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ADVERTISEMENTS

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- MARIS. (ED.) *Varieties of the Copper issues of the United States Mint in the year 1794. Phila.*, 1869. 12mo. 2d edition, 1870.
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NUMISMA.

ED. FROSSARD, IRVINGTON, N. Y.

Editor and Proprietor.

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LADY GODIVA COVENTRY TOKENS.

During the year 1057 the incident to which these tokens allude is said to have taken place under the following circumstances: Earl Leofric had imposed upon the inhabitants of the town a grievous tax which they were unable to pay. Lady Godiva, his wife, pleaded long and earnestly for the relief of the unfortunate subjects, and her husband, wearied by her importunities, finally consented, more in jest than otherwise, to withdraw the tax, on condition that Lady Godiva should parade through the streets naked, and swore his great oath that on this condition alone would he rescind the order. Lady Godiva, shrouded in her long hair and clothed in becoming modesty, mounted her snow white horse and successfully accomplished the feat. During the ride all good burghers with one accord had agreed to keep within door so as not to disturb her. Peeping Tom, the town tailor, unable to restrain his curiosity, was the only one who violated his pledge, and for this crime he was summarily executed by the enraged burghers. Fairs and processions, instituted by Henry III in 1218, have since that time been held occasionally to commemorate the event.

The tradesmen's tokens, generally known under the name of Lady Godiva tokens were issued in the year 1792, 1793, 1794, and 1795. The following descriptions will serve for the thirty odd varieties described by Batty in his catalogue.

1792

Obverse, Lady Godiva on horseback "Pro bono publico."

Reverse 1, An elephant carrying a castle (the arms of Coventry), "Coventry Half-penny," 1792.

Reverse 2, Grocers' arms supported by two griffins; crest, a camel; on scroll below, "God grant grace," "Half-penny, 1792."

Reverse 3, Building, "East India House." 1793.

Obverse, Lady Godiva, etc., 1793.

Reverse 1, An elephant, etc.

Reverse 2, An ancient market cross, "Covy Cross," on the base "Coventry."

1794.

Obverse, Lady Godiva, etc, 1794.

Reverse 1, An ancient market cross, "Co Cross;"

Reverse 2, A shield containing mining tools; crest, a windlass; "Associated Irish mine Company." The shield divides the date 1793.

1795.

Obverse, Lady Godiva, etc; 1795.

Reverse, An ancient market cross, "Covy Cross; on the base "Coventry half penny."

The two following tokens evidently relate to the same person.

Obverse, Female seated with right arm resting on a sword, the left hand holding a shield on which are the arms of Coventry; at her feet a mitre, crosier, and mace; view of Coventry behind; Civitas Coventrae MDCCXCVII. *Reverse*, A house, outside of which a three quarter bust of Peeping Tom is placed, with King's Head Inn adjoining. "Memoriae Godive 1057."

Obverse, Coventry arms "Coventry Show Fair, established 1667." *Reverse*, Lady Godiva on horseback; Peeping Tom at a window looking at "Lady Godiva."

The above described tokens are all half penny size. We have never yet seen any of the penny or farthing size, though we believe that of the latter at least, specimens exist.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS.

The executive committee of the Am. Num. Arch. Society have adopted, until further notice the following price-list for back volumes of the *American Journal of Numismatics* :

Vols. 1 to 4 (48 Nos., 1866-70),	\$25	the set.
" 1 to 5 inclusive,	30	"
" 1 to 6 " " " "	32	"
" 1 to 12 " " " "	44	"

The *Journal*, now about to enter on its 13th year of publication, is a valuable compendium of the progress of Numismatic interests in America, and is of useful interest to the historical student and antiquarian. It contains the Proceedings of the various Societies, and the illustrations comprise many valuable photographs, steel plates and woodcuts of American and Canadian coins and medals, paper money, old prints, Masonic tokens, etc., etc. Applications should be addressed to I. F. Wood, Librarian, 64 Madison Ave. New York.

Ed: Every American collector should be a subscriber to this valuable publication. All other Numismatic Journals published in the U. S. (one has the audacity to call itself the *leading* coin paper) are totally eclipsed by the superior talent, ability, and fine mechanical execution that characterize the American Journal of Numismatics. The claims of "Numisma" to patronage are simply those of an auxilliary in the skirmish line of amateurdom, gaining converts, etc., while our esteemed senior, in his well filled columns, appeals to the scientific and scholarly tastes of the collecting fraternity. Two dollars per annum for the American Journal, and fifty cents for Numisma will make a profitable investment in every point of view.

NUMISMATIC PUZZLE.

Required the meaning of the vowels A. E. I. O. U. found on certain coins. Reward for first correct explanation received from a subscriber, a fine German silver coin.

CATALOGUE OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN Coins, Medals, etc., by John W. Haseltine, 1225 Chestnut St. Phila. Pa. 1878.

