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Collector's * Magazine.



CHARLES E. LEAL, Publisher,
PATERSON, N. J.

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Contents for February.

THE EMISSIONS OF FRANCE,	-	-	-	pages	1-4.
NUMISMATICS,	-	-	-	-	5-7.
AUTOGRAPHS,	-	-	-	-	7-8.
MAJOR ANDRE'S SWORD,	-	-	-	-	9.
NEW POSTAL SERVICE,	-	-	-	-	9.
ARCHÆOLOGY,	-	-	-	-	10-13.
PREHISTORIC MAN,	-	-	-	-	14-15.
NEWS AND NOTES,	-	-	-	-	16-17.
MONEY IN MANY LANDS,	-	-	-	-	18-20.
SEEKING SUBMARINE TREASURE,	-	-	-	-	20.

 When answering advertisements please mention this paper.

THE COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE.

VOL. I.

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No. 1.

The Emissions of France.*

By A. Palette.


THE adhesive postage stamp was first issued for postal purposes in France, on the first day of January, 1849. Though a much earlier and cheaper application of the present method was in use there three centuries prior, in Paris in 1562 to 1564, established by M. de Vallyer; and I insert the following, which may be of interest to many readers:—

M. Piron tells us that the idea of a post paid envelope originated early in the reign of Louis IV, with M. DeVallyer who in 1563 established, (with royal approbation, a private "Penny or Sou-post") placing boxes at the corners of the streets for the letters wrapped up in envelopes or bands, which were to be bought at offices established for the purpose. M. Vallyer had printed also certain forms of *billets* or notes, applicable to the ordinary business of great

towns, with blanks, to be filled out with the pen with such special matter as might complete the writer's object. One of these *billets* has been preserved to our times by a pleasant mis-application of it. Pellison, Mme. De Sevigne's friend, and the object of the *bon mot* that he "Abusen" the privilege which men have of being "Ugly" and amused at this kind of skeleton correspondence, under the assumed name of "Pisander" according to the pedantic fashion of the day, filled out one of these forms and addressed it to Mademoiselle De Scudine in her pseudonym of 'Sappho.' This strange *billet-dou* has happened, from the celebrity of the parties, to be preserved, and is still extant and one of the oldest, it is presumed, of pre-paid envelopes, and a new proof of the old adage, "There is nothing new under the sun."

Bands were also issued and were for sale by porters of the colleges convents and public libraries.

*The first installment of this article is reprinted from the New Jersey Philatelist; the remaining installments have never been published.

On the first of January 1849, two values were issued, followed eleven months later by another value. Of the first two values, there are two varieties, also two color varieties of 40 centimes of Dec., 1849. The design being the same on each of the set: a rough engraving of Liberty, sinister,* a diadem of laurel leaves is upon the head and above the ear (in the diadem) is a bunch of grapes, and over it is a sheaf of vine, signifying "Plenty," which point sinister. The head is in a circle, the ground of which is solid and measures 16 mms. in diameter, and is framed by a white circle, 3-4 mms. wide, on which there are 96 rayed lines and a circle of color about $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. from the solid center, shaded below. This lies on a parallelogram of colored wavy lines; on each side is a simple Greek border (thus ) in white on a solid ground, shaded dexter, and which is cut by the rayed circular frame at the sides. At the top, in a straight line on a solid ground in white letters, are the words "Repub Franc" and three white dots, (one at each end and one between "Repub" and "Franc") at the base, in white on a solid ground, is the value in numerals at each end, and the letter of the money and the word "Postes," while in each corner, on or in a solid square, is a four-pointed starlike white figure, and a fine outer line, of the color

*There are some words which I have used which Philatelists may not be familiar with, i. e. - the words "Sinister" and dexter." The former means to the left and the latter to the right, and C. C. is the color chart of the N. S. P.

of the stamp, frames the design; roughly engraved, colored impression on white wove and yellowish paper; imperforated; size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mms. The 20 Centimes and the 1 Franc are the rarest of French stamps, \$18 to \$20 being paid for fair specimens.

In July of the next year, the 25 Centimes was issued for general use, and about the end of the month another value was added to the then existing values. In this year the 20 Centimes was made by surcharging the 25-Centimes with the new value in red. This stamp I have never seen.

About the end of July the 10 Centimes was added to the set, and in September the last value was issued.

An error was found to exist, a rather curious one, it looks as though it was intentional and evidently shows the way things were shaping themselves in the public minds, i. e. the 25 Centimes of July with the head of "Napoleon" on it in the place of "Liberty."

B. Presidency.

The Republic had its course, and on August 12th., 1852, a new set made its appearance, of the same design and lettering, but bearing the profile of "Napoleon," sinister. Two values were issued.

C. Empire.

The Presidency was in turn followed the next year, 1853, by the Empire. The stamps are of the same design as those of the Presidency, save the word "Empire" inserted in

place of the word "Republic." Engraved, colored impression on white wove paper, imperforated, size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mms. In the beginning of 1854, two other values were re-issued in various shades of color.

The following two stamps, catalogued by "Moens," are unknown to me, i. e. No. 1955 20 Centimes, blue on green paper and No. 1858 20 Centimes, blue on blue paper.

In 1850, another value was added and in the latter part of the year the 1 Centime was issued of the same design, size and imperforated.

D. Rouletted.

Arch and Serrated Perforations.

Non-Official.

This was done by the large firms for their own convenience. The Arch is known as the "Susse" perforation and is very large in size, being No. 7 on the standard gauge.

E. Perforated Officially.

In the latter part of 1862 the entire set was issued perforated 11 1-2 by the government.

F. Laureated Head.

Two new values, and of an entirely new design were issued, being termed the "Laureated Head." Design as follows, the head of Napoleon, sinister, in profile, with a laurel wreath on his brow, in a solid circle, framed by a circle of white pearls and an outer white band, at the top in a straight line are the words "Empire Français," in color, and at each end is a large white "numeral" of value, shaded dexter, at the base between

them is the word "Centimes" in color, gradually decreasing and increasing in size, all on a groundwork of horizontal lines in color, the design being framed by two fine colored outer lines. There are two color varieties of each value.

Four years later a new value, 30 Centimes, was added, and the twenty centimes was re-issued, there are three color varieties of the 20 Centimes, and two of the 30 Centimes. In November the 10 centimes was issued with the laureated head, and in 1868 the 40 and 80 Centimes were added. There are two color varieties of the 10 and 40 Centimes, and three of the 80 Centimes. In 1868, the set was issued imperforated, also non-officially perforated 7, and rouletted.

In the design of the issue of January 1863, April 1867, of 1868 and the other issues of the Empire, save that of January '63 which is better engraved, the difference is that the pearls or beads forming the framing of the circle, and the white band around the circle, are much larger and the border at the sides is a double Greek border, and the centre circle being on a parrallelogram of vertical straight lines (instead of vertical wavy lines) and the white figures in each corner, i. e. two white lines crossing at right angles; finely engraved on white wove paper, perforated 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

On November 2, 1866, the 5-franc was added to the set, having the laureated head of Napoleon, sinister in a solid circle, bordered by sixty-four pearls, at the distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

from the outer frame, which is a white band $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide, with rayed colored lined band in the center of it, and a colored line on the outside, this cuts the top and base; at the ends is the single Greek border, on a solid ground at the top is the word "EMPIRE" sinister, and the word "FRANCAISE" dexter in white letters on a solid ground, below on the same ground is the word "TIMBRE" sinister and "POSTES" dexter. A white dot in each corner. The circle is on an oblong of horizontal lines and colored dots. The oblong measures $11\frac{1}{2}$ mms. high and $18\frac{1}{2}$ mms. wide, bordered by a fine colored line and framed by a leaf ornament in each corner. The entire stamp is bordered by two outer lines of color. To the sinister of the circle, on the ground of the oblong, is the numeral "5" in solid color; and to the dexter, the letter "F" in the same. Finely engraved; colored impression on white wove paper; perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ mms.; size $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mms. Two color varieties exist.

In May of the next year, the 1-centime was added to the set, the design being the same as January, 1863.

G. Republic.

THE BORDEAUX DIE.

As this issue is commonly termed, was issued on the 11th. of October, 1870, at Bordeaux, where it was lithographed; it was first issued on blue paper and perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$, a variety of the 20-centimes is found rouletted

vertically and perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally. Three values exist, 10, 20 and 40 centimes, of these there are two varieties of the 10-centimes, three of the 20 and three of the 40-centimes, a rough lithograph of the type of 1849.

