

The Elder Magazine

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

VOL. II NEW YORK DEC. 1907-JAN. 1908 No. 10-11

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR

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Editorials

Exit, the Monthly, Enter the Magazine

The Elder Magazine greets you. Wish it success, and give it your support. Send in your subscription. It will be issued every two months, and the investment of fifty cents per year will be less than half of value received.

The Panic and Numismatics

The rank outsider who usually gives an impatient sniff when such a subject as coin collecting is mentioned would think that the recent financial panic had hit Numismatics a hard rap, since he regards coins and medals simply luxuries, the same as jewelry. No greater mistake could have been made, for on the contrary the "hoarders" if there are any in our ranks, seem to think that if hoarding is to be done, they will hoard their cash in the shape of rare coins. So, behold, the auction cataloguers report that they had more bidders at their sales in November, December and January than ever before. The wide discussion of the new issues of the eagle and double eagle seems also to have helped. Why, the public simply went wild over the first issue of St. Gaudens' new \$20, and quickly bought up the entire issue of about \$6,000 before the coin collectors had a fair opportunity to add the piece to their collections. The persons who bought up and hid away these \$20s have the numismatic germ within them. It only needs to be nurtured—they are numismatists in the bud. Perhaps the splendid work of such newspapers as the New York Sun and Boston Transcript, has helped to push the fad along. May we not encourage all of them and endeavor to deepen their interest? Certainly coin collecting in America is having a boom unprecedented.

The Canadian Branch of the Royal Mint

On the 2nd of January Earl Grey the Governor General of Canada declared the Canadian Branch of the Royal Mint opened at Ottawa. The ceremony took place in the main hall in presence of the Hon. W. S. Fielding the Finance minister, several other members of the cabinet and a limited number of citizens. The visitors then entered the stamping room where Earl Grey pulled a lever and coined a single fifty cent piece, the first ever struck in Canada. Then her Excellency Lady Grey pulled another lever and coined a Canadian cent of 1908. This done the coinage of cents was started while the visitors watched the work proceed until a sufficient number were struck to give every visitor one. Earl Grey retains the fifty cent piece and Lady Grey the first cent as souvenirs of the event.

The mint will be open for visitors after the 13th of January, when parties of not more than six will be admitted at one time.

A few proof sets will be struck, 3 for collectors at a cost of \$1.20 per set of 50, 25, 10, 5 and one cent pieces, or if wanted in a case, the cost will be \$2.00. They can be had by applying to the deputy master of the Royal Mint, Ottawa.

As soon as the opening ceremony was concluded a cablegram announcing the fact was sent to the master of the Royal Mint, London.

The Canadian Government intend to make this an up-to-date establishment as an electric plant for refining gold and silver is soon to be added.

A Great Manuscript Collection and Collector

Recently it was the pleasure of the editor to visit at the home of James H. Manning, Esqr., a great collector of manuscripts, books and coins. Almost an entire day was spent in looking over Mr. Manning's splendid and valuable collections. Of special interest was the collection of letters of all but two of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. A collection of letters of every President of the United States, from Washington to Roosevelt was shown. Several of these were addressed in the president's handwriting to Mr. Manning. Every literary genius and prominent American statesman was represented by valuable and unpublished documents. There was a bundle of twenty-five affidavits submitted by the Committee of Safety of Lexington, Mass., to a similar committee at Albany, written only a week after the opening battle of the Revolution, testifying as to which side had fired the shot "heard round the world." Jonas Parker and other of the patriots who opposed Major Pitcairn testified that the British fired first.

Benedict Arnold was represented by a fine letter written during the early part of the conflict, reciting his brilliant capture of a British sloop. Franklin, Washington, Napoleon and others were represented by splendidly preserved letters written in their own hands on their private letter paper. Mr. Manning deserves great credit for the original and finely systematized way in which he has arranged his

collection, which must take rank with the finest in existence, and represents the work of a lifetime.

It was Mr. Manning who recently bid \$600 on a Button Gwinnet letter. Gwinnet is one of the rare Declaration signers lacking in the collection. The numismatic world was startled recently by Mr. Manning's purchase of an 1806 over 1805 quarter dollar for \$165, a record price.

A Great Auction Sale

Mr. Elder's Fifteenth Public Auction Sale of valuable coins, medals, paper money, stamps, ancient objects of art, weapons, antiques, etc., will be held about February 25th. Drop us a card for a catalogue, which is free.

Collectors of Americana will be surprised and gratified to know that this sale will contain among thousands of items a set of United States Silver dollars complete up to 1873, excepting only the great 1804. There is an 1841 with date double cut, a proof, one of which sold in the Smith sale for \$27; also a bright proof 1844, very rare. In gold there are a half eagle of 1797 over '95, of excessive rarity; an 1854 \$3 gold piece of the Dahlonega mint, and a fine line of \$1 and \$3 pieces. In foreign gold will be found over 125 pieces both ancient and modern of exceptional interest, in almost perfect condition, attractive offerings, collection of foreign silver and copper, a fine lot of Confederate paper money, fractional currency, etc. In ancient jewelry and antiques will be found a rare lot of ancient Roman pottery unearthed in Cologne, made during the Roman occupation of that city; a fine line of Egyptian, Babylonian, Greek and Roman scarabs, cylinders, pottery, glass, weapons, necklaces, etc. In fact there will be something to interest all classes of collectors. It will be a two days' sale of almost as great importance as the one held October last. Priced catalogues will be \$1.25 each. The 1794, 1836, Gobrecht in field, 1836, Gobrecht on base, 1838, 1839, 1851, 1852 and 1858, are, with one exception very choice specimens. In U. S. Cents there is a Chain Ameri of 1793, about uncirculated, a sharp impression of light color; an uncirculated Liberty cap variety of 1796; a fillet 1796 with some original red; some choice ones of 1794, 1805; rare half cents of 1793, 1848, 1849, small date, 1852, all in superb condition.

Thomas L. Elder, 32 E. 23rd St., New York City.

Honors for Mr. Elder

Mr. Elder was elected, on November 22d last, to membership in the Royal Numismatic Society of London, England.

Following closely upon this came an additional honor when the Society of Colonial Wars of America elected him to membership in that honorable body. Mr. Elder was admitted to the latter society through the services of his great-great-grandfather, Captain John Knox, who was in the famous 43rd British Regiment, which took such an active part in Wolfe's Army at the battle of Quebec. Captain Knox's regiment was present also during the battles of Louisburg, Montmorency and others. Besides being a member of the Irish peerage, Captain Knox was a historian of note. His "Historical Journals of the campaigns of 1755, '7 and '9" are regarded as official. Bancroft, Parkman and other American historians have drawn extensively on these works for their data, and Parkman states that "of all the various accounts of the death of Wolfe, that of Knox is the most reliable."

Our Paper Money—"Greenbacks"

BY GEO. H. BLAKE.

Let us first devote a little attention to the early history of our money.

Barter and exchange must have prevailed at a very early period in this country, for in excavating Indian graves and the sites of early encampments, the copper of Lake Superior has been found as far South as Georgia and Florida. There are also many instances of implements being unearthed, made of a peculiar stone brought from hundreds of miles away, which have been found in a cache, large quantities being all precisely alike; evidently the stock on hand of some prehistoric trader. Lumps of gold, silver, and galena have also been discovered in several Southern States, in some cases inscribed with curious figures.

The early settlers having brought little money to this country, soon exhausted their resources, and in their extremity were obliged to adopt Indian wampum, which was made of cylindrical pieces of shell,

varying from a quarter to a half-inch in length and used generally in the form of belts and strings. This was one of the first arbitrary standards of value employed in this country and found its way into Colonial exchequers, public institutions, and private hands, so that its value was admitted and sustained for many years.

The General Court of Massachusetts on November 15th, 1637, ordered "That wampum should pass at six penny for any sum under 12 pence," and on October 7th, 1640, the same Court also ordered that "white wampum should pass at four a penny; blue at two a penny, etc." Not until 1661 was the law authorizing its use as legal tender repealed.

Roger Williams quotes a fathom of wampum as worth 5 shillings, — Pennsylvania sanctioned its use at 10 shillings and New York at 4 guilders a fathom.

As early as 1618 Gov. Argall of Virginia ordered that tobacco, at three shillings per pound, be taken in payment of all goods. In 1620 ninety girls were sent over to become wives of the settlers, by the Virginia Company. These were first paid for by 100 pounds of tobacco each; afterwards, on account of scarcity, at 150 pounds; and the debt for wives took precedence over all others.

Codfish was at one time used in New England; peltry was also recognized as currency quite generally at an early period, and musket balls passed in Massachusetts in 1644 at a farthing apiece. Corn, beans, peas and other grains, tobacco, leather, and even live stock were received for taxes. Imagine a Colonial treasury plethoric with wampum, tobacco, corn, live stock, and musket balls, in contrast with modern conveniences.

The earliest coins struck on this continent were those of Mexico where a mint was established in 1535, the first in the Colonies, 1616 were the Sommer Island (now Bermuda) series, which, being then a part of the Colony of Virginia, heads the series of our country. These were followed, in 1652, by the New England and Massachusetts silver shillings and smaller denominations. Maryland followed with the Lord Baltimore series in 1659, and was succeeded by the New Jersey Carolina, and several other Colonies.

