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Part 16, by J. Jay Smith**

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CURIOSITIES, PART 16 \*\*\*

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**AMERICAN HISTORICAL  
AND  
LITERARY CURIOSITIES**

**By John Jay Smith**

**Part 16.**

Second Series

1860

AMERICAN  
Historical and Literary Curiosities;

CONSISTING OF

Fac-Similes of some Plates, &c. Relating to

COLUMBUS,

AND

*ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS of the REVOLUTION,*

*&c. &c.*

WITH A VARIETY OF RELIQUES, ANTIQUITIES, AND AUTOGRAPHS.

*EDITED AND ARRANGED,*

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SEVERAL AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS,

BY

JOHN JAY SMITH,

MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, ETC.

SECOND SERIES—COMPLETE IN ITSELF.

NEW YORK:

CHARLES B. RICHARDSON.

1860.

## P R E F A C E.

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THE First Series of "American Historical and Literary Curiosities," by John F. Watson, Esq. and myself, was commenced privately as a means of preserving many documents in the possession of our friends and ourselves; but they soon increased to such importance by contributions, that it was determined to publish them. Five editions were demanded by the public at home and abroad, and the work is now scarce and high-priced. The plates being worn out, no other edition of it is likely soon, if ever, to be issued.

This Second Series, complete in itself, owes its origin to the Commercial Panic, when it was desirable to employ several artists in want of work. It has been carried through by the assistance and contributions of various friends. I am particularly indebted to Ferdinand J. Dreer, Esq., Peter Force, Esq., Lewis J. Cist, Esq., Frank M. Etting, Esq., J. Wingate Thornton, Esq., Hon. George Folsom, Herman and Caleb Cope, Esqs., J. Francis Fisher, Esq., John Macalester, Esq., Charles J. Wister, Esq., Winthrop Sargent, Esq., Bushrod W. Adams, Esq. and others, and to the Philadelphia Library for the rare Broad-sides of the Revolution, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, whose valuable collections have been opened to my use in the handsomest and most liberal manner.

It may be proper to copy here a portion of the Preface to the fifth edition of the First Series, explanatory of the object of the work:—

"The past has a charm for Americans, as well as for the inhabitants of countries whose history extends far into the shadowy and unknown. *Our* early and romantic past has the merit of being known and truly related. Every thing which adds to these truths is sought for with avidity by the curious and intelligent inquirer. We have now many autograph-collectors, who may be viewed in the light of preservers of documents which would otherwise perish or be dispersed. To few, comparatively, are their treasures revealed. It was suggested, therefore, that some of the most rare 'Historical and Literary Curiosities' in the possession of individuals, should be grouped for the amusement and instruction of the present and of future generations, who may well know from printed accounts *what* things were done, but who can also thus learn *how* they were done."

As in the First Series, nearly all the articles in the present collection have been taken by competent artists from the originals of which they purport to be fac-similes. Considerable labor and trouble have been expended in collecting together and adapting the varied materials here presented, but I have been rewarded by the pleasure of the pursuit.

JOHN JAY SMITH.

\* \* Fully to understand the work, it is necessary, in turning over the pages, to have constant reference to the Tables of Contents, where will be found many explanations for which there was not space on the plates.

## Original Volume 2, Part Six A

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PLATE XXXIV.—1. Stephen Girard, sitting at his counting-house desk, as remembered by many still living. Scarcely in the least caricatured. *In possession of John McAllister, Jr.*

2. Characteristic Letter from Stephen Girard. *In possession of Ferdinand J. Dreer.*

PLATES XXXV., XXXVI., and XXXVII.—A Selection from the Social Notes to and from Mrs. Madison during her residence in Washington. These treasured notes, carefully preserved by the recipient, and generally with a copy of her reply, were bundled into a champagne-basket, and sold at auction for a mere trifle, after her decease, and are *in the possession of a distinguished Citizen.*

PLATE XXXVIII.—Curious Title-Pages of Books by Sir Walter Raleigh. *In possession of the Library Company of Philadelphia.*