The same, imperforated, on white wove paper, were issued in November of 1870. There are three types of the 20-centimes, differing in the size of the lettering, and another variety of the 20-centimes, in which the corner ornament is 1 mm. square. Of the nine values there are three color varieties of the 1-centime, four of the 2, two of the 4, three of the 5, six of the 10, three of the 20, three of the 30, seven of the 40 and four of the 80-centimes.

Of the second type, (i. e., small letters) there are six color varieties, and of the third type, (large letters) five color varieties: these come perforated 14, rouletted, serrated and perforated in arch, non-official, in 1870-71.

On August 25, 1871, this set was issued, engraved and perforated, three values were issued, and in December, 1871, the 10-centimes of November, 1867, was surcharged "10" in blue, (in large numerals about 7 mms. high) and in the beginning of 1872 three values were added. On May 10th., the 2-centimes was added, in June the 5-centimes, in July the 4-centimes, in September the 80-centimes, in October the 30-centimes (large figure of value) and on Dec. 10th. the 1-centime.

Numismatics.

The knowledge of coins is absolutely necessary to those who desire to study history thoroughly; for history is not to be learned in books alone, which do not say always everything, nor always the truth. We must, then, have recourse to documents which justify it, and which have not been affected either by malice or ignorance: and such documents are coins. We learn by them thousands of things equally important and interesting which are not to be found elsewhere.—ROLLIN.



APTAIN Temple, in an article on the coins of mod-Punjab chiefs in the "Indian Antiquary," describes the Patiala Mint and the methods of minting practised there.

The mint, he says, is an ordinary Punjab court yard, about twenty feet square in the open part, entered by a gateway leading into a small apartment doing duty as an entrance hall, the remainder of the court yard being surrounded by low sheds opening into it. These buildings, which look like the "rooms" of a serai, are the workshops. The method of coining in this very primitive "mint" is described as follows:

"The silver after being assayed is cast into small bars by being run into grooved iron moulds. The melting is done in the court yard in very small quantities in little furnaces improvised for each occasion. The thickness of the bars is about the diameter of the rupee, and when cold they are cut up by a hammer

and chisel by guesswork into small weights, and weighed in small balances as accurately as hand-weighing will permit. These are afterward heated and rounded by hammering into disks, and again weighed by hand and corrected by small additions of silver hammered in cold or by scraping. After this the disk is handed over to the professional weigher, who finally weighs it by hand and passes it. It is then stamped by hammering, being put between two iron dies placed in a strong wooden frame. These dies are very much larger than the coins, so that only a portion of the legend can come off, and the coiners are not at all careful as to how much appears on the coin. The only thing they do is to try and make the particular mark of the reigning chief appear. If they do not succeed it does not matter much."

* * *

In the neighborhood of Mainz a large quantity of coins was dug up a short time ago which are believed to have been buried about the begin-

ning of the thirty years' war, as they range from 1350 to 1620. Among them is a gold gulden piece of Frankfurt of the year 1522, of which only one other specimen is known to be in existence.

* * *

In speaking of the design on the present silver dollars, Supt. Bobyshell, of the Philadelphia Mint, remarked not long since:—

“If designer Morgan, whose design upon the present silver dollar was accepted, had been allowed his own way in the matter, there would be no crying out ‘buzzard’ as I understand the present design of eagle has been called, but the dollar would have on its reverse side a natural eagle instead of the present conventional one.

“Director of the Mints Kimberley, who was in charge at that time directed Designer Morgan to have the eagle's wings rise phoenix-like, and as a matter of course he obeyed instructions. Regarding the Liberty head on the obverse side, Mr. Zoeller, the designer of the soldiers' monument which is to be placed in Garfield Square, Pottsville, said: ‘I have searched everywhere almost for a true head of Liberty, and I have come to the conclusion that the best head is that which at the present time has a place on our silver dollar. I propose to use it on account of its being the best representation of Liberty that can, in my judgment be found.’

“Mr. Morgan, in order to get the design for the head which was accepted and which is on the face of

our silver dollar of to-day, selected as his model Miss Annie Williams, a young lady school teacher, who had, Mr. Morgan said to me, ‘the purely American features.’

“Quite a number of people have been under the impression that Mr. Morgan's wife's head had been used as a model for the perfection of the design, but I know differently. At that time I was the coiner of this Mint, and Mr. Morgan and I were quite intimate. I learned who the lady was whose head was being used as a model, but of course it would have been unbecoming in me to have mentioned the matter outside.”

Among the gossips the question of the hour is: “What kind of a face will we have on our next silver dollars, and which way will the eagle's wings point?”

* * *

The origin of banks is not accurately known, but they are of great antiquity. They existed in China, Babylon, Greece, Rome and in the cities of many other ancient nations long before the opening of the Christian era.

The oldest banknote of which we have any record was issued as far back as 2697 B. C. The first of this early Chinese paper money was issued by the treasury, just as notes of to-day are issued, but it was not long until the entire business was turned over to the banking institutions, which were even then under government inspection and control. The popular name for the first banknote

was "flying" or "convenient money." The form of this note was similar to those of the present time. They bore the name of the bank, number of the note, value, place of issue, date and signature of the proper bank officials. A specimen of this note issued in the year 1399 B. C. is now in the Asiatic Museum at St. Petersburg, Russia. It is printed in blue ink on the paper made from fibre of the leaves of the mulberry tree.

In the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, there are Babylonish tablets of banking transactions dating back to the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. The earliest of these tablets belongs to the year B. C. 601. On it are the memoranda of loans made in silver by a certain banker, Kukuru, as follows: "1 mina to Beluepas, 5 shekels to Nabubasa-Napsati, 5 shekels of silver." Assuming that

the value of the Babylonish talent was equal to \$2,081.25, the "mina" was worth about \$31.25.

The earliest known banking house of Babylon was that of Egbi & Co., a house that seems to have acted as a sort of imperial banking institution from the time of Sennacherib (about 700 B. C.) down to the reign of Darius, who became king in 521 B. C., the life of the concern having been traced through five generations of Egbis. Many of the records of this house on clay tablets, found in an earthen jar at Hillan, near Babylon, may be seen in the British Museum.

The earliest records of European banks now in existence are those of the Bank of Venice, founded A. D. 1171; the Bank of Barcelona was founded in 1401; the Bank of Geneva in 1407; Bank of Amsterdam in 1609, and the great Bank of England in 1694.

Autographs.

It is interesting to note that a number of authors have finally complained vigorously because of the sale of their letters, manuscripts and papers to autograph hunters. Mr. Walter Besant, who is always prominent in any movement directed toward the benefit of the literary man, is especially vigorous in his protest. He tells the story recently of finding a large number of his own letters for

sale in a print shop, and among them was one of a prominent scientist, now dead. He tried hard to buy back his own epistles, but the shopkeeper refused to sell unless he bought the most valuable letters, signed by the scientist, and, rather than pay an exorbitant sum, he relinquished the idea of trying to keep his private notes out of the hands of the public. There is scarcely a

writer who has not at some time suffered in this way. I remember a prominent American author once finding a passage from a letter he designed to be most private and personal copied into the catalogue of an autograph dealer with the interesting fact attached that the original was "worth \$1.25." He said that if it was worth that much to the autograph collector it was worth it to him, and the letter was taken out of the market. The selling of such letters, however, certainly serves to indicate in a curious way a writer's degree of popularity. In England, where this trade is carried on to a greater extent than with us, the commercial value of this kind of goods is quite standard. Thus, at a recent sale Sir Theodore Martin's letters we find worth six pence; Mr. Burne-Jones is rated at a shilling a letter; Mr. Holman Hunt brings four shillings. Royalty is quite cheap, except the crowned heads, and the average author now living brings only four pence to a shilling a letter. Hardly worth while for any one to commit the dishonorable act of selling a private letter.

* * *

Joaquin Miller's handwriting is said to be most bewildering. A stercotyper who has made the plates for several of Mr. Miller's books said the other day that well schooled as he was in the enormities of caligraphy, Mr. Miller's was beyond his powers. On one occasion he went to interview Mr. Miller about a certain word

which he was unable to decipher. The author looked at it very attentively, first in one way, then in another. Finally he remarked, "Well, my dear sir, I'll be hanged if I know myself what I meant. If you will take a seat for a few minutes I'll substitute something more intelligible." And he did.