The first bank was established in Boston in 1686 by John Blackwell and others.

Prior to the reign of William and Mary, the Colonists were prohibited from coining money, and in the year 1690 the Colonies of

New England and New York undertook an expedition against Canada, which turned out unsuccessfully. On the return of the troops to Boston empty handed there was no money with which to pay them, and as they clamored for payment and were on the verge of mutiny, it was resolved to resort to *paper money*. A committee was empowered to issue £7000 in bills of from 5 shillings to £5. Thus was paper money, which eventually led to the foundation of the American Banking System, first introduced into this country by Massachusetts in 1690;* Carolina followed suit in 1702, in consequence of an ill-advised expedition to St. Augustine, which entailed a debt of £6000.

New York and Connecticut first issued bills of credit in 1709, and Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia followed in due course, Georgia in 1760 being the last to put out paper money. Originally the issues were authorized to meet the necessities of the Colonial treasuries, but after a short time, commercial and financial embarrassment still continuing, loan banks were established in nearly, if not quite all, the Colonies. This paper money depreciated almost without exception as the amounts in circulation increased.

The bills were originally intended to equal the current coin, but when depreciation had advanced to such an extent as to appall the authorities, a new set of bills would be issued, with new assurances that they would be kept equal to coin, and in the new issue the old would be redeemable at their depreciated value. Often this second set of bills, having also depreciated, were replaced by a third set in the same way. These previous sets were designated tenors; the terms old tenor, middle tenor, new tenor, etc., being used to distinguish them. Issues followed each other with considerable rapidity, and in many of the Colonies were very numerous.

(To be continued).

New York, Dec. 12.—The executive committee of the American Numismatic Society, of which Thomas L. Elder is chairman, has forwarded to President Roosevelt resolutions commending him for his action providing for "a better and more artistic coinage." The resolution commends the artistic effect of the new ten and twenty dollar gold pieces designed by St. Gaudens, but criticises some of the details of the reproductions.—News.

Money Based on Gold Dust

By E. H. ADAMS.

The need of a circulating medium brought into existence a curious currency among the Mormons of Utah in the early days. They had a fairly abundant supply of gold dust, but no form of money. When taxes were collected, for instance, they were paid in gold dust. The tax collector was often unable to give fractional change and issued due bills for small amounts.

Finally so great became the need for a convenient circulating medium that the suggestion was made by some of the leaders that the circulation of the Kirtland notes be authorized, the community to stand sponsor for them. And this was adopted.

The Kirtland notes were the product of a bank of the wild cat species which was in operation in 1837 at Kirtland, Ohio, where under the leadership of Joseph Smith the Mormons had a settlement. The institution was known as the Kirtland Safety Society Bank and issued notes in the denominations of \$1, \$3, \$5 and \$10.

Fully \$50,000 worth of these notes were said to have been issued. Then the bank failed, not having at the time of suspension more than \$5,000 with which to redeem its issue. The result was that the notes became absolutely worthless. Many of the Mormons kept their notes, regarding them as curiosities, while others retained possession of them in the faith that the prediction of Smith would one day be realized, he being reputed to have said that the notes one day would be as good as gold.

The action of the Mormon leaders in Utah in 1849 made this prediction come true, for the Kirtland notes at once went into general circulation and were placed on a par with gold. Each and every one of them was redeemed at the Mormon headquarters in gold dust, of which there seemed to be a greater supply than there was of representations of money.

There were two issues of paper money or scrip in Denver, Col., which were redeemed in gold. Some of them were redeemed at a time when gold was at a premium and so rank among the curious currency representations of which this country has seen many examples.

In September, 1861, the firm of C. A. Cook & Co. of Denver, issued notes of the denominations of 10, 25 and 50 cents and \$1. This

firm conducted a large general merchandise business, in the course of which they handled great quantities of gold dust, the latter at the time being the only circulating medium in Colorado, or Kansas Territory as it was then called.

Later the firm dropped the merchandise business and took up banking. Great need was felt for fractional currency which would be worth as much as gold and at the same time save the inconvenience of handling the gold dust. To supply the prevailing need Cook & Co. issued these notes, which were all finely engraved on steel and bore the promise of the firm to be redeemed in gold dust.

The notes were snapped up by everybody, but more particularly the merchants, and it was not long before Cook & Co.'s notes were in general circulation in Denver and the contiguous mountain regions. They were promptly redeemed whenever presented, and being redeemable in gold dust were preferred to the regular United States currency. They were the smallest gold notes ever issued.

Some time later the banking house caught fire and was entirely consumed. At great risk the senior member of the firm entered the burning building and rescued the stock of gold dust, which amounted to something like \$83,000.

The following day the holders of the notes, fearing a possible loss on account of the fire, asked for the redemption of their notes, which was granted in every instance; but this seeming want of confidence so provoked Mr. Cook that after the last note had been redeemed and cancelled he determined never to issue another, and thus ended an issue unique in America's financial history. It is not probable that a specimen of this interesting series of notes is in existence to-day.

Denver was responsible for still another paper issue, noteworthy in several ways. The banking, assaying and minting firm of Clark, Gruber & Co. of Denver issued a bank note in the latter part of 1861, redeemable in gold, that was worth even more than Uncle Sam's paper notes.

This firm, which began business in Denver in 1860, and had bought great quantities of gold dust from the Pike's Peak region, conceived a plan by which they could save the expense of sending the gold to Philadelphia to be minted. They therefore established a coining establishment of their own.

They struck gold coins of the denominations of \$2.50, \$5, \$10 and \$20. Then when they purchased gold dust from the miners or business

men in that territory they would pay in their own coin, made right on the ground.

These coins were heavier than the regular United States coins of the same denominations, and though the fineness was not quite as great as the gold in the government coins, having been struck from native gold which contained a large proportion of silver, still the greater weight more than offset the lack of fineness and gave them an excess value of at least 1 per cent. over United States gold coin.

In order to facilitate business transactions Clark, Gruber & Co. issued paper notes of the denomination of \$5. The bill showed on the observe in the centre a representation of a buffalo hunt, while in the lower right hand corner was the portrait of Governor Gilpin, then Colorado Territory's chief executive. The whole bill was well designed, black and red being the colors, and was the work of the American Bank Note Company. The inscription on the note read: "Will pay to bearer on demand Five Dollars in Denver coin."

Of course "Denver coin" meant the gold coins struck by Clark, Gruber & Co., and the notes met with instant favor and went into general circulation. They soon outclassed the notes issued by Uncle Sam.

The notes in 1862 commanded a substantial premium and presented the unusual spectacle of the paper issue of a private firm of bankers being worth more than the \$5 notes of the United States, and it is pretty certain that there never was a similar instance in this country.

Specimens of this issue are now extremely rare for the reason that the holders had them redeemed in order to get the gold, which was so valuable at that period of the civil war. The only specimen of the note now known is in the possession of Edward B. Morgan of Denver, president of the Colorado Historical Society.

Notes of Clark, Gruber & Co. of the denominations of \$1, \$2 and \$3 also were said to have been issued, but there is no known record of them.—N. Y. Sun.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I have been referred to you as a coin dealer. I have a quarter dollar of 1806 which is perfect, only the edge is not as rough as when new but is not smooth yet, otherwise it is perfect. I have another 1726 piece which I rubbed with lead and will send the results. It has a small hole that a chain has been attached to for a child. After children of many generations have cut their teeth on the large piece, I myself being one and am 63 years old, but you can see by the print that it is otherwise perfect, only dents and the one hole.

I will sell them if any one wants them and will pay what they are worth.

L. E. BETSON.

Rome, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1907.

* * *

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—There is something I would like to have you advise me on the next time you write, and it is this: There is a talk that Mr. Bryan will be our next President and I expect that he will again advocate free silver. Suppose that he gets the office and we get free silver how will that affect your business? Suppose that I wish to buy a Kruger pound or anything of value from you, could I buy it with the same freedom as I do now? In other words, the price of a Kruger now is about six dollars. Now if we have free silver would I have to give you 12 silver dollars for it? What will be the basis you and I can deal together under the free silver rule? I would like to have your opinion and advice on the subject. Do you think we will have a Republican for the next President? You will find enclosed a stamp for reply.

Yours,

New York City, Dec 14, 1097.

GROVER GIFFORD.

* * *

Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I herewith send you the list of coins which I have for sale. I would have sent it before, but I have to make a living for myself and husband. He is over 80 years old, so I find I have little time for play. I did not send for circular, for I shall never look for any more coins. My love for specimens is gone.

Yours in haste,

Iowa.

MRS. JULIA QUACKENBOSS.



The American Numismatic Society

The 50th Annual meeting of the Society was held in its new building, on the evening of January 19th, with President Huntington in the chair. More members and their friends were present than at any meeting in recent years. President Huntington read his annual address and received vigorous applause. He was re-elected to the presidency. The feature of recent gifts to the society's cabinets was the presentation by Daniel Parish, Jr., of his splendid collection of medals, regarded by many as the finest in America, and worth about \$20,000. Probably no other person has given so many coins and medals to the Society as Mr. Parish. He was re-elected Vice-President. The Society's Bi-centennial will be held in April and is to be a notable affair. The sum of \$53,000 has already been spent on the new building, which is regarded the finest of its kind in the world.

