

THE FIRST AMERICAN COINS.

The Three Copper Half Cents and Were Issued from the Mint in 1793.

The treasurer of the United States on May 6, 1793, redeemed two half-cent pieces. This is the first time in the history of the country that such coins have been presented for redemption.

The needs of adopting the half cent as the lowest value computing factor for a coin were made in the early days of the republic.

Large stocks of half cents are to be found in the stocks of coin dealers. The most common dates are sold at a good premium and the extremely rare ones are worth their weight in gold.

HARVESTING BUTTERFLIES.

Trees Containing Them Are Wound Up in Gauze, Presenting Feeble Appearance.

Travelers in Berlin visiting the adjacent country in the spring are surprised to see the trees in the woods gaily dressed in gauze as if for a ball. The gauze, which is put around the lower branches is tied up near the trunk of the tree and is not intended for decorative use, but is the work of the butterfly harvesters.

Home of Bird of Paradise. Probably no famous bird has a smaller habitat than the bird of paradise, whose beautiful feathers are so highly prized in the military trade.

Canal Across Florida. The project of building a ship canal across Florida has again come to the fore, and there is a strong probability of its being carried out.

The Next Step. Mrs. Casey says it's hot as all as Maggie's piano music!

CANDIDATES OF FUTURE.

Log Cabin and Farm Features Will Not Be So Much in Evidence as in the Past.

"When the next generation reads the history of presidential candidates it will not find the farm and log cabin incidents that we have been reading in our time," said an old politician as he sat down to his paper this morning in the New York Sun.

"I have just read," he continued, "that a number of college students have been engaged as conductors on a trolley line in a near-by city. Not long ago I read another article about college students who had been engaged as waiters or guides, and in one case about a young man who had hired out to do scullery work in a hotel at a summer resort."

"The log cabin boy and the farmer boy are becoming scarce in this country," Mr. Fairbanks was a farmer lad, but he quit the work as soon as he saw an opportunity to get ahead in another business.

"Every boy is going to college now, or will be within the next 25 years. The farmer of the future will be a hired man. The son of the owner will be prepared for professional life as soon as he can make it."

SOME NEGRO STATISTICS.

Death Rate in This Country Nearly Twice That of the White Race.

The final census bulletin on the negro population shows that there are 5,204,531 negroes in the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, and Porto Rico.

At present fully 90 per cent of the negroes live in the southern states and 77 per cent of them reside upon farms.

Peel and cut in squares the meat from a fine ripe cantaloupe, place in a deep agate pudding dish, with just enough water to cover. Place in a modern oven, well covered, and cook until tender.

Pur Animals Slaughtered. The weight of Russia in furs is being rapidly sapped. It is reported that in a certain district of the Yemowl government, where 50 years ago hunters annually shot 25,000 sable, 6,000 bears, 2,000 foxes, 11,000 blue foxes, 3,000 squirrels, 5,000 wolves and 200,000 hares, hardly a sable can be found today.

Peace to His Ashes. Mrs. Deswell:—You seem to be a great lover of the weed, Mr. Puffington. Does your father smoke as much as you do?

WARTIME DEAL IN MUSLIN.

New Jersey Farmer Remembers with Delight How He Got Ahead of A. T. Stewart.

There is an old farmer living at Hilton, N. J., who holds it as one of the joys of his life that once upon a time, over 40 years ago, he proved himself clever enough to get the better of A. T. Stewart. He is Henry Jeroloman, who has since become a millionaire.

But it was many years before he ever thought of strawberries that he crossed swords with A. T. Stewart. He was a number mill and a number of houses in a western town, which he purchased from the proceeds of his deal with Stewart.

In a short time Port Sumner was fired on, and prices went up by bounds. When A. T. Stewart & Co. sought to replace their stock of muslin they found the price almost prohibitive, and Mr. Stewart became very angry.

He told the merchant that he could get 100 muslin for \$200, and that if the firm wanted that which he had bought from them it would have to pay that price.

It was 16 days before we reached San Francisco, and then came the reaction. No sooner had we pulled into harbor than six of the crew took to their beds, completely broken down.

Flax in the Dakotas. In Minnesota and the Dakotas large quantities of flax are raised each year, and the seed furnishes cargo for many freight trains.

Good Inside. In view of the fact that a Vienna physician has become famous for curing rheumatism by the external application of bee stings, an American physician tries to say that the internal absorption of the virus of the honey bee has effected 500 times 500 cures.

PHOTOGRAPHS HIMSELF.

Big Grizzly Bear Captures a Camera and Takes a Snap-Shot While Examining It.

Bert Gibbs is the amateur photographer bear hunter of all Round Valley. But he doesn't hunt that class of subjects since a big Mendocino grizzly took his camera away from him, rolled the lens, examined it, or if by but a short distance expect rain.

When the sun draws water rain follows soon. "Bee flies bite greedily expect rain." "When the birds cease to sing rain and thunder will probably come."

OVER A FLOATING VOLCANO. Nerve-Racking Experience of Crew of Ship with Cargo of Coal on Fire.

The Roanoke, the largest wooden sailing vessel afloat, has recently been through an adventure that would try the nerves of the stoutest crew. The captain's story of the voyage is reported by the Baltimore Sun.

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ADAGES ABOUT WEATHER.

Observations of the Prophets Compiled by the Clerk of the Weather Bureau.

Recently the United States weather bureau compiled a list of the more common weather adages. From this the following examples are taken:

"Men work better, eat more and sleep sounder when the barometer is high."

"Do business with men when the wind is from the westerly, for then the barometer is high."

"In summer, when the sun burns more than usual, expect thunderstorms."

"If the temperature increases between six p. m. and midnight when the sky is cloudless expect rain, and if during a long and severe period of low temperature the temperature increases between midnight and morning expect a thaw."

"A red sun has water in his eye." "A piece of seaweed hung up will become damp previous to rain."

"When the birds cease to sing rain and thunder will probably come."

"When fish bite readily and swim near the surface rain may be expected."

"When the sun draws water rain follows soon."

GOOD EXCUSE FOR STEALING. Man Who Stole Rulers Only Took Measures to Make His Yards.

It was in a little new town in a far western mining settlement a man was on trial for a very serious offense, relates the Baltimore American.

Ever since the town of Bal Harbour had been established there had been trouble about land titles.

One citizen who had considerable experience as a coachy picketed his kitchen garden half the summer, and had a crop almost raised.

The evidence was conclusive. However, the judge was merciful and let him go on condition that he would restore the property.

Western Students in the East. The falling away of patronage from the west of New England colleges is emphasized in the statistics of entrance examination held this year under the direction of the college entrance examination board.

Spectacles for Heathens. Last year the woman's board of missions connected with the American board sent 500 pairs of spectacles to western lands, where eye troubles are common and spectacles are expensive and more than a thousand additional pairs are now on the way.

EAST INDIAN HINDU TEMPLE

Workmanship of Natives Shown in Reproduction at the St. Louis World's Fair.

East India is off the world's main traveled roads. It lies near the spring from which the waters of progress began their westward course.

The East Indian and worker puts to shame the machine-made products of western and more strenuous lands.

The temple is within, rising gracefully from the center of the temple court.

When the sun draws water rain follows soon. "Bee flies bite greedily expect rain."

FISH THAT ARE NOT FISH. In the Interior of Newfoundland Nothing But the Godfish is Caught.

Sometimes, when the appropriate and all other fish disappear, it appears from the following story, told by the author of 'Catching a Salmon in Newfoundland' that there is a similar distinction between fish and fish.

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L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

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