* * *

Miss Jean Ingelow, the poet, writes to her publishers, Messrs. Roberts Brothers, that the applications for autographs from America are so numerous that with her indifferent health the task of executing them is too burdensome, and in future she will be obliged to decline them. But in order to carry out a charity very dear to her heart, she has furnished them with autographic copies of some of her favorite short poems, such as "The Martin Flew to the Finch's Nest," from "Mopsa," "Goldilocks," "The Nightingale Heard by the Unsatisfied Heart," "Warbling of Blackbirds," "Coo, Dove, to thy Married Mate," from "Brothers and a Sermon," "When Sparrows Build," etc., each bearing her signature with the date, and these the publishers propose to send to any address on receipt of \$2 for each poem.

A French Protestant minister in Springfield has a valuable collection of minerals, Indian relics and trilobites, which Smith College is trying to obtain. A subscription has been started for this purpose and all but about \$200 has been subscribed.

MAJOR ANDRE'S SWORD.

The story that a man named Reipe, who keeps a boat house on the Passaic, a few miles below Paterson, had found Major Andre's sword in his vineyard has reached Atlanta, Georgia, and is vigorously disputed by Mr. G. J. Green of that city, who says:

"I was born within sight of the spot where Andre was captured. I have conversed with men who saw him hanged, and have gathered for publication many incidents in regard to this tragic affair, and nearly forty years ago wrote a biography of his captors, and married the granddaughter of one of them. I think I may assume to speak with some authority when I pronounce this whole story a canard. I do not doubt the finding of a sword marked 'Major John Andre' and all that, for I know of another sword marked in a similar way found about forty years ago in a much more appropriate place than Avondale, which is twelve miles from Tappantown, the place where he was hanged. That sword was sold to a travelling Englishman who was picking up Andre relics, for a large sum, and this one will be picked up by somebody who has more money than brains.

"In the first place Major Andre did not have any sword when he was captured, nor uniform of any kind, except what might be called an undress military coat, and this was covered up with a woollen overcoat with

three capes, was much too large for him and of a tawny color, having never been dyed. He had also a pair of military boots, and these, with his ruffled sleeves and bosom, excited the suspicion of his captors.

"They hardly thought it possible that such a fine shirt and pair of boots on such a fine morning need to be housed under such a dingy overcoat. I looked at the coat fifty years ago, and if it looked to them as bad as it did to me—moth-eaten and soiled—I think their suspicions were well founded."

NEW POSTAL SERVICE.

The Imperial British East Africa Company has, under arrangement with the Postmaster-General and the Government of India, now opened postoffices of its own in East Africa. Under the agreements made the company enters the Postal Union under the wing of British and Indian Governments. Closed mails are sent from London to Bombasa and Lamu, and vice versa; also from Bombay and Aden to Bombasa and Lamu, and vice versa. Money-orders are also exchanged with England and India. The company is issuing its own postage and revenue stamps, in which the company's badge—a sun in all its glory, surmounted by an Imperial crown—forms a striking center piece; above the sun is the value in Arabic figures; below is the company's motto, "Light and Liberty," and the value in English. Twelve different values of stamps are issued.

Archæology.

Dr. Heinrich Schliemann, who died recently at Naples, must be accorded rank among the world's foremost archæologists. He was born in 1822, at Ankershagen, Mecklenberg, and his father, a poor clergyman, could give him nothing but an education. As a lad he read the story of "Troy the divine," and Homer's stirring tale influenced all his future life. From the moment he had mastered the Iliad and Odyssey his resolve was fixed.

The first step toward the goal of his ambition was the attainment of wealth. He toiled along in many climes as a clerk, a sailor, a linguist, a speculator, a banker and a merchant until 1868. Then, rich beyond the limits of his early hopes, he began his work of exploration. He located and unearthed the remains of Troy. He brought to light many relics of races long since extinct, and he received honors such as are conferred on but few men.

He made his home at Athens, married a Greek woman and lived in the splendid style of a Hellene of the golden age. His children were named Andromache and Agamemnon. He rechristened his very porter Bellerophon, while the governess was known as Danae and the nurse as Polyxena.

A fact not generally known is that Dr. Schliemann was a natur-

alized citizen of the United States. He put up the first fireproof building erected at Sacramento, Cal., and occupied it for years as a banking house.

* * *

Mr. Alexander Chenoweth of Inwood, near New York, has again increased the list of his archæological discoveries in that locality. In the great rocks of a bluff a few hundred yards west of the Harlem he has found a series of small caverns with smoked walls, fragments of Indian pottery on the floors, and flint and bone implements in the dirt that in the long course of generations has drifted into the nooks and crannies of the sides.

After concluding his excavations of the hillock under the direction of Prof. Putnam of the Harvard Department of Archæology, Mr. Chenoweth began looking over the ground of a ridge that begins one-eighth of a mile further north and sweeps around to the northwest, merging into a high, wooded knoll about three-quarters of a mile from the corner of Kingsbridge road and Inwood street. He found flint arrow heads, some new specimens of pottery, curiously worn and drilled stones, and evidences of camp fires.

Great deposits of oyster and other shells on points high above the Harlem marked the lines along which Indians had led domestic life.

On the wooded knoll, well down in the thick, black mold, between old stumps, Mr. Chenoweth uncovered the pieces of a pot, evidently a water jug, 18 inches high, and 5 inches in diameter at the top. Around the rim ran a pattern of lines grouped in triangles. The lines are perfectly parallel, and show that they were made with some instrument less primitive than the pointed stick that scratched the herring-bone pattern on the pottery in the hillock three-quarters of a mile away. The ornamented top is about 1½ inches wide.

The pot, which Mr. Chenoweth is putting together, flares gradually to the under side of the pattern, is then narrowed to two-thirds its diameter at the top, flares again at the bottom, and terminates in a rough little apex that would prevent it from standing upright on anything harder than mud. The material is ordinary clay, with a slight mixture of lime. The color is reddish brown. When rubbed, the fragments of the pot shone almost as brilliantly as marble.

Among the numerous implements found near the entrance of the interior passage the most curious is probably a knife with a flint blade and a bone handle. The blade is about two inches long, as thick as an ordinary arrow head, with a straight edge and a peaked back. The handle was once part of the antler of a deer. It is four inches long and somewhat broader where it meets the blade than the blade itself. The knife was complete when Mr. Chenoweth uncovered it. As he raised it the flint blade dropped from the hollow end of the bone in which it was fitted. The significance of this discovery may be best understood after a reading of a passage in the report of Prof. F. W. Putnam concerning his explorations of Ohio mounds. In

the chapter on the Marriott mound Prof. Putnam says:

"In a pile in one corner of the enclosure and partly under some of the human bones were ten handles, more or less perfect, made of antlers. Five of these had holes in one end, and while they vary in size from three to four inches in length and half an inch to an inch in diameter they are all of the same shape and character. Another handle, made from a point of an antler, has a groove cut across its widest end in which was resting a triangular point. Of course this is a knife, and it is a good transition from arrow points to knives. The method by which this stone point was fastened to the handle is a matter of conjecture, but it is probable that it was held in its place by a lashing of sinew to a mass of glue or gum."

Near the knife Mr. Chenoweth uncovered two smooth oblong stones, one an inch and a half in diameter and five inches long, the other two inches in diameter and eight inches long. They are so carefully rounded and smoothed as to exclude the possibility of their having been fashioned without human hands. It is thought that the former inhabitants of this cave used these implements in tanning skins. Near the rounded oblong stones was a flat oblong piece of polished slate, two by four inches, with three neatly-bored holes in it. Near it was half of a similar bit of slate, which is called a gorget. Some say it was worn on the breast as an ornament; others that it was fastened over the lower part of the hand that held the bow, so as to protect the palm from the snapping bow string. The holes were then cut so that binders of root or bark might be passed through them and around the hand. Nearer the outside entrance

of the cave lay a flint axe head, with a fairly thin edge and a well marked groove for the two arms of the partly split helve that were fastened around it. The head is about six inches long and four inches wide, of an indigo blue tinge, and beautifully polished.

All the fragments of pottery found in the cave were unusually large, and laid so that the various vessels they once constituted might be quite easily put together. The most carefully marked pot is of dark red clay and is eighteen inches in diameter at the mouth and two feet high. It is contracted slightly three inches from the rim and flares a little in the middle, the bottom having the same curious little peak as that of the pot found in the knoll. Near the rim are nine roughly executed rows of indentations, evidently made with a sharp stick. Perpendicularly from the lowest row run roughened belts of clay, about two and a half inches wide, probably produced by wiping roots or coarse grass up and down the wet vessel. Another jug of the same material has a mouth five inches in diameter, with a flaring body almost a foot through and an almost flat bottom. The rim has a double row of indentations. A vessel two feet tall and eighteen inches in diameter has a rim ornamented by a single row of short parallel perpendicular lines, its diameter varying little from top to bottom. A jug of five inches diameter at the rim and nine in the body has at the mouth a decoration of three parallel rows of short horizontal regularly curved lines, supposed to have been cut in the wet clay with a scollo shell, and, in fact the curv-

ed edges of several shells found in the cave exactly fit the indented lines. The largest pot is eighteen inches in diameter at the mouth, and is two feet tall, has one row of indentations at the rim, and oblique irregularly parallel lines all over its body. A jug 2 feet high and fifteen inches in diameter at the mouth is entirely unornamented and altogether the most primitive bit of pottery found in that neighborhood.

