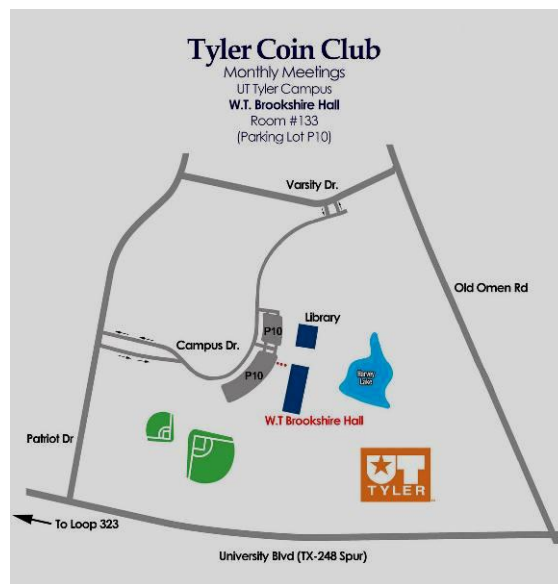


YOUR TWO CENTS WORTH FOR JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2018



(Visit the Tyler, Texas Coin Club in person and on the internet at: tylercoinclub.org)

The Tyler, Texas Coin Club (TCC) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please consider yourself welcome. Meetings include great fellowship, numismatic education, a brief future focused business session, and the most spirited coin auction to be found. The TCC meets on the campus of the University of Texas Tyler in room 133 of the W. T. Brookshire Building. Enter the campus from the east side off of University Boulevard. Turn north on Patriot Dr., enter campus on Campus Drive and proceed to Parking Lot P10. (See map below) The W. T. Brookshire Building is in full view when facing west from the parking lot.



THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings friends . . . it is certainly a great thing to be able to start a new year with my Tyler Coin Club family. As you know we relocated to the W.T. Brookshire Hall on the University of Texas Tyler campus. This remarkable location is made available to the club through President Lane. It is the location of the *Ben and Maytee Fisch College of Pharmacy* of which our own President Lane is Dean and Professor. I have it under good authority that this amazing facility was designed under the care of Lane's creative insight. How great is that!!

It is also great to have information concerning our annual Tyler Coin Club Show in place. It'll take place on June 22 and 23 at Harvey Convention Center. See minutes for more details and check out the information on our Facebook page.



NUMISMATIC NOTES

Thoughts from Our President Lane B.

Welcome to 2018! Another year of numismatic fun and adventure is waiting for us. We started the new year with a new location to meet each month. We have grown so much over the last few years that we needed to find a larger space. Meals on Wheels was a great location and the organization's kindness and hospitality was remarkable; a testament to the wonderful spirit of East Texas! Our new location is on The University of Texas at Tyler campus in W.T. Brookshire Hall (see: <http://www.tylercoinclub.org/meetings.html>). Our first meeting at the new location was in January and everything went very well, except for a few parking hiccoughs. Now we have room to stretch out a bit more and even some new audiovisual technology to help Tommy with the auction.

Let's make this year one where we do our best to engage young minds in our wonderful hobby. Many of us are ... well ... "seasoned" numismatists and having younger folks around reminds us of the wonders of numismatic discovery and the joys of collecting. It's marvelous that we want to reach out to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and help them with their coin collecting merit badge and collecting patch. Let's not stop there. Reach out to your local schools to see if they would like a "show and tell" about coins and paper money. Perhaps there are youth groups at your place of worship that would like to learn how coins relate to the faith teachings they are learning. Our hobby has always been seeking the "next generation" of numismatists and the present day is no exception. Let's do what we can to show others why we take time from our busy schedules each month to have numismatic fellowship. Let's share with them the joys of our marvelous hobby!



TYLER COIN CLUB MEMBER OF THE MONTH HOWARD W.

Personal History: Raised in Jasper County, Texas. Spent fourteen years in Jasper after marriage.

Collecting History: Started collecting at about 21 years of age; collecting silver, etc. Located interesting coins on my sales route.