PLATE XXXIX.—Fac-simile of a pure silver ornament for the head, presented by Charles the Second to “The Queene of Pamunkey.” The Pamunkeys were a powerful Virginia tribe, whose remnants, now numbering about two hundred, occupy an island in the York River, Virginia, granted by Government. This curious relic is in possession of Arthur Moxson, Esq., of Richmond, Virginia, and has been kindly furnished by Thomas H. Wynn, of that city, who refers for additional particulars to Campbell’s History of Virginia, page 95, and remarks that, “besides Pocahontas, this is the only Indian woman that I recollect as being of sufficient importance to be noticed by the historian of Virginia.”

This ornament was no doubt given to conciliate the tribe. On the back are four rings soldered to the plate, evidently for the purpose of securing it to the head-dress.

PLATE XL.—1. Interesting Historical Letter from Thomas Jefferson. *In possession of Ferdinand J. Dreer.*

2. Note from General Montgomery. *In possession of the same.*

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Dear Sir

having perused your letter enclosed  
for our President. I will sign the  
recommendation which you propose after  
you have obtained a few signatures

your mo: obt<sup>d</sup>  
Steph<sup>n</sup> Girard

M<sup>r</sup> Will<sup>m</sup> Ingham

14<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1809

I would afford no particular pleasure my dear Mrs. Carr to pass to-morrow evening with you but we were previously engaged at the President's to a party given the fair Birds among whose attendants is my vice.

Your affectionate friend  
J. P. Madison.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1842.

Mr. Madison with the knowledge of the Secretary of State and approval of the Board of Directors of the Bank of the United States has been directed to the President's Office to be placed in the Post Office Washington Dec 5 1842

Social Notes to & from Mrs Madison, during her Residence in Washington.

Mr. & Mrs. Madison request the pleasure of Mr. & Mrs. Webster's company on Monday evening 5<sup>th</sup> April 1842.

The Sisters of the Visitation respectfully invite Mrs Madison to attend the annual distribution of premiums at their Academy July 15<sup>th</sup> at 4 o'clock Georgetown

Mr. Porter's prie Madame Madison de lui faire l'honneur de passer la soirée chez lui Jeudi 28. Ulphur 1839

Mr. Webster asks the favour of Mrs Madison's company at Breakfast, on Thursday, at 10 o'clock, President's Square, April 5. 1842.

The pleasure of Mrs Madison has been accepted by Mr & Mrs Webster on Wednesday next. March 5. 42.

Mr Adams requests the pleasure of Mrs Madison and Miss Payne's company on Thursday evening Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 1/2 o'clock Thursday 29. Jan.

To Mrs E. A. Clark -

Accept my best thanks dear Cousin for the highly valued lock of hair once worn by my Mother's friend - the lady whose name she gave me - I called to see you yesterday when I was charged with an invitation from my amiable nephews Mrs. Kate Taylor to your mother, yourself and sweet sisters, to visit her in a social way, the first evening you were engaged - I am bringing with you the boxes whose society you profess to be interested in the acceptance of this invitation as I should have the pleasure then to send you affectionately yours.  
10<sup>th</sup> Feb 42

Mrs Madison's best respects to the President and would gladly take advantage of his polite invitation to witness the curious experiment of Mr. Holt but for a headache which would disqualify her from enjoying the noise - She hopes however that it will be pleasant and safe for the President and his daughters -

Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 42.

Miss Payne regrets that she will not be in by 7 o'clock to accept the President's kind invitation for this evening - to witness the submarine explosion.

I am proud of your invitation conveyed in such kind words, my dear Miss Van Dyke, but a promise to Mrs Newman for this evening two days ago must delay my chance of finding you and yours in such social mood - which yet the beams of our new moon still dance from wave to wave

I was not at the President's yesterday, having gone to dine with the Mayor & Lady - and the actor - named Bob - and his - whose visit to me this morning (I am your affectionate friend) presented me to you  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 42.  
D. P. Madison

I am greatly mortified my dear Cousin at not having the gratification of seeing you and your sweet daughter when you were so good as to call - Will you not console and indemnify me by coming to dine with us on next, bringing with you my valued friend your husband and your daughters, to whom I promise fine music  
Affectionately yours  
D. P. Madison

Social Notes to & from Mrs Madison, during her Residence in Washington.

