in the United States. In fact, I believe only the Smithsonian Institution and the American Museum of Natural History excel Mr. Beck's exhibits.



So much has been said concerning flint and obsidian objects, chipped in the form of curves or sickles or other lunar-shaped forms, that a few words regarding the famous Stockton Curves may not be amiss. Ten of these are shown in Fig. 2, one-half size.

California is very rich in obsidian objects. There are some magnificent blades or swords or unknown forms in the Smithsonian and Harvard collections that exceed twenty inches in length. But these are excessively rare, although there are in existence several hundred obsidian implements more than ten or twelve inches in length.

The curious serrated and curved forms shown in the illustration are found only in two mounds located on Stockton Channel and Walker Slough. Mr. H. C. Meredith, writing of them in *Prehistoric Implements*, p. 261, says: "For a brief history of these remarkable objects and their discovery, the reader is referred to my article in the *American Archæologist*," Vol. II, p. 319. In that paper I expressed the opinion that the curves were used to scarify the flesh on ceremonial occasions. Aside from the shape and general adaptability of the implements to such service there is little evidence to support the theory. Nevertheless, as yet I have no reason to revise my views. Scientific men, on examining the curves, usually say: "They must have been used in cutting flesh." A California editor, in a foot-note appended to an article of mine on "Art Forms in Obsidian," remarks "that, as a matter of fact, the 'curves' are 'merely artifacts' made of that shape, because that shape is the natural cleavage of the nodular obsidian accessible to these Indians. As they could not depend upon its breaking straight, they worked it as it did break and made their knives thus sickle-shaped." I am sorry to differ from so skilled an archaeologist and so estimable a gentleman as Mr. Lummis, but familiarity with local conditions makes his theory impossible. I have examined superficially or otherwise nearly two hundred mounds and village sites in this vicinity, and although these villagers all drew their obsidian from the same sources, not one of these sites, except the two mentioned, had anything that suggests the "curve." All their chipped implements were perfectly straight. Moreover, the great obsidian beds of Lake and Napa counties, which I have examined several times, could furnish all the Indians of the United States with material for generations. The hills are full of great blocks of obsidian, too heavy for a man to handle, and it breaks as straight as a shingle."

A Survey of the Coinage of Alexander's Successors.

Written for the MONTHLY by Edward T. Newell, F. R. N. S.

As Alexander by his campaigns changed the history of the ancient world, and by his dominating personality influenced Hellenic art, it would have been very surprising, indeed, if he had not also radically altered the coinage of the known world, both in style and purpose. Hitherto the nearest approach to a uniform coinage had been the general acceptance of a well-known issue of some city or state; such as the darics of Persia or the silver pieces of Athens. But Alexander, in accordance with his hopes and ambitions of making one consolidated empire of Greece and the Eastern World, established a common coinage of gold staters and silver tetradrachms throughout the important cities of Asia and Greece. Where hitherto there had been only the local issues of various cities, beautiful in appearance but of varying standards and types, and therefore impracticable for wide circulation, there now appeared a uniform coinage of standard weight and everywhere acceptable, bringing with it all the advantages and conveniences to commerce such characteristics entail. So great an influence did the mighty personality of Alexander have upon the art of his times, that even the gods were created after his image, a fact which is clearly seen on his coins, for in the face of Hercules we can recognize the features of the great conqueror.

After Alexander's death the coinage of the type that he instituted continued in the large cities of Europe and Western Asia, and his successors for a while kept the same type, merely placing on the reverse their own names for his.

The great impulse of Hellenistic art (by this we mean the style of art that began about 330 B. C. and lasted till the Roman times) toward portraiture pure and simple now begins to show itself on the coins. Lysimachus first openly put the portrait of Alexander, a human being, though already a hero and partly deified, upon the obverse side of his coins—an honor up to this time reserved for the gods alone.

But soon the kings and rulers, as successors of a god and inheritors of his majesty, began to place their own portraits on their money. Demetrius Poliorcetes has the honor of being the first in all the Hellenic world to do so, and Ptolemy, declaring himself king a short while after (305 B. C.), followed his example. Seleucus Nicator also stamped his

own features on his coins and so gives us the first of that wonderful line of portraits of the Syrian kings. During the third century before Christ, therefore, the currency of Asia Minor and Syria consisted of the coins of Alexander's types issued in the various large cities, the series of Lysimachus, of the Ptolemies and of the Seleucids, the latter enjoying a very wide circulation, even as far as the confines of India itself. But from the time of the commencement of the break up of this empire, when there arose the kingdoms of Pergamum, Pontus, Bithynia and Cappadocia, a great variety of types came in again, as before the conquests of Alexander. The general standard, however, remained the same, and the pieces differed only in the monarchs' heads of the obverse, and the various patron divinities of the reverse. The art displayed in these issues is entirely of the Hellenistic style, special care and skill being shown in the execution of the royal bust, while the reverse already shows evident signs of degeneration.

During the first fifty years of the Syrian empire there had been existing and developing in its eastern part a wonderful civilization—the Greco-Bactrian. When Alexander had first conquered this region he began to carry out his dream of Hellenizing and forming into one people all the heterogeneous races of his empire. To accomplish this he collected the natives from all the surrounding country into large cities, and placed therein as a nucleus his Greek officers and veterans, who were only too glad to settle down and rest from their long campaigns. In Bactria the two people soon mixed and the natives gradually became Hellenized; they used the Greek language, became imbued with Greek ideas and grew skilled in Greek art. Bactria itself was a wealthy and wonderfully fertile land, guarded on three sides by vast deserts and on the fourth by the mighty ranges of the Hindu Cush. No wonder then that its people, now thoroughly filled by the Greek spirit, desired liberty, wearied as they were by the exactions of their governors and the neglect of the Syrian monarchs. So it came about that in the year 256 B. C., in the reign of the weak and incompetent Antiochus Theos, a certain Diodotus, governor of Bactria, raised the standard of revolt and founded the Bactrian kingdom. He was enabled to place his new kingdom on a firm foundation by the apathy of Antiochus, who allowed this province to slip from his grasp without a struggle. Diodotus adopted the style and denomination of his former masters, and his immediate successors did the same. They present to us a series of portraits

never before or since equalled in beauty, life-like appearance, or strength of their execution.

About 220 B. C. Euthydemus, and later his son Demetrius, invaded India and subjugated the northwestern provinces. In Bactria they still used the Greek standard, but in India they conformed to the types of the conquered peoples by issuing square silver and copper pieces, having a Greek inscription on the obverse and an Indian one on the reverse.

During all this time the wild hordes of the Scythians had been continually pressing down from the north, until at last in 126 B. C. the Greeks were driven out of Bactria into their possessions in northern India. Here they flourished for a while, although cut off from all intercourse with the rest of the Greek world by the intervening Scyths and Parthians. Surrounded by an alien people as they were, they nevertheless struggled valiantly on for a long time, and then vanished, leaving their traces in Indian art, and above all in their coinage, the only records we have of their tragic history. The coinage of Bactria was purely Greek, as we have seen, and lasted till the death of Eucratides and the expulsion of his son Helicocles by the Scyths. From this time on the artistic merit gradually deteriorated, though the artists still retained that ability to gain a life-like portrait that characterizes these eastern Greek engravers.

Hermaeus was the last king of this forgotten Hellenic civilization, and his coins clearly reveal to us his own fate and the destruction of the Greek power. Hermaeus at first evidently ruled over large territories, but soon his power waned before the onslaughts of the great Scythian hordes of the Kushans, who, not content with Bactria, were now sweeping down into India. The Greek king, no longer able to hold out, made peace and called Kujula Kadphises, the Scythian leader, his ally.

In the first part of his reign Hermaeus issued silver and bronze coins of considerable artistic merit, but so soon as the rude Scythians came into his kingdom his coinage at once degenerated into pieces of poor and even barbaric style bearing his own name and portrait on the obverse and on the reverse the name, in Indian, of Kujula, the confederate king of the Kushans. About 20 B. C. Hermaeus died, probably at the hands of his designing and too powerful ally, and the line of the Greek kings in the east ended forever. The bronze coins now on either side give the name of Kujula Kadphises alone.

Even before this time the Seleucid empire had been pushed westward by the powerful Parthian kingdom that had risen in the time of Diodotus among the mountains to the east of the Caspian Sea, and thence had swept down and conquered the countries from Bactria and India in the east to the boundaries of Syria in the west. The Seleucid empire had waned fast and then had collapsed by internal dissension and the withering approach of mighty Rome. All the other kingdoms of Alexander's successors also fell, one after the other, victims to the Roman's lust of conquest and wealth.

Thus by the devastating sweep of the Scythians over Bactria and India, by the pushing of the Parthians towards the Mediterranean, and by the coming of the Romans into Asia, the dynasties of the successors of Alexander vanish, and with them their coinage, never since equalled in the wonderful beauty of portraiture and delineation of character, to which even the splendid series of the Roman emperors must give way.

What to Collect.

Coin collections are offered at auction sale for several reasons, either through the death of their owner, or because of financial reverses, but generally because the numismatist tires of his collection and of collecting.

There are pieces within the reach of every collector which, if he has any love for history or politics or art, he will not tire of. The most important of these classes of coins, etc., are ancient, mediæval and modern foreign coins, political tokens, medals, the principal types of our American coins and American Colonial coins. Coins of artistic merit will always gladden and never tire the eyes of their possessor. Dr. Burke, of this city, who collects portrait coins of historical persons says that every evening before he retires he gets out all his coins and looks at them.

Some Historical Postage Stamps.

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E. Jenney.

The long drawn out war between England and the Boers has many philatelic reminders. The Transvaal, or South African Republic, first issued stamps in 1870 under Dutch supervision. In 1877 England seized the country and the Dutch stamps were surcharged "V. R. (Victoria regina) Transvaal," and later Transvaal stamps appeared with the head of Victoria upon them. In 1883, however, the Dutch again held the supremacy and from that date until 1900 the Dutch republic issued its stamps, all bearing the picture of the trekking wagon of the plains.

But during the late war confusion has reigned there. From parts of the country came the Boer issues, from other parts the Dutch stamps surcharged "V. R. I." (Victoria Regina, Imperatrix) and in 1901 "E. R. I.," tokens of English occupation; while on the other hand the Dutch invasions of the English colony, Cape of Good Hope, have brought provisional Boer issues from towns there. The historic siege of Mafeking has passed into philatelic history by the issue of a set of stamps during the siege by the British defenders, bearing the surcharge "Mafeking Besieged" and one of them having the portrait of its gallant hero, Baden-Powell. These historic souvenirs are held in high esteem by the fortunate possessors and some of them have brought three figures in recent auction sales in London.

Commemorative issues have been many since 1892, when the 400th anniversary of the discovery of, and landings in America called for special issues of stamps. Not only our Columbian issue appeared at that time, but the Argentine Republic, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela celebrated the event in special sets of stamps. In 1887 the queen's jubilee set was issued in England. In 1888 New South Wales issued a set of stamps bearing the words "One hundred years," commemorative of the one-hundredth anniversary of the settling of that colony. In 1897 Canada displayed a set of stamps in honor of the sixtieth anniversary of the queen's accession and bearing portraits side by side of the queen in 1837 and the queen in 1897. Japan, at the end of its successful war with China, issued stamps with the portraits of its successful generals, quite a departure for this country, since never before had anything but the national flower, the chrys-

anthemum, been used on its stamps. In 1892 a large stamp in honor of the silver wedding of the emperor was issued, also, and in 1900 another in honor of the wedding of the crown prince. Many other countries have celebrated their own historic events in this way. Besides our own Columbian issue of 1893, the Trans-Mississippi issue of 1898 in honor of the Omaha Exposition and illustrative of the civilization of the West, and the Pan-American issue of 1901 for the Buffalo Exposition and portraying the recent innovations in rapid transit in the fast ocean liner, the express train and the automobile, might be mentioned. And a new set is in preparation in honor of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and will probably be on sale by May 1st.

The well informed philatelist, who has read no other history than his stamps, might interest you for hours and days with the different stories his stamps tell him. Forty years ago Heligoland, Lubeck, Oldenburg, Wurtemberg, Schleswig, Bavaria, Thurn and Taxis, Hanover and Hamburg were all separate stamp-issuing countries. Today with one exception, Bavaria, they are not existent as such. All have come under the German Empire postal service, most of them years ago, but Wurtemberg only in January, 1902.

In 1900, by decree of the Czar, the Finland postal service was merged in that of Russia, and Finland postage stamps became a thing of the past. But the remonstrant Finns, seeing in this a curtailment of their liberty, issued a semi-official black stamp which they attached to their letters in addition to the required Russian stamp. This is the well-known "mourning stamp" of Finland.

Some of the impecunious Spanish American countries of South and Central America, viz. Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Costa Rica and Ecuador, short of funds on account of the many revolutions that harrassed them, for many years had a peculiar contract with the Hamilton Bank Note Company, of New York. This company furnished to them all the stamps they should need for postal use, a new issue being furnished each year, on the sole consideration that the company should have all the stamps left at the end of the year and the right to manufacture as many more as it pleased, for sale to collectors. These stamps which, of course, never were available for postage, are regarded by collectors with much disfavor, and are going down into history as "Seebecks," named for the President of the Bank Note Company.

The value that collectors place upon stamps has resulted in many more curious incidents. Obscure governments in out-of-the-way parts of the world—North Borneo, Central Africa, Lauban—have issued beautiful stamps, more for the purpose of luring the dollars from the pockets of collectors than for any postal necessity. A guano company issued a set of stamps for the Clipperton Islands which were promptly tabooed by collectors after discovering that the sole population of the islands consisted of a few employees imported there by the company.

A certain Baron Hardy-Hickey, whom the newspapers of a few years ago gave considerable notoriety, seized the small island of Trinidad, off the northern coast of South America, and issued a set of stamps for it, he being the entire population.

(To be continued)

Notes of Collectors.

Numismatists will welcome the news of the election of Dr. Heath as mayor of his native city, Monroe, Michigan.

Rev. E. C. Mitchell, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, has presented his very large and valuable archæological collection to the Minnesota Historical Society.

A remarkable collector is J. B. Lewis, of Petaluma, California. His enthusiasm is as real as a boy's, and his archæological collection is large and valuable. He writes that he had his first birthday party on March 15th last, when he reached his eighty-second milestone. He is still hale and hearty, and his hearing and sight are good. The fact that his grasp on affairs is still firm is evidenced by the fact that while he lives in Petaluma, he "runs a stock and dairy ranch five miles out." While he is still a good equestrian, he says he can't quite jump into the saddle as he could at seventy-five.

Letter from a Correspondent.

As I was sayin' :

The person who starts out to make a collection of paper money with the sole object in view of getting as many "bills" as possible will doubtless find himself in the same position as the Frenchman who collected corks. If he keeps at it long enough he will have a large collection, but one that will be of no particular interest to his friends, and, I fear, of no great satisfaction to himself.

In buying old bank bills simply because they happen to be cheap, without regard to condition, a lot of stuff will be accumulated that in after years will be found difficult to dispose of when he begins to take more pride in the condition of his collection, and tries to brighten it up with better specimens.

First and foremost in my esteem are the various notes of the C. S. A.—the regular Confederate national issues, the state bills, including the "Cotton Pledged" bills of Mississippi, the Arkansas and Texas treasury warrants, the Missouri Defence Bonds, and the numerous minor notes of city, county, corporation, parish and private issues, all redeemable in C. S. A. paper, of which there is an endless array.

The poverty of the Confederacy in its declining years makes a close study of these bills interesting, the dearth of paper among other commodities necessitating the printing of a large number of these small bills on the reverse of other bills that had never been signed or put in circulation. These for the most part were printed in the opposite direction from the bills printed upon, so that when cut apart there would be no confusion, but this rule was not always strictly adhered to, as witness this small bill in my collection of the Mechanics' Savings and Loan Association for \$5.00 on one side and a Bank of St. Mary's scrip for 50 cents on the other side, both being complete, regularly signed and dated. I can imagine the feelings of the young Southerner treating his friends with his last "five," and finding it had shrunken to 50 cents when he came to liquidate. Something like the writer, when a small chap, treating one of his chums to soda with his last dime and laying down a nickel three cent piece in payment.

Another bill of this nature is an issue of the Southern Railroad Company for \$2.00, printed on the back of a defunct bond bearing across its face in large red letters

SHARES
ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS
EACH,

almost obliterating the modest little "Two Dollars." I think a near-sighted man doing business in the "shank of the evening" would be very apt to check ninety-eight dollars short in his cash the following morning on account of this oddity.

Pennsylvania has always been considered a loyal state, but I have one piece of scrip dated at Natchitochis, Pa., redeemable in C. S. A. notes—which goes to show how little a thing can place an otherwise spotless reputation in jeopardy—in this case merely the substitution of a P for an L.

The "unpleasantness between the states" was supposed to date from 1861, or the causes leading up to it a few years prior to this date. I have before me a note of Washington County, Virginia, dated at Abingdon, Va., June 15, 1682. This bill offers to pay bearer sum of 25 cents in current funds on and after the 1st day of January, 1865; in other words, 182 years, 6 months and 15 days from apparent date of issue. However, as this note did not fall into the bearer's hands until approximately 178 years after alleged date of issue, it would curtail his waiting considerably.

Another freak of the types is a note of the corporation of St. Martinsville for FIFTY CENTS. The purchasing power of this bill I am ignorant of, at a time when it took \$3,000 in C. S. A. script to buy a pair of boots. Another oddity is a 20 cent note from NORTH CAROLINA.

I could cite other cases similar to the above, but the foregoing will serve to show the poverty of resources and unsettled condition of the Southern states at a time when every one, including "I, Jacob Benner, of Mary Ann Farm," issued his own money, and everything "went" (some not a great ways, though, without a good deal of company).

A pathetic cord is touched upon in a little note for \$5.00 of the Cotton Planters' Loan Association, when they "promise to pay in gold within six months after the raising of the blockade of our coast," and Jeff Davis' famous slogan is voiced on a note of Franklin, La., by an eagle proclaiming to the world, "All we ask is to be let alone." I think a substitution of "a loan" for the final word would have been more in keeping with their finances.

A truly Southern, or you might say "Uncle Tom's Cabin" atmosphere, pervades some of these interesting relics, such as "The Police Jury of the Parish of Pointe Coupee will pay," etc., and bills issued by the "Camperdorm Plantation," "The New Orleans and Bayou Sara Line," "The Red River Packet Co.," etc.

The foregoing will illustrate why I am particularly interested in Confederate scrip, although other lines are equally interesting if one makes a study of them, notably the French "Assignats" of 1792, during the bloodiest period of French history. Here we have francs, sols, sous, and livres. This last one of five livres I always imagine to be a due bill on the meat market, and used to see in fancy the scene when the German butcher and "Bone-apart meat together." Still, the little Corsican did not appear until three years after these were issued, and in such troublesome times it is hard to tell whether these would be worth even a boneless liver by that time.

Almost any line of bills will prove of interest if one will but "notice things," and if not, hardly any line will prove of much profit to the man with a hobby.

Iguessthat'sallfortoday.

ALGERNON DEVERE.

"Sun" Numismatics.

There is no question but the *Sun*, of this city, is printing more numismatic material than any other American newspaper. Mr. E. H. Adams, who conducts the numismatic column of this newspaper, is showing fine ability in his replies to correspondents, who live in all quarters of the United States. As much as three columns in the Sunday edition are given over to the subject. We again thank our newspaper friends, and it is only fair that we should voice our appreciation.

"A Coin-ci-dent."

(Badly dented—almost broke.)

By LUKE McGLUE.

An unhappy baboon sadly gazed at the moon,
 As he sat on a juniper tree;
 And this poor little loon sang a sorrowful tune,
 In a minor and most mournful key.

"O! fair Queen of the Sky, hear a fond lover's sigh;
 I'm in love with a sweet little maid;
 But whene'er I draw nigh she will up stakes and fly—
 Won't you graciously lend me your aid?"

Lady Moon drawing near, dried her eye of a tear,
 Showed a face from which all joy had fled;
 Her sweet voice sounded clear through the still atmosphere,
 These being the words that she said:

"To your call I'd descend, and my aid would extend,
 But I'm helpless as helpless can be;
 My unfortunate friend, I have nothing to lend,
 For I'm on my last quarter you see."



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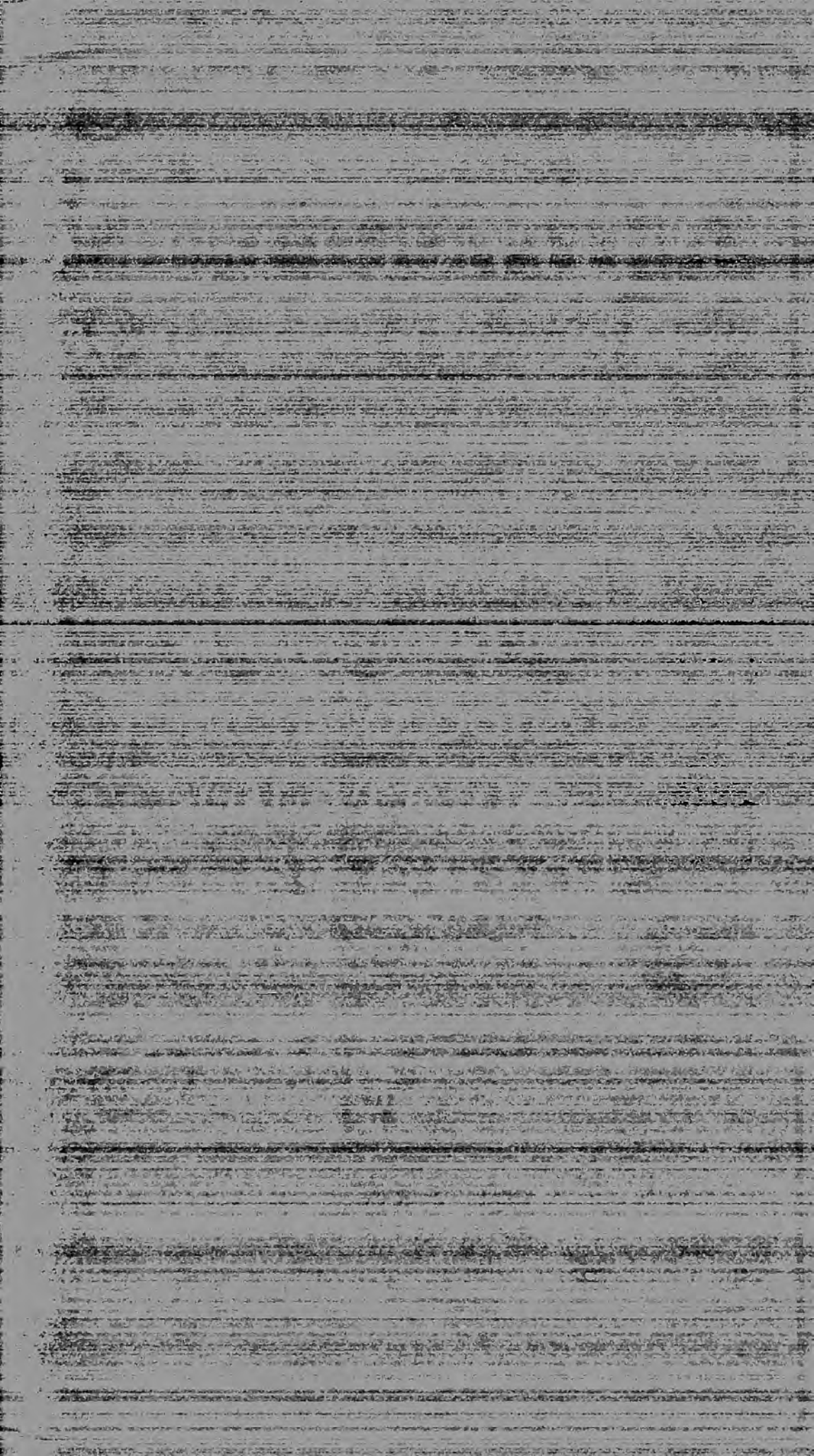
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The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

June-July Elder Monthly

Owing to the fact that recent large auction sales have occupied the entire time of the editor, and also because of the present hot season, he is obliged to consolidate the June and July issues. The next issue will, therefore, be out in August.

The Prize Contest

In our Prize Contest, we find that by eliminating the manuscripts of those who failed to comply with the rules, we do not have sufficient

contestants to warrant a decision. We are therefore obliged to defer our awards for the present. We may say, however, that in the Numismatic contest the article by Edward T. Newell entitled "The Coinage of Alexander's Successors," while not being strictly on Greek coins, and thus falling short of the requirement, was the best article submitted.

The Position of the Auction Cataloguer

As there are two sides to every question, the cataloguer of coins for auction sale has his side also.

The owner of the coins to be sold naturally wants to realize the highest possible amount from their sale. The buying collector naturally wants to secure everything at the lowest price. The owner of the collection insists that each piece be fully described, and the buyer often requires that each piece be described with excruciating exactness. Nearly every collector has a different idea as to conditions, and for these reasons the cataloguer may consider himself a sort of general target, and in an unenviable position.

The carelessness of some bidders is evidenced by the fact that they will bid on "United States Fractional Currency Essays," when catalogued as such, when they meant to bid on the regular issues. These few invariably decline to stand by their guns and take their medicine, and after keeping such lots from three days to three weeks, will return them with the information that they did not know what the lots were, or, as is generally the case, give some microscopical technicality as to condition as a just cause for returning them. Often these lots are returned when the cataloguer has settled in full with the owner of the pieces, thus necessitating considerable bookkeeping, if indeed the ill will of the owner is not incurred also.

The cataloguer often finds the cataloguing of the coins a tedious labor, requiring long and patient research, and slight errors in cataloguing often subject him to the ridicule and criticism of certain of his contemporaries.

His printer charges him anywhere from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per page for printing. A page of type is often used in cataloguing four or five lots of foreign copper coins, and yet most collectors object to

paying 25 per cent. for having their coins catalogued and sold; indeed, 20 per cent. is a stumbling block to some. Three months' experience as an auction cataloguer will remove all ideas as to whether a cataloguer earns his 25 per cent. He sends the coins out all over the United States and Canada, without an advance remittance generally, and assumes all risk. While it may be incorrect to state that all cataloguers describe every piece as it should be—and even cataloguers make no claims to infallibility—it may be safely said that cataloguers in general catalogue very fairly. The field of coin collectors is limited, and no one knows better than the cataloguer that he must treat his clients fairly, for to lose a customer means a diminishing of the field, and upon fair dealing his very existence depends.

The Typology of Sekhet

Written for the MONTHLY by B. P. Wright, M. D.

One of the goddesses of ancient Egypt was the lion-headed Sekhet or Pekhet. She is described as having many attributes, but the most remarkable one is of dividing and becoming the mythical "Two Sisters" who presided over the upper and lower worlds, mistress of the North and South. In as much as mythology guards the record of the prehistoric past, we would expect to find "two women" playing an important role in the affairs of the human race, and this is just what we do find, not only in mythology, but in the Bible as well. In Ruth iv:2 we are told of the two wives of Jacob, "which two did build the house of Israel."

The statues of the goddess represent a female having the head of a lion, the abdomen and mammary glands very prominent, about the neck a razed collar, emblematical of the sun. In her right hand she holds the Ankh sign of life. This sign here denotes "feminine pubescence"—the dawn of womanhood.

The Ritual or Book of the Dead tells us that "Sekhet was the consort Ptah and the mother of Atum-Ra."

As the genitrix of the gods she is designated as the "only one," divided into the Two Sisters to become regent of heaven and hell.

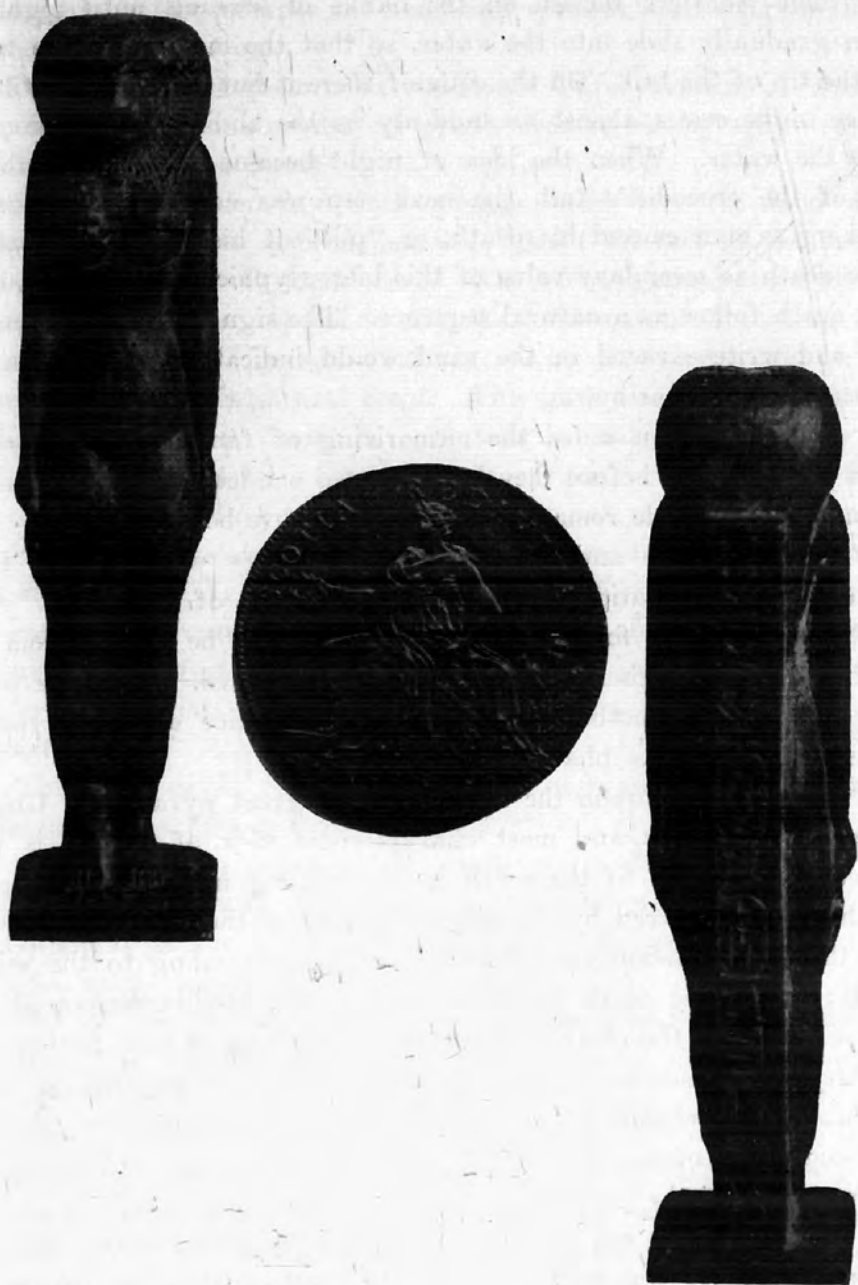
The Egyptians have endowed her with so many attributes that her nature is complex. Gerald Massey (Typology of Time, p. 273)

thus describes her: "Sekhet is a sun goddess as the lioness, but she is also the divinity of sexual pleasure and strong drink, the fierce inspirer of masculine potency. She represents no mere fire of the sun, but is the fuel, the producer of the fire, whether solar or human. She was the causer and kindler of a fire so fierce that the lioness must needs be its type of expression.

In her attribute of the goddess of love she was the patroness and instructress of sexual matters in the mysteries that led to the establishing of such institutions as those of Qodeshoth, Pallakists, Nauch girls and those various forms of Temple Hetaraei. The origin of all these is not traceable to depraved human nature, but on the contrary these institutions were inculcated with an idea of the reproduction and preservation of the race. The natural man considered the doctrine of salvation, the winning or saving souls, to consent in their propagation. In Prov xi:30 is confirmation of this idea, for we read: "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise." With many ancient races "a tree of life" is a child, and as each child must contain a soul, the propagation of offspring was a pledge of wisdom.

In order to understand how the minds of the Egyptians conceived the ideas embodied in their sun goddess we must try to think back to the stage of childhood of civilization, for letters, signs and symbols that have rendered the most assistance in humanizing man now appear to us in their dotage, and like the old grandfather sitting by the chimney corner, do not reveal the attributes they possessed in their sturdy manhood. All signs and symbols had a simple and natural genesis, just such as would occur to a child or primitive man. They were not invented, but were evolved and adopted as an absolute necessity by man in the very babyhood of his civilization to aid him in expressing his ideas before language had been sufficiently developed to convey thought without their aid. All primitive or radical sounds required ages upon ages of persistent effort to develop before they attained the high position they now occupy in spoken language.

Letters were not invented, but were developed and evolved out of simple, natural ideographs. The hieroglyphics of Egypt have stereotyped many of the letters' values for our study, and show how natural was their genesis, e. g., the hieroglyphic value of the tip of a crocodile's tail is that of night. The genesis of this sign is natural.



EGYPTIAN GODDESS "SEKHET,"

*From a photograph of the original in possession of Albert R. Frey,
F. R. N. S.*

for these monsters remain on the banks of streams until nightfall, then gradually slide into the water, so that the last thing seen would be the tip of the tail. On the equator there is but little or no twilight, hence night comes almost as suddenly as the sliding of the crocodile into the water. When the idea of night became associated with the tip of the crocodile's tail, the next step was easy, for this organ striking a man caused his death, or "put out his light," so that we have death as secondary value of this hieroglyphic. Thus night, dark and death follow as a natural sequence. The sign was easy to remember and write—traced in the sand would indicate dark, danger, or death to the passer-by.

A written sign aided the memorizing of facts. Children often read pictures long before they have learned one letter value, and make up a very creditable romance from their picture books.

The first gods and goddesses of mythology were nothing more than the personifications of the natural events of daily life. The mother would come first, for discreet could only be traced from the mother when the primitive social condition obtained. Then the natural conditions of motherhood would attract notice and give rise to ideas relating to this phase of life.

Let one stand upon the summit of the great pyramid of Ghizeh, where a panoramic and most characteristic view of Egypt is presented. Extending to the south is the seeming unending Necropolis of the desert, pierced by the silvery waters of the Nile; to the west rise the Libyan mountains, forming an abrupt ending to the yellow sands; far to the north the blue water of the Mediterranean glisten like a mirror in the clear atmosphere; to the east is that Red sea of mystery and romance. As the eye images this vast expanse of sand, reason asks by what hap can nature make this desert yield its "double-breasted bounteousness" of two harvests a year, upon which depend the very life of the people.

The Nile does not appear to differ from other rivers, with its green water hurrying to the sea, but the north wind raising the water of the Mediterranean, thus damming back the onflow of the Nile, churns and mixes the water with the soil, which contains the red oxides of iron, soon changes the hue of the water to blood red. This red water, meeting with that of the south, which is highly charged with ammonia

and organic matter, escapes the bank and spreads itself over the land and the inundation is on.

Egypt is to be re-born in richness. Three months of enrichment, followed by nine months of productiveness, is the annual story of this miracle of the desert.

The vast crimson flow that spreads itself over the land with yearly regularity was a phenomenon of great interest to the people who considered blood as liquid flesh. Not knowing the nature of red hematite, it would be natural to say the land was menstruating and making preparations for seed planting. The next step would be the personification of this natural event. This gave rise to the conception of this goddess. Hor-Apollo b. 1-10 tells us that the Egyptians denoted the inundation by a lion, because one-half of the water which flowed during the three months was poured out during the time the sun was in the sign of Leo. The Nile was more a type of the female than the male, so the change from the lion sign to that of the lioness was not beyond reason. The river, on account of its annual inundation and yearly fertilizing of the land, was a type of periodicity, a fulfiller of promise, just as our goddess was a periodic reproducer personified.

This gives us the reason for figuring the head of a lioness joined to the body of a human female.

The Egyptians regarded the south as the front, the north the back; out of the south came the sun and the scorching heat of the desert, which on the equator is truly of the fierceness "which must needs have a lioness for its type."

Out of the north came the moisture and cold breezes and the wind from the Mediterranean sea, which formed the chief cause for the overflow of the Nile.

The ritual tells us that Sekhet divided into two sisters. If we simply understand this to mean that the goddess stands facing the south and the front half of this divinity received the name Sekhet and having all the attributes of fierce, scorching heat, we will grasp the true significance. Then name the back half of the goddess Pekhet and give the opposite attributes to this back half. The mystery is of easy solution, and as this goddess contains as much hidden wisdom as the average mythological creation, it is not necessary for such elaborate explanations that many moderns advance. When the real

bottom is reached in symbolism, it is so simple that many incredibly ingenious explanations become absurd. In passing to the attributes of the back or northern half of our goddess we find that she is connected with opening or dawn. This was the dawn that "broke in blood."

In primitive sociology it meant a happy day for woman, and formed an occasion for rejoicing. The red iron mixed with water spreading over the land was also a happy promise of increase to Egypt. Pekhet was the personification not only of the dawn of day—the dawn of a new year of rich harvest—but the dawn of womanhood as well. Puberty is the dawn or springtime of the sexes, and as such has been the period of festivals and rejoicing from earliest times.

The statement that our goddess "divided to become the Two Sisters" is not difficult to understand on physiological reasons, as it simply denotes that the virgin passed into the gestator or bearing mother as soon as the feminine fount opened with streams of liquid life. We are told that "in the beginning there was no sin." This statement is an absolute truth, for when man only recognized two appetites, i. e., digestion and generation, there could be no sin in obeying the natural instincts of his being.

If we take man as he appeared in Palaeolithic stage of development we will find the sum of all his feelings can be reduced to the two desires of self preservation and reproduction. With his stomach well filled and his sexual appetite satisfied, a Troglodyte was content to dose in his cave until his slumbers were disturbed by the re-awakening of his two desires. If there existed any traces of the fine arts they were so close to nature that they were pure and unshamed in their nakedness. These two desires gave origin to the "Two Truth" of Egypt, the bases all of symbolism, and these can be still further reduced to the condition of breathing and no breath, i. e., life and death.

Egypt is the land that furnishes the connecting link between the unguageable and prehistoric past with the present. In the study of the early history of Scotland it is somewhat startling to find that the Scots and Picts, members of the same race, should claim descent from our lion-headed goddess in her dual phase as divinity of the south and north. Sekhet, as mistress of the south, the source of fire

and heat, is claimed as the mother of the Scots or Sekhti. They inhabited the south of Scotland. Pekhet is likewise said to be the mother of the Picts, who was the mistress of the north, the region of moisture. The Pects or Pekhti dwelled in the north of Scotland.

The Scots named their goddess *Scota* (*Scotia*), but gave her the same attribute as Sekhet possessed. She was a fire goddess, whose fire was in the keeping of nine maids. In Ireland *Scota* was called *Bridget*. She accompanied St. Patrick as his wife. Sekhet was the wife *Ptah*. *Pudduch* is an old word meaning frog. *Ptah* in Egypt was a frog-headed deity. The Druids have a title for priest *Paterah*. *Rekh* in Egyptian means priest, wise man, teacher. If he were a priest of *Ptah* his title would be *Ptah-rekh*. We may marvel at the similarity of the terms *Paterah*, *Ptah-rekh*, *Patrick*.

St. Patrick was christened *Succath* or *Socher* by his parents. These words denote a bearer or carrier. Sekhet was a bearer of the child. Another ancient name of the Scots was *Cruitnich*, i. e., "Cornmen." Sekhet was the harvest goddess, and the month *Choiak*, which answers to our October-November, was sacred to her.

The principal festival of *Bridget*, according to the "Reformed calendar," was held on the 7th day of October.

Many authors tell us the word *Pict* is derived from the Latin *picti*, meaning painted; but *Pekhet* was the watcher and announcer of the north wind from the Mediterranean sea that was to mix the red oxide of iron with the water of the Nile. *Peke*, meaning peek, pry or peer into, comes from her name and her office as announcer that the crimson flow was due in Egypt. As the goddess of menstruation, red was a color peculiarly sacred to her, and her place in the zodiac was at the spring equinox, the birthplace of a new seed planting.

Pliny states that the paint used by the early Britons was *Woad*, and *Jornandes* tells us that *Woad* was obtained from iron ore, and while this metal yields several colors, those of red and green were symbolic of "seed planting" in its agricultural as well as in its mystical significance. To show how people of different tongues juggle with letters' values or sounds, the following is taken from *Brewers' Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* under the word *Scot*.

"The same as *Soythian* in Etymology, the root of both is *Sct*. The Greeks had no *c* and would change *t* into *th*, making the root *skth*, and by adding a phonetic vowel we get *Skuthai* (*Scythians*)

and Skothai (Scoths). The Welsh disliked s at the beginning of a word and would change it to ys. They would also change c or k to g, and th to d, whence the Welsh root would be ysgod. Once more the Saxons would cut off the Welsh y and change the g back again to c and the d to t, converting ysgod to scot."

Egypt in Welsh is Aipht, which equates with the Hebrew Japht as a title of the Lady or Queen of Heaven.

In my collection is a token issued at Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1797. The obverse bears the bust of Gullielmus Vallus, but as this is not pertinent to our subject, we pass to the reverse, which bears a representation of the goddess Scotia seated facing the left. In her extended right hand she holds a wreath of mistletoe; with her left she supports a St. Andrews shield. The thistle of Scotland is growing at her feet. The legend is "SCOTIA REDIVIVA." In the exergue is the date, which is divided by the initials C. F. in cipher thus: 17 CF 97. Atkins states that these initials stand for Col. Fullerton, the issuer of the token.

If we make mistletoe yield its primitive meaning by its Egyptian verbal variants we find mes to denote birth, ter time, ta to drop or deposit.

These primates combined give us mes-ter-ta, with the meaning, "at the time the new birth was deposited." We would say "at the period the new birth occurred," which, when used in reference to the seasons, would denote the equinoxes.

The Druids used a sprig of mistletoe as a sign of the winter solstice. Sekhet, or Scotia, was mistress of this period of the year.

Taliesin, the Druidic poet, relates that the mistletoe was "born of the oak." They did not understand its parasitic nature, so considered the branches of the oak tree to give it birth.



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(Continued from last issue)

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E Jenney.

The first postmaster of New Brunswick, a Mr. Connell, lost his position by ambition and postage stamps. He thought that his own portrait would look as well on the new stamps of his colony as the queen's, and so issued them. The powers that be could not overlook this, and demonetized the stamps and discharged the postmaster, and the few Connell stamps in existence today are worth hundreds of dollars.

The death of Capt. Leary in December, 1901, recalls another piece of philatelic history. It will be remembered that the island of Guam was ceded to the United States in the late settlement with Spain and Capt. Richard P. Leary was appointed the first governor. Before he started for his distant province, he made application to the Postoffice Department for some postage stamps to be used there, for hitherto the Spanish stamps of the Philippine Islands had been used for the Ladrone group also. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing furnished a supply of United States stamps surcharged "Guam," and thus Guam became first recognized by the Postal Union. A day before Capt. Leary sailed some stamp dealers and collectors discovered the fact of the new issue, and some of them managed to interview him on the boat before sailing, but Capt. Leary having had the stamps printed for the use of the people of Guam, refused to sell any to the applicants, even though fabulous offers were made to him. Stamp collectors, however, were not to be thus balked, and within a few months after his arrival in Guam, in fact by the next mail steamer stopping there, he was simply overwhelmed with letters containing stamps, money orders, personal checks and drafts in payment for the new stamps. It is authoritatively stated that orders and cash were received for more than ten times the amount of the whole issue of stamps. Being a business man, the Governor did not see why all this money should be returned to those so anxious to part with it just because there were not stamps enough to fill the orders, so he ordered a new supply of stamps from Washington sufficient to meet the demands of collectors. Even this second lot to the amount of some ten

thousand dollars did not last long, but before any more could be shipped there, negotiations were completed by which Guam became a part of the United States postal system instead of a protege of the Navy Department, and now plain United States stamps are used there. For a while, however, it seemed to the steamers that periodically stopped there for mails as if the whole population of the island had been devoting the entire twenty-four hours per diem to writing letters. Certain it is that the mail matter to and from Guam increased an hundred fold during the short term of Leary's governorship.

In many stamp collections are seen a set of stamps bearing the name Sedang. It will puzzle most people even to place the country, but there is a unique history connected with them scarcely remembered today except by the philatelist. A few years ago there died on a small island off the Malay Peninsular a man known as the king of the Sedangs. He was bitten by a cobra. He was a Frenchman, whose real name was Marie David de Marena. A wanderer in the far east, he had met with many adventures, and finally on account of some unusual display of personal bravery he was elected king of the Sedangs, a native tribe inhabiting the interior region beyond Annam in Africa. Here he ruled for a number of years with a somewhat laughable dignity, establishing relations with the French missionaries and making treaties with France. Later he visited Hong Kong and tried to interest some of the merchants in a negotiation by which they were to develop the country in return for certain duties on exports. But the French government denounced him as an impostor.

Then he offered himself and his country to the British, but strange to say they would have nothing to do with him. Next he tried Germany, and was so indiscreet as to send an open telegram, which, passing through the French office at Saigon, was read, and he was ordered to be arrested for treason. He, however, avoided arrest, and after some years spent in Europe, ended his adventurous life as above recorded. With more success he might have been a second Rajah Brooke, whose portrait still comes to us on the stamps of Sarawak.

Thus is the rise and fall of men, dynasties and empires recorded or recalled by postage stamps; France, with its succession of first republic, empire and second republic; Alsace-Lorraine, once belonging to one country, now to another; Rhodesia, honoring a name all-powerful in South African history; China, once a closed empire, now showing

the effects of the recent serious troubles by the stamps coming therefrom with French, Russian, German and English China surcharged thereon and American stamps with no surcharge at all; Confederate stamps, old and faded, bearing the portrait of Jefferson Davis and reminding us of the terrible civil contention of our own country; Lombardy-Venice, the two Sicilies, Tuscany and the Papal States, now all merged into the Italian empire; Mexico, with its issue of 1864 depicting the short rule of the exiled Maximilian; the native states of India in their curious Hindoo hieroglyphics acknowledging the sovereignty of England—in fact, what country in all the world is there whose history contains not some overwhelming event to which a page or a line in our stamp albums attracts instant attention as we slowly turn the leaves, musing on the mutability of human affairs.

THE END.

T. W. Campbell, publisher of the *Morning Lily Memorial*, Elgin, Ill., circulates fraudulent information about coins, advertising to pay "big prices for U. S. pennies dated 1880," in order to get names and addresses. We are glad to tender this "memorial."

Read the splendid articles by Dr. B. P. Wright and Charles E. Jenney. They will attract the reader who never cared for either Egyptology or Philately.

The Government has been asked to aid the Jamestown Exposition to be held in 1907 by coining 1,000,000 \$2 silver pieces.

If you like the MONTHLY and are not a subscriber, then become one at once.

 The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 29th regular meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, on Friday evening, June 1st, President G. W. Tracy presiding.

A shield of fractional currency was received from the St. Louis Stamp and Coin Co.

The following gentlemen were elected to membership: Wm. A. Quayle, Howland Speakman, F. N. Massoth and B. G. Johnson.

On motion a committee was appointed to draw up resolutions to be forwarded to Senator Cullom, asking him to use his influence in a move to have the appropriation for purchase of coins for the Mint Cabinet largely increased.

Mr. Tracy presented a paper on the Russian coins of Peter the Great. Mr. Dunham exhibited a half dime of 1802, a dollar of 1804 and a half eagle of 1822, all being of excessive rarity. Mr. Leon showed a \$5.00 gold piece of Schults & Co., and Mr. Simpson several fine early United States dollars.

Spink's numismatic circular for May and catalogs from St. Louis Stamp and Coin Co., Green and Elder were received since last meeting.

Adjourned to meet July 6th.

 Among the Societies

 THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
 NEW YORK.

Contributions to the cabinet of the society continue to pour in, and if the present record continues, the greatest coin collection in America will at no very far distant day belong to this society. The recent generous contributors have been Daniel Parrish, Jr., a former president of the society, Charles Gregory, J. Sanford Saltus and the Herbert Valentine estate. Mr. Saltus has contributed \$2,000 or more in cash toward the building fund and splendid and complete sets of

United States gold dollars, half cents and cents, the two last mentioned sets containing many gems, and the cent collection has the "Jefferson head" of 1795 and a "cotton leaf," among eleven varieties of 1793. Mr. Crosby in his work states that only three specimens of the "cotton leaf" variety are known. Mormon gold and an interesting Confederate States series make this an unusual offering. Mr. Parrish has continued his unique custom of first loaning a series of foreign crowns, double and triple crowns, and then presenting them to the society. Wm. Poillon, the indefatigable curator, has presented a new German Masonic medal in silver and bronze, and is working hard at classifying the new additions.

We notice in the cabinet an interesting and artistic medal commemorating the 250th anniversary of Jewish settlement in America, the work of Isidore Konti, a member of the society.

The splendid medals of the society to Sir Francis Drake and John Paul Jones, we hear, are about completed.

President Archer M. Huntington is enjoying a European trip at present. Mr. Huntington is a noted Hispanic student, and his collection of the coins and medals of Spain and her colonies numbers close to 20,000 pieces.

Work is well along on the society's new "palace of coins."

At the last meeting, on motion of Thomas L. Elder, Dr. Andrew D. Baird, president of Manitoba College, was elected a corresponding member of the society. Dr. Baird is one of the few specialists in ancient and mediæval coins, and illustrates his lectures before the students with coins.

THE OHIO SOCIETIES.

The Columbus Numismatic Society held interesting meetings recently at the homes of President H. E. Buck and Vice-President D. L. Ziegler, of Delaware, Ohio. The feature of the meetings was a banquet, set for fifty, who dined from old Staffordshire, Wedgewood, Adams, Clews and Jackson china. This gathering was represented by members from Columbus and other points.

We are sorry to print the news that Robert T. King, a respected member of the Columbus Societies, has suffered a paralytic stroke, but we learn that he is recovering.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CURIO COLLECTORS.

Volume I, No. 3, of the Bulletin of this society is well worthy of note, and Roy Farrell Greene, of Arkansas City, Kansas, the president and editor, deserves much praise for the immense amount of conscientious work which he has done for years and is doing, without pay, for the many branches of collecting represented by his society. We know Mr. Greene to be a journalist of national reputation and a splendid good fellow. The editor of the ELDER MONTHLY was the first vice-president of the above society, which now has about 600 members enrolled.

Medals for Regulars

To gratify the pride and stimulate the ambition of the soldiers of the regular army, the general staff has issued an order requiring veterans of the Spanish war, the Philippine insurrection and the Peking relief expedition to wear bronze medals as a part of their uniform on dress parade and occasions of ceremony. This will give the boys something to be proud of. They have also provided a special badge to be worn by soldiers of the regular army who have been awarded what is known as the certificate of merit. This certificate is bestowed upon enlisted men who have distinguished themselves for good conduct, gallantry and soldierly qualities. It is not so high as the medal of honor, but is very much prized and entitles the holder to two dollars a month extra pay.

Secretary Taft has ordered similar medals for veterans of the civil war and the Indian wars, under similar regulations. These medals are not for volunteers, but for regulars only.

After receiving and rejecting various designs submitted by officers of the army, artists and other persons interested, Quartermaster General Humphrey has placed the entire responsibility of securing designs and supervising the casting of the medals to Frank D. Millet, the well known artist, who has submitted drawings for all of the six badges, and they have been approved by the Secretary of War. The dies will be cut and the casting will be done at the Philadelphia mint, under Mr. Millet's directions, in the following numbers:

Order of merit	200
Civil war	1,000
Indian wars	2,000
Spanish war	5,000
Philippine insurrection	21,000
Chinese relief expedition	1,000

The following is a description of the several designs:

THE CIVIL WAR.

Obverse—Head of Lincoln in circle composed of inscription, "With malice toward none, with charity for all."

Reverse—The words, "The Civil War," and the dates, "1861-1865," in a circle composed of a branch of oak and a branch of laurel.

INDIAN WARS.

Obverse—An Indian in war bonnet brandishing a spear and mounted on a pony, in a circle composed of the words, "Indian Wars," and conventionalized arrow heads arranged like a laurel wreath either side of a buffalo skull.

Reverse—A military trophy with the name of an Indian campaign, in a circle composed of the words "United States Army" and thir-

MERIT.

Obverse—Eagle in a circle composed of the words, "Virtutis et Audaciae Monumentum et Praemium."

Reverse—The words "For Merit" surrounded by a laurel wreath in circle composed of the words "United States Army" and thirteen stars.

SPANISH WAR.

Obverse—A conventionalized "morro" in a circle composed of the words "War with Spain" and a conventionalized branch of the tobacco plant and stalks of sugar cane on either side, with the date "1898."

Reverse—A military trophy above the word "Cuba," or "Porto Rico," or "Philippines," in a circle composed of the words "United States Army" and thirteen stars.

PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION.

Obverse—Conventionalized cocoanut palm tree, with the scales of Justice on the right and the Lamp of Enlightenment on the left, in a circle composed of the words "Philippine Insurrection," and the dates "1899-1904."

Reverse—A military trophy above the word "Luzon," "Mindanao" or other designation of a campaign in the islands, in a circle composed of the words "United States Army," and thirteen stars.

CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Obverse—The imperial Chinese five-toed dragon in a circle composed of the words "China Relief Expedition," and the dates "1900-1901."

Reverse—A military trophy above the words "Peking-Tientsin" or other designation of the campaign, in a circle composed of the words "United States Army," and thirteen stars.

The military trophy adopted for the reverse consists of an eagle perched on a cannon, with five standards significant of the five great campaigns in which the United States army has been engaged; an Indian spear, shield and quiver, a Filipino bolo and a Malay kriss. The morro selected for the design on the Spanish war medal is intended to be characteristic of Cuba rather than Spain.

The eagle on the Merit medal is taken from the famous marble Roman eagle in the possession of Lord Wemys, formerly Lord Elcho, well known for his great interest in the British volunteers.

RIBBONS.

The Civil War—Blue ground with stripes of white and red on either side.

Indian Wars—Vermillion ground with narrow edge of dark red.

Merit—Red ground with stripes of blue and white on either side.

War with Spain—Yellow ground with red stripes on either side and narrow edge of dark blue.

Philippine Insurrection—Green ground with stripes of light blue and dark blue on either side.—*Washington Star*.

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Vol. I.

AUGUST

No. 5

DEVOTED TO THINGS
NUMISMATIC
ARCHÆOLOGIC
PHILATELIC
HISTORIC
ANTIQUE ETC.



Published by Thomas L. Elder
AT THIRTY TWO EAST TWENTY THIRD STREET

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Editorials

Cornering Rare Coins

Every little while, for many years, someone has tried to corner a certain rare coin, and such persons seem to have had as ill-luck with it as philatelists similarly bent have had with rare stamps. Just now the most notable corner is on the United States flying eagle cents of 1856. Several hundred of these rare pieces are known to be in the hands of three or four enterprising American collectors. One of these gentlemen, probably the second or third individual who attempted this experiment, thought the original coinage was only 1,000 pieces and now has himself over 200 of this date. He has a keen appetite for California \$50 gold slugs also and we hear has over 50 of these golden

chunks. We have reason to believe that there is a corner being attempted on the three cent silver piece of 1873. Indeed this speculator has been working silently but with such industry that the market is very shy of the tiny pieces already. As only about \$15 worth of these pieces were coined in 1873, it would seem a rather easy matter to put the coin of this year out of reach. Some years ago a New York collector tried to corner the three cent silver pieces, and he would probably have succeeded had he stuck to one or two dates. As it was he soon found the pieces coming in faster than he could handle them. Some day it may enter the mind of persons with large holdings of such coins to unload, and in this event collectors would find as much interest in watching results as the plunger in stocks has in watching a severe slump. Of course a slump in the value of rare coins must be regarded by the indifferent outsider as a rare bit of humor, but the numismatist has more than an ordinary interest in the flying eagle cent of 1856 which for sometime after it was first issued was advertised by dealers at 25c each, and now sells anywhere from \$10 to \$15.

\$333,000.00 in Real Confederate Money

Confederate money,—the regular issues known as Confederate Treasury notes—are not hard to find even forty five years after they were issued, but lots with face value running well over a quarter of a million dollars do not often materialize nowadays. A neat uncirculated lot of uncanceled Confederates with face value amounting to something over \$333,000.00 was bought, over the counter recently by Thomas L. Elder. This lot had been resting comfortably and undisturbed for over 40 years in the bottom of an old family trunk in a southern home near Atlanta, Georgia. Measured by its face value this probably is the largest lot of these bills which has been offered north of Mason and Dixon's line for some years.

Death of George P. Rupp

Our Masonic brethren, and numismatists in general will regret to learn of the loss, by death, of George P. Rupp, librarian of Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, whose demise occurred at the Jewish Hospital on July 3rd last. Mr. Rupp was probably the most notable collector of Masonic insignia in the United States, and all who knew him speak highly of his kind and charming personality. In the death of Mr. Rupp the collecting field has lost a valued and respected member.

A Boom in Coin Collecting

With the recent acquisitions of literature on the subject of silver, gold and other coins, and with hundreds of newspapers giving the science wide notice and advertisement, all tending to educate the beginner and student, there is no reason why coins should not only advance in price,—and particularly the gold and silver coins of all countries,—but numismatics should be given a fine impetus. Too much stress cannot be laid on the work of such men as Dr. George F. Heath, whose inquiry department in boy's papers, is doing much to make coin collectors. And it is an undeniable fact that the dealer who advertises small collections for the beginner and who is willing to humor the small fry is doing a splendid work. Now that we have the newspaper men with us and with an army of several hundred thousand boys watching our every move through the columns of the magazines and newspapers, nothing short of a miracle can prevent the cohorts of numismatics from marching forward in redoubled phalanx five years hence.

Greek and United States Coins

A Chicago newspaper takes it upon itself to defend the barbarous product of dimes, quarters, half dollars and dollars which passes through our hands daily, and in replying to Mr. Dunham's statement in which he compares it with the best standards of workmanship as shown by the coins of the ancient Greeks, states that the Greek silver coins were not used for, nor designed for, general circulation. We would like to know if Alexander the Great had his almost numberless mints working overtime for fun, just to give the Grecians something to look at but handle not. The very fact of the commonness of the Macedonian tetradrachms is itself conclusive evidence that the Greek coins saw hard circulation, and surely the large number of badly worn Greek silver coins of all classes which continually come to our notice verifies this. No valid excuse can be given by anybody for the uncouth and senseless aspect of our coins. We have St. Gaudens and Brenner and other die-sinkers of note, and all that stands between Americans and a beautiful coinage is the lack of a will on the part of the people, our congressmen and our senators to have it. Hasten the exit of the whimsical pastry-cook's "eagle" and Caucasian "Indian." If we must have Eagles and Indians on our coins we want the real things.

In New Dress

For several reasons it has been thought advisable to remove the regular cover from THE ELDER MONTHLY, and slightly change its appearance otherwise. Heretofore it has been printed in a more expensive way than its circulation will justify. The editor finds that some collectors are not even willing to encourage the circulation of numismatic literature by sending in their subscriptions. We are going to give the readers just as good a publication as they will pay for. We have not the space to print half the words of praise that have reached us for our efforts thus far, and as high a compliment as could have been bestowed came from an influential source and from a man of fine education and culture who said "The May ELDER MONTHLY would be a credit to any country." THE ELDER MONTHLY is here to stay and will be issued every month the year round.

J. C. Lighthouse

The world hates trouble hunters, and it gives us no pleasure to have to report unfair conduct on the part of a few collectors, but for the protection of collectors, dealers and cataloguers, we are obliged to add to the list of "Historical Coin Collectors" the name of J. C. Lighthouse, of Rochester, N. Y. Lighthouse bid upon a multitude of lots in our sale of July 6th last, and for reasons known only to himself returned, in a great huff, 44 lots secured by him at his bids. Another well known firm of dealers makes complaint against this individual. It will be the aim of this publication to assist in ridding the field of one or two cranks and freaks whose consummate delight seems to consist in annoying the collecting fraternity.

Brief Ownership of an 1804 Dollar

Thomas L. Elder, editor of the MONTHLY, enjoyed the honor of purchasing the Wetmore dollar of 1804 from Messrs. Chapman of Philadelphia, for \$1,000, and the short-lived privilege of owning it and disposing of it all in one day. Mr. James H. Manning, prominent citizen, banker and business man, twice mayor of Albany, N. Y., relieved Mr. Elder of the responsibility of caring for the treasure. We may add, incidentally, that when the coin reached Mr. Manning it went into the hands of one of America's greatest and most highly esteemed collectors.

James Risbeck's Collection

James Risbeck, proprietor of the Pennsylvania Hotel, Brownsville, Pa., has recently added to his already large and interesting collection of money—money good once but now only interesting commentary on our civilization. There is one bill in this collection that has been worth its face value for ninety-four years, issued by the Monongahela Bank, now the Monongahela National Bank, and at one time, forty-two years ago, every dollar of this bank was worth \$2.85, for it was redeemable in gold. 'Tis said only one other bank in the United States has a record equal to this. Mr. Risbeck has many of his notes framed and exhibited in a very attractive manner in the lobby of his hotel, thus offering something unusual for his transient trade to look and wonder at. This collection of money contains specimens running well back before the Revolution. Mr. Risbeck has a fine interest in things historical and while the Editor stopped at his hotel some years ago he pointed out many points of historical interest. Brownsville is one of the oldest of the western Pennsylvania towns and Fort Redstone once stood near the place, while to the north and west lies the ground over which Colonel Boquet, the brilliant Swiss officer, fought at the battle of Bushy Run and Fort Pitt, and where the brave but deluded General Edward Braddock was ambushed and his forces cut up and routed.

C. E. Jenney Injured

Just before we go to press, we hear that Charles E. Jenney, well known philatelic writer, met with a bad accident at Kansas City, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Jenney arrived at Kansas City on way to their home, Fresno, California, and while waiting for their train were walking up and down the station platform, Mrs. Jenney being in the lead. A baggage truck coming towards them made it necessary for them to step to one side. Just then an engine came by without giving any signal of its approach. Mrs. Jenney escaped by jumping to one side, but before Mr. Jenney could avoid the engine it knocked him down, tore his shoes and socks off and left him bleeding and mangled. Three surgeons attended his injuries at Agnew hospital and it was found necessary to remove some of the toes of the right foot and to amputate the left foot above the ankle. Mr. Jenney will recover but will be more or less crippled. Those of our readers who read the splendid article "Some Historical Postage Stamps" will sympathize with Mr. Jenney in his misfortune. His article was of such excellence that the *New York Sun* and other publications copied it.



James H. Manning

Mr. James H. Manning of Albany, N. Y., who is the proud possessor of one of the original 1804 United States silver dollars which for many years belonged to Major William Boreum Wetmore, U. S. A., of New York City, was born September 22nd, 1854, and has for about thirty years of his life been a collector of coins. Mr. Manning is a son of the late Daniel Manning, Secretary of the Treasury under President Cleveland, has been closely identified with Albany financial institutions for years, is a director of the National Commercial Bank, was one of the incorporators of the Park Bank which has since been absorbed by the Union Trust Company and has been a trustee of the National Savings Bank for the past twenty-five years. Of this latter institution he is at present time the president. Mr. Manning received his education in the public schools of Albany and graduated from the Albany Free Academy, now known as the Albany High School, in 1873. Prior to entering actively banking circles, he was connected with the Albany Argus in various capacities, from that of reporter to managing editor. He is a close student of political affairs and has an

unusually accurate and extensive knowledge of the personnel of political life. He served as state civil service commissioner under Governor Hill and his course in that position was such that upon his resigning the public press throughout the state without regard to party lines were unanimous in expressing their approval as commissioner.

He has been twice elected mayor of the capital city by majorities that exceeded the total vote of his opponents and his victorious campaigns have passed into political history of his country as models of brilliant accomplishments. During his two administrations the tax rate of the municipality he directed was lower than in thirty years.

Mr. Manning has been for many years an enthusiastic collector of autographs, manuscripts, and his collection of these is very extensive and valuable.



W. F. Dunham

We present to our readers a likeness of Mr. W. F. Dunham, an enthusiastic numismatist and prominent citizen of the "Windy City." Mr. Dunham surprised the coin collecting world several years ago by

making a trip to New York with the express intention of securing the famous United States dollar of 1804 which was sold by Mr. Low in the Brown collection, and that he successfully attained his object is well known to all collectors here and elsewhere. Not content with owning this great rarity he saw fit to journey to Philadelphia sometime in May last when again he set our nerves tingling by outbidding all others on the United States half eagle of 1822, which he secured at the record-breaking price of \$2165.60; and to this prize he added others including the choice 1802 half dime which cost him \$290. As a result of the advertising which these purchases gave him, the postman who delivers mail to 67 West VanBuren Street found his burden of mail somewhat heavier. Mr. Dunham says he answered every letter, his theory being that all numismatic "germs" should be carefully nurtured.

