

we find, in a volume on "Illustrated Coins of Rome," the engraving of a coin exactly corresponding to the description given in the work of Goldsmith. The date is the same, and the stamp shows several young men bearing away in their arms young women. There we have an illustration of how interesting the study of history becomes when we connect it in such a way with the coinage of the country. It becomes much easier to learn and to retain.

It is true that there are very few people who can give themselves to this work. It is, alas, reserved too exclusively for such characters as Scott's *Antiquary* to find pleasure and utility in such a study.

But coins not only illustrate history and such events as are to be found in the records and documents and manuscripts of the different ages. Likewise is there a very powerful link existing between those pieces of metal and the real monuments of the country and of the age. It is generally in the ruins of those time-honoured trophies that we discover the hidden relics of the past.

But some one may ask, What use are those old coins—they are of no value to-day, and what good can it do us to know that they belonged to the Egyptians, or Greeks, or Romans, or any other people?

Yes, they are of value to-day; and it is of great utility to us to know whence they came and all about them. If you will, the Roman copper coin would be rejected if you offered it in change for a five cent piece to nearly any clerk in America. Most certainly the newsboy upon the street would not give you a copy of his paper if the money you handed him was a relic of the past. Little would it matter to him whether Alexander the Great ever had it in his hand, or even if it had once been dropped into poor Homer's hat as he begged his bread from his ungrateful countrymen. Still would the newsboy reject the coin and