

UNCLE SAM'S FIRST MINT.

The First Regular Coins Were Turned Out by Horse Power.

The act establishing the United States mint was passed April, 1792, and steps were at once taken to erect a suitable structure in which to domicile the new department.

The first regular return of coins to the treasury was made March 1, 1793, and consisted of 11,178 cents. The renowned scientist, David Rittenhouse, was appointed director of the mint April 14, 1792, within a fortnight after the passage of the act referred to above.

Here a plain brick building was erected in the summer of 1792. The printing presses arrived from England in September and operations began in the early part of October, the material for starting being six pounds of old copper, having been purchased a few days before.

The machinery of the mint was moved by horse power. The first regular return of coins to the treasury was made March 1, 1793, and consisted of 11,178 cents. The renowned scientist, David Rittenhouse, was appointed director of the mint April 14, 1792, within a fortnight after the passage of the act referred to above.

As the nation grew older and richer enlarged facilities for coining money became imperative, and accordingly, a site was procured on Chestnut street, west of Juniper street, and here the present structure was begun in 1829.

The new building was occupied in 1831. The architects engaged upon the plans, William Strickland, John Haviland and others, endeavored to design a structure as nearly classical as the purposes of the building would permit.

The Listener has often passed the Welch house in Somerville, Mass., which for some twenty years has been unoccupied. The story of it, as related by the neighbors, is a tragedy rather than a romance.

Samuel Welch was betrothed to a young woman, and built this handsome and comfortable brick house for her home. But to take such a rebuff easily, he boarded up the doors and windows of his new house almost as tight as the very bricks in the walls, and banished himself to wander up and down the country.

The case of Mrs. Elizabeth Woodcock, who survived long burial under snow, may be known to many readers. This woman, forty-two years of age, of Impington, a village three miles north of Cambridge, lost her way in returning home from market on Saturday evening, February 2, 1790, and was buried seven feet deep in the snow.

A somewhat similar case occurred in the snowstorm of 1890. A middle-aged woman, named Alice Jane Lowe, belonging to Wigan, was admitted into Spalding Workhouse in a very weak state, having been found in the relieving officer sleeping out in the snow in the Lincolnshire Fens, near Spalding. She was put to bed, and then stated that she had slept out for five weeks continuously, including, within the last few days, the severest weather of the year, when the snow covered the ground to the depth of nearly a foot.

"During a heavy storm last September," said Dr. Albert Nays of Itaka, I. T., who is stopping at the Lindell, "there was a young man in our town who was killed by lightning and his body was made the subject of a scientific portmorm to discover how the electric bolt had done its work."

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IVORY CARVING.

A Quaint, Old-Time Trade That Has Now Few Exponents.

A storage room for many years' accumulation of knickknacks, notions and bric-a-brac of every description, dusty and dingy, is always full of interest. It was a Cincinnati Times-Star reporter's good fortune to stumble on to two of these places. They were the workshops of ivory carvers and wood-turners.

One was littered with tools of every shape, some covered with the dust of twenty years; all sorts of fancy shaped pieces of ivory, wood and rubber; in fact, a general collection, very interesting and hard to describe, filled the shop. Noticeable above all was the yellow cat, the queen of the shop, that dozed majestically on the workman's desk.

This shop belonged to a pleasant-faced, rather old German, who for twenty-two years has worked at his trade in this same warm room. He is an ivory carver, a worker in fancy woods and rubber, and in fact in any material out of which can be fashioned something artistic.

The trade of the ivory carver is but a shade of what it used to be. The various machines of modern invention do the work that formerly gave employment to scores of these artists. And another thing is the "cheap" taste that has developed. Bone and celluloid work satisfies the majority nowadays, little being done in real ivory.

This ivory artist learned his trade in the old country and came to Cincinnati to follow it up. Now that I had seen him, I felt that I could not do so well as he. He is an ivory carver, a worker in fancy woods and rubber, and in fact in any material out of which can be fashioned something artistic.

"No," said he, with a shake of his gray head. "I can't make a specialty of ivory carving like I would. People want only the cheap imitation now. When I first came I could not do the work, and it was fine work, too."

