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PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY. ED. FROSSARD, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR, IRVINGTON, N. Y.

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WANTED.—The History of Tison or Cash; also wanted to purchase rare issues of Fractional currency. Address A. L. Eaton, Ottumwa, Iowa.

IVAN C. MICHELS, P. O. Box 166, Philadelphia, Pa., wants to purchase Numismatic publications; state lowest cash price.

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WM. E. CANTNER, Greencastle, Franklin Co., Pa., Collector of Coins, Medals, Stamps, etc. Correspondence solicited.

LYMAN H. LOW, of B. Westermann & Co., 838 Broadway, N. Y. Coins, Medals, and Tokens, Numismatic Publications, etc. Any obscure coins accurately described free of charge. Coins sent on approval, to parties known to us. Correspondence solicited, to which we pledge our prompt attention. Collectors and those interested in the subject, are invited to call when visiting our city.

NOTES ON THE SILVER COINS OF
THE ROMAN REPUBLIC.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Oct. 24, 1883.

Editor Numisma:—No single work or class of works exist in which all the different kinds of moneys which have been experimented with are mentioned and their peculiarities accurately ascertained and impartially described. The numismatic works are confined chiefly to the listing and description of coins; the essays and histories relating to moneys and currencies are usually theoretical works in which a few facts are made to sustain a tottering burden of conclusions. As yet the history of moneys lies hidden in the scattered chronicles of law, religion, war, natural philosophy, metallurgy, and archæology.

Imbued with these views, and with the great importance of furnishing to the numismatic world such a history of moneys as would be of service to it in solving many important problems connected with the history and classification of coins, I have spent many years in travel and study and taken great pains in collecting the materials for such a work as I have outlined. I am now engaged in putting the material together. The work will consist of 3 volumes, the first containing a history of moneys in ancient countries, the second in modern countries, and the third in the United States

Certain statements in your issue of November 1882, recently sent me by some friendly hand, induced me to pause before committing my first volume—containing the history of moneys in Rome—to the press. You say: “During the entire period of the Roman Republic money was always issued in the name of the State and its official guarantee.” This conflicts with the opinion of the curators of the coin collection in the *Bibliothèque Nationale* of Paris, who recently assured me

that there are no coins with the *s. c.* or *ex s. c.* or other mark of state authority previous to Octavius. You say:—“The *gentes* had nothing to do with the coinage.” Can you prove that the state fabricated the *gentes* coins? You say:—“The Campanian series of Roman silver coins were struck for the Republic, at Capua.” Where is the evidence that they were struck for the Republic at Capua? You say:—“About B. C. 104 the urban quaestors, etc., were commissioned to coin silver by decree of the Senate, etc., and that these issues have the letters *ex. s. c.* or *s. c.*,” etc. The French numismatists assured me that there were no *ex. s. c.* or *s. c.* coins *without inscriptions* and that there were no inscriptions, except “Roma” previous to the era of Augustus. Which is right, and on what evidence?

You say that “money was always issued in the name of the State and under its official guarantee,” and again “all coins with the letters *ex. s. c.* or *s. c.*,” etc., should be considered *extraordinary issues*.” What other proof, than these letters, is there that money was *always* issued in the name of the State and under its *official guarantee*? “Roma” is evidently not sufficient proof of official guarantee, and if *ex. s. c.* is offered, it conflicts with your theory that this is evidence of *extraordinary issues*; moreover it conflicts with the French authorities who say that there is no *ex. s. c.*, etc., previous to Octavius.

I do not write merely to criticise but to obtain information, and since others may like to have the same doubts solved, you may, if you choose, publish both this letter, and the answer to it.

Very truly yours,

A. D. M.

Mr. R. H. L., the writer of the articles in question offers the following in support of his statements:

NEW YORK, Nov. 9, 1883.

Editor Numisma:—It was through an oversight that I neglected to cite the authorities consulted by me, while writing the paper on Roman silver coins, which appeared in *Numisma* last winter. The two chief works consulted were:

Histoire de la monnaie romaine par Theodore Mommsen. traduite de l'allemand par le duc de Blacas et publiee par F. de Witte, Paris 1865—1879.

La monnaie dans l'antiquite. Lecons professées dans la chaire d'archeologie pres la Bibliotheque Nationale en 1875—1877, par Francois Lenormant, Paris, 1878—1879.

