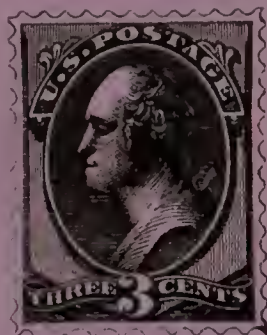


MASON'S
MONTHLY
COIN AND STAMP
COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

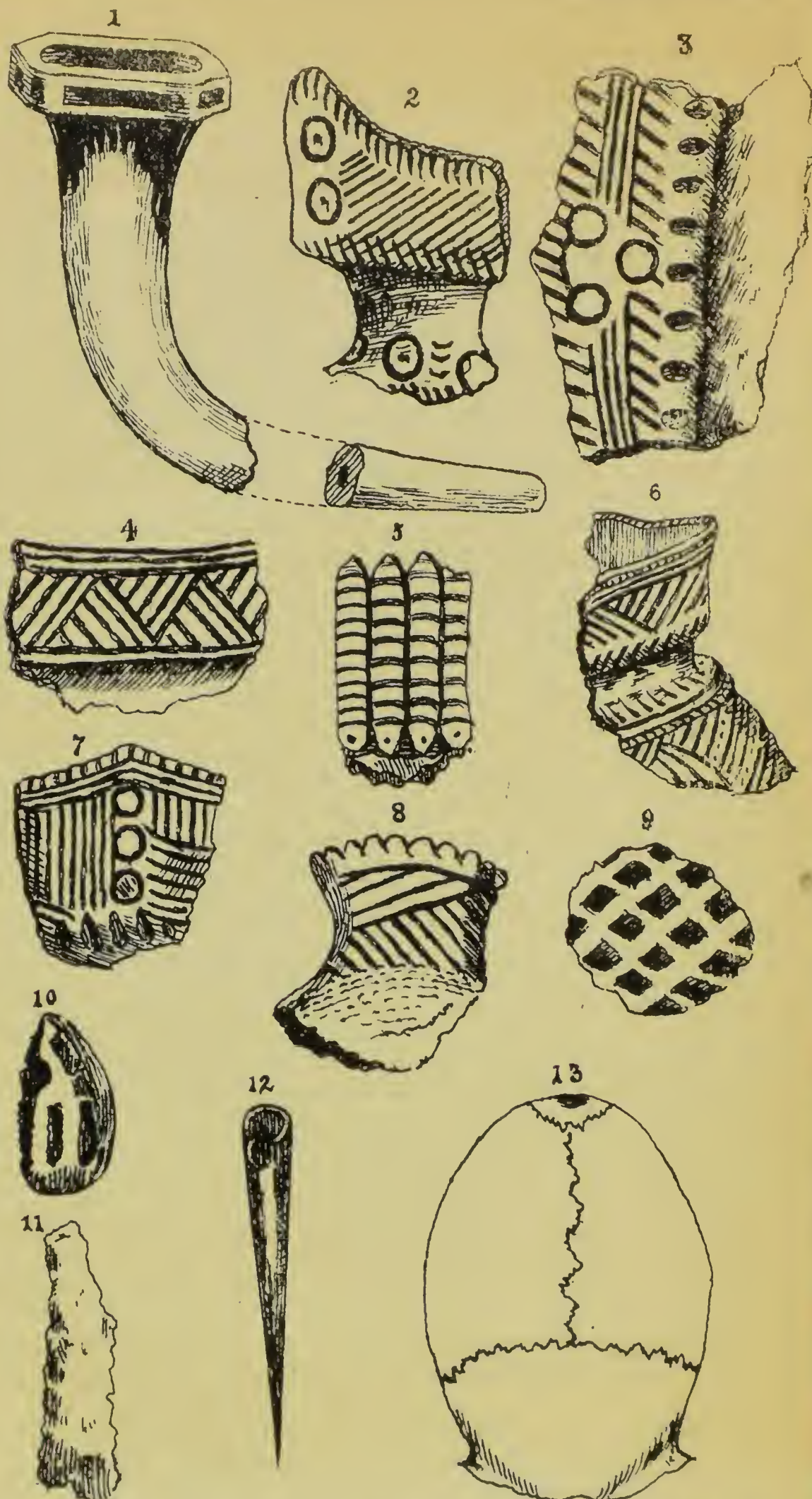
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INDIAN ANTIQUITIES FOUND AT MONTREAL.

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INDIAN ANTIQUITIES DISCOVERED AT MONTREAL,
CANADA.

On the 2d day of October, 1535, the French navigator, Jacques Cartier, landed upon the island now known as Montreal. Much opposition had been made by the Indians at Stadacone (Quebec) against the proposed visit; but Cartier was not to be deterred, and on his arrival he gorgeously attired himself, and having arranged his company, he proceeded to visit the Indian village of Hochelaja, which was situated on this island and ranked as the "metropolis of the Forest State." He was cordially received by the natives, who at once directed him towards the town (?), which stood in the midst of "goodly and large fields, full of such corn as the country yieldeth." Cartier describes it as being near a great mountain, called by him Mount Royal, a name which, with small change, has since extended to our city. The town was round, encompassed about with timber, and had but one gate for entry thereto. In the town were about fifty houses or cabins, fifty paces long and fifteen paces broad.

At what date the inhabitants, who were Algonquins, were driven from this spot, we have no record, but about seventy years later (1608), when Champlain visited the island, there was no village nor even native inhabitant; but, from the records of the Jesuit fathers, we learn that the Indians told them that between the dates named, the Hurons and Iroquois had driven the Algonquins off.

The question as to the original site of the village would have remained unsettled until the present day, had not the extension of the city of Montreal led to the discoverey of relics which has placed us in possession of indubitable proofs as to its position, and it is not likely that anything farther will be discovered concerning the site of Hochelaja; but it is remarkable how well the actual remains found have agreed with and corroborated the account left of it by Jacques Cartier.