The pile of huge rocks that wall up the caverns in which Mr. Chenoweth has been carrying on his explorations reach about fifty feet up the base of the first cave, and he is sanguine of the results of his coming explorations under this hill of stone.

* * *

The workmen who have been preparing the parade ground at Van Courtlandt Park, near New York, for use by the National Guard this year, have unearthed a number of interesting remains of aboriginal life. The plain north of the site now occupied by the Van Courtlandt mansion was apparently a favorite camping ground of the Indian tribes. Most of the articles were found in or near beds of broken clam shells. The Indians of a few generations ago, like the fat men's associations of today, were fond of the Rhode Island clam bake, and they found that the plains near the Harlem and Spuyten Duyvil were good substitutes for the shores of the Sound as places for their feasts.

One of the skeletons was discovered in a sitting posture near a pile of clams. He had his knees drawn up against his body and his hands in

front of the place where his stomach formerly was. The posture suggested to the workmen the belief that he died from indigestion, but, as the Indians were in the habit of burying their dead in a sitting position, this is easily explained.

Several of the skulls discovered were in a good state of preservation. They have low foreheads and high cheek bones. The teeth are in most cases perfectly preserved. One skeleton would have been almost perfect had not an unlucky blow with a spade by one of the diggers smashed the front of the skull. A mortar and pestle of crude make are interesting relics of the savage mode of life. The pestle is like a small smooth cobble-stone and the mortar, into which it fits closely, is hollowed out of a large flat stone.

Some bullets have been discovered a few feet under the surface of the ground. The plain and the surrounding hills are rich in memories of the Revolutionary days when British and American troops in turn retreated and advanced across the "neutral ground" while the great landholders tried to save their possessions by carefully refraining from expressing strong opinions on either side. The recent discoveries carry the history back to the days when the Indians built their wigwams, ate, lived, hunted, fought, died and were buried on this ground, over which the National Guardsmen recently fought their bloodless battle.

An interesting discovery has been

made on the shore of Lake Minnetonka, Minn. A mound was explored and gave evidence of a pre-historic race. The mound is about thirty feet in diameter, and rises seven feet above the surrounding land, and eight feet above the lake, toward the edge of which one side gently slopes. Near by is another mound of about the same size. On these mounds grow large trees, which are from 150 to 200 years old. Below the mound's surface was found earth tightly tramped in, almost like rock. By this means, and by building on a hill, where the drainage was perfect, the ancient people sealed up their graves almost hermetically. When this hard earth was removed, there was found at a depth of three to six feet, the graves of the mound builders, full of their bones and crockery. Specimens of their bones and teeth showed that these men were huge and brawny. One big skull was obtained different in type from the modern skull. The bodies were all buried with their heads toward the mound's center. Evidently the bodies were doubled up when buried, for the skulls were found touching the upper leg bones. The teeth are long, strong and sound, and with nerve cavities much deeper than in modern teeth. One of the fragmentary jars is wrapped in coarsely woven cloth, which had been imbedded in the clay before baking. This shows that the mound-builders, unlike the Indians, were weavers of considerable ability.

Prehistoric Man.

For years anthropologists have been of the opinion that there is no place equal to the Americas for studying prehistoric man. The reason is that the Americas have not been thickly populated for centuries like the Old World. The people of Europe have destroyed most of the vestiges of prehistoric man, which in a large part of the New World have remained undisturbed. Conceding this importance to the New World as a field for prehistoric study the anthropologists of Europe about fifteen years ago formed what is known as the Congress of Americanists, and every two years or so they meet to compare notes on the latest archaeological researches in America. The last session of the congress was held in Paris last month, and a distinguished body of men were present, including such authorities as Quatrefages, Nadaillac, and Dr. Hamy.

The President of the congress, Prof. Quatrefages, opened the congress with a paper on the original peopling of America. Of course, he holds the theory, now generally accepted, that America has people from the Old World. He said no plant or animal had been met whose home could be found in all parts of the world, and investigation showed that the higher we go in the scale of being the more limited is the habitat. He thinks man origin-

ally occupied but a very small part of the earth's surface, and from that he spread all over the world.

This familiar theory with regard to the peopling of the Americas is particularly interesting now, in view of the recent researches of the German archaeologist, Otto Sittig. He has accumulated a great deal of information with regard to involuntary wanderings in the Pacific Ocean. He finds scores of well authenticated instances of natives who, in their canoes, have been carried by adverse winds and currents many hundreds of miles from their homes and have finally reached new islands, where they have settled, reared families, and permanently occupied specks in the ocean which were previously uninhabited. By collecting the information he has gathered Mr. Sittig has discovered the interesting fact that these involuntary wanderings can be connected in an unbroken chain leading from the southeast coast of Asia through the Malayan Islands, on through the hundreds of Polynesian islands, and still further east to islands that are very far on the way to this continent. More conclusive evidence has not yet been gathered to show the certainty that the population of the Americas was derived from the old world, and that immigrants came to our shores not only in the far north, where the

two continents nearly approach one another, but also over the Pacific's broad expanse, drifting from island to island, and in the course of ages, through accidental causes, extending their wanderings to the east until the human tide reached the New World.

Among the interesting matters brought before the congress were the discoveries of Dr. Von den Steinen, in the regions watered by the Xingu tributary of the Amazon, where he found a few years ago a very curious people who had no knowledge of the world, except the hundred or so square miles of territory they occupied, and who were in all respects living in the stone age. Photographs of these curious Botocudo people were shown.

Mr. Marcel told some curious facts about the Terra del Fuegians, taken from unpublished manuscripts of the seventeenth century. A shipwrecked sailor was compelled to spend eleven months among the people of this region. In his opinion, and in the opinion of others of his time, whose manuscripts were read at the congress, the people who inhabit the islands that form the southwest part of Terra del Fuego were doomed to extinction because they were exposed to so many hardships and led such wretched lives. The prophecy is coming true, for there now remain less than 200 of these natives. It is a curious fact that they are entirely distinct in lan-

guage, customs, and physical traits from their neighbors who live on the greater part of Terra del Fuego. These peoples, together with the natives of Fernando Po, near the west coast of Africa, are the most conspicuous instances of the fact occasionally savage people, who live almost within sight of one another, have kept entirely distinct and have little more in common than they have with natives who live many hundreds of miles away.

Mr. Altamirano, the Consul of Mexico in Paris, read a unique and very interesting paper on the institutions of ancient Mexico. He thinks he is able to demonstrate that, contrary to the opinion of the chroniclers of the sixteenth century and of Mexican historians in general, ancient Mexico was not a despotic monarchy, governed by an hereditary Emperor, but was a military democracy, administered by two magistrates, who could be compared to the Consuls of ancient Rome. One of these magistrates had special charge of military affairs, and the other of the affairs of peace. The author concluded that democratic form of government had always, from the earliest days, been in full vigor in Mexico and he made the curious deduction that this fact may largely explain the catastrophes that overwhelmed Iturbide and Maximilian.

The Congress occupied a week and finally adjourned to meet in Spain in 1892.

News and Notes.

Denman Thompson, the well-known actor, of "Old Homestead" fame, has two heirlooms of which he is vastly proud. He says he would not take \$1,000 for them. One is a pair of saddle bags used in the Revolution by Amasa Aldrich, the actor's grand-uncle. The bags are in a good state of preservation and accompanying them is a piece of parchment with this inscription:

These post-bags were made expressly for and used by Captain Amasa Aldrich, of Swanzey, N. H., when representing his town in the State Legislature at Concord during the Governorship of John Langdon, in the year of 1776. AMASA ALDRICH, Swanzey N. H.

The other is a black lacquered snuff-box, with a canary colored cover, bearing a picture of a woman caressing a dove. There is still some snuff in the box, but it has lost its pungency by age. The box belonging to Mr. Thompson's great-grandmother.

* * *

General Albert Pike has a large and valuable collection of tobacco-pipes, gathered during many years. Among them is what is accounted the largest meerschoum in the world.