Mr. D. M. should read both these works before he publishes his first volume. He will find in them much valuable information which may be new to him, and they contain answers to all his queries. The following passages from Lenormant answers most of them:

"During the entire Republican period monneys are struck in the name of the State, and under its official guarantee." II. 231.

"This legend (ROMA) is not an indication of the place of issue, but the *sign of sovereignty* of the Roman State. For this reason it appears, first, upon the coins issued in the name of the Republic, but out of the city of Rome itself, in the monneys of the three metals struck for the Republic at Capua, known under the name of the Romano—Capuan series." II. 232—3.

That the statements made in my paper are accepted at the present day, is proved by the letter I received from Mr. R. S. Poole, keeper of the coins in the British Museum. I sent him my paper with the request that he would note the modifications and changes suggested by recent research. He wrote in reply as follows:

* * * "You have consulted the principal authorities. * * * We have found nothing to correct in your paper except the

date of the issues of the so-called *bigati*, which was after the reduction of the denarius."

I cannot believe that M. Chabonillet made any such statements concerning the formula s. c., and the inscription ROMA. There are a number of coins struck previous to Octavius bearing these letters, all of which are familiar to every collector of Roman coins, and although M. Chabonillet is not considered a high authority on ancient coins, he is certainly acquainted with these very common and numerous examples.

Without entering further into the discussion, I refer Mr. D. M. to the two works mentioned above, which are not only recognized authorities, but the *only* reliable authorities on Roman coinage; and certainly no one should at the present day write upon ancient money without first having read them.

If you desire it I will sent you a complete list of authorities on Roman coins, for publication in some future number of *Numisma*.

Very sincerely yours,

R. H. L.

THE POILLON COLLECTION OF MASONIC MEDALS.

As the impression prevails that Mr. William Poillon's collection of Masonic medals is to be sold with Part II. of his Numismatic collection, it may be of interest to state that it consists of 858 different medals, of which 2 are in rubber, 1 aluminum, 7 nickel or German silver, 3 wood, 11 lead or type metal, 2 iron, 27 gilt, 9 gold, 4 casts, 12 electros, 76 tin or white metal, 177 bronze, 172 copper, 85 brass, and 270 silver. 41 masonic medals included in the above list were unknown to Marvin when he published his work, or have lately been issued. This is probably the most complete collection of Masonic medals in the world, and the catalogue, when issued, will attract considerable attention both here and abroad.

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Editor and Proprietor.

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Issued December 1.



SUMMER ISLAND GOLD COIN.

Within an inner circle of pellets, a hog to left, the numerals XX (twenty shillings) above it; near the border SOMMER ISLANDS, a circle of larger pellets near the edge. Rev. A ship of three masts, with three sails set, to left, flying a flag on flag-staff at stern, a circle of pellets on the border. Weight 110 grains, 20 car. fine; size 30 millimeters.

This coin, invoiced to Mr. Lyman H. Low from Magdeburgh, Germany, as a Summer Island medal, was exhibited by him at a meeting of the American Numismatic Society on the 20th of November.

The January number of Numisma will contain an article on this remarkable and interesting coin which lack of space prevents us from inserting in this issue.

Note.—The sale of Part I, of the large, varied and important collection of Wm. Portlon, Esq., takes place at Bangs & Co., 739 Broadway, on the 12—15 inst., (December). Catalogues can be obtained from the auctioneers and coin dealers generally. Part II., comprising the Masonic Medals, War and Foreign Medals, Coin Catalogues, etc., will probably be sold during February next.

NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS.

A classification of the Early Half Dimes of the United States, with a few remarks on their types, varieties, rarity, etc.; by Harold P. Newlin. 24 pp. and two phototype plates. Published by John W. Haseltine, Philadelphia, 1883.

It is with genuine pleasure that we receive this long promised monograph, descriptive not only of the earlier half dimes, but of all the types and varieties of the half dimes, issued to 1873, when the coinage ceased.

Mr. Newlin also traces the perambulations of the half dimes of 1802 offered at auction, from the one in the collection of Wm. A. Lilliendahl, sold in 1863, to the specimen in his own sale April last. In fact, Mr. Newlin has said about all that can be said on the subject of Half Dimes, and his work, the result of patient and continued researches and study, must remain for a long time good authority on the subject.

