

GOVERNMENT SEIZURES.

At a number of the recent Coin Sales we have noticed that electrotypes of the early Cents, as well as some others of the rarer Government issues, have been summarily confiscated by officers of the U. S. Secret Service. These copies were never made for circulation, and can hardly be regarded as counterfeits, it being clearly evident to every coin dealer and collector what they are. Some of the earliest attempts at reproduction of this kind were perhaps intended to deceive, but this is not the case with most of those seized by the Government who confiscated them under a different clause from that which applies to counterfeits. While for those whose only specimens of such pieces are limited to copies, this may be inconvenient, by preventing them from adding to their collections representatives of these early issues at a low price, or from publicly disposing of those they have already acquired, we think on the whole that both dealers and collectors will be glad at the stand taken, and thankful that no more of these copies are to be permitted.

In connection with this, we notice that with the coöperation of the United States district attorney at Philadelphia, the chief of the Secret Service of the Treasury Department recently broke up a company of counterfeiters in Philadelphia, who have made a business of manufacturing fac similes of rare old coins of various nationalities, ancient and modern. They are said to have got good prices for them from amateur numismatists, through their agents all over the country. They had some 4000 designs. Inasmuch as it was their first offence, and they did not debauch the currency, they were only punished by the confiscation of their designs, materials, etc., and a threat of prosecution should they repeat the offence.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 13. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President presented a pamphlet, the *Vade Mecum du Collectionneur*, by Jos. Leroux, M. D., of Montreal. * *
* * Adjourned at about 4 P. M.

Dec. 11. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President appointed Dr. Green to nominate, at the annual meeting in January, officers for the year 1886, and Mr. Davenport to audit the accounts of the Treasurer for the year 1885. Mr. Woodward showed an English war medal for Afghanistan 1878-79-80, and a badge of the Boston R. N. A., on which is the launch of a ship, &c.; it was thought doubtful whether the piece belongs to Boston, England, or Boston, Massachusetts, but the initials very possibly stand for Royal Naval Association. Adjourned at 4 15 P. M.

WM. S. APPLETON, *Secretary.*

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

ABOUT one year ago this Society resolved to open its rooms twice in each month, on the evening of the second and fourth Wednesdays, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of holding informal meetings and for the general convenience of the members: no formal business or routine work was to be transacted at these meetings, but they were intended solely for intercommunication and the advancement of numismatic knowledge and interest in the Society, by the reading of papers, exhibitions of coins, but particularly by unrestrained interchanges of views and general conversation among the members. They afforded opportunities for those wishing to take advantage of the library and cabinets of the Society, which were open for inspection at these meetings. Messrs. David L. Walter (Chairman), Lyman H. Low, and Gaston L. Feuardent were appointed as a "Room Committee" to supervise and arrange programmes.