The restricted space at my command prevents me from giving a complete account of the original village, and the habits of its people, but this I may furnish at some future time. The relics were discovered in the fall of 1860, while some workmen were engaged in excavating near Mansfield street, in the sandy ridge of a terrace,

which runs immediately north of Sherbrooke street. They consisted of skeletons (male and female), the jaw bones of the beaver, with fragments of earthen vessels made of a red clay, several knives or chisels of bone, stone hammers, spear heads and some singular counters, supposed to have been used by the Indians in play. The most interesting relics were the tobacco pipes, some of which were handsomely fashioned in the shape of lotus flowers, with the hole through the stem perfectly preserved.

The following describes the relics delineated in the lithograph which accompanies this article :

1. Tobacco pipe, half size.
- 2 to 7. Fragments of sides of earthen vessels.
8. Handle of a flat earthen vessel.
9. Piece of the bottom of the same.
10. Disk of baked clay, ornamented on one side and supposed to have been used in some game.
11. A small knife or chisel, such as the Indians themselves may have made from a scrap of foreign iron obtained from their early European visitor.
12. Bone implement used in ornamenting the pottery formed with it, as the circular stamp fits into the pattern on some of the vessels.
15. Skull of an Indian.

Hoping this article, with its illustrations, may not prove uninteresting to your readers,

I am, yours,

ALF. SANDHAM.

ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]

(Continued.)

RICHARD II, 1377.

Obverse.—The coins of Richard II are only to be distinguished by their legend and their weight. The groat has the style REX ANGLIE. Z FRANCIE. The legend of the half groat has besides the name, DI GRA REX ANGLIE. The half penny has the name, with REX ANG and ANGLIE, but the farthing only REX ANG. after the name.

Reverse.—The reverses are precisely the same as on the coins of the two former kings.

Rarity.—All the coins of Richard II are very rare, except the penny and half penny; the two latter, though not rare, are scarce.

HENRY IV, 1399; HENRY V, 1413; and HENRY VI, 1425.

Obverse.—The money coined by Henry IV, before the thirteenth year of his reign and that struck by Henry VI, after the forty-ninth year of his reign, may be ascertained by their weight. The groat of Henry IV, before his thirteenth year, weighs seventy-two grains troy, and the other pieces in proportion. Before the forty-ninth year of Henry VI, the groat weighed but sixty troy grains; after that

period it was reduced to forty-eight grains. The other coins of these three kings cannot be distinguished from each other. Some assign those groats with the annulets on each side of the neck of the bust to Henry V; those with the plain cross preceding the title, to Henry IV; and those with the cross crosslet to Henry VI. This is, however, mere conjecture. On the reverse of the first, the pellets in two of the quarters of the cross are conjoined by an annulet. The coins of these kings differ but very little from those of their predecessors, from the time of Edward II.

Rarity.—The light groat of Henry VI and the heavy groat of Henry IV are rare; the latter particularly so. The half groats are common; the pennies, half pence and farthings rather scarce.

EDWARD IV., 1460.

Obverse.—The coins of this king, though much like those of his predecessors, may be distinguished by the rose on each side of the neck of the bust: some have four pellets, others an annulet and a rose on the breast. Those of the country mint have on the breast of the bust the initial of the name of the town in which they were struck. The *weight*, however, is the best criterion.

Reverse.—The same as those of the coins of former kings, from Edward II.

Rarity.—The groats common, except those of Norwich and Coventry, spelled "Norwic" and "Covetre." The half-groat and half-penny scarce, the penny and farthing rare. The Bristol penny is extremely rare.

(*To be continued.*)

THE STUDY OF COINS AND MEDALS AS CONNECTED WITH POETRY, PAINTING AND ARCHITECTURE.

(*Concluded.*)

Speaking of the poetical imagery of ancient coins, it must not be forgotten that there is one, and, to add to the wonder, a colonial one, and of rude execution, of Julius and Augustus, inscribed IMP. & DIVI F. which has a high claim to merit in this way. On the reverse the conquest of Egypt is represented by the apposite metaphor of a crocodile, an animal almost peculiar to that country, and at that period esteemed altogether so, which is chained to a palm tree, at once a native of the country and symbolic of victory.

But, of the poetical invention displayed in very many of the ancient coins, these few instances may suffice, considering, as has been said, that Mr. Addison has written so fully upon the subject of the connection of this study with that of Latin poetry; and to enter upon that in other languages falls not into the brief plan of this little performance.

I think we are told that Rubens had a very fine collection of medals, and indeed, to a painter who dealt so much in allegorical subjects, they must have been of the very first importance; for nowhere are the attributes of personification so finely preserved or delineated.

A cabinet of medals may indeed be said to form the classic erudition of a painter.

It may be added that, as the reverses are so useful for knowledge of personification, symbols of countries and actions, and the like, so the portraits to be seen on old coins are no less important to a painter; the high merit of a great number of them, in every character, justly entitling them to be regarded as the best studies in the world. Not to mention that, to a painter of the highest rank, an historic painter, the science of ancient medals is absolutely necessary, that he may delineate his personages with the features they really bore when in existence. This can only be attained in this way, or from statues and busts, any one of which will cost as much as hundreds of medals; and indeed a collection of such is only attainable by princes.

This naturally leads me to consider a little the advantages arising from this study to sculptors. Almost all the uses which connect the science of medals with painting likewise render it subservient to the art of the sculptor, but the latter will, from the study of the Greek coins in particular, derive no small profit. The heads of the several deities represented on them, in the most exquisite alto-relievo, will recommend them to his attention in a particular manner.

The wonderful skill of the Greeks in sculpture has always been a subject of admiration to the world. Nations, in which a taste for the fine arts has made any progress, have viewed, with universal applause, the wonderful efforts of Grecian genius; the character and expression of the faces, the contour and perfect nature and symmetry of the whole figure; the strength, chastised with inimitable *marbidezza*, that, if not life itself, is almost superior.

Yet, I know not how it is, that the Grecian coins, sister productions of art, have never yet been regarded, so far as I know, with proper attention by men of taste. I can only account for this by supposing that the study of Greek medals has hitherto been looked upon as the province of the mere antiquary. But I will venture to say, that, to the man who admires medals solely as pieces of workmanship, those of Greece will afford the highest satisfaction. Considered in this view, and indeed in most others, they excel those of Rome, the best times of Rome, to a surprising degree. The perfect beauty and tenderness of the female portraits, and the strength and expression of the male cannot be exceeded in any shape, by the largest efforts of Grecian sculpture.