Through kindness of the officers of the Hispanic Society, its new building was thrown open during the evening of the meeting and the coin collectors greatly enjoyed an inspection of this splendid and most artistic institution. For charming scheme of colors, for artistic harmony and for rare collections of everything relating to the history of Spain, the Hispanic museum is absolutely unique. The building is now open to the public.

* * *

Mr. Huntington appointed a new committee to draw up a set of resolutions on the new St. Gaudens \$10 and \$20 gold-pieces. These resolutions will be sent to President Roosevelt. The members named were Dr. George F. Kunz, Thomas L. Elder, Daniel Parish, Jr., Victor D. Brenner and Rev. M. H. Gates.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, Nov. 15, 1907.

Monthly meeting of the society with Judge L. W. Sicotte in the chair. Minutes of Oct. 18th read and approved. Fine exhibits were shown by Messrs. C. E. Belanger and James Reid. On motion of Mr. R. W. MacLachlan, seconded by Mr. C. A. Harwood, Judge L. W. Sicotte was proposed as Life Governor, whereupon Mr. Judge's gavel expressed the unanimous sentiment of the society and meetings in proposing that in recognition of his past services and devotion to the interests of the society, Mr. Sicotte be elected honorary life governor. That was carried unanimously. Mr. Sicotte expressed in adequate terms his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him. Mr. W. D. Lighthall then read an interesting paper on La Corne St. Luc, giving his complete history and that of an oil portrait of his. After many interesting remarks and explanations meeting adjourned.

* * *

Chateau de Ramezay, Dec. 20, 1907.

The regular monthly meeting was held this date, Judge L. W. Sicotte in the chair. Messrs. C. T. A. Hart, Wm. Cunningham, C. A. Cardinal and Reverend Albert Aubert were admitted ordinary members. Mr. W. D. Lighthall then exhibited an interesting water color by George Heriot, painted about 1815. The meeting then resolved itself into the Annual meeting.

* * *

Under the Presidency of Judge Sicotte, the 45th Annual Meeting of the society was convened this date at the Chateau de Ramezay about 8.30 P. M. The President gave his report, which was followed by the report of the Treasurer and Curator. All were very satisfactory. Then followed the election of officers for 1908. The result was that the same members were all re elected except one member of Council replaced by Mr. W. W. C. Wilson.



The Chicago Numismatic Society

On Dec. 20th, 1907, a special meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, the purpose of the meeting being to discuss and present resolutions in the matter of efforts to improve the appearance of our current coinage. Three draughts of resolutions were presented by the Committee consisting of Messrs. Brand, Leon and Holmes. After a full discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, the commendable efforts of PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT to improve the artistic appearance of our coinage have brought about the adoption of new designs on the ten and twenty dollar gold pieces,

WHEREAS, the new designs have been severely and unfavorably criticized by the people and in the public press, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Chicago Numismatic Society, that, in the opinion of its members, such unfavorable criticism is, for the most part, unwarranted and not well considered; that coins constitute the best medium by means of which progress in medallic art can be illustrated to all the people, and that therefore the great progress which has been made in this art since the designs heretofore in use were first adopted, should receive recognition on our coins; that the new designs, with the exception of the obverse on the the ten dollar piece, are improvements, artistically, over those which they displace; that the reverse designs of both pieces might be further improved; that the obverse of the twenty dollar piece is the most beautiful design which has ever appeared on any authorized coin of our country; And be it further

RESOLVED, that the President be heartily commended for his labors in connection with the improvement of the artistic appearance of our coinage, and respectfully urged to continue his efforts until all of our coins are impressed with designs exemplifying the highest and best type of modern medallic art.

A motion was carried, instructing the Secretary to spread the resolutions on the minutes and to have a copy engrossed and forwarded to President Roosevelt.

* * *

The 48th monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Jan. 3rd, President W. F. Dunham in the chair. The following members were present: Messrs. Carey, W. F. Dunham, Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Blumenschein. Chester Dunham, Sorensen, Loer, Sears and Green. Edward T. Newell was transferred from corresponding to active membership.

The following officers elect were installed for the coming year:

President, Virgil M. Brand
Secretary, Ben G. Green
Treasurer, F. Elmo Simpson
Librarian, Chester Dunham
Curator, M. P. Carey

An interesting talk was given by the retiring President, Mr. W. F. Dunham, reviewing the work of the Society for the past year. Mr. Leon exhibited encased postage stamps and Territorial gold; and Mr. W. F. Dunham some rare Canadian tokens.

Stevenson's Dictionary of Roman Coins was added to the library. Adjourned to meet Feb. 7, 1908.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



The Boston Numismatic Society

The December meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society was held in their rooms in the Old State House, Thursday afternoon, December 12th. On account of the absence of the President, Dr. Green, Mr. Wheeler was chosen to preside. The following members were

present: Messrs. Marvin, Wheeler, Crosby, Trowbridge, Stearns, Chase, Wood and Dr. Storer.

Mr. Wood reported progress as chairman of the Committee on the revision of the By-Laws and brought up several subjects for discussion relating to the same. Mr. Crosby exhibited several dies.

The new eagle and double eagle was then brought up for discussion, newspaper comments reviewed, and the question of the use of the golden Eagle in the place of the bald Eagle was taken up. A favorable vote on the new coinage was passed and a committee composed of Messrs. Wheeler and Wood was appointed to draw up resolutions commending President Roosevelt for his efforts at a change of the National coinage. Specimens of both the new and the old coins were shown by various members.

Adjourned to meet the second Friday in January.

* * *

The January meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society was held in their rooms in the Old State House, Friday afternoon, January 17, Dr. Green presiding. The following were present: Dr. Green, Messrs. Marvin, Crosby, Wheeler, Trowbridge, Stearns and Wood.

Mr. Wood submitted to the members the committee's revision of the Constitution and By-Laws, which was voted upon and carried. A resolution was passed for the Secretary to send a letter of congratulation to the American Numismatic Society of New York on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary and the completion of their new building.

A vote was passed to postpone the election of new officers until the February meeting. Mr. Wheeler on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions presented the following:

WHEREAS, The President of the United States by enlisting the services of the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens, whom the world has recognized as one of its great artists, has taken a long deferred and very desirable initiative in the endeavor to secure an artistic coinage for the country; and

WHEREAS, In the new Eagle and Double Eagle the President and the artist have succeeded in producing two coins remarkable for their stateliness and general excellence; therefore, be it by the Boston Numismatic Society

Resolved, That in the judgment of its members the Eagle and the Double Eagle first made in the year 1907 are magnificent and superb in design, and the most satisfactory coins ever issued from the mints

of the United States; and that this great improvement in our coinage will remain among the conspicuous successes of the President's administration; and, be it

Resolved, That this Society earnestly hopes that the other denominations of the country's coinage may soon show in distinctive designs for each, the same beauty and dignity; and be it further

Resolved, That the Society hereby expresses to the President its high appreciation of what he has already been instrumental in accomplishing for the improvement of our coinage, and conveys to him its gratitude therefor.

This motion was carried with instructions to spread the resolutions on the minutes and have a copy engrossed and sent to the President.

Numismatists Commend New Coins

Room 882 Drexel Bldg., Philadelphia, Penn., Dec. 10, 1907.
To His Excellency, Theodore Roosevelt,

President of the United States, Washington, D. C.

Honored Sir:—The American Numismatic Association, through its Committee, wishes to commend you for the active interest you have taken in the movement to secure a better and more artistic coinage for the United States.

We beg to express our high appreciation of your efforts resulting in the issuance of the beautiful eagle and double eagle by Saint Gaudens. These coins we regard as possessing high artistic merit though with some faults in detail and technique—and as greatly superior to those of the old type, and as marking an advance in American numismatic art.

We also express the hope that you will continue to use your influence toward securing an entire new series of artistic coins for the United States.

We would venture to offer our humble services, as experienced numismatists in suggesting the names of competent artists or in criticising their designs, and believe, with our knowledge of the coinage of the world, of every period, we could be of some service.

Very truly Yours,

(Signed) Thomas L. Elder,
Chairman of the Committee.

(Signed) Samuel Hudson Chapman,
Secretary of the Committee.

THE MOTTOLESS COINS.

About the only comment that need be made upon the letter written by President Roosevelt in explanation of why he did not order the motto: "In God We Trust," to be imprinted upon the new \$10 gold piece is that it was hardly necessary for him to pay any attention to the agitation that had been raised by the omission.

There never was any good reason for placing a motto upon any of our coins in the first place, and the fact that it will not appear upon the new coin will not impair the intrinsic or business value of the latter to the slightest extent.

There is little doubt that those who criticise the omission of the motto will accept the new gold piece, whenever tendered, as readily as they would accept the old coin bearing the motto. It is safe to say that not one would make the slightest objection when it came to the point of accepting the mottoless coin or doing without it.—Evening.

* * *

GIFT TO THE UNITED STATES.