Mr. Dunham was born the year "the half cents and large cents were discontinued" and commenced the study of drugs in 1869. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1880, and was elected a Knight Templar in 1882. In 1890 he visited the numismatic museums in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Constantinople and Rome in 1890 (the other points of interest were mere incidentals to the trip.) In 1902 he was elected a member of the Chicago Stock Exchange and in the following year he joined the American Numismatic Association. He is a charter member of the Chicago Numismatic Society and was President of the Society in 1905. In the early part of 1906 he was dubbed "King"—that is "rarity king"—by the editor of the *ELDER MONTHLY*. Mr. Dunham is interested in ancient as well as in modern coins, and his just views on our present coinage resulted in his being criticized editorially by a leading Chicago newspaper which had the nerve to aver that the silver coins of say—Alexander the Great, on account of their high relief work, were not used for circulation.

Coinage in Philadelphia.

A Philadelphia dispatch states that a total of 131,545,148 United States coins were struck off at the United States Mint here during the year of 1905. The outside orders included 10,003,313 pieces for the Philippines, 2,724,862 for Panama, and 900,000 for Costa Rica.

The number of pieces coined here exceeded by far the work accomplished by the New Orleans and San Francisco Mints combined.

The Historical Value of Numismatics

Written for the MONTHLY by Ralph L. Read, A. B.

Did you ever look at an inanimate object and think of what it might say if the power of speech were given it? Maybe you possess some old article of furniture, an heirloom long treasured in your family. You wonder what it would whisper if the long silent voice awoke within it.

I find that we most often collect our specimens with the idea of enlarging our collection, or to finish out a set. We neglect the finer part of numismatics, that is, the historical value. How few of us come across a rare coin and think of the story it might tell. We look at the date, carefully study its condition, but the sleeping tongue within it is never awakened; we do not add to it the touch of imagination to connect it with the events of the long dead past.

As I write I am looking at a little bronze piece of the time of Cæsar. What magic there is in the name of Rome and Cæsar. Here we are, a new people, yes, a new race. The bulwarks of centuries is between us and the time this coin first came from the treasury of Rome.

Where we now live was an unknown wilderness peopled by savage animals and equally savage aborigines. The foot of white men had never trod the soil. Even Europe was partly unexplored. Our barbarian ancestors worshipped Thor and their mystic oaks in the tangled forests of Saxony, or fought with the Scandinavians for the supremacy on the stormy Baltic. Britain was a wet foggy island. Its inhabitants dwelt in caves and skin-covered huts; they erected strange open temples of stone on the desolate moors. Being primitive men they fought among themselves with rude stone knives and axes.

Yet at this early time Rome was the mistress of the known world. Her legions camped beside the Holy Temple in Jerusalem; the clash of their arms broke the silence of the Egyptian desert; Greece and surrounding countries paid tribute. The Roman eagles even penetrated across the Rhine into the German forests.

Where is that greatness now? It has vanished forever, living only in the annals of history. And yet this tiny piece of bronze brings it all back again. As a long silent voice it tells us of those other days.

Here also is a silver quarter-franc of Louis Phillippe of France. Stamped upon the silver surface is the patrician face of the last reigning Bourbon. The final stand made by the ancient reigning house.

The inscription around the head reads, "Louis Phillippe I Roi des Francais." Nowhere do we find emblazoned the royal lilies of Bourbon. What is the significance? Plainly the effects of the Revolution speak for themselves. The French people were finished forever with despotic royalty and divine right. The tri-color overcame the lilies. There was no "Roi de France," but "Roi des Francaise," (King of the French).

This little silver piece of 1833 could speak volumes. It was issued in the turmoil of dissent and rebellion, in the formative period of a new France, new ideas, and a long fought for freedom.

If we would only lay out a systematic collection of coins, beginning with the earliest efforts of man to form system of coniage, and bring it through the Greek or Roman supremacy, touching the middle ages and modern times, we would have a whole library of historical works. Not only would we possess their historical value, but also a complete little art collection.

We could follow in art the archaic ideas of beauty to the magnificent and supreme creation of the ancient Greeks. The decline of art from the decay of Greece would be shown with its rude and pitiful struggles through the middle ages until it blossomed forth into a richer and stronger beauty among the free cities of Italy. And in the modern coinage we could follow the rise of the old Greek styles of portrayal.

Coupled with art is shown the religious beliefs of the ancients. Hardly do we ever find a coin that was struck off along the shores of the Mediterranean before the rise of Christianity but it is stamped with the figure of some mythological deity.

We numismatists should gain a great deal from our collections. They should bring us in closer touch with the beautiful. A great field is opened to us, and we should take advantage of it. Let the work of the ancients teach us that money is not alone a means by which worldly goods are purchased, but a thing of artistic value; something that embodies all that they held beautiful and glorious in life—their art, religion and conquests.

So sometime when you are in a dreamy mood, take some old coin and let its voice, that has long been silent, awake to life and tell you of the long long ago.

The New York Sun has complimented THE ELDER MONTHLY by printing in a Sunday issue the article on "Historical Postage Stamps" written by Charles E. Jenney.

Relic Hunting

Written for the ELDER MONTHLY by Everett Van Voorhis.

Many collectors not knowing the enjoyment of searching for the implements of a nearly forgotten race of people have missed the pleasure which a collection of same inspires.

Of course they can be easily found in a dealer's shop at very reasonable prices, but to get out into the fields under the clear skies and health-giving sun and finding them yourself is half the pleasure, and the other half being the enjoyment of labeling each piece where found and then mounting them in your cabinet.

It is always the expectation of finding a rare celt, gorget or pendant which lends a fascination that is only known to those who collect these interesting objects. Even a rudely cut arrow point or spear head which is interesting in itself, having been made by the same people who made the finely polished pieces, but the uses of these being entirely different they did not see the necessity of making them as beautiful in finish.

Many people have the erroneous idea that to find relics one is obliged to dig for them, but many relics can be found in the early spring and late fall on the surface of plowed land, on most every knoll bordering on some good running stream or river, but where a river is as large as the Hudson in its lower course, camps could be expected only near the mouths of its tributaries, or in sheltered spots on shallow bays. At many of these places a rich harvest awaits one who would only look.

Some of the finest and I can say the rarest pieces have been found on the surface of some of these sites. I have personally confined my collecting to a certain territory and naturally, like most collectors, it is in the vicinity of my home which is located on the banks of the Hudson River.

Of this vicinity I can better speak, as my wanderings in search of relics justifies.

The Hudson river, and its banks, was an ideal stamping ground for the red men of past ages. Here it was they fished for the lordly salmon "which have disappeared like they of the past," using the slim tapering chipped flints affixed to a shaft with which they speared them. The points are now occasionally found on the shore when the tide is low. The towering hills on both sides also abounded in game, and here again the arrow and spear came into usefulness when at peace with other tribes. The vast quantities of these found all along the

river shores attest the great number of tribes which inhabited this spot long before the advent of the white man. Most of these tribes were visitors who came from many directions, and with differing habits, as the relics found at some sites plainly show, being inhabited in the summer and abandoned in the winter for the interior.

When the Iroquois came into New York state they brought about a change. They hunted and fished, but they were also growers of corn, pumpkins and beans, and settled down and raised crops on fertile ground, using the long flint spades to till the ground with. I have visited many sites and have found these implements, also the pits which they dug for storing their corn for the winter mouths.

The arrow points I have found are made mostly of a black or bluish colored flint, but occasionally one of quartzite or of a reddish slate will be found, but these are somewhat scarce the chipped flints being more common, and the presence of the foreign material goes to show the aborigines went long distances into the interior to search for the stone. The spear heads that are generally found in this vicinity rarely exceed five inches in length, but I have one which measures nine inches, this could be called a knife. As most of these large chipped implements are called spades or spear heads, it is reasonable to suppose they could be used for other purposes.

Grooved axes are very rarely found in New York state, but along the banks of the Hudson river they are occasionally picked up. I have found two, one of them being a very fine smooth specimen with a deep groove for the handle, the other a rudely cut specimen, but grooved nicely.

Gorgetts and pendants are sometimes found but often in a broken condition, being made of a soft slate and very fragile.

There are numbers of other implements as well as those mentioned, which are found, if anyone would look for them. Collectors who live in the cities do not have the chance that their country brother enjoys in this respect, but let one and all, take a day off now and then and get out under the blue skies and ramble through the country fields and drink in the pleasure that only a true collector can enjoy, and when night comes you can return home tired but happy and perchance with a goodly number of remembrances of the ancient red-man in your pocket.

On Death of President Baby

At a Meeting of the Council of The Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, held in the Chateau de Ramezay, May 15th, 1906.

It was unanimously Resolved as follows:

"THE NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY hereby records its profound sorrow on the occasion of the loss of its dear President, the HONORABLE MR. JUSTICE BABY.

"While the annals of the Dominion record his notable political services, the Province his deep interest in its public affairs and educational institutions, the Bench his labors as a conscientious magistrate, this Society has to mourn an intimate and ever sincere friend of all its members, a President occupying its chair with acceptance and distinction for the unique space of twenty-three years, an historical authority of the first rank on early Canada, and a chivalrous representative of the old school of gentlemen.

"The Museum of the Society, the Chateau de Ramezay, contains many marks of his generosity and learning: for not only did he fill the position of leader of the movement which preserved the ancient building from destruction, but he transferred to it many of his own antiquarian treasures, bestowed his constant care upon its improvement, and always subscribed most liberally to its maintenance; and his loss is irreparable.

"The Society tenders its deepest sympathy to his family, and hopes that among other consolations they will feel that his work will endure beyond him and that he will never be forgotten by his friends of this Association."

It was further Resolved unanimously:

"That the Members of the Society wear mourning for a month."

My Seventh Public Auction Sale

Taking place the latter part of September, will be a two days sale and will include many rare and interesting pieces, a collection of 15,000 foreign copper and nickel coins, affording an unprecedented chance for dealers to secure coins for packets. In rarities there will be two U. S. Cents of 1793, "only two specimens of which are known." There will be also an 1873 \$3 gold piece, a complete set of Boer coins, some rare encased postage stamps, fine U. S. Cents including a choice 1799, U. S. Private and foreign gold, old books, Paper Money, U. S. and Foreign Silver, etc. If interested send for a catalogue. In the long run you can buy to much better advantage at auction than any other way. Thomas L. Elder, 32 East 23d Street, New York City, N. Y.

Greek Coin Types

All numismatists have been interested in the discussion that has been in progress during the last ten or fifteen years concerning the character of the first types—generally representations of animals, less frequently floral devices or human figures—that are to be seen on the primitive coinage of Asia Minor and Greece. Two main theories have been prevalent for their explanation: The one has been urged by Dr. Curtins and Dr. Head, the other by Professor Ridgway.

The former school will see nothing but religious emblems in these strange archaic representations of beasts and other things. It holds that the state wished to dedicate its money to its tutelary god or goddess; that the stag of Ephesus, the owl of Athens, the lion of Miletus, the tortoise of Ægina are all alike sacred types, referring to the worship of Artemis or Athena, Apollo or Aphrodite; that if the primitive artist engraved the attribute rather than the deity on the coin, it was simply because he was conscious of his inability to produce an adequate representation of the city's patron or patroness on the confined space of a half-inch die. When the art improved and die sinkers became skilful, the deities themselves began to be portrayed; in the coinage of the fifth and later centuries the god's head normally appears on one side of the piece, the emblem that was originally the sole type is relegated to the other.

It has even been suggested that the first mints were established in temples—a theory for which the evidence is most inconclusive. The one inscription which does undoubtedly establish the existence of a temple coinage is on a piece so late that no argument as to primitive practice can be drawn from it. But setting aside this addition to the theory of the purely religious nature of early coin types, it can not be disputed that much can be urged in favor of the view. Mr. George Macdonald, while granting that the archaic figures are often representations of the emblems of the gods, produces a non-religious reason for their appearance.

* * *

The other modern theory as to the origin of coin types has been vigorously set forth by Professor Ridgway, who denies the religious interpretation of the devices, and sees in them indications of the exchange value of the primitive pieces. The standard currency of most early countries has been the ox or sheep—every one knows how the Latin pecunia derives from pecus. It is a tempting notion to suppose that the first coins were intended to be equivalent to the ox, or other unit of exchange prevalent in the country where the new device of

metal money had been introduced. Many early coins bear the representations of cattle, others show sheep, tripods and other objects which we know to have been used as standards of value. Most of the early coinage of Italy, for example the large brick-like bronze pieces, displays such types. Pollux tells us that Bous, the primitive ox unit, was originally used as an equivalent word for the stater, the primitive coin unit; when in archaic religious or legal formulae an ox was mentioned, later generations paid or offered the piece of money as a corresponding contribution.—*Saturday Review*.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



The Chicago Numismatic Society

Copy of resolution adopted by Chicago Numismatic Society, Chicago, Illinois, July 6th, 1906 :

WHEREAS : The National collection of coins at the Philadelphia Mint is deplorably incomplete, lacking nearly all of the earlier issues of United States Coins, and

WHEREAS : The completion of this collection is a matter of pride and historical interest to every citizen of the United States, and

WHEREAS : The present annual appropriation of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) is totally inadequate to procure even the new issues, and absolutely prohibits the purchase of the earlier and more interesting specimens.

Be it therefore Resolved : That the Chicago Numismatic Society, of Chicago, Illinois, does hereby petition your Honorable Body that the present appropriation for said collection be increased sufficiently to permit the addition of every coin issued at any United States Mint hereafter at time of issue, and the gradual completion, as opportunity offers, of the collection of United States coins of earlier years.

CHICAGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,

G. W. TRACY, President.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

F. ELMO SIMPSON, Treasurer.

VIRGIL M. BRAND, Curator.

W. F. DUNHAM, Censor.

An Old Coin

By G. E. S.

A massy lump of brass and bronze
 Moulded 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 they almost defaced.

Where is the golden palace now
 That on the Palatine arose?
 Where are the statue-guarded doors?
 Where are the temple porticoes?

For discs of metal shaped like this,
 Swords have been drawn and Leithe crossed.
 For this in greedy hope, men's souls
 Have been by passion tempest tossed.

This is ambitions net reward;
 This is a buried Cæsar's fame—
 Upon a lump of rusty bronze
 The two-thirds of a doubtful name.

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Editorials

Our Coins Again

If some of the Greeks who lived during the period of the best Grecian ^{art} were again permitted to walk our streets, they would indeed note many wonderful changes for the better. To them the wonders of Aladdin's lamp would seem microscopic in comparison. But what would be their emotions when, on presenting a \$2 00 bill of the realm to a beanery graduate for a lunch or a "high-ball" they received in return some of our dimes, quarters, and half dollars? And we can imagine them looking first at the wonders of a

"Flatiron" and a Subway and then with a somewhat mystified expression at the attempts at caricature shown by the "artist" on our coins which bear the coarse, brainless female head and characterless, fantastical eagle. It is one of the most incomprehensible things that this nation now so alert to grafters and public abuses of all kinds should be entirely indifferent to such a subject as the work on the coins which we use—are compelled to use daily. The foggy idea that good enough is well enough doesn't find argument here, as our coins are far shy of "good enough." England, France, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Belgium,—yes, even little Jamaica, Hong Kong and Sarawak, have now, and have had for upwards of thirty years, better looking coins than have ever been in use in the United States. It is to be hoped that our present coins are nowise characteristic of us as a nation. How would it be for some of our well-to-do numismatists to offer a prize of say \$500 or \$1,000 for the best design submitted by artists for a new series of coins? This scheme ought to be feasible provided no legal technicalities were encountered. The subject is timely, must be aired constantly and should appeal to all.

George H. Earle, Jr., Numismatist

A Philadelphia numismatist now prominently before the American public as a receiver for the wrecked Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia, is George H. Earle, Jr. The papers are filled with news as to how this trust company was looted of well over \$5,000,000 through the operations of its former President, Frank K. Hipple, who committed suicide, and who bids fair to become known as the greatest American swindler. One Adolf Segal, it is alleged, got most of the cash. Mr. Earle is one of the most enthusiastic of coin collectors. He was present at the Smith sale and bought heavily. As to Mr. Earle, the *New York Sun* says: "When the directors found there was no hope of saving the trust company and the Clearing House had refused aid, they turned to Mr. Earle. He had a reputation as a successful rehabilitator of wrecked institutions. Two or three institutions in past years had by his efforts been put on their feet again. Besides this he was the head of several large Philadelphia enterprises, among them the Finance Company. * * * Receiver Earle is a tall, lean man, with a clean shaven face that shows lines of great strength. Folks like Mr. Earle. They trust him. He is very quiet in manner and his

voice is always subdued. He is well dressed at all times but not with the modish exactness of Segal and seems to wear his clothes with a more natural grace. Mr. Earle is still under 50, and, though he is not robust, his keen face, with its clear skin, suggests lots of outdoor exercise."

Numismatists can, when necessary furnish the evidence that both they, and their science are very much alive.—It is a pleasure to hail Mr. Earle as "one of us."

The Amateur Dealer

The numismatist who proudly declines to collect or sell coins with a view of financial gain is apt to regard the small dealer in coins as a species of numismatic parasite who keeps in mind only the fattening of his purse. Notwithstanding this the amateur merchant is really a power for good in the field of collecting, and one of its strongest props. Generally it is he who first awakens the interest of the beginner—the tyro who has never yet come in contact with the more important dealer or full-fledged collector. The small dealer works industriously and unceasingly, because each new customer gained and collector made means to him a new source of revenue continuous for a time at least. The small dealer aids the large one by finding a place for "junk" lots and odds and ends which would otherwise go begging for a purchaser. It is he, who, more than anyone else, contributes to the success of a public auction sale. His way is not always a bed of roses, either, for invariably his client sooner or later outgrows him and forsakes him for the large dealers and auction cataloguers. Thus left in the lurch, he looks around for "new worlds to conquer," and generally finds them, and the dealers, the cataloguers and the science of Numismatics are benefitted.

"E. Z." Smith, the erstwhile mintmark shark of New Rochelle, has been laying low this summer, and but seldom does his gladsome smile brighten our door-way. The only hint we get of his existence is through the telephone occasionally when a once melodious voice drones "Anything new in?" Since the "sword of Damocles," or a fire-man's ax (he is a member of the N. R. volunteer fire department) dropped on his toes, he has kept quiet and this incident has also lowered his record as a base stealer on the New Rochelle ball team. Or did he and McGraw run amuck?

John C. Shea, of the staff of the *Buffalo Evening News*, continues to cater to the numismatic germs through his popular "Everybody's Column," a forum for readers having an ax to grind, or an inquiry to make, or a verse to sing. Mr. Shea prints these few don'ts for his readers:—"Don't waste paper and ink criticising other writers. Don't quarrel about race or religion. Don't scold about matters that are beyond remedy. Make your letters short. More truth than fiction in such don'ts."

Benjamin Betts, the author of the well-known book on American Colonial medals is engaged in preparing a "Monograph on the medals of Admiral Vernon," which, he informs the editor, "is a work of considerable complexity, requiring a close attention to details."

The pluck of Charles E. Jenney since the bad accident which befell him leaving him minus a foot and other members, is shown by his sending us from Agnew Hospital, Kansas City, Mo., the philatelic article appearing in this issue.

C. E. Niles, President of the First National Bank, of Findlay, Ohio, has a coin collection, and is interested in curios and paper money also. He is National Treasurer of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. William Poillon, curator of the A. N. & A. Society, of New York, is at work on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons of each week, at the Society's rooms, classifying the newly donated collections.

Charles Podhaiski, Charles Gregory and Edward T. Newell, well-known local collectors are enjoying European vacations at present.

Dr. Martin Burke, the well-known specialist in Greek coins, has contributed an interesting article for our October issue.

We were favored with a call recently by P. N. Breton, of Montreal, author of the well-known work on Canadian Coins.

J. Pierpont Morgan, George Gould, H. O. Havemeyer, and many other American Capitalists, have collections of coins.

E. W. Smith, a well-known stamp dealer, late of 429 Montgomery St., San Francisco, California, lost almost everything, including his stock of stamps, in the recent earthquake.

Coin and Stamp Departments have been inaugurated in the advertising columns of some of the big weekly and monthly publications, such as *Colliers* and *Everybody's*, due clearly to the growth and popularity of these branches of collecting.

The United Railroads of San Francisco, have a great relic of the recent earthquake and fire in an immense mass of melted silver, nickel and copper coins, and are at a loss to know how to go about it to get its money value back. 'Tis said this concern has suffered a greater loss through the burning of its coins than any other institution in the ill-fated city.

A Lincoln Oddity

Some time ago in my quest for Lincoln medals I was fortunate in obtaining from Mr. Davis, the curator of Roger Williams Park Museum at Providence, a very fine copy of the Lincoln "Memoria in Aeterna" or Sanitary Fair medal.

I had seen this medal before and had noticed a die crack running diagonally across the face of the martyred President but had not attached any particular significance to the defect.

This medal while being absolutely perfect bore this same die crack.

In writing to a friend who has a very complete Lincoln collection, I mentioned getting this medal and he called my attention to this die crack and asked me if I had noticed that it took the exact course of the assassin's bullet, entering the head at the eye, running diagonally across and leaving the head at the base of the brain. This is the exact location of the crack and it seems almost prophetic, foreshadowing as were the fate of one of the grandest men this or any other country ever produced.—ROBERT P. KING.

The Use of Silver in the Kingdom of Annam

Written for the MONTHLY by Howland Wood, Secretary of the American Numismatic Association.

As in so many of the far Eastern countries silver has paid but a small part in the monetary system of Annam. Indeed the energies of the successive Annamese rulers, when they have seriously bothered their heads concerning the currency, have been directed almost wholly in supplying the people with a rather inferior cash or sapeque. We know that until very recently China has been content to mint for its people only bronze or copper cash, the silver in use consisting of foreign dollars, broken silver and ingots made with a semi-official sanction by rich families, banking establishments and Mandarins. As Annam has for centuries been more or less under Chinese control we are, naturally, not greatly surprised to find the conditions in the southern monarchy similar to those in the great middle kingdom. A glance through the numismatic history of Annam will reveal a great variety of bronze or zinc cash, smaller and thinner than the Chinese cash. We find that for centuries the Chinese mints made an inferior cash, similar in inscription to their own, for use in Annam. However, for transactions calling for large amounts these strings of cash would be very bulky and inconvenient, silver, and even gold would have its use. Undoubtedly in very early times, gold dust, lumps nuggets and ingots of the precious metals passed by weight. The cast ingots gradually took certain forms and bore certain marks. Just when the change took place we don't know.

The first officially inscribed bars or ingots met with were made during the reign of Gia Long, who ruled for twenty years beginning with 1801. His two successors continued these issues. The next ruler, Tn Duc, issued these bars very sparingly and then only in the smaller sizes. At times some of these latter pieces with the names of one of the four rulers minting them come up in auction sales. They cannot, however, be classed as real money, they being rather Treasury pieces kept in this form as a reserve. Their circulation was very limited in Annam as they were nearly always hoarded away by rich families. Undoubtedly they were more frequently seen outside of the country than in it.

These official ingots came in many sizes and weights, the commoner varieties are: Nen bac, weighing 10 Taels; Nua nen bac, weighing 5 Taels; Luong or dinh bac, a tenth of a Nen and weighing

1 Tael; a Nua luong or half Tael, and a quarter luong weighing 9.762 grammes. These bars are rectangular and have on one side the title of the reign and sometimes the year in which they were issued, surrounded by a decorative border; on the other side the value of the piece, and often the name of the place where made. The lengths and thicknesses of these pieces vary with the different reigns and oftentimes within the same reign. One cannot draw any conclusions by the values imprinted on them, as the values and weights oftentimes do not correspond. Somewhere on the piece is generally stamped the marks of the comptroller of the treasury. Some of the pieces seem to have been cast while others appear to have been struck. There are also some pieces of this order in gold, one of the largest known is in the mint collection at Paris, and weighs nearly eight and a half pounds.

There is however a bar of silver that circulates more or less freely, not only in Annam but Cambodia, Burmah and the Shan States. This is generally known as the commercial Nen and is of private manufacture, similar to the "shoes" used in China. It is about four and a half inches long, a little over an inch broad, and about three-quarters of an inch thick. As a rule, it is slightly curved and is concave on one of its sides; Often the weight and makers name are punched or engraved in the piece. It generally passes current at about \$15.50. These pieces vary slightly in different localities. The farther west they are made the shape changes more radically, until we get the Shan baw and the as'ek types of the Sao States and the spherical ticals of Siam.

We now come to a class of silver coins that may be called actual money, but unfortunately for numismatic interests the issues were limited and but of short duration. Under the reign of Minh Mang, which was between the years of 1821 and 1840, an issue of round flat silver coins was attempted. They were patterned after the European dollars or piastres that were so current everywhere in the East. They were first issued in 1832 and were called in Annam Tam bac-tron or "round silver," and Bac-chien-phi, or "dragon silver" coins. These pieces failed of a great success as the metal in them was so base, and in consequence proved very hard to find a ready acceptance. The best of the dollars did not contain over 62.5 parts of pure silver, and not a few of them had much over 37.5 parts of silver. Although these piastres are seldom found in Annam they are not especially rare in other countries. The issue was of two sizes, piastres and half piastres, and have on the obverse, in the centre, a radiant sun surrounded by four characters indicating the reign. The reverse has the imperial

five toed dragon surrounded with frames. The next two rulers continued to strike the half piastres, but only to a limited extent. Many people consider these smaller pieces as medals. A very limited number were struck in gold, weighing half a Tael. Since the French intervention all of this money has gradually been done away with, its place being taken by large issues of the "piastre de commerce" and its sub-divisions, minted at Paris for French Indo China.

Before leaving the subject of silver money some mention should be made of a large series of medals that have been issued in Annam for a long time. They come in gold, silver and bronze and are generally round and with a central hole. These pieces are often considered as coins, but there is no ground for this assumption. Occasionally they may have had a limited circulation, but even then only by weight the same as any lump or ingot of metal would have. The obverse of these medals bear as a rule the same characters as found on the current cash of Minh-Mang and Thieu-Tri, hence the error in considering them coins. The reverses have a variety of inscriptions and designs. Some of the subjects depicted on these medals are, the heavens with the sun and moon surrounded by clouds; the firmament and the earth covered with trees and flowers and the sea and the mountains, together with the inscription "The four beautiful things." Others have fishes on either side of the central hole while still others have shells, bats, sceptres, swastikas and other symbols. Their inscriptions alone would preclude their attribution as money. A few are given herewith: "The three aged [ministers of the state of Lu]," "To render the people rich and long lived," "May my people be happy," "Honor is the first virtue," "Five felicities," etc.

The question naturally arises: For what use are these medals, they do not express concrete thoughts nor do they depict or commemorate current or historical events; rather do they illustrate abstract ethical maxims. As eastern courts do not cater to popular sentiment they feel no need of commemorating passing events, as great victories, royal marriages and births, hence they intrench themselves behind the bulwarks of their theocratic monarchical existence and deal out to the people aged maxims culled from the great writings of the past. The medals are distributed more as the decorations and orders are bestowed on people by the Occidental nations. Bravery in the wars, virtuous living, services rendered the state, the giving of money to the treasury by rich men, and many other good and ample reasons cause these medals to be distributed. New Years day and other national festivals are the chief occasions when these medals are dissipated.

However, nearly all cabinets of any pretensions in the line of far eastern numismatics display a few examples of these different emissions from Annam, and no one who has ever seen a collection of this kind will deny that the otherwise monotonous sequence of the regular cash is made far more interesting by the interpolation of these odd and curious bits of silver.

Magnificent Jewelry of Ancient Greece, Now in New York

Jewels that were worn twenty four hundred years ago are indeed worth more than passing study! And some of these have just come to New York. They have been purchased for the Metropolitan Museum of Art from the Rogers Fund and are now to be seen in the magnificent gold room of the museum. They are among the choicest in that collection of gems, for the workmanship is as fine as any by modern hands, and no one knows how many thousand dollars would be needed to buy these splendid specimens from the Museum. In fact, they are beyond price, for they could not be duplicated, and any society belle would be safe in wearing these, as no one could or would match them.

Other Greek jewels have been found here and there, but none in any museum in the world, not even in Greece, are any finer, if as fine, as these now in New York. All were found in one grave, but for certain reasons it is not stated when or where they were found. The laws of Greece are very strict about the exportation of antiques, and it would not do to say when or where these were found, as the Greek government might apply for the return of the jewels. And they are too valuable to surrender. This collection was buried with some dame of high rank of ancient Athens, probably at her special request, because her jewels were most precious and she did not like to think of any other woman wearing them after she was dead and buried.

The jewels are well preserved and show that the ancient Greeks cared little for precious stones, but preferred instead artistic forms of pure gold. These jewels include a diadem, a necklace, a pair of earrings, a finger ring, seven rosettes in the form of a flower and nineteen beads from a necklace. They are all of the yellow gold which the Greeks used for their finest jewels. It is certain from their style and workmanship that these splendid specimens of the goldsmith's art date from the fifth century B. C., when Greece was at her best artistically, when Pericles was ruler and Phidias and his school set up miracles of art that the world has never since equalled, much less surpassed.

The diadem is a very thin plate of gold $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $2\frac{1}{2}$

inches wide in the centre. Its decorations are entirely of repousse work hammered into carefully modelled low reliefs. In the centre the youthful Dionysos and Ariadne are sitting back to back, their faces turned toward each other. Each holds a staff with a pine cone at the top, the thyrsos, which was the sacred emblem of Dionysos and his followers. They are seated on a conventionalized design of *akanthos* leaves, from the centre of which a large flower rises. Large scrolls run to the ends of the diadem, terminating in the honeysuckle pattern, and between the scrolls are small female figures seated on the stalk of the vine from which the scroll springs.

These small figures, five on each side, are beautifully modelled, no two being alike, even the features differing. It is possible that these are meant to represent the Muses, those on the two sides being considered duplicates. On each side the first is playing upon the small Greek harp, the second holds a pair of pipes, the third plays a lyre, the fourth sings from a scroll and the fifth is playing a lute. There are flowers among the scrolls, three birds on the ground and even grass hoppers are to be distinguished on the flowers.

The necklace consists of a closely woven braid of fine gold wire, from which the pendants hang by intertwined chains, with rosettes at the point of attachment. There are three rows of pendants in the shape of amphora, pointed at the bottom. Those in the upper row are quite small, linked directly to the ornaments below the braid; those of the middle row are somewhat larger, and hang on small chains, with a tiny disc where chain and pendant join; those of the lowest row are much larger and most elaborate in design and finish. In this row each pendant is hung by two chains, and the chains are fastened by rosettes to both the pendant and the braid above.

The rosettes are marvels of workmanship, each being double, consisting of a large five petalled flower with another smaller flower wrought on top of it. Although the flowers are so small and close together, there is a very fine gold wire around the edge of each petal delicately soldered to it. It is probable that these leaves were originally beautifully enameled, but this has long since worn off. Still finer than the flowers and so small that a strong glass is needed to study them are the foreparts of winged griffins. These are excellent examples of the Greek devotion to art for art's sake, for the griffins add so little to the general effect that they seem hardly worth all the trouble. These little animals are modelled by hand, not stamped or cast. The two clasps are exceedingly artistic, and the whole is remarkably well preserved. The necklace is only twelve and five-eighths

inches long, so it could not have been worn loosely, but must have been worn like a collar, close to the neck.

The earrings are as remarkable as the necklace for design and execution. They are three inches long, and consist of three parts. At the top is a disc decorated with an elaborate filigree rosette; from this hangs a crescent, and from the crescent hang three rows of pendants like those of the necklace, with the double rosettes and winged griffins where they are attached, are notable for extreme and unusual detail, the pistils and stamens being represented exactly after nature. As a whole, this collection of jewels is equalled in few museums and surpassed by none, even in Greece itself. If a society belle of our day could only purchase a necklace and earrings like these she would proudly show them as of greater artistic value than any gorgeous diamonds worn by others of her set, and her jewels would be quite as costly, for these command high prices on account of their antiquity as well as their intrinsic value.

Who wore these jewels? What was the name of the beautiful woman who ordered them buried with her body, that she might wear them for centuries? No one will ever be able to tell this secret, but it is not difficult to reconstruct the personality that must have claimed such jewels in the period when Greece led all the civilized world in producing the most artistic statues, buildings, even jewels, that have never since been equaled.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A Marcy (N. Y.) collector writes, "I have a very fine 10c piece, and four coins coined 210 years B. C., coined when Venus ruled." Willie Armstrong, of Ohio, asks for bottom quotations on "Gold double-eagle of 1849; half eagles of 1815 and 1822; silver dollar of 1804; and dime of 1804, with 'S' under wreath." Hobbs, Md. addresses the editor as "Dear Unknown Friend," and did not forget to remind him that his 1808 half dollar belonged to his great-grandmother. He adds "the gold dollar is so precious that I could not mark the date very plainly, but it is 1852 nevertheless."

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Stamp Notes

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E. Jenney.

The next few years will, without doubt, witness a great deal of interest by collectors in the current issue of stamped envelopes. The great variation in many of these from the original die, caused by the re-touching or re engraving, has been noticed by everyone and only the fact of its being so common a stamp has prevented it from being much talked and written about. This is a frequent mistake of collectors; if a stamp is scarce or rare and a minute variety of it is discovered, great interest centres around it and everybody wants to secure it; but in a common stamp we see by scores every day, any variations are often overlooked and not considered worth bothering over.

That this is a mistake is evidenced by the history of the envelope stamps of 1857, 1861 and 1864. Although collectors had always recognized that there were many differences in the size and position of the letters on these stamps, they did not take the trouble to study them carefully or to preserve any of the varieties until just a few years ago one of our specialists took these issues up carefully and published an article describing their varieties. Only then was our attention withdrawn from the search for foreign minor varieties and we began to try to complete our collection of the more marked varieties of these envelopes, but alas! in the meantime all our stock of duplicates of these stamps had gone and many of the varieties that had doubtless been owned by us in the past, could no longer be found, and the prices in the catalogue were increased.

Let us learn wisdom from the past and not let history repeat itself in this current stamp. Every collector has probably saved up a few marked varieties and has only awaited for a comprehensive classification to be made of them by some authority. Such has been attempted by Mr. Louis G. Barrett and was published in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, although, as he says, it is too early, before an issue is retired to compile a complete list, as not only is it probable that more retouches will be made, but even more frequently on account of the age and longer use of the dies.

Mr. Barrett already makes seventy different types of retouched dies so it will be seen there is an ample field for investigation. This seems an enormous number and not at all warranted even with the great wear they must be subject to in printing all our 2 cent envelopes for a space of three years. It would seem, that with so many varieties that

no man can tell them all, it would be easy for the counterfeiter to manufacture them undetected and doubtless this consideration will, as well as their lack of artistic merit, soon bring about a new issue of stamped envelopes. Then we will all be sorry if we have not saved as many as possible of the die varieties.

* * *

Probably few stamp issues ever suffered so severely from any one disaster as did the California State Revenue stamps in the San Francisco earthquake and fire. California collectors were naturally interested in the already scarce issues of their own state and consequently many large collections and stocks were held in San Francisco. One of the largest of these, that of W. F. Greany, was found consumed by heat when his safe was opened. Many other lots were destroyed. Of course there are some fine collections of these state revenues owed outside of California but they are few. Moreover the undiscovered stock, that on original documents and the only source on which collectors had to draw, was almost entirely in San Francisco.

* * *

More collectors than one would suppose are collecting the printed permits under which 2nd and 3rd class mail matter is now mailed. They seem fully as collectable as the so-called "Penalty envelope" franks of the different departments though these, strangely enough, were sadly overlooked by collectors. One drawback to the collecting of these permits is that they must be kept entire and the great variation in their size makes them inconvenient for arranging or displaying.

* * *

With a history like hers, it seems a little strange to us that Greece should go to the Olympic games for designs for her postage stamps. Several such issues have already appeared and they are still coming. Should she not rather go to Olympus itself or honor the Homeric heroes.

* * *

Panama is attracting as much attention in the philatelic world as the canal-digging is to the world at large. A few years ago only a province of the U. S. of Columbia, to-day it is an independent country whose stamp issues number in the hundreds.

Greek Coin Types

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.]

But it would be dangerous to press this view far, or we should have to adopt the absurd hypothesis that the value unit of Theos had once been the griffin, or that of Milletus the lion, since these are the first representations found on their coinages, both of which go back to the very first days of the invention of money.

* * *

Mr. Macdonald rejects both these accepted views in favor of the simple theory that the early coin type merely reproduces the state seal of the issuing state. The community vouched for the purity and good weight of the piece by sealing it with the device which it habitually appended to documents, etc. As was the case in the cities of mediæval Europe, many states used religious emblems as their coat of arms, but others used commercial types and others again "canting heraldry," making a pun on the city name, without any religious or other *arriere pensee*. Thus, to compare things ancient with things modern, Athens used Athene's owl, or Ephesus the stag of Artemis, just in the same way as the city of London uses the red cross with St. Paul's sword in the canton, or Venice uses the lion of St. Mark. On the other hand Cyzicus used the tunny or Cyrene the silphium plant as purely commercial devices, illustrating the chief industry of the city as much as Bristol shows the castle and ship, Canada the Beaver or Iceland the stock-fish in its shield. But quite distinct from each of these we get the punning type. Trapezus showed a table on its coins, Ancona an elbow, Selinus a parsley leaf, just as Oxford now gives us an ox fording a river, Bern a bear or Munich a monk. It seems to us that this lucid, simple, yet many-sided explanation of the early coin types is absolutely conclusive. It leaves us with many religious emblems, such as the one school of commentators pointed out, and many commercial emblems to please the other, yet shows that the type of the coin is only religious or commercial at second hand, so to speak. It reproduced the state seal, and the device of that seal might be settled by either of the two tendencies which prevailed among the early choosers of a municipal device, or might even be settled by mere canting heraldry.

—Saturday Review.

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Isabella ¼ dollars, unc. in lots of 6, each.....	65
Old U. S. Half Dollars, always in demand, 1806, '07, very fair, each...	70
U. S. Gold dollar 1885, shows a fine date, and scarce, each.....	2 00
Lewis & Clark Gold Dollars. Uncirculated, each.....	1 90
1846 U. S. Half Dime. Good. Very rare.....	1 50
U. S. Trade Dollars, in lots of 3, each.....	80
U. S. 3c nickel, or 5c nickel, date 1877. Proof, each.....	3 50
U. S. 2c piece, 1873. Proof. Very rare.....	3 50
U. S. small cent 1877. Unc. Rarer than proof. Each.....	1 00
Roman silver coins, guaranteed over 1600 years old, good condition, each 35c, or 3 for.....	1 00
Native Indian dump coins. Very thick and irregular. Good speci- mens, 10 varieties for.....	1 00
Fine Australian Opals at \$2 to \$25 apiece. Will send on approval to respon- sible persons. Cut Emeralds suitable for mounting, \$5 to \$20 each. Tur- quoise (clear stone), at \$1 to \$3 apiece, according to size. Cut India garnets and Ceylon Jacinths at \$1 and \$2 each. Opal and sapphire rings for sale. U.S. 2c copper, poor and fair, \$2.75 per 100. U.S. white cents (1859-64) good lot, 50 for \$1.00. Lewis and Clark Gold ¼ dollar souvenir, 50 cents. U. S. \$3 gold, getting very scarce, fine, each \$4.25.	

If you are interested in U. S., Private or Foreign gold, silver and copper coins, you should have the new 1906 Catalogue, illustrating and pricing thousands of coins. Best yet issued, a \$5 book for only 60c prepaid. Retail selling list free.

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Japanese Obang

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ORIGINAL BY COURTESY
OF THE OWNER, H. H. VREELAND. SEE PAGE 22.

The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

Dates and Minor Varieties.

Since Numismatics is the science of coins and medals, does it not follow necessarily that anything having to do with coins, the method of their striking, composition, dates, errors in dies, inscriptions, and much else comes legitimately under that head? Coins being of necessity small, is another reason why their most insignificant details should be worthy of note. As we go back over the long centuries through mediaeval times and into the realm of ancient coins and

ancient history, it becomes more important—it is indeed imperative that the student take careful note of the slightest variance in type, mintmark and legend. The history of the Romans and Bactrians would have many dimly lit pages were it not for the revelations afforded us through coins. The subject of Greek and Roman coins alone offers an almost limitless field for critical study and research.

Nowadays it is almost affrontery to ask a man if he likes art or beauty. Nevertheless there are good men with plenty of unbefogged ideas on art—in fact there are artists of our personal acquaintance—who collect coins—coins neither artistic nor historical, but just homely United States mintmarks, dates and die variances. And have we not seen their eyes sparkle like those of a youngster on being handed a new bauble, upon the discovery of a “ ’39 over ’36,” or a “ ’99 over ’98.” To such numismatists the systematic collecting of historical and artistic pieces and the effort demanded by historical research means simply to drudge and cudgel their brains. While the quest for dates and minor die differences may seem the veriest nonsense to Dr. Burke and others, yet it gives pleasure and relaxation to many—and are not pleasure and relaxation good?

If a numismatist does not take kindly to history he naturally takes to dates and minor varieties, and admitting his temperament and tastes, wherewithal shall he be blamed?

Mintmarks, dates and die varieties have always been collected and probably always will be, and while we are not recommending the general collecting of these, we believe for the good of the science there should be some specialists in this line.

The Rothschilds were Coin Dealers

One of our friends, Louis Kirsch, gives us a bit of interesting data as to the famous Rothschild family.

The founder, Amschel Moses Rothschild, kept a coin store at 152 Judengasse—or Jewish quarter—Frankfort on the Main. Before this shop was displayed a *red shield* (hence the name—Rothschild). Amschel dealt also in curiosities, art goods and old gold and silver. His son, Mayer Amschel, was born in 1743 and died in 1812; He, like his father, continued in the coin business. In the course of his coin business he met a collector, the court banker to the Landgrave of Hesse. This banker was so impressed by Mayer's business ability that he loaned him money for investment, and it was in this way that the great banking firm of Rothschild was established.

The *New York Evening Post* has contributed two able and interesting articles recently, entitled "Housing of Rare Coins," and "Medals and Insignia." We shall print the latter, in our next issue. The *New York Sun* also is doing some fine work of this kind. We are glad to have these noted newspapers take an interest in our science.

The political pot is boiling in New York State. At present writing, the greatest "coin collector" in the Empire State is one Murphy. While recent revelations show that Hearst, his ally, believes in corporations (such as the "Journal") yet he continues to denounce them roundly. Just at present this man Hearst is doing a lot to make "coin collectors."

We are glad to have a Philadelphia newspaper copy our editorials, but when it essays to denude our "Cornering Coins" article of arms and legs and invest it with members new and strange—deliberately adding a Quaker City origin even—we object, naturally.

The poem, "An Old Coin," which appeared in our August number, we now learn, was written by Thomas S. Collier, a poet of some note who died at New London, Ct., in 1893.

In our last issue, through a slip of memory, we accredited the work on "Colonial Medals" to Benjamin Betts. Of course it was C. W. Betts, who had to do with this work.

We find our first issue of March last has been exhausted and we will pay five cents per copy for any that may be sent to us.

Eighth Public Auction Sale.

My seventh sale, held October 3rd and 4th was a good one, and my eighth sale, taking place in November will be still better and particularly strong in private and U. S. gold, including rare U. S. gold, \$3, \$5 and \$10. I need only to mention uncirculated gold dollars of 1864 and 1870 San Francisco mint, 1853 and 1857 Dahlonga mint, 1858, '66, '68, '71 and '83 \$3 gold. There will be items to please all classes of collectors. A few choice ancient, including the extremely rare gold double stater of Alexander the Great, will be offered. Send early for a catalogue.

—Editor.

Upon the Collecting of Portrait Coins

A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever.

Written for the MONTHLY by Martin Burke, M. D.

A hobby needs a plea and sometimes an apology. In collecting coins there must be, it seems to me, an excuse for any reasonable man wasting time and money in their acquisition. I have seen it stated by those who pretend to know that there are in these United States five thousand collectors of coins, but of these forty-five hundred collect American coins only. The other five hundred are miscellaneous collectors, being more catholic in their taste. I can admire a beautiful specimen of any die, but I can see nothing but a trivial waste of time in collecting different years of the same coin, when the difference is but slight and the coins not in themselves beautiful. Here then, in my opinion, is the head and front of the offending. These collectors collect neither for beauty, nor to increase their knowledge of historical facts pertaining to coins. They possess in their knowledge of dates, minute differences of the die and the rarity, a sort of learned ignorance. On the other hand what a field of knowledge opens up to a collector of portrait coins! I care not whether these be images of imaginary gods, mythological heroes or actual portraits. What an education and constant delight! If he collects for beauty the coinage of Greece alone would serve as an intellectual stimulus for a man's life time. It would at once increase his knowledge of art to an amazing degree and furnish him with an intellectual culture not to be overestimated. For years employed in the collecting of prints I did not think of coins until one day my friend Mr. Vogrich opened a cabinet of Roman portrait coins. The accuracy of the portraits and the splendid lustre of the patination was to me at once a wonder and delight. I felt like stout Cortes in Keat's poem upon reading Chapman's Homer and was stricken dumb with astonishment. Here indeed were the first Caesars absolutely painted in my eye never to fade again.

Usually the collections of portrait coins in museums are not in fine condition and it is as if a man were shown a number of poor impressions of Rembrandt and asked to admire his genius. The result would be appalling. Hence in my opinion *the very great importance*, of fine condition. There are no portrait coins of Hannibal, but there is an unusually fine statue of this Carthagenian hero in Rome. What a great boon to collectors it would be, if some of the expert French

medalists would design a medal from this statue and give to collectors a picture of the greatest hero of the antique world! Some of the little tournois of French coinage are exquisitely beautiful. I have a Henry III, the last of the Valois, that almost breathes. I have a Henry IV that reproduces the great Bourbon to the very life, with his eagle beak and curled mustache. The great Henry lives again in a small piece of brass. These are indeed a pair of contemporary portraits beautifully engraved and well worth preserving. Here is Louis XIII in the same series with his foolish, hesitating face. And again the baby countenance of Louis XIV shows, as fresh as if struck but yesterday. We even see in this infantile face pride carried to the height of madness. Mr. Elder, who collects portrait coins for me in the condition that I wish for, one day offered me a small portrait coin beautifully preserved and exquisitely designed, of Johannes Sforza, tyrant of Pesaro, struck about 1490. Mr. Elder was told that this was the work of Benvenuto Cellini, but as I recognized the coin from an engraving in Hazlitt, I knew it was not by Cellini, but looking up the subject I found that Johannes Sforza was the first husband of Lucretia Borgia and was marked for destruction by Caesar Borgia, but escaped by proclaiming that his marriage with Lucretia was not legal and relinquishing the honor of being the husband of this celebrated woman, he escaped death. This coin is indeed a work of art and is worthy of any medalist.

Another beautiful coin in copper is that struck in Italy for Napoleon. It brings so forcibly to ones mind the wonderful pen picture of Heine. Compare another finely designed coin of Achille Murat, King of Naples. I mean the copper coin called a grano. The portrait shows him with his hair in long curled ringlets and his selfish, vain smooth face like one of the Incroyables of the Directoire. It is a somewhat strong face and bold withal but without much depth or evidence of reflection. Another fine coin is the silver thaler struck by Wallenstein one time lord of Mecklenburg. What a noble forehead is here, with a melancholy face filled with resolution! Does it not recall that wonderful picture of Piloty in which the dead Wallenstein is seen lying on the floor with the scattered remains of his magic quest about him and the trembling faces of two attendants glancing at the silent figure cold in death. The pusillanimous emperor of Germany feared this wonderful man, hence his assassination, and Protestant Europe at his death lost its greatest enemy. A half-penny of George the Fourth in mint bloom is worthy of any collection. The face of the 'first gentleman of Europe' seen in profile, while beautiful, shows his character at once. Compare it with the first George and see the difference.

How Thackeray's essay on the Georges would be made more thoroughly interesting by examining a series of fine copper portraits of these sovereigns! How interesting to anyone must these portraits seem, and in copper, in my opinion, better than in any other medium. What a wonderful face is that of Julius II, the warrior pope who rode in armor at the head of his army! A beautiful devout head is that of Julius II, by Francia, and how it shows the evidence of strong religious feeling joined to a stern will! A beautiful series is that of the Sforza, tyrants of Milan. I should recommend to anyone who admires the strange beauty of that period Mr. Astor's "Sforza," a book that shows the evidence of genius and brings the epoch to life in a most amazing manner. The silver testoon of Ludovico Sforza, who was supposed to have murdered his nephew, exhibits a most spirited portrait, his thick hair is cut low in front, combed well over his forehead and being well puffed out behind completely covers the nape of his neck. His nose is aquiline and well shaped but his cheek is heavy and his lips unusually full and sensual, the eye being fine and bold. He resembles Vespasian somewhat, but while Vespasian's face is full below it is well governed by his noble forehead and his mild yet resolute eye.

Who has not read that graphic and wonderful account of Renaissance life as told by the great Florentine Goldsmith, Benvenuto Cellini? And has he not told us that he has "engraved the die for the first duke of Florence," that illustrious but fearful tyrant of the unhappy city upon the Arno? The portrait is that of a somewhat strong Greek face and the execution is conventional, but worthy withal of one of the strangest geniuses that the Renaissance has produced. Do we not remember how evenly matched was the great Henry of Navarre with the illustrious Alexander Farnese—and here indeed is the portrait of the Italian warrior upon a coin showing his greatness in this graven image. What an endless chain of historical facts of absorbing interest does not this small piece of silver bring to mind! What a severe, almost savage, simplicity of expression is rendered in this portrait! The face is Milesian in its type and courage and severity are here legibly written in no uncertain character. Thinking upon this coin I must recall that exciting little tale of the life of Julian Romero, Spanish adventurer, a famous hireling of Henry VIII, which is so beautifully narrated by Martin Hume.

Mr. Lang has just written a most interesting book concerning Mary Queen of Scots. Her head upon a testoon struck in Scotland gives us a most remarkable portrait and would do much to prove which is

the really authentic likeness of that enigmatic woman. It resembles, in my opinion, the early portrait of Mary drawn by Francis Clouet, executed shortly after her marriage with Francis II. Her portrait upon the coin seen in profile is as follows: A well shaped head, well set upon a slender neck, the forehead well arched but slightly protruding, the nose long but well shaped, the chin firmly modeled, altogether a pleasant face but one of no great beauty. It exactly calls to mind the drawing by Clouet. The most beautiful female head I ever saw on a coin was on a small piece of copper beautifully patinated, struck in Syracuse between 300 and 400 years B. C. The expression of the face on this coin is nobly beautiful above anything I have ever seen and resembles the wonderful head of Aphrodite recently acquired by the Boston Art Museum, and which is well worth a journey to Boston to see. I know of nothing in the Metropolitan Museum that can compare with this statue. Does not Maeterlinck say that the abstract love of beauty is a proof of man's immortality?

Leaving Sicily about 275 B. C. Pyrrhus relegated his authority to one of his officers who was afterwards known as Hieron II, King of Syracuse. His portrait, struck in copper about 240 years before Christ, is one of the most exquisitely beautiful coins that I have ever seen. This coin was secured for me by Mr. Seltman and he states that it is as fine as the one in the British Museum. The profile is bold yet exquisitely modeled, the head is laureated and the clustering hair reminds one of the later school of Greek art. The coin is well-centered beautifully patinated and has no blemishes. The reverse shows the figure of a horseman and is as artistically rendered as the portrait. I have a beautiful half-penny of Charles II, mint-bloom, and showing signs of a beautiful brown patination that is as speaking a likeness of that careless monarch as could well be imagined.

Mr. Elder recently sold me a small copper coin struck for the Austrian Netherlands and stamped with the charmingly girlish face of the great Maria Theresa. The portrait is perfect and it is beautifully designed. I can scarcely imagine Maria Theresa being ever as ingenuous as this portrait shows. A most curious portrait is that of Christina of Sweden. She has an enormous wig and while the execution of the die is not of the happiest type, still it is an interesting coin, and would no doubt add to the charm of reading her strange history. The superb daler of Charles XII of Sweden, with his firm chin, with high sloping forehead shows us at once the character of this mad warrior. He reminds us of Achilles and we can easily see why he fought Peter the Great to the bitter end. Truly a northern Charles the Bold! Christian IV of Denmark, who reigned so long and fiercely, shows

well on a small silver coin dressed in the costume of the period. We might say periods, for I believe he reigned until 1648, over half a century. I know of nothing more interesting for a collector of portrait coins than the period which commenced with the crowning of the great Napoleon as Emperor of France. What an amazing subject is the history of this Corsican adventurer traced through the coins of his family and which touch intimately almost all the countries of Europe! We have the magnificent portrait of Joseph as King of Spain. The King of Holland is ably delineated on an exquisite silver dollar. Jerome, King of Westphalia, crowned with laurel, is a capital imitation of his august brother. Elisa, duchess of Lucca, is finely delineated on the same coin with her inglorious but handsome husband. The magnificent Murat, king of Naples, looking like a Greek god, is rendered to the very life in both gold and copper. Even Napoleon himself is struck for Italy as king of Rome.

The list of entertaining faces on coins is almost interminable and what a wealth of historical facts do they not bring forth! Would it not be charming if Mr. Carnegie would be good enough to donate \$100,000 to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the purpose of establishing a department of coins and medals. These coins and medals could be selected with care and discrimination and would be an initial movement in forming a department of the greatest interest not only to collectors but for those who had no idea what a wealth of art lies hidden in cabinets. When all is said and done I must confess that I have no fault to find with collectors of any kind. I would much prefer a man who collects to one who does not, for the man who collects objects of slight artistic importance in themselves has yet the germ of commencing artistic development. It has been justly said that we are a nation given more to a love of the useful than to an appreciation of the beautiful. Now while this may have been true of the past I do not believe it is true of the present. I can remember as a boy the artistic life in New York was exceedingly meagre, but now it has spread a thousand fold and people are really beginning to appreciate all kinds of beautiful things.

I do wish, however, that collectors of coins would have commenced their artistic career with an appreciation of good engravings. Then it would be that they would never be satisfied with a poor impression of any coin no matter how rare. For the beauty of a coin lies solely in its condition. A badly struck coin or a coin that is terribly worn is a thing to be abhorred. Better to pay a large price for one coin of perfect beauty than to possess a thousand that are artistically imperfect.

Mineralogical Composition of Arrow and Spear Points

Written for the MONTHLY by Forest Gaines, Glendive, Montana.

Upon request, I will endeavor to give a description of some of the more common forms of quartz, used in the manufacture of arrow and spear points. The subject is a very difficult one owing to the great diversity of forms found in different sections. I hope to hear from some of our other friends of the collecting fraternity who are interested in this line.

In chemical composition all quartz has the general formula of six oz. of silicon dioxide. It is the most common mineral in existence and forms about one half of the solid crust of the earth. Sandstone, sand, soil, etc., are all composed principally of silicon dioxide, with other elements in varying proportions. The quartz molecule is composed of one atom of silicon united with two others of the common gas, oxygen.

I will describe only the common forms which have come under my personal observation. Those forms of quartz which I have seen used in the manufacture of arrow and spear points are the following: flint, chert, hornstone, obsidian, jasper, granular quartz, crystalline quartz and agate. These forms are all distinguished by special modifications, as fracture or cleavage, color, and other physical properties.

Each archaeological section usually has a distinct kind of material used for its points. Thus in one territory the points will probably all be manufactured from obsidian, while in another region jasper may be the prevailing quartz used.

It is an utter impossibility to give an adequate conception of each of these various forms of quartz without seeing and handling the specimens themselves. Illustrations would be valuable, but even they would have their limitations. For a detailed description of all of these forms I can only refer the reader to Dana's "Complete Mineralogy."

Arrowheads found in this section of Montana were principally manufactured from jasper, as there is rather a superabundance of that form of quartz hereabouts. Spearheads up to four inches in length, found by myself hereabouts, have been manufactured of the same material.

In Oregon, Idaho, and parts of Washington and California, and in fact throughout the entire lava district, obsidian or genuine volcanic glass is the prevailing form used. Some of these little gem points are of almost faultless manufacture, and with all our improved modern methods we would have difficulty in chipping anything so delicate.

The great extinct volcano beds of the above states are also one of the most interesting geological studies on the continent. The decomposed lava furnishes much valuable soil for homesteads.

In the middle states, flint and jasper are the most common varieties used, with occasionally a few made of granular or crystalline quartz. Those which I have picked up on the prairies of Iowa and Illinois in past years were principally of flint. Agate is most rarely used, and I have never seen a spearhead made of this material. These latter arrowheads are found almost wholly in the western states.

There are no extensive beds of flint and jasper in the middle states and these forms of quartz are principally found in the form of isolated glacial pebbles of varying size. Some of the points of New England are made of a rough granular quartz, notably of the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut.

What memories of the distant past one can conjure up when he happens upon one of those mute reminders of an almost forgotten people!

The Pinkerton Case

F. M. Pinkerton, of Marshallton, Iowa, in September of last year sent us bids on some American gold coins to be sold at auction, giving the names of S. H. & H. Chapman, of Philadelphia, as his reference.

His bids secured over \$43 worth of coins, all gold with two exceptions, and all of these were sent to him by sealed registered mail.

Several days after getting his personal receipt for the package he returned to us by registered mail *one of the silver coins without a word of explanation and enclosed in an envelope bearing TEN cents in postage, the letter weighing less than one ounce.*

Pinkerton's idea was evidently to *throw out the impression that he had returned ALL the coins, which weighed about three ounces.*

We never got a remittance for the coins and subsequent investigation proved Pinkerton did not return them.

Investigation by the Post Office Department resulted in affidavit being made by the Postmaster at Marshalltown, Iowa, that the envelope in which Pinkerton returned the silver coin *contained less than one ounce.*

Mr. Elder submitted affidavits of himself and his clerk and conclusive proof to the Post Office Department that the coins had been sent to Pinkerton—in fact Pinkerton admitted to counsel that he had received the coins.

Mr. Elder submitted all papers, including the envelope in which

Pinkerton returned the half dollar, to the Post Office Department.

The Post Office Department labeled the case "Alleged rifling of registered letter mailed by F. M. Pinkerton, Marshalltown, Ia."

This would make it appear that Pinkerton was the one making the complaint, which should have been more correctly labeled as "Alleged theft of \$43.50 of gold and silver coins by F. M. Pinkerton, of Marshalltown, Iowa."

The Post Office Department, after it was proved conclusively that the coins were kept by Pinkerton, *dropped the case.*

The complainant, Mr. Elder, then asked the Post Office Department for a return of his papers and got part of them after considerable difficulty. *The Post Office officials refused to return the envelope bearing ten cents on postage in which Pinkerton returned the half dollar to Mr. Elder, stating, "It is not the practice of the Department to surrender evidence upon which the investigation in cases of this kind was based."* This action was taken after an official at the Post Office Department New York had promised Mr. Elder that his papers would be returned if left with the Department.

We thought there was a law against *defrauding through the United States mails.*

In view of the evidence brought out, why was it that the Post Office Department dropped the case and why did it refuse to return the envelope belonging to Mr. Elder? These are the points in the matter of most interest to our readers.

A side light is thrown on the character of this man Pinkerton by the fact that several years ago cataloguers in Philadelphia offered at auction sale a canceled check of *William McKinley.* This check was purchased by Pinkerton, but *he returned it, declining to pay for it because it had a cross cut canceled on it, having been paid. Had the check been uncanceled it would have been recoverable.* Pinkerton's letters at the time were indifferent to any sense of honor in the matter, he adding that in making payment he would do his way or the cataloguers "could whistle for it."

New Elder Card

The Editor has just issued a new card, struck in aluminum, brass, copper and other metals. There will be several *extreme rarities* in silver and other metals before the die is destroyed! A specimen may be obtained by our readers for the asking. The entire issue will not be over 700 pieces.



Housing for Rare Coins

The American Numismatic and Archæological Society has received a site for a new home in Audubon Park, as a gift from its president, Archer M. Huntington, who recently built the home of the Hispanic Society, of which he is also president, in the same neighborhood.

Two stories high in its northerly front, on elevated ground, the numismatic building will practically contain four stories in the rear, on One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street, rising there about fifty-six feet from the street level. The front will be thirty-six feet high from the terrace, and will have a classic facade, with Ionic columns. Designed to be fireproof, the structure will be built of reinforced concrete, with a finish of cream-colored stucco, that will harmonize with the limestone exterior of the Hispanic building, to which the general lines of the architecture will correspond. It will have a frontage of forty feet, and a depth of sixty-five. The principal room on the main floor, an exhibition and meeting hall, will be about thirty feet square, and it is to be lighted from above, being two stories high with a balcony. On the second floor will be the library at one end and an exhibition room at the other. Plans for the structure were drawn by Charles P. Huntington, the architect of the Hispanic Society's building. Its cost, estimated at about \$50,000, will be defrayed by the Numismatic Society. Work of excavation has been in progress since early in June, and it is hoped that the building will be completed in the coming autumn.

THE SOCIETY'S CAREER

The American Numismatic and Archæological Society, which adopted that name when incorporated, on May 16, 1865, was originally organized as the American Numismatic Society, on April 6, 1858, at the house of August B. Sage, No. 121 Essex Street. In its earlier years its meetings were held at various places, including the house of

Dr. George H. Perine, who was one of the vice-presidents; the Hall of Education, then at Grand and Elm Streets; the old Free Academy, now the College of the City of New York; Mott Memorial Hall, No. 64 Madison Avenue; No. 38 Lafayette Place, No. 101 West Twentieth Street, and the building of the Academy of Medicine. In April, 1902, the society moved to No. 1271 Broadway, where it retained rooms until last spring. It then removed to temporary quarters, placed at its disposal by the Hispanic Society of America, in the latter's new building.

Immediately after its incorporation, the society caused a medal to be struck in commemoration of President Lincoln. It also had a membership medal struck and others in honor of the organization. Since then the society has issued various medals on anniversaries and in honor of events of large importance. Its collections of coins, medals and tokens now include about 30,000 specimens, many of which are extremely rare. The present membership of the society is about 300.

FEATURES OF THE COIN COLLECTION

One of the most valuable of recent additions is a gift from a member of the society, Charles Gregory, of a collection of Oriental coins (especially rich in Chinese and Japanese), comprising more than 1,600 specimens. Among these is a complete set of the "bullet" coins of Siam, including two gold ones, which are very rare, indeed. Also of great rarity is a pahang of the Malay Peninsula, a hat-shaped coin of lead, with floral ornaments on each side. It is about two and a half inches square, and is one of the oddest of coins. Then there is a large number of Siamese porcelain coins, of various shapes, sizes, and colors, all of which are ancient, as this style of coin is now obsolete. There is also an interesting collection of Annam coins, one of which, a silver coin of about 1850, bears an inscription that, translated, reads: "For the use of the people. Will make them rich for a long life. Inherited virtue. Current money."

The Chinese specimens include the very ancient coins known as razor, spade, and bridge money, on account of their shapes. Some of the razor money belongs to the Ming series—B. C. 300-225. There is a sample of the Chinese sword or key money, A. D. 14, of bronze, inlaid with gold, which is in perfect condition. It is shaped a good deal like a modern flat latch-key. Other ancient Chinese bronze pieces are shaped like turtles and fishes' tails. One coin is a helmet-shaped ingot of pure silver, weighing twelve and a half ounces and of \$13.75 coin value.

THE LARGEST GOLD PIECE

In the Gregory collection the largest gold coin is an ancient one of Japan, bearing the imperial autograph in black lacquer and also many mint marks. It measures six by three and one-half inches, weighs 105 pennyweights. A much bigger and heavier coin is a Japanese one of bronze, five inches in diameter, of the date of 1637. The largest coin of any kind is Chinese, made of bronze, seven and a half inches in diameter, and was made in the first year of the reign of Emperor Mo, whose crest and seal it bears.

A SWEDISH CARTWHEEL

The biggest rectangular coin among all the society's specimens is a Swedish dollar of 1747, in the reign of Frederick I. It is of pure copper, and measures five and a half by five inches. A member of the society, who was born in Sweden, said his grandfather told him that *his* grandfather told him about selling a farm and requiring three days to cart home the price, in this kind of money. It was the custom of people who were well supplied with this Swedish "plate money," as it is called, to store it in the cellar, fearing that it would break down the floors if it were kept upstairs.

In striking contrast to such specimens is the smallest gold coin known, a sixty-fourth part of a ducat, coined by the city of Bremen in the eighteenth century. Its diameter is three-sixteenths of an inch.

J. Sanford Saltus, a member of the society, recently gave to it complete sets of American gold dollars from 1849 to 1889, of original half-cents from 1793 to 1857, and of American cents for the same period, including all the varieties of the 1793 coinage. One of the latter is the famous "clover-leaf" cent, which is valued by collectors at about \$200. Mr. Saltus also gave the rare Confederate cent of 1861, and a Confederate half-dollar of the same date. The obverse of the latter coin is a fac-simile of the United States half-dollar (the die having been taken from the New Orleans mint), and the reverse is inscribed with a shield of seven stars and seven stripes, surmounted by a liberty cap, and surrounded by the words "Confederate States of America."