We have, for years, been in the habit of consulting Mr. Haseltine's catalogues, and especially his price lists (in seven degrees of preservation) of American silver and copper coins. The present issue is of great value to purchasers of coins and curiosities, and the only American priced catalogue we can conscientiously recommend to collectors. In this last edition (56 page), 3 pages are devoted to Colonial coins, 2 to U. S. fractional currency, 12 to U. S. silver, 8 to cents and 1-2 cents, 11 pages to Washington medals, pattern pieces and miscellaneous copper coins, 4 to ancient coins, 3 to Centennial medals, 3 to mineral specimens, the balance to coin cabinets, numismatic books, Indian relics, paper money, curiosities, gems, and priced catalogues. For sale by the publisher at 25 cents per copy.

MR. HENRY G. SAMPSON, the veteran coin dealer, still continues at his old stand, under the shadow of St. Paul's Church, New York. Here coin collectors from every part of the country are in the habit of congregating to inspect his shelves and talk coins. Mr. Sampson is one of the most reliable and trustworthy men in the business, and is employed by many collectors, in and out of town, to effect their purchases at sales. Having had frequent recourse to his services during the last eight years we know whereof we speak.

Our private engagements have kept us so busy during the last six weeks that we are unable to insert descriptions of the numerous, rare, and fine coins we have at present for sale. We have, in part, priced the Roman aes spoken of in former issue, and shall, beyond doubt, offer them in our next, making with the other Roman, the English, the Colonial and U. S. mint pieces, a long and interesting list.

THE NEW DOLLAR.

Obverse, Fine and large head of Liberty to left with flowing hair, Phrygian cap, and wreath of wheat and cotton leaves. Near the head above in curving line, E PLURIBUS UNUM, the circle being completed by thirteen stars; below, 1878. *Reverse*, Eagle displayed, in its right talons an olive branch, arrows in the left; below, a laurel wreath; over the head, in German letters, In God we trust; above, in curving line near the edge, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; beneath, completing the circle, ONE DOLLAR. The design is the work of Mr. Geo. E. Morgan, a former employee of the London mint.

The rejected design, by some considered superior to the one adopted, is the work of Mr. William E. Barber, the regularly employed designer of the Philadelphia mint. The obverse is in some respects similar to the one adopted, there being, however, the absence of the liberty cap and wreath. The motto "In God we trust" on the obverse, is in Roman letters, and "E Pluribus Unum" on the reverse in German text. A number of pieces of this have been struck and the dies are to be destroyed within the year, according to custom. Our Philadelphia correspondent has, as yet, been unable to obtain a single specimen, but they will no doubt make their appearance and become a valuable acquisition to numismatic cabinets.

His Serene Highness, Hadgi Hagop, the antiquary of Constantinople, driven from his native land by fate and the sword of the Russians, seeks a market on these distant shores for 2,000 ancient coins from 600 to 2850 years old, and ranging in price from 30c. to \$1,100. We had the pleasure of being introduced to this mysterious personage at one of Bang's sales, but the son of the true prophet did not carry his cabinet about him, and much to our disappointment we were unable to keep an engagement made with him for the following day. Allah (s)!

COIN SALES.

March 4th, etc.; the two interesting features of this sale were the addenda. The 1802 half dime of Mr. J. N. T. Levick brought \$172.50, a respectable price for a half dime, but this is really the finest known specimen of this exceedingly rare date. The history of this coin, if short, is interesting. It was discovered in a lot of old silver by Mr. Wm. P. Brown, the well-known coin and stamp dealer of 145 Nassau Street. From his hands it passed into the possession of Mr. Levick, and by this gentleman was sold with the Redlich cabinet, March 4th. The second was the withdrawal of the 2d addendum comprising the 1786 Jersey Immunis Columbia noticed in our last issue. This coin was described as "genuine beyond the slightest doubt," and possibly "unique," notwithstanding the fact that certain distinguished Boston collectors to whom the piece had previously been offered had returned it with an unfavorable endorsement. Under the circumstances no sane man would have bid \$10 on it, and the sellers recognizing at last the weakness of their position, wisely withdrew the piece from the sale.

It is but just to state that the originator of the "Novum Belgium" and kindred pieces, in a letter addressed to us, disclaims being the maker of this particular "Immunis Columbia." The testimony of those with whom we have conversed on the subject is that the piece is of recent fabrication; if so, we are inclined to adopt the views of a correspondent in the April No. of the American Journal of Numismatics who expresses himself as follows: "It will be found that the piece is a copy of an Immunis Columbia, for the obverse, attached in some way to a New Jersey copper, for the reverse." The piece is too thick and the relief of obverse too high "to have been struck on a Jersey cent, one side of which had been smoothed for the purpose."

DEATH OF JOSEPH J. MICKLEY.