Washington.—Emile Cellier, president of the International College of Heraldry, Paris and his daughter, Louise Frances Cellier, have presented to the American Government a collection of engravings and manuscripts relating to the family of the Marquis de Lafayette. The presentation was made through Consul-General Mason, the United States consular representative in Paris, and is intended as a memorial to Gabrielle Frances Cunningham of New York, the deceased wife and mother respectively of the donors.

The collection consists of six engravings of the Marquis de Lafayette, coats of arms painted on parchment and forty ancient manuscripts relating to the period of the American struggle for independence. The officials of the State Department are preparing a case for the collection, but it has not been decided whether the relics shall be placed in the State Department Library or in the Library of Congress.—Sun.

BUY A STOCK

unaffected by Wall Street in a Mine producing the

GOLD AND SILVER

FROM WHICH OUR

MONEY IS MADE.

- ¶ We are operating 'The Hahns Peak Gold Mining & Milling Co.' and handling much high grade Gold Ore.
- ¶ The Moffett line is building to us.
- ¶ REFERENCE: Any Bank or Postmaster at Steamboat Springs, Hahns Peak, or Columbine, Colorado.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF

A. A. JOHNSON

Chief of Mineral Dept. State Land Board, Colorado.

Reads as follows: "The Hahns Peak Gold Mining & Milling Co. are working on some 20 claims on the northwest slope of the peak at an altitude of 10,200 feet and have driven a tunnel 800 feet into the mountain and have cut *three or four valuable veins and fissures* and have now a good shipping mine of high grade ore, known as the Royal Flush Mine. I examined this tunnel and sampled the ores in the various veins. Cut and assay returns gave following results as shown in Assay Certificate by Henry E. Wood of Denver.

	Total value
3 ft. Vein # 1, Gold 1.58 oz., Silver 118 oz.....	\$108 69
10 in. Vein # 2 gave 3.24 oz. Gold, 178 oz. Silver	181 02
12 in. Vein # 3 gave 0.11 oz. Gold, 29.90 oz. Silver...	21 83

STOCK ONE DOLLAR PER SHARE

WRITE

H. O. GRANBERG, OSHKOSH, WIS.

MEDALLIC HISTORY OF LINCOLN.

A series of interesting historical medals, struck by Thomas L. Elder, in honor of Abram Lincoln. No name, not even that of Washington, is dearer to the hearts of the American people. The Lincoln centennial will be one of the notable events of next year. The medals bear, in the words of Robert T. Lincoln, his son, "an excellent likeness" of the great "Abe." The dates of his birth and assassination are given on the obverse. The reverses are varied and include some of the quaint political utterances of the campaign of 1860. Important events of his life, from the time he was a canal-boatman until his death are recorded. Nothing similar in Lincoln tokens has ever been issued. Only a few medals were struck from each die, after which it was destroyed. They are here offered for sale to collectors, as follows:

In Silver. (Only 5 of each reverse struck), each.....	\$1.25
Copper and Brass. (Only 10 struck), each.....	.50
German Silver. (Only 5 struck), each.....	.50
Aluminum. (Only 15 struck), each.....	.25

A list of the reverses which may be obtained will be printed in the next issue of the MAGAZINE.

Thomas L. Elder, 32 East Twenty-third St., New York.

DANIEL R. KENNEDY, Auctioneer

COINS, STAMPS AND CURIOS

211 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK.

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**THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN
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32 E. 23d St., New York City.

**Colombian
Indian Pottery,**
Found by Dr. F. C. Nicholas.

This Pottery is several hundred years old and is made in many forms and bears animals, lizards, monkeys, armadillos, toads, frogs and many other grotesque creatures and nondescripts. These objects are made of a dark clay mixed with mica and small pebbles, and they have a dark glazed exterior. Very interesting examples at \$1, \$1.50 and \$2 each, worth double. A remarkable fact about this pottery is that out of two hundred pieces no two were found to be alike.

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Coins, Etc. For Sale.

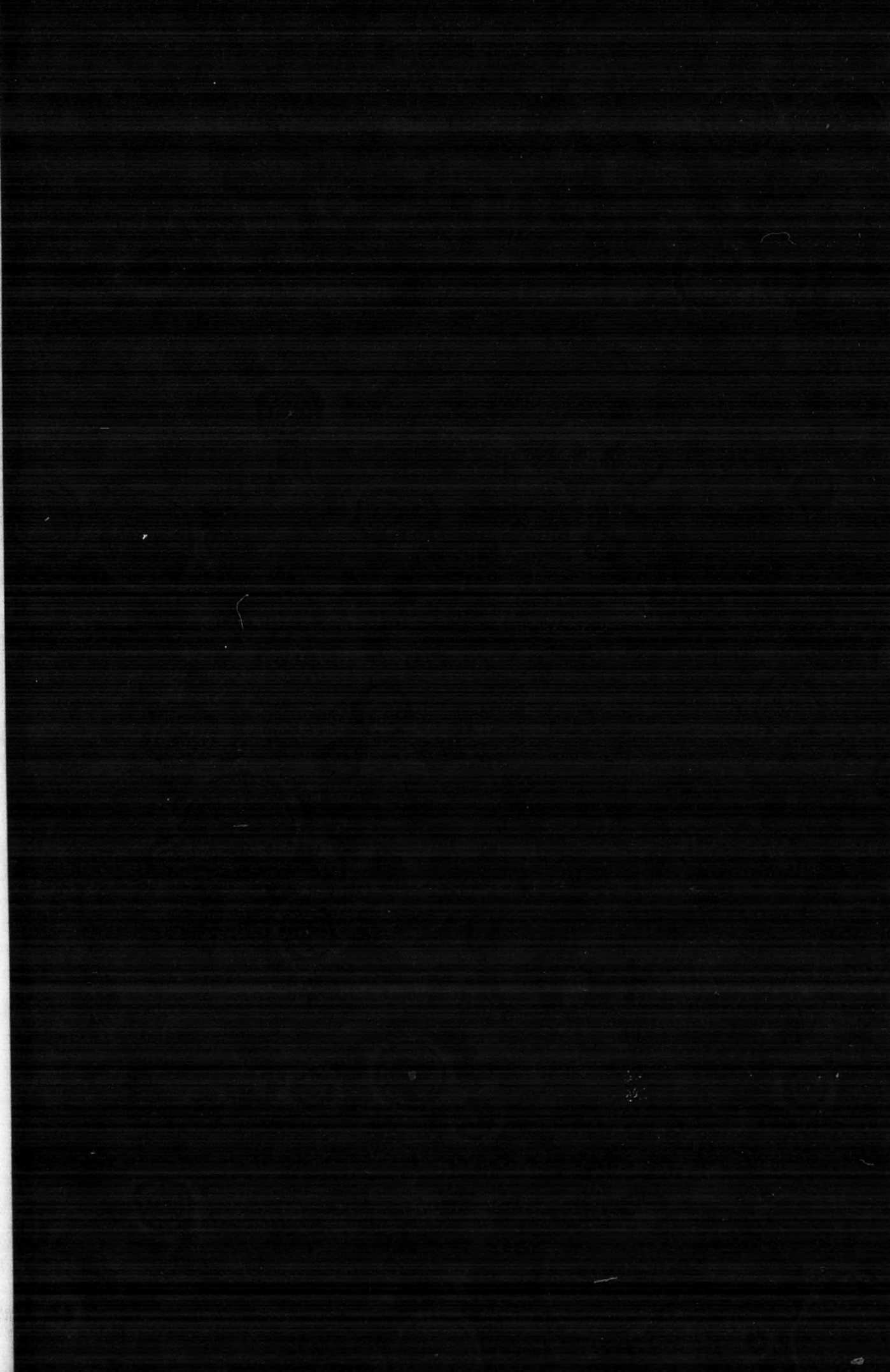
Australian sapphires (cabashon, or pyramidal), for rings, pins, etc. Beautiful blue hue. Worth \$7 per carat, at per carat.....	\$ 2.75
Reconstructed rubies, the most wonderful stones of the age. As hard and brilliant as the real ruby. Made by fusing real ruby particles. At only per carat.....	4.00
Old U. S. Dollars, 1798 and 1799. Good. Each	2.50
U. S. Dollars, dates 1842-73, of my own selection, at each \$1.15 to.....	1.25
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Three Cents Nickel. 15 duplicates, good.....	.75
Two cents, copper, each.....	.04
Half dimes, duplicates, various dates, each.....	.07
Bright Unc. Isabella 1-4 dollars, each 75c. In lots of 6 or more, each.....	.65
Colombian Indian pottery, very old and curious. Probably pre-Columbian, at each.....	1.00
Colombian Pottery, as above, but slightly imperfect, each.....	.80
Colombian Nickel coins, 2 1-2 and 5c, per 100.....	1.50
Foreign copper coins, duplicates, uncirculated, mixed, various countries at per 100.....	2 00
Foreign copper coins, duplicates, from Germany, Austria, Central America, etc., with some nickel (postage 10c extra on each 100) at only per 100...	.50
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Fifty fine varieties of foreign coins from various countries for	1.10
U. S. Cents 1818, 1821, 1823 or 1857 (large) good dates, each25
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Proof U. S. ½ dollars, later dates, at each.....	.65
Proof ¼ dollars, later dates at 35c to40
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Proof Dollars, later dates, at only each	1.20