SOME ENGLISH SPECIMENS

The society has a complete proof set of the coronation coins of King Edward VII, of which four are in gold and nine in silver; also a beautiful gold medal struck to commemorate the coronation, with

the heads of the King and Queen on the obverse. Among the old English gold coins is a guinea of 1656, struck under the protectorate, which bears the head of Cromwell, crowned with a laurel wreath. It looks as if it had just come from the mint. "The Commonwealth of England" and the motto "God with Us" are among the inscriptions on a gold coin of 1653. Other English gold coins represent the reigns of the Stuarts, William and Mary, Queen Anne, and the Georges. There is also a complete set of the money minted to commemorate the fiftieth jubilee of Queen Victoria.

In the society's cabinets is a good collection of Greek and Roman coins, of various dates, in gold, silver and copper. It has many early German coins, including some silver ones of very large size, among which is a ten-crown piece, of 1665, measuring three and three-fourths inches in diameter.—*New York Post*.

* * *

William Poillon, curator of this Society tells the editor that he is desirous of making the collection of things masonic belonging to the Society as complete as possible. Over 200 medals and chapter pennies of this class have been donated.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 33rd regular meeting of the above named Society was held on Friday evening, Oct. 5th, in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple with President G. W. Tracy in the chair. There was a marked increase in attendance and enthusiasm, indicating a successful season.

Communications were received from Ohio Numismatic Society and Henry Chapman.

Chester F. Dunham was elected to membership.

Under Exhibits, Mr. Brand displayed uncirculated auri of Hadrian and Alexander Severus, and a silver medallion of Anthony and Cleo-

patra. Mr. Tracy showed a number of superb Russian coins and Mr. Blumenschein some Chinese and English pieces.

The Librarian reported receipts of Hoffmann's rare work on Royal French Coins. Magazines received since last report were Numismatist and Spink's Numismatic Circular for July, August and September; Elder Monthly and Philatelic West for June and August; Numismatische Correspondenz Nos. 236 and 237, and Numismatischer Verkehr for June. Catalog No. 1, with fixed prices was received from St. Louis Stamp and Coin Co., the Star Coin Book from B. Max Mehl and auction catalogs from Chapman, Elder, Green, Low, Otto Hess Nachfolger and St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., also a paper on Ohio Banks by Arthur B. Coover.

Mr. Baldwin was present as a visitor.

Adjourned to meet Nov. 2nd, 1906.

BEN. G. GREEN, Secretary.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

The First Annual Convention of the Ohio State Numismatic Society will be held in Columbus, Wednesday, October 24, 1906. First session at 1.30 P. M., second session at 7.00 P. M.

We regret that we cannot announce a complete program; but several papers are now in preparation which will be read at the meeting.

An exhibition and sale of coins at fixed prices will be one of the attractive features.

At this meeting officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

If possible for you to attend this meeting kindly communicate

with the Secretary at once. When you arrive in the City report to the Secretary's office for information as to place of meeting, etc.

Bring some of your choice specimens with you for exhibit. If you have any broken Bank Notes or Store Cards issued in Ohio don't fail to bring them

Come and get acquainted with your brother collectors.

Fraternally yours,

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Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

A collector wide awake to the interests of the Montreal Society is P. O. Tremblay of Montreal. There is no more favorably known collector in Canada.

* * *

Mr. John Dow will sell by auction here a large portion of his collection of coins and medals. The sale will comprise about 700 lots and will take place about the beginning of November.

* * *

R. W. McLachlan, whose collection of Canadian coins and medals is probably the largest and most important in Canada, and who has been contributing interesting papers to the British Societies, will offer our readers an article in the near future.

* * *

Mr. P. N. Breton, author of the best works on Canadian Coins, opened a store on September first and he will deal in coins, medals,

postage stamps and antiques. Since opening this new business he has not been inactive having already bought and disposed of two very extensive collections. The first purchased was that of Mr. Charles E. Belanger being the finest collection of war medals in Canada, the many hundreds of specimens in it were mostly British and Canadians among the latter are fine and rare examples including Chateaguay, Fort Detroit, Crystler's Farm and the 2 Bar Medals of "Fort Detroit & Chateaguay," and "Crystler's Farm and Chateaguay," this was sold complete to Mr. W. W. C. Wilson, the wealthy paper manufacturer.

The second collection bought by Mr. P. N. Breton was that of Mr. L. G. Casault of Ottawa (for 51 years the respected librarian of the government library) this being a beautiful and large collection of Canadian coins, medals and tokens, the careful gathering of half a century; this has also found a fit resting place in Mr. W. W. C. Wilson's magnificent library. This last collection being the 47th which Mr. Breton has bought and sold during his numismatic career and he is still on the war path.

Mr. Vreeland's "Obang"

The "Obang" pictured in this issue of the MONTHLY is perhaps the largest and finest specimen in America, weighing 106 pennyweights and 9 grains, and of the same size as the reproduction herewith. This piece has a melting value of \$76 and in Japanese the coin is known as the KEI-CHO-DAI-BAN. A striking feature is that it is handpainted, having the Emperor's autograph painted on it with India ink, like a laundry ticket. The reverse has three official stamps, on the face are four. These remarkable and rare pieces were coined in the 17th and 18th centuries and were more of the nature of a royal presentation coin and were seldom used in commerce except in payment of taxes. They vary somewhat in quality of workmanship, the ones of later issue being of the best execution. Mr. Vreeland resides in Paterson, N. J., and his cabinet of the world's coinage is varied and interesting. There is an "Obang" almost identical to the above in the cabinet of the Numismatic Society of New York.

Stamp Notes

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E. Jenney.

The new Canada postage due stamps are beginning to be seen here. They are handsome stamps of the machine design, broader than high and much resembling the postage due set of Uruguay.

* * *

The advance sheets of the new Scott's catalogue are being sent out to those who care to pay \$5.00 for a few week's advance knowledge of the fluctuations in stamp prices. There are those who are not content to await the general distribution of the catalogue, but want a chance to work off at present catalogue prices those stamps they hold which have declined in the new catalogue and to pick up at present values those stamps which will have a smart advance. \$5.00 is the price of this knowledge and doubtless many dealers make huge profits on the investment, taking advantage of the general ignorance.

* * *

One cannot but ponder on the changed conditions of philatelic journalism to-day from fifteen years ago. At that time there were from a dozen to a score of good philatelic monthly magazines, containing matter of interest to the younger and medium collectors, which had a fairly wide distribution. I may mention the Philatelic Era, the Eastern Philatelist, the Post Office, the Southern Philatelist, the Metropolitan Philatelist, the Philatelic Californian, and there were many others, all of which have disappeared and with none to take their places. These magazines were one of the great factors in keeping up and increasing interest in stamp collecting and I believe that their total disappearance is a cause for regret. To-day we have one scientific monthly, which was also published in those days, and a weekly stamp paper which with a circulation probably as great as all of them put together, still can hardly fill the place they occupied in the education of the young collector.

* * *

A new value, viz. 17½ centimes, has been issued by Netherlands, in current type. The color is violet.

Haiti has a new issue of stamps, issued on a gold basis. They are large, and represent different designs such as public buildings and a portrait of Gen. Nord-Alexis. The values are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20 and 50 centimes and 1 piastre, the piastre having a value of \$1.00 in U. S. gold.

* * *

In *Collier's Weekly* of June 30, appeared a story of much interest to stamp collectors. In his series "Real Soldiers of Fortune," Richard Harding Davis tells the story of Baron Harden-Hickey, famous in philately for his occupation of the Isle of Trinidad and issue of a set of stamps for his principality. The whole story was told in the philatelic press ten years ago, at which time it occurred. The set of stamps was tabooed by stamp collectors, as wholly unnecessary and issued for sale to collectors only, and as a result they rapidly disappeared from sight and have been almost forgotten. One of the stamps is illustrated in the article. They are of handsome design and good workmanship and present a picture of the island of Trinidad (not the large English island off the Guianas, but a smaller uninhabited island off the coast of Brazil). Davis, in his article, states that he found, when he tried to procure one for illustrating, that they were worth many times their face value.

* * *

It may not be generally known to collectors that all the portrait paintings of Washington acknowledged as authentic, are shown on our postage stamps. There are three. Stuart's Washington is shown on the 10c 1847, on the 1861 and the current issue 2c stamp. The original painting is in the Athenaeum at Boston. On the 3c green of 1872 and the 2c brown of 1885 is shown Houdon's Washington copied from the statute, the original being in the capitol at Richmond, Va. On the 90c stamps of 1857 and 1861, appears Trumbull's portrait of Washington in military dress, the original of which, I believe, is in Yale College, New Haven.



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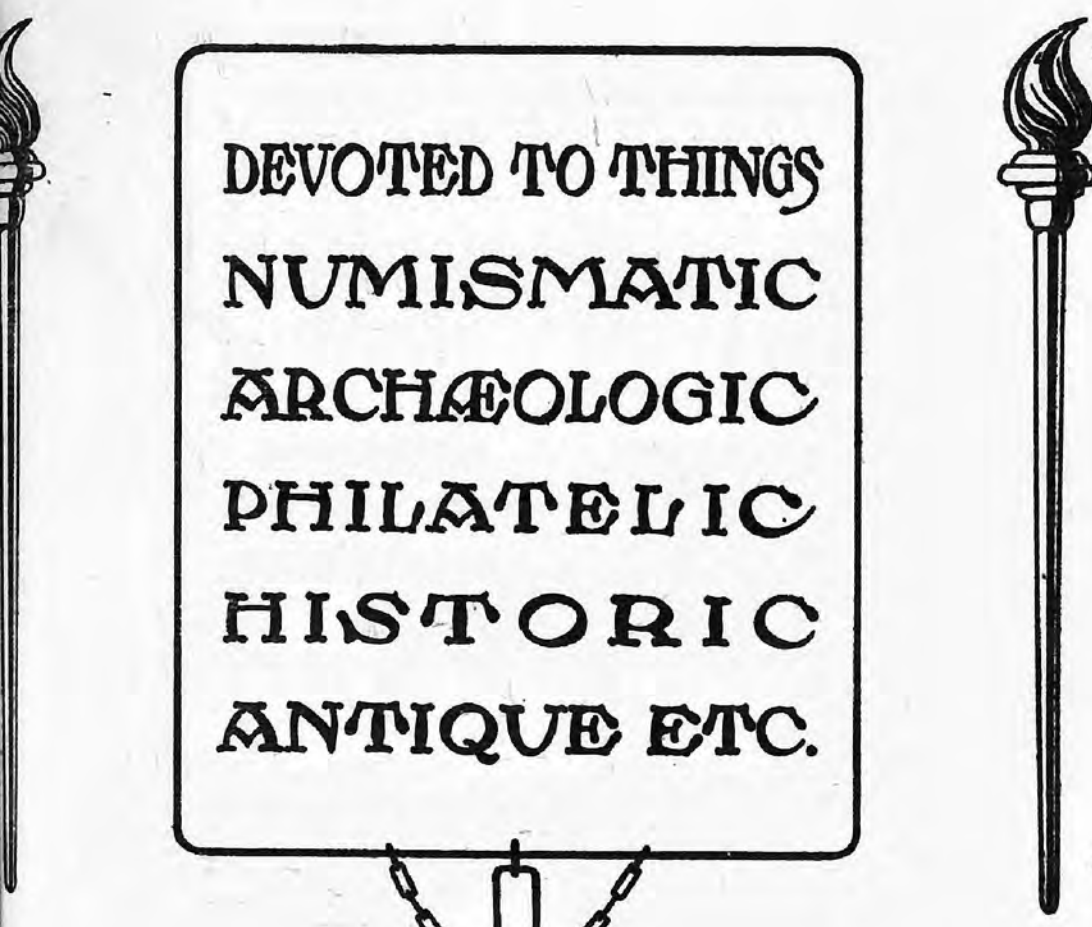
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Editorials

This magazine wishes to commend the work of the National Stamp Committee which was organized one year ago with the object of putting philately before the whole country. This Committee has accomplished much by employing expert writers who contributed articles free of charge to the newspapers, and by donating small collections of stamps to beginners. The Numismatists could well emulate the example of the philatelists. We coin collectors have a big bulge on the stamp gatherers in that our field of collecting dates back probably 2500 years before the first postage stamp was thought of. If Noah's ark wouldn't hold all the coins, neither would the combined fleets of the North German Lloyd and Cunard Line the stamps.

The fact that a man may search, as the editor did recently, through the shelves of a dozen or more book stores without finding one of Parkman's historical books, evidences that the eye of the average American is firmly fixed on the future, and that truly, if unconsciously, the average citizen believes in letting the dead past bury its dead.

H. O. Granberg's Collection.

The best collection of coins in the Northwest is owned by H. O. Granberg of Oshkosh, Wis. Mr. Granberg's collection will give the best of them a "run for their *money*." We can scarcely think of a more fascinating business for a man than to get out in the open as Mr. Granberg does, and prospect for silver and copper. There is an undeniable charm in seeing these useful metals dug out of the earth, refined, bought and sold. They seem so vital to our lives. Mr. Granberg, while you are stalking the hills and plains in the pure air in search of the wealth which we hope you will find, pray pause a moment and think of us imprisoned in our hot, stuffy offices.

Dr. Wm. H. Egle.

The death of Dr. Wm. H. Egle of Harrisburg, Pa., removed probably the greatest genealogist and student of American history in Pennsylvania. For many years Dr. Egle busied himself in delving among old state papers and private documents in search of historical and genealogical records, and his service in these lines has been of great value, not only to the state but to hundreds of the older Pennsylvania families. The editor remembers what a surprise he received some years ago when in looking over some historical books at the Carnegie reference library in Allegheny, Pa., he first discovered who his grandfather, five times removed, was. The book which gave this information, together with the news that he had something like 500 other Elder cousins, none of whom he had ever met--was "Pennsylvania Genealogies," by Dr. Egle. It seemed that no one was able to put a question to Dr. Egle regarding Pennsylvania history that he could not throw light on. He had one of the most astounding memories for dates and names. We can ill afford to lose such a man as Wm. H. Egle. The news, contained elsewhere in this issue, that his library is now for sale in this city should create a stir in historical circles.

The Numismatic Bogey-Man

This species of collector is, we are glad to say, unique in America, but we have here in New York a single specimen, whom attendants at recent auction sales will recall as the one who enlivens the afternoon with continuous abuse, petty personalities, unsolicited opinions on auction lots, and excess show of childish conceit. He calls himself a dealer, and as regards tirade and offensive vanity, his statement is absolutely true; he is, rather, a wholesaler. To hear him talk, Numismatics begins and ends with himself; he disports himself in a numismatic arena alone, with not a single other foeman visible worthy of his steel. As an expert he occupies a niche so exalted that poor ordinary mortals like ourselves require a powerful telescope to sight him. He speaks of numismatic reforms. Reforms should begin at home. We know that he is insincere. We have yet to hear that this individual—this numismatic bogey—has ever said a good word about anybody save himself.

The National Coin Collection

The sum of \$500 seems insignificant for any country, no difference how small or unimportant, to allot for the improvement of the national cabinet of coins. This is the sum that Uncle Sam puts yearly into the hands of the curator, Dr. Camparette. If the curator is unable to do wonders with the \$500, he makes it reach as far as possible. At least \$5,000 per year should be set aside by this government for the improvement of the mint collection.

Dr. T. Louis Camparette, curator of the Philadelphia mint has recently rearranged the coins in the National Collection so that they now show off to the best possible advantage. Dr. Camparette is a thorough student of Numismatics and believes in treating the subject scientifically. In January he is to deliver an illustrated lecture before the Chicago Art Society on the subject of "Early Italian Medals." The Editor is firmly of the opinion that as curator Dr. Camparette is the right man in the right place.

Some Rare War Medals

There are in the Wilson collection in this city two Fort Detroit medals, one with a single bar given to a private of the 41st Foot (very rare) and a two bar, Chateauguay and Fort Detroit, given to an Indian, "Wishe Faratie," of the highest rarity. Medals that were given to Indians are rarer than those given to militia men.

These medals are known as "Military General Service 1806-14," and were sanctioned 1st June, 1847.

Her Majesty, Victoria, was pleased to command that a medal should be struck to record the service of her fleets and armies during the wars commencing 1793 and ending 1814, and that one should be conferred upon every officer, non commissioned officer, and soldier, of the army who was in any battle or siege, to commemorate which, medals have been struck by command of Her Majesty's royal predecessors, and have been distributed to the general or superior officers of the several armies and corps of troops engaged in conformity with the regulations of the army at that time in force.

Twenty-eight bars in all were given the one with "Chateauguay" 26th Oct., 1812; "Chrystler's Farm" 11th Nov., 1813; "Fort Detroit," 16th August, 1812 for services in North America. The bars were issued in accordance with the services of the recipient, and the first battle is always placed nearest the medal.

Description of the Medal: On the obverse is a diademed head of the Queen, with the date of issue—1848—below; above is the legend Victoria Regina. Reverse. Upon a dais the Queen, robed and crowned, stands, placing a laurel wreath upon the head of the Duke of Wellington, who kneels before her. By the side of the dais is the British lion couchant; above is the legend, "To the British Army," and on the exergue the date 1793-1814. The recipient's name and regiment are stamped on the edge. The ribbon is crimson, with blue edge.

CHAS. E. BELANGER.

Montreal, Nov. 18, '06.

Philadelphia Auction Records

In Philadelphia on November 27th and 28th the following auction records were made: 1804 cent, extremely fine, \$99; \$3 gold of 1865, proof, \$32; 1873, (4), \$62, \$43, \$39 and \$32; 1876 \$82. \$1 gold: 1854, San Francisco Mint, uncirculated, \$24; 1863, \$15.25; 1864, (3), \$25, \$15.25, \$12.75; 1865, \$12.50; 1875, \$48.

The Western Frontier from 1760 to 1790

Much ink has been used in depicting the hair-raising qualities of the dime novel. If the situations of their heroes have been overdrawn, one has only to look back over our now sadly neglected historical narratives to find that during the period from 1750 to 1790, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Illinois and Kentucky furnished much of the harrowing and exciting details upon which the "Diamond Dick" tales have been based.

The unrelenting hate of Pontiac toward the English-speaking people found expression in the savage attacks by his allies against the border forts of Michimillimackinac, Presque Isle, Le Beouf, Venango, Fort Pitt and Detroit. Only the two last named forts were able to successfully withstand his skilful design of a simultaneous attack and the almost continuous rain of Indian fire-arrows and tattoo of rifle shots.

Every student of American history knows something of the bloody record dating from Braddock's defeat to the victory of Mad Anthony Wayne at the Maumee, where the Indian's power was crushed forever.

Long after a time when the citizen of New England lived in peaceful security the hardy western settler in his little cabin in the clearing was often awakened from his slumbers by the yelp of the wolf or the low cry of the panther, or by the terrifying war-whoop. It was such conditions as these which produced remarkable frontier riflemen and Indian fighters like Daniel Boone, Simon Kenton, Christopher Gist and "Captain Jack." The settlements made a pitiful appeal for protection and the state officials answered the call as best they could with their reduced finances and with many of their ablest men already fighting at the front first against the French and later against the English. Patriots raised companies of rifle-men at their own expense and sent company after company into Ohio and Indiana to the defeat of which the story of the expeditions of Generals Clarke, Harmar, St Clair and Colonel Crawford tell. And many of those brave men never returned. Some were captured or killed and others endured all the horrors of the gauntlet and stake. Brave Colonel Crawford was captured by the Indians and was burned to death at the stake after five hours of horrible torture. Such records could have gained for Kentucky the name of the only "Dark and Bloody Ground," and for the year 1777 the "Bloody Year of the Three Sevens."

And yet how many readers know the story of Crawford, or of the escape of Slover? The editor was recently reminded of Colonel Crawford by a letter from a friend in Loudonville, Ohio who possesses what is undoubtedly the Colonel's sword. We hope to print shortly the account of Crawford's expedition against the Sandusky towns.

Find Book Mine In Egle Library.

It has been the good fortune of a New York firm of book collectors to capture from under the very eyes of the bibliophiles of Pennsylvania a rare and valuable collection of Americana that many persons in the Keystone State would like to have kept at home.

This library, when catalogued six years ago, contained four thousand volumes, and was considered the finest of its kind.

Dr. Egle was a great collector of Pennsylvania genealogies, several hundred books dealing with the families of the best known residents of the State being in the collection. The books on the American Indian alone are most remarkable. Dr. Egle was greatly interested in aboriginal history and he had one of the largest libraries on this topic.

Thomas Penn's "Discovery of Pennsylvania," printed in 1686, and "Broad sides from Ephrata," 1750, considered prizes, are in the collection. The first German book to be printed in this country, at Germantown, and some of the Ephrata imprints are counted among the most costly of the books. In fact, the Pennsylvania collection is undoubtedly one of the best obtainable, as it includes almost every known local and general history published in book or pamphlet form.

Books relating to New York are a special feature. Smith's "History of New York," the first published, with a folding plate, is one of the gems of the collection. Van Vertoogh's "Nieu-Nederland, Representations of New Netherland, Concerning the Situation Fruitfulness and Sad Condition Thereof," printed in 1650, is very rare, and Thompson's "Long Island" is also a valuable book.

"London's Indian Narratives," in the original edition, which is also in the library, is the only complete copy of this book, so far as known, offered for sale since the Field collection was sold in 1873. Major Andre's "Cow Chase," a poem is a celebrated book, much sought by bibliophiles. "Andre's Trial" is also valuable.

Dr. Egle's collection amply justifies his reputation as a genealogist. Of special interest to New York are such items as complete sets of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, the New England Genealogical Register, Savage's Dictionary and Dr. Egle's own copy of "Pennsylvania Genealogies" extended and elaborated with manuscript additions; the first Genealogical Record printed in America, Ephrata, 1763; a large collection of books from the Franklin

Press, including "Cato Major." The Ephrata imprints include a fine copy of the celebrated "Book of Martyrs." These are among the most costly. The collection includes the first (Zionitscher, 1739) and many other issues of the Sauer Press.

There is an unusual collection of American Broad-sides. The files of American periodicals include full sets of The Dial, Magazine of American History, Magazine of Western History, American Notes and Queries, Dawsons Historical Magazine and Pennsylvania Magazine of History.

Books relating to the North American Indian are numerous and valuable. Among these are Benjamin Franklin's own copy of "The Lancaster Massacre" and "Boquets Expedition;" also the original manuscript of William Smith's "The Remonstrance of the Bleeding Frontier Inhabitants of Pennsylvania;" "The Indian Treaty of 1744," printed by Benjamin Franklin; also the treaty with the Six Nations, 1742, and the treaty of Sir William Johnson, 1756; books on the Indians by Schoolcraft, Brenton, De Smet, Morgan, Squier, Kip, Heckewelder, Catlin, Colden, De Hasse, McKenny, Henry, etc.; "Pattie's Narrative," Patterson's "History of the Backwoods" and the original edition of Lewis & Clark.—New York Telegram.

A Human Money-Box.

Paris, Oct. 24.—Food specialists now assembled in congress should study a lady in a Montmarte night restaurant, who belongs to what one may call an "aurivorous" species. A man who has had supper by himself at a table next to hers called for his bill and put down a French sovereign. "Do let me bite it," cried the lady, "it brings luck." The man had no objection. A gold Louis bitten by a fair lady would certainly not lose in value. She bit, then gulped and screamed: "A million pardons, I have swallowed it." The man had, it seems, come across the aurivorous species before, and instead of letting her and the sovereign go, ungallantly called in the police. They all went to the station, where the Inspector passed sentence of ipecacuanha. The lady evidently feeds on gold, for three sovereigns were recovered. The rightful owner of two of them is unknown.—N. Y. Times.



The American Numismatic Society

A regular meeting of the American Numismatic Society was held at the Hispanic Society Building, New York, on the evening of November 19th last. President Archer M. Huntington, Vice-President Daniel Parrish, Jr., other officers and local members were present. Many of the recent donations were on exhibition, and noteworthy among these were splendid pieces in all metals, the gifts of Messrs. Huntington, Parrish and J. Sanford Saltus. We have only space in which to mention the more important, which include a massive gold medal of Louis Philippe; a round \$50 gold piece of Wass Moliter & Co., and an octagonal \$50 piece of the scarce lettered edge variety, issued by Augustus Humbert.

We understand Mr. Huntington was fortunate enough to secure the superb round specimen in Europe for only \$150. Mr. Parrish has presented the gold medal by Ahlborn, bearing his own likeness, which was presented to him some years ago by the Society. His recent donation of single, double and triple crowns is splendid and the lot includes a large ten crown piece of great rarity and interest. Mr. Saltus' recent gifts include fine English gold coins of large size with choice specimens of Oliver Cromwell, the Commonwealth, Anne, Geo. I and II. The "broad" of Cromwell is of notable rarity and value and in practically uncirculated state. The gift of the Valentine estate, previously referred to, numbers 2880 pieces.

Several new members were admitted including Virgil M. Brand and S. H. Chapman.

President Diaz, of Mexico, has signified his acceptance of honorary membership, conferred upon him at the last meeting.

A paper by R. W. McLachlan, of Montreal, on the "Real date of the Canadian Harp tokens," and one by Farran Zerbe on "The National Collection at the United States Mint," were listened to with interest.

Mr. Elder spoke on the matter of a new coinage for the United

States and after reading portions of an article written by an artist on the subject of our coins asked that the Society use its efforts toward securing legislation by which new and artistic types could be adopted. As a suggestion he read a resolution which he had drawn up, reading as follows:

We, the members of the American Numismatic and Archæological Society of New York, meeting in regular session, do agree that the workmanship shown in the designs of the silver, nickel and copper coins now in use in our country, is inartistic. That it does not compare favorably with that shown on the coins of other nations, and is not of a quality of artistic merit commensurate with our progress and with our rank among the nations of the world. Therefore,

Be it Resolved: That a committee of this Society be appointed to communicate with The Honorable Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, asking him to exert his influence, as President, by recommending that Congress pass an act authorizing new designs for our coins. That if such an act be passed, artists residing in the United States shall be permitted to submit designs for a new coinage to a Committee to be appointed by Congress, such Committee to consist of not less than three, nor more than four persons, two of whom shall be artists of national reputation. That such committee shall recommend of the designs so submitted, those which it may deem to be the most artistic and appropriate.

After reading the resolution, Mr. Elder invited suggestions and criticisms and said that the subject was timely and that it was his earnest wish that the Society would take action in the matter.

Messrs. Parrish and Kunz arose and spoke. Mr. Kunz favored action which would secure an artistic coinage and said that sooner or later we will have to adopt a metric system of coinage and that each piece in addition to being of artistic design should have the metric weight stamped on it, making its use more international than the present coins.

This is not the first time that Mr. Kunz has agitated this subject. In 1895 and in 1901 he was on a Committee which recommended a change in the coinage. After some discussion, Mr. Elder moved that "A Committee of five be appointed to confer with President Roosevelt in regard to the adoption of new designs for our coins." This was passed and the members, who in turn appointed their officers, follows: George F. Kunz, Chairman; Thomas L. Elder, Secretary; Daniel W. Parrish, Jr., S. W. Dunscomb, Victor D. Brenner.

This Committee is to make a report to be submitted to all members, before further action is taken.

Medals and Insignia

In connection with a description of the plans for the new home of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, in Audubon Park, lately printed in this journal, some account was given of its large and valuable collection of coins, but only slight mention was made of its fine assemblage of medals. The latter, with the kindred group termed insignia, deserves notice by itself.

In the cabinets of the society are now between 4,000 and 5,000 medals, including many of much rarity and value. A number have been issued by the society, the first of the series being a silver medal struck in 1865 in commemoration of President Lincoln. Others are a membership medal and medals in honor of two of the society's presidents, Charles E. Anthon and Daniel Parish, Jr. One was struck to commemorate the visit to this country of Prince Henry of Germany, a copy of which in gold was presented to him, while a duplicate copy is in the society's possession. A medal in honor of Christopher Columbus was issued in 1892, and an Americus Vespucius medal some years later. In 1896 a medal was made having a profile of Gen. Grant, and on its reverse a picture of his tomb; and in the same year, to mark the opening of the new building of St. Luke's Hospital, a medal was struck bearing the bust of the Rev. Dr. William A. Muhlenberg. A medal was issued in 1898 in honor of the consolidation of Greater New York, and another in the same year to commemorate the twenty-fifth National Conference of Charities and Correction, under the presidency of William Rhinelander Stewart.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEDALS

A medal struck in 1883 to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Evacuation Day, and the erection by the Chamber of Commerce of the statue of Washington in front of the Sub-Treasury, bears the seal of the society in conjunction with the seals of the Chamber and the city of New York. The society possesses bronze copies of a number of medals issued by the Chamber of Commerce, most of which were originally struck in gold. The first of these medals, in two designs, was made in 1859 for presentation to Cyrus W. Field and the officers of the ships engaged in laying the Atlantic cable in 1858. Medals of several designs were also presented to the officers and enlisted men who took part in the defence of Forts Sumter and Pickens in 1861. The Chamber gave to Hugh H. Hanna, in 1900, a gold medal for his good work in behalf of sound money. A very handsome gold medal,

designed by Roty of Paris, was presented to Abram S. Hewitt, in 1901, for his services in promoting rapid transit under municipal ownership. Seven copies of another fine gold medal were struck in 1905 for presentation to Alexander E. Orr, president of the Rapid Transit Commission, and the members of the Chamber of Commerce associated with him in his duties.

Among the local medals of interest in the society's collection is one in bronze struck by the New York Historical Society in 1904, to commemorate its hundredth anniversary, with the obverse bearing portraits of John Pintard, its founder, and Egbert Benson, its first president; also a beautiful silver medal, in an allegorical design by Isidore Konti, made in honor of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Jewish settlement in this country. A gift lately received is a fine bronze medal struck by the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution in honor of its late president, Frederick S. Tallmadge, the obverse bearing a portrait of him and the reverse a picture of Fraunce's Tavern, the purchase of which for his society was his last official act. A notably elegant American medal is one in bronze to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of Yale University, in 1901.

WORK OF FOREIGN DIES

Recently presented to the society are nine medals of honor, with ribbons, given by the Spanish Government to Spanish soldiers serving in Cuba in the war of insurrection. An interesting collection is a gift from the late Samuel P. Avery, consisting of medals of artists, authors, and printers. These are largely foreign, including medals struck in honor of Goethe, Schiller, Gutenberg, Koster, Beethoven, Mozart, Wagner, Rubens, Chateaubriand, Sir Walter Scott, Sir Isaac Newton, and many others. An American specimen, of very original design by V. D. Brenner, is an oblong bronze medal in honor of James McNeill Whistler.

While the society's collection includes medals from all countries, it is, naturally, especially strong in American exhibits, the English coming next, followed by French and Italian. Probably the oldest of the English medals on view is a silver one of Cromwell, struck on his elevation to the protectorate. In the English group are Queen Victoria's Jubilee medals, and the admirable gold medal struck to commemorate the coronation of King Edward VII.; a silver medal bearing the effigies of George III. and Queen Charlotte, to commemorate their marriage; a bronze medal to mark the abolition of the slave trade, 1807; and medals in honor of Shakespeare, Canning, Sir Robert Peel,

Joseph Priestley, James Watt, and others in diverse walks of life. The society has a number of fine electro copies of the best Italian, French, German, and English medals of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It received from the late Archbishop Corrigan a series of silver medals commemorating the pontifical reigns from 1846, and this has been supplemented by gifts from a member which make the series complete.

THE INSIGNIA COLLECTION

The society's collection of American insignia is classified as follows: First, those awarded by the Government, as the medal of honor and the naval good conduct medals; second, those given by the several States; third, those adopted by the various military and hereditary societies. In the first class are the old United States medals of honor for the army and navy, in bronze; the naval good conduct medal from 1870 to 1884, a four-pointed nickel star; the same since 1884, a bronze medal, bearing a ship and anchor, with the words, "Fidelity, Zeal, Obedience;" also the silk button attached to the navy medal of honor.

Among the medals bestowed by States are those of bronze awarded by Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey, to men who responded to President Lincoln's first call for troops in 1861; three copper-gilt civil war medals of the States of West Virginia, one of which was designed in honor of those killed in battle and was presented to the nearest representative of the fallen soldier; a bronze medal given by the State of Pennsylvania to the members of the State militia who were "first in defence of the Capitol," with a view of the Washington Capitol and the date, April 18, 1861; also, Spanish war medals of Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Michigan, with one awarded by the city of Detroit.

A large number of military and hereditary societies are represented by their insignia, including the Medal of Honor Legion, the Regular Army and Navy Union, the Naval Order of the United States, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, the General Society of the War of 1812, the Veteran Corps of Artillery (military society of the war of 1812, New York), the Society of the Cincinnati, the Military Order of the French Alliance, the Huguenot Society of America, the Society of Colonial Wars, the Military Order of Foreign Wars, Order of Founders and Patriots of America, Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Loyal Legion, Union Veterans' Legion, the Association of Union Ex-Prisoners of War, and the Society of Veterans of the Indian Wars of the United States.

Insignia recalling the Mexican war are those of the Aztec Club,

founded by members of the American army which occupied the City of Mexico in 1847; the Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, a California organization; the National Association of Mexican War Veterans, and the Scott Legion of Philadelphia, whose medal bears the head of Gen. Winfield Scott on the obverse.

There is a good collection of the metal badges of the Grand Army of the Republic, including those indicating the rank of various officers of the organization; the first design of the membership badge, in white metal, adopted in 1866, and the special badges of Lafayette and John A. Dix Posts, New York. Then there are badges of civil war army corps societies, including the scarce one of the Society of the Army of the James, which was soon merged in the Society of the Army of the Potomac; of various civil war brigade and regimental veteran associations, of naval veteran associations, of the Sons of Veterans, and women's auxiliary societies. There are also badges of different Confederate veterans' associations.

Renewing attention to our latest military operations are the insignia of the Naval and Military Order of the Spanish-American War, the Spanish-American War Veterans, the Society of the Army of Santiago de Cuba, the Society of the Porto Rico Expedition, the Society of the Army of the Philippines, and the Military Order of the Dragon, which was formed by commissioned officers of the American troops serving in China at the time of the Boxer uprising. The medal of the last-named order is of bronze, bearing a gilded dragon, and is suspended from a ribbon of yellow watered silk.

The Numismatic Society also has an interesting collection of foreign insignia, chiefly war medals, crosses, and other honorary decorations. For a cabinet of American insignia and decorations which it exhibited at the last Paris Exposition the silver medal was awarded.





The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 34th regular meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Nov. 2nd, Virgil M. Brand presiding.

Communications were read from the Chicago Art Institute and Thos. L. Elder, the latter presenting his card in three metals. Frederick Huber, E. P. Douglas and B. W. Tlempoba were elected to membership. Mr. Carey exhibited his collection of Swedish coins and Mr. Brand showed some rare English siege pieces.

The following magazines were received since last meeting: Numismatischer Verkehr, Spink's Numismatic Circular, Elder Monthly and the Numismatist for October. Catalogs were received from Baldwin & Co., Nos. 1 to 4, B. Max Mehl (2), St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., and Green.

Motion to take larger rooms was carried and the Executive Committee was instructed to secure same.

Adjourned to meet Dec. 7th, 1906.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

The monthly meeting of the society was held at the Chateau de Ramezay Oct. 16, at 8 P. M., Hon. Justice Sicotte presiding. Minutes of July 22nd were read and approved. Minutes of Council June 7th and

28th and Sept 7th were read. Donations from No. 2699 to No. 2736 reported, thanks were voted to the donors. Messrs. Charles Chaput, Honorable Louis Bearbier, Albert Hebert, J. Marcellin Wilson, G. H. Lemay and Alphonse Tuicotte were elected life governors, having qualified as such. R. W. McLachlan gave a very interesting paper replete with research and historical data under name of "The first Mohawk Primer."

The meeting then adjourned.

* . *

A few prices from Mr. John Dow's auction sale Nov. 1st and 2nd: Breton, Nos. 204 and 205 "Les Frere du Canada and Sacred Friendship" brought respectively \$11 and \$12; Betts' No. 392, \$7; A 1/4 Bank of Montreal Token date 1844 in silver brought \$38; A beautiful proof Magdalene Island 1815 Token, \$9; fine specimen 1/4 with side view Bank of Montreal, \$18.50; Prince Edw. Island sheaf of wheat, \$16.50; Crosby's book, "Early Coins of America," \$7.50; Sandham's Coins and Tokens, \$4.50; The Murdoch Collection priced and named, \$5.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

Minutes of the First Annual Convention of "The Ohio State Numismatic Society," held at Columbus, Ohio, Wednesday, October 24th, Mr. Henrie E. Buck, the President, presiding:

Sessions at 1.30 and 7.30 P. M. Present, H. E. Buck, D. L. Ziegler, Farran Zerbe, Geo. W. Rice, R. T. King, A. B. Coover, G. W. Giebelhouse, M. L. Stophlet, J. W. Lyday, W. A. Gill, C. T. Keech, H. Warren Phelps, Dr. J. N. Smith, C. E. Radebaugh, J. E. Douglass, G. J. Bott, C. T. Lyon, Dr. Henderson and several whose

names were not obtained by the Secretary. Reports were read by the Curator, Treasurer and Secretary. On motion, a committee of three consisting of A. B. Coover, C. T. Keech and J. M. Henderson were appointed to take such action as they deem advisable to secure additional Congressional support for the improvement of the Mint Cabinet.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

The Ohio State Numismatic Society, in convention assembled knowing the three hundredth anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in America is to be celebrated by the holding of the Jamstown Ter-Centennial Exposition at Norfolk, Va., in 1907, and that Virginia was named for Queen Elizabeth, who has been called "The mother of modern coinage," and that there has been produced by and used in Virginia a greater variety of currency mediums than in any other division of this country, we believe it fitting that the science of Numismatics should be represented at that Exposition, and that a comprehensive historical and educational numismatic exhibit should be made an interesting factor. That this exposition should be specifically commemorated by a souvenir coin, historic in design, to be issued by the Government, and sold at a nominal sum.

That The Ohio State Numismatic Society in convention assembled hereby endorse and approve the proposed historical and educational talks and exhibits, relating to the coins of the world, by Mr Farran Zerbe, in whom we recognize a numismatic student, scholar and writer, and commend his endeavors to the educational world.

The Constitution was amended so as to elect seven trustees instead of five as previous, and H. E. Buck, D. L. Ziegler of Delaware, H. E. Ezekiel of Cincinnati, R. T. King, A. B. Coover, C. T. Keech and J. M. Henderson of Columbus, elected for ensuing year.

The Society was entertained with papers and addresses by Mr. Farran Zerbe, Tyrone, Pa., on "Numismatics, and the Organization of State Societies," by H. C. Ezekiel of Cincinnati, O., on "The Early Money of Cincinnati," by Geo. W. Rice of Detroit, Mich., on "Progress of Numismatics," by A. B. Coover of Columbus, O., on "Early Banking."

Adjournment.

* * *

Geo. W. Rice of Detroit, at the recent meeting of the Ohio society, proved conclusively, by the display of broken die varieties of early U. S. cents, the use by the Mint officials, of dies of earlier date than the year in which they were issued, thereby accounting for the misleading reports as to the number of pieces issued in certain year.

Mr. General Public took great interest in the display of coins which were arranged in an outer room, in cases, for their inspection. The room was thronged all day and the daily papers gave extended notice of the "wonderful display." This is the kind of work that makes new collectors.

* * *

The Ohio State Numismatic Society was incorporated Feb. 13, 1906 and is therefore the pioneer "State" society. When organized there were seven members. There are now thirty-six enrolled, being a very healthy growth for a youngster of eight months.

We believe all collectors in the "Buckeye" state should send their names to Dr. Henderson the Secretary at once. The Society has undertaken an unique work in the gathering together, and placing in a permanent depository of a cabinet of strictly Ohio specimens, which will prove of much historic interest to the student.

This collection, along with coins of every kind will soon be placed on display in the new and magnificent Library building in Columbus, and Numismatists visiting the city should not fail to see it.

J. M. HENDERSON, Secretary.

A Browning Letter

Copied from the original, by courtesy of the owner, Walter Domitzer, of South Orange, N. J. * * * * *

19 Warwick Crescent,
Jan. 30, '87.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of my son, who is abroad, and from whom I should be unable to obtain an answer to the very obliging request of the Committee, I make haste to say that while he is sensible of the honor done him by the proposal in the Circular, he is quite precluded from accepting it by his absence from England at the time when he would be necessarily in France. Pray offer his thanks to the Committee for their complimentary distinction, and believe me

Dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

ROBERT BROWNING.

Stamp Notes

Written for the MONTHLY by Charles E. Jenney.

A new stamp, value one penny, has been issued by Barbadoes. It is considerably larger than the ordinary stamp and in three colors, blue, green and black. It celebrates the 300th Anniversary of English rule on the island. In the center is a likeness of the brig "Olive Blossom" at sea, while on the sides baobab and palm trees indicate something of the flora. The dates 1605 and 1905 are in scrolls above. Although a very handsome stamp the design is open to criticism in two features; the vessel is of caravel type peculiar to the 15th century and unlike the "Olive Blossom" of the 17th century build, and the central vignette shows the vessel in the open sea, not indicating any approach to land or landing. Lady Carter, the governor's wife, is said to have drawn the design.

* * *

The above anachronism reminds us of the carelessness of the officials of Nevis when in 1903 they issued a stamp representing Columbus sighting the island through a telescope. Its very incongruity of appearance, recalled at once that the telescope was an invention of a later date.

* * *

An English dealer advertises for "ancient and modern postage stamps," which makes us feel our hobby is getting really antique.

* * *

Especially bland and child-like in its innocence is the advertisement of a Spanish dealer who lauds the merits of his approval sheets and adds "only honest persons should apply."

* * *

The new set of stamps for the Philippines consists of twelve values, as follows: 2 centavos, green, Rizal; 4 centavos, carmine, McKinley; 6 centavos, purple, Magellan; 8 centavos, brown, Legaspi; 10 centavos, blue, Lawton; 12 centavos, lake, Lincoln; 16 centavos, dark violet, Sampson; 20 centavos, orange brown, Washington; 26 centavos, dark violet, Carriedo; 30 centavos, olive, Franklin; 1 peso, orange, Arms; 2 pesos, black, Arms.

It would seem that Americans were honored out of proportion to the natives but this may be a method of instructing the native population in American history.

Probably before this is in print a new issue for New Zealand will appear. The designs are as follows: the ½d, arrival of the canoe Arawa from Hawaiki with the first inhabitants of New Zealand; 1d specimens of Maori art; 3d Capt. Cook landing at Poverty Bay, N. Z.; 6d hoisting of the British flag at Kororareka Bay of Islands. The designs were drawn by L. J. Steele of Auckland. The stamps are expected to be issued Nov. 1, 1906, when the International Exhibition opens at Christ Church, N. Z.

* * *

Finland's postal history presents some peculiarities. In 1900 there was a great wailing and lashing of fins,—I should say gnashing of teeth, from that northern country over the abolishing of its right to issue postage stamps by Russia and they even went into mourning with a black stamp. When it began sending out new issues it annoyed the orderly collector who had closed up his pages bearing "Finnish" at the top and "Finish" at the bottom

* * *

One of the most unique of the U. S. medicine stamps of the 1865 issue is F. Brown's. It is a 2c black stamp 2¾ by 4 inches, imperforate. It is nicely engraved, with a portrait of Washington in a circle in the centre on a black background, within a double oval which bears the words "U. S. Inter. Revenue. Two cents," and also the numeral twice. Outside of this is machine scroll work and a large ornamental design bearing "F. Brown's Essence of Jamaica Ginger. Laboratory N. E. Cor. of Fifth & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia." Below, in smaller type, on the wide margin is "Dose for a grown person, 1 teaspoonful; for a child 10 to 12 years old, half a teaspoonful; and for a child 2 to 5 years old, 15 to 20 drops. To be given in Sugar and Water." This might almost be classed as a revenue "entire," combining as it does the revenue tax, the advertisement and business address, and the prescription. It is, however, a very neat and attractive label, resembling the work done on bank notes. It is worth about 20 cents on silk paper, \$2.00 on the old yellow paper and \$40.00 on pink paper. It might have been some comfort to the invalid of those other days, to feel while taking his medicine, he was accumulating a fortune in stamps.

* * *

Every collector who comes into possession of the U. S. 24 cent stamp of 1865 will gaze upon it with more than the monetary admira-

tion due to its scarcity. It is one of the handsomest stamps ever issued by any country. This is noticeable even in the faded gray specimens generally seen but when one sees an unused copy or one of the proofs, all its beauty is apparent.

* * *

The first value of a new set of stamps of permanent design appeared in Panama on Sept. 1, 1906. The value is on a gold basis. It is to be hoped that this set will stop the multitudinous surcharges that Panama has sent out in the past year or two. The new stamp bears the likeness of Balboa who crossed the Isthmus and first beheld the Pacific Ocean. The color is black and green and the set is printed by the Hamilton Bank Note Co. of New York.

* * *

There is no doubt but that today, in the number of its adherents, Philately surpasses all other hobbies. As an earnest collector of coins, Indian relics and shells, I peruse the periodicals relating to these pursuits and use their exchange columns freely, but find there are a hundred collectors ready to exchange for stamps to one interested in the other mentioned lines. The collecting of botanical specimens, insects and shells are most interesting and useful as well as scientific pursuits, and open to everyone, yet comparatively few collectors are found who are ready to exchange specimens. There are only two reasons that I can offer for this state of things, first, the wide circulation of information through the philatelic press at a price open to all and thus keeping one always interested; second, the compact form in which stamps may be kept and classified and which also facilitates their exchange at less expense for postage or express than the far more bulky conchological or botanical specimens. Then again, all the world being interested increases the interest, for everyone wants to do what everyone else is doing.



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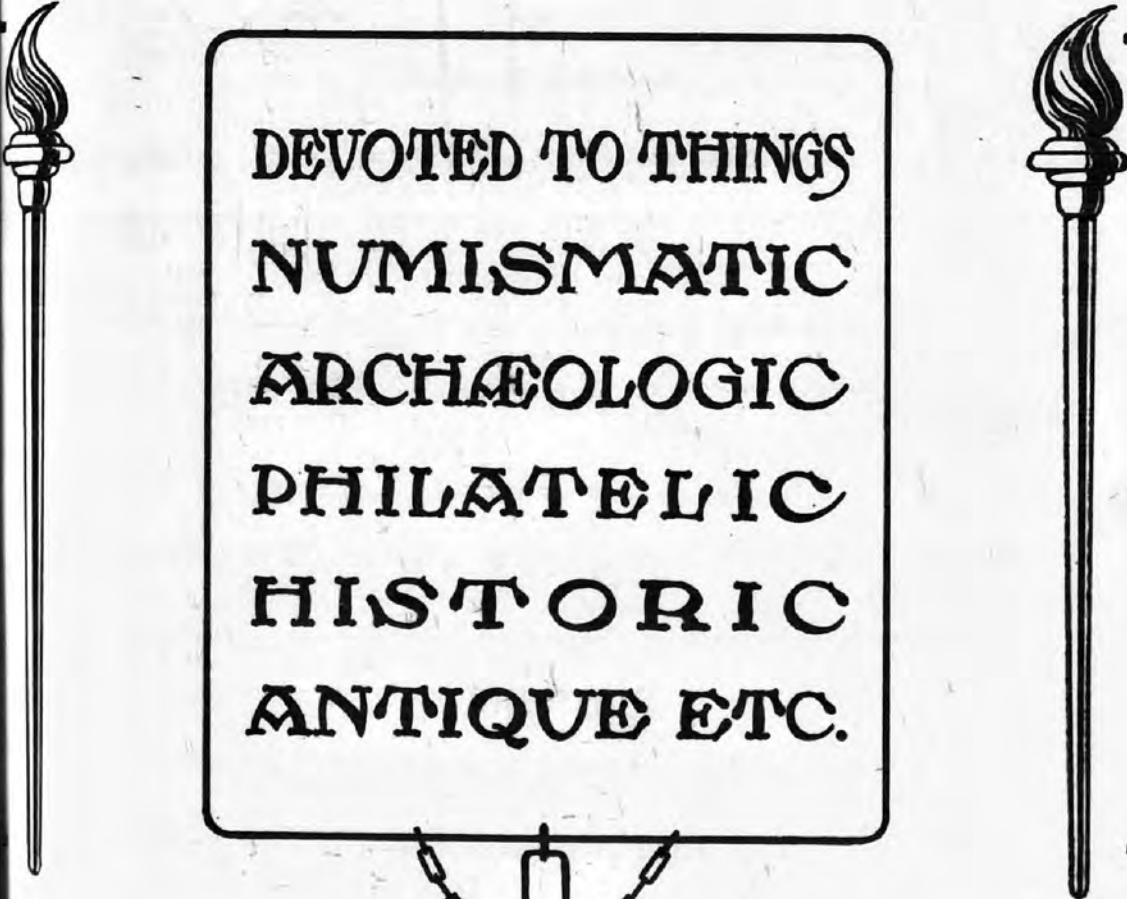
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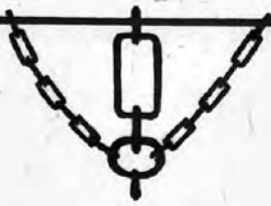
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Editorials

Christmas Greetings

To all my good friends and customers, old and new, I extend the good wishes of the present season. In particular let me mention my friend Henry H. Parkhurst, of Amherst, New Hampshire, from whom years ago, I received my first order for coins.

A love for coins, once firmly rooted, does not leave a man when he has reached the sunset of life. Mr. Parkhurst is a collector still. Numismatics in America has a most favorable outlook. In the New Year let us all labor for the growth and development of our science.

Elder Card No. 4

Those of our readers who did not secure our Card No. 3, may obtain one for the asking. The new card, No. 4, will be issued in a few days and will be of special interest and of finer workmanship than the last, the obverse bearing a splendid head of George Washington. The reverse will bear a motto to which an exception may be taken by some, but the editor thinks the numismatists will be ready to support its philosophy. Send for card No. 4. For the benefit of a few collectors, copies will be struck in silver and gold, and one of each will be offered in my January sale.

Elder Monthly, Vol. 1, No. 1

We have just unearthed a limited number of Vol. 1, No. 1, issued March, last, and any of our readers wishing to complete their files may obtain this, or other back numbers, by remitting us five cents per copy.

Mrs. Annie T. Slosson

We collectors of coins should remember that there are seekers in other fields fully as enthusiastic and indefatigable. The New York and Brooklyn Entomological Society have among their members many ardent gatherers of insects and there are many fine collections here, both public and private. We have recently seen the collection of Mrs. Annie Trumbull Slosson of this city, an earnest student of insect life. This includes insects of all orders and contains over 30,000 specimens finely mounted and arranged. These were all gathered by Mrs. Slosson herself, who does not acquire her transfers by purchase or exchange. She has for several years been publishing annual lists of the insects of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire and spends weeks at a time on the rocky summit, capturing and studying her alpine treasures.

She has already taken about 2500 species there. Many of these were new to science, others are European species, never before recognized in our fauna.

Mrs. Slosson is a sister-in-law of the late William C. Prime one of our earlier numismatists and the author of *Coins, Medals and Seals* a book long out of print, but still in use.

Coins of the Bible

Some days ago Mrs. Slosson, one of America's foremost entomologists, and a sister of the late W. C. Prime, author of "Coins, Medals and Seals," presented the Editor with a copy of "Coins of the Bible," ~~written by her brother, and~~ printed during this year. We have obtained special permission to reprint this pamphlet and we shall endeavor to complete it in the December, January and February numbers. It is well worthy of your perusal.

New Coin Types

In this issue our readers may note that the Chicago Numismatic Society and the Ohio State Numismatic Society are also considering the matter of a new coinage for the United States. It is to be hoped that the present agitation of this subject by the various societies may be instrumental in bringing about a reform in our coin types. Sooner or later the public will awaken to a realization of the fact that our coins are homely, and when this awakening takes place it will demand a change in types. President Roosevelt is, we believe, favorable to such a move. It will be a glad day when every American man, woman and child, no difference how rich or how poor, may gaze with delight on splendid, artistic coins.

Our Coin Legend

The use of the legend, "In God We Trust," on some of the coins of the United States grew out of a letter written by a Maryland farmer to Salmon P. Chase, when he was Secretary of the Treasury. The letter was written in November, 1861, the writer urging that we should, as a Christian people, make some recognition of the Deity on our coins. Mr. Chase referred the letter to Director Pollock of the mint, who approved the suggestion and proposed one of the legends, "Our Country, Our God," or "God our Trust." Mr. Chase then referred the matter to congress, and again in 1862 and in 1863 he urged that the matter be acted on. Finally, on April 22, 1864, congress authorized the coinage of a two-cent bronze piece, and on it was stamped the legend "In God We Trust," instead of "E Pluribus Unum." Subsequently, on March 3, 1865, the director of the mint, with the approval of the secretary of the treasury, was authorized to place the legend on all gold and silver coins susceptible of that addition thereafter to be issued. The legend is taken from the following line in "The Star Spangle Banner:"

"And this be our motto: In God our trust."—Chicago News.

Geographical and Historical Jottings in the Year 1835

From the "19th edition" of "Practical System of Modern Geography, 1835."

By J. OLNEY, A. M.

"The inhabitants (of the United States) are divided into a great variety of sects, the principal of which are Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Baptists, Methodists, German Lutherans, Unitarians and Friends." The author generously omits any mention of our Roman Catholic brethren.

"The people of New England are intelligent, moral, industrious and enterprising. Common schools are established and supported by law, in every town, except *in the State of Rhode Island.*"

"Within a few years the people of the Middle States have given great attention to the construction of railroads. Several of them are of *great extent.* The Hudson and Mohawk Railroad extends *from Albany to Schenectady, length 15 miles.* The Schenectady and Saratoga Railroad from Schenectady to Saratoga, 21 miles. The New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad from New Castle to Elk River, 16½ miles. The Mauch Chunk Railroad, from the coal mines near Mauch Chunk to the Lehigh River, 9 miles. *These are in successful operation.* Several others are in progress and will soon be completed."

"The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is intended to unite the city of Baltimore with the Ohio River. It was commenced July 4th, 1828." On the page with this article is shown a train of cars of a pattern so archaic that the original "John Bull" train would have smiled on beholding it.

"Towns." (Indiana). Indianapolis is situated on the west branch of the White River. It is a *flourishing town.*

Vincennes is finely situated on the Wabash (that is, "On the banks of the Wabash.") *It is the largest town in the state.* (Indianapolis, take note.)

"North West Territory." There are few settlements in this territory; the chief are Prairie du Chien, and Green Bay settlements." (Where were the Schiltz and other brands of lager manufactured then?)

"Arkansas Territory." Wild animals are numerous. Buffaloes or bisons, Elks, Deer, and Wild Horses are seen feeding in vast herds, on the prairies."

If 1804 dollars are rare, wild buffaloes are rarer in Arkansas at present writing.

Money of The Bible

BY WILLIAM C. PRIME

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I. MONEY BEFORE COINAGE

At an early period in the history of civilization, silver and gold acquired among men a high value in relation to other property. As all exchangeable values depend on demand and supply, and as the demand for these metals was universal and the supply limited, they became familiar measures of value. In conversation, the value of one commodity can only be stated in relation to some other commodity, because all exchangeable value is, of course, relative. Thus, before Greek civilization had advanced very far, we find Homer speaking of a woman slave as worth four oxen, and an ox as worth a three foot bar of copper or brass. We have an excellent view of early trade in Homer's description of the Greeks before Troy purchasing from foreign vessels wine for a feast, some for copper (brass), some for bright iron, some for hides, some for oxen, some for slaves ("Iliad" 7:473). Here is no mention of gold or silver. Long ages before this date, in the ancient line of our civilization in Asia, men had learned to state values in terms of gold or of silver, because the universal demand for these metals had made them the universal "circulating medium."

Language demanded terms in which to express the quantity of the metal used in each and every trade, as well as the quantity of commodities sold. Naturally, the quantity of metal was determined by weight, and the several weights received names. The metals passed current with merchants only by weight, and this rule has always since prevailed in the commerce of the world. Many names have grown into language as measures of money value, each of which means a certain weight of precious metal. Gold and silver, like tobacco and cotton, pass from man to man only by weight. The stamp on a coined piece of metal is a certificate that the quality of the metal is of a certain fineness, containing a regular and invariable amount of alloy, and the weight when freshly coined is a certain weight, both weight and quality having been commanded by law. Men accept a bright coin, relying on the certificate, and, in small transactions, pay little attention to the worn look of coins of the inferior metals. But in large transactions, where great numbers of coins are transferred, especially if gold, it is customary to weigh them; and ingenious machines are

sometimes in use which rapidly count and weigh each coin, rejecting and throwing out all that do not come up to the standard weight. Nor will any one accept in trade a gold coin which presents a worn appearance, indicating that it has lost even the smallest part of its original weight.

However burdensome to trade this ancient custom of weighing the metal appears to us, it prevails in practice in the East to-day. The traveler who pays out a French or British gold coin, or even a Turkish, often waits while the merchant takes out his little scales and weighs it.

Probably gold and silver were cast in forms convenient for use, and some of these forms were of tolerably uniform weight. It has been supposed that rings were found most convenient. On Egyptian monuments are pictures of men weighing piles of gold and silver rings. And among the spoils of war brought from foreign conquests by an Egyptian Pharaoh we read of great quantities of such rings, "1784 pounds of gold rings and 966 pounds of silver rings" (Sayce "Patriarchal Palestine," p. 99).

The first mention we find in the Bible of the use of "money" is in the purchase of slaves (Gen. 17: 12), and the next transaction in which it appears is the purchase of a burial-place (Gen. 23: 15). In the latter case we read of a bargain and sale in the style of the period. When they had agreed on the price, Abraham paid it. He weighed out to Ephron four hundred shekels of silver "current money with the merchant." The word "money" is inserted by the translators. The word "current" primarily refers to the quality of the silver. Pure silver is not known in ordinary trade or currency. American coined silver contains ten per cent of alloy. Silver in manufactures may be of various qualities. The laws of trade in Babylonia established by mercantile usage doubtless prevailed at this time in Canaan, and determined the degree of fineness for "current" silver. The word "shekel" must have come very early into use as the name of a specific weight for precious metal. It means simply "weight."

In Genesis 33, we read of Jacob purchasing land for a hundred "pieces of silver," and in Joshua 24: 22 the same transaction is related. This phrase, "pieces of silver," seems, as we shall see hereafter, to have been with the translators a favorite phrase. Here they ought to have transferred the original word into the English. Jacob paid a hundred *kesita*. Again, in Job 42: 11, we read that every man gave him a "piece of money," and every one an "ear-ring of gold." The word translated "ear-ring" means only a ring, and the word translated "piece of money" is "kesita." This word "kesita" also means "lambs." It is a very old word, not appearing in any late Hebrew

literature. It belongs to the times when the flock of sheep and drove of cattle were still useful and convenient as a circulating medium, wherewith to buy anything. It may have come into use as a weight of metal which had some definite relation to the value of lambs. In the pictures of weighing rings which we find on Egyptian walls, we see weights shaped like animals, perhaps sheep and parts of sheep. It is also worthy of note that in later times we find the Latins coming into the lines of civilization, and deriving their word *pecunia*, meaning "money," "wealth," from *pecus* "the flock." Their word *numus* for a coin may possibly be traced to an origin in some such Greek word as *nemos*, meaning "a pasturage." Their early coins, large pieces of copper, were stamped with images of bulls and other animals. Babylonian weights have been found in animal forms. In short, there is ample reason for thinking that in the times of Jacob and of Job, in what is sometimes called the patriarchal age, a kesita was a certain weight of silver, having reference to the value of lambs, which had been in earlier times in common use, especially among pastoral people, for exchange, and even for settling balances in barter. But the word seems to have passed out of use. The word "shekel," however, was retained, always meaning a definite weight, and never applied to a coin until about 139 B. C., in the time of Simon Maccabæus.

When Abraham sent his servant to Mesopotamia (Gen. 24: 22), we are told that when the man met Rebekah at the well he took a golden ear-ring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands, of ten (shekels?) weight, and put the ear-ring upon her face. The question which has been discussed, whether the ring was a nose-ring or an ear-ring, does not concern us. The incident is important in the history of money as indicating that jewelry was made of specific weights, so that it would be convenient to use as money if needed. The same is true of ancient gold ornaments which have been found in other parts of the world, which are in weight multiples of the same unit.

In the history of Joseph we find frequent mention of money. That it always means precious metal passing by weight is evident from the passage (Gen. 43: 21) in which the brethren of Joseph tell him of their finding their money in their sacks: "Every man's money was in the mouth of his sack; our money in full weight." It is unnecessary to cite the numerous instances in the Old Testament of the use of money. The prophet Jeremiah, about B. C. 600, describes minutely his payment for a purchase of land (Jer. 32: 9, 10). He "weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver;" "took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances."

There is no mention of coined money in the Old Testament prior

to the Captivity, unless in a passage in 2 Chronicles, to which we will hereafter refer.

Coin was unknown to any of the nations of the world until in or after the eighth century B. C.

The Gentile world, as well as the Hebrews, got on very well without coin of any kind. The Babylonian civilization, out of which came Abraham and his descendants; the Egyptian civilization, out of which the children of Israel had come to possess Canaan,—both these gorgeous and powerful civilizations, than which the world has never known more magnificent, had no use for coin. Vast cities, populous countries, teeming nations in all parts of the East, had extensive commerce, internal and international, constructed great works, employed and paid for industrial labor, lavished expenditure on art and luxury, but had no coin.

Specimens of a gold coin, of rude character, have been found near Sardis. They are rather thick pieces of metal, having on one side the image of a crowned king holding in one hand a bow, and in the other, variously, a spear or a short sword. They have on the reverse side the indentation produced by the punch with which the lump of metal was driven into the die. The date of these coins is unknown. They belong to the early age of the art of coining, and some have supposed them to be the oldest known coins. Improving but little in workmanship at a later period, this coin seems to have been issued under Persian authority in considerable numbers. The Greeks called it a gold *stater*. At a later time, a tradition arose among the Greeks that the coins had been issued by Darius (Hystaspis), and they called it *dareikos*, whence came our name for it, *daric*. If, as many authorities teach, this coin is referred to in 2 Chronicles, and in Ezra and Nehemiah, it is the first coined money mentioned in the Bible. But that it is so referred to is more than doubtful. In the Chronicles (1 Chron. 29; 7) we read that David received, for the temple fund, "five thousand talents and ten thousand drams" of gold. The Hebrew word here translated "drams" is *adarkonim*. The collocation of talents and drams, in stating a sum total, would obviously lead us to suppose "adarkonim" to mean a weight, as the "talent" certainly was. In the Book of Ezra, and in Nehemiah, we find the word "drams" frequently used, the Hebrew word being sometimes *adarkonim* and sometimes *darkemonim*. In Ezra 8: 25-27, we read that he "weighed unto them the silver, and the gold, and the vessels . . . I even weighed unto their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels an hundred talents, and of gold an hundred talents, also twenty basons of gold of a thousand

drams' (adarkonim). In Ezra 2:69, we are told of threescore and one thousand drams (darkemonim) of gold. In Nehemiah 7:70-72, we read repeatedly of "drams" of gold, the Hebrew word being, in each verse, "darkemonim."

Mr. Poole, in Smith's Bible Dictionary, under the word "daric" says, "That the Hebrew word is in the Bible the name of a coin, and not of a weight, appears from its similarity to the Greek appellation of the only piece to which it could refer. The mentions in Ezra and Nehemiah show that the coin was current in Palestine under Cyrus and Artaxerxes Longimanus."

It is not easy to see what there is in these mentions to indicate that the daric was in circulation in Palestine. The words are used in speaking of gross amounts, which may well be weights. Twenty basons of gold of a thousand (adarkonim) drams seems quite clearly to mean basons of that weight. Certainly the writer could not have intended to say in the Chronicles that David received as contributions ten thousand darics, for neither daric nor any other coin was known till centuries after David's death. In short, the idea that "adarkonim" and "darkemonim," both or either, should be translated "daric," is based solely on the similarity of the words to the Greek name of the daric, to wit, "dareikos," and on the assumption that the words mean coins; an assumption for which there does not appear to be any basis. On the contrary, from the use of the word "hadarkonim" in 2 Chronicles, where it cannot mean "daric," and where it is used in collocation with talent, "a weight, and from its like use in Ezra 8:25-27 where we read of the actual weighing out of talents and drams, the assumption is natural that the word implies a weight. Even if in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah the Greek word "dareikos" had come into use, which may be doubted, there seems no more reason for connecting the Hebrew word with it than with the Greek weight drachme, which has at least equal similarity. This subject however, involves so many questions that we have no space here to discuss them; and we dismiss it with the remark that there is not sufficient reason to believe that the coin known as the daric is referred to in the Bible, nor any reason to suppose that it circulated as money in Jerusalem.