In every quality of art Roman coins yield to the Greek alone. If any era were to be assigned to the Roman, as more eminent for workmanship than another, that from Augustus to Adrian must have the preference. In the days of Adrian, in particular, the Roman mint seems to have been the very seat of art and genius; witness the vast number of exquisite personifications, engraved with equal workmanship, which swarm on the medals of that prince. Yet, from his time down to the Posthumi, coins of admirable execution are to be found.

Those of the Faustinas and Lucilla deserve particular mention. There is one, and not an uncommon one, of the latter in great brass, which yields to nothing of its kind. The reverse is a Venus, with the name around her. The portrait on the obverse seems to spring from the field of the coin. It looks, and breathes; nay, talks, if you trust your eyes.

“Manca il parlar, di vivo altro non chiedi;
Ne manca questo ancar, s'agli occhi credi.”

The connection of the study of ancient coins with architecture consists in the views of many of the most excellent ancient edifices, which are found in perfect preservation on medals, and there only. These furnish much pleasure and instruction to the architect, and serve to form his taste to the ancient manner; that manner which unites perfect simplicity with sublimity and grace; that manner which every age admires in proportion as it has genius to imitate.

LIFE SCENES IN THE EXPERIENCE OF A COIN DEALER.

BY E. M., JR.

No. 4.

“The Knowing Ones.”

Besides the *Numismatic Nero*, who positively asserts “he obtained an 1815 United States cent, when the mint was on fire,” and that “there were but three coined that year,” there are other *smart* and *knowing* individuals; one class we have already treated of, viz: the intelligent “Knowing One,” but the insufferable ignoramus, without wit enough to amuse, or sense to learn the commonest numismatic fact, is by far the most annoying bore the coin dealer has to encounter. The stupid “Knowing One” enters the coin stores with a patronizing air and at once makes known the object of his visit.

Stupid Knowing One.—“What would yer like to offer for a Washington cent, 1798?”

Dealer.—“There are no Washington cents, 1798.”

Stupid Knowing One.—“Ain't ther? well, I've got one with the old Washington head on—had it stowed away nigh on to twenty years.”

Dealer.—(Impatiently).—“Well, let us see it.”

Stupid opens a cadaverous porte-monnaie and exhibits an ordinary worn cent of 1798.”

Dealer.—“This is the old Liberty head, sir, and the cent is worth about five cents.”

Stupid Knowing One.—“Like to buy it, s'pose, wouldn't yer?”

Dealer.—“Pay you five cents for it.”

Stupid Knowing One.—“Five cents! Come, now, honor bright, don't you advertise to give twenty-five dollars for 1799's.”

Dealer.—“Yes, sir.”

Stupid Knowing One.—“And this is one year older, and you give five cents for it. Guess not.”

Dealer.—"It is the rarity of the coin which makes it valuable. You will not find a cent of 1799 among ten thousand old coppers."

We endeavored to convince our visitor of his error in regard to values and dates, but the argument was wasted, until a small boy entered with a cent of 1812 in splendid condition, and we paid fifty cents for it. Stupid watched the transaction, looked carefully at the coin purchased and then broke out again:

"See here, stranger, is 1812 a 'rarerty,' as you call 'em?"

Dealer.—"No, sir, the date is not rare, but the coin is in excellent condition; not worn nor injured."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Well, look at mine, yer can see the date plain."

Dealer.—"The date is plain, it is true, but the legend is entirely gone."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Legend gone! gone where? who's *Legend*?"

Dealer.—(Smiling)—"The word 'Liberty,' sir, is not on your coin."

Stupid Knowing One.—"No, his ain't like this; mine is a Washington head."

It was useless to beat any knowledge into Stupid's cranium, but we made one more effort:

"Let us explain by asking you a question:—Suppose you were offered the choice of two hats, one old and the other new, which one would you select?"

Stupid Knowing One.—"Regular bell top beavers?"

Dealer.—Yes, that kind, for example."

Stupid Knowing One.—"Wouldn't take neither on 'em."

It was useless to elaborate further, and thoroughly disgusted and impatient to be rid of our torment, we gave him the advice we had tendered to others of his ilk, to "call again when he had more time."

"Oh, I've got plenty of time, *now*," said Stupid, and pleading private urgent business we finally closed the door on our obtuse friend, the Stupid Knowing One.

NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

Obsidional.—Having reference to a "siege piece."

Obverse.—The principal side of a coin or medal.

One-sided.—A piece with blank reverse.

Original.—A genuine or true coin.

Octagon Piece.—An eight sided medal or coin.

Over-strike.—A coin struck twice, showing two impressions.

Over-date.—A coin showing a date over a previous one, as in the cents of 1800, 1807, 1811, etc.

Paduan.—An ancient forged coin.

Patinated.—Coin covered with fine rust, as in some of the ancient coins dug up at Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Pattern Piece.—A coin having a new design, not adopted as a regular coinage.

Perfect Die.—Used to distinguish a coin from one bearing the same date with cracks caused by a broken die.

Pickled.—A piece placed in pure apple cider previous to bronzing; also used to explain a peculiar red or purple color, the result of soaking a coin in salt and water.

Pierced.—A coin or medal having a hole bored through it.

Plain Edge.—Not lettered nor ornamented.

Planchet.—Blank circular piece of metal used for coinage.

Proof Piece.—Showing a mirror-like surface.

(*To be continued.*)

THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(*Continued.*)

If you examine a double eagle, or, lacking one, a quarter of a dollar, a slight rim will be noticed around the edge, raised a little higher than the device. It is done to prevent the device from being worn by rubbing on counters, etc., and also that the coins may be piled one on another steadily. This edge is raised by a very beautiful piece of mechanism called a milling machine, the invention of Mr. Peale, and vastly superior to any other in use.

Some twenty or thirty planchets are placed in one of the brass vertical tubes, of which there are three, for different sized coins. At the bottom of the tube the lowest planchet is struck by a revolving feeder, which drives it horizontally between the revolving steel wheel on one side and the fixed segment on the other. The segment is on the same curve as the wheel, though somewhat nearer to it at the further end. The planchet is caught in a narrow groove cut in the wheel and segment, and the space being somewhat less than the diameter of the planchet the edge is crowned up about the thirty-second part of an inch. The planchet makes four revolutions when it reaches the end of the segment, and being released from the grooves falls into a box below. The edge is perfectly smooth, the fluting or "reeding," as it is termed, being put on in the process of coining. The work is so nimbly performed that about one hundred and twenty double eagles, or five hundred and sixty half dimes, can be milled in one minute. This is a vast improvement on the English milling machine, worked by hand, and operating on but two planchets at a time.

