

tinued February 12, 1873) weighed first 20.8 grains, then changed to 20.625 grains, and finally to 19.2 grains; and the silver three-cent piece (authorized March 3, 1851, and discontinued February 12, 1873) weighed first 12 5-8 grains and then 11.52 grains.

Nickel Coins—The first five-cent nickel piece (75 per cent. copper and 25 per cent. nickel) weighs 77.16 grains; the three-cent nickel piece (authorized March 3, 1865, and discontinued September 26, 1900) weighed 30 grains (75 per cent. copper and 25 per cent. nickel); the one-cent nickel piece (authorized February 21, 1857, and discontinued April 22, 1864) weighed 72 grains (88 per cent. copper and 12 per cent. nickel).

Bronze or Copper Coins—The old-fashioned copper cent (authorized April 2, 1792) weighed first 264 grains; it was then changed to 208 grains, then to 168 grains, and its coinage was discontinued

February 21, 1857. The copper (or bronze) two-cent piece (authorized April 22, 1864, and discontinued February 12, 1873) weighed 96 grains (95 per cent. copper and 5 per cent. tin and zinc); the present copper cent was authorized April 22, 1864, and weighs 48 grains, of which 95 per cent. is copper and 5 per cent. tin and zinc; and the copper half-cent (authorized April 2, 1792, and discontinued February 21, 1857) weighed originally 132 grains; then it was changed, first to 104 grains and finally to 84 grains.

The human body of average weight contains three pounds thirteen ounces of calcium. Calcium at present market rates, is worth \$300 an ounce, so that the amount of it contained in one human body has a money value of \$18,300. Few of our fellow citizens realize that they are worth so much intrinsically.—American Analyst.

CURRENT EVENTS.

By the kindness of Professor Robertson we have before us full memoranda of Sir William Macdonald's plan "proposed for the improvement of education at rural schools and for the establishment of courses of instruction and training in Domestic Economy at the Ontario Agricultural College."

In addition to provision for a Nature Study and Domestic Economy School at Guelph, as reported in our last number, the gift makes provision for two experi-

ments or object lessons in each of the five Eastern Provinces of Canada, of the following character:

No. 1.—The consolidation of five, six or more rural schools into one central graded school, to be equipped with a school garden and a manual-training room.

No. 2.—The appointment of a travelling instructor to visit and spend one half-day per week in each group of eight or ten rural schools for a term of three years, to train the teachers and pupils