* * *

The British museum has among its treasures an almanac three thousand years old. The days are written in red ink on papyrus, in columns,

under each is a figure followed by three characters signifying the probable state of the weather for that day.

* * *

J. Fletcher Williams, librarian of the Minnesota State Historical Society, while in London recently, called on a dealer in old books from whom the State Society has been buying books occasionally for the past twenty years. Mr. Williams relates that the presiding genius of this particular place was a queer old piece of humanity, and illustrates it by the following incident: A gentleman in search of a rare old English black-letter volume found it in the store referred to. He was much pleased at his discovery and asked the price. "Nine hundred dollars," said the proprietor. "Nine hundred dollars," exclaimed the would-be purchaser of the volume. "That is too high. Now I think this book—," but here the volume was snatched from his hands, and the proprietor threw it on the counter, exclaiming: "It'll be a thousand to-morrow!" And it is an actual fact that the book buyer, after a long and vain search, actually came back and paid a thousand dollars for the volume.

* * *

BUYING at an auction is as catching as the measles. I heard of a girl

the other day who knew nothing whatever of Japanese swords, and who had precisely \$1.17 in her purse. She went in where they were selling those atrocities that look like roughly decorated pokers with handles to them, and that are supposed to have slain their tens of thousands. She went in merely from curiosity. From the beginning that has gotten most women into trouble. A sword was being sold for \$5, when she heard a man next her say it was worth \$10. She and another woman, one of the white-eyed, thin-lipped, decided kind, ran that wretched thing up to \$47, and then mademoiselle had to stop, for it dawned on her first that she had not the money to get the sword, and then that she did not know what she would have done with it if she had gotten it. The proud possessor of it at \$48 looked triumphant, but her comfort was a little cooled by her being told that the next one would probably go for \$6.—“BAB” in the St. Louis Republic.

* * *

William C. Dillingham, while fishing in Gordon Creek, Oregon, not long ago, discovered a beautiful fossil trout fifteen inches in length in a huge boulder. Every fin and scale of the fish was as plainly marked in the rock as if cut out by a skilled artist. Many people wonder how trout get in streams above high falls. They were doubtless there before the falls were made, as from this fossil it is

evident that there were trout in the streams of Oregon in prehistoric ages. Mr. Dillingham intends to go out some day and catch that trout with a hammer and chisel.

* * *

The Paris bookseller, J. Maisonneuve, offers for sale a unique copy of Christopher Columbus's letter announcing the discovery of the New World (15th February (14th March,) 1493). It is said to differ from the two quarto editions already known. It is in folio, and it is thought to have been published in 1497 by the Roman Curia, under the Pontificate of Alexander the Sixth. The catalogue observes that “this historic and bibliographic treasure, absolutely unrivalled in the whole world, is the most precious document with which any American museum or library could be adorned.” Any museum or library can secure it for the sum of 65,000 francs.

* * *

In a recent letter to Prince Bismarck from Troy, Dr. Henry Schliemann tells about his excavations there. He is making comparatively slow progress, he says, on account of the depth of the deposit of earth on the ruins. Seventy men and three locomotives are employed by Dr. Schliemann. The Doctor writes that the art treasures which he will give to the newly founded museum of Trojan antiquities at Berlin are of great value and beauty.

Money in Many Lands.

IT WAS a quaint little old man whom I met some days ago in a little, foreign looking money changer's shop near Bowling Green. He might have played Shylock without making up, with his patriarchal white beard and hair, his keen black eyes and curved nose, but a very amicable and good natured Shylock I found him, with not a suggestion in his manner of any desire to exact even an ounce of flesh for the time I took in asking curious questions about the currencies of all nations. I found the old man peculiarly apt in the information I asked. He had handled money in nearly every capital in Europe.

"This," he said as he picked up a Bank of England note, is the plainest piece of currency to be found in any country in the world, and it is good for gold in any land under the sun where white men or yellow live."

The Bank of England note is about five inches by eight in dimensions, and is printed in black ink on Irish linen water lined paper, plain white and with ragged edges, which lacks the oily smoothness of our own bank notes.

"It looks easy enough to counterfeit," remarked my ancient guard, "but, in fact, the Bank of England suffers as little from counterfeiters as any similar institution in the world. The notes are never re-issued,

but are burned as soon as they come back to the bank, and the paper is made for that sole purpose, and that is the greatest safeguard. In sending a note by mail or express, the note is always sent in two and the halves sent separately.

"The showiest currency outside of China are the notes issued by the Banque de France," he continued, as he picked up a paper that resembled a small show bill. The paper itself is white waterlined, printed in blue and black, with numerous mythological and allegorical pictures, and running in denominations from the twenty franc note to the 1,000 franc.

"Not easy to counterfeit, but far from artistic," was the remark of the old man, as he pulled out a variety of Italian notes of all shapes, sizes and colors. The smaller bills—five and ten lire notes—are about the size and shape of our own old twenty-five cent "shinplaster" fractional currency, and printed on white paper in pink, blue and carmine inks, and ornamented with a finely engraved vignette of King Humbert. The larger notes are about the size of our "greenbacks," and are elaborately engraved, but to my eye they are neither beautiful nor artistic. They are worth more away from home than they were a few years ago, though, owing to King Humbert's wise rule.

"But here is your elaborate bank

note," continued the old man, as he brought to light a gorgeous piece of paper about 4 inches by 10. It was the hundred ruble note of Russia. The note was barred from top to bottom with all the colors of the rainbow, blended as when thrown through a prism. In the center in bold relief stood a large, finely executed vignette of Empress Catherine I. This was in black. The other engraving was not at all intricate or elaborate, but was well done in dark and light brown and black inks.

"The Russians look at that as the height of artistic work," said Shylock, "and it has one merit. The paper is made by a secret process, and the note has never been counterfeited. It is also worth its face value in every capital in Europe and Asia. The smaller Russian notes, the twenty-five and fifty ruble bills, are about one-third smaller and not as gorgeously colored. The smallest denomination in Russian currency is five rubles, about \$2.50 in United States currency."

"Here is a peculiar bill, but a very good idea, I think," continued the money changer, as he showed me another bill. "This is from Austria, and, like all of his majesty Francis Joseph's currency, is in two languages. On one side it is Austrian and on the other Hungarian, for the benefit of the Magyars.

The bill was printed on a light colored thick paper, which showed none of the silk fibre marks or geometric lines used in our currency, as a protection against counterfeiting.

But, like the German currency, each bill bears upon it a terrible warning to counterfeiters, threatening the penitentiary confinement "to any one who shall make, sell or have in his possession any counterfeit or fac-simile of this bill." The engraving is profuse with angel heads and artistic scroll work. The lowest denomination in currency is the one florin, worth about forty cents of our money. The highest bill is the 1,000 florin note.

The German currency is rather artistic. The bills are printed in green and black upon paper lighter than our own gold certificates, and about an inch wider. They run in denominations from five marks to 1,000 marks. Their later bills are being printed on the silk fiber paper.

The Norwegians have a curious currency, but it is rarely seen here, for the reason that it circulates very little among the common people and the class that comes here as immigrants. These stick to their copper and silver coins and shun the little cinnamon brown bills of their government, which are about the size our old "shipplasters."

The Chinese paper currency is in red, white and yellow paper, with gilt lettering and gorgeous little hand drawn devices. The bills, to the ordinary financier, might pass for wash checks or prayer papers in a Joss house, but they are worth good money in the Flowery Kingdom. South American currency, in most countries, is about the size and general appearance of our own bills,

except that cinnamon brown and slate blue are the prevailing colors and the Spanish and Portuguese languages the prevalent languages engraved on the face.—New York Star.

SEEKING FOR SUBMARINE TREASURE.

The Merritt Wrecking Organization have been employed to search off the Delaware Breakwater for the lost sand-hidden treasure of the sunken British sloop-of-war *De Braak*, and a few weeks ago the wrecking steamer *Rescue* started from the company's piers at Stapleton for the scene of operations. The *De Braak* capsized off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. She had a great deal of treasure on board, and if rumor has not magnified the amount there is \$10,000,000 in or about her submerged hull. Aside from the interest now attaching to her from financial considerations, the *De Braak* had a checkered career while she was above water and sailed the ocean blue. Built by the Dutch in 1789, she was captured by the French in 1790. Later she came into the possession of the English Government, and on June 3, 1797, she put out to sea under command of Captain Drew. On May 25, 1798, she arrived at Cape Henlopen with a captured Spanish vessel. It was said by the crew of the *De Braak* that \$10,000,000 in coin, besides a large quantity of precious stones, had been taken from their

prize and stored in the cabin of Captain Drew.