We wish that we could agree with the author in including the 1792, so-called Martha Washington half dime, among the regular issues of the United States Mint, but the arguments in favor of this theory are not as yet sufficiently conclusive to change the general impression that they, like the *dismes*, and large cents of that year, were pattern pieces, or rather essays, intended to develop a public interest in a national coinage, and open the way for the serious efforts of the beautiful typical issues of the mint in the following year.

Only 100 copies of the work have been issued, and collectors interested in the subject will do well to put themselves in immediate communication with Mr. Haseltine, if they wish to obtain a copy of this instructive and interesting little work.

Catalogue of the Numismatic Books in the Library of the American Numismatic and

Archaeological Society, with a subject index to the important articles in the American Journal of Numismatics, and other periodicals, to the end of 1882 New York 1883.

This is a catalogue of great interest and value, compiled by Mr. Richard H. Lawrence, Librarian of the New York Numismatic Society. The first object in view, was, of course, to give a list of the Society's books. These are arranged in alphabetical order, under the *author's* names; then each book is again entered under its proper *subject*. In order to give the catalogue more value, Mr. Lawrence has added a subject-index to the more important articles in the various numismatic periodicals, and it is this feature especially which makes the work one of great practical usefulness. Suppose for instance that a reader desires to know all that has been written on the subject of *Dollars* of the U. S. Turning to page 11, under the title *Dollar*, he will find references to not less than 50 different articles with name of publication and date of issue. The periodicals fully indexed are the American Journal of Numismatics, Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal, Coin and Stamp Journal (Kansas City), Coin Collector's Journal (Scott & Co.), Historical Magazine, Magazine of American History, Mason's Coin and Stamp Magazine, and Numisma. Copies at \$1.00 each may now be obtained directly from Mr. Lawrence, 31 Broad St., New York, also through Lyman H. Low, 838 Broadway, New York, T. R. Marvin & Son, 49 Federal St., Boston, Ed. Frossard, Irvington, N. Y.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE BUSHNELL CATALOGUE.

The promised publication of letters and documents to prove the authenticity of the Good Samaritan shilling sold at the Bushnell sale for \$650, has at length taken place, and we have received from Messrs. Chapman, the compilers of this catalogue, a number of cop-

ies, which we shall be pleased to distribute, on application, to all those who bought a Bushnell sale catalogue through us. The supplement consists of two letters from Mr. C. R. Taylor, a London dealer, who sold the coin to Mr. Bushnell for 8 guineas, followed by rather obscurely worded remarks and conclusions by Messrs. Chapman in favor of the authenticity of the Good Samaritan shilling. A careful reading of the entire argument leaves us precisely in our original position as printed in Numisma immediately after the Bushnell sale, to-wit, that the piece is a modern fabrication. It is comforting to know that the American Journal of Numismatics, our highest Numismatic authority, is here, as in many other things, in accord with Numisma. The Journal says: "There is nothing in the letters to change the opinion of those persons who honestly believe that the coin in question is not what it appears to be, but is really a work of later but uncertain date and place. It certainly has no pedigree such as one would have hoped to find recorded in letters concerning it."

COIN SALES.

September 19, 20. The collection of Mr. Bernhard D. Schramm, of Cleveland, Ohio, comprising United States and Foreign coins, Masonic medal, etc. 1099 lots. Catalogue by John W. Haseltine. Sold at Bangs & Co., New York.

September 21. American coins, the collection of B. B. Coursin, Esq., of McKeesport, Pa. Also an addenda of medals of philosophers, authors, statesmen and artists, and Ancient coins. 544 lots. Catalogue by Ed. Frossard. Sold at Bangs & Co. Total proceeds \$473.90.

October 1. United States silver and copper coins, Fractional currency, Confederate notes, etc. 568 lots. Catalogue by Chas. Steigerwalt, and sold by him at Lancaster, Pa.

October 12. Collection of miscellaneous coins, American, Foreign, and Ancient, in gold, silver, and copper, etc.; the property of Ed. Frossard. 663 lots. Sold at Bangs & Co. Total proceeds, \$942.52.

October 22. United States silver and copper coins, choice and scarce English coins, unused postal cards, etc., the properties of Messrs. E. H. White, Creston, Ill., O. H. Oldroyd, Springfield, Ill., and F. M. Bird, South Bethelam, Pa. 577 lots. Catalogue by Chas. Steigerwalt, and sold by him at Lancaster, Pa.