The planchets being milled are called blanks. They are very dirty and discolored by the processes they have undergone, requiring to be polished before coining. This is done in the Whitening Room, and an exceeding hot place it is. Sometimes in summer the thermometer will indicate 120 degrees, though the tall man by the furnace declares that it is often at 175 degrees. The room is too small and

poorly ventilated for the use to which it is put. There are two furnaces for annealing the blanks, they being placed in a copper box, with a cover sealed air tight with clay. Boxes and blanks are heated red hot and the blanks tipped into a vat containing a weak solution of sulphuric acid and water, to cleanse them. The stream of water in the other vat is hot, in which the blanks are washed free from acid, leaving them a beautiful white color, almost like silver.

The curious copper machine, looking like a large revolving squirrel cage, is the drying drum. About half of it is a tight copper drum, into which the blanks from the hot water are placed with a quantity of basswood sawdust. Steam is introduced through the axis to heat the interior, and the drum made to revolve, causing the blanks to roll among the heated sawdust and dry themselves. Basswood dust is used because of its freedom from sap, pitch or gum of any kind. It is extremely pure. In the language of one of the men, "It ain't got nothing about it but just wood."

(*To be continued.*)

HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM,

Life Member of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal.

(*Continued.*)

We have thus briefly sketched the history of the coinage, but before closing we may be permitted to add a few facts, which may not be uninteresting to our reader.

During the rebellion of 1837 and 1838, several merchants and others issued paper currency, commonly known as shin-plasters, and among the most active in the work was a merchant at Laprairie (a village about nine miles above Montreal), who established a bank called Henry's Bank, from which a very large number of notes were issued, of course with a *small* profit to the barker. At the close of the rebellion the farmers in the vicinity held quite a large amount of this trash and were heavy losers, and even at the present day some specimens remain in their possession. They are, however, rarely offered for sale, and when in good condition are prized by Canadian collectors. Similar notes were issued by Messrs. Cuvillier & Sons, of Montreal. These, however, unlike the Henry issue, were redeemed by the firm who issued them, and are now extremely rare. There was a large variety issued by other parties, some of them being curiosities in their way, from the fact that the value is marked on the face of them, in almost every conceivable style. One in our possession is marked as good for—60 sous—half a dollar—two shillings and sixpence—30 pence—trois francs—un ecu—the whole having in the centre a cut of the American half dollar of 1825, so that the most fastidious person must certainly be satisfied.

There are in circulation in Canada a number of coins known as the Wellington series. These appear in many varieties, but we are

of the opinion that they were struck in England for export to any of the colonies where a scarcity of currency existed, the great bulk however finding its way to this colony. Wellington being a popular and familiar person, his bust was chosen as the most likely to meet the wishes of all parties. From the general circulation of these and other coins they are sometimes classed as Canadian; therefore, for the guidance of those who pursue this questionable mode of arranging their cabinets, we have given a description of some of the specimens, as well as of other coins, which we consider doubtful.

Before proceeding with the description of the various coins, we would say, that we place the Provinces in the order in which they stand in the history of our country, commencing with Newfoundland, which was discovered in 1499.

(*To be continued.*)

THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.
Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.

BY H. R.

(*Continued.*)

The universal standard by which the Diamond is weighed is the carat. This was formerly exactly equivalent to four grains, Troy weight, even beam; for the stone was not allowed to decline a hair's breadth. But the carat now is never of the full weight of four grains. The word is said to have been derived from *kaura*, a species of bean of remarkable equiponderance, which serves, it is further stated, in Africa and India to weigh gold dust and Diamonds. But we cannot credit that so uncertain a substance would ever have been adopted as a standard to estimate the value of such precious articles. In confirmation of this opinion we find in Tavernier (whose works will be more particularly referred to) that the carat weight is unknown all through the East! He says at Raolconda, Gani and Visapour Diamonds are weighed by the *mangelin*, equal to one and three-eighths carats; at Somelpour and in the Empire of the Great Mogul by a weight called *ratis*, equal to seven-eighths of a carat. Its derivation, more probably, is from the Italian verb *caratate*, signifying *to weigh with great care, to scrutinize*. Or possibly from the Latin *caret, it is wanting*; for the caret falls universally short of four grains, its original weight.

The price of uncut Diamonds weighing one caret is from seven dollars and a half to ten dollars, according to their purity, shape, etc.; that of the Brilliant-cut Diamonds, from thirty to forty dollars.

Rose-cut Diamonds of one carat are worth about half as much as Brilliants of the same weight and quality, *i. e.*, from fifteen to twenty dollars.

The universal rule by which Diamonds of all sizes, both Brilliant and Rose, are estimated, is to multiply the square of the weight by

the above prices. Thus, stones of the first water, cut as Brilliants, and weighing as follows, are estimated as is respectively set opposite the weights :

1 carat.	1 × 1 × \$40 =	\$40
1½ “	1½ × 1½ × 40 =	90
2 “	2 × 2 × 40 =	160
3 “	3 × 3 × 40 =	360
4 “	4 × 4 × 40 =	640
5 “	5 × 5 × 40 =	1,000
25 “	25 × 25 × 40 =	25,000
300 “	300 × 300 × 40 =	3,600,000

One of the latter weight would be about the size of a small hen's egg, and would weigh about two ounces. There is no satisfactory evidence of a cut Diamond of this weight. The above rule is not always adhered to in the valuation of specimens of unusual size—as their owners may choose to put on them an entirely arbitrary estimate, oftentimes much exceeding that deducible from our rule.

(To be continued.)

GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." *Addison.*

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

(Continued.)

GREEK CIVIC COINS.

Coins of Ægina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.

EUROPE.

PYLUS.

Male head to the right.

Reverse.—LY Δ, a horse in full gallop to the right.—Æ

THESSALIA.