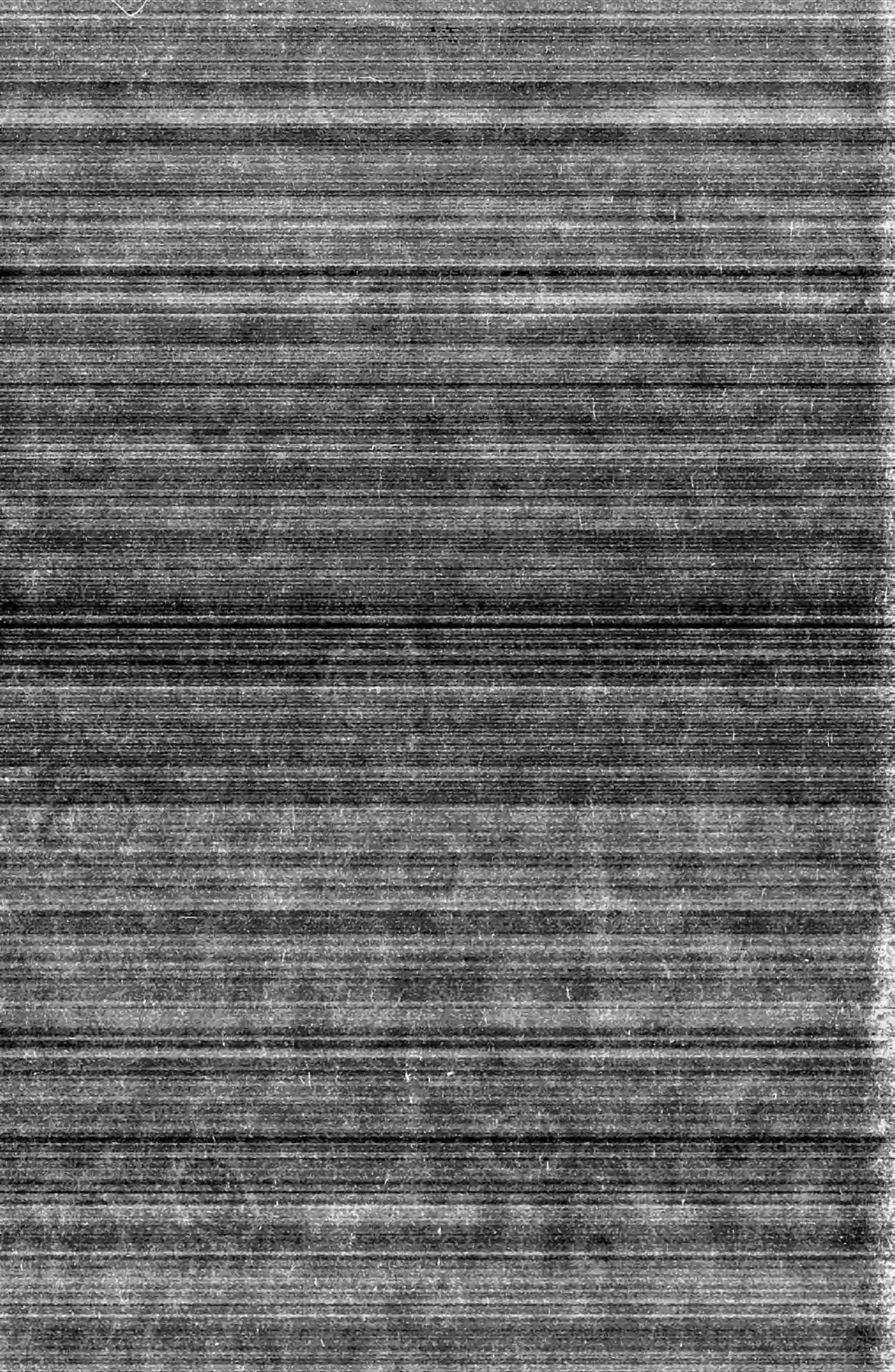
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THE
GOLDEN MAGAZINE

VOL. 2. Jan. March, 1903 No. 12

DEVOTED TO THINGS

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PUBLISHED BY THOMAS L. ELDER
32 East Twenty-third Street, New York

The Elder Magazine

THOMAS L. ELDER, *Editor*

VOL. II NEW YORK FEB.-MARCH, 1908 No. 12

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR

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Coins of the Confederacy

BY E. H. ADAMS.

That the Confederate Government contemplated the issue of a metallic currency is certain, though coins distinctively associated with the Confederacy never appeared in general circulation. Designs for a half dollar and a cent were made, dies cut and a few coins of each denomination struck in various metals. These coins now rank high with American collectors.

It was some time after the war—seventeen or eighteen years—that

the first evidence of the existence of a Confederate half dollar came to light. In January, 1879, B. F. Taylor, M. D., secretary and treasurer of the Louisiana State Board of Health, wrote to E. Mason, Jr., a well known Philadelphia numismatist, and informed him that he had a Confederate coin in his possession. A good deal of doubt was at first felt about the coin's genuineness, but investigation revealed the fact that at least four silver fifty cent pieces were struck by the Confederate authorities at the New Orleans mint in 1861.

It seems that when the Confederates seized the United States mint at New Orleans they conceived the idea of an issue of Confederate coins. It is fairly certain, however, that after the mint fell into their hands all available bullion was used for regular United States half dollars.

The former officers of the mint were retained when the State of Louisiana turned the establishment over to the Confederate States, and in April, 1861, Secretary Memminger of the Confederate Treasury ordered that designs for a half dollar should be submitted to him. Several designs were offered for his approval, it is said, although the accepted one is the only design on record.

This bore an obverse identical with the regular United States half dollar of 1861, the well known seated figure of the Goddess of Liberty, surrounded by thirteen stars, with the date 1861. The reverse design, on the contrary, was of an entirely original character.

In the centre of the field was a shield which bore seven stars, one for each seceding State. Above the shield was a liberty cap, while surrounding the central design was a wreath composed of sugar cane and cotton. Around the border at the top was the inscription, "Confederate States of America," and underneath was the denomination, "Half Dol."

These dies were cut by an engraver named A. H. M. Peterson, and the coins were struck by Conrad Schmidt, foreman of the coining room. When the dies came to the coiner they were found to be unsuitable for the regular press, so four pieces were struck on the old fashioned screw press.

Dr. Taylor was the chief coiner at the mint in 1861, and in his letters to Mr. Mason he stated that one of the four pieces was sent to the Confederate Government, the second to Prof. Biddle of the University of Louisiana, the third to Dr. E. Ames of New Orleans, while the fourth was kept by himself.

The four pieces were all that were coined from the dies, for owing

to scarcity of silver bullion the mint was shut down on April 30, 1861. Only one of these original pieces can now be located, and this when last offered for sale brought \$870.

Some time in the '70s the reverse die fell into the possession of a firm of coin dealers in New York, who are credited with having restruck at least 500 regular United States half dollars of 1861 from the Confederate reverse die after having removed the original United States reverse.

The restruck coins were similar to those struck by the Confederate Government, only the closest scrutiny developing the difference, and this fact had had a tendency to lessen the interest in the genuine and original Confederate half dollar. But even the restruck Confederate half dollars command a premium of from \$5 to \$6 when well preserved.

That the Confederate Government had planned the issue of a cent piece came to light accidentally. Some time between 1865 and 1870 a nickel coin was submitted to a coin dealer in Philadelphia for examination.

It was of about the same size as a United States cent and showed a youthful head of Liberty on the obverse, wearing a liberty cap, around the border being inscribed "Confederate States of America." Below was the date "1861." On the reverse were the words "One Cent" in the centre of a wreath emblematic of the products of Southern States and composed of small ears of corn and wheat and tiny hogs-heads, with a miniature cotton bale in the middle of the wreath.

In tracing the origin of the piece the fact was developed that the dies were cut by a Philadelphia engraver by the name of Lovett, who, upon being approached in 1873 concerning the matter admitted, with considerable reluctance, that he had engraved the dies for the coin upon a commission from the Confederate authorities.

He said that the whole work had been conducted with secrecy, owing to the probable unpleasant consequences to himself should the matter come to the attention of the Federal authorities. He had struck twelve pieces in nickel from the dies, two of which had been lost, and these led to the discovery of the contemplated issue. The dies were sent down South, and it is not thought that they were ever used there.

Years afterward the dies were again sent back to Philadelphia and a firm of coin dealers gained possession of them and made arrangements to strike a limited number of pieces in different metals. They planned to coin seven in gold, twelve in silver and 500 in copper, but

in striking the coins in the last named metal the collar of the dies burst upon making the fifty-fifth impression and the work was abandoned.

The total number of Confederate cents now known to be in existence is seven in gold, ten in nickel, the other two of the original twelve having disappeared; twelve in silver and fifty-five in copper. The gold specimens are valued at \$100 each, those in silver and nickel at about \$25 and the copper cents at from \$10 upward.

The dies were defaced and later were bought by a well known Chicago collector, Judson Brenner, who also has a specimen of each coin in the four different metals.—Sun.

Rare Flying Eagle Cents

BY E. H. ADAMS.

The flying eagle cent dated 1856 is this country's traditional rare coin. Everybody has heard of it and everybody knows that it is said to be rare.