October 25, 26. The Numismatic collection of Clarence E. Johnson, of New York, chiefly American, and comprising a good selection of silver coins and proclamation pieces of Spanish America. 1031 lots. Catalogue by H. P. Smith. Sold at Bangs & Co.

October 29, 30. Ancient and modern, American and Foreign, gold, silver, and copper coins and medals, a consignment from Germany. 1432 lots. Catalogue by W. E. Woodward. Sold at Bangs & Co.

October 31. Collection of pre-historic stone and copper implements formed by E. V. Beales, of Milwaukee, Wis., also selections from the archaeological cabinet of J. R. Nissley, of Mansfield, Ohio. 551 lots. Catalogue by W. E. Woodward. Sold at Bangs & Co.

November 15, 16. Collection of R. G. Chandler, of Phila., and of L. S. Boisdore, of New Orleans, comprising ancient and modern coins, the latter chiefly American, Confederate notes, autographs, etc. 1171 lots. Catalogue by John W. Haseltine. Sold at Bangs & Co.

November 15. American coins, Colonial and Confederate notes, etc. 500 lots. Catalogue by Ferguson Haines. Sold at Chas. F. Libbie & Co., Boston.

November 30. American and Foreign coins, medals, etc. 625 lots. Catalogue by Geo.

W. Massamore. Sold at Bangs & Co. No. 579, a very fine 1792 cent, silver center, sold for \$73.

COMING SALES.

Mr. Ed. Frossard is cataloguing the immense and well-known collection of American medals of I. F. Wood, Esq., formerly Librarian of the New York Numismatic Society. The sale cannot take place before March next.—The small but select collection of J. W. March, Esq., of Jacksonville, Illinois, has also been placed in his hand to be catalogued. This sale will take place in January.—Mr. W. E. Woodward's catalogue of the collection of the Hon. Homan, Ely, of Elyria, Ohio, is now under press. A special edition printed on thick paper is illustrated with 6 fine heliotype plates. In point of importance this collection ranks with those of Mickley and McCoy, and it will undoubtedly prove the numismatic event of the season.—Mr. H. G. Sampson is at work on a collection said to contain a very large number of war medals, decorations, etc. The time of sale is not yet fixed.—John W. Haseltine has reserved several days after the holidays for his sales at Bangs & Co.—Mr. Geo. W. Cogan will soon offer the Bennell collection of coins and medals.—Is it true that our esteemed friend, Mr. Thomas Warner, has unconditionally surrendered to the Philadelphia Chapmans? Echo answers: alack, alack, t'is true.

NUMISMATIC GOSSIP.

It cost us exactly \$5.85 to become acquainted with the Honorable (?) SULLIVAN DAVID, of Thistle Terrace, Montreal, Dominion of Canada; Charley paid but \$2.57 for this exhaustive privilege.—The Becker dies of counterfeit ancient coins are again in the market; they should be bought, imported, and used to enrich the Ccsnola collection of an-

tiquities in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.—Are we to understand by Charley's editorial in his "Coins for Sale" list, that he denies having charged more than 15 per cent. for cataloguing coins *including the printing*? Oh! Charley.—Our Newburgh friends are jubilant over the fact that Chester A. Arthur condescended to accept one of their handsome Centennial Medals, struck in pure gold. Let them try us.—A Mr. H. W. Richardson writes 17 pages in the Sept. No. of the Magazine of American History to prove that an obscure token of rather recent issue is really a pattern piece of Lord Baltimore's coinage.—When, oh when will that list of Canadian Coins and Medals published in the Boston Journal come to an end?—Mr. H. W. Barratt of Poughkeepsie has in his possession an old earthenware sugar bowl, of English manufacture decorated with a representation, in relief, of a 1796 American half eagle or \$5 gold piece.—Where is E. Mason, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa.—Mr. Daniel Parish, Jr., has been elected President of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society of New York, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Professor Anthon. A well deserved compliment.—A Philadelphian lately informed us that under the stringent rules adopted by Col. Snowden, the efficient Superintendent of the Philadelphia mint, it is now impossible for coin speculators to obtain, through private influence, specimens of the pattern coins issued.—R. W. Mercer, of Cincinnati, will publish a complete numismatic directory for 1884. Price, as usual, \$1.—We have received from Messrs. Wm. H. Warner & Bro., 1123 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, a copy of the handsome Newburgh centennial medalet, issued by them. We have also received a specimen of the medal issued on the same occasion by a local committee at Newburgh.—Three or four varieties of medals, issued for specula-

tive purposes, to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the evacuation of New York, by the British, and their good friends the Hessians, were sold in very large numbers during the late celebration of the event.—Mr. Ferguson Haines, of Biddeford, Maine, is going out of the coin business, but will continue as a collector.—"The 1804 dollar," a numismatic romance, by the author of the "False Talisman," is to be published in *Nu-misma* during the coming year.—We have received the supplement of Jos. LeRoux list of Canadian coins.