It was not very long, however, after this, that Greek coins came into Jerusalem, and their names became familiar to the Hebrews.

The rude appearance of the darics has led some to think they were the first coins ever made. This opinion, however, has given way before the testimony of Greek authors and the evidence afforded by art in the succession of coins of the Greeks.

(To be continued.)

The Gnadenhutzen Massacre and Death of Crawford.

The Moravians, or United Brethren, originated in a religious revival in Fulnek, in Moravia, about 1720, and were collected into a community at Bethelsdorp, in Upper Lusatia, by Count Zinzendorf, in 1722. The visit of Zinzendorf to Copenhagen, at the coronation of Christian VI., in 1731, made him acquainted with the condition of the slaves of the West Indies; and on his return to Bethelsdorp, the congregation decided to send missionaries to the Danish West Indies, to instruct the slaves. In 1732, two missionaries went to St. Thomas, and sold themselves into slavery, in order to reach the slaves. Such was the origin of the Moravian missions; they were commenced by a community who had been driven from their homes by persecution and who then numbered only six hundred members. Ten of these missionaries were brought into Georgia in 1735, by Count Zinzendorf, to preach the gospel to the Indians. They were expelled from this colony for refusing to bear arms in the war then raging between the Spanish and English, and returned into Pennsylvania, where they founded the present Moravian stronghold of Bethlehem, on the Lehigh river. From this point they sent out their missionaries north east and west to the various Indian tribes, leaving us invaluable historical legacies in the early journals and writings of Weiser, Zeisberger, Heckwelder and Post. After having established an Indian settlement in Western Pennsylvania, near the Beaver river, the missionary Zeisberger with Indian converts consisting of five families, twenty-eight persons in all, set out April 14th, 1772, and after a tedious journey arrived at the Muskingum river, in Ohio, about seventy miles south-west of Lake Erie. Formerly a large Indian town stood on the spot selected, and some ramparts of Indian forts were still visible. This was the second settlement made on the Muskingum, the first having been at Schonbrun, located about three miles south of New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County. Several other Moravian settlements were established in this vicinity.

Shortly afterwards they settled at Gnadenhutzen, seven miles south of Schonbrun, and Salem, a few miles below Gnadenhutzen. The Indian chiefs were favorably impressed and the Moravian faith flourished among "the children of the wilderness." For awhile, too, they were beyond the border and away from the influence and hostility of the white men, and away from the embarrassment of the border wars.

War of 1774 in no way effected them, other than it excited the fear that the war might extend into their country and both the missionaries and their people were prepared to escape at the battle of

Point Pleasant. During the years that followed the Brethren were allowed peaceably to pursue their labor, in the confidence of the people and under the protection of the Delaware tribe.

But their peace was soon broken. They were between two parties in the war of Independence. Detroit was the headquarters of the British, and Fort Pitt of the Americans. The Wyandots and part of the Delawares were partisans of the British; the Christian Moravian villages remained neutral, in accordance with their principles. It thus became very difficult to preserve this neutrality. It was necessary, in order to avoid their enmity, to furnish provisions to the war parties on their way to attack the whites; it was an act of Christian benevolence to extend sympathy to their prisoners, and in that way they were suspected of partiality to British interest.

On the one hand, therefore, a party of Americans crossed the Ohio in the fall of 1777, with the design of destroying the Moravian towns, but were met and defeated by a party of Wyandots. On the other hand the comandant at Detroit sent them a message in 1778, declaring he would compel all the Indians, Christian or not, to fight the Americans, and if they refused his demand, all missions should be destroyed. A chief of the Wyandots visited them in the spring of 1787 to advise them of their peril and persuade them to seek a place of greater safety. "My cousins," said he, "You Christian Indians in Gnadenhutzen, Schobrun and Salem, I am concerned on your account, as I see you live in a dangerous situation. Two mighty and angry gods stand opposite to each other with their mouths wide open, and you stand between them and are in danger of being crushed by the one or other or both of them, and crushed with their teeth."

McKee, Girty and Elliott, British Tories or renegades, were especially hostile to the missionaries, and were continually seeking to excite the heathen Indians to murder Zeisberger and destroy the mission. Girty, indeed, led a party at one time from Sandusky, to capture and murder the venerable missionary, and had even taken him prisoner, but he was rescued by a band of friendly Delawares. Under the influences of these whites, the Six Nations sent a message to the Chippewas and Ottawas, asking them to murder the Christian Indians. They declined and the same message was sent to the Wyandots, and a party of them, after much persuasion was induced by Elliott to accompany him to the Christian settlement.

But his Indian allies could not be trusted to perform the work, and he therefore contented himself with taking the missionaries prisoners to Sandusky, and with compelling the Christian Indians to abandon their improvements and remove to Sandusky. Mary Heck-

welder, the daughter of the missionary, who was born on the 16th of April, 1781, and is supposed to be the first white child born north of the Ohio, says: "Soon after my birth, times becoming very troublesome, the settlements were often in danger from war parties; and finally, in the beginning of September, of the same year, we were all made prisoners. First, four of the missionaries were seized by a party of Huron warriors, and declared prisoners of war; they were then led into the camp of the Delawares where the death song was sung over them. Soon after they had secured them, a number of warriors marched off for Salem and Schonbrun. About thirty savages arrived at the former place in the dusk of evening, and broke open the mission house. Here they took my mother and myself prisoners, and having led her into the street, and placed guards over her they plundered the house of everything they could take with them and destroyed what was left. After experiencing the cruel treatment of the savages for some time, they were set at liberty again, but were obliged to leave their flourishing settlements, and forced to march through a dreary wilderness to Upper Sandusky. All the way I was carried by an Indian woman, carefully wrapped in a blanket, on her back. Our journey was very dangerous; some of the canoes sank, and their occupants lost all their provisions and other belongings. Those that went by land drove their cattle, a pretty large herd. The roads were exceedingly bad leading through a continuation of swamps."

(To be continued.)





The American Numismatic Society

Professor Waterman, of Fisk University, has added to the many recent donations to the cabinets of this Society a splendid collection of 2,000 ancient coins, mostly Roman bronzes, presented in memory of his grandfather, and their former owner, the late Warren D. Gookin. Most of these pieces were collected by Judge Gookin while he lived in Europe and prior to 1868.

Mr. Huntington's latest donations included the first impression in silver of the new and artistic medal presented to the members of the Hispanic Society; a fine gold medal of the New York Historical Society, only two of the latter having been struck in gold; and a fine coin cabinet 6 feet in height, 3 feet 1 inch wide and 18 inches deep. This cabinet has 136 drawers and in it will be placed American coins and tokens.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, November 27, 1906.

The monthly meeting was held this date under the Presidency of Judge Sicotte who took the chair 8:30 P. M. The minutes of Oct. 16th were read and approved, minutes of Council meeting October 13th were read. Donations 2717 to 2746 reported. Mr. Ernest Marcean, Supt. in general of Canals, Province of Quebec, read a most interesting paper on "The Origins of our Canal System." The first attempt at digging a canal dates back to 1658, when the gentlemen of the Seminary of St. Sulpice attempted to open up a canal between Montreal and Lachine. After several exhibits by a few members the meeting adjourned.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

At a meeting of this Society, held December 12th, last, a resolution was passed to the effect that the present types of United States coins were inartistic and unsatisfactory, and asking for legislation which would secure for us a more artistic and suitable coinage. The Secretary was authorized to submit a copy of the resolution to President Roosevelt, and to ask him to use his efforts toward the accomplishment of this matter. The resolution was constructed on very similar lines to the one submitted by Mr. Elder at the recent meeting of the New York Society.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 35th regular meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Dec. 7th, President G. W. Tracy presiding.

A committee consisting of W. F. Dunham, V. M. Brand and T. E. Leon was appointed to investigate and report at January meeting the advisability of making an effort to have Congress make a change from the present designs of our silver and minor coins, it being the sense of the Society that the present designs are not sufficiently artistic.

The annual election of officers for 1907 was held with the following results: President, W. F. Dunham; Vice Pres., E. C. Verkler; Secretary, Ben G. Green; Treasurer, F. Elmo Simpson; Librarian, V. M. Brand; Curator, M. P. Carey; Censor, G. W. Tracy; Executive Committee, Brand, Tracy and Green.

Mr. Brand exhibited a proof United States quarter of 1823, the only one known in this condition, and Mr. Tracy showed some interesting Russian Provincial coins.

Magazines received were as follows: The Numismatist and Philatelic West for November. Auction catalogs were received from Messrs. Henry Chapman, Jr., Elder, Green and Hirsch; and a price list of Russian coins from V. I. Petrov.

An informal auction was held for the benefit of the binding fund.

L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Neb., was present as a visitor.

Adjourned to meet Jan. 4th, 1907.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.

MONEY OF THE BIBLE

An illustrated booklet by W. C. Prime, author of Coins, Medals and Seals. This interesting contribution to Numismatics has just been printed and offered for the first time. I send it prepaid on receipt of 15c in postage stamps.

THOMAS L. ELDER,

32 E. 23d St.. New York

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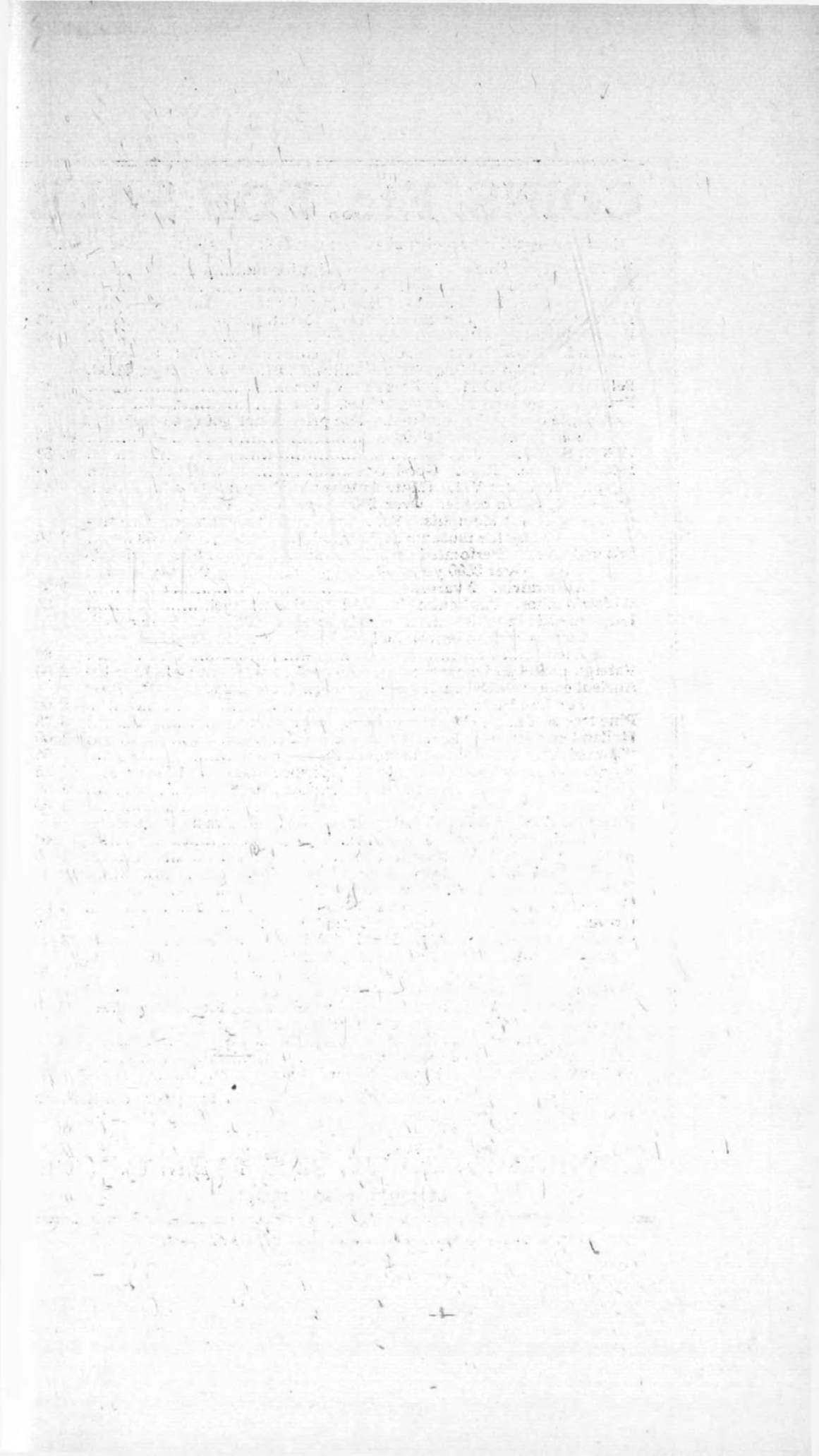
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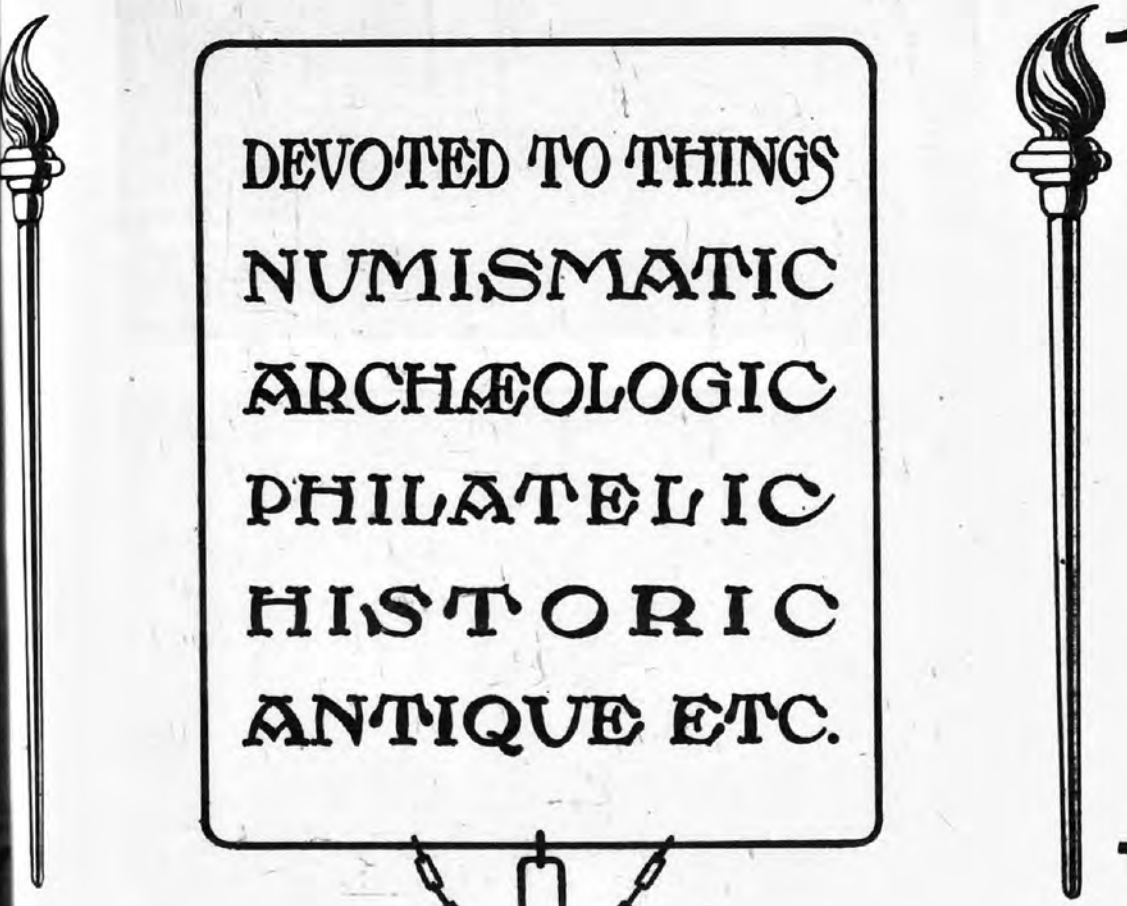
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DEVOTED TO THINGS
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NEW PAUL JONES MEDAL.

See page 7.

Supplementary to THE ELDER MONTHLY.

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THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

VOL. I

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Editorials

Gnadenhutten and Crawford

We have conjoined the Gnadenhutten and Crawford narratives, now running in this magazine, because the expedition of Crawford was contingent upon the massacre by Williamson's men. The Moravian village, situated midway between the British fort at Detroit and the American fort at Pittsburgh, and these Christian Indians harassed by their war-like red cousins and by such renegade scapegraces as Simon Girty and McKee, found it hard to remain neutral during the Revolution. The cause of the Gnadenhutten massacre may be traced to the many bloody attacks made by Indian raiding parties against the settlers of the Pennsylvania and Ohio frontiers, in the spring of 1782.

Murders became so frequent that the pent-up wrath of the whites rose to a high pitch. The report that two of these Indian marauders were Moravians, and that these parties emanated from the Moravian towns, sealed the fate of Gnadenhutten, and the pioneers determined to destroy the Tuscarawas valley villages, "the harboring places of the red vipers." In Washington County, Pennsylvania, a body of 160 young men, commanded by Colonel Williamson, set out for the Mingo Bottoms, pursuing the trail leading to Gnadenhutten. The discovery by soldiers of the impaled and mutilated bodies of Mrs. Wallace and her child brought forth fresh cries for vengeance. The story of the massacre is told in detail in the accompanying article. But this terrible waste of human blood had not yet appeased the Scotch desire for revenge, and flushed by the success of Williamson's men at Gnadenhutten, the borderers formed another expedition under Colonel Crawford and proceeded against the Wyandot and Delaware towns along the Sandusky river. Crawford, surveyor, brave, ambitious, cool, was fitted by nature to be a soldier, leader and frontiersman. Washington's high regard for him as shown by their interesting correspondence, and the fact that he had been Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth Virginia Regiment, and, later, Colonel of the Seventh Virginia Regiment, gave him a prominence in American history over which his subsequent acts threw a slight shadow of discredit. But he died heroically, this backwoods fighter who took part in the first anti-British meeting held in Pittsburgh, in 1755, and who later, reluctantly, perhaps, led his men into Ohio to defeat and rout. That the hostile relatives of the murdered Moravian Indians remembered Gnadenhutten, the terrible torture and death of Crawford, in some respects unequalled for ferocity in American history, bears strong witness.

The landmarks which once knew Gnadenhutten, with its Indian huts, and the cabin in Fayette County, in which the lonely widow Crawford waited for years in vain for the return of her husband, have been long since erased by the onward sweep of time and progress. But it is one of the deeply impressive attributes of our frontier history that it can never change, and to those who love it there gathers around it a halo within which we see again in memory and imagination the romance, the freedom, the wild surroundings and grim realities of those bloody times.

"Historical Collectors."

There seems to be need that certain debt-shirking, and unprincipled individuals who class themselves as collectors be brought to account.

No one dislikes more than does the editor of this magazine to fill our columns with complaints, but our brother dealers in this city, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Chicago, have reported so large an assortment of frauds and beats recently that we feel obliged to revive the list of "Historical Coin Collectors." Let all such as Pinkerton, Deitrick, Ehlers and McGrath take heed. The editor makes no distinction between the thief and the man who will not pay his honest debts, both should be serving time in state's prison.

American Historical Articles

In the preparation of the Gnadenhutten and Crawford article the editor wishes to acknowledge valuable help from Mr. James Risbeck, a well-known citizen of Brownsville, Penn'a. That place is distant only about fifteen miles from where Crawford lived. Mr. Risbeck loaned us a very rare and valuable work called "The Monongahela of old," of which only seven copies are known. "Western Annals" and "Old Westmoreland" also gave valuable data and references. We regard our account of Crawford and his expedition the most complete that has been printed. It is the ambition of the Editor to place before readers some of the less known, but none the less interesting, historical narratives of our country.

New John Paul Jones Medal

With great pleasure we reproduce in this issue what may be conscientiously regarded as the best and most artistic medal that has ever been made by an American. With such a splendid subject as our favorite naval hero, John Paul Jones, Mr. Victor D. Brenner, of this city, has placed himself at the summit of the die-sinker's art. As a well-known authority has said recently, "it is equal to any European medal."

The medal is rectangular in form, about three and one-eighth inches in length, two and five-sixteenth inches wide, and one-sixteenth of an inch thick. The obverse consists of a portrait bust in high relief, studied from the original bust, modeled from life by the noted Jean-Antoine Houdon. This bust is now owned by a member of the American Numismatic Society. The reverse shows a figure of Fame, proclaiming, in the words of the special Ambassador of the United States when formally delivering the remains of the Admiral to the United

States government, "America claims her illustrious dead." In the background is shown, faintly in outline, the dome of the chapel-tomb of the naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland, while in front is portrayed the funeral procession of July 6, 1905, when the gun-carriage bier, decorated with flags of the two nations, was drawn through the avenues of Paris by the horses of the French artillery and escorted by the men-of-war from the visiting squadron of the American Navy. Of these medals one was struck in gold for a member of the American Numismatic Society, two in silver and eight in bronze for the American Numismatic Society, which issued it, and one only for each member of the Society.

When one looks steadily at the bust for ten minutes he forgets that it is metal, so realistic is the likeness. As a portrait artist, Mr. Brenner has hardly an equal in the world. In this medal he has solved several problems: balancing of empty spaces as against reliefs. The detachment of the figure of Fame from the procession, the procession from the chapel, and the maintenance of unity of action and story. The expression of rhythm that a funeral procession has as against the moving of the winged figure of Fame, firmly holding the trumpet, and the sunken lettering, so as to give it an appearance as though the words were in the air.

The spacing of the bust had also its problems and hence the laurel branch was added to give contrast and color against which the head emerges commanding. In the portrait we see the character individual to Jones, and in the treatment of the forms and accents we see the mariner. From the decorative point of view the Jones medal is a happy composition, and faithfully true to life. Mr. Brenner studied the costumes, carriage, horses, and accessories on the spot. This medal has all the beauty of the soft lines of the Roty school, and in the portrait even the work of the greatest French medallist is outdone. Mr. Brenner is represented with eighteen pieces at the Luxemburg Museum, twelve pieces in the Paris Mint Museum, and is represented in the Glyptothek, Munich, Metropolitan Museum, of this city, Boston Museum. He has exhibited his medals also at the World's Fair in Paris, 1900, and at the Buffalo St. Louis fairs; Salon, Royal Academy, London, Berlin and Munich Exhibition, etc.

Mr. Brenner is a member of the Committee which was appointed at the last meeting of the Numismatic Society to confer with President Roosevelt in regard to new designs for the United States coins.

The Value of a Hobby

One of the wisest things that a parent can do is to get his child interested in one of the branches of collecting while he is at an early age. If a father will only begin early enough there is scarcely one child in a thousand who may not be interested. The surest way to save your child from being a spendthrift both of money and of time is to get him interested in coins, or stamps, or old china, or antiques. The deeper a boy or girl becomes interested in such subjects, the less inclination he will have in later life toward the prevailing evils of gambling, drinking and wasting his time. To the real collector and student such disastrous habits become to him more and more distasteful as his life lengthens. We have in mind the ideal and praiseworthy example of a man of wealth and high social position who holds himself aloof from the swirl of fashionable society, contentedly pursuing his ambition to complete a great collection of historical antiquities and devoting much of his time for the benefit of his fellow men. What a fund of out of the way information this collector has? He may calmly, and without vain conceit, feel the assurance that while you or I may be a great musician, or a great lawyer, or a great merchant, still there is in his life something which is not in mine, something not the property of the common run of men. While the crowd wastes its time in idleness or trivial amusement, if not in debauchery, the collector moves tranquilly along in his quiet way, making here and there some discovery, —yes, often a discovery new to the world and valuable to history —here a significant and hitherto unknown inscription, legend or symbol on an ancient coin, there unearthing a hitherto unknown and valuable historical manuscript or relic. Truly such finds “send the blood through his veins with a livelier current.” The pursuit of collecting tends to make a man methodical and orderly in his habits, and if he be a student of history, the study of the courtly customs of other days should train him to be polite, deferential and diplomatic. The collector is observing, imaginative, appreciative. His constant handling of rare coins and bric-a-brac will give him a sense of touch so delicate that he will not sit down on your Louis XV settee with the force of a catapult, nor will he handle your delicate iridescent Greek glass as though it were a foot-ball. Verily the more one comes to investigate the collector and collecting in a more favorable light do they appear. Only the unthinking class of people will deride the man with a hobby.

States government, "America claims her illustrious dead." In the background is shown, faintly in outline, the dome of the chapel-tomb of the naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland, while in front is portrayed the funeral procession of July 6, 1905, when the gun-carriage bier, decorated with flags of the two nations, was drawn through the avenues of Paris by the horses of the French artillery and escorted by the men-of-war from the visiting squadron of the American Navy. Of these medals one was struck in gold for a member of the American Numismatic Society, two in silver and eight in bronze for the American Numismatic Society, which issued it, and one only for each member of the Society.

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Money of The Bible

BY WILLIAM C. PRIME

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II. COINS AND COINAGE BEFORE THE CHRISTIAN ERA.

Homer, our unfailing authority for the manners, customs, and equipments of the Achæans in their age of semi-civilization, before their literature began to exist, tells us of the use of iron and copper as money. Plutarch (in "Lysander") suggests that early Greek money perhaps consisted of spikes or skewers of iron or of copper, from which fact a small coin was afterwards known as an *obolos*; that is, a "spike" or "skewer." Six of these spikes were a handful, or, in Greek, a *drachme*. Hence came the Greek name of a coin, the *drachme*, which is of importance in the history of Bible money.

The invention of coined money has been claimed for several Ionian and Lydian cities. It is quite certain that in one of them, not earlier than 800 B. C., and perhaps not before 700 B. C., the idea entered the mind of some one that it would be convenient, at least in small transactions, to have pieces of precious metal of uniform fineness and weight stamped with some device which would be accepted as an authoritative certificate of quality and weight. The idea was adopted. The metal selected was an alloy of gold with silver called *electron*. The art of engraving was ancient, having been practiced from remote times in seal engraving in Babylonia and Egypt. The stamp of the seal on clay attesting public and private documents suggested the impression, on soft metal, of a device engraved in hard metal, answering the same purpose in attesting the character of the coin. The earliest known coins are literally lumps of *electron*, having on one side the rude punch-mark and on the other side the engraved devices. There are several different devices on different early coins which have been found, all works of rude art. It cannot be affirmed which device belongs to which city. The accompanying illustration of one of these coins will give an idea of all of them.

The *electron* alloy was soon abandoned, and gold took its place. Not long afterwards, and probably at Ægina, silver was first struck in coins. The advance in the art of coinage kept pace with the advance of Greek civilization and culture. The rough punch-mark, which was on all the earlier coins, was replaced by devices on reverse dies. The art spread from city to city, from state to state, the engravers' work

rising to the dignity of sculpture, until, in the culmination of Greek art, various issues of the mints were superb medals and medalets, than which no more beautiful gems of engraving, ancient or modern, have ever been known.

These coins were not struck with minute attention to uniformity in weight. No collar was used around the planchet of medal to prevent spreading when squeezed between the dies. Hence coins showing the most exquisite art of the die-cutter were irregular shapes, easily clipped or scraped on the edges. Approximation, but only approximation, to uniformity in weight was obtained. It was evidently understood that those who used the coins in trade would weigh them as used. The stamp was accepted as a certificate of the quality of the metal, but only of approximation in weight.

Copper was everywhere adopted as the metal for coins of inferior value, and was sometimes alloyed with a small quantity of zinc, making brass, and sometimes with a little tin, making bronze. In general, however, coins of all these qualities of metal are included under the Latin word *aes*. Very many different autonomous cities, states, and rulers in Europe, Asia, and on the islands, had independent mints. In the time of Alexander the Great, 336-323 B. C., when the Attic standard prevailed, there was more approach to uniformity of coinage, and this standard went into Asia with the conqueror. Tyre, Sidon, Joppa, and other cities near Jerusalem, had mints.

In the Greek coinage the principal gold coin was known as the *stater*, or standard,—a name which had been first given to the earliest electron coins, and also to the daric. The principal silver coins were the drachme, the didrachme, or two drachmas, and the tetradrachme, or four drachmas. We shall find each of these coins mentioned in the New Testament.

The Greeks also coined copper in various sizes, among which we find the *obolos*, which was the sixth part of a drachme, and the *lepton*, which was a very small coin, deriving its name from *leptos*, small. Its exact value cannot be stated, but it was probably the smallest coin known. This, too, is mentioned in the New Testament.

The silver didrachm was also known as a stater. Men probably distinguished the staters by calling one the gold stater and the other the silver stater.

The Hebrews had as yet no coinage of their own. They had been taught to abhor idolatrous images of all kinds, and to avoid handling them. The coins of the Gentiles almost invariably bore images of men and of gods. They were not likely to obtain rapid circulation

among strict obeyers of the Mosaic law as interpreted by the rabbis. But the Hebrews were never noted for resistance to the temptation of their idolatrous neighbors, and gold and silver have always been powerful tempters. The coins of Alexander and his successors, after his death and the division of the empire, as well as like coins of many kings and cities, came into Jerusalem in commerce, and in the hands of pilgrims from all parts of the world. The temple tribute or offering of atonement, fixed in ancient days (Exod. 30: 13-15) at a half-shekel (by weight) continued payable, and every Hebrew, coming from whatever part of the world, paid it. It is not unlikely that the temple treasury, receiving the half-shekel of silver by weight, established the rate of exchange on foreign coins in Jerusalem.

In the year 139 B. C. Simon Maccabæus, the great high-priest and ruler, issued in Jerusalem the first Hebrew coinage, either of his own strong will or by the authority of Antiochus VII (see 1 Maccab. 15: 6). He coined silver shekels and half-shekels, which received their names from their weight and from the inscription on them which may be understood as stating that weight. The devices on these first coins were, on the one side, a vase or cup with the legend *Shekel Israel*, and above the cup the date "year 1." On the other side a sprig or branch of a tree with three expanding buds or blossoms, and the legend *Jerusalem Kedoshah* (the holy Jerusalem). The legends were in the ancient form of letter which has been sometimes called Samaritan.

It is believed that the vase or cup represents the pot of manna formerly preserved in the ark, and the budding branch the rod of Aaron. By some these ideas are considered fanciful, but no others as plausible have been suggested. The numeral is taken to be the year of Simon's priesthood. From the numerals on specimens which have been found, it seems that Simon continued the coinage for four years. Thereafter there was no silver coinage of the Hebrews until after the destruction of Jerusalem. They never had any coinage of gold. The illustration here given shows a silver shekel of Simon, of the second year, in my own collection, which I obtained in Egypt many years ago, among a lot of antiquities then recently unearthed in the Delta. It had doubtless gone there from Jerusalem in the days when many Hebrews were resident in Egypt.

It is probable that, after Simon's death, the people were more content to use foreign silver coins, and these, flowing into Jerusalem in the channels of trade, supplied the circulating medium. But smaller copper was not likely thus to come in, and the demand for it was large, especially among the poorer classes.

The Greeks, as we have stated, had a small copper coin which they called a lepton because of its smallness. In all Eastern lands the poor were numerous, and where populations count money closely, on account of poverty, there coins of small value are needed. In England and America it is not long since farthings and half-cents were in use. In various European countries still smaller copper coins are now in circulation. In Oriental countries, coins are in use whose value is a small fraction of our copper cent.

It is possible that Simon attempted the issue of a copper coinage. His son and successor, John Hyrcanus, struck a small copper coin which apparently served the purpose of the Greek lepton. This was the beginning of a copper coinage which continued in Jerusalem until the revolt and destruction of the city. The series is interesting, but for our purpose it does not become necessary to describe it as it appeared under John, Judas Aristobolus, Alexander Jannæus, and other Asmonean rulers. Herod the Great continued it, and Herod Archelaus, and under the Roman procurators these small coppers were still issued to supply what was evidently a continuous want of the population in Jerusalem. I have called them small copper coins. They varied in size, and numismatists are puzzled to determine their relative value; but none of them contained as much copper as a quarter of an old American cent, while most of them weighed less than an eighth of that coin.

The hill Moriah, outside of the high city wall, slopes abruptly down to the valley or gorge of the Kedron. I have often searched the soil on this hillside for fragments of ancient ornamental stone and other relics, and have found there very many of these little copper coins. Most of them were worn or corroded so as to be mere thin pieces of metal; but many were good examples of the coinage of successive Asmonean rulers of Jerusalem, of the Herods, and of Roman procurators. Among these were several of the highest possible interest, as I shall have occasion to explain. I have no doubt that these small coins formed the chief circulation among the poor in Jerusalem, at least to the same extent that the *para* supplied the wants of the poor in Cairo a few years ago, and possibly continues so to do.

Ancient populations had no banks of deposit. The holder of gold, as well as the holder of copper, buried his hoard in the ground. The poor man dug a hole in the earth floor of his hut, and there placed his little lot of copper coins. He perhaps died suddenly, or was drafted into the army, or was killed by an invading enemy, perished without telling any one where he had banked his money, and therefore it

remained for time and tempest to uncover it after ages had gone over it. This is the explanation of the preservation of many ancient coins. The gold staters of Philip and of Alexander the Great, found in such places of underground deposit, are more common today than any gold coin of the United States of the earlier issues.

Roman conquest brought Roman coin into the East, and further complication into the "circulating medium" in Jerusalem. No better idea of this can be obtained than by endeavoring to picture the scene in the temple, with its crowd of pilgrims and travelers of all nations and kingdoms, having silver coins of innumerable varieties in quality, weight, "image and superscription," besieging and disputing with a host of money-changers and market-men. Hebrews were now scattered in all parts of the known world, and came from their homes far and near to make offerings in the temple. Whatever coin they brought, even if Roman denarii from Rome itself, no two coins were of exactly the same weight. They could not use them to pay the half-shekel temple offering until they had bought from the money-changer something which would pass current at the treasury. Nor could they buy so much as a dove with their coins. It is not difficult to imagine the confusion of voices, the free Oriental denunciations of brokers, buyers, and sellers, in this market-place, where the priests had arbitrary power to say what they would and what they would not receive as money, to fix rates of discount, to furnish privately to the dealers such coins as they would accept, and where the dealers had the ability to put their rates of exchange on every coin offered them. This much we know, on the highest authority, that the place was a den of thieves. It may indicate the popular reputation of the place, that no one seems to have found fault with Jesus when he entered, whip in hand, and drove out the gang of swindlers.

(To be Continued).

The Finest Lincoln Medal

Mr. Victor D. Brenner tells the editor that he has about completed a new medal to Abraham Lincoln. This will be the finest and most artistic medal of Lincoln that has yet appeared. The obverse bears a splendid bust. The reverse bears an eagle standing on a rock in a tempestuous sea. Later we will give a full description of this beautiful piece.

The Gnadenhutzen Massacre and Death of Crawford.

(Continued from our last issue).

The Moravian Indians having arrived at Upper Sandusky, built huts to shield themselves from the cold, but as the savages had by degrees stolen almost everything they possessed, they had not even blankets or beds, and even their cattle died for want of pasture, and were eaten by the poorest of the Indians. The missionaries were carried prisoners to Detroit, and examined before the commandant. Nothing appeared to implicate them in the Revolutionary interest, except the fact of translating letters to the Indians from the officers of Fort Pitt, and after strict inquiry they were set at liberty, treated with kindness and permitted to return to their flock at Sandusky. No sooner had they arrived thither than Girty, the renegade, again began to plot their destruction. To further his purpose, he forged a letter in the name of the Half King, to the commandant at Detroit, charging the missionaries with being in correspondence with the Americans at Pittsburgh, and demanding their removal again to Detroit.

On this pretext, an order was sent to Girty to bring them back. They were immediately sent off under the charge of Lavallie, a Frenchman who treated them with kindness. At Lower Sandusky they were transferred to the custody of Girty, and on their way from there to Detroit suffered all the indignity and abuse his savage nature was capable of offering.

In the meantime the Christian Indians, who had been carried in the fall to Sandusky, had suffered great hardships from the winter and from lack of food, and in order to relieve their distress about one hundred and fifty of them including men, women and children returned, in February, to the Muskingum to gather the corn which they had planted, and to carry it back to Sandusky for their support. Some of them had left Sandusky as early as the middle of January, and others had followed in small parties. Not all the men who made this journey were mission Delawares. At least ten were Wyandot warriors, who halted but a short time at Gnadenhutzen and then proceeded to waste the settlements east of the Ohio. There is little doubt also that some of the Moravian Indians accompanied these Wyandots on their cruel mission. Here in defense of Williamson and his men we must admit that there was some reason for blaming the Moravians. Williamson's cautious plan for the capture of the place would indicate that he thought its occupants to be hostile warriors. He divided his force into three parties, and on the morning of March 7th attacked, but two of his

divisions did not fire a shot. The third division had a more exciting time. The Tuscarawas river was at flood height at the time, and some of this division crossed by help of a maple sugar trough in which they put their clothes. Along the western shore they came upon a solitary Indian and instantly fired at him and wounded him so that he was unable to escape. This Indian, Shebosch, by name, begged for his life but Charles Bilderback hacked him with a tomahawk and killed him, tearing off his scalp.

This murderous act was seen by another Indian named Jacob, who tried to escape by a canoe which he had hidden by the river bank, but some of the whites discovered him and shot him dead on the shore, pushing his body into the river and it floated away with the flood.

The Moravians were disarmed and were told that they were to be conducted to a place of safety at Fort Pitt. All this they believed and delivered up all their belongings even to pocket knives. Crumrine says that while the Indians were being conducted to the church, the borderers discovered that one of the women was wearing the dress of the murdered Mrs. Wallace, and that the garment was identified by her husband. Other utensils apparently stolen from the settlements were found, and some of them were recognized by Robert Wallace as his own property. Immediately a council of the whites was held. Some favored death for the whole band. Many of the Indians were brought before this council and closely examined. No acknowledgment of guilt was made but some of the Indians acknowledged having been upon the war path. In some cases the trimming of the hair and painted faces indicated that the men were warriors. Williamson put the question to vote and it is said that but 18 out of the whole body of volunteers stood up for mercy, and on the following morning all the Indians were to die. Loskiel gives a graphic account of the awful slaughter which he characterizes as the most disgraceful act in the border warfare of the period and the most disgraceful event in the history of the country.

We print Bishop Loskiel's own words:

“The Indians patiently suffered the murderers to lead them into two houses, in one of which the Brethren and in the other the Sisters and children, were confined like sheep ready for slaughter. They declared to the murderers, that though they could call God to witness that they were perfectly innocent, yet they were prepared and willing to suffer death. They requested that time be given them in which to pray and prepare for death, and they spent their last night on earth in prayer, and in exhorting each other to remain faithful unto the end.

When the day of their execution arrived, namely the 8th of March two houses were fixed upon, one for the Brethren, and another for the

Sisters and children; to which the wanton murderers gave the name of 'slaughter-house.' Immediately the carnage commenced. The poor, innocent people, men, women and children, were led, bound two together with ropes, into the above mentioned slaughter houses and there beaten to death and scalped. According to the testimony of the murderers themselves, they behaved with uncommon patience, and went to meet their death with cheerful resignation. One named Abraham was the first victim. One of the party took up a cooper's mallet which lay in the house saying 'How exactly will this answer for the business!' He then began with Abraham, and continued knocking down one after the other until he had counted fourteen whom he had killed with his own hands. He now handed his instrument to his fellow murderers, saying 'my arm fails me; go on in the same way; I think I have done pretty well.' A Sister, called Christina, who had formerly lived with the Sisters at Bethlehem, and spoke English and German well, fell on her knees before the captain of the gang, and begged for her life; but was told that he could not help her.

Thus ninety-six persons met a cruel death. Sixty-two were grown persons, among whom were five of the most valuable assistants; and thirty-four were children. Only two youths, each between fifteen and sixteen years old escaped almost miraculously from the hands of the murderers. One of them seeing that they were in earnest, was so fortunate as to disengage himself from his bonds; then slipping unobserved from the crowd, he crept through a narrow window into the cellar of that house in which the Sisters were executed. Their blood soon penetrated through the flooring; and, according to his account, ran in streams into the cellar, by which it appears that most, if not all of them, were not merely scalped but killed with hatchets or swords. The lad remained concealed till night, and providentially no one came down to search the cellar. He then, with much difficulty, climbed up the wall to the window, crept through, and escaped into a neighboring thicket. The other youth's name was Thomas. The murderers struck him only one blow on the head, took his scalp and left him. But after some time he recovered his senses, and saw himself surrounded by bleeding corpses. Among these he noticed one brother Abel, moving and endeavoring to raise himself up. But he remained lying still, as though he were dead, and this caution proved the means of his deliverance; for soon after, one of the murderers coming in and observing Abel's motions, killed him with two or three blows. Thomas lay quite still until dark; though suffering the most exquisite torment. He then ventured to creep toward the door; and observing nobody in

the neighborhood, got out and escaped into the woods, in which he concealed himself during the night. These two youths afterwards met in the woods, and they went safely together to Sandusky, though they purposely took a long circuit, and suffered great hardships and danger. Before they left the neighborhood, they observed the murderers, from behind the thicket, making merry after their successful enterprise; and at last setting fire to the two slaughter houses filled with corpses. The remainder of the Indian congregation, who were at Schoenbrun, escaped from the bloody hands of the white murderers. Messengers going to Gnadenhutzen found young Shebosch lyng dead and scalped by the way side; and looking forward saw as many white people in and about Gnadenhutzen. The congregation immediately took to flight and ran into the woods. Thus, when the murderers arrived at Schoenbrun, the Indians were still near, observing everything that happened, and might have easily been discovered. But here the murderers seemed as it were, struck with blindness. Finding nobody at home, they examined the woods about the town, but without success. They then destroyed and set fire to the settlement; and having done the same at Gnadenhutzen and Salem they set off with the scalps of their victims, about fifty horses, a number of blankets, and other articles and marched back to Pittsburgh."

A few weeks afterwards the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania gave an order to the commandant at Fort Pitt to investigate and report on the affair at Gnadenhutzen. Inquiry made among the chief frontiersmen failed to uncover all the details and responsibilities of the massacre. The sentiment of the border sustained Williamson's men. It was held that the bloody act was simply retaliation for the many acts of outrage and murder perpetrated by the savages during a number of years. General Irvine was persuaded to report to Philadelphia that the precise facts could not be ascertained and that it would be wise to drop the matter. That was the end of the investigation.

(To be Continued.)

Proposal to Enlarge the Monthly

The editor is considering the advisability of enlarging the Monthly, and advancing the subscription price to \$1 per year. The opinions of our readers on this matter, as well as any suggestions that they may wish to offer us, will be appreciated.



The American Numismatic Society

The Annual meeting of this Society will be held on the third Monday of January, and officers for the present year will be elected. There is no doubt but most of the present officers will be re-elected. President Huntington has taken a deep interest in all the details of the work of the Society, and with such a capable officer at its head the growth and prosperity of this Society is assured.

Recent donations include fine specimens of Swedish plate money, of three denominations.

At the next meeting the report of the Committee on the subject of new designs for the United States coinage will be submitted. This report will be of interest to all members, and it will make some important recommendations, which it is hoped the meeting will adopt. At the first meeting of this Committee, held at the home of its Chairman, Mr. Kunz, plans were outlined for the report which will be completed at its next meeting.

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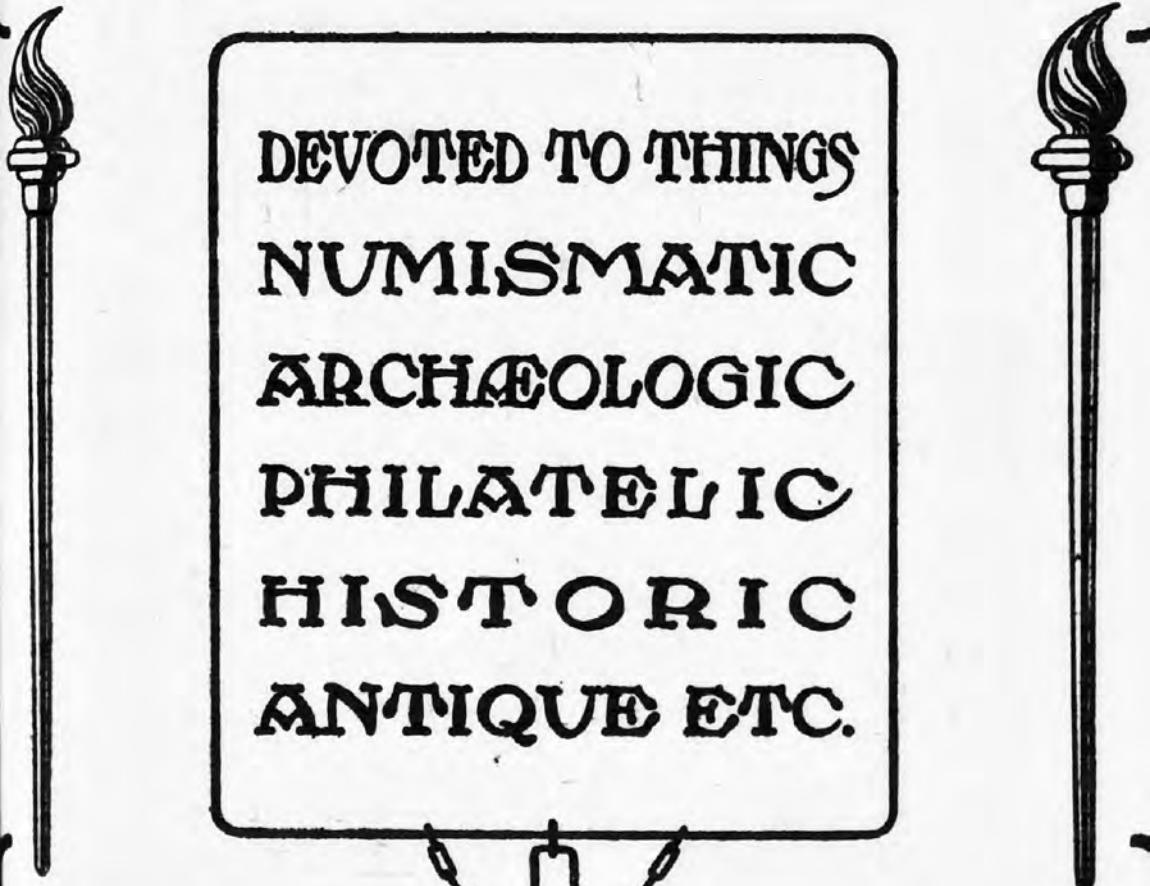
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Vol. I. FEBRUARY No. II



DEVOTED TO THINGS
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ANTIQUE ETC.





Published by Thomas L. Elder
AT THIRTY TWO EAST TWENTY THIRD STREET


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THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

Need for Coin Cabinets

Recently the Editor has been in communication with several of the leading cabinet makers, soliciting designs and prices for cabinets suitable for holding collections of coins and medals. While several companies have submitted designs and proposals, they seem unwilling to make a cabinet which may be sold for a moderate price. One company asked as much as \$105 for making a single cabinet. Such a luxury could only be enjoyed by the connoisseur. There is sufficient demand for coin cabinets at present to warrant a good company's making cabinets which can be sold for a moderate price, say from \$15 to \$40. At present, strange as it is, we know of no company in the United States which is making coin cabinets.

"The Circle"

The latest, and perhaps the most unusual monthly magazine that we have seen, is "The Circle," the first number of which its publishers, the Funk and Wagnalls Company, of New York, claim to have issued with 100,000 paid subscriptions. This magazine is well illustrated and many different subjects are treated in departments. It has a collectors' department which bids fair to outdo that of any other magazine not devoted to collecting. The February issue contained two pages of numismatic matter of an interesting character.

Prices for Autographs, Letters and Coins

At present the prices for autographs and autograph letters seem to be at flood-tide, as we behold these quotations: Cyrus W. Field and Lyman J. Gage, each ten cents; Wm. J. Florence, Bob Fitzsimmons, Albert Gallatin and Gen. J. B. Gordon, fifteen cents. Letters of Mad Anthony Wayne, of Stony Point, Brandywine and Maumee fame, \$15; Brig. Gen. Lachlan McIntosh, \$5; John Quincy Adams, \$3.25, and Martin Van Buren, \$4. As with coins, the unsophisticated must indulge in some wild spasms as to prices. The person who recently showed the editor a small brass piece of Constantine the Great a 15 cent coin for which he had paid \$50; and another who wanted to sell a Continental \$3 bill for the price it cost him—\$3, would in all likelihood have grabbed for the Anthony Wayne and J. Q. Adams letters at \$50 apiece.

A jovial editor of the New York Press did not fly so wide the mark when recently he averred that all those coins about which the numismatically unwise public was continually bombarding him with inquiries, should be thrown together and melted up into bullets to shoot fools with.

Ninth Public Auction Sale

Mr. Elder's Ninth sale, which will be held on the evening of February 20th, next, contains 900 lots of a widely varied nature. Especial mention may be made of several lots of unusual interest, which include a Carolina half-penny, with an elephant; a disme struck in copper; a Syracuse decadrachm; some rare 1793 cents; a North-west Canada War medal with Saskatchewan bar; and about 14,000 copper and nickel coins. This is the largest one-day sale that Mr. Elder has held, in fact it is the second one-day sale, the others all being two-day sales.

Three Cheers for Chicago

With considerable interest we note the numismatical activities of the western collectors, and especially of those in, and about Chicago. While there may be some feeling between the three great cities, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, the eastern auction cataloguers are not going to forget that much, if not most of their support, and a large proportion of the bids, come from the West. There is no discounting the enthusiasm of the westerner.

Our March Number

Our March issue will contain much attractive material, and in that number the most thrilling and interesting particulars of the Crawford campaign against the Indians will be given. Every patriotic American should read this complete and absolutely truthful record of the capture and death of Crawford.

President Frey's Record

When the president of a numismatic society, by faithful, earnest work, void of all sign of self-interest, convinces us that he has the welfare and interests of his society at heart, the members of that society should urge his re-election and cast their vote for him. Such a man is Albert R. Frey, President of the American Numismatic Association. If an annual election of officers for 1907 is held at the Jamestown Exposition, make the re-election of Mr. Frey unanimous.

A Numismatist Honored

Mr. J. C. Mitchelson, the well-known "gold-bug" of Tariffville, Connecticut, during his call at the Editor's office the other day, informed us of his election as a member of the United States Assay Commission.

Astounding Prices for U. S. Half Cents

Just to show that the coin market is in nowise depressed at present we have but to report these record prices for half-cents, sold in this city at auction recently: 1831, \$62; 1840, \$50; 1841, \$33; 1842, \$95; 1843, \$56; 1844, \$61; 1845, \$110.00; 1846, \$57; 1847, \$53; 1848, \$50; 1852, \$51.

Numismatic Dynamite

Apparently the numismatists have only begun to whet their appetites for the various issues of private gold which have been uttered in this country during the last seventy-five years. When, within the past month a \$2.50 Bechtler brings over \$30, and with the recent record prices of \$700 for a \$5 Schultz, and \$900 for a "Pike's Peak" \$20, we stand aghast and wonder what brand of thunder we shall hear next.

The "slug," or \$50 gold, market seems swept pretty clean. Strictly fine specimens are awfully scarce with takers at \$175 and \$200 apiece. The present high prices of the latter are probably due to two industrious collectors, one in this city and the other in Pittsburg, who are each credited with about 100 "slugs." A bunch of 100 of these massive chunks of gold would not make an art study, but the sight of them would doubtless make an artist study.

Thefts of Rare Coins

Paris, Feb. 2.—The precious numismatic collection in the Castres Museum was stolen by thieves, who entered one of the windows by means of the telephone poles. The collection was valued at several hundred thousand dollars.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 9.—Burglars last night forced their way into the public library and robbed the valuable Byron Reed collection of many high-priced coins. The Byron Reed collection is the most valuable in the West. The watchman was surprised and bound and gagged. The amount of the loss has not yet been ascertained.



Money of The Bible

BY WILLIAM C. PRIME

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III. NEW TESTAMENT MONEY.

The circulating medium in Jerusalem now consisted chiefly of Greek and Roman silver coins, and the small Hebrew copper. It was a remarkable fact that the Greek tetradrachm was very nearly of the same weight with the Hebrew shekel, and, of course, the half-shekel was about equal to the didrachm. The people became familiar with the Greek names of coins, and used them, so that it became the custom, in speaking of the temple tribute, instead of calling it the "half-shekel," to call it the "didrachm." This is shown by the account we have in Matthew 17: 24. There we read that the collectors of "the didrachma" asked Peter whether his Master did not pay "the didrachma." The translators are correct in translating the word "the tribute money," for the didrachma had become the ordinary colloquial name of the tem-



GOLD DARIC



ELECTRON COIN OF MILNETUS (POSSIBLY THE FIRST COIN MADE)

ple tribute of a half-shekel. And here I may add that I cannot agree with those who believe that the coinage of Simon had at this time wholly disappeared from circulation. On the contrary, shekels and half-shekels of the great Maccabee may have remained extant for many centuries. By the modern custom of carrying silver coins in pockets, abrasion defaces them and reduces their value. Ancients were more careful, especially as their coins were subject to repeated weighing when offered in payments. This explains why we find so many ancient coins in splendid preservation, whereas an American half or quarter dollar of a few years old is generally defaced and worn. Other foreign names of coins had in New Testament times become familiar in conversation in Jerusalem, where foreign languages had forced their way into use. Chief of the Roman coins had come the *denarius*, trans-

lated "penny" in Matthew 20:2 and elsewhere. This silver coin was of equivalent weight to the Greek drachme, and easily entered into circulation with it, either as a single coin or to make up two or four drachmas.

That the denarius was in common use in Jerusalem is plain from the account of the attempt made by the young Pharisees to entrap Jesus on the question of tribute to Cæsar. "Is it lawful to pay it?" was the question. "Show me a denarius," he said, and it was at once produced. Evidently they had plenty of them. We can often understand recorded sayings much better if we know the circumstances in which they were uttered. The probability is that the denarius handed to him was one of the reigning emperor, Tiberius. It can hardly be doubted that, like most of the denarii of Tiberius (one of which is here illustrated), the coin had on one side the head of Tiberius, and on the other the image of a Roman god, or another idolatrous device. The question, "Whose image and superscription hath it?" was put as he held the coin in his hand, and exhibited it to the questioners and the sur-



SILVER TETRADRACHM OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT

rounding people. Their answer, "Cæsar's," was true as to only one side. The law, as they taught it, made the handling of idolatrous images pollution, a sin and shame. The coin probably had on the other side the image, if not the superscription, of a Roman god. When, therefore, the Master took the denarius in his hand, holding up to view the head of Tiberius, he said, "Render unto Cæsar what is Cæsar's, and turning over the coin and exhibiting the idolatrous reverse, continued, "and unto God what is God's." The rebuke and the justification of his epithet "hypocrites" were complete, and fully appreciated by those who stood around.

In the expressions, "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing?" (Matt. 10: 29) and "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings?" (Luke 12: 6) we have an illustration of the great variety of coin names

which were in use in Jerusalem. The Greek here translated "farthing" is *assarion*. The Roman *as*, originally a pound of copper, had often been reduced, until at this time it was a small copper coin. It had been variously called "as," "aes," *assarius*, and, in Greek, *assarion*. The denarius was theoretically ten ases. We have no evidence that any such coin as the *assarion* was in use in Jerusalem. It may have been that the small Roman copper, "as" had come there, but it seems probable that one of the small Hebrew copper coins before mentioned had received the colloquial name "assarion."

When the collectors of the temple tribute asked it from him, Jesus directed Peter (Matt. 17: 27) to take a fish with a hook, and find in his mouth "a piece of money." The original word is "a stater." We have seen that this word had been now for several centuries applied to various coins, the earliest "electron," the Persian "daric," the principal Greek gold coin, and the Greek silver "tetradrachm." The stater found by Peter sufficed to pay the half-shekel tribute for two persons. It has been generally supposed that it was a tetradrachm of some Greek coinage.



SHEKEL OF SIMON

ROMAN DENARIUS OF TIBERIUS

It is not at all improbable that the shekel of Simon was also called a stater, since it was the equivalent of the tetradrachm. Shekels of Simon, as well as Greek tetradrachms, lie to day, and lay then, under water and underground, where they had been lost.

I have never been willing to believe that Jesus, in providing by miracle a coin for the payment of the temple tribute, chose to provide an idolatrous coin of a monarch or city of the Gentiles, and there is no satisfactory objection to the belief that the "stater" found in the mouth of the fish and paid to the temple treasury was a shekel of Israel, coined by Simon Maccabæus.

When the translators came to the account of the poor widow casting her little all into the treasury, they were naturally puzzled at the money names, and indulged in the free use of English words which had no relation to the Greek. The two evangelists who relate the occurrence agree in saying that she cast in two "lepta," and Mark adds

"which is a *kodrantes*." It is uncertain whether she threw in one coin or two coins. Again we must remember the variety of coin names colloquially used in Jerusalem. If she threw in two coins, they were each a lepton; if one coin, it was a kodrantes. We have seen that the lepton had been from remote times a very small Greek copper coin. A kodrantes was the Greek equivalent of the Latin *quadrans*, which was a quarter of an "as." It is scarcely to be doubted that the copper coinage of Jerusalem which has been mentioned supplied the coin or coins which the poor woman gave. But so rude are these bits of metal, and so utterly irregular in weight, it is impossible to say which is a lepton or which a kodrantes.

Among those which I have gathered out of the earth on the slope of Mt. Moriah are several which were in circulation in Jerusalem in the days when our Lord walked its streets in deep humility and poverty. Two of these are here illustrated. The letters visible on one side of one are part of the inscription ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΛΙΣ (of

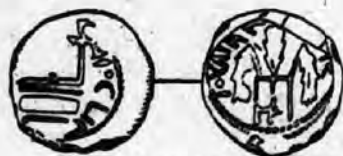


COPPER COIN OF HEROD THE GREAT

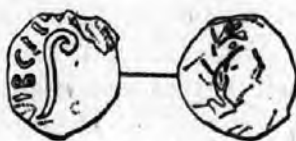
COPPER COIN OF JOHN HYRCANUS

Tiberius Cæsar, year 16). The year of Tiberius 16 corresponds to A.D. 29. The object which the inscription surrounds may be a *simpulum*,—a cup or ladle used in the temple. On the reverse the complete inscription would be ΙΟΥΛΙΑ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ("Julia, mother of Cæsar.") This coin was struck in Jerusalem, by the procurator Pontius Pilate, in the fifth year of his procuratorship. The reverse inscription seems intended to do honor to the memory of the emperor's mother. The inscription surrounds three stalks of grain bound together. The other is also a coin of Pilate. The date is worn off, but is probably either year 17 or 18 of Tiberius, whose name appears in part. It is probable that the smaller coin was a lepton, and the other a kodrantes. But this is not absolutely certain. We cannot come any nearer than this to knowing what was "the widow's mite." Illustrations and descriptions of the entire series of Hebrew coinage may be found in "Madden's History of Jewish Coinage." These coins of Pilate are, as I have said, of deepest interest as relics. What hands have handled them!

Probably no mention of money in the Bible excites deeper interest than the account of the bargain made by Judas for the betrayal of his Master for thirty "pieces of silver," and the disposition of those pieces after the remorse of the traitor. What were those pieces? It is impossible to say with any certainty. The word in the original Greek is "arguria," meaning literally "silvers," evidently used colloquially to express certain coins, but not always meaning the same coin. There is reason to suppose that in this case it means either the Roman denarius or the Greek tetradrachm, but which of the two is a matter of discussion and difference. I think it most likely that the price paid was thirty silver staters, or tetradrachms, equivalent to thirty shekels. If these were the coins, the price was four times higher than if they were Roman denarii. The only assistance we have in this matter is that afforded by the fact that the sum of money was sufficient for the purchase of a piece of land near the city. From what we know of the value of land at various dates, it would seem that thirty denarii would have been a small sum for purchase money. But the same may be said



COPPER COIN OF PILATE



COPPER COIN OF PILATE

of the tetradrachms, which would only increase the valuation four times. The land purchased may, from local circumstances, have been of little value. The place pointed out as Aceldama in modern times, and perhaps correctly, would indicate that it was a "cemetery lot" in an ancient place of burials.

Another suggestion, that thirty shekels of silver was the price of blood or valuation of a life established by law (Exod. 21: 32), seems too remote to have influenced the parties to this bargain in fixing the price of the betrayal. The subject is open to conjecture.

The "pieces of silver" mentioned in Luke 15: 8 are words of the translators. The original is the word *drachmas*, which, as here used, shows that the Greek names of coins were in common use. Nor have we any aid from Acts 19: 19, where the "pieces of silver" spoken of are the amount of an account taken in Ephesus, which was probably stated in colloquial language of Ephesus. The original says five *muriadas arguriou*, which may mean Greek drachmas or Roman denarii, or some money measure purely local.

In conclusion, it may be well to add a word of warning as to the value of ancient coins. All statements of such values, when given in terms of modern money values, are misleading. During the early years of the Christian era, the weight of the Roman silver *denarius* was about sixty grains, and of the Greek *drachme* a trifle more. The weight of other silver coins may be easily calculated, and their value in modern silver ascertained, by reference to the market value of the metal at the time of making the calculation.

(THE END.)

Lady Godiva Coventry Tokens

Some of the collectors who possess these tokens, dated 1792, the obverse type showing Lady Godiva nude riding on horseback, and the reverse bearing an elephant carrying a castle will be glad to learn that it was during the year 1057 that Lady Godiva is said to have taken her famous ride. It appears the Earl Leofric had imposed so heavy a tax upon the inhabitants of the town that they were powerless to pay it. The Earl, at last wearying of the pleadings of his wife, Lady Godiva, that he withdraw the tax, consented to stop the taxation on condition that she should parade naked through the streets. This he swore, half jestingly, with his great oath. Lady Godiva, shrouded with her long hair, mounted her snow-white horse and successfully accomplished the ride. All the good townspeople had agreed to stay indoors during the ride, and not one stirred out except "peeping Tom," the town tailor, who was unable to restrain his curiosity. For this violation of his pledge, the enraged villagers speedily executed him. Fairs and processions in commemoration of this event have been held since 1218, when they were instituted by Henry III.

The Elder Monthly

Is now entering upon its second volume, and judging by the many kind words of its readers, is a success. The subscription price of fifty cents per annum is merely nominal, and even with thousands of paid up subscriptions the magazine could hardly pay its running expenses. Therefore as it is not a money-making institution, it behooves all good collectors who are interested in Numismatics, History and Antiquities, to send in their subscriptions. We will promise them a generous return for their money.

The Gnadenhutzen Massacre and Death of Crawford

(Continued from our last issue).

Colonel William Crawford, who, in 1782 was to lead the ill-fated campaign against the Sandusky Indian towns, was a surveyor and a native of Virginia, probably Berkeley County. The friendship between Washington and Crawford began when the "Father of his country" was on one of his excursions into what was then the frontier part of Virginia. The creditable behavior of Crawford as captain in the expedition of General Forbes against the French and Indians at Fort Duquesne, in 1758, cemented a friendship between Washington and Crawford which ended only in the latter's death. In 1770 Crawford accompanied Washington down the Ohio to Kanawha. In 1767 Crawford settled in what is now Fayette county, Pennsylvania, or, as he supposed, West Augusta County, Virginia. His abode was situated on Braddock's road, on the western bank of the Youghiogheny river, a short distance below New Haven, Pa. It was here that he continued to reside until his fateful expedition into Ohio. His wife was Hannah Vance, a sister of John Vance. He had a brother, Valentine Crawford, who took some part in the boundary troubles. Colonels John and Richard Stevenson were his half brothers. Colonel Crawford had but one son, John, and two daughters, Ophelia, wife of William McCormick, and Sarah, who married Major William Harrison, and after the latter's death became the wife of Major Uriah Springer. She left several children, and it is stated that few of these descendants of Colonel Crawford inherited his energies either physical or mental.

Major Harrison, William Crawford, Jr., (son of Valentine, probably) and Major William Rosse, another nephew of Colonel Crawford, lost their lives in Crawford's campaign, while John, the son, escaped. John, a few years later, sold his land to Col. Isaac Meason, and settled near the mouth of Brush Creek, on the Ohio river, where he died.