After renewing his supply of water and provisions, which had given out owing to the inroads made upon them by his own crew and the 213 Spanish prisoners he carried, Captain Drew set sail, anchoring at the lightship at the entrance to Delaware Bay. Here a squall capsized the ship and she went down, together with the captain and thirty eight officers, seamen and marines. The rest of the ship's company managed to escape in the boats.

In 1880 a contract was made by the International Submarine Company of New-Haven giving the exclusive right to search for the treasure. Under this contract the Ocean Wrecking Company of Philadelphia will carry on the work with the aid of the Merritt Company. Last year an attempt to secure the treasure of the *De Braak* failed for want of means to prosecute the enterprise. The most costly and difficult part of the work lies in determining the precise position of the vessel's hull.

Even should the search be successful, it is doubtful if the treasure would be worth one-tenth part of what it was in 1798. The action of the water upon the coins, for nearly a hundred years, would have worn them as thin as paper. In the cabinet of a New York collector are a number of coins, recovered under similar circumstances several years ago, which, if in good condition, would be of considerable value. As it is, they are worthless except for their trifling value as curiosities. They had been worn as thin as isinglass.

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JULY, 1891.

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Contents for July.

AUTOGRAPHS,	- - - - -	pages 37-38.
THE EMISSIONS OF FRANCE,	- - - - -	38-41.
THE AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE,	- - - - -	41.
ORIGINAL CONTINENTAL FLAG,	- - - - -	41.
DEED OF WILLIAM PENN,	- - - - -	42.
ARCHÆOLOGY,	- - - - -	43-44.
COPPER JEWELRY OF THE ABORIGINES,	- - - - -	44.
NUMISMATICS,	- - - - -	45-47.
AUCTION SALES, ETC.,	- - - - -	47.
RARE SHAKESPEAREAN MSS.,	- - - - -	48.
NOTES,	- - - - -	41, 44, 47, 48.


 When answering advertisements please mention this paper.

THE COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. I.

JULY, 1891.

No. 4.



Autographs.

WHEN Buffalo Bill was in Washington, shortly before Congress adjourned, some of the Senate pages captured him and extorted about a hundred autographs from him.

"Boys," said Mr. Cody, "I am willing to give you one autograph apiece. Now, don't ask for more."

The boys promised, and by ones and twos presented their books. After he had written his name fifteen or twenty times Cody became suspicious and asked how many pages there were. "Thirty," he was told, though there are but half that number. It was the appearance of a red-headed page that gave the game away. Cody seized him by the ear and asked him if he hadn't been in before. "Yes," said the scamp, "twice: but that is nothing, some of the boys have been in three or four times."

Buffalo Bill's autograph is worth 25 cents in Washington, to go in a book containing the signatures of

President, Cabinet, Supreme Court, Senators and the most prominent Representatives. Such a book sells at \$5, and Buffalo Bill's signature is thrown in as a sort of chromo.

* * *

An interesting object in the shape of an uncut copy of Thackeray's "Virginians," was sold in London the other day for \$150. It had acquired a value exclusive of that of its printed contents—Thackeray had himself written this inscription on the fly-leaf:

In the U. States and in the Queen's dominions
All people have a right to their opinions,
And many don't much relish "The Virginians."
Peruse my book, dear U., and if you find it
A little to your taste, I hope you'll bind it.
Peter Rackham, Esqre. with the best regards
of the Author.

"Dear R.," however, refrained from binding the author's presentation copy, much to the joy of the modern collector.

* * *

Several interesting autograph letters have been sold at the rooms of

Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods. the prices obtained showing that rarities in this line are always sure of finding a ready market at sums which steadily advance. A letter from Robert Burns to his father sold for £53. and five verses in the same handwriting brought £21. Oliver Goldsmith's manuscript has been steadily rising in value of late, a letter from his hand to David Garrick inducing a collector to bid as high as £41 for the document, at which price it was disposed of. An epistle from Dr. Johnson—Goldie's friend and patron—only reached the sum of £10 15s. Two letters of Alexander Pope went for £17 10. and £6. 10s. respectively, and one from Jeremy Taylor brought £8 8s. A communication from Queen Eliza-

beth to a correspondent abroad, which her Majesty had dictated to Roger Ascham, sold for £16 16.

* * *

According to "The Chicago Open Court," there are only three complete collections of autographs of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in existence. One of these belongs to Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, of New York, who is president of the Irish National Federation of America. The costliness of the autographs is in the ratio of the obscurity of the signers. One of the least distinguished signers was Thomas Lynch, jr., of South Carolina. Only three examples of his writing are known, uninteresting business notes, and for one of them Dr. Emmet paid over \$5,000.

The Emissions of France.*

By A. Palette.

IN JUNE, 1881, a new design was issued, consisting of an oblique band from the sinister to the dexter side, bearing the numerals of value, 6 mms. high in the lower sinister end, in solid black, and the legend, at the top the word "Centimes" and under it the letter "A", and at the base the word "Percevoir." At the upper sinister corner of the oblong and over

the band is a scroll and the same in the lower dexter corner. The word "Postes" is in the frame at the upper sinister and lower dexter side, in white letters on a solid black label. At the top of the frame is the word "Chiwbre" and at the base of the frame is the word "Taxe" in white letters on a solid black label; and the letters "R F" in a solid black square, in the upper sinister and lower dexter corners. The design is framed by a fine black line around the outside.

*This article was begun in No. 1. For explanations of contractions, etc., see that number.

Engraved. Black impression on white wove paper. Perforated 13. Size 18—21 mms. On October 1, 1882, the balance of the set was issued. In May of 1884, the 20 centimes was added, in black, and the color of the 1, 2 and 5 francs was changed to brown.

Part IV. — Envelope Stamps.

On October 1, 1882, envelope stamps were issued for the public use, of the design of 1876; on three colors of paper and of one value. On November 1, another value was added, on two colors of paper, and in 1884, the 5 and the 15 centimes were issued on various papers. In December, 1887, the 5 and 15 centimes were issued with the stamp in the upper sinister corner for advertising purposes.

Part V. — News Bands.

On October 1, 1882, the bands were issued on manilla, brown, white and blue paper, of the values of 1 and 2 centimes, and, on March 15, 1883, the 3 centimes was issued on the same papers.

Part VI.

FRENCH POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT

The following I transcribe from "Notes on the Surcharged Stamps used in the Orient" and published in the "Empire State Philatelist" in 1886:—

"By Firman or Imperial sanctions, delivered at different times, upon which we will not dwell for the present, also leaving aside all chronological details and reasons for issuing

these special permissions. Some European governments and even steam navigation companies secured of for themselves the privilege establishing post-offices, either at Constantinople, or at points where the said lines used to call on their way or even in the interior of the Empire.

The English, Germans, Austrians, Russians and the French have post-offices at Constantinople. Greece had one there in 1881, in accordance with the treaty of Berne, which stipulated the fee of 25 centimes for 15 grammes ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz., more or less,) the Ottoman post charged at 14 piastre (see issue of January, 1876,) for a letter weighing 15 grammes, i. e., as much as for the value of 25 centimes abroad."

The following values of the French stamps were surcharged in black: the 1 piastre, the 25 centimes of 1879, the 75 centimes and the 1 franc of 1876, and the 25 centimes of June, 1886, in red. Several of the lower values were and are still in use there, without the surcharge, also the 5 and 15 centimes envelopes. I have the 5 centimes (envelope) with a Turkish stamp of the value of 1 piastre (issue of March, 1884) alongside of the 5 centimes, thus showing that the Turkish postal authorities had accepted it.

LIST—

A. REPUBLIC.

- No. 1. Jan. 1, 1849, 20 cent. black.
 " 2, " " 20 " "
 on yellow paper.