Mr. Joseph J. Mickley, for many years the most prominent collector in the United States, closed a long, eventful, and useful career at Philadelphia on the 15th of February last. He was born at Catasauqua, near Bethlehem, Pa., on the 24th of February, 1799, and had therefore nearly completed his 79th year at the time of his death. It is related of him that the desire to possess a cent coined in the year of his birth first awakened his interest in the subject of coin collecting, but having once begun, his tastes for numismatology became more and more strongly developed, and—fortunately for him—he became a collector of American Coins at a time when the subject interested but few, and when coins, now highly valued, could be obtained without extraordinary efforts or outlays of money. His collection soon assumed important proportions, but collecting with him, after all, was but a stepping stone to those archaeological studies for which he became distinguished. Mr. Mickley became not only a noted collector and learned antiquarian but also a proficient linguist, and this while prosecuting his daily avocation as a piano and musical instrument repairer.

In 1867 he was unfortunately robbed of about one half of his collection in a manner quite mysterious to himself and his friends. This event greatly discouraged him from making further numismatic acquisitions, for shortly afterwards the balance of his collection was sold at auction at New York. After this he traveled extensively and acquired an important collection of books, historical, archaeological, etc. The life of this remarkable man is another striking example of what can be accomplished by patience, perseverance, and untiring application to a given subject.

THE Philatelic portraits by Mr. Harold Frederic in *F. Trifet*, 61 Court St., Boston, Mass. Stamp Circular, are exceedingly clever and able articles, interesting alike to coin and stamp collectors.

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Numismatic works; priced catalogues, many illustrated; foreign publications, etc.

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The Numismatic Journal published by L. S. Drowne, North Adams, Mass., ending with its 6th No., Vol. I, January, 1878.

The coins of the Redlich cabinet proper brought only fair prices.

March 13th, 14th, 15th, Mr. S. K. Harzfeld's second sale was well attended by buyers, and the pieces generally, except Centennial medals brought very good prices. There are, of course, rare centennial medals and tokens, but a contemplation of the prices brought by such pieces as the Stiner card, the Washington *Md.* Masonic, and other pieces, must have been extremely discouraging to those who had previously invested much money in these and similar tokens under the supposition that they were purchasing rarities! The Dutch-American Revolutionary peace medals, Nos. 621—639 brought good prices; nos 804—805 comprising four of Barbour and two of Longacre's pattern sets, sold at from \$8 to \$21.50 each; no. 812, Confederate cent, Lovett die, \$9 10; no. 1365, (1864) proof set of dollar, half, quarter, dime, 3 cent piece silver, 2 and 1 cent copper with "In God we trust," \$26.50; no. 1596 Longacre pattern dollar, Indian Queen, etc. \$20.50, and no. 1567, the original seal of the Penn family in silver "*John Penn, Jun. Tno. Penn Proprietors and Governrs of Pennsylvania* with coat of arms in centre, only \$17, after having once been sold for £14.

March 19th, 20th and 21st. Snow Silver Cabinet Sale. The attendance of buyers was very good, and the bidding for all the fine, rare, and really well preserved pieces extremely spirited, while even the more badly preserved, for instance many of the English, sold at very fair prices. We notice no. 223, a double crown of Geneva, 1848, \$7.00; no. 272, Edward I, pattern groat, described as *very fine*, but only very fair, though extremely rare, \$6.00; 307, Mary, 1553, shilling, \$8.75; 321, James I, 1602 crown, \$9.00; no. 327, Charles I, 1625 crown, \$4.00; no. 337, the Commonwealth, 1649, crown, \$8.50; no. 343, Oliver Cromwell, 1658 crown, \$15.00; no.

344, do half crown, \$16.00; a William & Mary crown, \$6.00; one with William alone, \$10.50; one of Anne, 1702, \$4.00; no. 494, Christ crowned with thorns, bust, etc., \$11.00 and no. 501 medal of Henry IV of France, struck to commemorate the battle of Ivry, extremely rare and fine, \$56.00.

COMING SALES.

At Bangs & Co., 656 Broadway, catalogue by Mr. Ed. Cogan, will be sold on the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th inst, the entire collection of the late John Swan Randall, Esq., of Norwich N. Y. If the value of a cabinet depended on the number of pieces, this would be a most remarkable sale, for the collection numbers probably not less than fifteen thousand, but unfortunately, rarity here appears to have been sacrificed for variety and quantity. We have, for instance, a large number of half dollars, but none of the dates 1796 or 97. Still the collector who will take the trouble to search diligently among the 105 pages of catalogue, will unexpectedly find many valuable and rare coins, and for young collectors, dealers, etc., the opportunities to purchase good pieces or replenish stock will be most excellent.

MR. JOHN W. HASELTINE informs us that his next coin sale will contain many Centennial medals from a private collection, a number of which he had never seen nor heard of. Mr. H. adds: "There are now no new Centennial medals made," a welcome piece of information, for the interest in Centennial medals has of late decreased in a ratio proportionate to the increase of the posthumous article.

MR. S. K. HARZFELD is preparing a catalogue of coins to be sold at auction in Philadelphia—date as yet undetermined.

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