"I learned my trade in Germany, where most of us did. What else do I do? I do most anything with fancy woods. I use boxwood, rosewood and ebony principally. Police clubs, canes, inlaid work, electric supplies, hardwood handles. All sorts of things I can make, only to order, though. I make loaded dice when ordered. I make one piece of walrus tusk. I used to work in that, too. We use only the outside of a walrus bone, for the heart is too yellow. I also shape horns and decorate them and work in amber. And my cat here," concluded he, "is a very essential adjunct of the shop. She kills the rats, and these rats, if they had a chance would eat the varnish from all my fine work."

"Where do you get your ivory?" "From New York city, and all of the wood I use comes from the same place, where most all of the fine ivory carving is done now."

"Is ivory work cheaper now than it was?" "The work has to be cheaper, but the ivory costs about the same."

The other antique shop discovered was a smaller one. The City of Mexico one evening in February, 1879, and the colonel told my companion, General Hollenwood, that his men had made over seventy miles since before daybreak. Such a march was considered by no means uncommon in that service. The men move in light order and wear sandals, which give them perfect freedom of motion. The rank and file of the Mexican infantry are Indians, almost to a man. [Chicago Herald.]

Natural Gas and Climate. "The natural gas theory?" laughingly said Charles J. Pierson, of Indiana, at the Ashland House. "Have you heard of that? Well, it is exciting a good deal of comment with us, and I think deservedly so. You know that Indiana is now held responsible for the lack of cold winters in Detroit and Chicago and along the lower line of Michigan. The theory is simply this: Underneath the localities mentioned there is a vast subterranean reservoir, in which the gas has been stored for ages past. You know that certain combinations of gas will make cold. The gas wells of Richmond, Ind., give out over 15,000,000 feet of gas a day. This waste has been going on for years. This drain is thought sufficient to make a change in the climate of those places above the subterranean reservoirs, notably Chicago and Detroit. You know it is a source of constant remark in these cities that there are no more cold winters. How far this theory is right in its conjectures is not for me to say." [New York Telegram.]

Cats' Intelligence. My mother used to tell a story of an old cat who used to sit on the table beside her mother's old housekeeper and play with her cottonballs (reels were not used in those days). It was a common custom to stick pins or needles in these cottonballs if a pin-cushion retained them. This cat, finding herself pricked with the needles when playing with these balls, used to draw them out first with her teeth in order to play with comfort. If people would treat cats as they do dogs and study them as much, they would be repaid by the amount of intelligence and sagacity shown. [Spectator.]

Rubber Culture. Seed for the culture of rubber has been sown in Ceylon and the seedlings are reported to be flourishing among the jungle. It is suggested that a large tract of country could easily be covered with profitable trees by simply collecting and sowing broadcast every year in the belts or useless jungles adjoining the estates a few bushels of the seed of the Ceara rubber tree which grows in the island. These patches of rubber trees might in time come to be much better and an infinitely surer investment than cinchona, which has been largely cultivated, now is. [New York Telegram.]

Ocean Cables. The longest ocean cable in the world is that of the Eastern Telegraph Company, whose system extends from England to India and measures 21,000 miles. Africa is now completely encircled by submarine cables, which make up altogether a length of 17,000 miles. There are eleven cables across the North Atlantic, though not all of them are at present in use. Five companies control the lines of telegraphic communication between this country and Europe. [Detroit Free Press.]

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A Good Listener.

"Yes," said the voluble man to his neighbor in an "L" car, "I always like to talk with you, because I learn something. You have something to say. You don't sit like a bump on a log and let another man do all the talking. You have ideas, and you express them."

"I flatter myself," began the other, but he was immediately interfered with. "That's the way it is, you see. I can sit and hear you talk all day, while here are men men I wouldn't listen to a minute."

"I was going to say—"

"I told my wife only last night that I could get more solid information in hearing you talk ten minutes than I could in listening to some men a week."

"May I remark—"

"There's that Smith. I get up and leave the car at once whenever I see him enter. Good enough fellow, too, but he wants to talk all the time, and there's nothing in it. I'm not much of a talker myself, but I do like to get a word in edgewise occasionally."

"If you will allow me—"

"I don't see how you manage to pick up so much information on all kinds of subjects. I don't want to flatter you, but you seem to be posted on almost everything."

"I would talk all the time if I was used as you are at it. Folks often say to me, 'Jones, why don't you talk?' but I know enough to keep still when men are around who keep a plauguey night more than I do."

"To talk well one must have—"

"That's just it, you see. One must have a good listener. Now that I admire myself for more than anything else, I'm a good listener. I can ride all the way from Harlem down to the Battery listening to you as I am doing now, and hardly open my mouth to say a word. Cause why? I know a good talker when I hear one."