Evidently when Colonel Crawford first came into this region, he and his brother, Valentine, were engaged in the Indian trade, a pursuit very common with our early settlers. He also did considerable work as a surveyor, and in that capacity made several unofficial surveys for Washington, and his brothers Samuel and John Augustine, and his relative Lund Washington. The object was to acquire Virginia rights. The Colonel also took up several valuable tracts of land for himself, in the vicinity of Connellsville, Pa. He owned other lands by purchase from the original settlers. In 1771 Crawford was elected a justice of the peace of Bedford county. His appointment was renewed

in 1773 when Westmoreland county was established. He was presiding justice of the courts of that County. His commission was revoked in 1775, he having become a very active Virginia partisan against the Pennsylvania government in the noted boundary dispute. In 1776, after Virginia had undertaken to parcel out the disputed territory into counties, and had established land offices within it, Colonel Crawford was appointed the land officer or surveyor of Yohogania county, and this office he held until Virginia surrendered her pretensions in 1779-80.

The writer has already referred to his soldierly qualities, his coolness, ambition and bravery, the type of courage which seemed peculiarly adapted to the requirements of the borderer of the period. His daring love for fight and adventure showed itself in 1774, when, while he was a sworn officer of Pennsylvania, he, contrary to the existing policy of his state, lead two bodies of troops down the Ohio, in Dunmore's war, and, he, for a time, commanded at Wheeling. He, however, had no fighting to do.

We are glad to read that he was a good American patriot and one of the earliest of the western Pennsylvania agitators against the rule of King George. In 1775 he attended the first revolutionary meeting at Pittsburg.

In 1776 Crawford was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth Virginia Regiment, and in September following we find him with his regiment, at Williamsburg, the ancient capital of the "Old Dominion." In October, 1776, he was made Colonel of the Seventh Virginia Regiment. In February, 1777, Congress appropriated \$20,000, "to be paid to Colonel William Crawford for raising and equipping his regiment, which is part of the Virginia new levies." In a letter from the Colonel to George Washington, dated Williamsburg, September, 1776, he expressed apprehension of Indian troubles about Fort Pitt, and said if they arose he would be sent there. It was not until November, 1777, when Congress resolved "That General Washington be requested to send Colonel William Crawford to Pittsburg to take command, under Brigadier General Hand, of the Continental troops and militia in the Western Department." At this time Colonel Crawford was with General Washington at Whitemarsh, near Philadelphia; and as Congress was in session at York, Pa., the Colonel went there to receive his instructions, and shortly afterwards departed for the scene of his command. We have a rather obscure record of how long Crawford held this command, and what he did. We learn, however, that in 1778, he built a fort on the Allegheny river, sixteen miles above Pittsburg, called Fort Crawford, and Sparks, the historian in a note to his Vol-

ume 11 of "Washington," page 346, says "he took command of the regiment in 1778." This refers probably to one of the two regiments which Congress, in that year, ordered to be raised for the defense of the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and the regiment of "Virginia new levies" must have been assigned to some other officer. The Indians having become less hostile, or being otherwise provided against, Colonel Crawford, in 1779, returned home and resumed his duties as land officer of Virginia for Yohogania county. It seems almost certain that Crawford did not again engage in military service until he undertook the expedition in 1782, which cost him his life.

One historian states that he considers the Crawford expedition as a "second Moravian campaign, and that the mission of this expedition was not only to destroy the Wyandot and Delaware towns on the Sandusky river, but to destroy the Moravians who had fled to the Sandusky towns. But Crawford's men little dreamed with what disaster their expedition was ladened, forgetting all else except the desire for revenge. The long continuance of the Indian war, which had decimated the population, deprived the settlers of fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, so that these men became infused with the sole purpose of killing every Indian they could find.

A call was issued throughout the Washington county border, from Pittsburg to the Cheat river, for volunteers, with which to strike a death blow to the savage tribes in Ohio. There was a signal and hearty response, and the Scotch, Irish and German settlers arose. Fort Pitt, enfeebled by the calls of the Revolution, was well-nigh helpless but the stern borderers felt able to fight their own battle. General Irvine was asked to lead this body of men, but he refused to command a purely volunteer force. When asked for assistance he in a measure agreed to give it, but required a pledge from the borderers that they would furnish their own equipment and provisions, and would conform to military laws and regulations, and would acknowledge their conquests as made in behalf of the United States. We read that he furnished gun flints and a small supply of powder and detailed for the expedition surgeon John Knight, of the Seventh Virginia, and one of his own aides, Lieutenant John Rose, (his real name was Henri Gustave Rosenthal, and he was probably of Jewish descent) a Russian nobleman, who served the American cause "with singular fidelity, energy and ability." It was Dr. Knight to whom we are indebted for the best account of the torture of Crawford. Knight as a prisoner witnessed the terrible scene, and had himself a thrilling escape from the savages.

Meanwhile the Indians continued to ravage the frontiers with unrelenting brutality and virulence. The Gnadenhutten massacre seemed to have stirred within their savage breasts a fiercer hatred and thirst for blood. Many of the settlers in Washington and Westmoreland counties were either captured or murdered. Thomas Edgerton was captured on Harman's creek and John Stevenson near West Liberty. Five soldiers were ambushed in the woods near Fort McIntosh (now Beaver, Pa.); two were killed, and three others were taken to Lower Sandusky, where they successfully ran the gauntlet. Two men were killed on the border of Washington county. It is recorded that at Walthour's block-house near Brush Creek, in Westmoreland, a man named Willard was killed and his daughter carried off and murdered.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Colossal Carnegie Institute

Many people do not know that the greatest Carnegie library, art gallery, museum and musical institute is located at Pittsburg, Pa. Some ten years ago this institution was dedicated with fitting pomp. Four years ago Andrew Carnegie made an additional donation of several millions of dollars, and heavily endowed it, to insure it a full and permanent income. Already he has given this great institution about \$10,000,000. With the new additions, its buildings now cover several blocks. The architecture is after the Italian Renaissance style. Its annual exhibition of paintings is notable, the judges being selected from the world's greatest artists. In the music hall have been given weekly since its dedication in 1895, two free pipe organ concerts by such world-famed artists as Frederic Archer and Edwin H. Lemare. The Pittsburg Symphony orchestra, at present under the direction of Dr. Emil Pauer, gives its concerts there. The museum is very fine and contains a good coin collection. Dr. Wm. J. Holland, a well known entomologist and ex-President of the Western University of Pennsylvania, is the director. The reference library is one of the finest in the country, and its library on American, and especially Pennsylvania, history is nearly as complete as it is possible to make it. An event of national significance will take place at this institution during the coming Spring, when the new and important additions will be dedicated. Many notable Europeans are to be the Institute's especially invited guests on that occasion.

On a Coin of Oliver Cromwell

By THOMAS S. COLLIER

Where loud, fierce trumpets sang their battle call,
And keen swords clashed, and gleaming spears grew red
Above the cold, white faces of the dead
And brave men fell as leaves in Autumn fall;
This stern face shone, these eyes took note of all;
Saw where the rushing charge in fury sped
And flashed their light when craven cowards fled
With angry scorn that could base souls appall.

The years have kept the grandeur of your deeds:—
The centuries have added to your flame:—
Say that ambition did your thoughts control,
His hand the surest on its errand speeds,
His words are most aglow with deathless fame
Who has great aims to sway his soaring soul.

Prof. Sloane on American History

Prof. William M. Sloane, of Columbia, recently read a paper entitled "Proportions and Values in American History."

"All true written history," he said, "lies within a hundred centuries of time, less than a hundred and fifty successive possible lives, and throughout most of its duration within a continental mass of space covering the fringes only of the smallest continent of this globe, perhaps a ten thousandth of the surface of this little earth. It is a reasonable estimate that of all the beings in the form and semblance of man, those who were and those who were not inspired with the breath of divine life, all upward gazing bipeds who have existed since the tertiary epoch of geology, perhaps ten thousand million in number, not more than one in a hundred thousand has lived under a system which by the broadest stretch of the term could be called historic. Of such petty dimensions proportionately is history and all that it embraces.

"And where then come into reckoning the Americans of this United States with their three centuries of total life, their one century of national life, and their less than half a century of world power? Exhausting with dizzy speed the mineral and agricultural resources of their great land, until the end of coal, lumber, iron and even water supply are already, if the stripping of forest and mine continue, in full sight, reaping and scattering wealth like Sybaris of old, their future bids fair to be as short as their past."



The American Numismatic Society

The annual meeting and election of officers of this Society was held on Monday evening, January 21st, with President Archer M. Huntington in the chair. Mr. Huntington read his annual report. Julius de Lagerberg was elected to membership. The following officers were elected for 1907: President, Archer M. Huntington; First Vice-President, Daniel Parrish, Jr.; Second Vice-President, J. Sanford Saltus; Recording Secretary, Bauman L. Belden; Corresponding Secretary, Henry Russell Drowne; Treasurer, Charles Pryer; Librarian, S. W. Dunscomb, Jr.; Curator, William Poillon. Members of the Council: E. D. Adams, Newell Martin and George Bird Grinnell.

The Building Committee reported that good progress was being made with the new "palace of coins," the walls being above the first story. Subscriptions to the building fund to the amount of over half of the required \$50,000 have been received. The building will probably be ready for occupancy late in the Summer or early in the Fall. The donations to the cabinets of the Society during the year have been over 7,500 pieces.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 37th regular meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Feb. 1st, 1907, President W. F. Dunham presiding.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws reported by substituting an entirely new constitution and by-laws, which was adopted as

a whole after several changes had been voted by the Society. These will be printed and distributed.

The resignation of H. A. Day, Elkhart, Ind., was received and accepted. Henry Chapman, Jr., and S. H. Chapman were elected to membership.

W. G. Jerrems, Jr., read a paper on "Suggestions on Coin Collecting." Mr. Dunham exhibited a set of Swedish plate money. Mr. Brand showed a four-thirds thaler of Anhalt; Green, some Indian wampum; and Dr. Merrill, several fine foreign gold coins.

The Executive Board reported that they could secure larger quarters on 16th floor of the Masonic Temple, with windows facing the east, and by vote of the Society were authorized to sign the lease for two years from May 1st.

Adjourned to meet March 1st, 1907.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, Dec. 16, 1906.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held this evening with Hon. Judge Sicotte in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The minutes of Council meeting of 11th December were read. The President reported that \$1000.00 had been placed on the civic estimates for necessary improvements to the Chateau. Donations to Museum and Library were reported as per donation Book No. 2747 to 2752. The thanks of the society were tendered to the donors. Then followed several very interesting exhibits. Mr. J. B. Leamont promised a paper for next meeting. The monthly meeting then gave place to the annual meeting.

Montreal, Dec. 18, 1906.

The annual meeting was held at the close of the monthly meeting, the same members being present. The President then delivered his annual address. The Treasurer read his report which showed the society to be in a better position financially than it had been for a long time. The Curator then read his report showing a large number of

additions to the library and national museum. The different reports were adopted. The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for 1907 with the following returns: President, Judge L. W. Sicotte; Vice Presidents, W. D. Lighthall, C. T. Hart, L. G. A. Creese, James Reid, Ludger Fravel and Judge Eugene Lafontaine; Hon. Treasurer, Gorge D. Dumford; Hon. Curator, R. W. McLachlan; Hon. Recording Secretary, C. A. Harwood, Hon. Corresponding Secretary, Pemberton Smith; Hon. Librarian, J. U. Beaudry; Members of Council: P. O. Tremblay, S. M. Bayles, J. C. A. Heriot, G. N. Moncel, A. S. Hamelin, C. E. Belanger, A. Tanner, R. Pinkerton, A. Chausse.

The meeting then adjourned.

Chateau de Ramezay, January 15th, 1907.

A monthly meeting held this evening, the President, Honorable Justice L. W. Sicotte in the chair.

The minutes of the Society meeting of December 18, 1906 read and approved.

Minutes of Council meeting January 8th inst. were read.

The President reports that on the 9th inst. the Council had waited upon the Hon. Mr. Gouin, premier, in order to present anew the society and city's joint petition for the \$10,000 appropriation. The premier answered that he would suggest to his colleagues the payment of 4 per cent. per annum on above amount that is \$400. Donation reported Nos. 2753 to 2763 as per donation book. Thanks were voted to the donors.

The Chairman reports that since the last monthly meeting the Hon. Messrs. Rolland, R. Danduraud and Justice Onimet had promised to qualify as life governors.

Were proposed for membership, Hon. N. W. Trenholme, Hon. Justice Lapergue, D. A. Lafortune, J. Donald Morrison and R. McLaughlin, the rules and by-laws being suspended, these applicants were declared elected members.

Mr. J. B. Leamont then regaled the meeting with a most interesting paper on "Folk Lore and Canadian Folk Lore," replete with true and sympathetic descriptions of the life, manners, customs, etc., of the habitant and French Canadian of some fifty years ago, a type which has now disappeared. The lecture was illustrated with some paintings. The thanks of the members were unanimously voted to Mr. Leamont. This lecture brought out some very interesting queries and answers. Several exhibits were also shown and discussed. The meeting then adjourned.

New Copper Coin Catalog

Mr. Scott, of this city, has completed his valuable book on the copper and nickel coins of the world, and the Editor is now ready to book orders for this new catalogue at 60c per copy postfree. The book contains a record of all the new issues both U. S. and foreign and treats the many issues in these two metals dating back to about 1500, giving the current retail prices. We emphasize this matter because of the great value of such a book to Numismatics. Since 1890 collectors have only been able to secure such copies of the old Scott Stamp & Coin Co.'s book as were offered at auction, and generally at several dollars per copy. So that at 60c per copy this up-to-date book will be a great boon to beginners and connoisseurs alike. We hope this book will have a large sale. Send in your orders at once to the undersigned.

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The Elder Monthly.

Vol. 2.

March, 1907

No. 1

DEVOTED TO THINGS
NUMISMATIC
ARCHAEOLOGIC
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ANTIQUE, &C.



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32 East Twenty-third Street, New York.



WONDERFUL, MYSTERIOUS GEMS.
(Photographs from the Originals—Actual Size. See Page 8).

The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

VOL. II

NEW YORK MARCH 1907

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Editorials

Mint-Marks.

Who would imagine that there was a "Button Society of America?" And yet we have here in our midst advanced collectors of military buttons, and even specialists, some collecting Revolutionary buttons, others modern buttons. A fine display of these was on view at the Hispanic Society's building recently, at the meeting of the Numismatic Society. One button of especial interest to the Editor was of the noted "43d." British Regiment, in which his great-great grandfather fought at the battle of Quebec.

At a recent book sale in New York a single volume sold for \$2900.

A newspaper remarks that the person who recently paid \$82 for a 1793 cent with thirteen links on the reverse, evidently didn't believe in the unlucky "13."

The lateness of our March number is due to the accident which befell the editor last Christmas when a piece of glass ran into his right hand, necessitating several surgical operations. The April issue will be out in a few days.

Fine articles on coins and kindred subjects are being printed quite frequently in the New York Sun. Mr. E. H. Adams, a member of the New York Society, wields the pen from which they come.

Recently the Editor furnished a coin collection to that remarkable potentate, His Highness, the Mahraja, Gaekwar of Baroda. The Mahraja is in all probability the most intelligent and progressive Indian Prince that has ever visited these shores.

Young Mr. Newrich. "History. Bah! who, but a lot of dead ones, cares for musty antiques and history? The present is good enough for me."

Live, young man, and you yourself will come into the despised realm of antiques. Everything, from rag-time to boarding-house chicken, grows old.

High prices prevailed for gold coins at the recent Wilson sale. Important among the prices were these: 1875 gold proof set, without \$10 or \$20, brought \$460. \$10, 1798, \$70. Eighteen early five dollar gold pieces sold for \$3,013. A 1797 brought \$160; an 1821 \$200; 1827, \$340; 1828, \$350. Mr. Low paid \$650 for one dated 1819. It was a brilliant uncirculated specimen. Thirteen quarter eagles brought \$1069. Of these, 1797 and 1826 sold for \$190 each. 1843 with motto, \$260. \$3, 1854, D. Mint, \$26; 1858, brilliant proof, \$36. Nine dollar gold pieces sold for \$386, the D. mint dollar of 1861 bringing \$280. Ten minutes after this piece was knocked down, the editor received a bid of \$300 on the coin, but to no avail. The person who got it afterwards asked \$500 for it. 'Tis said, only four specimens of this dollar are known. Half dollar of 1796, \$120; 1797, fair, \$24.

On The Star-Circled Cent of 1794

BY THOMAS S. COLLIER.

The years have come and gone since you were made,
 Some great with sorrow, some with purpose strong,
 All crowned with deeds that woke the voice of song:
 Foes have against the nation stood arrayed,
 With red light shining from each ready blade,
 But through each struggle, though the fight was long,
 Triumphant towered the right, low sank the wrong,
 While kingly sway shrank cowering in dark shade.
 Were those great souls who dared a tyrant's wrath
 The premonition of what was to be?
 A record made by high, unerring fates?
 And do your stars point out the Nation's path,
 When it shall grandly sweep from sea to sea,
 An equal constellation of fair states?

Unfair List

J. M. Burchfield, Salem, O.
 M. J. Joyce, No. Tonawanda, N. Y.
 F. M. Pinkerton, Marshalltown, Iowa.
 H. A. Clark, 900 Chruch Ave., Allegheny, Pa.
 W. C. Ehlers New Orleans, La.
 J. B. McGrath, Garman's Mills, Pa.

The first two were reported by Mr. Morey. Let all who have indisputable evidence of unfair treatment, send their lists for publication. We propose to make it so warm for all "beats", "poor pays," etc., that they will cry for mercy.

HIS FAD.—They had the multi-millionaire on the witness stand and were endeavoring to show that he was merely an insensate grabber for wealth.

"State your business!" demanded the attorney for the prosecution.

"I have no business," replied the man of wealth. "I am merely a faddist."

"Eh! What's your fad?"

The witness faintly smiled.

"I am a coin collector," he replied.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

Wonderful Mysterious Gems

BY THOMAS L. ELDER.

Recently I read somewhere about the late Czar's having had a \$50,000,000 jewel collection, and among other things an 18 pound diamond belt. This treasure, which would probably have filled a dozen grottoes of Monte Cristo, reminded me that it was not long since that remarkable friend of mine, Fritz Wagner, had paid me a visit. "Good afternoon, Mr. Elder," was his salute as he entered the door and without further word he suddenly drew a white plush box out of his pocket, and pressing the fastening, exhibited so dazzling a collection of large sized, and exquisitely mounted gems, that at once Kingston's stories of the Malay pirates, the story of the Arabian Nights and of the Count of Monte Cristo, came to me again from my boyhood days. Fritz only smiled and began his recital of how the treasures came into his possession, and his story amazed me almost as greatly as did the exhibition of the gems. Here is what he told me.

In the early seventies a row of dwelling houses stood on the north side of what was then known as Robinson street, but is now Park Place, New York City. The neighborhood was close to the North river and the lower front rooms of the houses were occupied by small carpenters, cigar dealers, produce merchants, brokers and glass manufacturers. One evening during the time the Franco-Prussian war was being fought, Fritz and several of his boy companions, living in the vicinity, were playing at their favorite game of "kick the stick." Fritz, a live boy of thirteen, kicked the stick and ran into a dark hallway leading through one of these houses, pausing for a moment to hide from his companions. For an instant he peered out and in the direction of the North river. A French warship lay in the river near the foot of the street. As he looked he saw three burly sailors come suddenly into view, running up the street. These were closely pursued by three naval officers in uniform. On came the sailors directly toward the house in which Fritz was standing, and as the party rushed past, a bundle made of a sailor's blue shirt and covered with tarpaulin, was thrown into the dark hall-way. Excitedly Fritz picked up the oily and ill-smelling thing, and boy-like ran through the hall-way to the back of the house. Jumping over the back fence, he landed in the yard of a house occupied by a certain Marks, a clothier, and without pausing ran along the entry to Greenwich street. In a few moments more he found himself safe in his own home

at the corner of Greenwich and Murray Streets. Immediately he clambered to the garret, where he deposited the dirty bundle beneath the rafters, over the ceiling. He did not wait to look at its contents. In the meantime the officers had succeeded in capturing the three sailors in City Hall park, and returned to their vessels. On that same evening the French war ship lifted anchor and sailed from the harbor. Fritz never heard of the ship again.

In our illustration in this issue we show three of the wonderful objects that met the gaze of the surprised Fritz when, on ascending to the garret the next day, he ventured to open the odoriferous bundle. After that Fritz went every day and looked at the gems, and for years afterward they rested in the dusty garret. When his father moved to their new home at number 5 Jay Street (now the site of a branch of the New York Hospital), Fritz took the gems with him and deposited them in the cellar in the coal bunker, in their original covering. He never removed the old blue shirt and tarpaulin until he moved again to 48 North Moore Street, on which the wholesale grocery house of E. C. Hazard is now located.

Let me speak now of the jewelry itself. We have pictured but three of the pieces, the necklace, ear-rings and one of the brooches. The others, which Fritz still possesses, include a massive brooch containing a splendid emerald, of "aqua" color, weighing no less than 22 carats. This piece is surrounded by 26 diamonds. There is a horse shoe shaped brooch containing 17 rubies of graduated sizes, varying from about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ carats each. Then there are three splendid, glittering diamonds, weighing fully three carats each; a fifteen carat star sapphire of matchless beauty; 50 pearls of various sizes, weighing from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 grains each; and many other stones. The pieces illustrated in this issue, and which are not included in those just described, consist of a massive necklace of antique, dull yellow beaten gold. In its center is an emerald of deepest hue weighing 18 carats. Surrounding this great and valuable stone are 24 diamonds. The cross piece has 24 diamonds, and each of the side laps, six diamonds. The pendant has a heart-shaped emerald, a diamond, and a leaf-shaped emerald. Set at the clasp at the ends of the chain is an emerald of half a carat. The ear-rings hang fastened to the side laps of the necklace, and three emeralds and nine diamonds are set in each of these. In both the necklace and the ear-rings there are in all 59 diamonds. There is no more beautiful or remarkable piece in the lot than the brooch illustrated in the center of the necklace. This contains an

emerald weighing 18 carats, surrounded by 6 superb oriental pearls, each weighing about 3 grains. By a certain pressure at the back of the emerald the stone is released, leaving it loose except for the band of gold which surrounds it.

Fritz says he has no idea to whom the precious jewels belonged. That they probably are royal jewels, could not be doubted after one has once beheld them. Probably no society dame in this city has ever worn such jewels as these. Several of the stones are cut in a style that must have been in favor long centuries ago; others seem to be of later cutting. The mountings show a beautiful harmony in design. One of imagination can readily believe that some soft-voiced, fair-throated and beautiful French or German woman of title—aye, some fair queen perhaps—has shed bitter tears over the loss of these gems. What more plausible explanation of their strange disappearance from Europe can be given than that they were captured by some of the officers in a battle, or during the sacking of a town or city, and carried off in the ship. Later when at sea, one of the three sailors observed the officers examining the valuables, and afterwards when favorable opportunity presented itself, had stolen the entire treasure, and taken two of his companions into his confidence. When the sailors tried to escape to shore, they were apprehended and the futile pursuit resulted.

An interesting romance and a deep mystery are locked up in these wonderful jewels; a romance which will probably never be told; a mystery which likely will never be unfolded. But Fritz has the gems, and on rare occasions, has shown them to his bosom friends. Those wonderful gems! Often I think of them. They lay there silent and speechless, and yet their massive size moves me, and their beauty charm and dazzle me as they must often have charmed their unknown owner of other days.

The Tenth Public Auction Sale

Will be, in many respects, the most remarkable sale that I have yet held. There will be included a California \$50 gold piece, a "Stella," (\$4.00) gold, 1796 and 1797 half dollars, silver dollars of 1836, '39, '51, '52, '58, etc; some rare Ancient Gold and Silver; some rare Lincoln medals; a collection of ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman objects in bronze, glass, agate, etc., including rare beads, scarabs, arrow-points, bronze implements. There will be coins and paper money to interest all classes of collectors. Send early for a catalogue.

Thomas L. Elder,
32 East 23d Street, N. Y. City.

Some Rare Half Dollars

By E. H. ADAMS.

The half dollar is one of the most plentiful of all the series of United States coins, having been issued regularly each year with but five exceptions since the coinage of the denomination first began in 1794. These exceptions were the years 1798, 1799, 1800, 1808 and 1816.

This is the reason why so few of them are rare nowadays and that many specimens of the early dates are to be had for little more than face value in a condition that would indicate they were only a year or two old instead of dating back nearly a hundred years, as many do.

Altogether there have been issued 235 varieties of the half dollar, and all of the branch mints have struck coins in this denomination except those of Dahlonega, Ga., and Charlotte, N. C., which were authorized to strike only gold coins.

The very rare half dollars are those dated 1796 and 1797. Of those of 1796 there are two varieties, one with fifteen stars on the obverse around the bust of Liberty, the other with sixteen stars. Each of these two varieties has brought over \$100 when in perfect condition.

The 1797 half dollar is the next rarest, and a very fine specimen of this coin has brought as much as \$120. The next rarest is the 1838 half dollar struck at New Orleans, with the mint letter "O" under the bust. This coin is worth from \$50 to \$75. Another rare half dollar was struck at the San Francisco mint in 1866. This coin omits the motto of "In God We Trust," which is borne by all the other varieties of the year, and is valued at \$24.

But, common as are the regular half dollars, yet there have been many pattern half dollars, struck at the mint in different metals by the designers, which are scarce, and form a most interesting series.

The first pattern half dollar to come from the mint was really the one bearing the bust of Washington, which was engraved by Peter Getz of Lancaster, Pa., who had been a blacksmith, and had taught himself engraving and die cutting. These were struck in 1792, but did not meet with the favor of Washington, and were not adopted. These coins as a rule are not included among the regular United States Mint patterns, so the series is supposed to begin with the pattern half dollar struck in 1814. This showed the head of Liberty, with seven stars to the right and six to the left. Underneath was the date "1814." On the reverse was an eagle with outstretched wings, bearing a shield. On a scroll above the eagle was the motto, "E Pluribus Unum." This coin was struck in platinum from the regular dies of the year and bears

the word "Platina" engraved upon the reverse, while on the obverse are a number of "P's" punched in the field. Only two of these coins were supposed to have been struck, being the only ones of United States issue ever to be coined in the metal. One of these is now in the mint collection at Philadelphia. It is not known where the other specimen is, but it would bring a fine premium if offered for sale.

In 1824, 1825 and 1830 half dollars were struck in copper from the regular dies of the year, and all these coins are held at a premium.

In 1836 a pattern half dollar was struck in silver. This showed the head of Liberty, with the word "Liberty" on the coronet, thirteen stars surrounding the head. On the reverse was an eagle with outstretched wings, and a shield, three arrows and an olive branch and "50 cents."

In 1838 among many pattern half dollars was a novel one showing the head of Liberty wearing a turban, which was the adopted design of the year, on the reverse was an eagle with a shield. Another slightly different pattern was also struck in this year, while two other pattern half dollars showed Liberty with a diadem upon her forehead, the hair tied in a knot and flowing about the neck, the first being struck in silver, while the latter was struck in both copper and silver.

A handsome pattern half dollar of this year shows a flying eagle on the reverse. On the obverse was a bust of Liberty. This coin was struck in silver and copper, a specimen in the former metal having brought \$10. A very scarce variety of the 1838 pattern half dollar shows the eagle with an olive branch in his right talon and four arrows in the left. A proof specimen in silver has brought \$31.

Another variety of the same year shows Liberty seated on a rock to the left, holding in her right hand a shield bearing the inscription "Liberty," while on the left is a staff surmounted by a liberty cap. On the reverse is a defiant eagle, with five arrows in the left talon and an olive branch in the right. In silver a fine specimen of this coin has sold for \$41.

These obverse and reverse dies were used in different combinations, and altogether twelve different varieties of pattern half dollars came from the mint in 1838, most of them also appearing in copper as well as silver.

In 1839 two more patterns of this denomination were turned out in silver and copper, the head of Liberty, to the right, being surrounded by thirteen stars. The first of these two showed an undraped bust of Liberty to the right, with thirteen stars. On the reverse was a defiant

eagle with a United States shield on his breast. In the right talon is an olive branch, in the left three arrows. This same reverse was used on the regular 1839 half dollar. In silver it has brought \$57.50. The second variety is not so scarce. It has the same obverse and reverse, but the letters on the reverse are larger than on the first. A proof specimen of this coin in silver has brought \$31.

In 1852 was struck one of the only two gold half dollar patterns that ever came from the mint. This was known as the ring half dollar, because of a hole in the centre. The obverse had the inscription "United States of America." The reverse is blank, and the edge is milled. Only two specimens of this variety are known to exist, and one of them sold for \$31. Another gold pattern half dollar was struck in the same year which was twice as large as the first, but of the same design.

A group of superb half dollar patterns came from the hands of the designers in 1851 numbering twelve in all. The first of these, designed by James B. Longacre, bore a modern head of Liberty, with young face to the right, head crowned with a wreath of oak and vine leaves. From the back hair extends a ribbon, passing around the neck, on which is inscribed "Liberty." On the reverse is a wreath made of cotton, corn and tobacco, and the words "Half Dollar." This coin was struck in silver and copper and had its edges milled. Two other pattern half dollars of this year had the same obverses as the first, but within a wreath on the reverse one showed " $\frac{1}{2}$ Dollar," while the other had "50 Cents." Two more varieties with this obverse had an eagle on the reverse, with expanded wings, holding in its beak a scroll inscribed "E Pluribus Unum." Another showed Liberty seated, supporting with the right hand faces, with the left a shield. On the ground are three arrows and an olive branch, with the same reverse as the two foregoing. The remainder of the patterns of this year were made by combining the obverse and reverse dies, and were nearly all coined in silver and copper. These coins are worth from \$1.50 to \$2.75 each.

In 1861 two more pattern half dollars were issued, each of which was similar to the regular coins of the year with the exception that the first bore the motto "God Our Trust" on a scroll above the eagle. The second was similar in every respect to the first, but the motto was used without the scroll. These patterns were struck in silver, copper and copper bronzed. This motto was the forerunner of the one as used on the regular United States coins, commencing with the bronze two cent piece of 1864.

Two pattern half dollars appeared in 1862. The first showed the figure of Liberty, seated, while the reverse showed two forms of the motto "God Our Trust." Coins of this same description appeared in 1863, the only difference being in the date. The 1862 pattern is worth \$4 in silver. A half dollar pattern was struck in aluminum from the regular dies of the year 1864, while in 1865 a half dollar pattern was coined in silver, copper and aluminum, with the full motto, "In God We Trust."

In 1866 a half dollar was struck in silver from the regular dies of the year, but the motto was omitted. In 1868 there was a half dollar struck in aluminum from the regular dies. The whole set of the coins of the year has brought \$17.

In the following year came a radical change. The pattern was the work of Engraver Barber, and showed a young head of Liberty, wearing a cap decorated with two stars. From the base of the cap extended a ribbon downward upon the neck. Inscribed on the ribbon is the word "Liberty." Underneath on a scroll is "In God We Trust." On the reverse is a wreath of oak and laurel enclosing "50 Cents." At the top around the border are the words "Standard Silver." At the bottom is the date "1869." This coin was struck with plain and milled edges, and the metals used were silver, copper and aluminum.

Another variety of this year shows the same reverse as that just described, but the young head of Liberty on the obverse bears a coronet, on which is a single star. Behind the star, upon a band encircling the hair, is the word "Liberty." This was struck in the same metals as the last, and has both plain and milled edges.

Nine different pattern half dollars came from the dies in 1870, none of them of unusually original design, but embracing combinations of the different features of the designs above. The most of them were struck in silver, but a few were coined in copper and aluminum. In 1871 two more appeared in copper and silver, with the same general features.

In 1872 a pattern half dollar showed a partially draped figure of Liberty, with the head covered with a Phrygian cap, the right hand extended above the head of an eagle, which stands with open wings at her feet. The left hand holds a sword, while the right rests upon a shield. On the reverse is an eagle holding in its right talon three arrows, while the left supports a United States shield, across which is a ribbon bearing the motto "In God We Trust." This was struck in silver.

Not less than eighteen pattern half dollars came out in 1877. On the reverse of several of them was the motto "E Pluribus Unum" and "In God We Trust". All of them showed the head of Liberty to the left on the obverse and the eagle on the reverse, complying with the law governing United States coins designs, passed in 1873. These coins were struck in silver and copper.

In 1879 the pattern half dollar showed the head of Liberty with the hair much disheveled and gathered in a bunch behind. Across the forehead is a band inscribed "Liberty." The eagle on the reverse has expanded wings pointing downward. In the left talon are three arrows, in the right an olive branch. Another variety of this year has the motto "E Pluribus Unum" above the head, six stars to the right and seven to the left, with "Half Dollar" partially encircled with a wreath of wheat and tobacco, tied with a ribbon below. These patterns were all struck in silver. A copper half dollar pattern was struck in 1882. This showed the head of Liberty with the hair brought smoothly forward from the back of the head to a broad, encircling band, in front of which it is much disheveled, making it look as if the head bears a skull cap. Attached to the ear is a small earring in the form of a United States shield. On the reverse is a defiant eagle with up-raised wings. The set of three pieces of this year in silver—dollar, half dollar and quarter—has sold for \$34.—N. Y. Sun.

Bordeaux Marine Exposition

Arrangements are being made by this Government for participation in the Bordeaux Marine Exposition which is to be held in that city, beginning in May next and continuing for six months. The exposition is to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Fulton's application of the power of steam to navigation.

This Government is preparing its programme, \$15,000 having been appropriated by Congress for the object, and at least three ships of the navy will be sent to take part in the display. They will be withdrawn for the purpose from those which take part in the opening pageant of the Jamestown Tercentennial. They will reach Bordeaux probably some time in June.—N. Y. Sun.

The Gnadenhütten Massacre and Death of Crawford

BY THOMAS L. ELDER.

(Continued from our last issue).

Mingo Bottom, a beautiful spot on the Ohio river, is situated three miles below Steubenville. It was here that the forces of Crawford mustered for the expedition against Sandusky. One record gives the number of Crawford's men as four hundred and eighty. The staff was made up as follows: majors, David Williamson, Thomas Gaddis, John McClelland and John Brinton; with Daniel Leet as Brigade major. We have already referred to Major Rose who served as adjutant. The wilderness guides were Jonathan Zane (Zanesville, Ohio, gets its name from his family), John Slover and Thomas Nicholson. Majors Gaddis and McClelland were from Westmoreland County. In all, there were eighteen companies, and of these the captains follow: Joseph Bane, John Beeson, John Biggs, Charles Bilderback, William Bruce, Timothy Downing, William Fife, John Hardin, John Hoagland, Andrew Hood, William Leet, Duncan McGeehan, John Miller, James Munn, Thomas Rankin, David Reed, Craig Ritchie and Ezekiel Ross.

On May 25th, 1782, the expedition left Mingo Bottom and followed the Indian trail toward the northwest. From the very start the party was watched by Indian spies. It was found that after the time of the Gnadenhütten massacre the Indians kept spies watching the movements of the whites, to prevent a repetition of the Gnadenhütten affair, and it is said that there was not a public place on the Ohio from Pittsburg to Grave Creek below Wheeling, that was not carefully watched. Crawford hoped to surprise the Indians in their towns. The expedition moved somewhat slowly, as it took ten days for the whites to reach the Sandusky river. In the meanwhile the Indians, being duly warned, prepared for battle. Hastily sending their women and children to points down the river, they also issued a call for warriors, sent runners to Detroit. Even a company of British rangers came to their assistance from Detroit. This company was commanded by Lieutenant John Turney and Captain Caldwell, and must have exceeded one hundred men. At the end of the fourth day's march the Pennsylvanians reached the ruins of the Moravian village at Schoenbrunn, and the horses were fed on the Moravian corn. Not an Indian was to

be seen, but Crawford soon learned that his expedition had been discovered and its every movement was being noted by fleet-footed Indian spies. When convinced that there was left no hope of surprising the savages, Crawford, it is said, advised the retirement of his force, but a majority of his men overruled him and it was finally decided to march toward the principal Wyandot town. When after having traveled for 160 miles from the Ohio, the expedition reached the upper Indian town. Its inhabitants had been amply warned and had left it deserted. This was on June third. The expedition continued toward the principal Wyandot town, the march was now being made through the plains of Sandusky, and continued until about two o'clock, when the Indians began to attack the advance guard. The savages concealed themselves in the long grass in large numbers. The principal body of the Indians was then entering a piece of woods, almost entirely surrounded by plains; but by a rapid movement on the part of the whites they were partially prevented from doing so, and a heavy fire commenced from both sides. Crawford's men soon succeeded in dislodging their enemies, and Major Leet, who commanded Crawford's right wing prevented the Indians from reaching a small skirt of wood on the right flank. Continuous firing continued until dark. Both sides adopted the policy of kindling large fires along the line of battle and then retiring some distance in the rear of them, to prevent being surprised by a night attack. During the conflict several of Crawford's men were killed, and nineteen were wounded. The Indians lost six killed and eleven wounded, among the latter being Captain Caldwell, the British commander. During the night the savages howled and hooted about the grove, and fired their guns occasionally. On the next morning the army occupied the battle ground of the preceding day, and no attack was made by the Indians until late in the evening, but were seen in large bodies traversing the plains in various directions. Some of them seemed to be carrying off their dead and wounded. In the morning of this day a council of officers was held, and it was decided to retreat, that being considered the only course left to save the army, which was now greatly outnumbered by the savages. Long range fighting continued, and during the afternoon a band of one hundred and forty Shawnee warriors had joined the Indians. Crawford's men had decided to begin the retreat under cover of darkness. After the beginning of this night march, panic seemed to seize the whites. It is related that on more than one occasion, during the border warfare, bodies of brave and well armed white men were affected by fear during

the night time when the treacherous and crafty Indians were in their vicinity. This awful dread had more than once turned victory into defeat. Some of the borderers fired their guns into the darkness, the expedition lost its order, and the retreat became a rout. Companies and their commanders became separated, and men fled, as though insane, across the pathless prairie.

Meanwhile the savages had not been idle, and many of the flying whites were pursued, shot, tomahawked, scalped or taken captive. Men called out in the darkness to one another, and in their frenzy acted like the bewildered English at Braddock's defeat, firing their guns into the air. Many of the whites were without their horses, some of which had been shot, and the others lost. While passing through the swamps some of these animals stuck fast and were left to their fate. A few of the men, tired out by fighting, had fallen asleep in the very grove from which they had first been assaulted, and were left behind. On awaking, these set out in little bands, without any definite idea as to the direction they were taking, their sole idea being to escape from the savages. Firing was heard to the southward and they moved in another direction. The Indians followed closely, coming upon a straggler here and there and satisfied their thirst for blood by scalping him. We have several interesting records of individual experiences. James Paull, one of John Biggs' command, was, with five or six others, in retreat across the prairie. They were soon surprised, and among the captured were Lieut. Edward Stewart, and Ensign William Crawford, Jr. Of this party, Paull only escaped torture and death by the savages. At Mingo encampment, Paull was unfortunate enough to have burned one of his feet severely, and he was lame throughout the march and retreat. He lost his horse in attempting to pass a swamp near the battle-ground. When surprised by the Indians he was very lame and entirely bare-foot. The man at his side, on whom he was leaning for support, was shot down. Paull instantly fled from the path into the woods, with an Indian after him. He quickly came to a steep, bluff bank of a creek, and over this he leaped, gun in hand. His pursurer declined to make the leap, and with a yell gave up the pursuit. In the descent Paull hurt his foot badly, but pluckily bound it up with the lower ends of his pantaloons, and wandered on, and by walking along fallen trees, and crossing his trail occasionally, he escaped further pursuit. For two days, he like Dr. Knight, subsisted on roots, barks, leaves, berries and young birds—"very fresh fare," he used to say afterward, but wholesome. He had saved his gun and

ammunition, being afraid to discharge it for fear its report might reach Indian ears. He was still very lame, and the hardship and exposure had greatly weakened him. Presently he shot a deer, and later came to the Ohio, near Wheeling.

Constructing a raft with drift wood and grape-vine, he finally reached the southern shore. There he caught an old horse which he found wandering over the hills, and succeeded in riding him to a settler's cabin. Aferward he reached his home. Had Crawford's men remained in one body during the retreat, the terrible slaughter would have been in a measure averted, and their decision to separate into small bodies gave the Indians their favorite opportunity for ambush tactics, and they followed the small parties with such activity that very few escaped. The Indians spread over the whole country from the Sandusky to the Muskingum Rivers, and some of the whites were captured and killed almost at the Ohio, between St. Clairsville and Wheeling.

When the retreat was begun, Colonel Crawford placed himself in advance of the whites, and continued there until they had gone a short distance, when he missed his son, John Crawford, his son-in-law, Major Harrison, and his nephews, Major Rose and William Crawford. This solicitude for his relatives cost him his life. He halted and called for them as the line passed, but they were not to be found. The main body having passed him he found himself unable to overtake it, as his horse was badly jaded. Later the Colonel fell in with Dr. Knight, and with two other strugglers, they traveled all night, first north, then to the east, to avoid pursuit. They directed their courses by the north star. On the next day they joined Capt. Biggs and Lieut. Ashley, and found the latter had been badly wounded. These kept together and on the second night of the flight they ventured to camp. The next day they came upon the path by which the army had advanced upon the Indian towns, and immediately a council was held to decide whether it would be safe to pursue it, or to continue their way through the woods.

Dr. Knight and Captain Biggs insisted upon continuing their course through the woods, and avoiding all paths, but Colonel Crawford remonstrated saying that the Indians would not urge their pursuit beyond the plains, which were already now far behind. Colonel Crawford prevailed, and abandoning their easterly course, they pursued the beaten track. Colonel Crawford and Dr. Knight moved one hundred and fifty yards in front, Captain Biggs and his wounded friend,

Lieutenant Ashley, were in the center, both on horseback, and the two men on foot brought up in the rear. Scarcely had they proceeded a mile when several Indians sprang up within twenty yards of Crawford and Knight, and, presenting their guns, ordered them in good English, to stop. Knight sprang behind a tree and leveled his gun at the Indian in front. Crawford several times called out to Knight asking him not to fire, and he reluctantly obeyed and the Indians ran up to Crawford in a friendly manner, shook him by the hand, and asked him how he did. Biggs and Ashley halted, while the two men in the rear prudently took to their heels and escaped. Colonel Crawford ordered Captain Biggs to come up and surrender, but the Captain took aim at one of the Indians and fired, and then with Ashley put spurs to their horses, and for the time, escaped. They were both overtaken, as we have previously stated, and were killed.

The Crawford party were taken prisoners without offering further resistance and on the morning of the 10th of June, Crawford, with Dr. Knight and nine other prisoners, were conducted by seventeen Indians to the old Sandusky Indian town, about thirty-three miles distant. Five of the prisoners were tomahawked and scalped on the way at different places. As far as is known, only two of all the prisoners taken in the expedition escaped. These were John Slover, the guide, and Dr. Knight. Slover escaped miraculously, riding naked all night on horseback. The others were distributed among the various Indian villages and put to death with the most horrible cruelty that savage ingenuity could devise. The body of Indians conducting Col. Crawford and Dr. Knight were lead by the famous Captains Pipe and Wingemund, two Delaware chiefs. Crawford had known these very chiefs personally for years. On reaching the village, five of the prisoners were immediately attacked by the squaws and boys and tomahawked. William Crawford, Jr., and William Harrison were put to death by the Shawnees. Their bodies were cut to pieces and hung on poles. Dr. Knight saw nine prisoners killed by squaws.

The Crawford family in particular afforded a gorge of infernal revelry to the infuriated savages. Of the five in the expedition, John, the son, only, escaped, to mourn their untimely end with his widowed mother and sister. William Crawford, Jr., was tortured and burned immediately after the Colonel. Doctor Knight was doomed to be burned at a Shawnese town, about forty miles distant from Sandusky, and was committed to the care of a young Indian, to be taken there. The first day, he and his captor traveled about twenty-five miles, and

encamped for the night. In the morning the gnats being very troublesome, the doctor requested the Indian to untie him that he might help to make a fire to keep them off. With this request the Indian foolishly complied, and while the savage was on his knees and elbows blowing the fire, the doctor caught up the end of a stick which had been burned in two, with which he struck the Indian a sharp blow on the head, so as to knock him forward into the fire. Rising up instantly, the Indian howled most piteously and ran off with great rapidity. Knight seized the Indian's rifle and pursued him, but on drawing back the cock too violently he broke the mainspring, and the gun was useless, so he relinquished the pursuit.

Dr. Knight subsisted on young birds, roots and berries, and after many perils by land and water, and after wandering for twenty-two days, he finally reached Fort McIntosh (now Beaver, Pa.) He was a man of small size, for that age of stalwart men. He was a son-in-law of Col. Richard Stevenson, and brother-in-law of Presley Carr Lane. He removed later to Shelbyville, Ky., with Mr. Lane, whose son John married the Doctor's daughter. Lane was Marshal of Kentucky under President Polk.

Colonel Williamson and Lieutenant Rose accompanied the largest retreating body of whites, and the following day the panic subsided somewhat. On the Olentangy, in what is now Crawford County, Ohio, the Delawares and Shawnees made a vicious attack against the rear guard, but the men stood their ground and drove off the Indians with severe loss. Colonel Williamson reached the Ohio at Mingo Bottoms on June 12th, with about 300 men, and brought home 20 of the wounded. Other members of the party reached the settlements in bands of three and four.

We now quote largely from Dr. Knight's and Captain McClung's accounts of the revolting experiences of Colonel Crawford.

As soon as the Colonel arrived at the Indian town the Indians surrounded him, stripped him naked and compelled him to sit on the ground, near a large fire, around which were about thirty warriors and more than double that number of squaws and boys. Captain Pipe, the old Delaware chief, painted Crawford and the other prisoners black, in token of the doom that awaited them at the stake.

(To be Concluded in Our Next Issue.)



The American Numismatic Society

The meeting held on the evening of March 18th last was of especial interest, and well attended, being held in the main room of the Hispanic Society's building. President Huntington was in the chair.

At this meeting Mr. Elder read the report of the committee on a new coinage for the United States, and the report was accepted without correction. As soon as the committee submits the resolution to the authorities at Washington, it will be published by the society and distributed to members and others who may be interested.

Major Wm. B. Wetmore submitted an interesting letter on the United States flag, commenting particularly on some of the discrepancies in the make-up of the shields on the various coins. There was a fine exhibition of Revolutionary military buttons, most of them having been found near the site of the Hispanic Society's building. Mr. Poillon, the Curator, reported many recent acquisitions to the cabinets of the Society. The building fund now amounts to about \$26,000.

A committee of three members, Messrs. Kunz, Drowne and Poillon was appointed to draw up a resolution on the death of Frank S. Benson who was a specialist on Greek coins.

About twenty members, and several ladies were present.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 38th regular meeting of the above named Society was held in

their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, on Friday evening, March 1st, 1907, with President W. F. Dunham in the chair.

The new Constitution and By Laws were given a final reading and adopted. On motion the Executive Board was instructed to have one thousand copies printed at once.

J. B. Johnson and T. Louis Compurette were elected to membership.

Mr. Tracy read a paper on the "Various Issues of the Russian Five Kopec Pieces." Mr. Brand exhibited a lot of foreign crowns, which were unusual, both on account of rarity and condition.

The Treasurer's report showed the finances of the Society in a very satisfactory condition.

Adjourned to meet April 5, 1907.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

Through the kindness of Mr. Charles K. Warner, of Philadelphia, the cabinet of the Ohio State Numismatic Society has been enriched, during the past month, by the donation of a beautiful collection of medals, consisting of seventy varieties, and in nearly all the different metals. Most of them are in proof condition. Mr. Warner has promised to add to this collection from time to time. It will be known as the Charles K. Warner Collection. These medals along with coins and Ohio paper money, tokens, belonging to the Society will soon be placed in the magnificent new Carnegie Library Building here in Columbus.

J. M. Henderson,
Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay.

February 22, 1907.

The regular monthly meeting of the society was held this evening with Judge L. W. Sicotte in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The minutes of council of February the 12th were read. The Curator reported donations to National Gallery and Library as per donation book nos. 2762 to 2769, and in view of their great importance, it was proposed and resolved that the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society in most heartily thanking Mr. A. E. Adams for his most acceptable gift of two valuable oil paintings of old Montreal by J. Duncan, and asking him to accept a life governorship in the society and electing him one of its life governors. R. W. McLachlan exhibited 115 Canadian Coins and medals added to his collection during the year 1906, of these 40 were struck in Canada, 10 in England, 20 in the United States, 45 in France. On the suggestion of the President it was moved and seconded and a committee was appointed to arrange for a historical excursion to the scene of the battle of Carillon (Fort Ticonderoga). Two gentlemen, Messrs. W. A. Witchell and M. G. Larochelle, were elected members. R. W. McLachlan read a paper on the Canadian Harp Tokens dated 1820, this paper showed that these tokens although bearing date 1820 were not struck till 1825 and later, the first of them were imported from Birmingham in 1825 to supply small change which at that time was very scarce in Canada, these coins proved so popular that during the year following a brass imitation made in Canada was issued and further imitations, some of them of the most barbarous workmanship were continued to be issued until about the year 1835. Mr. McLachlan showed 24 varieties of these tokens probably the most complete collection known.

* * *

The Monambault Collection recently sold in Quebec was not a very extensive collection but very rich in fine specimens of rare Cana-

dian coins including some fine series of Jetons struck for the French Colonies in America, "side view Pennies and Half Pennies; a fine set of the Bout de L'Isle Tokens; the Lauzon penny Token, and the one previously issued by Chabotte; R. W. Owen, Montreal, Ropery; Hunterstown, Weir, Larminée & Jamaica Tokens; the 1-50 and 1-100 Colonial pieces dated 1823; P. McDermott, "Sheaf of Wheat," North West Beaver, and Peter McAnslane Tokens, etc.

Hays-Phelps 1794 Cents Sold

Mr. Low sold the noted collection at auction on March 27, 1907. The total price realized for 63 pieces was \$525.00, or an average of \$8.22 per coin.

Hays No. 1.....\$ 5.50	Hays No. 20.....\$ 1.75	Hays No. 39.....\$ 10.25
2..... 11.00	21..... 20.00	40..... 38.50
3..... 3.50	22..... 2.50	41..... 38.50
4..... 5.50	23..... 10.50	42..... 10.75
5..... 7.00	24..... 23.00	43..... 28.50
6..... 3.50	25..... 31.00	44..... 11.00
7..... 8.00	26..... 21.00	45..... 3.00
8..... 15.00	27..... 9.00	46..... 5.50
9..... 19.00	28..... 5.00	47..... 3.50
10..... 8.00	29..... 15.50	48..... 3.25
11..... 4.00	30..... 5.50	49..... 3.75
12..... 3.50	31..... 4.50	50..... 3.85
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17..... 9.75	37..... 4.75	56..... 5.00
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19..... 4.00	37a..... 5.25	59..... 3.25

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Stamp Notes

I believe the largest stamp ever issued is the 5 lira registraion envelopes stamp of San Marino. It would not take such a large number of them to paper this little free republic all over, so a philatelist might think. The stamp is $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches and covers the whole face of the envelope so that the address has to be written on the back. The inscription is "Libertas Republica di San Marino" and "Bustr Postal" at the sides. The eye can detect at a glance that it is a "buster" so it would seem unnecessary to so label it.

* * *

The excitement over the proposal to print on the new issue of U. S. stamps the names of the First class offices seems to have entirely died down and it is more than likely that it was a false alarm, as the latest information from Washington would seem to indicate that the idea never advanced any further than being talked about and is now probably given up.

* * *

A new sensation has been sprung in the appearance of the current U. S. 1 and 2 cent stamps in imperforate sheets. At first the theory was put forth that it was to give an inventor of a cancelling machine a chance to experiment with a machine that would not work on perforated stamps. This item was circulated and swallowed by the gullible but none of the old collectors believed it for a moment. It has now been learned that they have been on stock in some of the largest post-offices for over a year and are sold only on being specially called for. There is something very peculiar about it and collectors should investigate it to see whether the government has sent out knowingly a lot of unfinished stamps or unknowingly, or whether someone with a pull has brought about their issue in this condition, or if they are issued in the regular course, just why they have been so issued.

* * *

Another thing showing laxity in government paper, is the many plate differences occurring in the current 2 cent stamped envelopes. At least 114 distinct types, all readily distinguishable and showing that they have been printed from new or retouched plates are already known to collectors and how a government inspector could distinguish a counterfeit from an original I do not know. Stamp collectors might assist him, but how do we know that counterfeits are not in existence.

American collectors, always quick to take an interest in anything pertaining to patriotic philately, quickly sought out the early issues of the Canal Zone and pretty well absorbed them. Prices are still on the run and there are, I believe, no very large stocks among the dealers.

* * *

Barbadoes has issued a 1d stamp surcharged "Kingston Relief Fund 1d." This stamp has a postal value of 1d and is sold for 2d, the extra penny being a voluntary contribution of the inhabitants to the relief of the sufferers from the Kingston, Jamaica earthquake. Thus another historic event is recorded in our stamp albums.

* * *

The past year or two there has been a great deal of quiet interest evidenced among collectors in U. S. revenues, especially noticeable in the branching out into side lines such as customs, tax paid, hydrometer, lock seal, meat inspection, cigarette and beer stamps, as well as the more regular match and medicine stamps. It is now apparent that something in the nature of a boom in revenues is at hand. A new society known as the United States Revenue Society has just been formed with one hundred charter members to start with. George J. Carter of New York, the well known revenue collector and dealer is the president. Clarence H. Eagle of New York, equally well known as a revenue expert is first vice-president and W. S. Aldrich of New York second vice-president. Holland A. Davis of Denver, Colo., is secretary and Wm. T. Kimball of Lawrence, Mass., treasurer. There is no doubt, with these men at the head, and with the interest shown by stamp collectors in joining the society, that things will be kept humming in the revenue line now.

* * *

The Postmaster-general has approved the designs for the one and two cent stamps commemorative of the Jamestown Exposition. The one cent stamp is green and shows Capt. John Smith and profiles of Pocahontas and Powhatan. The two cent is red and represents the landing of the colonists at Jamestown. The set of two stamps will be placed on sale at the various postoffices on April 26th, the date of the opening of the Exposition.

Charles E. Jenney.

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The Elder Monthly.

Vol. 2.

April, 1907

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NUMISMATIC
ARCHAEOLOGIC
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THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

The present owner of the finest collection of the United States cents of the year 1794 is E. Gilbert, Esq., a well-known Numismatist and glass manufacturer of this city. Mr. Gilbert's knowledge of this class of coins is evidenced by the fact that he is able to tell the Hays numbers of most of them simply at sight. He was the discoverer of the "Gilbert" variety. Besides this, Mr. Gilbert is an expert on the well known Jackson political and hard times tokens.

The Duke of Abruzzi, the daring Italian Arctic explorer, is an enthusiastic numismatist, and spends much time over his coins.

The Bechtler gold coins have taken rapid jumps forward in price recently. The \$5 pieces which a few years ago were selling for around \$10 apiece are now bringing as much as \$35 apiece. It is understood that Mr. Hidden received \$1,000 for the specimens of this coinage which he sold about a year ago.

It is the intention of Mr. Elder to hold two public auctions, (the 11th and 12th) before the summer is upon us. This will make a total of four sales, held since February 20th last. Coin collecting seems to be booming, and the absorbing power of the present market is quite remarkable.

Henry C. Miller, Esq., a well-known numismatist, of this city, who as usual, has been sojourning in Europe during the winter, is again among us. Mr. Miller reports having had a pleasant trip through Egypt.

Mr. Edward T. Newell, one of the most advanced numismatists in our midst, and an apt student of ancient and oriental languages, is finishing his senior year at Yale college.

Commemoration

The Council of the New York Academy of Sciences has decided to commemorate in fitting manner the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the great Swedish naturalist Linnæus. The anniversary falls on Thursday, May 23, and will be celebrated by exercises which will begin in the morning at the American Museum of Natural History with addresses and an exhibition of the animals, minerals and rocks known to science in the time of Linnæus; will continue in the afternoon at the Botanical Garden and Zoological Park in Bronx Park with addresses and suitable exhibits of plants and animals and the dedication of the Linnæus Bridge, and will be concluded in the evening with simultaneous exercises at the Museum of the Brooklyn Institute and at the New York Aquarium in Battery Park. The scientific societies of the world will be invited to participate in the celebration.

The Face On The Cent.

Mrs. Sarah Longacre Keen, who lived and died in Philadelphia, came nearer being the queen of the American mint than any woman who ever lived. With the exception of Queen Victoria, whose image was engraved on every coin of the British and Indian empires, Mrs. Keen was first in the number of her metal photographs. Her face as a girl of twelve summers is to be seen on every American cent issued since 1836 from Uncle Sam's coin factory.

It is usually assumed that the face on the head side of the copper is that of an Indian, but a close look will reveal a Saxon profile. Just borrow a cent and look at it. The setting is that of an Indian.

Between 1828 and 1840 James Barton Longacre was chief engraver in the United States mint in Philadelphia. In 1835 a competition was opened for sketches and engravings for the new copper cent that was to be issued and which has since been in service. There were over a thousand designs offered. The prize was a good one. Longacre racked his brain for some original and singular design that would strike the judges, but for months he failed to satisfy himself.

One morning a number of Indians, with their chief, who had been to pay their respects to the great white chief in Washington, came to the city and were shown through the mint. They were introduced to the white chief's picture maker, who was just then showing his young daughter Sarah the great concern. The old chief was attracted by the sweet faced maiden and her interest in his feathers and paint. She childishly wondered how she would look in the feathered headgear. This was told the chief, who solemnly divested himself of the feathers and had them placed on the girl's head. The effect was so striking that the father took time to make a sketch of the picture, finishing it afterward for his own amusement.

At the last moment of the period given for sending in engravings he bethought himself of the possibility of the combination of Indian feathers and Saxon sweetness. He got it in, and much sport was made of the child at the time in the city because of the incident. The sketch passed through the seventh sifting and finally reached the last round. By one vote it won, and ever since Sarah Longacre's young face has served for the humblest of coins, than which no single coin in the world has such tremendous circulation.—Detroit News Tribune.

The Gnadenhutzen Massacre and Death of Crawford

BY THOMAS L. ELDER.

(Continued from our last issue).

The memories of the massacre of Gnadenhutzen were still fresh in the minds of the savage band which held Col. Crawford and Dr. Knight, and it was its intention to kill the white prisoners by the slowest and most horrible tortures that out fiendish hatred could invent. In a few minutes a large stake was fixed in the ground and piles of large hickory poles, about twelve feet in length were spread around it. Colonel Crawford's hands were then tied behind his back; a strong rope was produced, one end of which was fastened to the ligature, between his wrists, and the other to the bottom of the stake. The rope was long enough to permit him to walk around the stake several times and then return. After he was bound to the stake, the surviving Moravian Indians, a few of whom were in the party, were asked to come forward and take vengeance on the prisoner; but they had withdrawn from the awful scene, and their savage relatives stepped forward in their stead. Before the torture was commenced, Captain Pipe, the Delaware chieftain, addressed the Indians at some length, and in a very earnest manner. When he had finished his harangue, the warriors and squaws all joined in a hideous yell, and prepared for the feast of death that was to follow.

Meanwhile a carnage of slaughter was going on. The prisoners were all ordered to sit down. A number of squaws and boys fell on the five prisoners and tomahawked them. Among the prisoners was one John McKinley, formerly an officer in the 13th Virginia Regiment. An old squaw suddenly snatched a long knife out of a warrior's hands, and running to the spot where the wretched McKinley sat bound she deliberately cut off his head, and it was kicked around like a foot-ball. The Indian boys often ran to Dr. Knight and Crawford and dashed the scalps in their faces. Then the savages began to beat Colonel Crawford with sticks and their fists. Knight also was given a severe beating. Simon Girty, the notorious white renegade, was in the party of Indians, as was Chief Wingemund. Before the fire was lit at the stake Crawford asked for his friend Wingemund. "I wish to see him," he said. This chief had formerly been a warm friend of Crawford's, and had entertained him in his own house. Under the circumstances Craw-

ford indulged a faint degree of hope that if he could see the chief his life might be spared. Wingemund was near by, in fact he had retired from the spot, that he might not witness the torture. He was sent for, however, and an interesting and affecting conversation followed between himself and the prisoner. This conversation was commenced by Crawford who asked the chief if he knew him. He replied that he believed he did, and asked, "Are you not Colonel Crawford?" "I am," replied the Colonel, and the conversation was continued—the chief seeming to grow very much embarrassed, and answering, "So! Yes! Indeed!"

Col. Crawford—"Do you not recollect the friendship that always existed between us, and that we were always glad to see each other?"

Wingemund—"Yes, I remember all this; and that we have often drunk together, and that you have been kind to me."

Col. C.—"Then, I hope the same friendship continues."

W.—"It would, of course were you where you ought to be, and not here."

Col. C.—"And why not here? I hope you would not desert a friend in time of need; now is the time for you to exert yourself in my behalf, as I should do for you were you in my place."

W.—"Col. Crawford, you have placed yourself in a situation which puts it out of my power, and that of others of your friends, to do anything for you."

Col. C.—"How so, Captain Wingemund?"

W.—"By joining yourself to that execrable man, Williamson, and his party. The man who, but the other day, murdered such a number of Moravian Indians, knowing them to be friends; knowing that he ran no risk in murdering a people who would not fight, and whose only business was praying."

Col. C.—"But, I assure you, Wingemund that had I been with him at the time that thus would not have happened.. Not I alone, but all your friends, and all good men, deprecate acts of his kind."

W.—"That may be, yet these friends, these good men, did not prevent him from going out again to kill the remainder of those inoffensive, yet foolish Moravian Indians. I say foolish, because they believed in whites in preference to us. We have often told them that they would one day be so treated, by those people who call themselves their friends. We told them there was no faith to be placed in what the white men said; that their fair promises were only intended to allure, that they might the more easily kill us, as they have done many Indians before they killed those Moravians."

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Col. C.—“I am sorry to hear you speak thus. As to Williamson’s going out again, when it was known that he was determined on it, I went out with him to prevent him from committing fresh murders.”

W.—“This the Indians would not believe were I to tell them so.”

Col. C.—“And why would they not believe it?”

W.—“Because it would have been out of your power to prevent him doing what he pleased.”

Col. C.—“Out of my power? Have any Moravian Indian been killed or hurt since we came out?”

W.—“None. But you first went to their town, and finding it empty and deserted, you turned on the path toward us. If you had been in search of warriors only, you would have not gone thither. Our spies watched you closely. They saw you while you were embodying yourselves on the other side of the Ohio. They saw you cross that river; they saw where you encamped at night; they saw you turn off the path to the deserted Moravian town; they knew you were going out of your way; your steps were constantly watched and you were suffered quietly to proceed until you reached the spot where you were attacked.”

Col. C.—(With emotion). “What do they intend to do with me?”

W.—“I tell you with grief. As Williamson, with his whole cowardly host ran off in the night at the whistling of our warriors’ balls, being satisfied that now he had no Moravians to deal with, but men who could fight, and with such he did not wish to have anything to do; I say, as he has escaped, and they have taken you, they will take revenge on you in his stead.”

Col. C.—“And there is no possibility of preventing this? Can you devise no way to get me off? You shall, my friend, be well rewarded, if you are instrumental in saving my life.”

W.—“Had Williamson been taken with you, I and some friends, by making use of what you have told me, might, perhaps, be instrumental in saving you; but as the matter now stands, no man would dare to interfere in your behalf. The King of England, were he to come to this spot with all his wealth and treasure, could not effect his purpose. The blood of the innocent Moravians, more than half of them women and children, cruelly and wantonly murdered, calls for revenge. The relatives of the slain, who are among us, cry aloud for revenge. The Shawnese, our grandchildren, have asked for your fellow prisoner (Dr. Knight), and on him they will take revenge. All the nations connected with us, cry out Revenge! Revenge! The Moravians, whom you went to destroy, having fled instead of avenging their brethren,

the offense has become national, and the nation itself is bound to take revenge."

Col. C.—"My fate is then fixed, and I must prepare to meet death in its worst form."

W.—"Yes, Colonel. I am sorry for it, but I cannot do anything for you. Had you attended to the Indian principle, that good and evil cannot dwell together in the same heart, so a good man ought not to go into evil company, you would not have been in this lamentable situation. You see now, when it is too late, after Williamson has deserted you, what a bad man he must be. Nothing now remains for you but to meet your fate like a brave man. Farewell, Colonel Crawford! They are coming. I will retire to a solitary spot."

On turning away from his friend, whom he was powerless to assist, it is said the old chief was affected to tears, and could never afterward speak of the incident without emotion. The moment the chief left the Colonel, a number of the savage rushed upon him and commenced the work of torture. During the torture Crawford was continually upbraided for the conduct of the whites at Gnadenhutzen. They reproached him for having come against them with the worst kind of murderers—such as the Indians had not among their number. "Indians," they said, "kill their enemies, but not their friends. When once they have stretched forth their hand, and given that endearing name, they do not kill. But how was it with the believing Indians on the Muskingum? You professed friendship for them. You hailed and welcomed them as such. You protested they should receive no harm from you." In such vein the Indians continued to taunt Crawford. There was further circumstance against this unfortunate man, which enraged the Indians to a high degree. It was reported that the Indian spies sent out to watch their movements, on examining a camp which Crawford and Williamson had left, west of the Ohio, had found on trees peeled for the purpose, the words, written with coal or other mineral substances,—"No quarters to be given to any Indian, whether man woman or child."

