

COMPLIMENTS OF THE OLD NUMISMATISTS.

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THE very excellent work of Dr. Charles Patin, of Paris, entitled *Familia Romanæ Antiquæ Numismatibus*, (Paris, 1673,) is enlivened, as to the prefatory portions, by a collection of complimentary notices from the first *savants* of that day. In Canada and the United States there is a rising generation of coin students to whom a little of this "salt of commendation," is very grateful, and I have thought that the readers of the *Canadian Antiquarian*, would relish the perusal of some older letters of this class. I translate them from Latin, into as easy English as I can command.

"The author (Patin,) is worthy of the *fascēs* (a token of consular dignity,) who has restored the *fascēs* to the world and given to the Consuls their proper family names, an array of very eminent men. He who preserved the health of so many by the art of healing (alluding to his profession as physician,) has given health to the nations by the aid of history."—P. LEGIER.

"Seeing that through Dr. Patin, we are able to recognize so many of the faces of illustrious men, his own face ought not to be wanting there."—CHARLES FLEURY.

"In answer to this broad hint, the folio Volume before me is illustrated by a splendid portrait of the author."

"You see before you the likenesses of the men whom far-famed Rome saw. Some of them uttered grave pleadings in the courts, some framed laws for the citizens, some conducted the weightier campaigns throughout the world.

"Not one endeavor only, not one glorious design alone occupied those grand intelligences, but each one traversed every function of State. For after he had hastened through the military exercise, he returned to the city and became candidate for the highest honors through the appointed grades. Then he received the government, the armies were