No. 3, Jan. 1, 1849	1 franc, ver- mil., c c 118.		
" 4, " "	1 franc, or- ange, c c 8.		
" 5, " "	1 franc, car- mine, c c 128.		
" 6, " "	1 franc, car- mine, c c 127.		
" 7, " "	1 franc, red- brown, c c 81.		
" 8, Dec. "	40 cent., or- ange, c c 8.		
" 9, " "	40 cent., bis- tre, c c 62.		
" 10, July 1, 1850,	25 cent., ut- tramar., c c 53.		
" 11, " "	25 cent., blue, c c 41.		
" 12, " "	25 cent., blue, c c 44.		
" 13, " "	25 cent., blue, (on yel.) c c 44.		
SURCHARGED.			
No. 14, July 1, 1850,	20 cent., in red on 25, c c 44.		
REGULAR ISSUE.			
No. 15, July 23, 1850,	10 cent., olive-brown c c 88.		
" 16, " "	1850, 10 cent., bis- tre, c c 97.		
" 17, " "	10 cent., bis- tre, c c 96.		
" 18, Sept. 23 "	15 cent., green c c 21.		
" 19, " "	15 cent., green c c 22.		
" 20, " "	15 cent., green c c 24.		
ERROR.			
No. 21, Sept. 23, 1850,	20 cent., blue, 44.		
		B. PRESIDENCY.	
		No. 22, Aug. 12, 1852,	10 cent., ochre, c c 16.
		" 23, " "	10 cent., ochre, c c 98.
		" 24, " "	25 cent., blue, c c 41.
		" 25, " "	25 cent.,
		C. EMPIRE.	
		No. 26, 1853,	10 cent., ochre, c c 97.
		" 27, " "	10 cent., olive green, c c 37.
		" 28, " "	10 cent., umber, c c 93.
		" 29, " "	10 cent. umber, c c 96.
		" 30, " "	40 " red-brown, c c 81.
		" 31, " "	40 " orange c c 5.
		" 32, " "	1 franc, carmine, c c 127.
		" 33, " "	1 " lake. c c 132.
		" 34, Aug. 17, 1853,	10 cent., ochre, c c 16.
		" 35, Sept. 3, "	40 cent., orange, c c 7.
		" 36, Nov. 3, "	25 cent., blue, c c 42.
		" 37, 1854	5 cent., green, c c 25.
		" 38, " "	5 cent., green, c c 23.
		" 39, " "	20 " blue, c c 44.
		" 40, " "	20 " " c c 42.
		" 41, " "	20 " " c c 46.
		" 42, " "	80 " " c c 132.
		" 43, " "	80 " rose, c c 137.
		" 44, July 1, 1854,	20 cent., blue, c c 48.
		" 45, Oct. 1854,	80 carmine, c c. 128.
		" 46, Nov. 4, 1854,	5 cent., em- erald green, c c 35.

founder of the Mussulman religion, is said to have jotted down the brilliant passages of the Koran upon the shoulder blades of sheep while he was a poor herder. The Iliad was first written in characters of gold upon the great gut of a dragon, the scroll being over 100 feet in length. As far back as the time of Job authors wrote upon sheets of lead. The great writers of the North wrote all their books upon beachwood or "bog," from which our word "book" is derived. At the Strozzi Palace, in Rome, there is a book made of marble, the leaves being of marvelous thinness. Cleanthes, the philosopher, first inscribed his immortal work upon the white sides of bleached sea shells.

DEED OF WILLIAM PENN.

The following is a true copy of William Penn's deed taken from the original by Ephraim Morton, now, if not recently deceased, living at Washington, Pa. When Mr. Morton was a young man he acted as a clerk in the Pennsylvania land office. One day while looking over some of the oldest records in the office he accidentally discovered this deed, and considering it an historical curiosity, made a copy of it for his own use:

This indenture witnesseth, that we, Pakenah, Jaracoam, Sinkals, Partuaguessat, Jewis, Espennoek, Felkroy, Hekellapan, Eoonus Machlona, Methecougha, Hlisa and Powey,

Indian Kings, Sachmakers, right owners of all lands from Quing Quingas, called Chester creek, all along by west side of Delaware river and so between the said creeks backwards as far as a man can ride a horse in two days, for and in consideration these following named goods to us in hand paid by William Penn, viz.: Twenty guns, 20 fathoms of match-coat, 20 pounds of powder, 100 bars of lead, 40 tomahawks, 100 knives, 40 pairs of stockings, 1 barrel of beer, 20 barrels of red lead, 105 fathoms of wampum, 30 glass bottles, 80 pewter spoons, 100 awls, 300 tobacco pipes, 100 twists of tobacco, 200 tobacco tongs, 20 steels, 200 flints, 30 pairs of scissors, 80 combs, 60 looking glasses, 200 needles, 1 lot of salt, 30 pounds of sugar, 5 gallons of molasses, 20 tobacco boxes, 100 jewsharps, 20 hoes, 30 gimlets, 30 wooden boxes, 100 strings of beads, and other things not herein listed, we do hereby relinquish all our right to the described tract of land forever.

Signed and acknowledged at New Castle this 2d day of 8th month, 1669.

	Pakenah	Felkroy
	Jaracoam	Hekellapan
Witness,	Sinkals	Eoonus
Casasette	Partuaguessat	Machlona
W. Byron Jewis		Powey
	Espennoek	Hlisa
		Methecougha.

Only two of the "Indian kings" signed in full, Pakenah and Eoonus; each of the others signed with a mark, as did also each of the witnesses.

Archæology.



PROFESSOR Putnam, Sec'y of the American Association, according to Popular Science News, recently made a discovery which furnishes

fresh evidence in support of the theory that man in America was contemporaneous with the mammoth. In a communication to the Boston Society of Natural History, Professor Putnam describes a shell found by him in the state of Delaware. Upon a portion of this shell is scratched the rude outline of what without doubt represents a mammoth. The shell was found under peat, and near by were human bones, charcoal, bones of animals and stone implements.

* * *

Sixteen graves were uncovered on the 18th of last month at Fort Ancient, the site of the greatest of the earthworks of the mound builders. The excavation is under the patronage of the World's Fair and the direction of Professor Putnam, of Harvard. The skeletons disclosed were those of eleven men, one woman and four children. Five were in a good state of preservation, the others in various stages of decay. The skeletons were those of men averaging five feet two inches in height, the tallest being six feet two

inches. In the rude incasement their bodies had reposed for centuries. There are evidences that the men had died in conflict. About the neck of the skeleton of a child was found a necklace of bear's teeth, and in two or three of the graves were found tomahawks and stone hatchets, but no relics of an especial value. The graves will be reconstructed exactly as found for the World's Fair exhibit of American antiquities, except that no earth will be over the skeletons.

* * *

It is now some weeks since considerable interest was evoked among archæologists by the discovery of a column by the banks of the Tiber, containing the imprint, not only of the decree regulating certain days of festival in the year 17 B. C., but also of a portion (if not whole) of the Secular Ode of Horace. In the first enthusiasm of discovery, it was described by one who had himself, under a temporary seal of secrecy, been permitted to visit it, as being, in point of fact, practically the first edition of the "Carmon Seculare"; and in the light of the controversy which interested our great grandfathers as to whether the classic writings were really the production of mediæval monks—Newman more than once alludes to the discussion—the discovery had a liter-

ary interest of a peculiar kind. And though the lady who corresponds for "The Standard" in Rome speaks of mere allusions to the ode on the columns, that interest is still preserved. It will be a disappointment if we find that there are no actual quotations from the poem on the pillar. Apart from their essential interest they would add rather unexpectedly to the boldness of Horace's prophecies in his last ode of the third book.

COPPER JEWELRY OF THE ABORIGINES.

Copper jewelry was made and liked by the Indians of this country. Dr. Charles C. Abbott, of the University of Pennsylvania, spoke of this in an address not long ago. He referred to the fact that the earliest European visitors mentioned the use of copper by the natives. The Indian women of the southern Atlantic coast, Capt. John Smith said, had copper pendants, and the Mangoaks beautified "their houses with great plates thereof." The Virginia Indians value copper, and had a custom of throwing pieces into the river when passing their burying ground. A common ornament of the person was "a broad piece of copper."

Similar references occur in the records of the early settlers of New England. In the St. Lawrence valley, Champlain met an Indian who "drew from his bag a piece of copper the length of a foot, which he gave me—the same was very handsome and very pure—giving me to under-

stand that he had a quantity of it where he had taken this, which was on the border of a river near a great lake." The early records invariably refer to its uses for ornament, but the copper objects found in graves and village sites along the northern Atlantic coast are all, except a few beads, useful objects, such as spear heads, arrow points or cells.

It is not generally known that the library of the Belgian Academy in Brussels contains an interesting series of Talleyrand's letters. The letters were written to the Duchess of Curland, mother of the Duchess of Sagan. A number of them relate to the sojourn of Louis XVIII in Ghent, but contain comparatively few references to the important political events in which the Prince took part. They are said, however, to be examples of his best style and to resemble his communications to Louis XVIII during the Vienna Congress. Julius van Praet refers to the letters of the Academy in his work, "La France au debut de la Revolution."