IHHAI, helmetted head of Minerva to the right.

Reverse.—PE ζ ζ AV Ω N, a horse walking to the right.—Æ.

LARISSA.

Full face of a female.

Reverse.—Δ API ζ, a horse to the right.—AR.

Some have indented square; obverse, a man overpowering a bull.—AR.

BÆTIA.

A Bæotian buckler.

Reverse.—BOIT Ω N, a trident and a dolphin.—Æ.

TANAGRA.

A Bæotian buckler.

Reverse.—TA, fore part of a horse in an indented square.—AR.

APOLLONIA (ILLYRIA).

Ξ ENOK Δ E, a cow giving suck to her calf.

Reverse.—AHO Δ, XAIPHO ζ, plan of the gardens of Alcinous.—AR.

DYRACHIUM.

ΑΕΩΝΙΑΑΞ, a cow giving suck to her calf and turning her head to the right.

Reverse.—ΑΥΡ.ΑΥΑΟΝΟΞ, plan of the gardens of Alcinous.

ΑΥΙΑ (LOCRIS).

ΑΟΚΡΩΝ, laureated head of Jupiter to the right.

Reverse.—Α thunderbolt.—Æ

This coin is oval shaped.

OPUNTII.

ΟΓΩΝ, a bunch of grapes and an ivy leaf.

Reverse.—Α star.—ΑΡ.

Some have the name at full length and an armed warrior, with the figure of a serpent or a griffin on his shield.

PHOCIS.

Head of a bull, full faced. with ΡΟ.

Reverse.—The fore part of a boar to the left.—ΑΡ.

Many of the coins of Phocis have the head of Apollo on their obverse.

(To be continued.)

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY.

BY SAMUEL BRECK, ESQ.

(Continued.)

Bad as the Continental Bills had become in the latter period of their existence, they always bore the stamp of nationality and passed currently at the exchange of the day throughout the land; whereas, the emissions of the States, made on their individual responsibility, and at various rates of exchange, were not received beyond the limits of each State; so that one State would not take the bills of another State. They were only used for municipal purposes and local trade, as wampum had been in the early days of Massachusetts and other parts of New England, bundles of tobacco in Virginia and stamped wood or leather elsewhere.

Those persons who happened to be the last holders of the Continental bills put up quietly with their loss. The mighty monster, as that expiring currency was called in those days, departed unlamented. An attempt, which proved abortive, was made, some time after, to dig up its skeleton, but it never was resuscitated. Its services when alive were incalculable, and it cannot be too often repeated that it saved the State and gained our independence. It was the cheap price, and our emancipation the rich purchase. To posterity was that independence transmitted, by those who achieved it, and paid for it by bearing the whole loss of the paper currency, which was the principal item of its cost. The Continental money endured for nearly six years, and during that long period worked as a most powerful state-engine, and was, says a writer who saw its operation, "a prodigy of revenue, and of exceeding mysterious and magical agency.

Bubbles of a like sort, in other countries, lasted but a few months, and then burst into nothing; but this held out for years, and seemed to retain a vigorous constitution to its last, for its circulation was never more brisk than just before it died at five hundred for one, and when it expired it departed without a groan or struggle or being in the least lamented." As I have already observed, the loss was divided and subdivided into such fractional parts, during the five or six years' circulation of the millions of paper dollars, that they were laid aside not only unpaid and unhonored, but even unwept. The people were tired of the daily variation of prices, and felt how ridiculous was the state of a currency which required five hundred dollars in paper to pay for a breakfast that could be bought for a silver half dollar. It carried no regret with it, and it seems doomed to sleep in silence, unfriended and unsung; unless, indeed, some attempt be now and then made to awaken a transient touch of sympathy, such as I am at in this humble sketch.

With it disappeared that unjust and erroneous legislation of making paper money a legal tender. Happily such tyranny cannot return,—the Constitution of the United States forbidding the enactment of laws making any kind of money a tender, except gold and silver.

(To be continued.)

COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(Continued.)

It is in the Roman medals that this imposition reigns to an amazing degree. But the reader must beware of looking upon all forgeries in the more precious medals as modern. On the contrary, many pieces are of ancient forgery of the public money; and are often more esteemed than the genuine coins, because plated or otherwise executed in a way that no modern forgery could attain to; and of consequence bearing intrinsic marks of antiquity. The ancients themselves held coins ingeniously counterfeited in such high esteem that Pliny informs us that many true denarii were often given for one false one.

Even of the Roman consular coins not very many have ever been forged. The celebrated silver denarius of Brutus, with the cap of Liberty and two daggers, is the chief instance of a consular coin of which a counterfeit is current. But it is easily rejected by this mark: in the true coin the cap of Liberty is below the guard, or hilt, of the daggers; in the false the top of it rises above that hilt.

It is in the grandest series in the world, the imperial series of Rome, that modern forgery has almost universal prevalence; and rules for discerning it shall presently be laid down from the essay of M. Beauvais, the latest given on the subject. It may be premised that the deception of forgery at first extended to the most eminent writers, for William du Choul, who wrote more than two hundred

years ago, caused to be engraved in his treatise, On the religion of the ancient Romans, two medals of Agrippa; one of great brass, on the reverse of which is the Pantheon: and another of silver, with Neptune in his car drawn by two sea horses, with this legend, *AEQVORIS HIC OMNIPOTENS*. Both of these medals were undoubtedly false. Antony Le Poise, who lived at the same time, produces different medals of certain falsity; such as a Scipio Africanus; the Aelian bridge on a reverse of Hadrian; and a Pessennius Niger of gold; then undiscovered, though since found, and to be seen in the French king's cabinet. These instances must convince us that, almost as soon as a taste for coins began to spread among the curious, the trade of imposition arose.

Counterfeit medals fall into six classes, namely:

1. Medals known to be modern imitations of the ancient; but which being by masters, such as the Paduan, etc., have their value.
2. Medals cast from these modern masterly imitations.
3. Medals cast in moulds taken from the antique.
4. Ancient medals which are retouched, and the obverses or reverses altered.
5. Medals which are impressed with new devices, or which are soldered.
6. Counterfeit medals which have elefts, or which are plated.

(To be continued.)