Colonel Crawford, seeing Simon Girty was present, called out to him and asked if the Indians intended to burn him. Girty replied in the affirmative. The Indian men then took up their guns and shot powder into the Colonel's body, from his feet as far up as his neck. Knight states not less than seventy loads were discharged upon his naked body. They then crowded about him and must have cut off his ears,

as when the throng had dispersed a little Knight saw blood running from both sides of his head.

The fire was now lighted about six or seven yards from the post to which the Colonel was tied. It was made of small hickory poles, burnt through in the middle, each of the poles remaining about six feet in length. The boys snatched the burning hickory poles and applied them to his flesh. As fast as he ran around the stake to avoid one party of tormentors, he was promptly met at every turn by others with burning poles, red hot irons and rifles loaded with powder only. Crawford's body became blackened and blistered in a terrible manner. The Indians stuck his body full of dry, sharp sticks, until he looked like a porcupine. They set fire to these sticks and laughed to see how they blazed and crackled around his naked body. The squaws would take up a quantity of coals and hot ashes and throw them upon his body, so that soon he had nothing but fire to walk upon. In this extremity of his agony the unhappy Colonel called aloud to Girty, in tones that rang through Knight's brain with maddening effect: "Girty! Girty! shoot me through the heart! Quick! Quick! Do not refuse me!" "Don't you see I have no gun, Colonel" replied the monster, bursting into a loud laugh, and then turning to an Indian beside him, he uttered some brutal jests upon the naked and miserable appearance of the prisoner. Girty then went up to Doctor Knight and bade him prepare for death. He said however, that Knight was not to die in that place, but to be burnt at the Shawanese towns. He swore "by G—d" that Knight need not expect to escape death, but should suffer it in all its enormities. Colonel Crawford at this moment, was almost exhausted, and the terrible scene had now lasted for more than two hours. He walked slowly around the stake, spoke in a low tone, and earnestly besought the Almighty to look with compassion upon him, and pardon his sins. His nerves had lost much of their sensibility, and he no longer shrunk from the fire-brands, with which the savages incessantly touched him. Finally he sank in a fainting fit upon his face and lay motionless. Instantly an Indian sprang upon his back, knelt lightly upon one knee, made an incision with his knife upon the crown of his head, and clapping the knife between his teeth, tore the scalp off with both hands.

After this had been done, a withered hag approached with a board full of burning embers, and poured them upon the crown of Crawford's head now laid bare to the bone. The Colonel groaned deeply, arose and again walked slowly around the stake. The Indians continued

to torture Crawford for two hours longer, and continued to put burning sticks to him, but he was now almost insensible to pain. We have no further description of Crawford's torture as the Indian who had Knight in charge, took the Doctor to the house of Captain Pipe, about three quarters of a mile from the place of the Colonel's execution. Here he was bound all night. The next morning, June 12th, the Indian untied Knight and painted him black, and both set off for the Shawnese towns, about forty miles distant. They soon came to the place where the Colonel had been burnt. Knight states he saw the bones of Crawford lying amongst the remains of the fire, almost burnt to ashes. Knight supposed that after Crawford had died they laid his body on the fire. The Indian pointed to the ashes and told Knight that was his big Captain, and gave the scalp halloo. We have in a former number related the story of Knight's escape from his captor. Today a large, rude monument of stones marks the spot where Colonel Crawford met his awful end.

(The End.)

Gold Dollars for Ornaments

"Got a gold dollar, have you?" said the jeweler. "Certainly, I'll give you something for it. It's worth a dollar to spend and a dollar and a half to sell. That's the fixed price for them, and practically any jeweler who makes use of them will give you \$1.50 apiece for as many as you happen to have about you.

"What do we use them for? Oh, in a variety of ways; for bangles and pins and ornaments of one sort and another. There are more of them used in this way than are taken up by collectors. Of course, there are certain dates that are worth more than the regular market price for collectors. The war year issues, for instance, 1863, '64 and '65, bring from \$2.50 to \$5, according to condition. There are other dates that bring still higher prices. But for our purpose one date is as good as another, and a gold dollar is 'as good as gold' for \$1.50 at any time.

"Yes, they are growing scarcer all the time, of course. The government stopped coining them some six years ago, but I believe that something like 19,000,000 or 20,000,000 of them had been put into circulation up to that time, so that there are still a good many tucked away in old pocketbooks and carried as pocket pieces."—*Providence Journal.*

Our Fifteen Rarest Coins.

BY E. H. ADAMS.

Dealers say that the fifteen rarest American coins are easily worth a total of \$16,000. Here are the fifteen:

First may be placed the New York doubloon, coined in this city in 1787 by Ephraim Brasher, a jeweller. This coin has a record price of only \$505, but many experts regard it as the scarcest of all the American issues, and believe that if one were offered for sale today it would bring \$3,000 and perhaps more.

Only five of these coins are definitely known, one being in the cabinet of coins in the Philadelphia Mint and the rest in private collections. The doubloon is the only gold coin of American coinage struck prior to the opening of the United States Mint in 1795.

The doubloon shows in the foreground the sun rising beneath a range of mountains, the sea at their foot. Beneath is the word "Brasher," while encircling the whole device is the inscription "Nova Eboraca Columbia Excelsior." The reverse has an eagle, on his breast bearing a United States shield, which is surstamped by a punch "E. B." Thirteen stars are above the head.

In the right talon is held an olive branch, while in the left is a bunch of arrows. A wreath of olive leaves encircles the central device, around this being the motto "Unum E Pluribus." The coin weighs $41\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and its intrinsic value is about the same as that of the Spanish doubloon, \$16.

The next most valuable coins are the half eagles dated 1815 and 1822, which are worth respectively \$2,000 and \$2,165.

The 1804 dollar, which is fourth on the list, has a record price of \$2,000. It is so well known that it hardly requires description.

The fifth coin is the Washington cent of 1791, struck in gold. One thousand dollars is a low estimate of its value.

The cent was a pattern submitted for adoption by the United States Government at the beginning of operations of the Mint. The design was not accepted, but one specimen was struck in gold; that is, so far as known, only one was struck, though there may be others laid away and forgotten, and this coin now ranks among the great rarities.

On the obverse is a bust of Washington, surrounded by the words, "Washington President." Below is the date, "1791."

On the reverse is a large eagle with outstretched wings, bearing

upon its breast a United States shield, with a number of arrows in the right talon and a sprig of olive in the left. At the top of the coin, between the expanded wings of the eagle, which fill almost the entire field are the words, "One Cent."

Ranking with this coin in point of rarity is the Washington half dollar of 1792, struck in gold. This is supposed to have been struck as a compliment to George Washington and to have been carried by him as a pocket piece, as it shows some signs of wear. It sold for \$500 in 1875.

It shows the bust of Washington in military uniform on the obverse. The inscription reads "Washington President," the date, "1792," below.

On the reverse is a rather small eagle with expanded wings. Around the whole device is "United States of America." Between the points of the wings are thirteen stars. One thousand dollars is a conservative estimate of the value of this coin, but it is practically unobtainable.

The Nova Constellatio series comes next in the list of great American rarities, with the 1,000 mill pieces ranking seventh, the 500 mill pieces eighth and the 100 mill pieces ninth. These three coins, which are dated 1783, were sold in a set some years ago for \$1,350, but would bring very much more now.

They were all struck in pure silver, being the forerunners of our fifty, twenty-five and ten cent pieces. It is supposed that they were designed by Gouverneur Morris of New York and originally coined as pattern pieces for a new United States coinage. They were found in the desk of Charles Thompson, first secretary of Congress, after his death.

The first two coins are known as the mark and the quint. The design of all three pieces is similar, showing an eye in the centre of thirteen points, these points intersecting a circle of thirteen stars. The legend is "Nova Constellatio."

The reverse shows a wreath enclosing the letters "U.S.," and the mark has "1,000" in the centre of the wreath. The quint has a similar reverse with the exception that in the centre is "500" while the ten cent piece has "100"

Many Nova Constellatio cents were coined and circulated, and they are very plentiful and not highly valued.

There is in existence one other specimen of the quint with an ob-

verse somewhat different from the one just described, which is worth every bit as much.

The Massachusetts Good Samaritan shilling, credited to New England, is well up in the list of our most valuable coins, the only specimen known having brought \$650. This shows the Good Samaritan attending a fallen traveler by the roadside, a horse and tree in the background. There is the inscription "Masachvsets." The reverse has "1652 XII.," within a circle of dots, and "In New England Ano."

The Lord Baltimore penny is worth \$550. This is the only coin of the denomination of the series of pieces struck by Cecil Calvert in the seventeenth century for Marylanders, and it came very near getting him into trouble, for on account of this issue he was summoned to appear before the Council in London to answer the charge of usurping the royal prerogative in issuing colonial money.

The other denominations were the shilling, sixpence and groat, or fourpence. The latter three denominations are worth from \$30 to \$50 each.

The reverse of the penny shows a ducal coronet on which, standing upright, are two masts, each bearing a flying pennant. The legend is "Denarivm Terre-Mariæ."

The obverse shows the bust of Lord Batilmore in profile, slightly draped, facing to the left. Around this is the inscription "Cæcilvs Dns. Terre-Mariæ, &c."

While this penny has a record price of \$550, still it is probable that it would bring more than \$1,000 if offered for sale. This one specimen originally came from England and was sold at the auction of the Mickley collection in Philadelphia for \$370. At a subsequent sale it brought \$550.

Twelfth in the list comes the Washington New Jersey cent, which has a record price of \$600, but is easily worth more than \$1,000. It is unique. It shows the words "Gen. Washington" around the bust of the patriot. On the reverse is the shield always borne by the New Jersey cents, surrounded by the motto "E Pluribus Unum."

This coin was originally sold for a few cents to a Philadelphia dealer among a lot of old copper coins, and it was not until close examination that the dealer found that for a trifle he had come into the possession of the rarest copper coin ever issued in this country.

The Continental Currency dollar should rank next. This was the first silver coin struck by authority of the Colonial Government. On the obverse it bears the Franklin motto "Mind Your Business" an

the word "Fugio." The device shows the rays of the sun shining upon a sun dial.

Around the central device are the words "Continental Currency." On the reverse are thirteen connected links, in each one of which is the name of one of the original thirteen Colonies.

This coin is very similar in pattern to the Fugio cents of the same year, which were also authorized by the United Colonies. A specimen of the Continental dollar in silver now worth \$500.

A New York cent struck in 1787 follows. This shows an Indian holding a tomahawk in his right hand, a bow in his left, while on his back is a quiver. Around this is the inscription "Liber Natus Libertatem Defende."

On the reverse are the arms of the State of New York. An oval shield bears the sun rising behind a range of mountains, the sea in the foreground. At the right of the shield stands Justice with scales and sword, at the left is Liberty with a staff.

An eagle stands above upon a globe with outstretched wings. The inscription is "Excelsior." The coin is worth in the neighborhood of \$500.

The Confederate half dollar winds up the list of fifteen rarities. Of these there are only four known. The record price for this coin is \$870. These were the only pieces of metallic currency struck by authority of the Confederate Government.

When the Confederates seized the New Orleans Mint in 1861 they at once laid plans for a distinct coinage. Dies were made for a fifty cent piece. For some reason the dies were not suitable for the regular coinage press, so four pieces were struck on an old screw press.

The obverse is the same as that of the regular United States half dollar of the year 1861, but the reverse shows a Liberty cap, underneath being a beehive. This is surrounded by the inscription "Confederate States of America."—New York Sun.

Meaning of Names of Coins.

The florin—one of the most famous of modern coins—originated in Florence. Some say that it gave the name to the city, while others assert that it was first so called because it had on it a fleur de lis—from the Italian florone or “flower”—for the same reason that an English silver piece is called a “crown,” or certain gold pieces in France indifferently a “Napoleon” or a “Louis,” or the ten-dollar gold pieces in America an “eagle.”

For several hundred years, and down to a recent date, money was coined at from twenty-five to thirty different cities in France that had inherited the privilege. Now all French money is coined at the Paris mint.

Few French gold pieces are, however, in circulation except those bearing the head of Napoleon III, and silver pieces of the same coinage are almost as plentiful. French silver coins wear admirably, and pieces of the reign of Charles X, Louis XVIII and Napoleon I are very common.

The standard coins of the Continent are: In France, the franc; in Spain, the peseta; in Italy, the lire; in Holland and Austria, the florin; in Germany, the mark; in Russia, the ruble.

Belgium and Switzerland use the French name for the piece of twenty sous. Each of these pieces is, like the American dollar, divided into one hundred parts, called kopeck in Russia, pfennig in Germany, kreutzer in Austria, cent in Holland, and in Italy, France and Spain by the word meaning hundredth.

The word shilling is of German derivation, like penny, which come from the German “pfennig.”

The word crown comes from the image placed on the coin.

The name franc was given by King John, who first coined these pieces in 1660. They bore the motto “Le Roi Frank” (King of the Franks), and were of two kinds, one representing the king on horseback, the other on foot.

The franc was formerly also called livre (pound), though the connection with any special weight is not evident. The name of the German coin, mark—meaning a weight of eight ounces—was formerly in general use in Europe. The name of the Italian coin that corresponds with the franc (lira) also means pound.

The coins in present use in Spain have their names from other sources. The five-peseta piece, which corresponds with the American

dollar, is called escudo (shield). Peseta—the name of the small coin representing the monetary standard—means simply “little piece.”

Ruble is from the word meaning “to cut,” and was so called because originally the coin was made with an ornamental edge.

Ducat is a coin, either of silver or gold, struck in the dominions of a duke, the silver ducat being generally of the value of an American dollar, and the gold ducat is worth twice as much. Farthing means the fourth of a penny, and is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *ferdha*, the fourth.

Sovereign is an English gold coin, on which an effigy of the head of the reigning king or queen is stamped, and it is equivalent to a one pound note, or about five dollars of our currency. The pound sterling was in Saxon times—about A. D. 671—a pound troy in silver, and a shilling was its twentieth part, consequently the latter was three times as large as it is at present.

Few persons have ever troubled themselves to think of the derivation of the word dollar. It is from the word *thal* (valley) and came into use in this way about three hundred years ago. There is a little silver mining city or district in Northern Bohemia called Joachimsthal, or Joachim's valley. The reigning duke of the region authorized this city in the sixteenth century to coin a silver piece which was called “Joachim-thaler.” The word “Joachim” was soon dropped, and the name “thaler” only retained. The piece went into general use in Germany and Denmark, where the orthography was changed to “daeler,” whence it came into English and was adopted by the Americans with still further changes in spelling.

The Mexican dollar is generally called “peastre” in France, and the name is sometimes applied to the United States dollar. The appellation is incorrect in either case, for the word piaster, or piastre, has for years been only applied with correctness to a small silver coin used in Turkey or Egypt, which is worth from five cents to eight cents.

Dime is derived from the Latin *decimus*, the tenth; from *decem*, ten; and cent is from the Latin *centum*, a hundred. Mill, which may be called an imaginary coin, is also from the Latin, *mille*, a thousand.



The American Numismatic Society

No meeting of this society will be held during the month of April. The next meeting will be held on the third Monday evening in May.

Daniel Parrish, Jr., is generously adding pieces to the society's cabinets. His recent important donations include the very rare silver medal made in 1808, of the Washington Benevolent Society, of New York.

Other donations include the Semi-Centennial medal of the Anna Ottendorfer Dispensary, presented by August Zinsses, President of the German Hospital; a silver medal of Rudolph II, dated 1576, presented by Emile Rey; and a bronze medal on the Centenary of the Constitution of Poland, presented by Julius De Lagerberg.



The Boston Numismatic Society

The regular meeting of the Society was held on the afternoon of April 5, in the directors' room of the Old State House, Dr. S. A. Green presiding. Dr. Green, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Marvin, Mr. Wheeler, Dr. Storer, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Wood were present. Mr. Clinton H. Stearns and Mr. William S. Appleton were elected to membership.

Numismatic Newspaper Clippings, Etc.

BOY NUMISMATIST CAUGHT.

On a charge of stealing ancient coins from the home of Mrs. Frederick Billings, No. 279 Madison avenue, Andrew Brown, sixteen years old, of No. 15 East 125th street, was locked up in the East Thirty-fifth street police station last night. Ten coins valued at \$25 were found in his possession.

Brown, who is a plumber's helper was at work in the house. Mrs. Billings is away for the summer in Vermont.—New York Herald.

SHAH'S JEWEL COLLECTION.

Vienna, March 14.— A despatch from Teheran says that an inventory of the late Shah's jewels shows that he collected precious stones to the value of \$50,000,000.

His horde contains an unrivalled collection of diamonds. A belt, studded with diamonds, which the Shah was accustomed to wear on State occasions, weighs eighteen pounds and is valued at several million dollars. A wonderful silver vase, decorated with 100 emeralds, one so large that all the Shah's numerous titles are engraved on it; a sword with a diamond covered scabbard, valued at \$1,250,000; a square block of amber, containing 400 cubic inches, said to have been dropped from the skies in the time of Mohammed, are among that treasures the valuers found.—N. Y. Sun.

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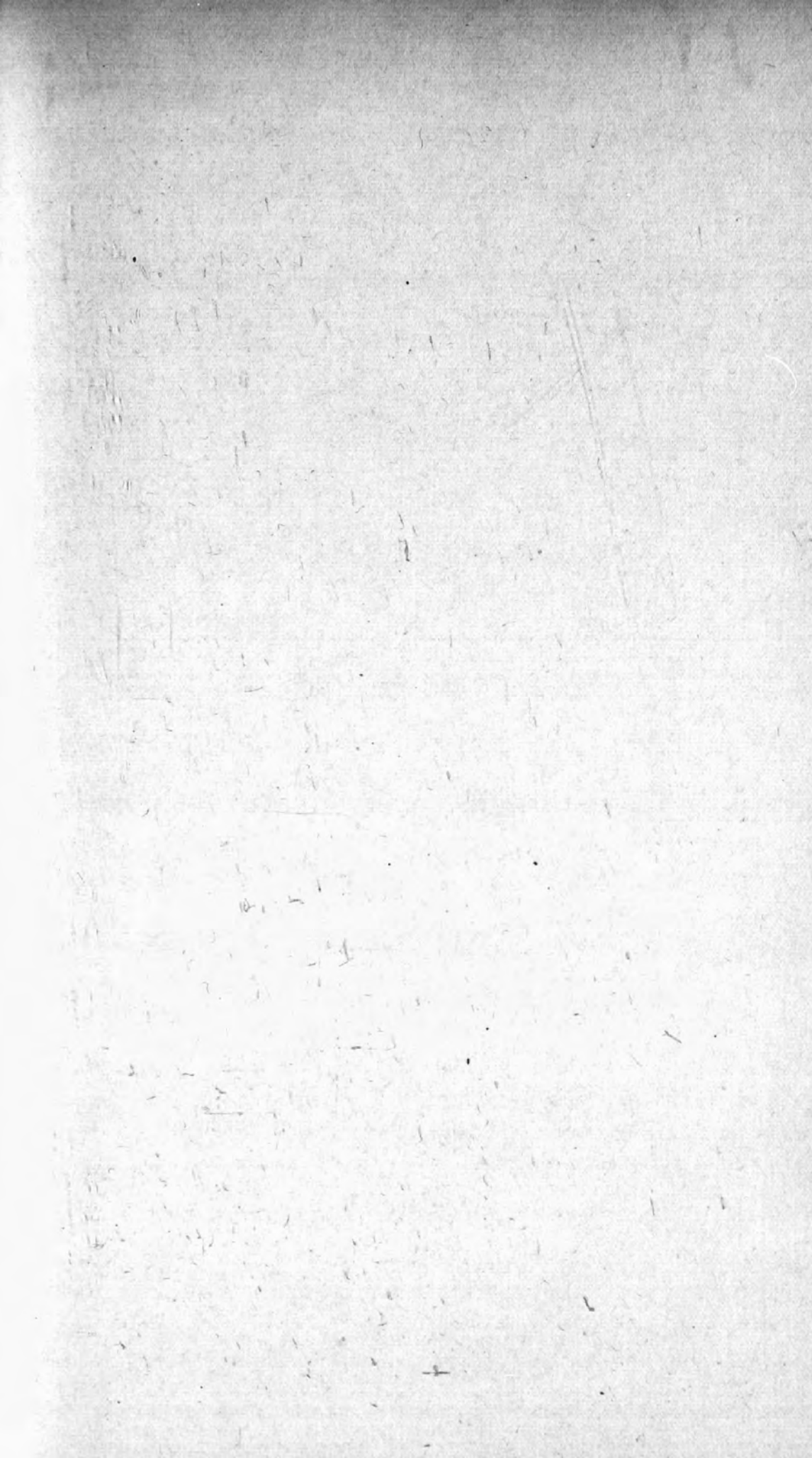
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Editorials

Sale of The Appleton Collection

This great sale will be held at the Elder Auction Rooms on May 21st and 22d, in conjunction with my sale of May 23d. Catalogues of both sales will be mailed on application, and the editor while not selling the Appleton Collection himself, will gladly accept the commissions of his customers for both sales, and endeavor to faithfully serve their interests.

Division of a Coin Collection

In Which the "Numismatic Dunce" Played a Part.

BY E. H. ADAMS.

In one of the New Jersey towns not far from New York lived a collector of old coins, whose specialty was the accumulation of every single date and denomination of the United States series. He had five children—two boys and three girls—all of whom looked with a mild sort of contempt upon their father's hobby—that is, all of them except the oldest son.

Whenever the father came into possession of a rare specimen after which he had long sought his enthusiasm just had to have some sort of outlet, and he would tell the glorious news to his family.

But the four younger children listened rather coldly and were very perceptibly bored as the happy parent dwelt in glowing terms upon the rarity of his newest acquisition, which rounded out a series, and for which at times he paid a good round sum.

The eldest boy, however, seemed to have inherited the collecting instinct, and he always sympathized with his father and rejoiced whenever a coin was added to the collection that was required to fill out a consecutive list of dates. In fact, so much interest did he take that in time he knew every coin in the collection by heart, its rarity, the cause of the rarity, what it had cost his father, and also, just what it would bring in the market.

In the course of events the father had brought together a collection of United States coins which was practically complete, embracing almost every rarity known to the American numismatist. Acquaintances often would say to the younger children that they had heard their father owned a very fine coin collection.

"Oh, yes, father has quite a bunch of coins," said the youngest son, indifferently, "and he has the collecting bug so bad that he thinks of little else, spending money for old pieces of metal that could very well be applied to other purposes."

Shortly afterward the father died, and it was found that his coin collection represented not an inconsiderable portion of his estate. One of the provisions of the will specified that the collection should be divided equally among the five children. They were to select the

coins piece by piece, the eldest to have the first choice, the next to have second pick, and so on.

On the day of the division the collection was brought out and the distribution began. The four younger heirs knew absolutely nothing about the value of the coins which they had so long ridiculed, and of this fact the eldest son was well aware, and he made up his mind evidently to profit by his knowledge.

The silver dollars were the first to be divided, and the eldest son selected the one dated 1794. It was a superb specimen, in uncirculated condition, of the first issue of coins of the denomination, and was easily worth \$500. The next heir, a daughter, thought that the value of coins was estimated by the age, and, having seen her brother select the one dated 1794, she took the next in line, that of 1795. In this year many dollars were struck, however, and the coin was one of the commonest of the denomination, but worth, owing to its exceptional condition, about \$5.

The third heir selected the one dated 1796, having no more knowledge than the second; the next took the dollar dated 1797. All of these coins were very common, and not worth more than two or three dollars each.

The eldest son jumped a few dates to the 1804 dollar when his turn came around again. This coin was worth anywhere from \$1000 to \$2000, being the very rarest of the dollar issues.

The other heirs, still completely at sea, kept on selecting the next oldest date, and when the third privilege of choice fell to the eldest he made a leap in dates to the dollar dated 1852, which, notwithstanding its recent date, is a scarce coin. Only 1100 were struck in this year, and as much as \$75 has been paid for an uncirculated specimen. In the meanwhile the other heirs were selecting the dollars dated during the forties, which with but few exceptions were not worth more than a few cents above face value. Then the eldest took the 1851 dollar, another great rarity. Of these there were but 1300 coined, and a fine specimen has brought \$85. Of course a certain knowledge of the coin's value was known by the elder son, for the dollars of the preceding year, in which 40,000 were struck, are worth only face value or a trifle above. Then the 1858 dollar was taken by the first heir. There is no record of the coinage of these dollars, but a fine specimen is worth around forty to fifty dollars, and the old collector had been very careful to obtain specimens in the finest condition.

The division of dollars continued until the whole series was ex-

hausted, very few rarities were left, and one dollar was worth about as much as the other.

Then the half dollars were brought out, and to the eldest son, as luck would have it, fell the third choice. The heir who had secured first choice, highly elated, promptly took the first of the series, which was struck in 1794, and, if in perfect condition, might be worth \$10. The second took the one dated 1795, worth about the same in like condition, while the eldest gladly took the one dated 1796, a kind Providence seeming to be with him in conjunction with his expert knowledge, for the half dollar of this date is one of the very rarest, and has sold for \$225. The next choice took the 1797, and stumbled into a little good fortune, for this coin in perfect condition, is valued at \$125.

The eldest son then ignored the long array of intervening dates and skipped to the 1838 half dollar with the mint letter "O" when next his turn came. This is valued at \$75, only four of them having been struck, and after he had made this selection seemed to take very little interest in picking out the rest of the fifty-cent pieces, as well he might, for none of the others was worth a great deal more than its face value.

When the quarters came to be split up the eldest son lost his languid air and began to take notice once more. The one who had the first choice took the quarter dated 1796, the year of the first issue, which has to be in very fine condition to be worth \$10. The second took the one dated 1804, no quarters having been struck during the intervening years, and this coin in perfect shape also is worth in the neighborhood of \$20.

Then the eldest son jumped all the dates in between and picked out the quarter of 1823, much to the surprise of the rest of the heirs, who seemed to think he was foolishly throwing away his chances. But the eldest knew his business. The twenty-five-cent piece he selected was worth not less than \$100, while those dated 1815, 1818, and so on, were worth but a few cents above the value at which they were originally issued.

The 1827 quarter was taken by the oldest when his choice once more came. This is valued at something like \$140. It is a restrike, having been struck on top of a quarter dated 1823, while the 1823 quarter was struck over a quarter dated 1822. After he had made these selections the elder brother quite unconcernedly watched his brother, who had stamped coin collecting as a profitless "bug" fix his choice on a quarter of 1825, worth just about 40 cents.

Again the oldest son lapsed into a state of disinterestedness as the division of the quarters went on to its completion. Then came the dimes and half dimes, the eldest scooping in the few rarities of these denominations, leaving the chaff to his brothers and sisters. The choicest of the dimes was the one of 1800 of a certain variety, which being in very fine condition, was worth about \$35. Of the half dimes he took the only real rarity of the denomination—that dated 1802. Of these coins only sixteen are in existence, and, previous to 1876, but four were known to collectors. It is said that the resumption of specie payments in 1879 brought out many old hoards and among these several more of the rare half dimes were found. A very fine specimen of the date has brought \$290.

When the division of the cents came he took the 1799 specimen, easily worth \$200 in its almost mint state of preservation, immediately after his sister, who having first choice, selected the first of the series, dated 1793, which, lucky for her, happened to be one of the rare varieties, and worth about \$75. On his second choice the eldest took the 1804 cent, and thus secured the second rarest of the cent issues after the 1799. This coin was worth at least \$100.

So the selections went on, and, despite the ignorance of the four heirs, so fine was the collection of copper cents, that they chose several worth from \$10 to \$40 without knowing it, such as the 1801, 1808 and 1809, which were as bright as if they had just come from the mint.

When the last denomination came to be divided—the half cents—the eldest son when his time came took the one dated 1796, which has brought a hundred dollars in fine condition. The others took the earlier dates, which began with 1793, and worth from \$1 to \$5. One after the other the heirs picked out each succeeding date of the half cents until it came the turn of the eldest. He jumped to 1836, which coin is valued at \$50 or more. Then he took the one dated 1840, 1841, and so on up to the half cent with the small date of 1849. It is not known how many coins of the denomination were issued during this period, but they are quite scarce, and range in value from \$40 to \$85. The rest of the heirs were still looking for the oldest coins, and were selecting those dated in the twenties and thirties, worth just about five cents each, and some held at no premium.

One of the brothers, suspecting that the eldest brother must have some inside knowledge as to the period from which he was selecting, jumped the lower dates in time to take one dated 1850, but fortune did not favor him, as this date was a most common one, and the coin

is held at no premium worth mentioning.

The choice again came to the eldest, and he took the one dated 1852. Proofs only were struck in this year, each one of which is worth at least \$30. Then he declared that the other heirs could have the rest, as he had all the coins he wanted. This had certainly been a good day for him, and well was he repaid for the interest he had taken in his father's collecting pursuit, for, with the knowledge thus gained, he had simply skimmed the cream of the collection just exactly as his father no doubt thought he would do when he defined the method by which the coins should be divided.

Eleventh Public Auction Sale

This will in all probability be the finest Sale that I have yet held. The offering of rare United States silver, advertised for my last sale, I was unable to secure until too late for that sale but this choice lot, as well as a fine collection of U. S. Cents, Half Cents, Private Gold, and Foreign Coins and paper money, of all classes, will be offered in my Eleventh Sale, which will be held on May 23d next. I need only to mention a few of the rarities which include U. S. Dollars of 1836, both varieties, one with "Gobrecht" in the field; 1839, '51, '52 and '58; Half Dollars of 1796 and 1797; a very fine dime dated 1804; a fine, olive, cent of 1804; Some very rare Bechtles private gold including the excessively rare \$2.50 piece; a U. S. \$3 gold of 1854, Dahlonga Mint, an 1876 \$3 gold, etc.

Another very large sale will be held at my store on May 21st and 22d, which with my own sale the day after, May 23d, will make it worth while for collectors living at a distance to personally attend these two sales which will be the largest and most important that have been held in this city in many years.

Misprinted Bank Notes

Errors that Get Past the Treasury Inspectors.

Imperfect or misprinted bank notes sometimes, though rarely, slip past the eyes of the inspectors in the United States Bureau of Engraving. It is said that a fifty dollar national bank note was the most remarkable misprint that ever escaped the Government employees and found its way into circulation.

It was discovered in a peculiar way. A clerk in a Chicago hotel in making up his accounts one day found a discrepancy he couldn't explain. He placed the pile of bills on his left hand side, and as he counted each one turned the note over and deposited it on a pile at his right.

He found that when he counted from left to right his cash exactly balanced, but when he counted it back again a shortage of \$50 was shown. After spending two hours in a vain endeavor to find out what was the matter, he called on the manager for assistance.

The manager had no better success. Backward and forward he counted the bills, but always with the same result—one time the cash balanced and the next the shortage was developed. Finally each bill was examined separately, both obverse and reverse.

And then the mystified men discovered the cause of their trouble. One of the bills had the design of \$50 on the obverse and that of \$100 on the reverse.

The clerk had received the bill as \$100.

The United States Treasury was communicated with, and it was admitted that such a bill was out and that the department had record of it. It was discovered in 1890 that one sheet of banknotes of the denomination of \$50 and \$100, printed for the *Ætna National Bank of Kansas City, Mo.*, had been reversed in the press. One plate bore the obverse of a fifty dollar bill at the top and the obverse of a hundred dollar bill at the bottom. The other plate bore the reverse of the two notes.

After each sheet was printed it was laid aside to dry before being run through for the obverse printing. In some way the pressman turned one sheet upside down, with the result that two misprinted bills came forth—one with a fifty dollar obverse and hundred dollar reverse, the other with a hundred dollar obverse and a fifty dollar reverse.

The cashier of the bank was the first to become aware of the error. He found that something was wrong after he had paid out the note with the fifty dollar face and the hundred dollar back by coming across the one with the hundred dollar face and the fifty dollar back. The note held by the cashier was returned to the Treasury and destroyed, a perfect note being issued in its place. The error note is now in the possession of a collector of paper money, who values it at several thousand dollars.

In the '60s an error of a similar nature occurred in which a bank-note was printed with the ten dollar obverse and a twenty dollar reverse. While this bill is not as great a rarity as the other, still its owner would not part with it for a sum much less than that at which the fifty-one hundred dollar bill is valued.

The reason why it is less valuable than the other in the eyes of the collectors is the belief that more bills like it were issued, and probably some of them are still in existence. Of the former denomination the owner is absolutely certain that his specimen is unique, its companion error having been destroyed, but there is no known record of the redemption of the error with the ten dollar face. It is reasonably certain that at least four of them got into circulation.

Errors were found in the design of the 1880 silver certificates. These were rather the fault of the engraver than the printer.

On the 1880 notes is found a Treasury seal entirely different from any other ever used by the Government. The key, which is one of the most important symbols of the seal, shows a handle at the left hand side instead of to the right, as on all others.

The shield is of different shape and the stars are larger. The two ends of the band surrounding the symbols are fastened with a buckle, which in no other instance plays a part in the design of a Treasury seal. This is the only issue of notes on which the peculiar seal was used, and collectors of paper money include them among the errors or freaks.

The one, two and five dollar silver certificates and the ten dollar legal tender bills of the present issue occur with what are known as inverted backs. As a matter of fact this is a wrong description, as they are really inverted fronts, for the backs of all bills are printed first. These bills are sought by collectors, who pay a premium for them when in fine condition.

Another curiosity is a one dollar note of the Second National Bank of Ravenna, Ohio. This lacks the signatures of both the presi-

dent and the cashier, although it was circulated and never challenged.

A one dollar national banknote of the First National Bank of Fall River, Mass., also lacks both signatures, which seems not to have interfered with its being offered and accepted as money. Still another one dollar note of the First National Bank of Indianapolis, Ind., lacks the signature of the president only.

Slight as are these errors or omissions they give additional value to such bills in the eyes of collectors of paper money, who are glad to pay a premium for them.

It is not known how many of the bills of the present issue are in circulation with inverted design, but it is not thought that there are many.

A legal tender note of 1869 shows an oddity. On the face of the note is a portrait of Webster, while to the right is a representation of Rolfe presenting Pocahontas to Queen Elizabeth. † At the bottom of the centre is a small eagle. Upon inverting the bill the eagle presents a very faithful resemblance to the head of a donkey.

Whether this was intended by the engraver as a joke is not known, but the resemblance is so close that it indicates premeditation on his part.—New York Sun.

Mint Collection Gets New \$20 Patterns

The two new \$20 gold pieces which were recently designed by Mr. Augustus St. Gaudens, at the request of President Roosevelt, have been purchased for the Government collection at Philadelphia, and have been deposited in its cabinet. From this, we infer that the design of Mr. St. Gaudens was not accepted.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

Mr. Henry C. Ezekiel of Cincinnati has been elected a Trustee of The Ohio Numismatic Society, which has its headquarters at Columbus. It is anticipated that the officials of the new Carnegie Library will give the Society the use of a small room in the building as soon as completed, for its meetings and its cabinets of paper money, medals, coins, tokens, etc., relating to Ohio. An appeal will soon be issued through the daily papers and other publications throughout the State, to the people of Ohio and others, soliciting contributions to the collection of all kinds of Ohio currency used during and prior to the Civil War (1861-1865), such as aboriginal medium of exchange used by the Indians; early paper money issued by the corporation of Cincinnati and other cities and towns; private corporation and trading companies; state banks; private banks, "Wild Cat" money and shinplasters; "Card" money; paper money of firms and individuals; necessity money of the Rebellion, such as encased postage stamps issued by Cincinnati business houses in 1862 and 1863, and the War Tokens or "Copperheads" which passed for one cent, issued in 1862, 1863 and 1864 by thousands of Corporations, firms and individuals, Cincinnati alone contributing over eight hundred varieties, keeping the coining presses of John Stanton, James Murdock, W. W. Spencer and other die sinkers and engravers busy day and night turning out millions of these gentle reminders of "the late unpleasantness."

Mr. Ezekiel will contribute to the Ohio State Collection a number of duplicates from his cabinets, and will be pleased to give other ladies and gentlemen all necessary information respecting the requirements of the Society. To those who cannot afford to give specimens, arrangements will be made to purchase same.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, March 22nd.

The regular monthly meeting of the society was held this evening, Judge L. W. Sicotte in the chair. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The minutes of Council meeting of 15th of February were read. Judge Sicotte gave an interim report of the Excursion Committee indicating that they had decided to hold the excursion at Fort Ticonderoga about the 18th of May. The Curator reported donations as per Donation Book was 2770 to 2780. Dr. Arthur Mignault having contributed \$100 to the fund of the society, was elected a life governor. Three new members were elected.

A letter was read from the assistant attorney general of the Province of Quebec intimating that an item of \$400 had been placed in the estimates in favor of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal for the year 1907-08.

Mr. R. W. McLachlan read a paper on the origin and history of Mount Royal, this traced the history of our mountain from its birth as a volcano down through geological ages and historic times to the opening of Mount Royal park. After friendly discussion and interesting exhibits the meeting adjourned.

* * *

Chateau de Ramezay, Montreal, April 19, 1907.

The regular monthly meeting was held this evening, Judge L. W. Sicotte presiding in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The minutes of Council meeting of April 12th were read. The President reports on behalf of the Excursion Committee that arrangements had been made to hold the excursion at Ticonderoga on May the 18th and would be joined at Plattsburg by a deputation of the Historical Society of that town. The curator reported donations

as per Donation Book Nos. 2781 to 2787. Mr. Chas. E. Belayer exhibited an Indian Chief Medal of George III believed to have been presented to an Indian Chief in the Chateau de Ramezay by General Frederick Haldimand in 1787. A paper was read by Mr. W. D. Lighthall on French Canadian literature which was most fascinating and elicited a good deal of friendly discussion. The names of thirteen gentlemen were named and proposed to become life governors. As a whole the meeting was most interesting.

Stamp Notes

Written for the MONTHLY.

A set of stamps was issued by Netherlands about the first of the year known as charity stamps. They are of the denominations of one cent in rose, three cents in green and five cents in blue and about the size of our Columbian issue. They were not valid for postage but are bought and attached with the regular postage stamps by persons disposed to make such donations toward charity.

* * *

It has been decided to add a five cent value to the new set for the Jamestown Exposition and the three values will doubtless be seen before this is in print. Just why the five cent value is added is not at all clear. It has been stated that it is to be used on foreign mail, but a few years ago at the Berne Postal Congress it was decided that no commemorative issues should be allowed in the international mails. This ruling has never been annulled to my knowledge but some countries have been very lax in obeying it and it has apparently become a dead letter.

* * *

Notice has just been sent out by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. that the American Journal of Philately was discontinued December last on account of not receiving support enough from advanced collectors. This will be a great disappointment to the many who have perused its columns for years. It seems strange that the catalogue makers should withdraw this medium of keeping collectors interested and we should judge that it would pay as an advertising medium for

the publishers even if not in subscriptions. It is much to be regretted that almost the last large scientific stamp monthly has withdrawn from the arena.

* * *

A retouched die of the current two cent U. S. envelopes has appeared that is worthy of being catalogued as something more than a minor variety. This is the one numbered 96 by Louis G. Barrett. In all other dies the top white tooth in the toothed border at the left upper side has come wholly below the large numeral 2 but this die has an additional tooth added at the top which comes above the base of the 2.

* * *

In spite of the discontinuance of the many philatelic magazines, no lack of interest in stamps is anywhere noticeable. Proof of this is evident in the large number of dealers engaged solely in the sale of stamps. Also in the maintenance of high prices. For instance, the recent sale of a Dahlonga dollar of which it is said there are only four in existence was made at a price of \$280. A stamp of which only four copies were known to exist, it is safe to say would bring not less than four times that amount. There are several times as many copies of the two-cent Hawaiian first issue stamp in existence yet one was sold at \$3000. So we must look somewhere else than to a decline of interest in stamps for the reason of the disappearance of the stamp monthly. Perhaps the chief reason is that all the youth's magazines of general literature have their stamp departments, and also magazines devoted to other hobbies include stamps. But I still believe there is a splendid field for a first class stamp monthly selling for fifty cents to one dollar per year and run on the lines of the old Philatelic Journal of America or the Philatelic Era.

* * *

Another country has closed its philatelic career in our albums. Labuan no longer issues stamps of its own but those of the Straits Settlement are used there.

* * *

A marked increase in interest and prices in the U. S. five and ten-cent stamps of 1847 (first issue) has been lately noticed.

Charles E. Jenney.

ESTABLISHED 1860

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The collecting of old China is one of the most fascinating hobbies known, the pieces showing as they do, views of early buildings and scenery pertaining to the early settlement of our country. I have on hand at present the following dark blue Staffordshire, all genuine old pieces and guaranteed;

10 inch flat plate, Balt. & Ohio R. R., Proof.....	\$ 28 00
10 1/4 " " " Pine Orchard House, Catskill, proof.....	18 00
10 " " " Union Line (Steamboat), proof.....	21 00
10 " " " LaGrange Res'd Lafayette, proof.....	15 00
7 3/4 " " " Dr. Syntax Turned Nurse, perfect.....	28 00
9 " " " " " Stargazing, perfect.....	28 00
9 " " " " " Reading Tour, Chip, fine.....	18 00
6 1/2 " " " St. Paul's Chapel, N. Y., one of the rarest plates known, fine color and print, bargain.....	120 00
10 inch flat plate, City Hall N. Y., proof.....	14 00
10 " " " MacDonough's Victory, perfect, beauty.....	21 00
8 3/4 " " Cup plate Battery, N. Y., proof, rare.....	15 00
2 quart pitcher, (Franklin Tomb) dark blue with copper lustre bands, very rare, perfect put slight glaze wear.....	18 00
Large Creamer, MacDonough's Victory, perfect.....	10 00
1 1/2 quart pitcher, Erie Canal Views, handle restored.....	16 00
Long Creamer, Boston State House, Handle broken.....	5 00

Correspondence solicited in regards to the above. If unknown to me, pieces can be sent by express "C. O. D." with "Privilege of Inspection." "Rare Pieces Bought."

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DANIEL R. KENNEDY, Auctioneer

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1813. Half Dollar. Unc.....	.85
1892 and '93. Columbian half dollars. Proofs. Very rare. Each.....	1.00
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The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

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Editorials

June-July Elder Monthly

Numerous auction sales and other important business, have kept the poor editor on the jump, and as he hopes to take a short vacation during July—the first he has had in several years—this magazine will not be issued during August; but as our readers, with this issue, are treated to what may be called a double number, we pray that there may be no wailing or gnashing of teeth.

Where is Geoffrey?

To the Editor of The Monthly:

Sir:—Have any of your readers seen or heard of “Geoffrey ‘Charlatan’, member R. N. S., etc., etc., etc.?” he who formerly held a “suite” in the famous “Scrapiron.”

Many long months ago I sent Geoffrey \$1 for a priced catalogue, and not having to this day received the said catalogue, nor any replies to my letters, I have bidden a sad adieu to the catalogue, to Geoffrey and to my dollar. “Geoffrey ‘Charlatan’!” Such names should fill us with awe, and it is a very sacrilege that they be heard outside the pages of Scott’s novels. One can hardly associate them with a purveyor of wind or a gas well.

A Reader.

June 10th, 1907.

The Rajah was Pleased

Manzil, Baroda, India,
20th April, 1907.

Dear Sir:—

I beg to acknowledge receipt in good order of the U. S. coins and currency and Confederacy bills covered by your letter of March 9th. I have submitted them to His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar, and His Highness was pleased with the collection.

Very truly yours,

B. C. Whitenack,

To Economic Adviser to Baroda Government.
Thomas L. Elder, Esq., 32 East 23rd St., New York City.

Illness of Mr. Levick

Elsewhere in this issue we print a letter from our old friend, that thoroughly seasoned and veteran collector, that gallant Civil War Officer of the famous Seventh New York Regiment, J. N. T. Levick, who for some months has been confined by sickness to his home. Mr. Levick is the “genuine article” in the way of a collector, not the “dyed in the wool” kind, but something more—the “vegetable dye.” His friends all hope for his speedy recovery.

Prices Realized at the 11th Elder Sale

HELD MAY 23d, 1907

- 1794 Cent. Hays 56. Very fine, with dents. \$3.50.
 1797 Cent. Very fine. \$5.00.
 1804 Cent. Fair. \$5.00.
 1839 Cent, over '36. Very good. \$2.70.
 1856 Cent. Flying Eagle. Fine. \$10.50.
 1794 Cent. Hays 35. Good. \$1.10.
 1864 Half Dime. S. Mint. Fine. \$2.00.
 Rome. Galba, first bronze. Very fine. \$7.00.
 1876 \$3 gold. Very fine. \$56.00.
 1798 \$1. Small eagle. V. good. \$4.00.
 1836 \$1. Gobrecht on base. \$15.00.
 1836 \$1. Gobrecht in field. \$100.00.
 1839 \$1. Very fine \$51.00.
 1851 \$1. Proof. \$62.50.
 1852 \$1. Proof. \$62.50.
 1858 \$1. Proof. \$35.00.
 1794. Half Dollar. V. Good. \$4.90.
 1796 Half Dollar. V. Good. \$92.00.
 1797 Half Dollar. V. Good. \$60.00.
 1801 Half Dollar. V. Good. \$3.20.
 1802 Half Dollar. V. Good. \$4.00.
 1815 Half Dollar. V. Good. \$4.25.
 1804 Dime. Very fine. \$36.00.
 1793 Cent. Chain. Crosby 3-D. V. Good. \$6.00.
 1793 Cent. Wreath. Crosby 11-J. V. Fine. Dark. \$5.50.
 1793 Liberty cap cent. Fair. \$2.80.
 1793 Cent. Wreath. Crosby 7 F. Abt. fine. \$4.00.
 1794 Cent. Hays 33. Fine. \$2.90.
 1796 Cent. "Liberty." V. Fair. \$1.50.
 1799 Cent. V. Good for piece. \$27.00.
 1776. Continental Pewter Dollar. V. fine. \$8.25.
 1804 Cent. Fine. \$25.50.
 1805 Cent. Pointed 1. Very fine. \$13.10.
 1813 Cent. Very fine. \$7.50.
 1826 Cent. Uncirculated. \$6.00.
 1841 Cent. Proof. \$12.50.
 1856 Cent. Flying Eagle. Proof. \$8.50.

- 1793 Half Cent. Fine. \$3.90.
 \$5 C. Bechtler "Georgia" gold. Very fine and a rare variety.
 \$106.
 \$2.50 C. Bechtler, Rutherford. Very fine. \$170.00. (A price
 more than double any former record at auction).
 \$1 C. Bechtler, "30 G" Abt. unc. \$10.25.
 1854 \$3. D. Mint. Fine. \$20.00.
 1854 \$1. D. Mint. Abt. fine. \$7.75.
 1864 \$1 Gold. Very fine. \$20.00.
 1842. Russian Platinum 3 Roubles. Fine. \$10.00.

Rare Book on Pennsylvania Sold

London, May 30.—The copy of Gabriel Thomas's "History of Pennsylvania and of West New Jersey," published in 1698, which was found among a lot of waste paper bought by a second hand book dealer in Westminster, was sold by the Hodgsons at auction to-day for \$495.—N. Y. Sun.

Numismatic

The half dollar is one of the most plentiful of all the series of United States coins, having been issued regularly each year with only four exception since the coinage of the denomination began, in 1794. The very rare half dollars are those dated 1796 and 1797.—Daily Paper.

The fifty-cent piece of ninety-six
 In the eighteenth century,
 They say is rare as the parlor tricks
 Of the Florida manatee.

But the fifty-cents of ninety-eight,
 Of the century lately o'er,
 Or the silver plunk of any date,
 Or the dime of nineteen four.

The quarter of eighteen sixty-nine—
 Whatever the coin you name,
 I find, when it comes right down to mine,
 It is always just the same.

In fact, in spite of prospering skies
 In this matter of scarcity,
 I note to my deeply pained surprise,
 All coins look alike to me.

—Wilberforce Jenkins.

The Coin Collector

BY W. CAREW HAZLITT

COLLECTORS AND COLLECTIONS.

The formation of Collections of Coins originated, not in the Numismatist, but in the Hoarder. Individuals, from an early stage in the history of coined money, laid pieces aside, as (nearer to our day) Samuel Pepys did, because they were striking or novel, or secreted them in the ground, like Pepys, because they were thought to be insecure. The former habit may be considered the germ of the coin-cabinet, as we know it; the latter accounts for those Finds which in modern times have enriched and advanced numismatic science to so prodigious and unlooked-for an extent; and in some cases the result of casual excavation seems to point to a habit, in primitive times, among certain classes, of holding large sums in specie, which the prospect of danger led the owner to bury, as we appear to see in the Chaunton find of 1866.

The French term *medaille*, as commonly applied either to a medal or coin, is a key to the inducement, in the first instance, to treat this class of monuments as objects of study. During a prolonged period, when coins had fairly begun to attract attention beyond their commercial and current aspects, it was their historical and biographical interest which awakened and stimulated curiosity. It was as records of public occurrences and as portraits of celebrated men and women that, first of all, the Greeks, then the Romans, and finally the modern Europeans, sought and cherished them; and collections of medals proper and monetary medallions remained accordingly the principal even when they had ceased to be the exclusive aim of connoisseurs. In Great Britain the two systems have been usually kept apart; but in the continental coinages, down to a quite recent period, the ancient theory and feeling have survived.

There is no probability that the practice of accumulating extensive and scientifically ordered assemblages of coins was one favoured by our remote predecessors beyond the necessity, prior to the institution of banks, for storing specie in private houses; yet this very need may have led to the study of types by inquiring eyes, while in the interval between an archaic law of exchange or of calculation by weight, a considerable proportion of the personality had its appointed place of custody on the premises of merchants and others. Traders and travellers were just the two elements in early human societies which were most apt, from the exceptional facilities offered to them,

to look more or less critically at currencies; and to institute comparisons between one and another, if they were not sometimes instrumental in suggesting to those in authority changes and improvements.

The first distinct intimation, however, of a cabinet of medallie character, that is to say, of medals and coins selected on account of their illustrative and artistic value, is associated with a relatively modern epoch and with an English prince. Books, manuscripts, paintings, statuary, ceramics, bronzes, even gems, had found admirers long before Prince Henry, eldest son of James I., directed his attention to numismatics in conjunction with his pursuits as a book-lover. At his death in 1612 his medals and coins were valued at something like £3000; it must have been a large and an important body of examples, if we take into account the difference in the monetary standard. The most remarkable point seems to be, that the taste developed itself thus strongly and abruptly in the Stuarts, a Scottish house influenced by French culture, if not by Spanish significance and fondness for display.

The great Pembroke collection, of which we fortunately possess a catalogue, belongs to the two succeeding centuries, and was probably formed during the reigns of Charles II., James II., William III., Anne, and George I., by Thomas Herbert, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery (1685-1733), an enthusiastic antiquary; it is especially noticeable, inasmuch as it for the first time recognized the English and Scottish series side by side with the Greek and Roman; they constitute Part IV. of the posthumous Catalogue, 1746. The whole has been dispersed; and the prices realized by the fourth portion were very high, as it comprised numerous rarities acquired by the original noble owner, not for that reason, but for a far better one—their archæological interest.

It was doubtless the precedent set by such persons as Lord Pembroke, who has had occasional successors, such as Lord Ashburnham, Lord Hastings, and Lord Grantley, which encouraged the pursuit on the part of others, with whom it might become an object of ambition to emulate the titled aristocracy and qualify themselves to occupy a footing based on *confrerie*; and the cause of knowledge and the interests of science naturally profited by a generous competition, in which at last all classes found themselves joining. In the course of the eighteenth century, and still more, owing to political developments, of that of which we are personal witnesses, scarcely a vocation exists which has not, or has not formerly had, its representatives on the now long roll of coin-collectors. Every profession and industry have con-

tributed their quota: the Church, the Law, the Army, the Navy, Medicine, the Stock Exchange, Commerce; and the taste, though more usually personal, is occasionally hereditary.

The older race of collectors, even in the century just behind us, leaned on the whole more toward the medal than the coin, and at any rate displayed an almost exclusive partiality for the Greek and Roman series, just as the bibliophile of the same period cultivated the Greek and Roman writers at the expense of the early English and continental literature. A survey of the catalogues of the average coin collectors of a few generations since will show how prevalent was this bias, and in how slight esteem the monetary productions and antiquities of England and Scotland were formerly held in comparison with those belonging to classical times. The Earl of Pembroke seems to have almost taken the lead in admitting the ancient money of his own country to a share of attention and space, and his descendant, who sold his numismatic treasures, profited by the favorable change which had meanwhile occurred in the market value; and we must not forget that Hunter, the famous surgeon, also established an early sympathy with the modern and English side, as we see from his noble bequest to Glasgow, of which the ancient Greek section is in course of publication. It was from the end of the first quarter of last century, when Mr. Sotheby sold the cabinet of Sir Mark Sykes, that the more modern lines of collecting may be said to have commenced. Marmaduke Trattle's extensive and splendid assemblage of English coins, however, was the earliest, perhaps, of firstclass importance sold by the same firm, while in a pecuniary respect it proved, from the sum realised, one of the most remunerative and encouraging. This happened in the thirties; and the sixty or seventy years which separate us from that notable event have been witnesses to an instructive succession of similar episodes in the numismatic world, indicating the inevitable fluctuations in tastes and prices, but with a steady tendency on the whole, to the acceptance of Condition as a postulate and an influence, and the surrender of inferior specimens to the student on the one hand or the crucible on the other.

A complete list of all the coin sales which have taken place during the past fifty years in Great Britain and on the continent would fill a larger volume than the present, and would scarcely exclude any rank or vocation in life within a liberal sphere. But, limiting ourselves to the more remarkable incidents of this class, we have to cite the Addington, Ashburnham, Bieber, Bryce, Christmas, Cuff, Cunningham, Drummond, Duncombe, Durrant, Dymcok, Forster, Marsham,

Yorke Moore, Murchison, Rostron, Shepherd, and Thomas cabinets; and for Scotland, those of Coats, Lindsay, Martin, and Wingate, of which the first is still intact in the hands of a son. Of all these, the Thomas sale, the fruit of half a century's devotion to the pursuit, was the most comprehensive, embracing coins and medals of all countries and periods; while that of Mr. Coats may claim to be most complete in the Scottish series. Among the minor gatherings may be grouped the numerous instances where casual acquisitions by a family during generations in the course of travels abroad have insensibly grown into a hoard, and have included, as was the case (1890) with the Beaufort coins, a few pieces of considerable value.

When we pass from collectors, whose possessions have changed hands, and sometimes have found permanent homes in public institutions, our thoughts and eyes naturally turn to such as are yet in the midst of us: Sir John Evans, Canon Grunwell, Dr. Harmann Weber, Lord Grantley, Mr. Richardson, and others; to whom it is hardly improper to add the names of the late Hyman Montagu and the late Mr. Murdoch, owners of the largest, richest, and most varied assemblages of numismatic monuments since the historical Thomas sale. Of the magnitude and splendour of the Montagu cabinet some idea may be formed when we mention that it contained 1300 Roman *aurei*, and in the medallic department 150 pieces wanting in Great Russell Street, besides an Anglo-Saxon series of extraordinary extent. The Murdoch sale was more recent, and occupied about 40 days.

As regards the Sources of Supply, an intending collector (although at first collectors are often unconscious of being such) has to rely in the main on the auction and the dealer. It very greatly depends on the line chosen, with what firms one should have relations; but all the leading European centers have their numismatic *emporia*, and even in minor towns desirable coins are frequently offered for sale. Just at the commencement any one may provide himself very well in New York; later on, according to the extent of his plan, he may find it possible and convenient to correspond with London, Paris, Madrid, Berlin, Vienna, Dresden, Liepsic, Frankfurt-on-Main, Munich, Amsterdam, and other headquarters of experts and specialists. The sooner, in case he proposes to work on more or less ambitious lines, he acquires knowledge and judgment, the less likely it will be that he will grow dissatisfied with his hobby and out of humor with those who have contributed to indulge it.

A new aspirant to numismatic honours cannot do better when he has passed the "penny-box" stage, unless he leaps at one bound into the saddle, having started at a maturer period of life, and with experi-

ence gained from others—he cannot do better than study attentively the best authorities. These are—(1) numismatic books of the latest date, whether monographs or general treatises; (2) sale catalogues, with the prices. Personal experience has satisfied the writer that commercially, as well as numismatically, a thorough acquaintance with the best catalogues is of the utmost value; and, besides those of the collections already named, the hunter for continental coins must bring himself into touch with the principal works of reference ready to his hand, as it were, in the shape of descriptive accounts of those magnificent cabinets which have been formed and dispersed in various parts of Europe. We may particularise the names of the Prince de Ligny, Meyer, Montenuovo, Reimann, Robert, Rossi, Boyne, Gnechi, as affording through their respective catalogues the most precious insight into the material which exists, and the probable and best means of accomplishing a new numismatic project.

Monographs have, of course, their clear use; but for general purposes they are apt to be too minute and elaborate, and they are calculated, perhaps, for the literary inquirer rather than for the amateur. At the same time, every one ought to be aware that of recent years a very large and important body of works has accumulated, dealing with the monetary annals of the smaller foreign States, on a scale which would be impossible on any other principle; and, on the other hand, those who desire to become conversant with the development and processes of coinage at different epochs and in different countries will find it necessary to resort to such books as Ruding's "Annals," of which there are analogues in every European literature and language. A General notion of the subject is to be derived from the introduction to Mr. Robertson's "Handbook to the Coinage of Scotland," 1878. But the Coats Catalogue is the most complete work of reference.

Finds of coins do not usually prove of signal service to ordinary purchasers, as they are too often composed of specimens of the same piece indefinitely repeated, and as a rule occur under conditions which place them beyond the reach of the public, or at least of private individuals. As additions to our knowledge of types and mints, if not of actual products, these periodical events have constantly augmented our numismatic stores and information, verifying entries in ancient records, filling up gaps in series, supplying hitherto unreadable legends, and helping us in many other ways. The circumstances under which *trouvailles* have taken place are literally endless. A small hoard of English and foreign gold coins was discovered in 1895 at Westminster,

encased in a sheet of lead. The unique half George Noble of Henry VIII., in the Montagu collection was bought by Mr. Curt in Paris for a moderate sum, sold to the Rev. Mr. Shepherd for £90, and at his sale in 1885 realised £255. We must resist the temptation to dwell on this part of the topic.

To return for a moment to the questions of condition and difference of taste, it is not to be denied that some of the most precious fruits of numismatics have been gathered and applied by persons who, like the late Mr. Babington, almost ostentatiously disregarded the state of the pieces under examination; and again, there is no doubt that real and cultivated interest in the pursuit has been first awakened by the accidental or desultory acquisition in early life of a handful of old coins selected from the familiar penny-box. The disadvantage which a practical and exact student incurs by the employment of defective examples lies in the inability to decipher the whole of the type; and this becomes tantalising when the object of attention is a supposed inedited variety.

An entertaining paper might doubtless be written on the eccentricities of the less experienced in the present branch of inquiry or recreation. Many numismatists, who lived to outgrow the crude conceptions of their novitiate, might, had they been of an autobiographical turn of mind, have let us into some curious secrets, some affecting only themselves, others where third parties were concerned. Few collectors, it is probable, have escaped without making mistakes, and without falling into the toils of the wily expert, while they graduate; and it goes without saying that the majority, as they seldom prosecute the undertaking to the end, seldom also attain sufficient discernment and mastery to enable them to achieve a satisfactory result. Instances are on record where simple gentlemen have, Procrustes like, clipped their coins to fit the piercings in their cabinets; where an entire collection of Roman brass was submitted to treatment with brick-dust; and where, once more, an owner, solicitous of patinated specimens, has improved upon the too leisurely processes of nature by enlisting the services of art. and superimposing a nice coat of green paint, or dipping the pieces in oil to lend them a lustre! These are ineptitudes; and so far as the more respectable numismatic houses are concerned, the clients whom they prefer are such as understand what they want and seek, and are prepared to pay for the proper article a reasonable price.

VALUE OF COINS.

The estimation of ancient coins of different countries and periods depends on such a variety of considerations and circumstances that it is almost impossible and useless to attempt to form, for the instruction of the younger school of collectors, a scale or standard for judging either the merits or commercial worth of any class of currency. The interest with which this pursuit inspires those engaged in it is singularly diversified. Some are governed by topographical, some by chronographical, and others by internal lines and limits; and the prevailing motive has, of course, a tendency to render others of secondary weight and influence. One man collects the coins of a particular country or epoch, and does not study their preservation; another looks exclusively to the state of his acquisitions, and disregards the places of origin, treating each item on its own individual merits as a curiosity or work of art. The choice of metals is a further contribution to the wide diversity of taste and fashion in these matters; there are collectors of gold only, of silver only, and of copper only. Then there are such as will buy a small coin and will not entertain the notion of a larger one, and *vice versa*. It must be evident that the co-existence of so many numismatic faiths or tenets unavoidably operates on the market, and sways it in different directions from time to time. A call for a given series, type, country, on the part of a small knot of amateurs suffices to inflate for the moment the quotations. These vicissitudes and fluctuations are incessant; and to them have to be added the surprises and perils which equally beset the buyer and seller in the shape of periodical finds of rare coins, with the result that the balance is at once disturbed, and prior investments depreciated for a longer or shorter period, according to the circumstances. The serious and sometimes puzzling fluctuations in the prices of coins are susceptible of the general explanation that the market is governed for the time being by a very small body of collectors, often buyers on the same lines. We see that it is now the Greek series, now the Roman, now the English, which is in the ascendant. An influential amateur is in the field for one or the other, and he gains followers; and the set makes a new tariff, which lasts till they are tired of their amusement, or have no further *desiderata*. In many of these cases prices current are adapted to the circumstances; there is an artificial inflation; the climax is reached at last, and the bubble bursts. The loss is to the last holders at high quotations. The foregoing criticism applies only to hobby-riders, not to the man who has a genuine feeling for the

pursuit, and acquires coins, not because they are dear or cheap, but because he likes them. The Carfrae and Ashburnham sales have recently reawakened the interest in Greek coins, and the Richardson cabinet of English ones went a little tamely; this was partly because several collectors of such things are dead or have withdrawn, and partly because the sale was merely a portion of the property, and that of a living person. The vast and varied numismatic treasures of the continent of Europe are still, in the main, a *terra incognita* to English and American collectors. Some say they may have their turn, and they will be found almost incapable of exhaustion.

The formation of priced lists of coins in Numismatic Manuals is, on the grounds above stated, shown therefore to be at best of very slight utility, and more often a source of error and trouble. It may gratify a possessor to read in a book or in a newspaper that some specimen which he acquired for a very moderate sum has realised a much larger one; but the price is a feature which is well known to rely on—(1) the condition; (2) the type; (3) the prior owner. Which of these factors is the most influential, it might be presumptuous to attempt to decide. Even condition is a relative term. The auctioneer tells you that a piece is "fine for the coin"; and this is apt to be most true when a coin has been stuck on impure material by an unskilful moneyer, or when, in so many of the colonial coins of all countries, siege-pieces, or currency of troubled and insecure reigns, the flan is too small for the die. At any rate, condition has of late commanded more general respect in England, France, and the United States; and when one reflects that a private cabinet can be little more than a selection of specimens, it would appear to be very possible to reject examples which are undesirable on this account, if the object is simply to bring together a representative assemblage of productions agreeable to the eye and the taste.

Taking the type as a leading inducement, there are all the gradations from an absolutely different die to infinitesimal *minutiae* of detail in one or another respect, constituting a variety. The prior ownership or *provenance* is a third agency, which impairs the trustworthiness of prices, and necessitates caution in forming estimates from coins surrounded by a sort of atmospheric *nimbus* of the value of normal specimens. It is, to some extent, with coins as it is with books.

The safest branch of early numismatics of every part of the world to cultivate in a practical sense as a collector is probably the copper and billon money; for, as the preservation becomes more generally a question in the choice of coins, it will be more and more apparent

that productions in these two metals are the most difficult to procure in fine state, and if they occur in *trouvailles*, are almost always irremediably damaged by corrosion. On the contrary, through the extension of railway enterprise and other causes, early money in the more precious metals may be expected to arise as the fruit of excavations, as it has already done in Afghanistan, Asia Minor, Greece, Turkey, Italy, France, England, and other parts of Europe and Asia, revolutionising prices as well as knowledge. The British Museum Annual Reports of acquisitions during the twelvemonth will give a good idea of the temerity of presuming either finality of information or uniqueness of examples.