"Oh, yes, I do. I understand everything you say on the subject, but of course I can't dress my ideas up in such language as you use. You are a natural talker. I am not. You open your mouth and words run out clear as a brook, and I can't help but listen."

A bill preventing fortune telling passed the California Senate.

Japan has three of the world's largest cities.

FINE ART—that of the police judge.

Spring Is Here

When nearly everybody needs medicine to purify the blood and tone up the system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla grows more and more popular every year for it is the best

Spring Medicine

"German Syrup"

We have selected two or three lines from letters freshly received from parents who have given German Syrup to their children in the emergency of Croup. You will credit these, because they come from good, substantial people, happy in finding what so many families lack—a medicine containing no evil drug, which mother can administer with confidence to the little ones in their most critical hours, safe and sure that it will carry them through.

Those who believe that Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy will cure them are more liable to get well than those who don't.

If you happen to be one of those who don't believe, there's a matter of \$500 to help your faith. It's for you if the makers of Dr. Sage's remedy can't cure you, no matter how bad or of how long standing your catarrh in the head may be.

The makers are the World's Dispensary Medical Association of Buffalo, N.Y. They're known to every newspaper publisher and every druggist in the land, and you can easily ascertain that their word's as good as their bond.

Begin right. The first stage is to purify the system. You don't want to build on a wrong foundation, when you're building for health. And don't shock the stomach with harsh treatment. Use the milder means.

You wind your watch once a day. Your liver and bowels should act as regularly. If they do not, use a key.

The key is—Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. One a dose.

There are over 1,000,000 men under arms in the British Empire.

How to Accumulate Money.

Brother Hart's in London.

It was over in the Mariposa Gulch in '50. They had never had a jury trial there. If a man stole a horse they lynched him, and that settled it. But the people, many of whom came from Massachusetts, began to tire of lynch law, and sigh for the good old jury trial of the East. So one day when Bill Stevens had jumped a poor man's claim, the Massachusetts fellows resolved to give him a good old-fashioned jury trial. They took him into the back end of a board postoffice, selected a jury, and the trial commenced. Dozens of witnesses were called, and finally the jury retired to agree on a verdict. When they had about concluded that Bill was innocent the boys outside came banging at the door.

"What do you fellows want?" asked the foreman through the keyhole.

"We want to know if you han't about agreed on the verdict. If you han't, you'll have to get out here."

A Fish with Legs.

Consumption.

Patents.

Prof. Loissette's New Memory Books.

Home Study.

Baggy Knees.

ELVY'S CREAM BALM.

CATARRH.

BEECHAM'S PAINLESS PILLS.

For BILIOUS & NERVOUS DISORDERS SUCH AS Sick Headache, Weak Stomach, Impaired Digestion, Constipation, Disordered Liver, etc., ACTING LIKE MAGIC on the vital organs, strengthening the muscular system, and arousing with the roebud of health The Whole Physical Energy of the Human Frame. Beecham's Pills, taken as directed, will quickly RESTORE FEMALES to complete health.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proved catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Dr. J. C. Cheney's Catarrh Remedy, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally & does not touch the blood at all. It acts directly upon the mucous surfaces of the system. They offer \$100 for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address Dr. J. C. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

There are upwards of 10,000 artists in the city of New York.

Money for Everybody.

Certain a Non-Fum.

Without labor there would be no ease, no rest.

Get each man right, and the nation will be right.

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists. A reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

Of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda.

These are emulsions and emulsions, and they will still wash themselves with milk masquerades as cream. Try as they will many manufacturers cannot disguise their cod liver oil so as to make it palatable to sensitive stomachs. Scott's Emulsion of PURE NORWEGIAN COD LIVER OIL, combined with Hypophosphites is almost as palatable as milk.

CONSUMPTION, SCROFULA, BRONCHITIS and CHRONIC CATARRH OF SEVERAL ORGANS. All Druggists sell it, but be sure you get the genuine, as there are poor imitations.

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CATARRH.

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EVERY SUFFERER

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EPPS'S COCOA

FRAZER AXLE GREASE

TOBIAS' DERBY CONDITION POWDERS

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DEPT., 40 MURRAY ST., NEW YORK.

GET WELL.

AGENTS are Coining Money

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ELASTIC TRUSS

-VASELINE-

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