Mary a person looking over small change has come across a white cent bearing a flying eagle on the obverse and at once jumped to the conclusion that it is one of the rare pieces, only to be disappointed when told that the rare coin is the one dated 1856, and that the flying eagle cents dated 1857 or 1858 have no value above that of the ordinary cent. Every county, it seems, has its traditional rare coin. Thus England has her Queen Anne farthing, about which much erroneous information has appeared. Canada has a coin of which every person in that part of North America has heard. It is usually called the Montreal side view penny, and was issued some time in 1838 or 1839. Yet though the flying eagle cent of 1856 is traditionally rare, it is by no means scarce, properly speaking. Therein lies the most remarkable phase of this remarkable coin. Hundreds of 1856 cents are in existence, and there may be thousands. One writer on coins some years ago stated his belief that fully 15,000 of the pieces had been struck.

Yet the premium brought for a proof specimen of this cent at any of the auction sales held in recent years has rarely fallen below \$12, and there is a record price of \$16 given for a very fine specimen. Not

satisfied with a single specimen, it has been the ambition of some collectors to obtain all they could. One collector who resided at Atlantic City had 109 pieces of this design and date.

In 1906, after his death, the entire lot was offered at public auction. One might suppose that throwing this great number upon the market at one time would have a tendency to pull the price down, but actually it had no effect upon the premium. Collectors gathered from different parts of the country and bid for each single piece offered as if it represented the only one known, or at least was one of a very few of the kind, and while the different specimens put up for sale varied in price according to their state of preservation, still the prices were on a par with those paid at the usual sale when but a single specimen was offered.

The 1856 cent owes its origin to the fact that about 1855 a change was desired from the cumbersome and heavy copper cent which had been issued yearly, with the single exception of 1815, since the opening of the first United States mint in 1793. It was also intended at the same time to abandon the half cent piece.

The mint engravers fixed upon the pattern of the flying eagle, which had been previously used on United States coins, especially the silver dollars of 1836 and 1838. In order that Congress might see what the new coin looked like, specimens are said to have been presented to various Congressmen, and it is also supposed that to demonstrate to the coinage committee just how the design appeared in various base metals and alloys the cents were struck in copper, copper-nickel and nickel. The most numerous variety of the cents of 1856 was in copper nickel.

The regularly adopted eagle cent of 1857 and 1858 showed on the obverse the eagle flying to the left, surrounded by the inscription, "United States of America," with the date, 1857 or 1858, below. On the reverse was a wreath made up of corn, tobacco and cotton, in which were enclosed the words "One Cent."

This is just the same design as that of the copper-nickel cent of 1856, the only variation being in the date. The 1856 coin is valued at from \$8 to \$16, according to its condition.

There were several rarer varieties of 1856. One of these shows the same style of eagle flying to the left on the obverse, but both inscription and date are omitted. The reverse is the same as the regular type. The metal is pure copper, instead of the so-called nickel of the regular issue, which contained only a small proportion

of nickel, the alloy consisting of eighty-eight parts of copper and twelve of nickel.

This copper piece evidently represented an experiment on the part of the engravers, and is quite scarce, a proof specimen having brought \$20 at a sale. Another specimen of the same design was struck in pure nickel, and this has sold for \$23.

An experimental cent of the 1856 series shows the regular inscription, "United States of America," around the eagle, but the date is omitted, and while the reverse shows the same wreath as on the regular issue, the words "One Cent" are lacking. This coin was struck in nickel and is worth at least \$25. The same variety was also struck in copper-nickel, the white metal of the regular issue, and there is a third variety in bronze, each of which is worth as much as that struck in nickel.

Closely associated with the last described coin was one struck in pure nickel, differing in design from the foregoing in the fact that the reverse bore the value, "One Cent," inside of the wreath. It is very rare. The only specimen on record was disposed of at the Par-melee sale, a good many years ago, when the great interest since manifested in the cent pieces of 1856 had only begun, yet even at that time the cent brought \$3.50.

The next oddity of the flying eagle cent series shows the obverse with the eagle and the inscription "United States of America, 1856," like the conventional design, but the reverse contains the words "One Cent" enclosed by a wreath of entirely different type from the others. This is composed of oak leaves and is tied at the base with a ribbon, which binds three arrows.

At the top is a small United States shield similar to that borne by the white cent issued in 1860. A proof specimen of this variety, struck in copper-nickel, brought \$26 at a recent sale, while the same design, in proof condition, but struck in pure copper, sold for \$30.

The dies of the regular 1856 flying eagle cent of the type adopted in 1857 were used to strike a limited number of coins in metal other than the regular copper-nickel composition. One of these, struck in pure copper, sold for \$13.50, while the same design in pure nickel brought \$30.

One variety of this series was an experimental cent showing the design struck on a planchet of copper-nickel which was about half the thickness of the regular piece. In striking this coin the engravers doubtless had in view the subsequent cent issues of a later period, the

first of which appeared in 1864, for it was of the same thickness as the present bronze cent. This piece sold for \$7.

The weight of the flying eagle cent was seventy-two grains, a material reduction from that of the large copper cent, which was authorized to weigh 168 grains. Even this was later reduced, for in 1864 Congress ordered the metal to be changed from copper-nickel to bronze and the weight still further reduced to forty-eight grains. The metal was authorized to consist of 95 per cent. copper and 5 per cent. tin and zinc, and this style of cent is in use at the present time.
—N. Y. Sun.

QUEER COINS IN PLATES.

"It's really true about church collections—I mean these jokes you hear about the queer coins that get into the collection," remarked the Treasurer of a big East End congregation yesterday.

"Yes," said the Treasurer, "it's seldom that I fail to find some curious coins when I get the contents of the several collection plates each Sunday. There are seldom if ever any buttons, that's all just talk about buttons being put in the collection plate, but there are plenty of coins that wouldn't pass at any store. It's not unusual to find foreign coins that are worth something, but which can't be passed for their face value at the store. I don't suppose there is any dishonesty in putting such coins in the basket, because the donor may have intended to give only a fraction of the face value of the coin. Then, of course, there are scores of coins, notably ten-cent pieces, that have worn smooth from use, and will no longer be accepted at the banks."—Associated Press.

* * *

\$30,000 FOR FRENCH COIN.

Vienna, Feb. 8.—Thirty thousand dollars has just been paid for a French gold coin of the face value of four dollars. Of course the coin was of great rarity, being one of the ten jubilee coins of that value ordered by Napoleon to be coined in 1806, the year he became emperor of the French. No specimen of this Napoleonic 20-franc piece existed in the French National museum, the authorities of which offered this record price for one.

Cards and Tokens of Thomas L. Elder

(Compiled by E. SMITH.)

No. 1.

Obverse :

Thomas L. Elder
238
Sheridan Ave.
Pittsburg, Pa.
U. S. A.
Moveo Et Profico
1902.

Reverse :

Importer and Dealer In
Ancient
and
Modern Coins.
Paper Money,
Cut Gems & Etc.
Price List Free
Goods Sent
On Approval

100 in Copper and 1000 in Aluminum.

(Note—Error in spelling of word "Proficio" and repetition of "etc.")

No. 2.

Obverse :

Thomas L. Elder
★
238
Sheridan Avenue
Pittsburg, Pa. U. S. A.
Moveo et Proficio
Aug. 4, 1902.
Aetas 28.

Reverse :

Importer and Dealer In
Ancient
and
Modern Coins,
Paper Money,
Curios,
Cut Gem Stones, Etc.
Free Price Lists.
Goods Sent For
Examination

100 in Copper and 1000 in Aluminum.

No. 3.

Obverse :

Coins and Medals Of All Ages
Bought
And Sold
Thomas L. Elder
32 East
23RD Street
New York City
Card No. 3—Oct. 1. 1906

Reverse :

Collections of Coins, Medals, Etc.
Sold At
Public Auction
In New York
Write for Terms
The Elder
Monthly
A Collector's Magazine
50c Per Year

One in gold, 4 in silver, 5 in fibre, 5 in German silver, 5 in white metal, 7 in lead, 100 in brass, 100 in copper and 500 in aluminum. There were also overstrikes of the cards as follows: 1 on brass, 4 on nickel, 3 on white metal and 13 on copper.

No. 4.

Obverse:

Head of Washington to the right surrounded with his name

George Washington
1789 1889

Inaugural Centennial In New York

Reverse:

More Enduring Than Books Or
Customs Or Nations.

A Coin
Thomas L. Elder
Coin Dealer
32 East 23rd Street
New York.

Five in brass, 5 in copper, 5 in fibre, 5 in lead, 5 in white metal and 6 in aluminum.

No. 5.

Obverse:

Same as on
card No. 4

Reverse:

More Enduring Than Books,
Or
Customs,
Or Nations:
— A Coin —

Thomas L. Elder.
Coin Dealer
32 East 23rd St.,
New York City.

Two in gold, 6 in silver, 7 in fibre, 7 in lead, 11 in German silver, 50 in brass, 50 in copper, 50 in white metal and 261 in aluminum. There were also overstrikes of the card as follows: 12 on copper.

No. 6.

(Issued in September, 1907)

A die was made showing a reverse as below of which there was only one pattern or trial piece struck in lead. This style was rejected and in its stead card No. 7 was issued.