Favorites: Quarters, Dimes and some One Dollar coins and Cents

Personal Experience – The challenge of collecting is all positive, a great experience

Minutes of the Meeting of the Tyler Coin Club
December 12, 2017

Respectfully Submitted by: Carl S., TCC Secretary

Meeting called to order by TCC President Lane B. with pledge to the flag

Attendance: Members, Spouses, and Guests: **Total 38**

Discussion of Agenda Items (Lane)

- The club was lead in prayer by Dwight S.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of December.
- Lane offered special thanks to Aleasha for coordinating the dinner event.
- A follow-up discussion was led by Lane regarding meeting locations. Dudley made a motion to hold meetings at the new location; Allen seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.
- David H. discussed details of the 2018 coin show. The show is Friday, June 22nd and Saturday, June 23rd at Harvey Convention Center.
- David H. gave a brief report on results of Salvation Army Angel Tree effort (see details below).
- Lane discussed educational presentations for 2018. A signup sheet was distributed among members. Show & Tell presentations were also discussed for members wanting to share information.
- A brief Treasurer's report was presented to members.
- Officer Elections:
 - Lane noted nominations for 2018 club officers were opened at the November meeting. Nominations for all current officers were made at that time with the exception of Treasurer (Barry retiring). Royce Jackson was subsequently nominated as Treasurer.
 - John H. made a motion to close nominations; Ray S. seconded. All members present were in favor.
 - Don H. made a motion to elect those currently nominated as club officers for the 2018 term; Tommy seconded. All members present were in favor.
 - 2018 Officers are:
 - President – Lane Brunner
 - 1st Vice President – Richard Laster
 - 2nd Vice President – Howard Westbrook
 - Treasurer – Royce Jackson
 - Secretary - Carl Shotts
 - As treasurer, Royce Jackson will inherit banking responsibilities for the club. All officers are approved for signature authority. Two signatures on checks will be adopted for internal control purposes
- Next meeting is January 9th at W.T. Brookshire Hall on the UT Tyler campus.
- Christmas Fun - Lane presented members and guests with a lively game of Christmas trivia. The winning table was David/Sherry & Dwight/Billie Sue.
- Door prize drawings for guests and members.

Salvation Army Angel Tree (David H.)

- This is the 6th year David and Sherry have organized the Salvation Army Angel Tree effort on behalf of the club. Over \$1,800 was raised through club auctions and donations.

Clothing and gifts were purchased for 11 children and 1 senior! Continuing their tradition, Sherry and David presented a beautiful Angel Tree display board with photos of the gifts purchased for all 12 Angel recipients.

- Lane expressed his sincere appreciation to club members for their generous donations and to David and Sherry for their dedication and commitment leading this effort.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Tyler Coin Club **January 9, 2018**

Respectfully Submitted by: Carl S., TCC Secretary

Meeting called to order by TCC President Lane B. with pledge to the flag

Attendance: Members: 40 New Members: 1 Guests: 3 **Total: 44**

Discussion of Agenda Items (Lane)

- The club was lead in prayer by Tommy L.
- Introduction/recognition of guests, visitors, and new members.
- Recognition of members with birthdays and anniversaries in month of January.
- Royce presented a brief Treasurer's report and reminder that 2018 membership dues are due. Royce also mentioned that club officers are discussing a new *Junior* membership level.
- Lane distributed the 2018 prayer leader & refreshment signup sheet to members.
- Royce discussed the requirements to become a Boy Scouts merit badge counselor. As an approved counselor, interested members could then assist with Coin Collecting merit badges.
- Lane informed members that officers were in initial discussions regarding a *Dealer* membership level and accompanying page for the club website.
- The ANA is offering two seminars just prior to the National Money Show; Grading U.S. Paper Money and Fundamentals of Grading U.S. Coins. These are 2-day seminars scheduled for March 6-7.
- Allen brought free numismatic reference materials for anyone interested (encouraged by his Chief of Staff).
- Lane discussed educational presentations and coin clinics (aka show & tell) encouraging member participation at monthly meetings.
- Ed W. presented a fascinating discussion on 1745 Great Britain coinage with "Lima" silver connection.
- Next meeting is February 13th at W.T. Brookshire Hall (room #133) on the UT Tyler campus.
- Tyler Coin Show Update (June 22-23, 2018): David H. presented an update on tables reserved/sold as well as advertising efforts.
- Larry V. gave an update on educational displays planned for the show and called for additional participation.
- Allen mentioned the Gem & Mineral Show (last weekend of January) The sponsors of the show Gem and Mineral show will allow our club to leave show flyers.
- Carl mentioned a show event would be created on the club's Facebook page later this week.