COINS FOR SALE.

- 1548 HALF DOLLARS. 1794. Sharp impression; very nearly uncirculated. Beautiful and rare. 22 50.
 1549 1807. Head to right. Perfect impression; as it fell from the dies. 3.50.
 1550 1807. Head to left. Perfect impression; as it fell from the dies. 3.50.
 1551 1815. Perfectly struck, sharp and uncirculated. 20.00.
 1552 1836. Old type. Uncirculated. 1.00.
 1553 1836. Milled edge; brilliant proof. 20.00.
 1554 1839. Head of Liberty, uncir. 2.00.
 1555 1839. Liberty seated; drapery. Uncir. 1.00.
 1556 1853. Arrows; very fine. .75.
 1557 1854. Arrows; uncir. .75
 1558 1861. Perfect; uncir. 1.00.
 1559 1861. Orleans mint; uncir. .75.
 1560 1866. Motto, "In God we trust," Brilliant proof. 2.00.
 1561 1873 Arrows; brilliant proof. 1.00.
 1562 1877. Uncir. .75.
 1563 1881. Mint lustre; uncir. .75.
 1564 CENTS. 1793. Head of Liberty, without dot; rev. Chain. Perfect impression and fleur-de-coin. 100.00.
 1565 1793. Head of Liberty; rev. wreath. Fine sharp proof, in color and condition as it fell from the dies. The finest known cent of this type and a rare variety. 200.00.
 1566 1793. Wreath cent; edge lettered. Perfectly struck, which is of rare occurrence; olive color; uncir. 35 00.
 1567 1793. Liberty cap cent. Perfect impression. obv. and rev., of brilliant olive color. Finest known specimen of this rare type. 100.00.
 1568 1794. Perfect impression, brilliant light purple; fleur-de-coin. 25.00.
 1569 1795. Thick pl., lettered edge; 5 in date merging into bust. Perfect impression, strongly milled; light olive; uncir. 40.00.
 1570 1795. Thin pl., rev. "One Cent" high. Broad milling; dark olive, sharp and uncir. 30.00.
 1571 1803. Sharp, uncir., the obverse of fine original

- reddish color. 10.00.
- 1572 1812. Sharp, uncir., dark olive. 10.00.
- 1573 1814 Crossed 4. Milling slightly irregular on obv. Light bronze color; sharp and uncir. 4 00.
- 1574 1827. Light olive; sharp, uncir. 6.00.
- 1575 1829. Small date. Perfect deep milling; very strong impression of brilliant olive color, uncir. 12 50.
- 1576 HALF CENTS. 1793. Brilliant olive; sharp, perfect and uncir. 20.00
- 1577 1795. Thick pl., lettered edge; nearly proof, bright red. 25.00.
- 1578 1796 Very fine; one of the best known. 75 00
- 1579 1797 Perfect die. Broad milling, brilliant light olive, sharp, uncir. 20 00.
- 1580 1800. Barely circulated. 3.00.
- 1581 1836. Original. Brilliant proof. 15.00
- 1582 1848. Original. Brilliant proof. 12.50.
- 1583 1852 Brilliant proof. 10.00
- 1584 HALF DIME. 1794. Sharp, perfectly uncir. 15.00.
- 1585 WASHINGTON CENT. 1792. *Naked bust* Perfect, brilliant proof. 125.00.

I am informed by an English friend, thoroughly versed in the subject, that the dies of this rare and beautiful cent, contrary to an impression which has prevailed here, do not exist in England, and that the piece is much rarer in London than in New York, the few specimens known abroad have long since found their way to the United States.

- 1586 Louis XIV. Douzain or 1-12 crown. 1670. Struck for Canada Barely circulated. 17 50.
- 1587 ENGLAND. Commonwealth crown. 1653. Extremely fine or uncirculated, 20.00.