Steam Navigation Centennial
Robert Fulton

—★—

b. 1785 d. 1815

Thomas L. Elder

Numismatist

32 E. 23d St.

New York

City

—★— 1807 — 1907 —★—

No. 7.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Same as on
Card No. 4

Reverse :

Steam Navigation Centennial
Robert Fulton

—★—

b 1785 d 1815

Thomas L. Elder

, Numismatist

32 E. 23d St.

New York

City.

—★— 1807 — 1907 —★—

Nine in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal, 10 in aluminum.

No. 8.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :

Head of John Ericsson
to the left, name above
head, under the head
1803—1903

Reverse :

Same reverse as on
Card No. 7

One in gold, 3 in silver, 4 in fibre, 3 in lead, 26 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 153 in aluminum.

No. 9.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse:

Ship Santa Maria
with full sails going left,
above is the inscription
Columbus In Sight Of
The New World

Reverse:

Commemorating
Jamestown
Ter - Centennial
Exposition
1607 - 1907
Thomas L. Elder
Coin Dealer
32 E. 23d. St.
N. Y. City.

One in gold, 3 in silver, 3 in fibre, 3 in lead, 25 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 151 in aluminum.

No. 10.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse:

Head and shoulders of
Columbus facing with
a slight turn to right.
Around the head is
1492 Christopher Columbus 1893

Reverse:

American Numismatic Association
Treennial
Convention
Thomas L. Elder
Numismatist
32 E. 23d St. N. Y.

Sept. 2. 3. 4.
1907.

★ Columbus, O. ★

One in gold, 3 in silver, 3 in fibre, 3 in lead, 25 in brass, 25 in copper, 3 in white metal, 151 in aluminum. There were also over-strikes of the cards as follows: 1 on brass, 6 on copper and 1 on nickel.

No. 11.

(Issue September, 1907.)

Obverse:

Same obverse as on
Card No. 4

Reverse:

Same reverse as on
Card No.

Ten in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal and 10 in aluminum.

No. 12.

(Issued September, 1907.)

Obverse :
Same obverse as on
Card No.

Reverse :
Same reverse as on
Card No. 10

Ten in fibre, 10 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 10 in white metal, and 10 in aluminum.

No. 13.

(Issued December, 1907.)

Obverse :
Head of Lincoln to right,
below his name and
1809—1909
Around the rim the words:
Born Feb. 12. 1809.
Assassinated By Booth
Apr. 14. 1865.

Reverse :
Taken As A Whole.
His Rise,
Development,
Ability, Power, Acts
And End, Have Not
A Parallel In
Human History

T. L. Elder N. Y.

One in gold, 5 in silver, 5 in fibre, 5 in lead, 10 in brass, 10 in copper, 5 in white metal, 20 in aluminum, 5 in German silver.

(To be continued.)

One of the most complete and valuable collections of ancient Roman coins in the world were recently sold by auction in Europe. The coins are fetching exceptionally good prices, the more so as the agents of the principal museums of Europe are bidding for them.

Two coins of one-fifth of a cent from Taranto, dating back to the sixth century B. C., have been sold for \$4,530 to the Museum of Naples, and coins have been bought by the Florence Museum and by German and French museums.

While the sale was proceeding an order of the Minister of Public Instruction prohibiting the exportation of the coins on account of their exceptional rarity was served on the auctioneer and naturally the sale had to be interrupted. It is very likely that a law suit for damages against the Government will follow, as the foreign purchasers insist that that part of the sale preceeding the serving of the order is perfectly legal.

Letter Box.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I wish to say that I have received the coins ordered. I want an old U. S. cent and a Confederate 5c postage stamp. I am here returning the same to you and so please return me my stamps, or send me some coins for the stamps for which I could get some value, as I wish to say that I am very and very poor, I have an old blind mother and I got to go around and do washing for 50 cents to make mine and mother's living, so you can see for yourself that I am in misery and that my life is not happy but its all tears so please if you have a heart that feels please be kind and either return me the stamps, but I would rather have you to send me some coin or some note for which I could sell and make my life a little brighter, as I haven't enough money to buy a coin guide book because all the money that I make on washing goes for bread and house rent for my poor blind mother and then sometimes I haven't enough to pay that and so I don't get no spare money for myself and then I cannot buy a coin guide to know what to go by so please if you have a heart for the poor please send me some coin for the stamps I send you have mercy on me and the Almighty God will repay you for all the good you do for the poor and penniless.

Hoping to hear from you at once I beg to remain,

Yours for ever,

Iowa, May 1st, 1906.

ANNA B—

Editor's Note—A letter received a few days later from this person contained a \$5 bill for a dollar of 1797, etc Evidently a change in luck was experienced.

* * *

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I saw by the press that you paid \$112.50 for an 1805 U. S. cent. I have a fine collection of coins. I have cents 1795, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1806. I have a very fine 10c piece, silver, 1800, I have 4 coins coined 210 years B. C.—coined when Venus ruled. I have one coined in the year 34. I have about 200 different pieces most of them in a good state of preservation.

Yours truly,

N. J., July 3rd, 1906.

J. W. HICKS.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Unknown Friend:—As I was reading in my newspaper called the Baltimore American I noticed this sketch you will find enclosed that you bought an 1804 dollar for \$1,000 and as I have an 1808 half dollar thought I would write you and ask you if you would want to buy it. It at one time belonged to my great-grandmother. I have taken great pride in this old coin but will sell it if I can get anyways right for it. Money made in these dates of 1804 and 1808 are very rare and I also have a \$1.00 gold piece made in 1852. I will also dispose of this if any one would want to buy it, also a half cent of 1834. Now if you would want these coins or any of them will you kindly write me and say what you will give me for them and tell me what you think the best way to send them to you and I will be sure to send them to you.

The half dollar is silver not paper, it bears the the marks around the edge which is a plain edge—FIFTY CENTS. O. R. F. A. DOLLAR—these are the words and in print as above, has 13 stars on each side between the head. I will mark them off on paper as best I can so you can see near about what they are like. The gold piece is so precious that I could not mark the date very plainly but it is 1852 nevertheless

Hoping to receive an early reply, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely,

MRS. LYDIA A. HUNT.

Hobbs, Md., R. F. D. No. 2., July 13, 1906.

P. S. Please let me hear from you if you patronize me or not.

* * *

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—Find enclosed 25 cts. for retail list of coins, etc., and 1906 Rare Coin Book. I would also like to know if you keep the following old coins: Gold Double Eagle, \$20, date 1849; Half Eagle, \$5, date 1815; Half Eagle, date 1822; Silver \$1.00, date 1804; Dime, 10c, "S" under wreath, date 1804. If you have such coins to sell let me know as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Springfield, O, July 2.

WILLIE ARMSTRONG.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,

Dear Sir:—I have a piece of coin which we would like to know the value of. It is number 1788.

1908

1788

—120 years old.

Hope Church, Feb. 12th, 1908.

HATTIE BARNETT.

SHAH'S TREASURES.

If the Shah cares to fall back on the treasures of his palace he can keep the wolf from the door for many a year. Nobody knows the wealth stored up in it. In the building called the museum there are said to be bins full of emeralds, topazes, rubies, diamonds and pearls which have been accumulating for generations.

There are besides priceless articles of pottery, and metal work, Japanese and Chinese, Indian, Sevres, Dresden china, gold, silver and steel work from all parts of the Orient. The collection of ancient arms and armor is worth perhaps a million dollars.

Then there are the gorgeous articles of barbaric splendor which make up the regalia. When the Shah appears in State he wears a tiara of brilliants, surmounted with an aigrette of precious stones.

On his forehead shimmers the famous diamond known as the Mountain of Light. His epaulets are studded with emeralds, sapphires and topazes. His belt glitters with diamonds and his sword handle and scabbard are incrustated with rubies.

The terrestrial globe made by his grandfather's order shows all the continents and seas in precious stones, Persia being in diamonds. The celebrated peacock throne consists of a great square pedestal over which branches of foliage creep, all made of emeralds, with flowers in rubies and pearls.

The chair is of gold and seems to be splashed with blood, but it is only patches of rubies. Above the back shines a sun of diamonds, so set on wires that they tremble with the motion of the occupant of the chair, sending flashes of light in all directions like the sun itself. This throne has been appraised as high as \$40,000,000.

Besides his palace and his hunting lodges the Shah has several country houses with beautiful gardens, whither he goes to escape the heat, taking sections of the regiments of servants with him. The present Shah has added automobiling to his pleasures.—N. Y. Sun.



The Chicago Numismatic Society.

The 49th monthly meeting of the above named Society was held in their rooms, 1622 Masonic Temple, Friday evening, Feb. 7th, President Virgil M. Brand presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Carey W. F. Dunham, McDonald, Tracy, Brand, Simpson, Excell, Leon, Blumenschein, Merrill, Chester Dunham, Huber, Holmes, Baker, Sorensen, Williams, Hissler and Green.

The resignations of Elmer S. Sears and Geo. Froelich were received and accepted. A communication was read from T. Louis Comparette, Curator of the Mint Cabinet at Philadelphia, expressing his kindly regard for the Society and offering some valuable suggestions. Messrs. Marvin A. Barlow and J. de Lagerberg were elected to membership.