Club Auction (Tom)

- 29 auction items sold - \$685.00

Door prize winners

- A.J., Andrew, Horst, Ray, and Tony

Refreshments

- A big Thank You to Royce for providing refreshments!

NUMISMATIC EDUCATION **A VISIT WITH DR. COYNE**

Questions for Dr. Coyne:

- 1.) What United States mint mark has been used on the most coins (measured by production)? What is the least?
- 2.) When was the right to hold gold restored to the American public?
- 3.) When were the first coins struck in the New World?
- 4.) Did any Federal paper money circulate in the U.S. before 1861?
- 5.) Do Third Party Grading Companies encapsulate Daniel Carr material?
- 6.) What is a “One – Sided Proof” coin?
- 7.) Is this piece a United States Coin?



Dr. Coyne Responds:

- 1.) The mintmark representing the most cumulative production would be the “D” of Denver. With trillion annual coinage totals at Denver, it does not take long to swamp the longer experience of San Francisco. The gold only Southern mints at Dahlonega (also using a “D”) and Charlotte have the lowest total production. The “O” and “CC” mints had intermediate cumulative totals by striking a variety of both silver and gold coins. The “M” (Manila) and “S” mints also have intermediate totals despite striking bronze coins to help push up their totals. The West Point mint has used “W” on a range of collector coins but its large issues of cents for circulation carried no mintmark and cannot be distinguished from Philadelphia issues.
- 2.) The gold regulations under Franklin Roosevelt took effect in April, 1933. Americans had unrestricted rights to hold gold and gold instruments again beginning December 31, 1974. In the interim, coins of numismatic interest (and not primarily bullion) were exempt. It took complicated paperwork to import new world gold coins after 1933 until 1975 as well.

- 3.) The earliest coins struck in the New World came from the Mexico City mint, beginning in 1536 – more than two centuries before any coins were made at the infant mint in Philadelphia. The earliest coins struck for use in the New World would seem to be the “Hogge” pennies, privately made in England about 1616 for use in The Sommer Islands that became The Bahamas.
- 4.) The first Federal paper money used to finance the Civil War came in 1861 and before that there had been decades of issues of state and local banks. But the earliest Federal paper money was the discredited Continental Currency issued to fight the Revolutionary War. These issues are highly collectible today, with Eric Newman’s *“The Early Paper Money of the U.S.”* the primary reference – now in its 5th edition.
- 5.) The Third Party Grading Companies have each taken their own path in handling Moonlight Mint material. ANACS has the longest record and has slabbed the most pieces. They will handle all of Mr. Carr’s material which will fit in their slabs. NGC has taken an intermediate position and will handle much of his material as “medals.” PCGS has been the most restrictive and to date has refused any of his “overstrike” fantasy “coins” as well as any of the club medals or other contract work. PCGS claims to be guided in deciding what to handle according to whether an item is listed or not in Krause’s *“Unusual World Coins”* book, though there are exceptions.
- 6.) The term “one – sided proof” is a misnomer. “Proof” is a method of manufacture and not a “grade” denoting degree of preservation or absence of handling. The term has been carelessly applied (mainly decades ago) to describe a coin showing good mirror fields on only one side with “business strike” quality on the other side. Actually, most coins of these are just well preserved ordinary business strikes, but with one die a new replacement or recently polished die.
- 7.) The illustrated piece is arguably the first United States coin. Evidence shows it was struck in the year on its face (1776) or near that time. But no specific evidence has been found in Congressional records about its approval or issuance. Some say it is only an English medal of about 1780, but the existence of many pieces in worn condition argues for its use in actual circulation during the Confederation period in the former Colonies. It is usually collected with the American Colonial series. They come in pewter, brass, and a few are known in silver.