Altogether, in the absence of a special line of study, where the outlay by right should not be excessive, the soundest counsel to tender to a new enterer on the numismatic field seems to be to obey two cardinal principles: (1) to buy the best quality; (2) to refrain from over-buying. The real art in these cases (it is equally so in other departments) is to hold one's hand; it is always easy enough to acquire to satiety; and it is not a whit more difficult to realise at a heavy sacrifice. The completion of a scheme of this kind usually extends over years; it is wise not to be in a hurry; profit by accidental opportunities and intervals of depression; and rejoice if, in the long-run, the harvest is not too ample. If the hammer can scatter in not more than three days the work of a lifetime, it is well; and if the standard is high and uniform, and the owner has shed an ardour on his property, there is no reason for fear. It is the man who buys too much and not too well for whom his friends ought to offer up their prayers. It is highly necessary that the English or English-speaking collector of foreign coins should protect himself against two classes of danger:—the want of conversance of English dealers, on the one hand, with the market value of a large proportion of the items belonging to the series, from the infrequency of their occurrence among us; and, on the other, the not unknown habit of the continental houses of marking their property for an English or American meridian. But personal experience and judgment are the best safeguards in respect alike to this branch of the pursuit and to others, as the Greek, Roman and British, where examples, especially those of higher value, rest on their individual merits, and dearness or the reverse are merely relative terms. Another very essential point to be held in view is, that it is a real disadvantage to a private cabinet to be too complete, as in sales abundance cloy; and it is always better to wait opportunities of securing *desiderata* at reasonable prices than to jump at the first offer.

The permanent and exclusive loyalty, not to a class or country, which may be very well, but to a more or less obscure series, is very apt to prove dangerous, inasmuch as there is the inherent accumulation of a body of virtual duplicates even where scarcely two articles are absolutely the same.

In the foregoing remarks there has been a *prima facie* presumption that the dedication of an appreciable amount of property to this purpose has not taken place without some ulterior regard to reimbursement, since, even where one does not engage in a pursuit with an eye to profit, one may very possibly and very reasonably do so with the expectation that a fair proportion, if not the whole of the outlay will return. This can only be the experience when judgment and taste are combined.

With coins it is as with books and every other species of similar property. The quotation of auction prices can by no means be affirmed to be without its degree of utility; but it is a class of information which, in the hands of a tyro (they are not invariably young), is exceedingly apt to be fallacious and misleading. A dealer asks over £12 for a tetradrachm of Perseus of Macedon; you judge it to be dear; he shows you another, which will cost you a guinea. It is the same coin—with a difference. In the same manner M. Fontaine, the great Paris bookseller, lays down side by side two copies of an edition of a certain old book; one is to be bought for 100 francs, the other for 5000. Then, at a sale, the biddings are regulated not merely by the items themselves, but by the atmosphere; not by the state of business in the city, but by the presence in the market of two, or say three, buyers whose cabinets lack certain rarities, or perhaps by a competition between a private individual and the British Museum; or it may happen (who knows?) that the commissions for the highest figures have crossed over from the Continent; that MM. Rollin and Feuardent of Paris, M. Serrure, or some other continental firm, have instructions to secure this or that against all comers. That is the sort of agency which is behind prices and the fluctuations in prices; and for the bulk of a collection under the hammer there is no question that the character of the owner is a most potential influence. It is almost less what you have to sell than who you are that are selling; and it is immense odds in your favour if you are a dead hero. Fortune smiles upon the posthumous. The auctioneer and the company, if they are not unanimous on any other point, agree in loving a departed celebrity; for if there were one or two tiresome traits in his generally faultless character, these are things of the past; he can play no more tricks.

Although the question of prices may be a moot one, and the uncertainty attending the product of any given coin under the hammer is, from an infinite variety of causes, as great as it is inexplicable, it has been thought best, on the whole, to attempt to meet the case to a certain extent, and in a section which we call *The Coin Market*, we have essayed to reduce to an intelligible form some statistics bearing on this topic, with a few particulars, which may be of interest and use, of a cognate character.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Early Virginia Coins

BY E. H. ADAMS

Associated with Jamestown and Capt. John Smith are the first coins passed as money within the English possessions of North America. These pieces were issued by the Virginia Company for use on the Island of Bermuda, where a small colony had been established, and had been the subject of much speculation.

In 1600 Sir Thomas Gates, appointed Governor of the Colony, of Virginia, while on his way to America was shipwrecked in the Bermudas. Sir George Somers was one of the party. It is said the shipwrecked party subsisted for nine months on the wrecked stores of the ship, wild fruit, and the flesh of black hogs, with which the island was overrun. Two small vessels were afterward constructed, and the Governor and his company finally reached Virginia in 1610. Some sixty colonists of the Virginia Company in 1612 settled in the Bermudas upon what they named Smith's Island, and in 1616 Capt. John Smith appointed Daniel Tucker Governor of Bermuda. According to Smith's history, these colonists at the time had "beside meat, drink and clothes, a certain kind of brasse money, with a hogge on one side in memory of the abundance of hogges found at their first landing."

This "hogge" money, which is very rare, was of several denominations, some of which were unknown until recent years. As the denominations were those of shillings, sixpences and threepences, and all were struck in copper, it was inferred that they were intended as pattern pieces, and it is these that Smith designated as "brasse."

The shilling shows a fat boar, with open mouth, on the obverse, directly above, being the Roman numerals "XII.", enclosed by a beaded circle. Around the central device is the inscription "Sommer

Islands," presumably intended for Somers, it being believed that the Bermudas, formerly known as Sommers Islands, were named after Sir George Somers, who died at a place formerly called George Town, but now probably St. George. The reverse has the crude outline of a full rigged ship, with a flag flying from each of the four masts. This device also is enclosed by a beaded circle. The weight of the "shilling" is 177 grains. A very fine specimen of this design brought \$90 some years ago.

The "sixpence," which is substantially the same in design as the shilling, shows the numerals "VI." above the boar, while the inscription omits the letter "s" from islands, as "Sommers Ilands." The first known specimen of this denomination was dug up in a Bermuda garden some time in the '50s, and a fine copy has sold for \$40.

A specimen of the threepence was found a few years ago, which rounds out the series of these odd pieces of money. The design of this last coin was like that borne by the others, but there was no inscription around the central device, and directly above the boar were the numerals "III." This coin is exceedingly rare, and the only known specimen brought \$40 at the Parmelee sale seventeen years ago.

What was thought to be a Somers Island pattern piece of twenty shillings, or sovereign, was found in a European collection in 1883. This piece bore the same general design on both sides as the other Bermuda coins, but above the boar were the numerals "XX." Certain numismatists, judging by this coin, thought that a gold coinage was contemplated for the islands by the Virginia Company, although no mention of the piece has ever been discovered in the record of the company.

The coin undoubtedly belongs to the same series, and came from the hands of the same die maker who engraved the design for the sixpence, as in the legend the same mistake is made in the spelling of the word islands, it being "Sommers Ilands."

The Virginia Company in its instructions to the first Governor, Richard Moore, according to the Bermuda records, advised him that those employed upon their plantation should receive reasonable wages, not to exceed twenty pence for workmen and twelve pence for a laborer each day, "for which purpose by the next supplie there shall be a coyne sent unto you with all convenient opportunitie, together with the rates and value thereof."

From this record it would appear that the "twenty shilling" pattern piece, so-called, is just as likely to have been a pattern piece for the twenty pence piece above mentioned, a coin equalling the

daily wage of a workman. Further, it would seem that these "hog money" coins were not pattern pieces at all, but really tokens of the Virginia Company, to be redeemed by the latter at their face value.

The view that the Somers Island pieces are simply tokens is largely borne out by certain instructions of the Virginia Company to Gov. Daniel Tucker, taken also from the Bermuda records, which says: "We have appointed a base coyue, wch we send rated with our p. visions, whereby you may give to such men their weekely wages when they worke, wth such coyue yt shalbe lawful and free for them to buy any p. visions out of the store, or any ffishe, corne, tooles, or any such things in the Islands where they can gett the same."

The Somers Islands coins undoubtedly had a general circulation, as many coins of the description are now known of trifling varieties, showing that quite a number of dies were made, and from time to time additional specimens are dug up in Bermuda.

Early in the seventeenth century need was felt in Virginia for something more convenient than tobacco, which at the time constituted the sole medium of exchange, and in 1645 the Virginia Grand Assembly at James City passed an act for the issue of ninepenny, sixpenny, threepenny, and twopenny pieces, providing for the purchase with tobacco of 10,000 pounds of copper from which to strike such coins. Provision for the design was also made to the effect that "uppon every peece of coyne there be two rings. The one for the motto. The other to receive a new impression which shall be stamp yearly with some new ffigure." It is not certain that this act was ever carried into execution, as no such coins have ever been seen or mentioned.

Coins distinctively bearing the name of Virginia are known as shillings, pennies and half pennies. These denominations, however, exist only in the imaginations of certain numismatists, as neither of the varieties bears a specified denomination, and the differences in design are very slight. The "half penny" shows a bust on the obverse, surrounded by the inscription "Georgius III. Rex." On the reverse is a shield surmounted by a crown, which divides the date, "1773." To the right of the shield are the letters "Virgi" while on the left are "nia." It is said that the colony of Virginia during Cromwell's domination declared itself independent, and when threatened with invasion by the Lord Protector invited Charles II., then in Flanders, to come to this country and be King of Virginia. He accepted, and was about to embark for his new kingdom when called to the British throne.

Charles showed his gratitude to Virginia for her loyalty by allowing her arms to be quartered with those of England as an independent member of the empire, from which came the title of the "Old Dominion." One of the Indian medals, or badges, which Indians were compelled to wear upon entering the limits of the white settlement bore on the obverse the inscription "Charles II., King of England, Scotland, France, Ireland and Virginia."

The half penny bearing this shield varied in weight between 110 and 123 grains, and was struck in great numbers. Many of them are still to be found in mint condition, and can be bought for a dollar.

There was another variety, quite similar to this half penny, which has the title of "penny" on account of its greater weight, which is 131 grains. The pennies are much less common than the half pennies, and an uncirculated specimen is worth in the neighborhood of \$15.

In 1774 a new type of Virginia half penny was struck, which showed a different bust of the King on the obverse. The inscription around the head was "Georgius III. Dei Gratia." The reverse was similar to the half penny of 1773, with the exception of the date. There are at least twenty varieties of the half penny, none of which is rare.

The rarest of all the coins attributed to or associated with Virginia is the "shilling," of which but three specimens are known. The design of this coin is just like that of the half penny of 1773, but is made of silver. One of the three specimens known brought \$101 at the Parmelee sale in 1890.

The Gloucester token ends the list of coins or tokens struck for Virginia during the Colonial period. This latter is supposed to have been a pattern for a shilling to be issued by Richard Dawson of Gloucester county, or Court House, Virginia. On the obverse is a large mullet, around which is the inscription "Richard Dawson Anno Dom 1714." On the reverse is a house and the indistinct inscription "Gloucester Co. House, Virginia." The weight is 62 grains, and it is made of brass. Only two of these curious pieces are known, one of which brought \$26 some years ago.—*New York Sun*.

Rare Kinds of Paper Money

BY E. H. ADAMS

Some half dozen men in this country make a specialty of collecting the different varieties of United States paper money. Chief among them are H. R. Drowne and G. H. Blake of New York, who jointly produced the paper on the history of paper money in the United States recently read by Mr. Drowne at a meeting of the American Numismatic and Archæological Society. Mr. Blake exhibited at the same time the bills referred to in the paper.

Among the United States issues of paper money first came the demand notes, which gave rise to the name of greenbacks. Congress on July 17, 1861, authorized an issue of paper money of the denominations of five, ten and twenty dollars, of which \$60,030,000 went at once into circulation.

These notes were made payable in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis, the idea being to distribute the redemption as much as possible and not to embarrass any one particular place. The subsequent issues were all made payable in New York alone.

Demand notes were issued for a period of less than eight months, for by act of Congress of February 25, 1862, a new issue, the first of the legal tender notes, was authorized in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Fifty million dollars of the new notes were used to take up the demand notes, and they soon disappeared from circulation.

The records now show that only a little more than \$50,000 of these notes remain to be redeemed, and it is believed that not more than \$1,000 worth are still in existence. The other notes, it is supposed, are either destroyed or lost.

The designs of the greenbacks were elaborate. The five dollar bill shows the portrait of Alexander Hamilton at the right, while on the left is a female figure representing America, after Crawford's statue now on the dome of the Capitol. The reverse shows the figure "5" within a circle at either end, with large letters spelling "Five" in the centre. The rest of the surface of the bill is covered with little "5s."

The ten dollar bill has Lincoln's portrait to the left, with a female representation of art to the right. The reverse shows a long band running through the centre of the bill on which is "United

States of America." Back of this, in size almost two-thirds of the width of the bill, is a large "X," at either side being the numerals "10" in figures of equal size. All the rest of the bill is in green and covered with minute "Xs," while at either end is a semicircle made up of the word "Ten," which runs from one corner to the other.

The twenty dollar bill shows in the centre of the obverse the figure of Liberty, with sword and shield, the Capitol being in the background. At either side of the figure of Liberty are large numerals, "2" and "0," in green. The back is all green, and on the surface are sprinkled tiny "20s." In the centre, within a circle, is "United States of America," with a large "20" within.

The demand notes were printed by the American Bank Note Company, and each bill was signed in pen and ink by two persons.

All the denominations of these notes are now extremely scarce, particularly the ten and twenty dollar notes. They are all held at a premium by paper money collectors, especially when in fine condition. There were at least fifteen varieties, counting the bills made payable in the different cities, and some of these bills rank in rarity with the rarest of the postage stamps.

The first issue of legal tender notes is scarce, but not so rare as some more recent issues. These notes had the same obverse as the demand notes, but bore a different reverse. One variety showed that the bill could be convertible into United States 6 per cent. twenty year bonds, while the other variety was receivable in payment of all dues, public and private, except customs and interest on the public debt.

The second issue of legal tender notes was authorized by the act of July 11, 1862, and consisted of two denominations, one and two dollars, the first United States bills of small denominations. The one dollar note bore the portrait of Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, while the two dollar note had that of Hamilton.

This series indicated that the issue of three dollar bills was contemplated. In the centre of the obverse of the one dollar note is a circle of lathe work in green. Within this, with the figures ranged one above the other, are "1," "2" and "3." On the one dollar note is shown the "1" on a white background, the other two figures backed by green.

The two dollar bill has the figure "2" on a white background, while the other figures are in green.

But the three dollar bill never made its appearance. A bill of this denomination was engraved and proofs taken, but the Treasury Department was advised that such a denomination was not needed.

These bills are not so scarce as other issues, as at the time of their first appearance they were regarded as curiosities, and many persons laid specimens away, and they exist in perfectly crisp condition.

The third issue of legal tenders in 1863 included denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000, while the fourth of 1869 embraced the same denominations with the addition of the one, two and \$10,000 bills. Of this series the one dollar bill is regarded as the handsomest printed up to that time. It had in the centre of the obverse the same portrait of Washington that is now used on the twenty dollar gold certificate. The two dollar bill showed a fine representation of the Capitol.

Only one legal tender bill of the denomination of \$10,000 is now in existence, and that specimen is in the Treasury Department at Washington.

All of the fourth issue of notes of 1869 are rare. Of these bills and the subsequent one and two dollar issues those which are scarcest are the 1869 reissues, signed by Allison and New; 1875, Allison and Wyman; 1880, Rosecrans and Huston; 1880, Rosecrans and Nebeker; 1880, Scofield and Gilfillan; 1886, the silver notes bearing the portrait of Martha Washington.

The scarcity of such bills is indicated by the fact that men who handle millions of dollars in paper money every year and who are on the lookout for desirable specimens of these rarities rarely come cross one of them.

Other bills scarce when in fine condition are those bearing the portraits of Hancock and Windom, and the coin notes of 1890, which allow the Secretary of the Treasury in his discretion to redeem the notes in gold or silver and which show the portraits of Stanton and McPherson.

Collectors are glad to get notes of low numbers, and place great store by these. In one of the big collections are shown several notes Nos. 1 and 2, and quite a number under fifty.—*New York Sun*.



Ancient Egypt

Written for THE MONTHLY.

BY HENRY PROCTOR. M. R. A. S., F. R. S. L.

From the present standpoint it appears possible to trace back the History of Egypt to the Neolithic Age. The most primitive people of Egypt dwelt in huts made of wattles and mud, wearing the skins of animals and living by hunting and fishing. The fish were pursued in flat-bottomed reed boats and caught with hooks and harpoons made of bone and flint. Gazelles and other wild creatures of the desert were shot with flint-tipped arrows, and cut up with flint knives, which latter were also used for mummifying until the time of the Twelfth Dynasty. It is interesting to note that these knives of flint or chert, called "Ethiopian stone," were used by the Egyptians in common with many of their Semitic neighbours in many religious ceremonies, including the rite of circumcision long after the introduction of metal. Hence the reason of their use for this purpose by Joshua (chap. v., 2). The chief arts of the Predynastic Egyptians were flint-knapping, which attained there a perfection elsewhere unknown, and the manufacture of extremely elegant pottery without the aid of the wheel. The Neolithic Egyptians, who were akin to the Libyans or Berbers, buried their dead, lying on the side, with the knees bent up to the chin, as we may see from the specimen now in the British Museum, which is the oldest human body in the world. The bodies were not mummified in the style common to later days, but dried in the sun and wrapped in reed mats, or gazelle skins, remains of many of which have been found in the graves, together with flint implements for the chase, vases filled with food, which prove that these early Egyptians, even in Neolithic times, believed that the deceased would enjoy a future life similar to that which he had led on earth. The Neolithic Egyptian had however no knowledge of the art of writing, but this was brought to them by immigrant tribes from Asia, who were of Semitic Race, like the people of Ancient Babylonia. These were called "Mesniu," or Metal-workers, and their chiefs were known as *Shemsu-Heru*, or followers of Horus. Their advent was followed by a rapid political development. The newcomers formed many principalities which eventually became united into the two kingdoms of Northern or Southern, or Upper and Lower Egypt. The first king, however, of a united Egypt was called Mena or Menes, who founded the city of

Memphis, or Men-nefer—"the Fair Abode." From this came the Hebrew "Noph," the Assyrian "Mimpi," and the Memphis of the Greeks and Romans. The chief characteristic of the age which followed this unification was the rapid development of Egyptian civilization, which in a period of 300 years passed from a state of barbarism to that of a highly-civilized.

At the end of the First Dynasty, founded by Menes, a Second Dynasty was founded by Besh (Betchau), or Kha-sekhem, which means "manifestation of power," who was called Boethus by Manetho. The most important King of the "Third" Dynasty was Tcheser, for whom two tombs were built, viz., the step-pyramid at Sakkara and a large brick mastaba found in the desert, about nine miles from the modern town of Girgeh. The founder of the Fourth Dynasty was Seneferu, who conquered the Peninsula of Sinai, where lay the valuable mines of copper and turquoise. His son, Khufu, is said to have been the builder of the Great Pyramid (B. C. 3733-3700). The second pyramid was the work of King Kha-f-Ra, and the third was built by his son Men-kau-Ra (B. C. 3633-3600).

The Fifth Dynasty appears to have been an energetic race, but falling short of the preceding dynasties in the magnificence of its monuments. Its last King Unas, and two of the first kings, Teta and Pepi, of the Sixth Dynasty were the builders of famous pyramid tombs. Pepi also brought Nubia into subjection, and regained possession of the mines of Sinai, which his predecessor had lost. (Now follows a period of great interest to the Biblical student, not for its history, but for the want of it. From the Seventh to the Eleventh Dynasties there is a complete cessation of history, and scarcely any monuments mark this period. Mariette says: "When Egypt awoke from its long sleep with the Eleventh Dynasties, the ancient traditions were forgotten. The proper names of the kings and ancient nobility, the style of the hieroglyphic writing, and even the religion, all seemed new. The monuments are rude, primitive and sometimes even barbarous, and to see them one would be inclined to think that Egypt under the Eleventh Dynasty was beginning again the period of infancy which it had already passed through 1,500 years earlier under the Third Dynasty"). There is only one hypothesis which could adequately explain this mystery. Some great catastrophe must have put a sudden end to the Sixth Dynasty and swept away all the people, and Egypt must have been re-peopled by immigrants at a much lower stage of civilization. Now, according to the British Museum authorities, the Sixth Dynasty came to an end about 3130-3100 B. C., almost exactly coinciding with the

date of the Noachian Deluge, as given by Hales and Josephus (3155 B. C.). So here we have a remarkable confirmation of Biblical History. For it was after the deluge that Egypt was repeopled by Mitsraim the son of Ham, who gave his name to the whole country. The Arabs still call Egypt "Mesr," and the name was formerly applied to Memphis, and is now to Cairo by the Egyptian natives. We may note also in the Abrahamic history that no mention is ever made of the need of an interpreter in any of the countries visited by him, which agrees with the Biblical statement that these countries were now inhabited by the descendants of Noah. The whole narrative tends to show that all the countries where Abraham sojourned were sparsely populated and in a low state of civilization. For in regard to Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboim and Zoar, each city had its own king, showing clearly that they had not become consolidated into one state, and the same must be true of the four kings against whom they fought, if Abraham was able to defeat them with only 318 trained servants. So small indeed were the so-called kingdoms, that Abraham was regarded as a "mighty prince," and his alliance and friendship most earnestly desired by Abimelech, King of Gerar (Gen. xxi., 22-32). So it would appear that the old civilization and learning had been swept away by some wide-spread catastrophe, and the earth's inhabitants were beginning life "de novo," and thus for 600 years, until the Twelfth Dynasty, Egypt did not regain possession of her lost civilization. At this time great temples and monuments rose or were restored at Thebes, Helipolos, Memphis, Tanis and Abydos. But the most famous work of this period was the construction of Lake Moeris (Eg. "Mau-ua," or Great Water), to receive the surplus waters of the Nile and to control its inundations. It was completed in the reign of Amenemhat III. B. C. 2300-2266.



Letter Box

The Editor will print letters of interest to our readers, but declines to assume any responsibility for the views expressed in this column.

May 9th, 1907.

To the Editor of THE MONTHLY:—

I do not know what kind of a moral E. H. Adams tried to draw in his article in the last copy of "Elder's Monthly," entitled, "Division of a Coin Collection."

In the first place that father who left his collection to be drawn for piece by piece was an old fool anyhow, and that oldest son, who from his knowledge of the cost and value of the coins stole them all from his brothers and sisters, should have done 10 years in Sing Sing, for defrauding his own flesh and blood.

Numismatics is a study just as much as Latin or Greek, and those of us who have not had the advantage of these studies cannot be expected to pass a civil service examination with credit. I am glad that the collecting of coins is not a great craze, for then we who go into it for the real pleasure and pastime of it, would only be little toads in a big puddle, and the 1856 Flying Eagles, the 1804 dollar, and the 1802 half dimes would not go round.

Yours very sincerely,
Isaac H. Carey.

Passaic, N. J., 6-10-'07.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
32 East 23d St., New York.

Dear Sir:—I notice you give some interesting and valuable information in your monthly. Being a member of the Linnaean Society of N. Y., the Committee of New York Academy of Science and the Commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Birth of Linne has lately completed a tentative programme of exercises and exhibits—news of which the New York Evening Post gives in a recent issue. If it interests you I take pleasure to mention that at the regular meeting of the Linnaean Society the 13th of February "last year," I had the pleasure of presenting the society two exceedingly handsome silver medals of artistic and unique design, struck in memory of the famous naturalist and botanist, the Swede, Carl von Linne. The former one as a token of esteem by Count Carl Gustaf Tessin. The reverse of

which represents Linne's likeness. The obverse emblems of the old Swedish "Three Crowns," adorned with laurels and oak-leaf wreaths, above which the word "Illustrat" emblazoned appeared.

The latter one, struck by command of King Gustaf III, at the death of Linne the 10th January, 1778, two and one half inches in diameter, an excellent reproduction of Numismatic art—the reverse of which represents the Botanist with *Linnea Borealis*.' in his button-hole—encircled "by the inscription Carolus Linnaeus, Arch. Reg. Egv. Auratus—the obverse the Goddess Flora "surrounded by Zoological and Botanical" emblems, etc., etc. All encircled by the inscription "Deam, Luctus, Angit, Amissi," and the base "Post Obitum Upsalie, 10 January, 1778. Rege Julenté."

As it may interest the public at large to know these medals are in this country. You can use this information if you care.

Yours truly,

J. de Lagerberg.

New York, June 20, '07.

Dear Editor :

Your friend, poor Levick (i. e., on account of his good health and youth) has been ordered by his physician to divorce himself from all hobbies of every nature.

Some day there will be a grand housecleaning and the junk man and the scavenger will have a cinch shoveling all my gatherings for the last 50 years.

There's no man in my neighborhood can boast of such a collection as my tin foils, wrappers, graphics, beers (unbottled), cigarettes (smokeless) and tax paid.

Then I must have a hogshead of entire embossed envelopes, saved for forty years past; theatre play bills, programmes, photographs, car and ferry tickets, 30 to 40 years old; 200,000 or more postmarks with stamps attached; engravings, philatelic literature, Numismatic Library, coins and stamps; catalogues—let alone match and medicine and other revenues; U. S. Postage, plate numbers. Then there are books, books, books, from one end of the house to the other. I want the numismatic, philatelic and curio world to know that I have to throw up the sponge and be counted out.

Yours truly,

J. N. T. Levick.



The American Numismatic Society

A meeting of this society was held at the Hispanic Society Building on May 21, last, at 8.30 P. M., with President Huntington in the chair. Reports of the various committees were read, and Curator William Poillon reported new donations by Mr. Parrish, and others. Rev. Nease addressed the meeting on the subject of the Seleucid and Indian coinages, and described the Ommeyade glass tokens of the Cufic period.

The Numismatic Society's new building is nearing completion. The next meeting will be held early in the Fall.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY MEDALS.

Presented by the Geographical Society to the American Numismatic Society. These medals are almost unique.

CHARLES P. DALY AWARD MEDALS FOR GEOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH.

All are bronze, and size 40. The obverse bears a bust of Daly by Brenner.

To—Thorald Thoroddsen. Nov. 15, MCMVI.
Robert E. Peary USN. Dec. 11, MCMII.

CULLUM GEOGRAPHICAL AWARD MEDALS.

Obverse bears a figure in a boat.

To H.R.H. Luigi Amedeo, Polar Explorer. MDCCCXCVII.
Robert Bell, Explorer. MDCCCLVII.
Sven Hedin, Explorer. MDCCCXCIII.
Robert E. Peary, Expedition of MDCCCXCII.
Thomas C. Mendenhall, Geodetic Survey, MCCCXXCIV.
Sir John Murray, Naturalist, MDCCCXIX.
Fridjof Nansen, Polar Explorer. MDCCCXCVI.
Robert Scott, R. N., Polar Explorer, MCMIV.
A. Donaldson, South African Explorer. MCM.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 40th regular meeting of the above named society was held in their rooms, 1123 Masonic Temple, the following members being present: Verkler Carey, Dunham, Brand, Jaeger, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Blumenschein, Merrill, Chester Dunham, Holmes, S. H. Chapman, Baker and Green.

The resignations of C. C. Herr and W. E. Pearse were received and accepted. The President appointed Carey, Holmes and Simpson as a committee on membership. Christ Sorensen was elected an active member.

A paper on "The Relation of Coin and Stamp Collecting," was read by Chester Dunham, and one entitled "Why Collect Coins?" by Green. An original anonymous poem was also read.

Under Exhibitions, S. H. Chapman of Philadelphia, a corresponding member, showed some interesting Continental currency consisting of the one-sixth, one-third, one-half and two-thirds dollar dated 1776; and two varieties of the original pewter Continental dollars of the same date, pointing out the similarity of workmanship. Mr. Leon showed some Territorial gold from \$10 to \$50 denominations; several Greek tetradrachms and some United States greenbacks. Mr. Brand exhibited some remarkably well preserved Roman first brass including one of Gordianus Africanus II; a sharp triple thaler of Brunswick; silver ten francs of Geneva; a proof double thaler of Waldeck; a gold ten ducats of Wallenstein; and a ten ducat piece in gold of Ferdinand of Aragon.

Magazines received since last meeting were the Numismatist, Numismatischer Verkehr and Spink's Numismatic Circular for April. Auction catalogs were received from Elder and Low

During an intermission an inspection of the new rooms of the Society, which are now being equipped for its use, was made.

Adjourned to meet June 7th.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



The Ohio State Numismatic Society.

Columbus, Ohio. June 15, 1907.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder, New York.

Dear Mr. Elder:

Judging from letters recently printed in the "Numismatist," and from personal communications, there seems to be a desire for another Convention of The American Numismatic Association. It has now been three (3) years since the last one at the St. Louis Exposition. It was my privilege to be in attendance upon that Convention, and leaving out the pleasant acquaintances and friendships formed there I would pronounce it a complete failure.

This I would attribute to the fact that it was held in connection with, and on the Exposition grounds. The attendance was small, and there was no opportunity to plant the Numismatic germ in the minds of those who might be interested. It is my judgment that the Convention should stand on its own merits, with a program of sufficient interest to well repay those who might attend. A public auction of coins could be arranged. Also a display to interest the non collecting public. These points were fully demonstrated at the first Convention of The Ohio State Numismatic Society. The Convention should be held in a city easy of access from all points.

Now Columbus, Ohio, is peculiarly situated in this regard, being reached by all the trunk lines of the country.

Ohio is to have a grand homecoming September 2nd to 6th., to which reduced railroad rates will be granted, and this would be an opportunity to obtain cheap rates. Ohio has the only State Society in the Union.

Columbus is the headquarters of the Ohio State Numismatic Society, and also has an active local branch of The American Numismatic Association.

Columbus has many other advantages too numerous to enumerate here.

Now all this leads to the enclosed official invitation, to hold the next Convention of The American Numismatic Association in Columbus, Ohio.

Fraternally yours,

J. M. Henderson.

A copy of the above, and the enclosed invitation has been sent to President Frey, Secretary Wood, and the "Numismatist."

* * *

May 27, 1907, Columbus, Ohio.

To The American Numismatic Association.

Greeting:—

Believing the time is at hand in which to hold another Convention of The American Numismatic Association, and that said Convention should be held in a centrally located city, and one easy of access from all points, and to which reduced railroad rates can be secured. The Ohio State Numismatic Society, and The Columbus Numismatic Society hereby extend a cordial joint invitation to the members of The American Numismatic Association to hold the next Convention of the Society in the City of Columbus, Ohio.

Expressing the sincere wish that this invitation will be accepted, we are,

Yours Fraternaly,

J. M. Henderson, Secretary.

H. E. Buck, President O. S. N. S.

R. T. King, President C. N. S.

Stamp Notes

Written for the MONTHLY.

The Jamestown Exposition set of stamps have appeared and are of satisfactory design and well executed. The two-cent value shows splendid engraving work, the many figures being all distinctly detailed. They are to be on sale only during the continuation of the exposition and are used concurrently with the regular set, being given out only as asked for. This is the sixth special or commemorative set of stamps issued by the United States and the smallest in its number of denominations.

The Solomon Islands are a new stamp-issuing country, a set for these islands having appeared, displaying for a central design a native war canoe filled with warriors and with palms and other foliage at the sides. These islands are a British Protectorate.

A society has been organized in Boston for the collectors of U. S. and foreign envelopes, entire or cut square. Some of the best known collectors along this line are at the head of it and the enthusiasm which for a long time has had Boston for its chief centre will doubtless be widely diffused over the country.

On March 14 bids were opened by the Postmaster-General for the furnishing of stamped envelopes and wrappers for four years from July 1907. The Mercantile Corporation of New York was the lowest bidder and was awarded the contract. The present manufacturer, the Hartford Manufacturing Co., was the only other bidder. It is more than likely, therefore, that a new design of envelope will be forthcoming, and an end of the present series which has been one of great interest to collectors but perhaps the most unsatisfactory issue, from the government point of view and also from the public view, that has ever been put out by our Department. The new issue of the Philippine Islands are being seen now and have caused a considerable rise in the prices of the retired surcharged issue. The new Canal Zones are also becoming common.

Netherlands issued on March 23rd of this year a set of three stamps, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent blue, 1 cent maroon and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent red, in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Admiral de Ruyter, who as the old song says swept the Thames like a broom. The design is a portrait of de Ruyter and an attempt to depict a naval battle. The stamps, in accordance with the regulation of the Postal Union, are for internal use only and were discontinued in May.

Central America keeps actively in the philatelic arena in these days. Guatemala and Mexico are fighting and the former will doubtless require the aid of stamp-collectors to pay off the war debt. Nicaragua keeps sending up surcharges as if one set of stamps were not enough for a country of its size. First there was the Bluefields surcharge, then the Zelaya and now it is Atlantica Costa.

The current set of China is gradually changing the colors of the different denominations, several values having already appeared in the new tints.

Charles E. Jenney.

Clippings

A BOOK SELLS FOR \$2900.

Among the rare books coveted by collectors is the first issue of the famous French explorer, Samuel Champlain's first narrative of his first voyage to America. Only four copies of this edition of the work are known to be in existence. One of them was sold at auction in New York recently for \$2,900. Its former owner was an American who bought it six months ago in Paris for 20 cents.—Pittsburg Dispatch, May 3, 1907.

THREE REAL DAUGHTERS.

More than 50,000 women in the United States trace their ancestry back to some brave officer or soldier or sailor who rendered valiant service for the Colonies in the time of the Revolution. Although it is 124 years since Washington disbanded the last of his army, there are a few real daughters of the Revolution still living—daughters of men who saw actual service. Of these three are on the pension list.

Mrs Sarah C. Hurlbutt of Little Marsh, Pa., now 89, is the daughter of Elijah Weeks, who served two and a half years in a Massachusetts regiment. Miss Rhoda Augusta Thompson of Woodbury, Conn., aged 86 is the daughter of Thaddeus Thompson, who served six years in a New York regiment. Mrs. Phoebe M. Palmeter of Tallette, New York, aged 86, is the daughter of Jonathan Wooley, who served two years in a New Hampshire regiment.

It has not been long since the last pensioned Revolutionary widow died. This was Esther S. Damon of Plymouth Union, Vt., who died last fall at the age of 92. She was the widow of Noah Damon, private in a troop of Massachusetts volunteers.—N. Y. Sun.

ARRESTED FOR SHAVING GOLD COINS.

Seattle, Wash.—Hundreds of five and ten-dollar gold pieces are being "shaved" by some unknown man in this city. So well is the work done that it has escaped detection by some of the most experienced bank cashiers. The criminal is evidently shaving the coins by placing them in a lathe and carefully trimming off the edges without, however, destroying the milling. Outside of making the edges of the coins a trifle thinner than the body the work of the criminals could escape detection by the most expert paying or receiving teller in the local banks.

Captain Bell, of the secret service division estimates that about fifty cents is being made from the \$5 gold pieces and \$1 from \$10 coins.—Union, Sacramento, Cal.

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My September sale will be by all means the finest that I have yet held. Let me enumerate only a few of the items to be offered: 1796 Half Cent, uncirculated, with traces of original red. 1811 Cent, uncirculated, reverse nearly bright red. A superb collection of Greek silver coins. A collection of Jackson tokens, probably equal to any in the country. One hundred rare British Canadian and other War Medals in Silver. A fine collection of Confederate Paper Money.

A catalogue with plates will be issued sometime during August. This will in all likelihood be a three days sale.

Send in your address early for a catalogue.

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DANIEL R. KENNEDY, Auctioneer

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The Elder Monthly

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

VOL. II NEW YORK AUG. SEPT. 1907 No. 6-7

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Editorials

The "Order of Independent Americans" and other trouble hunters, protest against the placing of Mary Cunningham's profile on our coins because the lady was born in Ireland. Saffron and sensational journals will doubtless make capital out of this but the protest is perfectly absurd. Even the bluest-blooded Americans have only to go back a few generations to trace their ancestors to English, Irish, French or German soil. Anyhow, we shall have to take Miss Cunningham if we are to have the designs of Mr. St. Gaudens. Speaking of American types for coins, the editor wonders if the exquisite head on the present Liberian silver coins might not be that of an American girl. It seems to be that of a type frequently seen here.

Those who read Mr. Elder's story entitled "Wonderful Mysterious Jewels," which appeared in our March number, will be interested in the Sun's account in this issue, and in the third chapter regarding "Fritz." He used to be a weekly visitor at the office of this magazine. Note that a large number of cut stones were found upon his dead body. The ruling passion was strong in death.

It is thought that Fritz had been dead for seven days when his body was found. His nephew and namesake, an officer in the United States army, called upon the editor and stated that there was still a large doubt whether Fritz had been murdered or had committed suicide. He stated also that the wonderful necklace, brooches diamonds, sapphires, etc., mentioned in the article and \$17,000 in cash in the Mechanics Bank, and \$18,000 in stock certificates had disappeared. No trace of these can now be found. Here is a case worthy of Sherlock Holmes.

James H. Manning, Esq., President of the Weed-Parsons Printing Company, of Albany, has recently presented the editor with a quaint old document, a "Certification blank," signed by B. Lincoln, collector of the Port of Boston, and by T. Melvill, who was the last survivor of the Boston Tea Party. This old bit of paper is over one hundred years old and refers to a hogshead containing 57 gallons of Bordeaux claret.

Mr. Manning has a wonderful collection of manuscripts, books and coins. As to the coins, Mr. Elder can certify that one of them cost Mr. Manning at least \$1,000.

The Sun—not the Columbus Sun, we hasten to add—continues to print good Numismatic stories. While the Ohio State Journal described the recent numismatic exhibit at Columbus as valued at \$200,000, the Sun of the same city came out on the same day with the glad news "that the exhibit was valued at \$10,000", adding that the exhibits were not valuable as coins, but were only imitations to show what the real thing was like.

A fast little horse named "Goldproof" has been winning plenty of money during the past summer at New York race tracks. We wonder whether its owner collects \$2½s, 5s, or 10s. How about it, brother Mitchelson?

Mr. Granberg, one of us, is to be congratulated on his recent successful gold and silver mining operations. At Columbus he showed us several thousand dollars' worth of yellow gold from his own mines, and said he "made \$165,000 by staying out of the Stickney coin sale." He belongs in the front rank of collectors and his holdings in coins and paper money are fairly staggering.

A set of medals of the musical composers probably will be next issued by Mr. Elder. Those to be included are Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Wagner. Portraits of these composers will adorn the obverses, while the reverses will give dates of birth and death, and the names of some of their most important works.

The American Art News of this city has sent us copies of its valuable publication showing that it is interested in Numismatics and has been printing notes of collectors and the auction sales.

Include among the honorable patrons of Numismatics, the Times, the Tribune and Post, of New York, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

At Columbus, H. O. Granberg received the largest vote cast for any of the board of governors.

Mr. Blake's Work in "Green-backs"

By special arrangement with George H. Blake, we shall, in our October issue, commence the publication of his splendid pamphlet on United States green-backs, the only work of its kind ever compiled. This article, from the pen of the greatest authority on green-backs in the United States, is of immense value to collectors, bankers and financiers, and not only will it make many new collectors of green-backs, but will, as did Mr. Henry R. Drowne's work on the United States fractional currency, help to enhance their value.

The XIII and XIV Sales

Mr. Elder's sale XIII, to be held on the evenings of October 14th and 15th, next, beginning at 7 o'clock, at the Elder Auction Rooms, 32 East Twenty-third Street, New York, gives promise of being the numismatic sensation of recent years, so far as New York is concerned. One may scratch his head and ponder over the fact that it was away back somewhere in the Parmelee days when a coin sale of 2,000 lots was held in Gotham. The usual custom of keeping each class of coins by itself will in this instance—and intentionally—be departed from, with the result that the pencils of both amateur and elect will be kept busy cutting the atmosphere.

Sale XIV will be somewhat of a departure from the regular order, owing to the large offering of valuable ancient Egyptian, Etruscan, Greek and Roman beads, pottery, glass, jewelry, weapons, etc., but a valuable and interesting lot of coins, medals and paper money will be included to interest the coin collectors.

Will Metropolitan Museum get the Kann Collection?

"A special cablegram from Berlin, dated September 17th, to the New York World, states that it had been the late Adolphe Kann's fear that his great collection, might be sold to English or American buyers. Talking to William Bode, director of the Berlin Museums, Herr Kann, three days before his death, sent for a notary to prevent its sale. Kaun, however, died before the notary saw him again, and strangely the notary also died without disclosing Kann's intentions. Director Bode regrets that the greater part of the best works of the Kann collection are lost to Europe." The above dispatch would tend to confirm the reports that the collection would become a part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The price paid by Duveen Bros. for the Kann collection was \$5,000,000.

Recently a woman passenger on a N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. train left on the seat of a coach a black tin box containing \$236,000 and afterwards offered a reward for it of \$10,000. The box would never have got out of her hands had she been a numismatist.

Business Methods of Baldwin

Those who contemplate sending bids for auction sales in London, England, or who wish to purchase coins there should take careful note of the Editor's experience with A. H. Baldwin, a dealer, of that city. Mr. Baldwin received from Mr. Elder previous to the recent Cartwright sale, enormous bids on three lots. These bids, which were sent both by letter and by cable, Mr. Baldwin duly acknowledged under date of June 11th, ten days prior to the sale. On the Ormsby and Kohler pieces especially high bids were made, as described in the Sun, and on the lot containing the Mormon \$2½ gold, Mr. Elder sent an almost unlimited bid, suggesting that the lot should be bought for \$100 but not binding Mr. Baldwin to this sum.

After the sale, no response or explanation from Baldwin. Finally on August 20th, two months after the sale, Mr. Baldwin saw fit to write as follows:

"Regarding the Lot 224 (containing the Mormon \$2½), from the Bruce Cartwright sale. I had a commission on this from a client for *Twenty pounds*, a man for whom I purchased a good many lots at this sale. I purchased this (the Mormon lot) for *Ten Pounds and Ten Shillings* (about \$50). Now I clean overlooked this commission of yours (\$100)."

The American collector to whom Mr. Baldwin sent this lot after the sale, received the lot for [redacted] about *10 Pounds*. Why did Baldwin (if he was telling Mr. Elder the truth) send the lot to a collector for the price at which it sold, about 10 pounds, when he had a "bid from a client for 20 pounds," and in addition, Mr. Elder's unlimited bid, the latter received before any other bids, as in his letter acknowledging Mr. Elder's bids he makes no mention of any other bids on this piece.

In view of the above facts, the following excerpts from subsequent letters of Baldwin are interesting:

"I have never in the course of my 35 years' business as a numismatist, stooped to trickery."

"You may take whatever action you like, but I would remind you that if you accuse me of either trickery or lying, I have a remedy on this side."

Let all fair minded English and American collectors decide as to the personal character, business methods and reliability of said Baldwin.

**Resolutions of the Coinage Committee of the American
Numismatic Society**

Future Improvement of the United States Coinage.

In view of the great advances that France, England and other foreign countries are making in the matter of artistic coinage, we beg to offer the following suggestions for your most careful consideration:

FIRST, That Congress be petitioned to authorize an entirely new coinage, which shall be artistic in design.

The entire coinage of the United States consists of 10 denominations.

In order that the designs for the new coins shall be truly artistic in character, the best artistic talent of the country must be enlisted; and to this end it is necessary that these artists should receive a just recompense for their designs. We recommend, therefore:

I. That the sum of, say, Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) be appropriated for each special coin model, without regard to the monetary value of the coin to be issued, whether a cent or a twenty-dollar gold piece, as it is as important to have the coins of the lowest denominations as artistic as the highest.

II. That the six best designs received for each piece shall be awarded \$1,000 each from the above sum of \$10,000, and that the Committee hereinafter proposed shall have the right to select the best of the six designs, and to accept the model with or without modification by the designer, paying the successful competitor an additional sum of \$4,000. The cost of the dies for each coin would, then, not exceed \$10,000.

III. Artists may submit designs for each denomination in each metal, but an artist receiving a first award in one of the metals will not be permitted to compete for the other denominations in the same metal.

IV. That the Committee to pass upon the models for the coins shall consist of the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Mint, one member each from the Senate and the House of Representatives, three numismatists, one sculptor and one painter.

The following further suggestions may also be presented, as of practical importance:

V. The coins need not necessarily be in very high relief. Some magnificent works of art have been executed in very low relief, as shown in the medallic art of the later centuries.

The coins should be of such sizes as to be commercially convenient, and should not be so irregular in surface as to afford opportunity for the accumulation of germs and the consequent risk of spreading disease.

VI. By no more direct means is it possible to awaken an artistic taste than by an artistic coin. The art educating value of such a coinage will be at once apparent. The poorest child in the most obscure hamlet or poorest tenement would thus have the opportunity of knowing and seeing the works of the best living masters.

VII. With regard to the expense involved, the National Gallery at London, the Louvre in Paris, and our own Metropolitan Museum of Art would not hesitate to spend \$100,000 for a single very important painting, on account of the educational and artistic value of such object. The price of a single painting of this kind would replace our entire metallic currency with a coinage that would probably be unequaled in both beauty and utility by any nation on the globe, and would do much to remove from the United States the insinuation that we are not an artistic people.

VIII. Without entailing any additional expense in minting our coins, if they were made of a metallic weight, diameter and thickness, a coinage so stamped would aid this country in attaining a greater commercial name and in educating the children in metric values, a knowledge which is absolutely necessary in the transaction of business in any other than an English speaking country.

The Improvement of the Coin Collection at the Philadelphia Mint

Second Resolution of the Numismatic Society.

A visit to the United States Mint has always been a matter of great interest to the hundred thousand of our people who visit Philadelphia annually. One feature of the Mint, however, has not been developed, save in a very small way, compared with that of the great mint of the French government. This feature is the numismatic collection, which is indeed fine, but far from what it might and should be. This has been due to the fact that only the trivial sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) is annually allowed for the entire purchase of coins and medals. If this collection were better known, and a fund provided for its enlargement, the result would be greatly to the credit of our country and our government. To this end, a few suggestions are presented, along the following lines.

1: If the Mint itself would issue annually a medal, upon one side of which there would appear the mint building, and upon the other side the most important historic event of the year, such as the inauguration of a president, the opening of a canal like the Panama, the Hudson-Fulton celebration, or other important national event, and if these medals were designed by competent artists throughout the country who would give their best endeavors to making a series of memorials of historic interest, these could be sold for a small sum, perhaps twenty-five or fifty cents, and would be taken as valuable mementoes by visitors, and also would be eagerly sought by the numismatic societies, by coin and medal collectors, and by art lovers throughout the entire world. Much would thus be done to increase the dignity of our mint, and to furnish and distribute an accurate record of historic events in this most indestructible form.

2: That a small guide or catalogue to the collection be annually issued, in addition to which there could be discussed or described each year some one division of the coins in the mint cabinet, such as its colonial coinage, the coinage of the Civil War, the coinage of ancient Rome, etc. This pamphlet need not sell for more than ten to twenty-five cents, and like the medals would be taken by many visitors.

3: That the medal and the pamphlet being issued by the government, all private enterprise be eliminated from the United States Mint in the sale of its catalogues, medals or other objects, and that all gain derived from such sales by the mint authorities be set aside for the purchase of additions to the coinage and medallic library and collections of the Mint.

Movement For a New Coinage

President Roosevelt replies to the Numismatic Society.

In reply to the Coinage Committee of the American Numismatic Society which sent its resolutions to the President, Mr. Roosevelt wrote under date of August first:

"I am in receipt of your letter of July 29th, with accompanying resolutions, and have called for a report on them from the Secretary of the Treasury.

You will be pleased to know that we are now completing a new coinage of the eagle and double eagle designed by Saint Gaudens, than whom certainly there is no greater artistic genius living in the United States or elsewhere."

The members of the Coinage Committee are: George F. Kunz, Chairman; Thomas L. Elder, Secretary; Daniel Parrish, Jr., Victor D. Brenner and S. W. Dunscomb.

Mr. St. Gaudens Dies

Augustus St. Gaudens, the distinguished sculptor "than whom," in the words of President Roosevelt "there was no greater artistic genius living in the United States or elsewhere," died at Cornish, N. H., at 7 P. M., on August 3rd, last.

In the Shaw memorial, the Sherman Farragut and other monuments and sculptures, as well as in portrait medallions and plaques, he has left us imperishable marks of his genius.

The new gold \$10 and \$20 pieces which are at present being coined at the Philadelphia mint are of his designing, and have been pronounced beautiful. The obverse type of the \$10 bears a head of Liberty in an Indian headdress, believed to have been posed for by Miss Mary Cunningham of Mr. St. Gauden's household; the reverse bears a very realistic eagle of the Ptolemaic type. The obverse of the \$20 bears the figure of Liberty standing by a shield with one knee raised. The reverse has an eagle standing with wings open. It is understood that the \$10 piece will be the first upon which the public eye will gaze, although it was generally supposed that the \$20 would be the first to come out.

* * *

ART AND COINS.

To the plain citizen, hustling unprofitably for a meal ticket, all coins look beautiful. As pure works of art they do not appeal much except to the man of safe surplus or meditative disposition. Still, as long as we are going to have art work on our coins, it might as well be artistic.

The government is going to reform the coinage, in recognition of some of its esthetic deficiencies. The purpose is laudable, and would be more so if it reached further. They have decided to make the Indian on the copper cent look like an Indian. Now, if they will go ahead and make the eagle like look an eagle, and the Goddess of Liberty look like a goddess, they will accomplish something worth while.

The Indian that has done duty on the humble penny beyond the beginnings of memory has come to be a sort of established institution, but he must go. He is not an Indian. A false glamour has been lent his Caucasian features by a trumped up headdress, and the copper glow suffusing his classic face has been due to the material of the coin rather than to artistic illusion. So it is better that we should have a real Indian. Poor Lo deserves commemoration on more aristocratic coins, but

even to appear in facsimile on a cent is something. The other reforms announced have to do with the eagle and double eagle. It might be observed that it does not matter much what designs adorn those coins—we see them so infrequently. Nevertheless the proposal to execute some real art on the glad tokens is welcome. The changes to be made are the work of St. Gaudens, and will doubtless be admirable as far as they go.

But the numismatic esthete may well long for more drastic beautification. American coinage has always been distinguished for its ugliness, and not a little for its ineptness. It is easy to pick a quarrel with the great American bird supposed to be portrayed on several of our coins. The conventionalized, heraldic eagle with wings stiffly outspread, sitting on the end of his stub tail in an impossible posture, nibbling an "e pluribus unum" pennant and holding in his extended claws supposititious arrows and olive branch, is somewhat ridiculous. He is hardly suggestive of indomitable soaring propensities.

The smug faced goddess herself courts obliteration. It is hard to see why an American Goddess of Liberty should be Greek anyhow. We have plenty of native goddesses whose faces might more appropriately be limned or engraved. And they would be much more attractive. Not the Gibson girl, of course, or the Stanlaws girl, the Christy girl, Fisher girl, or any other conventional abomination, but a real American girl with the graceful, responsive features that we know. Yet if the face must be Greek, let it be real Greek—not a lifeless and exaggerated imitation of a type. If our silver coins must bear "classic" features, why not borrow the face of Pallas in all its beauty and hauteur and stamp it on a simplified coin, void of foolish fancy work, that also bears a live eagle, flying and victorious?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

* * *

A Pennsylvania society has protested against the act of the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens in using as the design for the new coin the profile of a young woman born out of the United States. It is interesting to reflect that the model used for long by another artist for his typical "American girl" was also an alien.—N. Y. Sun.

* * *

So that explains the quiet at Oyster Bay. The President is making final arrangements for the improvement of the coinage of the United States.—N. Y. Sun.

ST. GAUDENS' SON VEXED.

Windsor, Vt., Sept. 21.—The St. Gaudens family refuse to give any information whatever regarding Mary Cunningham, the pretty young Irish waitress whom the late Augustus St. Gaudens took as a model when designing the new issue of gold coins.

The Cunningham girl is now employed as a domestic in the family of the late sculptor, but no outsider is allowed to see her. The St. Gaudens villa is secluded on a spur of the Green mountain range with numerous signs at the entrance to the grounds announcing that no strangers are admitted.

Homer St. Gaudens, a son, said tonight that there was some misapprehension regarding the coins on which the young woman's figure is to appear. He said that the statement that her face is to appear in profile on the copper cent is incorrect. He asserted, instead, that she will be shown full length on either the ten or twenty-dollar gold piece. Mr. St. Gaudens was not sure which.

There had been many other models for coins, and he did not see why so much fuss should be made over this one, but at any rate he was not going to add to it by giving any other information.

Young Mr. St. Gaudens, who was vexed, would not discuss the protest of the Independent Order of Americans at the Harrisburg (Penn.) convention against using the Irish-born girl's face on the coins.—Rochester Post Express.

* * *

WANT AMERICAN GIRL ON COINS.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 19.—Victor B. Boyer, State counsellor of the Order of Independent Americans, will personally present to Secretary Cortelyou the protest of the order against placing the profile of Mary Cunningham on the United States gold coins.

Miss Cunningham was a waitress in a Cornish, Vt., eating house when discovered by the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the sculptor, who selected her as the model for the design he had been commissioned to execute for the Government.

The Independent Americans, admitting her rare beauty, object because she was born in Ireland.

* * *

Those people who oppose putting the Irish girl's face on the pennies can refuse to take them and be able to prove they have no cents.—Brooklyn Union.

The Numismatic Convention and Exhibit

Many of the good people of Columbus, Ohio who were absorbed in the opening of the Ohio State fair and did not know of the national convention of the American Numismatic Association, held in Columbus, and which adjourned on Sept. 5th last, missed the opportunity to view at the Chamber of Commerce the finest and most valuable collection of rare coins, money and masonic insignia and medals ever exhibited in the United States. This splendid array of money was estimated at from \$50,000 to \$100,000 in the common coin of the realm. Mr. H. O. Grauberg, who had journeyed from Oshkosh, Wis., had alone an exhibit worth probably \$25,000, which included one of the finest collections of privately struck American gold coins in existence. Several pieces in this collection cost from \$900 to \$1,000 apiece. The Chapman Brothers of Philadelphia, showed a superb assemblage of ancient, mediaeval and modern coins in gold, silver and copper, the lines of Greek and Roman being especially noteworthy for wide variety, rarity of types, historical significance and superb preservation. Mr. A. R. Frey, the president of the Society, exhibited the largest and finest collection of the curiously shaped siege, or necessity, money of the world, struck by beleaguered cities and towns in the 16th and 17th centuries. Notwithstanding the hurried manner in which these unique shaped pieces were engraved and minted, they show in many cases, a delightfully quaint and characteristic art. Most of them were struck in lozenge form. Mr. Howland Wood, of Brookline, Mass., makes oriental coins his study, and his researches have given him a remarkable knowledge of the oriental languages. He has 12,000 coins. His exhibit of the curiously shaped coins, fish hook, hat shaped, fork, ingot, ring and other money was very complete and large. Dr. B. P. Wright, of Schenectady, N. Y., made the finest exhibit of masonic insignia and medals ever shown in this country, and he is regarded as the greatest masonic collector here. Thomas L. Elder's exhibit of modern, foreign and United States coins showed the inferiority of the present coins of the United States as compared with those of Europe.

The following were elected officers of the Numismatic association: President, Farran Zerbe, Tyrone, Pa.; Vice-President, Henrie E. Buck, of Delaware, O.; Secretary, Howland Wood, Brookline, Mass.; Treasurer, Dr. George F. Heath, Monroe, Mich.

The Society appointed a number of committees, including one for the improvement of the coinage of the United States artistically, as follows: Chairman, Thomas L. Elder, New York; Secretary, Samuel

Hudson Chapman, Philadelphia; Dr. Joseph E. Waitt, Boston; Augustus G. Heaton, Washington, D. C.; Theophile E. Leon, Chicago; E. H. Adams, New York.

Mr. Samuel H. Chapman read a valuable and interesting paper entitled, "The portraits of distinguished men of the Roman Republic before the time of the Triumvirs," which he illustrated with twenty coins referred to, a collection well nigh unique. Mr. Zerbe delivered an illustrated address to the public entitled "The origin and uses of money." His large and finely mounted exhibit of all kinds of money interested all visitors to the convention rooms. Mr. A. C. Gies of Pittsburg exhibited his fine and complete collections of half dollars and large cents of the United States, as well as his rare \$3 gold of 1873 1875 and 1876. Mr. King showed some foreign pieces. Mr. Leon had a large and valuable exhibit of plate money, including the $\frac{3}{4}$ daler. The exhibits were on view free to the public.

The other functions of the convention included a smoker, a public auction sale and banquet. The next convention of the Society will be held in Philadelphia.

Mr. Granberg's Exhibit at Columbus

Private Gold Coins.

	Total Pieces.
\$50 Wass Moliter (4) and Humberts (4)	8
\$20 Kellog & Co., (Mr. Granberg has eight more of these)	8
\$20 Clark, Gruber & Co. 1860	3
\$20 Mormon	2
\$20 Wass Moliter & Co.	1
\$20 U. S. Assay	6
\$16 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ carats, Moffat & Co.	2
\$10 Clark, Gruber & Co.	4
\$10 A. Humbert & Co.	4
\$10 Wass Moliter & Co.	1
\$10 Moffat & Co.	3
\$10 Baldwin	1
\$10 Miner's Bank	1
\$5 Baldwin & Co.	3
\$5 Schultz	1
\$5 Clark & Co., 1861	5

\$5 Mormon, 1860	2
\$5 N. G. & N.	3
\$5 Mormon, 1849	5
\$5 Oregon Exchange Co.	3
\$5 Mormon, 1850	2
\$2.50 J. Parson & Co.	1
\$2.50 J. Parson & Co. (in silver)	1
\$2.50 Templeton Reed, Assayer, Ga. Gold, 1830	2
\$2.50 Mormon	3
\$2.50 Clark & Co.	5
\$2.50 Clark, Gruber & Co.	5

Betchler Gold.

\$5 Georgia Gold	1
\$5 Carolina Gold, 134 G. 21 C.	2
\$5 Carolina Gold 134 G. 21 C.	3
\$5 Carolina 140 Gr. 1834	3
\$2.50 Carolina 64 Grains	3
\$2.50 Carolina 67 Grains	1
\$2.50 C. Bechtler, 20 C. "Assayer"	1
\$1.00 C. Bechtler 28 Grains (1 without stars)	5
\$1.00 C. Bechtler 30 Grains	4
\$1.00 C. Bechtler 27 Grains	8

(N. B. Gold tomatoes, gold dust, nuggets, etc., without premium, from the Hahn's Peak gold mine—face value about \$2,000.)

Convention Jottings

The following gentlemen were guests at dinner at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Henderson: H. E. Buck, Henry Chapman, Farran Zerbe, Dr. Geo. F. Heath and Thomas L. Elder.

Mr. E. H. Adams, the Sun's numismatic sphinx, did not arrive until the second day's session. His glad smile broadened on catching a glimpse of the great array of private gold.

Columbus was shut up tight as a clam on Labor Day. Even the barbers were out, but that did not feaze the fair sprinkling of the be-whiskered.

Mr. King was everywhere, and we vote him the most agile member present.

Alas, the state fair crowded the town, and for most of us it was:
"Two men in a bed and they couldn't agree,
Turn over, turn over."

The poem devoted to the coin gatherers was a good one, thanks to Mr. Hickens.

Let every member who was present send his name and address for the Editor's Convention medal, which, unfortunately did not arrive in time.

If Mr. Henry Chapman had postponed his dissertation on German carp as an edible, Mr. Elder would probably have kept out of bed during the third day. When the Philadelphian compared it to eating a fine-toothed comb the editor threw up the sponge and was counted out.

Mr. Granberg was shadowed; Mr. Leon was plated.

The banquet was a fine one, we hear, but our report on it is brief as at that time the editor was still indulging in "carp dreams."

The highest price ever paid for an ancient or modern coin, \$6,200, was paid for the New York Brasher doubloon at the first of a five days' sale in Philadelphia, June 25, of the coin collection of the late Matthew A. Stickney of Salem, Mass. The nearest approach to this figure ever paid was \$6,100, paid for the unique Bactrian twenty-stater piece of Eukratides by the Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris, and \$3,850 given for the Bishop Juxon crown. The bidding for the piece was spirited and it was sold to an anonymous bidder. This piece, of which only six are known, by many regarded as the rarest of all American coins, was struck in New York city in 1787 by Ephraim Brasher, a jeweler, at 350 Pearl street.

The second highest sum was given for the unique "Janus" Massachusetts pattern half penny, supposed to have been the work of Paul Revere. This coin brought \$1,050, the highest price ever paid for an American copper coin.

A rare New York cent brought the third highest figure, \$850, which was paid by DeWitt Smith for the "Liber Natus Libertatem Defendo" copper of 1787. Another New York cent with the State arms on the obverse brought \$210, and another variety of the same kind, showing Liberty and Justice on the reverse, sold for \$460.—Sun.



The American Numismatic Society

Mr. William Poillon the curator states that since May 20th last the following gentlemen have made important donations to the cabinets of the Society: Archer M. Huntington, Victor D. Brenner, William Boerum Wetmore, Julius de Lagerberg, J. N. T. Levick, J. Sanford Saltus, William R. Weeks, W. H. Ellis, W. T. R. Marvin, Butterfield Brothers, Munn & Company, Wm. D. Irvine and Joseph E. Waitt. Mr. Huntington gave a bronze medal of the Bibliotheca Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, 1905.

Mr. Wetmore gave several gold, silver and copper coins, Mr. J. Saltus gold insignia, coins and medals, Mr. Weeks a gold decoration, Mr. Waitt several medals. We have not space to list the balance.

The Society's new \$50,000 building is rapidly nearing completion, and will be ready for occupancy at the Fall meetings.

Mr. Archer M. Huntington, the President, has been taking his summer vacation at Newcomb, Essex County, New York.

James W. Ellsworth, of Cleveland, Ohio, a member, has donated \$1,000 to the Society's building fund.

The Society has received several communications from President Roosevelt, in regard to the movement for a more artistic coinage for the United States, and the coinage committee of the Society is still engaged with the matter.

THANKED THE SUN.

New York, Aug. 16, 1907.

New York Sun, City Editor,
My Dear Sir:—

I write on behalf of the above society to express our gratification at the very interesting article which appeared in your paper, on Sunday, August 11th, last, under the heading "The New St. Gaudens

Coins." The interest which you have taken in the matter of improving our coinage will certainly bear fruit. There is no reason why the United States should have coins so far below the artistic standard of other nations, particularly when our paper money, as exemplified by the present Twenty Dollar Gold Certificate, is equalled by few, and excelled by none. The need for improvement is certainly manifest—as any one to look at the half dollar now in use and (covering the hair) decide if the features and neck are those of a man or a woman.

Hoping that you will keep up the good work, I remain,
Yours very truly,

HENRY RUSSELL DROWNE.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 44th monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Sept. 6th, Vice President E. C. Verkler presiding. The following members were present: Mr. Verkler, Mr. Brand, Mr. Excell, Mr. Leon, Mr. Blumenschein, Dr. Merrill, Mr. Chester Dunham, Mr. Sorensen, Mr. Williams and Mr. Green.

Mr. H. T. Folger and Mr. Geo. E. Roberts were elected to membership.

Messrs. Leon and Green having attended the Convention of the American Numismatic Association at Columbus, Ohio, earlier in the week, told of the proceedings of that body.

Exhibits for the evening were not numerous but very interesting, bringing out the usual spirited numismatic discussion.

Books received were Coins and Medals in the British Museum by Head; A list of Confederate Currency by Massamore; and the United States Mint Report for 1906; also a priced catalog of the Stickney Sale.

Adjourned to meet Oct. 4th, 1907.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.

FRITZ GOT THE JEWELS RARE

*Near 40 years ago; He treasured them with care; And reasoned thus and so;
They may have graced a queen; They may be wartime pelf—But now
they're mine, I ween—And now he's lost himself.*

The way the story was tipped into the office it glittered with good points, not the least of which was a hint of diamonds and rubies looted by French naval officers from Prussian women flying over seas for safety in the Franco-Prussian war. Of course that point was blunted a bit by the reflection that Prussian refugees were not swamping the steamship booking office in 1870, but there were enough other good points to induce investigation.

The matter of immediate interest is a recent mysterious disappearance; otherwise this is a story of found jewels of great value and possibly romantic history.

Let us begin in the fall of the eventful year 1870 and tell the tale as told by its hero and believed by his friends. Some lads were playing "kick the stick," a game related to sheepfold in the western end of Park place, then called Robinson street, near the waterfront.

One boy, Fritz Wegener, having kicked the stick, skeddaddled into a dark hallway, from which he peeked out to observe pursuers. He saw them, not those in his game, but in another, which made his thirteen-year-old heart beat fast. Three officers in French naval uniforms were pursuing the French sailors up the street, off the end of which, as Fritz well knew, lay a French man-o'-war. Fritz ducked. As the sailors ran past one threw into the hallway a bundle, and to dispose of that party now the officers overtook the sailors in City Hall park and marched them back to the ship, which sailed the next day.