A FEW ANCIENT COINS.

- 1588 Agrigentum. Eagle and crab. Didrachm; fine. 1.50.
- 1589 Caulonia. Bruttium. Deer. Rev. Slinger, a deer in the field. kav. Didrachm; very fine. 4 00.
- 1590 Cnidus. Forepart of lion and head in square punch mark. Didrachm; very fine. 2.00.
- 1591 Macedonia. Philip II. Rev. Boy on horseback. Tetradrachm; fine. 4 00.
- 1592 Neapolis, Campania. Female head to right, initial letters of artist's name under it. Rev. Victory crowning a monitor. Didrachm; fine. 2 50
- 1593 Thasos. Head crowned with ivy and grapes. Rev. Hercules. Tetradrachm; fine. 3.00.
- 1594 Velia, Lucania. Helmeted head to left. Rev. Lion to right. Didrachm; fine. 3 00.

ANOTHER PROPERTY.

Rare American Coins, comprising the balance of E. F. Knithan's collection.

- 1595 DOLLARS. 1794. Fine for date; from the Bushnell sale. Rare. 80 00.
- 1596 1801. Fine. 2 25.
- 1597 1802. Barely circulated. 3 00.
- 1598 1802. Fine. 2 00
- 1599 1858 Brilliant proof. 30 00.
- 1600 HALF DOLLARS. 1794 Very good. 5.00.
- 1601 1796 Fifteen stars Fine; rare. 55.00.
- 1602 1803. Very good. .75.
- 1603 QUARTER DOLLARS 1796. Well struck; broad milling Fine. 15 00

- 1604 1805. Fine. .75.
- 1605 DIME. 1796. Broken die. Hair rubbed; fine. 3.
- 1606 HALF DIME. 1794. Barely circulated. 10.00.
- 1607 CENT. 1793. Wreath. *Large thick planchet*. Very good. Monograph No. 4. 5.00
- 1608 1797. Olive color; uncirculated. 10.00.
- 1609 1814. Crossed 4. Light brown; uncir. 4.00.
- 1610 1848. Brilliant proof. 5.00.
- 1611 1856. Nickel cent. Fine proof. 3.50.
- 1612 HALF CENT. 1793. Olive color; sharp and uncirculated. 20.00.
- 1613 COLONIAL COINS. 1652. Pine tree three pence. Fine. 5.00.
- 1614 1662. Oak tree two pence. Fine; pierced. 3 00.
- 1615 1723. Wood half penny and farthing. Uncirculated. The pair. 3.00
- 1616 Massachusetts cent. 1788 Fine. 1.00.
- 1617 Ditto. Half cent. 1787. Uncir. 3 00.
- 1618 Connecticut cent. 1787. Fine. 1 00.
- 1619 Castorland token. 1796 Thin pl., reeded edge; bronze proof; original 2 00.
- 1620 Sage's tokens, No. 2. A British prison, etc. Cop., uncir. .25
- 1621 Washington half dollar. 1792 Bust to left, WASHINGTON PRESIDENT. Rev. Eagle displayed, twelve stars in curving line above, one in the centre over the eagle's head. Extremely fine and rare. 75 00.

This beautiful and rare coin was offered in the Knithan sale, June 30 last, but was withdrawn by me, because it was discovered on the day of the sale that the piece had once been pierced in the field over the head, through to the right of eagle's tail. The plugging was so skillfully done as to escape my observation when I catalogued the collection. Even with this invisible defect it is certainly worth \$100.

Une decouverte numismatique tres curieuse vient d'etre faite dans des circonstances singulieres. C'est aux environs de Namur que la chose s'est passee. Un cultivateur dont la vache deperissait, se decida a la conduire a labattoir. En depeçant l'animal on lui trouva dans l'oesophage une grande et belle medaille d'or du seizieme siecle. Comment cette piece etait-elle arrivee la ou on la decouvrit? Il est facile de le supposer. La vache l'avait avalee en broutant l'herbe du champ sur lequel on la conduisait paître, et la nature ne l'ayant pas delivree de cet objet precieux, mais indigeste, une affection grave s'en etait suivie.

La piece est une quadruple pistole de la Franche comte, frappee a Besancon en 1578, et on n'en possede pas d'autres semblables.