FOUR DAYS' COIN SALE.—SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The valuable numismatic cabinet of William Fewsmith, A. M., of this city, has been purchased by Mason & Co., and will be offered at public sale at the rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York, October 4, commencing at 5½ P. M., each day of sale, to continue four days.

To those who are not familiar with the Fewsmith Cabinet, we would say it embraces many fine and valuable coins, selected at the sales of the most prominent cabinets in the country, including Mickleley's, Mackensie's, Finotti's, Haines's, Zannoni's, etc. It also contains choice specimens from Dr. Clay's celebrated cabinet, and desirable pieces obtained from private sources.

The American silver series comprises nearly a full line of dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars, dimes and half dimes, nearly all in uncirculated or proof condition, including, with very few exceptions, the rare pieces, such as 1794, 1836, '38, '39, '51 and '52 dollars, 1796 and '97 half dollars, 1823 quarter dollar (finest in the world), 1796, '97, '98, 1800, '04 dimes, 1794, '96, '97, etc., half dimes.

The American silver medal series is also as complete and beautiful as any collection of similar pieces in the country.

The series of U. S. copper cents and half cents are complete and in condition unsurpassed. The cents form nearly an uncirculated set (1793 to 1857) excepting the 1799 and 1804; the latter pieces being as fine as any known and showing scarcely any marks of circulation. The

1793 Liberty cap cent from the Clay collection has been estimated in value as high as two hundred dollars, and most of the early dates are as sharp and beautiful as when dropped from the glistening dies at the mint, while a number of the later dates are brilliant proofs. A complete set of U. S. half cents is of such rare occurrence at coin sales, that the Fewsmith catalogue will form a pleasing contrast to many preceding ones. 1793, 1796, 1802, 1811, 1831, 1836, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849 small date, 1852, nearly all proofs, are among the rarities of the half cent series, while the common dates are uncirculated, forming, as a whole, a desirable acquisition to any cabinet not yet complete in this line.

The American colonial coins are a feature in this cabinet, whether we consider the silver series of Pine Tree coinage, or the no less interesting Rosa Americanas, all as fine as interesting in historical associations. Here we find a splendid impression of that excessively rare piece, "The Carolina Elephant Cent" of 1694; fine Immune and Immunis Columbias of 1785 and 1787; Lord Baltimore and the Annapolis coinage; rare and uncirculated types of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Virginia pieces.

Among the colonial coins is an uncirculated New Jersey cent, "Pluribs" variety, probably *unique* as to condition; also, a bright red uncirculated coin of the same colony. Many other colonial pieces, fine and rare, will be found in this cabinet.

The most interesting feature in the collection of pattern pieces is a complete set of U. S. coins from the twenty dollar to the one cent piece, inclusive, struck in aluminum, a metal resembling silver and so light that it is said to float on water. This set is handsomely mounted in a beautiful morocco velvet-lined case, made at considerable expense, and the set an exact counterpart of those sent to Paris and London as presents from our government. Six sets only were struck and the purchaser will receive the proper evidence of this fact.

There are a fine assortment of foreign proof coins, silver and copper; proof tokens and a great variety of coins and medals in various metals from various countries; some of which are extremely rare and valuable.

A Voltaire medal, struck in lead, and believed to be *unique*; also, a number of other pieces which cannot be described in this article for want of space. The medal collection is particularly interesting in silver and bronze, embracing all the rare American medals and in variety or condition difficult to equal.

Washington pieces are numerous and embrace a great variety of rare large and small silver medals and a rare assortment in bronze and white metal.

A collection of upwards of two thousand business cards, or trade tokens, is of considerable interest, and we regret that our catalogue, limited to three thousand lots, prevents a full description of the

pieces—as the line is a good one and has many very rare early cards in different medals.

What shall we say of *unique* pieces? First, the Washington cent with its peculiar crooked and twisted open-mouthed spread eagle reverse. This piece was found at Germantown, and sold to Mr. Fewsmith for fifty dollars. This cent was doubtless engraved and designed by Paul Revere, and intended as an experimental cent for 1791; but the design presented by the reverse evidently so shocked the patriotic Revere, that but one piece was ever coined, and that lost or hidden until turned up by the plowshare on the old battle ground at Germantown.

A miscellaneous variety of coins, medals and odd pieces, invariably found in a large coin cabinet, will afford sufficient attraction for those whose finances afford limited opportunities for the possession of rare and valuable pieces.

Now, a word to our patrons in behalf of the managers. It has been our aim and ambition to catalogue this collection correctly, assisted, as we have been, by some of the ablest numismatists in this city. That errors of description and composition will appear in the catalogue we cannot doubt; but in the main our friends will find the pieces carefully and correctly described. All parties wishing to send bids to this office, can have a rubbing and elaborate description of any piece in the catalogue, by giving us notice two weeks before the sale.

THE COPPER CENTS.

Parody on "The Bells."

BY E. M., JR.

I.

See collectors with their cents—

Copper cents—

What a world of excitement, full of wonderful events!

How they glitter, glitter, glitter,

When each specimen is bright!

While the novice on the "titter,"

Thinks by far it would be fitter,

With a pickaxe—main and might,

Digging dirt, dirt, dirt,

In a sort of flannel shirt,

Killing numismatologic and scientific gents

With their cents, cents, cents, cents,

Cents, cents, cents—

All the striving and the driving for the cents.

II.

See the ugly copper cents,

Rusty cents!

What a world of misery and peculiar comments,

By the "gunning up" at night,

Of a copper, dull or bright,

From the dusty, musty stores

Out on the street,

And the chatty, noisy bores
 Show the loving wives that listen, all their stores ;
 Oh! how meet,
 Hunting coppers, full of dents,
 What a gush of Caudle music results from this offence ;
 How she roars !
 How she pours
 On the darling and his pence ;
 Then with anger he goes hence,
 To the finding and the minding
 Of his cents, cents, cents,
 Of his cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents, cents, cents,
 To the mixing and the fixing of his cents.

III.