Mr. Williams read a paper on specializing, and Mr. Brand read a paper on the Pilgrims's Rest mint where the last of the official coins of the South African Republic were struck, and exhibited one of the pieces. Mr. Holmes showed English gold of the values from one-fourth to five guineas. Mr. W. F. Dunham exhibited the United States eagles from 1795 to 1804, all in superb condition.

The President installed in office J. B. Holmes, Vice President, H. F. Williams, Censor, and W. H. McDonald, a member of the Executive Board for 1908, these gentlemen having been absent from the last meeting. The President appointed Messrs. Holmes, Excell and Sorensen as a Membership Committee for 1908. An informal auction of medals netted \$5.88 for the binding fund.

The following magazines were received since last report: Numismatist and Mehl's Numismatic Monthly for Jan. and Feb.; Philatelic West, Spink's Numismatic Circular, Numismatischer Verkehr and Numismatische Correspondenz for January.

A motion was carried authorizing the Censor and Executive Board to issue a bulletin before next meeting of not less than four pages.

Adjourned to meet March 6th.

Ben G. Green, Secretary.



Montreal Numismatic Notes.

Chateau de Ramezay, Jan. 17, 1908.

The first monthly meeting for 1908 was held on the above date, Judge Sicotte presiding. The minutes of society meetings held December were read and approved also the minutes of Council meeting. A resolution was passed approving the movement for the preservation of the Plains of Abraham and the Battlefield of Ste. Foye.

J. B. Archambault was elected member.

Mr. MacLachlan exhibited 200 coins, medals and tokens added to his Canadian Collection during 1907 accompanied by a short paper commenting thereon and other exhibits had been shown, followed by very interesting discussion.



The American Numismatic Society

Curator Poillon reports that 2,000 pieces were donated to the Society during last year. The donors follow: Benjamin Betts, Daniel Parish, Jr., Chas. Gregory, J. W. Scott, J. Throusdon, Archer M. Huntington, Edw. D. Adams, Mansfield Hillhouse, J. de Lagerberg, J. N. T. Levick, Engravers Morgan and Barber of the Mint, Vincent Gurdgi, Mrs. Jane L. Nicholas, Jeremiah Zimmerman, Chas. K. Warner, Robert W. MacLachlan, Thomas L. Elder, J. Sanford Saltus,

So. Cal. Stamp Co., Joseph E. Waïtt, F. D. Andrews, Emil Rey, J. E. Roine, D. R. Gibson, J. C. Hills, Dr. E. Seegar, S. H. Quints Sons, J. B. Holmes, Wm. F. Shailer, La. Purchase Exposition, and Committee on Publication of medals.

* * *

The great collection of medals and coins, very recently donated by Daniel Parish, Jr., is said to be worth anywhere from \$20,000 to \$50,000. Mr. William R. Weeks has been elected Librarian, and is busily engaged in putting the books and pamphlets in first class shape.

* * *

Sets of the new St. Gaudens \$10 and \$20 gold pieces have been donated to the Society. These include all of the very rare patterns, not accepted but the \$20 piece in very high relief, of the same diameters as the \$10. It is understood that Dr. Kunz, was largely instrumental in securing these great rarities, only two or three of each having been struck.

COLLECTING.

Collecting is one of the few pleasures of mankind that brings pleasure to all and injury to none. It is a never failing joy in sickness and in health. It is suited to rich and poor and lasts from early youth to extreme old age. We have seen two year olds pasting stamps in a book and once we received a letter of apology from a customer for some slight oversight giving as an excuse that she was turned ninety and that her eyes were not as good as they used to be. We have five patrons now on our list who have passed the eightieth milestone of life's journey. The widow of a lately deceased collector stated her belief that the interest taken in stamps by her late husband had prolonged his life at least four years. For health, happiness and long life there is no pleasure like collecting, be it books, pictures, stamps, coins or any of the hundreds of things that have enjoyed the attention of mankind from the dawn of civilization to the present day.—Met. Phil.



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OFFICIAL REPORT OF

A. A. JOHNSON

Chief of Mineral Dept. State Land Board, Colorado.

Reads as follows: "The Hahns Peak Gold Mining & Milling Co. are working on some 20 claims on the northwest slope of the peak at an altitude of 10,200 feet and have driven a tunnel 800 feet into the mountain and have cut *three or four valuable veins* and *fissures* and have now a good shipping mine of high grade ore, known as the Royal Flush Mine I examined this tunnel and sampled the ores in the various veins. Cut and assay returns gave following results as shown in Assay Certificate by Henry E. Wood of Denver.

	Total value
3 ft. Vein # 1, Gold 1.58 oz., Silver 118 oz.....	\$108 69
10 in. Vein # 2 gave 3.24 oz. Gold, 178 oz. Silver	181 02
12 in Vein # 3 gave 0.11 oz. Gold, 29.90 oz. Silver...	21 83

STOCK ONE DOLLAR PER SHARE

WRITE

H. O. CRANBERG, OSHKOSH, WIS.

MEDALLIC HISTORY OF LINCOLN.

A series of interesting historical medals, struck by Thomas L. Elder, in honor of Abraham Lincoln. No name, not even that of Washington, is dearer to the hearts of the American people. The Lincoln centennial will be one of the notable events of next year. The medals bear, in the words of Robert T. Lincoln, his son, "an excellent likeness" of the great "Abe." The dates of his birth and assassination are given on the obverse. The reverses are varied and include some of the quaint political utterances of the campaign of 1860. Important events of his life, from the time he was a canal-boatman until his death are recorded. Nothing similar in Lincoln tokens has ever been issued. Only a few medals were struck from each die, after which it was destroyed. They are here offered for sale to collectors, as follows:

In Silver. (Only 5 of each reverse struck), each.....	\$1.25
Copper and Brass. (Only 10 struck), each. ....	.50
German Silver. (Only 5 struck), each.....	.50
Aluminum. (Only 15 struck), each.....	.25

A list of the reverses which may be obtained will be printed in the next issue of the MAGAZINE.

Thomas L. Elder, 32 East Twenty-third St., New York.

DANIEL R. KENNEDY, Auctioneer

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32 E. 23d St., New York City.

**Colombian
Indian Pottery,
Found by Dr. F. C. Nicholas.**

This Pottery is several hundred years old and is made in many forms and bears animals, lizards, monkeys, armadillos, toads, frogs and many other grotesque creatures and nondescripts. These objects are made of a dark clay mixed with mica and small pebbles, and they have a dark glazed exterior. Very interesting examples at \$1, \$1.50 and \$2 each, worth double. A remarkable fact about this pottery is that out of two hundred pieces no two were found to be alike.

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New Arrivals in Coins, Etc.

1889. Salvador 1c and 8c nickel. Very fine. Set15
Malta, Edw. VII or Victoria, tiny 1-3 farthing. One of the world's smallest coins. Scarce here. Each10
Crete. Tiny 1 Lepton copper. Bright red .....	.05
Honduras 1906, 1c copper, uncirculated, bright .....	.05
Ring money (Benin) very large and curious. Rare. Each	1.50
Cuban paper money, issued by Spain. Beautiful. 5, 10, 20 and 50c. Set .....	.25
Japanese paper money. 50 cash notes. Very curious oblong pieces, about 5x1½ inches, printed in red. Each .....	.05
Brass medal of the Jamestown Exposition, showing the Exposition buildings three caravels and battleship Virginia. Uncirculated, and about the only medal of the Exposition. Each .....	.15
Holland. Old firemen's medals, with views of ancient fire-engine, etc. Over 200 years old. Brass. Each .....	.15
Egypt. Glass money, curious pieces 800 to 1200 years old. Each .....	.40
Widow's Mites. Classified. Good. Each .....	.75
Panama "pills," the tiny 2½c silver pieces, now recalled. Fine .....	.15
Panama 1907. The new nickel 2½c piece with bust of Balboa. Bright, uncirculated. Each .....	.07
India. The new scalloped ½ Anna of Edward VII. Very odd. Each .....	.15
Crete. New set of 1, 2, 5 and 10 Lepton. Rare here. Fine and unc. ....	.25
Egypt. B. C. 300-1500. Genuine scarabs with very interesting car touches bearing animals, key of life, Buffalo, etc. Fine. Each	3.00
Babylon, B. C. 1,000-8,000. Genuine hematite cylinders, bearing interesting figures, ornamentation, etc. Each \$2 and	3.00
Babylon, B. C. 2,000-3,000. Interesting chalcedony, jasper and agate seals, bearing animals, priests, deer, wolves, etc. Very rare \$2 to	3.00
Colombian Indian pottery, very old and curious, each	1.25
Ancient Roman clay lamp, in perfect condition. Found near Nazareth, each	1.25
Colombian nickel coins, 2½ and 5c pcs. V. G. Per 100	1.50
Ancient Greek glass perfume bottles, about 4 in. high and have beautiful varicolored iridescence. Perfect and rare. Each	2.00
Foreign silver coins, many countries. V. G. to fine, as follows: 5c size at each 5c; 10c size at 10; 20c size at 20; 50c size at 40; \$1 at 60 to \$1 each. Selections on approval to responsible parties.	
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