Mr. Quaritch's visit to this country in company with some of his rarest books was not a successful one and he has returned to London with nearly all of them. Even the unique copy of the veritable folio letter of Columbus—the first printed announcement of the discovery of the New World—did not apparently tempt any wealthy American.

Numismatics.

The knowledge of coins is absolutely necessary to those who desire to study history thoroughly; for history is not to be learned in books alone, which do not say always everything, nor always the truth. We must, then, have recourse to documents which justify it, and which have not been affected either by malice or ignorance: and such documents are coins. We learn by them thousands of things equally important and interesting which are not to be found elsewhere.—ROLLIN.

THE DESIGNS WERE REJECTED.

A COMMITTEE of artists consisting of Augustus St. Gaudens, of New York; Henry Mitchell, of Boston, and C. E. Barber, of Philadelphia, met in the office of the Director of the Mint, at Washington, on the third of last month, and spent several hours assisting Director Leach in the examination of nearly 300 designs and models for new silver coins submitted in response to the Department's circular. When the inspection was closed it was unanimously agreed that while many of the designs were meritorious there was no one that could be considered enough of an improvement on the present coins to justify a change. The designs were all rejected and will be returned to the senders at once.

* * *

MADE OF OLD BANK BILLS.

Did anyone ever wonder what becomes of the old bank bills when too much worn to be kept in circulation? We know they are redeemed at the sub treasuries, but what is done with them then, or what became of the paper money that was

in use several years ago when there was no silver money in circulation with which to make change?

During Grant's administration this scrip and the accumulation of worn out bank bills were gathered together in the treasury at Washington in one huge, ragged, ill smelling pile, of which the clerks who counted it were afraid for fear disease lurked in it. This dirty paper had all been redeemed with silver money and represented hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The pile was set on fire and burned in the presence of several officials, and afterward the ashes were taken and mixed with some adhesive substance. From the composition thus made was modeled a statuette a foot high of a broken, fluted column, and also a perfect fac-simile of the old Liberty bell in Independence hall, Philadelphia. The bell has the appearance of dark granite and is six inches high, with the date 1776 indented upon one side, the familiar crack on the other.

These mementoes were presented to the late Hon. Charles E. Conant, at that time assistant secretary of the treasury.

AN OLD BANK NOTE.

An old bank note, issued in 1818 by the Bank of Georgetown, Ky., has just been sent to a banker in that city by a man in New-Hampshire for redemption. The note was for \$10. The Georgetown banker courteously informed the just-awakened New-Hampshire man that no funds were available for redeeming the note.

* * *

GOLD COINAGE OF UTAH.

Gold coins were coined at Salt Lake City, Utah, by direction of the late Brigham Young, Governor of Utah at that time. The denominations were \$20, \$10, \$5, and \$2.50. The \$5 piece was coined from 1849 to 1860. There were two sets from different dies. The other denominations were coined from 1856 to 1860 inclusive. Medals have been coined in gold, silver, and copper, for rewards at agricultural fairs. The *Desert Museum*, at Utah, Cabinet No. 4, is devoted to coins, and contains the gold coins of Utah—the silver and gold of that region; the first nuggets and the first silver brick made there, also the first manufactured gold of Salt Lake, etc., etc.

* * *

There seems to be a beautiful uncertainty about the value of the copper coins of Mexico. In Vera Cruz, for instance, it takes one hundred and four to make a dollar, while in Chihuahua ninety-five will pass for a dollar.

In passing upon the condition of a coin, experts critically survey every portion of the piece, noting the slightest blemish, or wear from either cabinet friction, handling or actual circulation. It requires both study and experience to accurately grade the state of preservation from a scientific stand point. This may in part account for dealers refusing to buy coins without seeing them.

* * *

COUNTERFEITS TO BE RETURNED.

It has heretofore been the practice in the United States Treasurer's Office, when counterfeit notes have been discovered in packages of money received from banks or others, to cancel them by punching and then to return them to the sender without reference to their final disposition. Treasurer Nebeker has directed a modification of the practice to this extent, that while counterfeit notes may be thus cancelled and returned to the sender for the purpose of enabling him to make reclamation from the depositor or other person from whom such counterfeit note may have been received, yet after such proper use, has been made of the cancelled counterfeit note, it shall be returned to the Treasurer and delivered to the chief of the Secret Service Division for safe keeping.

* * *

It has been estimated that the loss upon the paper currency of our country, by wear and damage, is one and

a half per cent. of the entire issue, equal to \$6,500,000.

* * *

It was the custom in some of the small South American countries until a few years since, to cut both silver and copper coins into equal portions to represent fractions of the original coin and as such they were current. The eight-real piece (or dollar) and the four, two and one-real were all thus utilized.

* * *

At the date of the passage of the act authorizing the coinage of the standard dollar, February 28, 1878, the London price of the silver dollar was fifty-five pence, equal to \$1.205 per ounce fine, at which price the intrinsic value of a silver dollar was \$0.935. At no time since has the price of silver reached fifty-five pence, the tendency having been steadily downward, with occasional temporary advance. On July 31, 1886, the price reached forty-two pence, equivalent to \$0.92 per ounce fine, which was the lowest price ever reached. At that price the bullion value of the silver dollar was \$0.712. The price has since advanced only three or four pence per ounce.

The buttons adopted by the Confederate navy have been very highly prized in the south since the war as relics, and have, where they could be obtained, been used as vest and cuff buttons. Owing to their scarcity

they have been in very active demand, but they now seem destined to become a drug on the market, as a resident of Norfolk, Va., has received a letter from the firm in London which made them during the war, stating that they still have the dies and can furnish the buttons in any number.

It appears that there has been an overissue of Egyptian mummies, and it behooves people who are accumulating these picturesque and pleasing objects to look into the genuineness of their possessions. It is even stated that for many years none but counterfeit mummies have been shipped from Egypt. They are made of prepared jackass hide, and it is extremely difficult to distinguish between a XXXV. S. O. P. mummy of the Psattic dynasty and one whose immediate progenitor is a modern mule.—*Life*.

AUCTION SALES, ETC.

Catalogues and circulars have been received from Scott Stamp & Coin Co., New York; C. W. Stutesman, Bunker Hill, Ind.; S. H. & H. Chapman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. Geo. F. Heath, Monroe, Mich., and John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The 109th auction sale of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. L'd., consisting of coins, medals and paper money, the property of E. L. Nagel, Terre Haute, Ind., was held in the auction rooms of Bangs & Co., New York, on Monday, June 22.

Rare Shakespearean Mss.

The librarian of Brown University claims for his library the unique distinction of the possession of the finest collection of Shakespearean literature in the country, and in some respects superior to any collection in any country. In 1843 a representative of the college went abroad to procure books for the department of modern languages, then just established. He spent two or three years in Germany, England and France. In London he stumbled upon a collection which one Thomas Rood had spent 30 years getting together.

There were 196 volumes in this collection including different editions of plays and some 400 treatises and original manuscripts. They were secured for the college at a very low figure. At the Burton sale, in 1860, important additions were made to the collection, and at various sales since rare volumes have been secured. Dr. Guild, the librarian, claims for his collection 72 rare Shakespearean publications which were not in the Burton collection and several of which the famous Holliswell collection could not boast. One of the pamphlets is the copy of his "Confession," which belonged to William Ireland, the famous forger of Shakespeare, who succeeded in palming off his own productions for newly discovered plays, deceiving all the great scholars of his day.

The art museum of Leland Stanford University will soon receive a

valuable collection of Russian minerals presented by the Czar to Senator Stanford. It includes 800 specimens, valued at \$30,000. Many of the specimens are extremely rare, and are taken from the Royal Museum in St. Petersburg. It is the first instance on record in which the Czar has permitted anything to go out of this museum. Several large specimens of malachite exceed in beauty anything of the kind outside of Russia. There are also specimens of iron work done by a secret process in Siberia by convict labor. In return Senator Stanford will send to the Czar a complete collection of California minerals, with all data obtainable about placer gold-mining, in which the Russian authorities are greatly interested, as they contemplate the systematic development of the placer mines of the Amoor River.

A funny tariff case is reported from a German port of entry. The custom house agent assessed as "poultry" a collection of butterflies because they had wings. After much argument and delay the specimens were passed free as objects of science and art.

General Grant, the acting secretary of war, has decided to cause the transfer to the National museum of a large collection of relics that have hitherto been stored in the war department at Washington, including the captured battle flags and the pistol with which Booth shot President Lincoln.

Wanted to Exchange!

Illustrated War Envelopes, used or unused, not in my collection.

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