Enlarge

C. Street  
Monday Morn

My Dear Madam,

Mr. Frederick Peel,  
a son of Sir Robert,  
desires to visit Mount  
Vernon.

Will you do me the  
favor to give him a  
note, which will secure  
him a favorable admis-  
-sion?

I hope to be able  
to introduce Mr. Peel  
to you personally before  
he leaves the City.

Mean time, I am

With the greatest  
respect,

Very faithfully,  
Yours

R. B. Wintthrop

Mrs. Madison,

P. S. I had written & sent  
a similar note to you this  
morning, & the servant has  
just now informed me  
that it was mislaid  
This will explain the  
matter, should you re-  
-ceive a duplicate.

Social Notes to & from Mrs. Madison,  
during her Residence in Washington.

(Copy)

You will permit me  
dear Mrs. Washington, to present  
to you Mr. Frederick Peel, the  
son of Sir Robert - a gentleman  
well known & highly respected  
by our Countrymen & all others  
acquainted with his brilliant  
character.

Mr. Peel desires to see  
the home of your ancestor,  
and perhaps to view the  
tomb of "the Father of his Country".  
Any civilities you may have  
the goodness to show him to the  
end, will greatly oblige  
your friends of Washington.

Affectionately yours

July 3<sup>d</sup> 48 (signed) D. D. Madison

Enclosed to the Hon. Rob<sup>t</sup> B. Wintthrop  
with Mrs. Madison's best respects

Monsieur & Madame Calderon  
de la Barca request the Honor of  
Mrs. Madison and Miss Payne's  
Company on Wednesday Evg at  
1/2 past 6 o'clock to be present at the  
Baptism of Mr & Mrs. Jacob's  
baby.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Enlarge



# NEVVES Of Sr. Walter Rauleigh.

WITH  
The true Description of GVIANA:

As also a Relation of the excellent Government, and  
much hope of the prosperity of the Voyage.

*Sent from a Gentleman of his Fleet, to a most  
especiall Friend of his in London.*

*From the River of Caliana, on the Coast of Guiana, Nouemb. 17. 1617.*



LONDON.  
Printed for H. C. and are to be sold by J. Wright, at the signe of the  
Bible without New-gate. 1618.

## The Cabinet-Council.

Containing the Cheif ARTS

OF  
EMPIRE,  
And MYSTERIES OF  
STATE;

DISCABINETED

In Political and Polemical Aphorisms,  
grounded on Authority, and Experience;

And illustrated with the choicest  
Examples and Historical  
Observations.

By the Ever-renowned Knight,  
Sir WALTER RALEIGH,

Published  
By JOHN MILTON, Esq;