Thus the novice daily vents,
 Lack of sense !
 His "titter" and his *bitter*;—but we'll defend the cents,
 In the cause of learned science,
 Where we place our chief reliance,
 Too much anger'd not to speak
 In behalf of every freak,
 Right in time ;
 In a clamorous appealing, to the honor of the mass,
 In a firm expostulation, not to let the matter pass,
 Living longer, longer, longer,
 With a desperate desire,
 And commendable endeavor,
 Defend them now or never,
 While burns the numismatic fire !
 Oh! the cents, cents, cents,
 What pleasureable events
 They foretell!
 How the "four" and "six" and "nine,"
 Look so pretty in the line,
 On the bosom of each little velvet cell,
 Yet the owner only knows
 That the ringing,
 And the singing
 The true penny quickly shows,
 In the jangling,
 And the wrangling,
 Of the many arguments ;
 Of the cents,
 Of the cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents, cents, cents,
 In the trial—not denial—of the cents.

IV.

See the handsome metal cents,
 Copper cents,
 How stirs the soul at "Liberty," tho' mar'd with dirt and dents,
 In the gloomy distant night—
 When Vict'ry crowned the right.
 And Britons menaced Freedom's happy home ;
 On every coin is seen

"Liberty," our darling queen—
 There displayed ;
 And the people, Freedom's people,
 And the "old bell" in that steeple,
 Havoc made,
 By the blending, blending, blending,
 And the sending, sending, sending,
 Britons home !
 We appeal to man or woman,
 To every breast that's human,
 Not to brutes,
 For the science numismatic—
 To the poet in the attic
 In behalf of cents,
 For we love them quite intense,
 Those old and pretty cents,
 And our flag is filled with rents,
 Making war, war, war,
 With numismatic jaw,
 For the cents,
 Keeping time, time, time,
 In this crooked sort of rhyme,
 In this battling for the cents,
 For the cents, cents, cents,
 For the rusty copper cents,
 Keeping time, time, time,
 In good sense, sense, sense,
 In a zigzag rattling rhyme,
 To the collecting of the cents ;
 Of the cents, cents, cents, cents,
 Cents. cents, cents.

LARGE AND IMPORTANT COIN SALE.

We have the pleasure of announcing the purchase, by Mason & Co., of the well-known and valuable cabinet of coins, medals, etc., formerly the property of William Fewsmith, A. M., of this city, and the disposal of the entire collection by public sale, at the auction-sales rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York, October 4, to continue four days, commencing each day at 5½ P. M. Catalogues of the collection can be had on application to the auctioneers, or Edward Cogan, 95 William street, New York; Henry Cook, 74 Friend street, Boston; A. C. Kline, 212 South Eighth street, and Mason & Co., 139 North Ninth street, Philadelphia. The collection embraces several thousand choice and rare American and foreign coins and medals. Catalogues, extra size, printed on tinted paper, wide margin, will be mailed on receipt of ten cents to prepay postage.

OUR FIRST POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

About the first of September we will offer a fine and rare collection of foreign and American stamps at public sale, including many rare and valuable stamps of obsolete issues, and assorted lots for dealers' uses. Catalogues ready the 15th of the present month.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. A. M., TOWANDA.—Send your subscription to Jeremiah Colburn, 17 Bromfield street, Boston. Our club is dissolved in consequence of our efforts to obtain the usual club rates proving a failure. We had hoped to have made a club of one to two hundred for our Boston contemporary, but must now direct all persons who forwarded addresses to this office to enclose two dollars to the above address.

L. T. H., MONTREAL.—You will find a goodly array of Canada pieces in the catalogue we send you of sale of October 4.

B. B. R., MORTONVILLE.—Have inserted your wants in Exchange Department.

C. C., MANCHESTER.—Would like to know if our last letter was received. If not please inform us by early post what can be done in the way of purchase. We could now arrange the matter, if price was low enough to suit the present condition of the coin market.

H. S., SAN FRANCISCO.—Can send you a bright red, uncirculated cent of 1797 for ten dollars, by registered letter. The gold quarters and halves were not as fine as the last lot received.

W. L. M., JR., NEW YORK.—Examine the 1799 and 1804 cents in the collection to be sold October 4. Two of those dates are fine and difficult to equal; in fact, we never saw finer cents of these dates.

P. A., PITTSBURG.—August 1 we issue our new series of stamp packets. Having purchased the stock of a dealer in France, we now have used and unused stamps of nearly every country on the globe using these modern epistolary conveniences. Our first postage stamp sale will occur September 1. Catalogue will be sent you.

TO OUR PATRONS.

All patrons sending us bids for the "Four Days' Sale," in New York, will please remember that we shall use our best exertions to obtain the coins, etc., at the lowest possible bid; and further, will use the greatest care to fill their orders to the letter. We hope all our subscribers will send, at least, one bid upon this occasion, even one dollar each will aggregate among our subscribers to a handsome amount. This sale, if successful, will add much to the appearance of our magazine, and we rely upon our friends for aid upon this occasion.

COIN COLLECTIONS WANTED.

We are prepared to buy collections of coins, or to make public sales of the same, when required, in Boston, New York or Philadelphia. Securities furnished and advances made on large cabinets.

TERMS AT COIN SALES.

Bidders are notified that our terms for purchasing coins or stamps at public sales will be as follows: All sums of twenty-five dollars or less, ten per cent. All sums over twenty-five dollars, five per cent. Bids for the sale of October 4 solicited.

WAR!

As we go to press, the war cloud in Europe thickens, and threatens to involve other nations besides the original combatants, France and Prussia. What effect this war will have on the coin and stamp trade is beyond our ken; but it is not beyond our powers of imagination to picture the various changes, incidental and prospective, as the result of an extensive conflict between important and powerful nations. That changes will occur in the character of foreign postage stamps is not unlikely, and many stamps now in use may, ere the lapse of a month, become obsolete. So, also, in reference to coins, for the same influence that produces a change in stamps, operates in a like manner upon coins. We can only wait and hope, waiting the termination of a deadly and terrible strife, and hoping that some good result may follow. Our sympathies are extended towards our French and German subscribers, who, though deprived of monthly news concerning their favorite hobbies, can indulge their leisure moments in perusing the war bulletins.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE.

Parties receiving circulars and catalogues of sales will oblige us by distributing the same among collectors in their vicinity.

Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.—The three low values that were announced some time back have at length made their appearance; the colors and values are as follows:

1 m. de escu,	black,	on brown paper.
2	“ plum,	“ “
4	“ pistre,	on white “

We understand that two more will be out shortly of the same value, and to replace the 5 and 10 figures.