Fritz made for the bundle. With it under his arm, through the hallway to the rear yard, over a fence, through other passageways to Greenwich street, thence home at the corner of Murray, and to the garret, for inspection. The bundle was wrapped outside with tarpaulin which covered a sailor's blue uniform shirt, and within were necklaces, earrings, brooches, rings and unset gems enough to make little Fritz gasp.

He hid his treasure among the rafters, where it remained for years, subject to occasional delightful inspections. When the Wegener family moved to 5 Jay street Fritz did a little secret moving, too, and the precious bundle was concealed in the cellar of the new home, where as a recent poet might have remarked, "down from the studded,

undominated firmament, diamonds and red embered rubies smouldered in the goom' next to the coal bin.

Naturally when he reached the Keats and Dumas age Fritz began to supply a history for his jewels. Had they belonged to some modern Elsie, Marquise de Belliere, who, to raise the long green for suffering France, had unclasped her warmed jewels, one by one, and given them to a naval officer to hock; and the naval officer had seen another light? Had the sailors stolen them, knowing that they had already been stolen or, perhaps, were they from casket rich and amethystine urn, whose dull fires of dusty jewels bound the brows of some fraulein captured by the French warship while, as has been hinted, she, the fraulein, was shaking the fatherland?

Anyway, Fritz Wegener grew up and became as, a side line to his regular business, a dealer in old and rare gems, coins, medals and things. Whether Fritz became such a dealer because Fate had handed him a stock in trade, or Fate knew he was to be such, and stocked him right and early, is a question it only fuzzies the intellect to consider. The point is that, trading in jewels and coins brought him into relations with Thomas L. Elder, a dealer in rare coins and precious stones, at 32 East Twenty-third street. Mr. Elder learned the story of the tarpaulin wrapped treasure and published it, with illustrations of some of the set pieces, in a magazine devoted to such do-dads.

Which brings us to the disappearance. Elder returned from his summer vacation not long ago and wanting to see Wegener on business telephoned to his place of abode, a combination men's lodging house and Turkish bath in 125th street. Wegener, the bath people said, had left hurriedly one morning about July 1 and had not returned. Then the young woman employed by Elder recalled that some one who did not look as if they had an honest interest in precious stones had called for copies of the magazine and later called asking where Wegener might be found. This was not much, but taken in connection with a disappearance from a bath house suggested bodies unpleasantly cut up.

So "The Sun" reporter began a hunt. John C. Huser, a commission merchant of 190 Duane street, is Wegener's brother-in-law. Yes, he knew that Wegener was missing and would be relieved to know where he is, but he was not looking for him. Being a dealer in butter, eggs and cheese Mr. Huser naturally longs for variety, but that longing would not be satisfied by looking for Fritz. No novelty in that. Mr. Huser is a sensible, hearty sort of man, knew the story of the tarpaulin, believed it, and had seen the jewels. He thinks Fritz has not been foully dealt with, because he has "located" him three times since

his sudden disappearance from the bath house.

Once a bath house attendant had seen Fritz in Battery Park, asked him where he was living and Fritz replied "in seclusion." Once Fred Butte, a retired merchant, friend of Huser, saw Fritz on a Jersey Central ferryboat, asked him where he was going and Fritz replied "I'm going to hell." Once a clerk of Huser's saw Fritz on a Jersey City street car, asked him where he was going, but Fritz refused to say. Car was headed toward Paterson; evidence considered corroborative of testimony given by Fritz to Mr. Butte.

Wegener worked twenty-two years for Huser, carrying on his coin and jewelry trade in off hours. Later he worked in the office of a brewery, but did not keep the place because—well, did not the Persian singer ask:

I often wonder what the brewer buys
One half so precious as the stuff he sells.

—N. Y. Sun, Sept. 11, 1907.

Tragic End of Fritz

Rare Gems in Dead Man's Pocket.

Phillipsburg, N. J., Saturday—Near the road leading from Pattenburg to West Portal the body of a man was found today with a bullet wound in the head and a revolver lying beside it. A letter was found in the man's pocket stating that his name was Frederick Edward Wegener, and that he resided in New York.

The letter stated that trouble with his sister-in-law caused him to kill himself. A return ticket to New York was found in one of his pockets, and also a leather case which contained four bottles, one of which was filled with diamonds, rubies and other precious stones. An undertaker at Bloomsbury took charge of the remains.

The letter did not give the name of Wegener's sister-in-law, but said she had libelled him by her utterances at the time of his wife's funeral, nearly two years ago. He asked that John Riefe, president of the New York Consumers Brewing Company, at Fifty-fifth street and avenue A, be notified.

It is thought that the body had been lying where it was found since last Sunday. A small sum of money and a few other articles in the man's pockets had not been disturbed.—N. Y. Herald, Sept. 22, 1907.

RECENT COIN AND STAMP SALES.

The sale of the late Rabbi Raphael Benjamin's stamp collection was concluded by Percy G. Doane at 160 Nassau Street, June 29. The total for the sale was \$5,144.96, the Australian and African specimens realizing \$1,524.05, the American \$1,958.05, and the European and Asian \$1,662.91. One of the rarities sold was an unused copy of the 2-cent rose of Hongkong, issue of 1882. It is the first copy that has appeared at auction in America. It fetched \$114. Of the American stamps, a 30-cent unused copy of the issue of 1875 reissue of 1861 brought \$22, and a 90-cent, unused \$14.50; a 30-cent unused, special print 1875, fetched \$27.00, and a 90-cent unused \$21.00. The collection was sold by order of the public administrator. It is understood that Rabbi Benjamin left no near relatives in this country and that the proceeds will go to a brother in London.

* * *

CALIFORNIA MONEY.

Coins in California till the fall of 1856 were a queer kettle of fish. More than 60 per cent of the silver and at least 25 per cent of the gold were foreign.

Most of the other gold coins were private coins. Moffat & Co. got a permit from the government to coin gold. Their coinage was stamped "Moffat & Co." We had all kinds of doubloons and smaller South and Central American coins. Of the smaller gold coins the French twenty franc piece led all the others.

The English guinea was fairly represented. But it passed for only its face value, while the other gold passed for more. The twenty franc piece, value \$3.75, went at \$4.

There was a still greater discrepancy in the silver coins. A one franc piece went for 25 cents, and the East Indian rupee, value 45 cents went for 50 cents; the five franc piece, \$1. The French silver represented about 60 per cent of the silver circulation.

German silver thalers, worth 60 cents, went at \$1. Everything above 50 cents was \$1, and everything above 25 cents was 50 cents. A French bank in San Francisco was said to have got rich shipping French coin in exchange for gold dust. United States coin was scarce until the mint was established. In the fall of 1856 the banks refused to take any foreign coins except at a heavy discount. The result was that in a few months all foreign coin disappeared. It

proved a bonanza for the saloon people. They would still give a drink for a franc, while the banks gave only 12½ cents. The saloon people gathered them and the rupees in at old prices and sold to the banks for bullion and made a good thing.

But for a few years we suffered badly for silver change. Even until 1856 gold dust circulated to a considerable extent in mining districts, but the scales were always used.

There was no paper money until D. O. Mills & Co. issued their gold notes about 1858. In getting change for an old octagon \$50, gold, often as many as four or five nationalities would be represented in the change. On all drafts sent east \$3 was charged by the express companies until Adams & Co. and Page, Bacon & Co. failed and left the field to Wells-Fargo; then it was raised to \$5.

Greenbacks were never recognized as money, only as a commodity. They were used for buying postage and revenue stamps. All mercantile billheads and notes had the special contract enforcement for gold. California even paid the claims of the federal government in gold. And it came in mighty handy to Uncle Sam in 1862 and 1863. The old style Californian still has an inclination for the yellow stuff.—Ex.

* * *

Correspondents of The World who object to an Irish girl's face on the new gold coins find their protest sustained by the Independent Order of Americans, which adopted resolutions against the proposal at Harrisburg recently. Apparently a new and serious issue is in process of development which may complicate the next Presidential campaign. Was the original Columbia of the national coinage native born or did she possess naturalization papers.—New York World.

* * *

The St. Gaudens coin designs are rejected because the figures are too high. Couldn't get the figures on coins too high for some folks.—Ex.

* * *

A NUMISMATIC NOVELTY: THE ONE-ANNA COIN FOR INDIA.

The new one-anna coin for India, which became current on August 1, consists of about three parts of copper to one of nickel. The novel rim with its wavy edge is designed to prevent the coin from rolling.—The Graphic

A special cable despatch to the New York Sun from London says the feature of the first day's sale of the immense coin collection of the late Bruce Cartwright of Honolulu, which took place June 21 at Sotheby's was the tremendous prices paid for the rare Territorial gold pieces struck in California in the early '50s. The highest premium paid was \$1,310 for the \$10 Ormsby gold piece, one of the two known specimens of the variety. American collectors expected record prices but they in no way anticipated such a price as this, and Thomas L. Elder of New York had cabled a bid of \$800, which was thought to be an outside figure, as \$250 had hitherto been considered a fair value for the piece.

The next highest figure was paid for a unique specimen of gold ingot issued by F. D. Kohler in San Francisco in 1850. American collectors were unaware of the existence of this piece until the London catalogue reached them. Heretofore the only known issue of Kohler was the oblong gold piece of the value of \$40.07.

Mr. Elder thought when he cabled a bid of \$900 for this piece that that figure should be well over what the slug would bring, but after a spirited competition the piece was knocked down for \$1,035.

Many other gold pieces of the West were sold, all of which brought high prices. Among these were the rare circular fifty-dollar piece of Wass, Molitor & Co., dated 1855; an octagonal quintuple eagle of Augustus Humbert, dated 1852; \$2.50 and \$10 of the Mormon gold coinage of Utah, two ten-dollar pieces of "Pike's Peak Gold" of Clark, Gruber & Co., of Denver, dated 1860 and 1861, and two other California eagles of 1849 and 1855 of Wass, Molitor & Co. and Moffat & Co.

* * *

OUR NATIONAL COIN COLLECTION.

Visitors making the round of Philadelphia's attractions find much to interest in the United States Mint, and, among other things, the coin collection which has been accumulating there, for these many years is given marked attention. The coins of a country are monuments of its history. Much of our knowledge of half-forgotten nations is derived from the specimens of coin accidentally coming down to our times. The collection at the Mint is of incalculable historic importance, and to those unacquainted with the subject the varied interests it represents afford surprises at once pleasing and instructive. To artists and experts these examples of the medalist's work are of especial

value as illustrating the progress of art in our own and in former ages.

It is little to the credit of our Government that this admirable collection owes its existence almost exclusively to private initiative and personal generosity. The officials of the Mint have done much to promote the formation of a numismatic library and the bringing together and preservation of metal money specimens, but they have labored in this behalf without compensation or credit, often giving of their own means to help the collection. The Government owns the property, but is not officially aware of the fact, giving no countenance or recognition thereto. The United States Treasury should be ashamed to permit such a discreditable state of affairs to continue. The estimates of the department for regular appropriations should include a sum large enough to provide for the care and safekeeping of the collection and also provide a fund for the acquisition of coins and medals of historic value as opportunity offers. No other nation possessing a mint is so unmindful of this matter as our own, and it is high time the neglect should be remedied.—Register, Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

* * *

RARE \$100 BILL TURNS UP.

While the new \$100 gold certificates have given the receiving tellers of the city banks much annoyance recently thru the ease with which they may be mistaken for the gold notes of \$20 denomination, a far more troublesome visitor in the shape of a crisp \$100 bill of curious design wandered into one of the downtown banks the other day.

The unfamiliar bill was of yellow paper, the printing on the front was black, while the principal device was that of an eagle above the United States shield and the stars and stripes. But the most curious part of the bill was the back, which, in complete contrast to the yellow, green and brown backs of the current notes, was red in color, and the words "One Hundred Dollars," in very large letters, extended from one end to the other.

The receiving teller had never seen a United States bill of this kind, and was especially puzzled by the red back. He called to his assistance employees of the bank of thirty years' experience, but they were equally at sea regarding the bill's identity.

So it was sent to the subtreasury, and word soon came back that the bill was "just as good as gold," being of the first series of gold certificates issued by the United States. It apparently had lain between the leaves of a book, where no doubt it had rested since 1865, the year of its issue, at which time there was a very high premium on

gold, and at the time the bill had been put away it was worth \$160 in any other kind of money.

This series was issued for banking and clearing house purposes, and a specimen seldom got into circulation. At the time of its appearance deposits of gold were made with the government, for which the certificates were issued, these greatly facilitating gold transfers. —Minneapolis Journal.

* * *

Numismatists are now on the lookout for some Roumanian coins of the face value of one franc, which are worth from 150 to 180 francs apiece. They are some of the coins which were struck last year in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the accession of King Carol to the throne of Roumania, and, as may be guessed, they contain a strange error. In 1866 King Carol was only Domm, or Prince of Roumania, and one side of the coin shows the King as a young man with the inscription, "Domm of Roumania, 1866," while on the other side is the portrait of the King as he now is with the words, "King of Roumania, 1906." But by some extraordinary blunder the inscriptions got reversed, and the portrait of the King as he now is bears the words, "Domm of Roumania, 1866." The coins were called in as soon as possible, but about 150 of them got into circulation, and it is these coins which are now being sought after by collectors.—London P. T. C.

* * *

SILVER CENTER CENTS.

A curious cent, dated 1792, which has come into the hands of Thomas L. Elder, a coin dealer, is said to represent the first attempt to strike a coin of this denomination at the United States mint at Philadelphia.

On the obverse is a rather ugly head of Liberty to the right, with hair flowing behind, and below, in small figures, is the date "1792." Around the border is inscribed "Liberty Parent of Science & Indus." On the reverse is a wreath, enclosing the words "One Cent," with "1-100" below, and surrounding the whole central device is the inscription "United States of America."

The piece is much smaller than the ordinary Colonial cent, being about the size of the half cent struck in the year following. It is composed of copper, but before placing the blank in the coinage press a small plug of silver had been inserted in the middle, and the rarity now is known to coin collectors as the "Silver Center Cent." It is said

the intention in putting in this plug of silver was to bring up the intrinsic value of the coin to exactly one cent.

It is thought that the cent was the design of a blacksmith named Peter Getz of Lancaster, Pa., a self-taught engraver, who was employed at the mint when that institution first began operations in 1792, and who cut the dies for several other varieties of the early coins. The same design was struck in plain copper, but without the silver plug, and this variety, too, is very rare.

The inscription on the obverse of the silver center cent is the same as that borne by the interesting "disme" and "half disme," also struck at the mint in the same year from Washington's private plate, the head of Liberty on the two latter coins being posed for by Martha Washington, it is popularly supposed. The latter coins also are rare, but do not compare in scarcity with the silver center cent, of which only five are known to be in existence.

While regularly struck and issued by the United States mint engravers, still the silver center cent was for some reasons rejected by the authorities and so never got into general circulation.

This particular specimen had been in the possession of a small country merchant for forty years, and he was overwhelmed with surprise to learn that the coin was regarded as one of the rarest of the United States coins.—Rochester Herald.

* * *

Unless Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr., can convince Secretary Cortelyou of the Treasury, that a clerical error occurred in the invoicing of portraits of herself and her daughter, Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, the two paintings, together with other expensive etchings, will be sold by the Government under the seizure provisions of the customs administration law.

That a serious mistake was made in the entry values appears from the official figures. The portrait of Mrs. Vanderbilt, for example, was entered as possessing a value of only 650f., whereas Appraiser Fowler decided that the painting was worth 4,500f. The painting depicting Miss Vanderbilt was also invoiced at a low figure—600f.—and was raised by the Appraiser to 5,500f. Judge Waite reduces the local appraisers return by 500f., making the value of the work 5,000f.

It seemed to be the general opinion among customs officials that an exception will be taken in Mrs. Vanderbilt's case, as the authorities hold to the belief that her unfortunate predicament is due entirely to misconception.—Art News,

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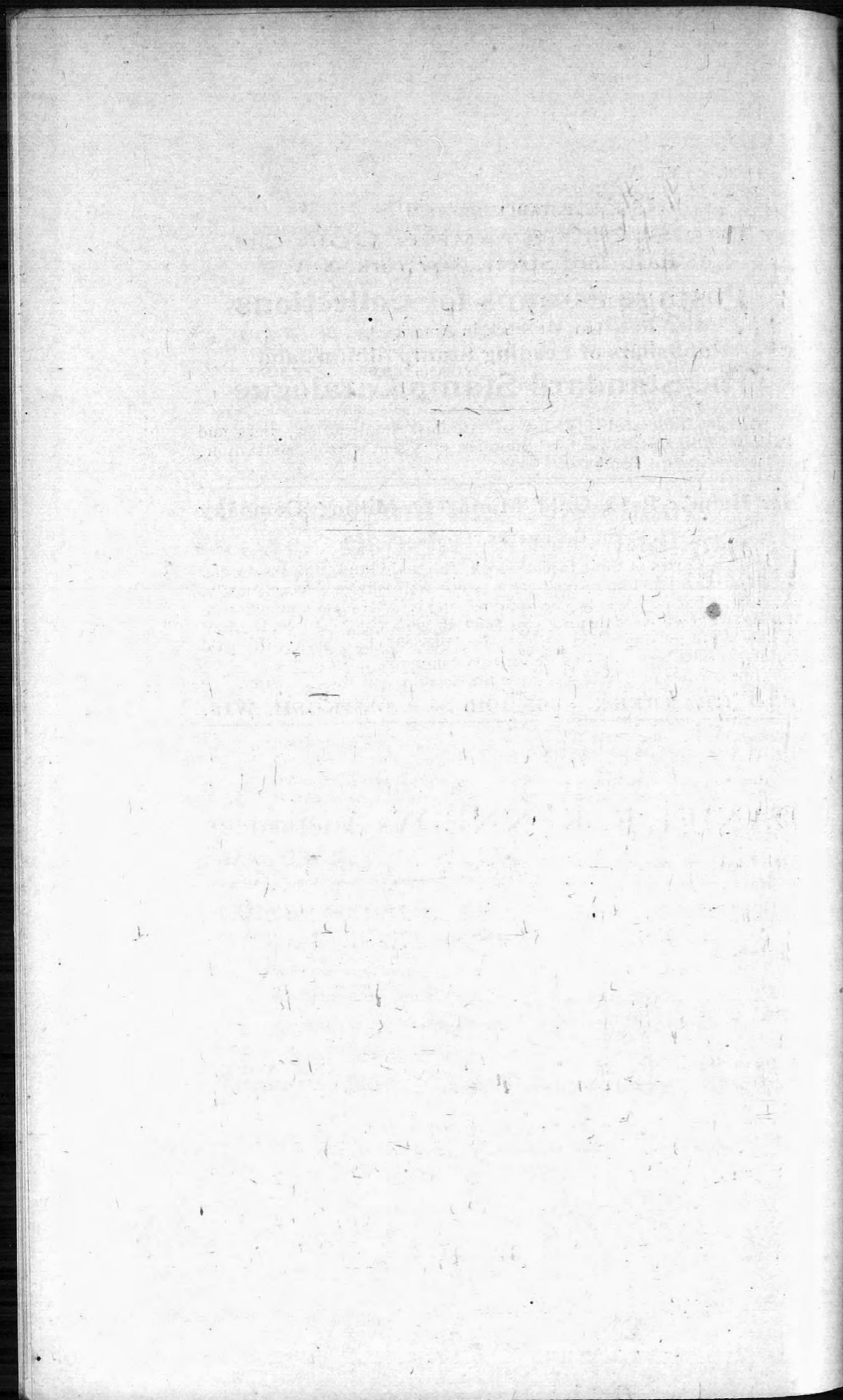
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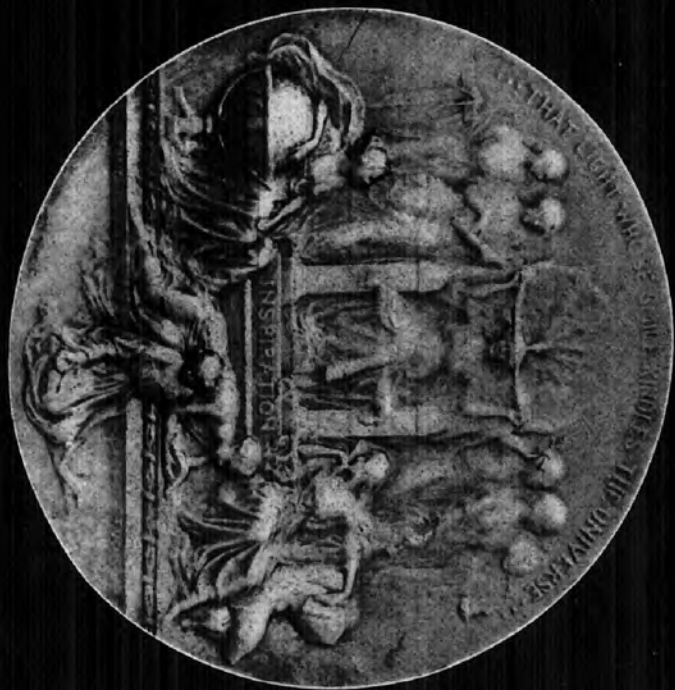
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The Elder Monthly

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VOL. II

NEW YORK OCT.-NOV. 1907

No. 8-9

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Editorials

Those who may feel inclined to criticize the poor editor for not issuing the Monthly promptly each month, should remember that he is an overworked fellow with a retail, mail and auction business demanding much of his time. Hereafter the Elder Monthly must be looked upon as a ~~two~~ monthly magazine, but we will endeavor to keep it of considerable size. Will those readers who have not sent in their subscriptions, kindly do so at once?

President Roosevelt, in an open letter gives good reasons why the motto "In God We Trust" was omitted from the new \$10 gold piece by St. Gaudens. The incongruousness of such a motto over the head of either an Indian warrior or an eagle is apparent, and the many undignified uses to which coins are put also must be considered. Were not \$10 and \$20 pieces bearing this motto, slipped down the necks of gay chorus girls and tenderloin beauties at notable New York dinner parties given by gentlemen swells? In the large crop of parodies which the free silver movement brought out in the last presidential campaign the abuse of the motto was notable. One of these pieces known among numismatists as a "Bryan Dollar," bore a homely head of Liberty and this motto "In God we trust for the other 47" (cents). The reverse type showing an eagle with a rooster's head was in keeping with the inscription "Billy Bryan idea of free coinage 16 to 1." Another piece bore a caricature of Bryan and the legend "In God we trust for the other 47 cents," while the reverse read "16 to 1 Nit. 1906." The "Bryan Dime" however was the choicest absurdity, the obverse picturing a goose with a donkey's head. "In Bryan we trust," was the motto in the field, while the border went "United Snakes of America." The reverse had these delectable utterances "Free Silver. One Dam. 1896." After the controversy about absence of the motto has been threshed out Mr. Roosevelt's position in the matter will have the support of many who at first were opposed to the change.

Of course it could not have been expected that certain newspapers which do a lot of monotonous knocking at President Roosevelt would speak favorably of the new \$10 gold piece. The new coin types are a vast improvement over the cast-iron, meaningless, expressionless head and eagle on the old issues. The principal types cannot be thrown into higher relief and yet be commercially acceptable, although it must be admitted that we lose in the flat types much of the beauty of the exquisite heavy relief staters of Philip II, Alexander and Lysimachus. The simple obverse of the Indian head with "war bonnet" extending to the edge of the coin, finds many similar examples in the best Greek coins showing the heads of Zeus, Hercules, Appollo and Pallas. The eagle is Ptolemaic in spirit perhaps, but this type has been for long the admiration of artists and its use by the Greeks for over three hundred years shows that the protest against it, if there was any, must have been feeble.

The Chicagoans are passing a few resolutions too these days re a better coinage.

We are pleased to note that the usual Boston diet of beans and apple pie is sometimes varied with numismatic edibles.

Our good friend Mr. Gilbert pauses from the contemplation of that great 1794 cent and Jackson collection to whack the new coin.

The Kalamazoo Telegraph which raves over the "Girl on the 1907 Silver Dollar" evidently has no membership in a clipping bureau.

Howland Wood writes that a search in the bar-rooms will reveal a lot of parodies of the motto "In God We Trust." Wonder if he spoke from personal observation?

We must apologize for the omission from this number of the opening portion of Mr. Blake's work on paper money. We hope to begin its publication in our next issue.

By special kindness of Mr. Huntington, readers will see in this issue a splendid reproduction of the beautiful medal by Fuchs, which is about to be awarded by the Hispanic Society of America.

The Elder Monthly was the first publication in the United States to give a correct description of the new St. Gaudens \$10 and \$20 gold pieces and it was the first to announce that the new eagle would be the first of the two coins to come out.

The committee of the American Numismatic Association, appointed for the improvement of the United States coinage artistically, has recently received a valuable member in Hon. William A. Ashbrook, member of Congress from Ohio. Mr. Ashbrook is a coin collector. This committee will be found on the active list, and will be heard from within a short time.

Scrawny looking birds were the two eagles pictured in the New York World of November 16th as "glorious looking birds of freedom as they really are." These glorious specimens appear in bad need of the services of a taxidermist and chiropodist.

The Ancient Shekel Company of Los Angeles, Calif., has been organized with \$75,000 capital stock to turn out imitations of coins, ancient and modern, now obsolete. This concern will hear from the numismatists in due time, and the secret service officers also will in all probability have a look into its workings.

Mr. Huser, brother-in-law of Frederick H. Wegener, whose strange death is told in this issue, states that no trace of Mr. Wegener's wonderful jewels, or necklace, or money, has been found. From this it would appear that some person or persons got them from Fritz by illegitimate means. His end seems now even more mysterious than ever.

It is very evident that in obtaining designs for the new \$20 and \$10 gold coins the Federal authorities made the mistake of consulting art instead of the deeply founded convictions of a people.—New Orleans State (paper).

We thought New Orleans had emerged sometime ago from the back-woods. There are still some fossils left, even in newspaperdom.

The new St. Gaudens's \$10 gold piece has staunch supporters in Messrs. Wood and Connick, and their letters, in this issue, will be found very interesting. Mr. Connick writes from the standpoint of the artist, which he certainly is. It was he who in the first issue of the Elder Monthly, in March 1906, wrote a criticism of the coinage of the United States, and he was one of the first to agitate for a more artistic coinage.

Those who are kicking because St. Gaudens chose the face on an Irish waitress for the new gold coins have probably forgotten that the artist's mother was a Donovan of Dublin, and when the artist came to New York it was as Paul Donovan. His father was named Paul and lived in St. Gaudens, France.—Commercial.

Confederate Money His Mania

Samuel Hahn, son of an honest German of this city, threatens to "break up house-keeping" at the Hahn domicile, through his queer eccentricities on the money question. Sam has a mania for paper money, and to keep it in check his father is obliged to spend several dollars in good American money each week to keep his son supplied with Confederate bills of the denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$100. Fortunately for his pa, Sam evidently suffers from color blindness as he will take any kind of bills, just so they are money, but he has a penchant for bills of large as well as those of small denomination. Imagining that he is keeping a legitimate bank account, Sam keeps a bank book, in fact a regular set of books, in order to carry on his extensive business in real estate banking in a manner strictly correct and up to date. Sam's astuteness as a mathematician the elder Hahn discovered recently when he attempted to remove several of the bills from the bags in which his son keeps his savings in a large trunk. Sam immediately detected the loss of the bills, which his father had hoped to tender him later on when the fever for money waxed too warm. The elder Hahn is obliged to take his son's bank book each day and "deposit the money in the bank," which might furnish the father with a plan to escape further outlay, by returning the same bills, did not wise Samuel make frequent runs on the bank.

Recently at an evil moment when father Hahn ran short of Confederate currency and could not supply an unexpected demand for the long green, Sam began to rave and mixed things up generally, tearing through the house upsetting china and breaking up bric-a-brac, including a table and mahogany chairs, and driving the members of the family out into the street.

"Oh, it is awful," are the words of the elder Hahn when he comes to Mr. Elder to buy more bills. "He is getting worse all the time, and it would be a good thing for us if he were dead. We don't know at what moment he may kill us. We have thought of putting him in an asylum but we have put up with his antics because he works very faithfully every day and is all right mentally except on the subject of money. He has now \$16,000 in Confederate money. As soon as he finds the money is not coming in fast enough he begins to rave and the house becomes too small to hold him."

"King" Dunham Again

Only one or two collectors knew that W. F. Dunham, of Chicago, took the strongest hand in the bidding at the recent Levick sale of Hard Times tokens. It was Mr. Dunham who followed Mr. Elder up to \$20 and \$30 each for the big rarities, and now his collection of these curious and often ludicrous products of the great financial panic of '37, is the finest in the United States. Again we doff our hats to a collector of the best type, and one of the most genial spirits in Numismatics.

Public Auction Sale XIV

Among the notable offerings in this sale, which will be held December 19th will be a fine collection of ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman Antiquities such as vases, statuary, pottery, ceramics, scarabs, necklaces, beads, weapons, mosaic, coins. In coins, etc., a very rare goloid proof set of 1880, struck in copper, including the very rare \$4, \$5, \$10 and \$20; uncirculated cents of 1805; extremely fine specimens of the Chain 1793. Jackson token, Low No. 1, struck in white metal; a superb collection of about 100 war medals, the final offering of a remarkable collection gathered by a gentleman now deceased, including those with bars of Orthes, Chateauguay, Northwest Frontier, Tofrek, Martinique, Toulouse, Nive, Nivelle, etc., fine New England silver; some rare U. S. gold including uncirculated \$5s of 1830 and 1833. U. S. \$2½ 1841 D. A catalogue with two plates will be sent on receipt of only 50c, which will not cover its cost. Plain catalogues will be sent free.

Thomas L. Elder,
32 East Twenty Third Street, New York City.

Auction Records; Sale XIII

Some prices realized at Mr. Elder's Sale of October 14th-15th, 1907:

1836 Dollar.	Very fine.	\$11.50.
1839 Dollar.	Very fine.	\$50.
Brunswick and Lunenburg	1½ Thaler.	V. Fine. \$7.50.
Brunswick and Lunenburg	triple thaler,	V. Fine. \$17.
Bechtler \$5 Georgia gold.	Fine.	\$85.

- Bechtler \$5, at Rutherford. Fine. \$33.
 Bcehtler \$5, at Rutherford. Fine. \$33.
 Bechtler \$5, Rutherford. Abt. Fine. \$32.
 \$2.50 Bechtler, Rutherford. 64 G. 22 Carats. \$105.
 \$10 Moffat Co. About Unc. \$48.
 \$20 Clark G. & Co. (in copper). \$17.
 \$10 Miners' Bank. V. Fine. \$250.
 \$20 U. S. Assay. Proof surface. \$135.
 \$50 Octagonal slug. Good. \$115.
 1875 \$1 gold. Proof. \$47.75.
 1805 25c silver. V. Fine. \$24.
 1806 Uncirculated. \$14.00.
 1798 over '97. Dime. V Fine. \$20.50.
 1804 Dime. About fine. \$28.
 1807 Dime. Unc. \$5.
 1809 Dime. Very fine. \$5.70.
 1796 Half Dime. Proof. \$25.
 1797 Half Dime. 15 stars. V. Fine. \$4 60.
 U. S. A. Bar Cent. \$6.90.
 1796 Half Cent. With pole. Unc. \$300.
 1792 Silver Center Cent. About fine. \$212.50.
 1811 Half Cent. Nearly Unc. \$6.50.
 1811. Cent. Unc. Partly red. \$51.
 1794 Cent. Hays No. 1. Good. \$4.75.
 1794 Cent. Hays No. 10. V. Good. \$3 50.
 1794 Cent. Hays 36. V. Good. \$3.10.
 1794 Cent. Hays 43. Fine. \$3.50.
 1824 over '22. Cent. V. Fine. \$5.50.
 1793 Cent. Wreath. Fine. \$8.75.
 1794 Cent Hays No 26. Uncirculated. \$43.
 1799 Cent. Good. \$12.
 1822 U. S. Cent. Unc. \$8.50.
 1856 Eagle Cent. Proof. \$10.
 1831 Half Cent. V. Fine. \$50.
 1836 Half Cent. Proof. \$46.
 1847 Half Cent. Proof. 25.
 50e U. S. Fract. Currency. Spinner: with autograph sigs. of
 Allison and New. \$53.

(To be continued.)

Hidden Treasures

Written for The Monthly by Francis C. Nicholas, Ph. D.

Romance, old stories and legends come to us from the Spanish main. Ancient history of days before this country of ours had even been discovered, for when New England was first settled there had been over a century of Spanish civilization in South America. It was Spanish civilization and Spanish conquest, the one beautiful, the other terrible; yet what were the few Spanish settlers to do against the teeming bands of aborigines, the descendants of whom even now are terrible in their cruelties except they are inspired with terror. In the days of the early conquest it is related that the mailed chevaliers of Spain met in terrific combat a tribe, or a nation, called the Tyrones, who fought and gave no quarter, nor asked it. The battle took place during three days at a valley some little distance from the city of Santa Marta where at the foot of lofty mountain ranges, over which the Tyrones had great paved road ways, all the men of the tribe met the Spaniards, contesting that they should not advance over their roads into the hidden recesses of the mountain; where rumor reported was a great and populous city, stored with gold and treasured gems belonging to the Indians. A terrific hand to hand combat was there contested for three days, as often as the Spaniards advanced to the stone roads and stairs, as often were they driven back from sheer exhaustion of the fighting; though they piled the road ways with dead and dying Indians, and blood dripped and flowed continually among the pavements and great blocks of granite forming steps up the mountains. The Tyrones were not equipped to combat with chevaliers in coats of mail, yet Spaniards were borne to the ground in numbers, and were smothered or pounded to death; but the butchery of the Indians so engaged was in such swift and frightful carnage that hundreds of Indian lives were taken ere they could pound life from the body of one fallen Spaniard, and blood ran in such gushing streams that sometimes a fallen Spaniard would be stifled, drowned literally by the blood spurting from the wounded bodies of the men who crowded to attack and hesitated not to give a thousand lives to kill one Spaniard.

In three days it all was over, the last handful of the Tyrones stood on their stone road-ways still fighting, and when not one man was left no warrior of the Tyrones to contest the way the Spaniards could advance to the rich city and the land for which the defenders

had each given his last drop of blood. The advance was not immediate, the Spaniards were exhausted from slaughter, a day or two and then a little longer was given up to rest; and the birds sang, the waters of cool brooks splashed, the breezes stirred among the trees and sunbeams fell and glinted on the moss. These were not all, borne on the air came other sounds of labored effort, of pounding, hammering and forcing, and at times came grinding, rolling sounds as some great mass went crashing down the mountain sides.

The Spaniards waiting in the valley listened, wondered and half doubted whether they should go on, or should retreat; but Spanish valor never has been known to fail, and preparations were in progress when on the night came distant shrieks of agony and terror, piteous cries and pleadings faintly heard for they were far away; an hour and another hour and everything was still. Over the solemn mountains the silence of the night was broken only by the cries of flying birds, and the monotonous drooning and whirring of insects, and wondering the Spaniards were awed to silence. In the morning the advance was sounded for an hour, another hour, a half a day they toiled over the roads and great stone stairways up and up the mountains. Then a halt, for defeat was before them, utter, complete and merciless. At a rough place in the mountains all the roadway, all the stairsteps had been torn away and sent crashing down the steps. Advance was now impossible; and bloody on the ruined roadway were the bodies of the women and children of the Tyrones, who had followed their men into oblivion; of the tribe not one was left, the women had destroyed the road, had killed their children and then had killed themselves. Defeated in their efforts to reach the city of the Tyrones, the Spaniards went back to the coast, and to this day that city has never been found.

Is it a fable, a legend of the past? Many people have searched for the city, the belief that a great ruin exists is firmly established in all the country around the mighty ranges of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountains in Colombia. Massive, mysterious and beautiful are these mountains, their summits towering into the regions of perpetual snow, their ancient valleys eroded to hidden depths, great stretches of country rough and difficult accessible, never yet visited by white men, what a wealth may there be hidden.

Beyond question the country was once populated by a great, prosperous and progressive people, there are the roadways of massive stone worn smooth by passing feet attesting a people's energy and industry. There are the tombs, great chambers hewn into the solid rock, we find

curiously wrought stone beads made with a skill which would tax modern ingenuity, there are stone implements, strange pottery, carved idols and beautifully wrought gold ornaments; and this is not all, foundations of great buildings silent and alone in the jungles, and terraces on the mountain sides attest where many people once had lived.

My own explorations in the mountains indicate to me that the city of the Tyrones, if such exists, is not at the roadway where the battle took place, and where the land is not so fertile, but further back where the rich lands are inviting and pleasant. The roads were to reach the seaport where Santa Marta now is located but the people lived some days' journey back among the mountains. Those who have searched for the city have always looked in the vicinity of the broken roadway, the natural place to look is among the more distant, fertile and well watered valleys.

Perhaps the city of the Tyrones does not exist, but beyond the shadow of a doubt a great, energetic, prosperous people once occupied the regions of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta Mountains in northern Colombia, and if an expedition were sent to make investigations a wealth of scientific material would be obtained, thousands and thousands of rare, beautiful and curious specimens of antiquity are certainly to be had; and perhaps a great city the seat of a lost civilization, with all its treasures, will at last be located, and the monuments of a people gone to oblivion would then be restored to science.

WILL REPRODUCE OLD COINS.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 1.—To reproduce old shekels and dispose of them to numismatists and others for modern coin is the purpose of a company, one of the most unique ever formed here, and incorporated with a capitalization of \$75,000. It is the Ancient Sheckel company, and the trustees are S. F. Balla, E. D. Sheffler, O. V. Monroe, Della M. Corwin and Carrie E. Sheffler.

It is announced that ornaments will be manufactured and emblems of long-gone centuries copied. The men promoting the enterprise admit that present-day pieces of money appeal to them, and that their principal object is to accumulate a lot.—Des Moines Capital.

Correspondence

NUMISMATISTS ON THE NEW EAGLE.

My dear Mr. Elder:—I am enclosing a couple of rubbings of Bryan dollars, and descriptions of another one that has parodies of "In God We Trust." A search in the bar rooms will reveal a lot more parodies for at one time these places were especially rich in such mottoes. I trust that you will speak well of the new eagle. I have just sent off to Editor Heath a word of praise about the piece.

In justification of the Greek type of the new \$10, the placing of the head as it is and the feathers going to the edge, almost identical types can be found among many Greek coins. I can only think of a few offhand, including the Athenian pieces, and those of Thurium, Pharsalos, Heraclea and Velia.

In justification of the "pants" of the eagle, a glance at our own coins of the seated liberty type will show that trowsers were worn long in those days, as well as in the time of the Ptolemies, and good examples can be found on those ptolemaic coins with one and two eagles on the reverse. I think the design of the obverse and reverse are grand conceptions, but the technical execution or die work I do not consider good.

Yours very truly,

HOWLAND WOOD, Secretary.

Brookline, Mass., November 13, 1907.

* * *

My dear Mr. Elder:—

I have examined the new St. Gaudens ten dollar gold coin which you so kindly obtained for me and will briefly give you my opinion of it.

Upon the obverse, the head and appurtenances and date are too large for the size of the piece, and the stars too small. The face of Liberty is an anomaly. The prominent nose and chin indicate determination and strength of character, but the effect of overhanging "upper jaw" and lip with open mouth is idiotic. While the face is not that of an Indian, the headgear is.

On the reverse, we find a turkey buzzard in pantalettes. The words of the legend above and value below the effigy are not sufficiently spaced, and are too close to the outer rim of the coin. There should

be a marginal space between the top of these letters and the rim. "E Pluribus Unum" is added as a postscript.

The style of letters used on both obverse and reverse and the figures of date show very poor judgment viewed from a typographical standpoint.

In one respect the piece may be called a "howling success." It is entirely different from anything ever before issued by the United States Mint, and no patent is needed to protect the designer from infringements.

The coin, both obverse and reverse, is a humiliating disappointment, without one redeeming feature, and is a "foozle."

Yours very truly,

E. GILBERT.

* * *

THE NEW COIN.

My dear Mr. Elder:

It is not strange that a feeling of exultation results from one's first glimpse of the new \$10 gold coin. Chagrin and dismay have long stirred within us at sight of our coins in contrast with these of other nations, and to have one now that need not be defended save from attacks of patriotic committees from Harrisburg and from over-zealous religious enthusiasts, is indeed gratifying.

To the former we might say, should we be able to assume sufficient gravity in addressing them: "Look you! A great painter or sculptor is no one-eyed camera, nor does he slavishly copy every feature before him when he works from a model, in order thus to translate more readily into the medium he has chosen, his conception of beauty, or grandeur or power."

The simple beauty and dignity of design here shown on both obverse and reverse, must eventually silence all such noisy objections, and so we listen with a show of tolerance to the criticisms noted.

Formerly at the suggestion of that great American, Benjamin Franklin, some of our coins were inscribed "Mind your business," and it has been suggested that if we must have a motto, this be reinstated as being more pertinent and characteristic.

Seriously tho, it is certainly true, as President Roosevelt so convincingly showed in his recent open letter, that it has come to be flagrant irreverence to use the inscription "In God We Trust" on the

country's coins. Reverence for truth and beauty is most effectively in evidence in a beautifully designed and characteristic coin, certainly,—and it is because we, as a nation do not appreciate the inspiring grace and power of beautiful symbols that we have so many ugly and dispiriting ones all about us.

But now that we have it before us, we appreciate the grace and beauty of the firmly modelled head, so nicely placed, and so decoratively relieved by the stiff feathers; and the eagle remarkable for its spirited yet dignified posture and for the very evident characteristics, in drawing and modelling of the American eagle. In this we have at last a truthful, dignified and conventional American eagle.

Charles J. Connick.

Boston, Nov. 20, 1907.

THE OLD SILVER DOLLAR.

How dear to our heart is the old silver dollar when some kind subscriber presents it to view; the liberty head, sans necktie or collar and all the strange things which to us seem so new. The widespread eagle, the arrows below it, the stars and the words with the strange things they tell; the coin of our fathers, we're glad that know it, for some time or other 'twill come in right well. The spread eagle dollar, the star spangled dollar, the old silver dollar we all love so well.—Kansas City Independent.

* * *

"SLUGS" TO BE SOLD.

New York, Oct. 14.—[Exclusive Dispatch.] Coin collectors from Chicago and elsewhere will engage in a lively competition here next week to secure a rare souvenir of the pioneer days of California, when the gold of the Argonauts was turned into rough slugs in San Francisco as a substitute for the regular United States gold coins.

Bidding for one of the rare "miners' back" \$10 gold pieces, struck in California in 1850, will be a feature of the auction of old coins at Elders'.

It is not known how many of these coins are still in existence, but the number is extremely limited. This is the first one to be offered for many years.—Los Angeles Times.



The Boston Numismatic Society

The November meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society was held at the society's rooms November 8th, at 3 P. M., Dr. S. A. Green, Pres., in the chair. The following members were present: Dr. Green, Mr. Marvin, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Chase, Mr. Trowbridge, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Wood.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A committee was appointed by the President to revise the By-Laws of the society. Mr. Wood was appointed Chairman and Dr. Storers and Mr. Chase were chosen to act with him.

Mr. Robinson exhibited several Eastern medals the exact attribution of which has never been determined upon. Mr. Robinson also presented to the society a photograph of the numismatic cabinet in the Essex Institute.

Mr. Stearns showed a Clark, Gruber \$5 gold piece of 1861.

Mr. Chase exhibited a Columbia & Washington medal, a large pewter Dutch satirical piece, and three silver jettons of Venice, all having ships on them.

Mr. Wood exhibited a rare gold coin of the Axumite dynasty of Eastern Ethiopia, the new Danish West Indies set, an example of the "spirit money" of Burmah, a series of thirty rupees showing the different standards and patterns used in India during the last hundred years, and a proof piastre struck by Denmark for Greenland.

Mr. Trowbridge exhibited a "mome-gin" of Japan and a silver bar commemorating the opening of the Atlantic and Pacific Railway tunnel.

A general discussion then took place and the meeting was adjourned to meet the first week in December.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

The 45th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Mr. W. F. Dunham presiding. The following members were present: Mr. Jerrems, Mr. Verkler, Mr. Carey, Mr. W. F. Dunham, Mr. Brand, Mr. Jaeger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Excell, Mr. Leon, Mr. Blumenschein, Dr. Merrill, Mr. Chester Dunham, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Baker, Mr. Williams, Mr. Adams and Mr. Green.

Mr. E. H. Adams, Mr. E. W. Hoague and Mr. F. J. Loer were elected to membership.

Two commemorative cards were received from Mr. T. L. Elder.

A motion was carried authorizing the Society to recommend an Indian head for the contemplated new United States cent. Models were shown, which are to be submitted to the Treasury Department.

Mr. Brand distributed the Pike Centennial medals in bronze and silver to those present at cost. Many interesting exhibits were made including a set of U. S. cents by Dr. Holmes, and a set of Swedish plate money by Mr. Leon.

Auction catalogs were received from Elder, Green, and Adolph Hess Nachfolger.

Mr. Leon presented the Society with a pair of mounted owls. The rooms have been greatly improved in appearance and convenience by the new book cases and exhibit cases.

Adjourned to meet Nov. 1st, 1907.

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The 46th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Nov. 1st, Pres. W. F. Dunham presiding. The following members were present: Mr. Verkler, Mr. W. F. Dunham, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Brand, Mr. Jaeger, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Blumenschein, Dr. Merrill, Mr. Chester Dunham, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Baker, Mr. Sorensen, Mr. Williams and

Mr. Green. Mr. J. W. Sears and Mr. J. H. Ripstra were elected to membership.

Mr. W. F. Dunham made some interesting experiments with acid on various metals and explained its effects. A test of memory in regard to the U. S. cent of 1907 was made, the silver medal being won by Mr. Baker.

Mr. Williams showed his U. S. type collection, which is practically complete. Mr. Brand exhibited Belgian trial pieces in gold, silver, copper and lead; a very fine Cromwell 9 pence and some rare ancient gold and seige pieces. Dr. Merrill showed Peruvian gold; and Mr. Green, the Chicago Philatelic Society medal issued to commemorate their 500th meeting.

Donations to the cabinet were received from Mr. Leon and Dr. Fisher. Books received were: British Coinage by Ruding, 3 vols.; Coins of the Jews by Madden; Canadian Coin Cabinet by Le Roux; Vadmeicum by Le Roux; Scott's Copper and Nickel, and Silver and Gold catalogs; Copper Coins by Neumann, 3 vols.; Essays on Medals by Pinkerton, 2 vols.; Gibbons History of Rome, 6 vols. Magazines received were: Numismatist, Sept., Oct., and Nov.; Numismatische Correspondenz for Sept; Spink's Numismatic Circular for Sept., Oct., and Nov.; Philatelic West, July, Aug., and Oct.; and Numismatischer Verkehr for Oct. and a miscellaneous lot of 97 catalogs, pamphlets, etc.

Mr. Ripstra was present as a visitor.

Adjourned to meet Dec. 6th, 1907.

BEN G. GREEN, Secretary.



The American Numismatic Society

A meeting of this Society was held on Monday evening, November 18th, last, with Archer M. Huntington presiding. Curator Poillon reports donations of 974 coins, medals and insignia since the last

meeting. The most valuable donations were those of Mr. J. Sanford Saltus and included the new St. Gaudens \$10 piece, a gold proof set of 1907, a complete set of English coins for 1907, three Salamagundi Club medals and many pieces of gold-enameled insignia. Mr. Huntington presented some Grand Army medals. Messrs. Parish and Levick gave some Jackson tokens. Messrs. Warner, Waitt and Holmes donated masonic pieces. Rev. Zimmerman gave a very old masonic silver piece inlaid with jewels.

Prof. Olcott, of Columbian University, James H. Manning, of Albany, J. C. Mitchelson, of Tariffville, Conn.; Wm. E. Hidden, of Newark N. J. and H. O. Granberg, of Oshkosh, Wis., were elected to membership.

The Society has acquired the American Journal of Numismatics and will make it the official journal. Mr. Brenner has made a new seal for the Society. By order of the council a catalogue of the gold coins in the collection will be printed and sent to the members.

The 50th Anniversary of the Society will be celebrated in the new building in April of next year, and for this occasion a special medal will be struck. Probably the Society's new building will adorn the obverse of this medal.

The Coinage Committee will enter into further correspondence with President Roosevelt regarding the improvement of the United States Coinage artistically.

CURRENCY POURED INTO WALL STREET.

New York, Nov. 5.—Currency of all denominations and in varying stages of crispness poured into the offices of several brokerage houses in Wall Street yesterday from all the nooks and crannies of New York.

Hearing that $2\frac{1}{4}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium was being paid for ready money, men, women and boys brought their savings to the financial district and exchanged them for certified checks with the premium increase, which they deposited forthwith in their banks.

In the offices of Mann, Bill & Ware, No. 38 Wall street, one of the firms that led in the premium paying, there was a never ending line of associated personalities throughout the day. They came from the East Side principally and they carried their savings, which ranged all the way from \$100 or \$200 to \$5,000 or \$6,000, in pasteboard shoe boxes, in toy banks, in old socks tied with a bit of cord, in their pockets, and in one case, in a derby hat.

ODD MAN MEETS DEATH ODDLY.

On September 12 there was printed in "The Sun" a story of the mysterious disappearance of Frederick C. Wegener, who dealt in gems and rare coins. On Saturday Wegener's body was found in the bushes by the side of a lonely road near Bloomsbury, N. J., a revolver lying by the right hand, a bullet wound in the head. G. M. Pidcock, the Coroner of Bloomsbury, after viewing the body and examining the condition of the bushes in its vicinity, decided that Wegener had committed suicide and without holding an inquest gave permission for the burial of the body.

All that seemed of any value to the Coroner found in Wegener's pockets was 50 cents in familiar small change and a number of odd looking coins lettered in heathen words and a vial which contained some pieces of red and white glass. The last acquaintance who saw Wegener reported that he then wore as was his custom, rings and other jewelry worth about \$1,000 and carried, as usual, a valuable watch. No such property is reported as found on the body.

To that acquaintance, who asked Wegener where he was going, he replied, "To hell." That was in the early part of this month, but it was not until the 15th that he bought a round trip ticket to a point near where he was found dead, and he had some purpose of returning, for the return coupon was found in his pocket.

Where he was between the 1st and the 15th of the month, and how he disposed of his watch and jewelry may never be known, for the Bloomsbury Coroner did not inquire, and Wegener's distressed relatives will make no effort to learn.

Wegener was a person of some pleasing, some puzzling, eccentricities. For twenty years he had told a story which his friends believed, that his interest in gems began with his finding a lot of them thrown in his way when a boy by some French sailors trying to escape from pursuing French naval officers. For the last dozen years he had become known to some reputable dealers in old and rare coins and unset gems as a collector of such objects with a good knowledge of the value of the things he traded in.

The first inquiry about him after his disappearance about a month ago came to "The Sun" office from a reputable dealer in old coins who had traded with Wegener. The dealer's suspicions had been aroused by inquiries made at his office for Wegener by men whose appearance did not indicate an honest interest in Wegener's stock in

trade. At that time a "Sun" reporter asked John C. Huser, a commission merchant of 120 Duane street, who is Wegener's brother-in-law, if he had heard from the missing man. Mr. Huser had heard from the man to whom Wegener had said that he was going to hell. Mr. Huser, when seen yesterday, said:

"On Saturday a telegram stating that Wegener's body had been found was delivered at the office of John Riefe, president of the Consumers Brewing Company. Mr. Riefe was not at his office, so his secretary forwarded the telegram to me. On Sunday I went to Bloomsbury and made arrangements for the burial at Greenville, N. J., tomorrow. I accept the theory of the Coroner that Fred shot himself. Yes, I did ask about Fred's watch and jewelry, but nothing of such kind was found on the body. Fred had considerable money, too, but only 50 cents in money was found in his pockets. The things in the little bottle found in a leather case in his pocket have been said to be diamonds. I do not know. I have not examined them. See, I am drawing a check for the Bloomsbury undertaker's bill—that is all I can do for poor Fred. A strange character, and a strange end, eh?"—Sun, Sept. 24, '07.

* * *

THE ST. GAUDENS COINS.

These artists, professors and literary fellers! It is hard for this big nation to keep from wobbling off its base when these irresponsible persons are given more than a leash length of rope. There is good Dean Burgess, going over to Germany and throwing us into long-distance hysterics because of his careless handling of the holy Monroe doctrine. Every little while some astounding poet or something of the sort forgets his sacred Americanism, and speaks treasonable things, either on the nervous shores of the Philippines or in an effete capital of Europe. Now some "American" societies suddenly rise up to defend with their hearts' blood and their pens' ink the purity of our nationality, protesting against the selection of an Irish face by the sculptor St. Gaudens for the new gold coins. We know that American citizenship is a sacred thing, but we cannot help thinking that St. Gaudens himself came over here as an immigrant, and so, of course, had no business making coinage designs. We cannot help thinking that we have only one honestly American face on our coinage and that is on the copper cents—and we are not sure that this was drawn from a genuine native model.—Boston Advertiser.

COLOMBIA'S EMERALD MINES.

The German Minister in Bogota, Colombia, has sent to his Government a detailed report on the emerald mines of Musco, in the Department of Boyaca. These mines have undergone many vicissitudes.

After the country broke away from Spain they were at first held by Boyaca and worked for its benefit in an indolent sort of way. Then the national Government laid claim to them and they were shiftlessly worked by various concession holders. Until the most recent revolution nobody paid any attention to the workings or the value of the stones taken from them.

Now they have been leased to a Colombian syndicate for five years and a rigid Government supervision is exercised over the output. It is the intention of the Administration when the lease expires to take up the working of the mines on its own account.

From the mining village a narrow path leads to the mines about 350 feet up the side of a steep mountain. The open cut shows a great variety of rocks and minerals, slate, flint and quartz being the most prominent.

The emeralds are found in a fossiliferous limestone which shows in gray streaks among the darker rocks. The Spaniards used to get at the gems by driving adits into the hill following the veins. Now the open cut has been adopted and the rock is terraced from above.

High up on the mountain there are copious watercourses. These are directed into artificial reservoirs and flumes—one of them six miles long—are carried down to the mine. The quantity of water is so great that even in dry seasons there is sufficient to carry on operations.

As the rocks are pulverized the debris is converted into slime and carried by the water down the mountain to the Rio Minero, far below, which sweeps it along to the sea. The gems are picked from the washing troughs by peons, who keep breaking up the rock smaller and smaller so that nothing is lost.

Altogether more than 100 laborers are employed. They receive 25 pesos in paper, equivalent to 25 cents a day in United States money, besides food, shelter and free medical attendance.

None of them can stand the work very long. The intense heat, especially in the bottom of the great pit of the mine, and the working in water break them down rapidly and they fall victims to the local fever.

They work under canvas awnings and fix palm leaves over their heads to keep off the glare of the sun, but as the day wears on the atmosphere in the pit often rises to a temperature of 115 to 120 degrees and it becomes as humid as that of a Turkish bath through the evaporation from the washing pans and the slime.

At every stage of the work the syndicate inspectors watch the peons scrupulously. Every stone is turned over to them the instant it is found. They clean it and report it to the Government officials.

Until two or three years ago it was supposed that the Muso mines were practically exhausted, but this was only because of inefficient methods. Last year emeralds to the value of not less than \$1,000,000 in gold were taken out and sold.

* * *

SAINT GAUDENS' COIN MODEL.

To the Editor of The World:

I notice a great many people of late who style themselves patriotic Americans have a strong aversion to the face of a foreign-born girl appearing on the coins of the United States. This seems to me very silly when one considers the heterogeneous population which comprises these United States. When Saint Gaudens selected the profile of the handsome Irish lass Mary Cunningham as typical of womanly beauty, he evidently did so regardless of race or nationality.

Americans owe much to the late gifted Saint Gaudens. He has enriched and beautified many American cities by his gift as a sculptor. Who would gainsay the beauty of his splendid equestrian statue of "Sherman and Victory," which adorns the entrance to Central Park, and his many other artistic creations throughout the country?

JOSEPH E. MULVANEY.

New York, Sept. 30.

* * *

AUCTION SALE OF RARE COINS.

New York, Oct. 21.—Numismatists all over the country are interested in the auction sale of rare coins in New York during the week,

and scores of wealthy collectors and dealers from various cities are here to compete in the bidding for the rarities offered. Rarest of all the specimens is the "Miners' bank" ten-dollar gold piece, struck in California in 1850, and lively rivalry is expected among the collectors who desire to secure possession of this souvenir of the gold money of the pioneers.

This gold piece was one of a series minted during the gold fever days in San Francisco as a substitute for regular United States gold coins, of which at that time there was a great scarcity. This piece was struck by the banking firm of Wright & Company, of San Francisco, which house afterward failed during a panic. Only one denomination was issued by the bank, and the average weight of this piece was $263\frac{1}{2}$ grains, of a fineness of about 865.

The coin bears no date, but is of a beautiful design. On the obverse is a large eagle with outstretched wings surrounded a portion of the border being thirteen stars, while at the top is the word "California." The reverse bears the inscription at the top and bottom, near the edge, of "Miners' Bank, and "San Francisco," with a star between the two inscriptions. It is not known how many of these coins are in existence, but the number is extremely limited and any offered are certain of bringing a high price. This is the first one to be placed on sale in many years.

Another rarity to be sold will be the "Silver Centre" cent, one of the first coins produced at the United States mint, and bearing the date "1792." The auction will also dispose of many fine pieces of private gold coinage, among these being an uncirculated five-dollar Mormon gold piece, bearing the inscription "Deseret Assay Office, Pure Gold," a coin once widely used in Utah and coined through the instrumentality of Brigham Young. There are also offered several of the gold pieces of quaint design struck in North Carolina in the early 30's.—N. Y. Times.

* * *

RECORD PRICE FOR CENTS.

New York, Oct. 16.—Record prices for copper United States coins of early date were paid today at the Elder auction sale, when 2000 lots brought an aggregate of \$7000. A record was made for a perfect half-cent of 1796, which was bid up to \$300, after spirited competition. Seven half-cents brought \$534. A large and valuable

lot of private and United States gold sold for high prices, bringing as high as \$250 for a single specimen.

A United States pattern cent, dated 1792, the first coin of this denomination designed at the United States Mint, sold for \$212.50. This piece bears a homely head of Liberty, is the size of the old half-cent, and has a silver plug inserted to make its metal value that of one cent. Washington personally complimented the engraver, a poor Pennsylvania blacksmith, on this pattern.—Philadelphia Record.

* * *

AFRAID OF AN IRISH MAID'S PROFILE.

The late Augustus St. Gaudens designed certain coins for the United States. On these coins appears the profile of a woman. Because the woman was born in Ireland a patriotic society has solemnly protested against the use of her profile on an American coin. We cannot imagine what the Government will do when it receives this reminder of the late Mr. St. Gaudens' treachery, except shut itself up in its executive departments and wonder what the world is coming to. Evidently there are some of us who take life too seriously. In respect to "patriotism" the Irishman has played an admirable part in this country, from Revolutionary days down. North and South, East and West, from 1776 to 1898 the sons of Ireland have been found wherever duty called. Is it possible that the face of an "Irish born girl" really strikes terror to the hearts of "patriots" in this twentieth century? Are we so timid that the profile of an Irish maiden on an American coin makes strong men shiver? We know, of course, that the daughters of Erin are beautiful and fascinating and are to be avoided by all men who desire to live a life of single-blessedness;. It is a matter of record that many an Englishman and many a Scotchman who have resisted the charms of the maidens of their native land have capitulated when the Irish girl brought her fascinations to bear upon them. It is conceded, therefore, that the daughters of Erin are a menace to the peace of mind of all men who are trying to keep single. But to attack them on the ground of patriotism, to invoke the aid of a government of 80,000,000 persons for protection from the profile of one Irish girl on certain American coins is a manifestation of "nerves" utterly beyond comprehension. Really, this is a case for the neurologists. It is to be hoped that the Government has competent experts in its employment.—Baltimore Sun.

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S COINAGE.

While a two dollar and a half gold piece issued in Utah in 1849, recently sold for \$175, it is by no means the rarest of the coins struck by the Mormons. The Mormon coinage consisted of the denominations of \$2.50, \$5, \$10 and \$20, embracing several varieties of design and dated 1849, 1850 and 1860.

Early in 1849 the need of a circulating medium was felt, for all the available currency was about \$60 worth of fractional coin in the possession of Brigham Young. A paper money issue was first made, consisting of the denominations of 50 cents and \$1, the designs for which were typeset. These notes were made payable in gold and redeemed by a certain sum set aside for the purpose by the Mormon authorities.

Then dies were engraved for gold coins by Robert Campbell of the denomination of \$5, and still others were designed by James M. Barlow, a jeweler and dentist. There is some uncertainty as to the Campbell designs, as the only records obtainable say that the first dies made were broken while coins were being struck. Whether any pieces were struck is not definitely known.

The Barlow designs were similar in many respects, all the denominations of 1849 and 1850 showing the same general design with trifling variations. The twenty-dollar gold piece showed on the obverse an eye, above which was the mitre of a Mormon Bishop, surrounded by the inscription, "Holiness to the Lord." On the reverse the principal device was two calped hands, the date and the initials "G. S. L. P. G.," or Great Salt Lake City Pure Gold, while at the bottom were the words "Twenty Dollars.

It has always been the boast of the Mormons that they were the first to issue a gold piece of the denomination of \$20, which as a matter of fact is the truth. In 1849 James B. Longacre designed the present United States double eagle, but only one specimen of it was struck in gold from the dies in that year. This solitary specimen is now regarded as the rarest coin in the American series. The regular coinage of these pieces did not begin till 1850.

A number of the Mormon twenty-dollar gold pieces were struck in 1849 and widely circulated throughout that part of the country. While bearing the stamp of "Pure Gold," this statement is open to question.

These early coins were first struck from gold brought from Cali-

fornia by the Mormon battalion and served in the Mexican war, dust and nuggets being melted and refined in the cellar of an old building on South Temple street, Salt Lake City. On the first floor of the same building was the primitive coinage machine, which, like the dies, was of Mormon manufacture. It is a well known fact that the California gold contains a high percentage of silver. It is said that all the Utah coins up to 1860 varied greatly in fineness, containing silver to the extent of the average California gold. Their general average of fineness was about .886.

The intrinsic value of the twenty-dollar piece ranged from \$16 to \$18 and the fineness from .889 to .900. The value of an uncirculated specimen to a collector is now placed at \$150, but it would probably bring more if offered for sale.

The ten-dollar gold piece of the same series, dated 1849, of similar design, is the rarest of all the Mormon denominations, and so far as known there are not more than two in existence. Up to about 1880 there was not a single specimen in the possession of any of the big coin collectors. Some time after that year a specimen was offered at an auction sale and, no one apparently being aware of its rarity, it was sold for \$22.

Should such a coin be sold now its price would probably equal the highest premium ever paid for a Territorial gold coin. This was \$1,310, paid for a specimen of the J. S. Ormsby ten-dollar gold piece, struck at about the same time in Sacramento, Cal. The only specimen of the Mormon gold piece now located is in the possession of a coin collector named Callahan, at present living in Salt Lake City, who has a complete series of the Mormon gold issues.

The five-dollar gold piece of 1849 is the same in design as the two preceding pieces, but shows "Five Do" on the lower part of the reverse. The intrinsic value of this coin varied between \$4.25 and \$4.50. It is not nearly so rare as some of the others of the same series.

The \$2.50 piece bore the same design as the others, but had "Two and Half Do" on the reverse. This coin, like the rest of the 1849 series, had a plain edge.

In 1850 there was struck another variety of the five-dollar gold piece. This showed a different form of the eye and mitre, and around this central design was a circle of nine stars. In fine condition this coin is now held at about \$20.

In 1858 President Brigham Young desired a change in the design of the five-dollar gold piece, and new dies were prepared. On the ob-

verse of this coin was a representation of a lion reclining on the ground. Around the edge was an inscription in so-called Mormon characters, meaning "Holiness to the Lord." Below is the date when the coin was first struck, "1860."

On the reverse was an eagle, or phoenix, with a bee hive in front, while around the edge was inscribed "Deseret Assay Office, Pure Gold 5 D." The edge of the coin was reeded, and a fine specimen is now worth about \$40.

Before this new design was issued a pattern piece was struck in gold from the dies and presented to Brigham Young. This coin showed the regular obverse, with the usual inscription and date, but the reverse was plain, with the exception of the central device of eagle and bee hive. Mr. Young wore this coin as a charm on his watch chain, and upon his death the watch, chain and coin were sold by his executors for \$300.

The dies for the later issue of coins are said to be still in the possession of the Mormon authorities at Salt Lake City. The entire Mormon coinage was finally suppressed by the same national law that put an end to the issue of gold coins by private persons in California. —N. Y. Sun.

* * *

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