

GREENHUT USES THE BUNGSTARTER

And Demonstrates His Theory That the Deal Is of No Importance in Draw Poker.

"There is them," said old man Greenhut, "as talks about the ways of Providence like they thought Providence was always a weighin' somebody or somethin'."

"Like enough there's some sense into it, hein' as how some of them patriots was weighed into it ever since the country of 'em."

"That kind of talk is high blasphemous, Joe," said the old man severely. "If you'd been brought up proper you'd know as how Providence rules everything."

"Then I wish you'd tell me," said Bassett, "what good it is to be a gambler."

"He was a wise old gazabo, an' I knowed 'actly what he'd get a extra good colt he knowed just what to put in against."

"There was one of 'is neighbors, Jim Handy, his name was, had a gray mare 'd had been on four legs in Mississippi, an' Timothy knowed it, an' knowed Handy knowed it. So Timothy was always tryin' to raise somethin' 'd beat the gray mare, but he never did it."

"Just about the time he was ready to give up, old Timothy was snoopin' round the Greenville track one day when he seen a horse's nest in a tree alongside the track, high the three-quarter, where he didn't think nothin' 't'wice about it for a minute, an' then, all of a sudden, he throwed his head back an' give a big laugh, an' then started off hotfoot for Jim Handy's place."

"Handy was a spot all right, an' when Timothy p'posed for to make a match against the two horses, there wasn't no track under the saddle for a thousand dollars a side."

EARLY VIRGINIA COINS

RARE ISSUES STRUCK BEFORE THE REVOLUTION.

The "Hogge" Mopay for Bernard, Associated with the Colony—Thought New Have Been Intended for Tokens—First Coins Authorized in 1648.

Associated with Jamestown and Capt. John Smith are the first coins passed as money within the English colonies of North America. These pieces were issued by the Virginia Company for use on the Island of Bermuda, where a small colony had been established, and have been the subject of much speculation.

In 1609 Sir Thomas Gates, appointed Governor of the Colony of Virginia, while on his way to America was shipwrecked in the Bermudas. Sir George Somers was one of the party. It is said the shipwrecked party subsisted for nine months on the wrecked stores of the ship, wild fruit, and the flesh of black hogs, with which the island was overrun. Two small vessels were afterward constructed, and the Governor and his company finally reached Virginia in 1610.

This "hogge" money, which is very rare, was of several denominations, some of which were unknown until recent years. As the denominations were those of shillings, sixpences, and threepences, and all were struck in copper, it was inferred that they were intended as pattern pieces, and it is these that Smith designated as "brasses."

The shilling shows a fat boar, with open mouth, on the obverse, directly above being the Roman numeral "XII," enclosed by a beaded circle. Around this central device is the inscription "Sommer Islands," presumably intended for Somers, it being believed that the Bermudas, a formerly known as Sommers Islands, were named after Sir George Somers, who died at a place formerly called George Town, but now probably St. George. The reverse has the crude outline of a full rigged ship, with a flag flying from each of the four masts. This device also is enclosed by a beaded circle. The weight of the "shilling" is 177 grains. A very fine specimen of this design brought \$80 some years ago.

The sixpence, which is substantially the same in design as the shilling, shows the numeral "VI," above the boar, while the inscription omits the letter "s" from islands, as "Sommers Lands." The first known specimen of this denomination was dug up in a Bermuda garden some time in the '60s, and a fine copy has sold for \$60.

A specimen of the threepence was found a few years ago, which is substantially the same in design as the shilling, but the design of this last coin was like that borne by the others, but there was no inscription around the central device, and directly above the boar were the numerals "III." This coin is exceedingly rare, and the only known specimen brought \$40 at the Parmelee sale seventeen years ago.

What was thought to be a Somers Island pattern piece for twenty shillings, or sovereign, was found in a European collection in 1883. This piece bore the same general design on both sides as the other Bermuda coins, but above the boar were the numerals "XX." Certain numismatists, judging by this coin, thought that a gold coinage was contemplated for the islands by the Virginia Company, although no mention of the piece has ever been discovered in the record of the company.

The coin undoubtedly belongs to the same series, and came from the hands of the same die maker who engraved the design for the sixpence, as in the legend the same mistake is made in the spelling of the word islands, it being "Sommers Lands."

THE COIN COLLECTORS.

W. H. H. Newark, N. J., has a copper coin having on one side the date 1700, and on the back are the initials J. A. and the name of the die maker.

There are four varieties of the twenty five cent note. All of them bear the same design, the reverse of two of them were printed by the American Bank Note Company, while the backs of the two others were printed by the Government.

A. V. M. New York.—I have a twenty five cent piece of the following description: One side bears the inscription "In God We Trust" and a shield with a cross, and the words "Emperor and Republic" on one side.

D. St. Charles, Ark.—Kindly tell me if a nickel of the motto "In God We Trust" and a shield of five stars, a Maltese cross between the words "Emperor and Republic" on one side.

There is no premium on the silver dollar of regular issue of 1866. There are two varieties of proof dollars of this date for the accommodation of collectors, and these are worth in the neighborhood of \$5 when in perfect condition.

F. J. Newark.—Will you kindly tell me the value of the following United States coins: Half dime, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 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