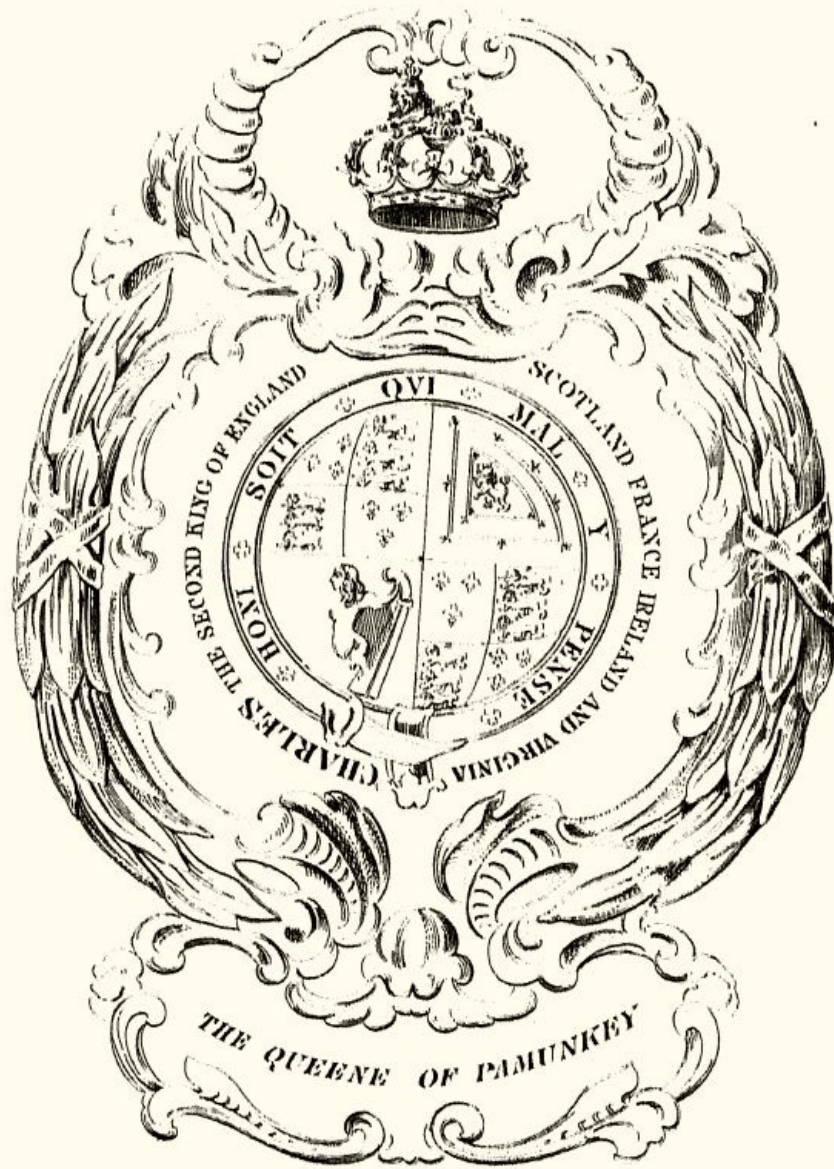
*Quis Martem iuxta rectorum Adamantina digni scripsit?*

London. Printed by Tho. Newcomb for The. Johnson  
at the sign of the Key in St. Pauls Churchyard,  
near the West-end. 1658



Your Lord, Sir, I am most  
Gentle at in mind

Enlarge



Silver Plate presented by King Charles the Second  
to The Queen of Pamunkey.

Dear Sir

Washington Feb. 28. 1802.

In a letter from Despont de Nemours to me is the following passage.  
 'Houdon a laissé en Amérique un très beau buste de Benjamin Franklin, lequel est  
 actuellement chez moi. ce buste en marbre vaut cent louis de notre monnaie, environ  
 480 D. rien n'est plus convenable à la nation que de le placer dans votre Capitole  
 et Houdon, à qui la Virginia doit encore mille écus sur la statue de Washington, est  
 dans un véritable besoin d'argent.' if the bust could be placed in our ca-  
 pitol as the 'pendant' to La Fayette, it would be well. in the latter branch  
 of the question I feel a personal interest, as having been the instrument  
 of the contract of the state. but I imagine this matter must hang on some dif-  
 ficulty of which I am uninformed I thought it not amiss to quote to you  
 both parts of the paragraph as the only person who could act on both subjects  
 the first question on the judician, bill in the H. of R. and which will decide  
 it's fate, it is thought will not be taken till the day after tomorrow  
 Accept assurances of my affectionate esteem & respect.

Gov<sup>r</sup> Monroe.

J. Jefferson

General Montgomery's compliments to  
 Colonel Planton & has the pleasure of con-  
 -gratulating him on the Capitalation's being  
 signed - at 5 o'clock the Garrison will  
 march out & embark -

The Colonel will be so good as to have the  
 Battery beelled when he sees our troops  
 march in - & get his guns down to the  
 water side for embarkation -

Nov<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1/2 after tea

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