DENMARK.—The 48 shillings of the set, reported to be in preparation for this country, has made its appearance. The design is very simple, and consists of the figure of value of 48, in white, in a circle of solid ground, this is crowned and is supported by branches of laurel; this is enclosed in a solid oval band, inscribed DANMARK above, and POSTRIM 48 SK. below. This is enclosed in a simple frame, with corner ornaments to make the rectangle. The color of the outside frame is brown; the inside design is bright purple. It is rather smaller than the last issue, and is perforated.

ANTIOQUIA.—We now hear of another stamp that has been discovered belonging to this out-of-the-way State. The design is similar to the 2½ cent that figured in the March number of the “*Journal*”; the color is pale lilac on white paper.

UNITED STATES.—The seven cent stamp, that we described last month but omitted to state its value, has been printed off in a variety of colors, and has a very beautiful appearance. They were intended to have been issued last week; but the war in Europe and consequent stopping of the Bremen steamer, has made them useless for the present. It is very doubtful if they will be issued till peace has been established in Europe.

The 2 cent envelope stamp has now made its appearance, printed on newspaper wrappers. The design as was stated some months ago is identical with the oval of the 2 cent adhesive; this is surrounded with an oval engine-turned border, inscribed U. S. POSTAGE above; TWO CENTS below, with a figure 2 in circles at each side. The head is embossed, and the frame slightly so. The color is the same as 2 cent adhesive, but not quite as bright. They are watermarked with a monogram composed of U. S. P. O. D. which is repeated about six times on each wrapper.—*American Journal of Philately.*

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCIPE.—A new set for these Portuguese possessions will be shortly issued. We have a proof before us of the 5 reis, black, rectangular crown in a circle. CORREIO at top, 5 REIS at the foot. S. THOME E. PRINCIPE around the crown and upper part of the circle. There will be six stamps, viz:

5 reis, black.	25 reis, rose.
10 reis, yellow.	50 reis, green.
20 reis, brown or ochre.	100 reis, lilac.

We learn that Portugal, Maderia and the Azores will also issue new stamps shortly.

ROUMANIA has added another value to its lists of postals, namely, a 3 bani, violet; the design is like the 2, 4 and 18 bani, and is unperforated.

PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

1 cancelled, $2\frac{1}{4}$ real; Cuba, 1855. \$2.

1 uncanceled, $2\frac{1}{4}$ real; Cuba, 1855. \$3 25.

1 set, 1867, Straits Settlements, cancelled. \$1.

1 Geneva, 5 cent, green, warranted genuine. This stamp is very scarce, and out of the hundreds found in collections scarcely one is genuine. This has E. L. Pemberton's endorsement. \$4.

1-60 crazia, Tuscany, cancelled. \$3 12.

A collection of 430 American and foreign revenue stamps, nicely arranged in a good album, in perfect order. Amongst other scarce stamps may be named a complete set of Canadian proofs, worth \$20 and scarce English, New Granada, Finland, &c. \$10.

100 1 para, yellow, Servia, uncanceled. \$1.

96 $2\frac{1}{2}$, green, Hamburg, uncanceled. \$2 12.

(To be continued.)



LARGE COIN SALE.

THE CELEBRATED FEWSMITH CABINET OF
COINS, MEDALS, ETC.,

CONTAINING NEARLY 3000 LOTS, OR ABOUT 5000 PIECES,
INCLUDING MANY RARE AND VALUABLE SPECIMENS, WILL BE OFFERED AT
PUBLIC SALE, BY CATALOGUE, AT THE ROOMS OF
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,
ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 4, 1870, AT 5½ O'CLOCK,
TO CONTINUE FOUR DAYS.

Orders promptly executed by Henry Cook, No. 74 Friend Street, Boston ;
Edward Cogan, No. 95 William Street, New York ; A. C. Kline and Mason
& Co., Philadelphia ; and by the Auctioneers.
Catalogues ready about August 15.

MASON & CO.'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

AT THE AUCTION ROOMS OF
LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK,
SEPTEMBER 1, 1870.

This sale, by catalogues, will embrace many very rare foreign stamps,
used and unused ; also, lots (assorted) for dealers' uses.

Purchases made at the sale for bidders, by the Auctioneers and J. W.
Scott & Co., 34 Liberty Street, New York ; A. C. Kline, L. W. Durbin and
Mason & Co., Philadelphia.

COINS FOR SALE.

1791 Washington Cent, good, \$ 5 00	Vermont Cent, good, \$ 1 00
1793 Wreath " " 3 00	1794 Silver Dollar, good, 50 00
1793 Link " " 4 00	1796 Silver Dime, very good, 6 00
1793 Liberty Cap " " 10 00	1794 Silver Half Dollar, v. good, 2 50
1799 & 1804 " poor, 2 00	1795 " " " 1 25
1799 & 1804 " good, 5 00	1796 " Quarter " " 2 00
1809 " " 1 00	1856 Pattern Nickel Cent, proof, 1 05
Rosa Americana Penny, " 3 50	1858 Nickel set of 12, 12 00
" Half Penny, good, 3 00	1858 " Indian Head, 1 00
Pine Tree Shilling, good, 5 00	1787 & 1788 Mass. Half Cents, 1 50
" Sixpence, " 4 00	1787 & 1788 " v. fine 2 00
" Threepence, good, 5 00	N. J., Con., Va. Wood, fair, each, 25
" Twopence, very good, 6 00	1859 Nickel, 1858 reverse, 1 00
Liberty and Security, 1795, " 3 50	1859 " 1860 " 1 00
" large, " 2 00	1850 to 1857 Cents, v. fine, each, 50
Louisiana Cent, R. F., " 1 00	1840 to 1849 " " " 1 00
" 1722, " 2 00	1830 to 1839 " " " 1 50
" 1721, " 3 00	1820 to 1829 " " " 2 00
Virginia Cent, 1773, " 1 00	1794 to 1814 " " " 3 00
" very fine, 3 50	1817, 1818 & 1819, uncir., " 1 00
N. Y. (Nova Eborac), good, 1 50	Medals, Autographs, &c. &c.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.