GENUINE AND REPLICA CONFEDERATE BANK NOTES:

What’s the Difference?

By Allen S. Brown, Jr.,

For those of us who value history as worthy of study and collecting rather than to be destroyed through cultural cleansing, discriminating between genuine and replica (some would say “fakes”) is as critical to assembling a respectable collection as it is to protecting our wallets.

This article is merely an introduction to a few, basic principles of differentiating between genuine and common, facsimile Confederate States of America (CSA) bank notes. This limited scope does not include discussion about types or varieties. My only purpose is to provide a few pointers to help recognize genuine vs. fake notes which permeate today’s market place.

“Bogus” notes are not addressed, either. Bogus notes are fantasy notes which were printed in much the same manner as genuine notes but never issued by the government entity named on the note. Many bogus notes are collectable.

As a disclaimer, I am not an expert on CSA notes. There are collectible, counterfeit notes printed during the War Between the States (a.k.a. the War of Northern Aggression) which require in-depth knowledge to recognize them. I have read background material and gathered a

small collection of both genuine notes and common replica notes. My primary reference book is *Confederate States Paper Money* edited by George Cuhaj, et al. (Krause, 2012)

As with so many commodities for the CSA, paper was of limited supply. Genuine Confederate notes were printed on whatever paper the CSA could requisition, scavenge or import. Consequently, there are differences in shades of paper color within the same denomination. With so many engraved plates used to print genuine bank notes, small differences in plate engraving can also be found, sometimes including slight differences in sizes of the notes.

The first characteristic I observe is how the note looks. All of the replicas I've encountered simply do not "look" right. The best detection method is to compare a suspect note with a genuine note. Look for differences rather than similarities. A magnifying glass is useful to inspect lines in the original note which are absent or broken in the fake. These fine lines are found in the portrait and in the various artistic designs.

The most commonly sold replicas are of the 1864 series of Confederate notes, and I have found denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$100. For purposes of illustration, I provide images of the 1864 \$10 note. The following general points also apply to other replica and genuine denominations.

Observe the striking difference of the reverse (back) of a genuine \$10 CSA note and a common facsimile note sold in souvenir shops. The image at top is a genuine, almost uncirculated note, and the lower image is a replica (for which I paid 75¢).



(Here are images of back designs of a genuine CSA 1864 \$10 and a common \$10 facsimile. The only similarities between the two designs are that both have "TEN" spelled out in the center and have the numeral in each corner.)



("FACSIMILE" can be found printed on many replica notes.)

As the reader can see, on the bottom left of the replica's reverse, "FACSIMILE" is printed in tiny font. Unethical individuals will carefully remove the word in order to facilitate misrepresenting the replica as genuine. A search on eBay will find multiple listings of this style of facsimile without even a hint by some sellers that the note is a replica. Often, the description includes a laughable statement of provenance such as "found in my grandfather's trunk."

Other than the obvious contrast in paper color, the differences of the obverse of both of these \$10 notes is not as apparent as for the reverse.



(Genuine 1864 \$10 note at top compared to a common facsimile at bottom.)

With a quick, cursory glance at the obverse of the same \$10 notes, the replica, at the bottom, does not look that bad when the design is compatible with the genuine at the top. However, a careful and deliberate study of the printed images reveals the lack of detail in the replica. Under magnification, inspect the fine engraving of the bust of Robert Mercer Taliaferro Hunter (1809 – 1887) on the original. The portrait seems to stand out from the background (which, under magnification, looks like a fine window screen of tiny squares). The portrait on the fake bill, below right, appears dull, flat, and "lifeless," and seems to blend in with the background. Using a magnifying glass the student will note that the tiny squares in the background are poorly defined with some appearing as filled-in spots of black ink.



(Front of 1864 \$10 bust of CSA cabinet member, R.M.T. Hunter: left genuine and right facsimile)

The difference in quality is due to the original being printed from finely engraved, metal plates while the replica note is often printed by a photo-mechanical method using flat rollers similar to a mimeograph machine (for those of us old enough to remember such a device).

The vignette on the front, as shown, is another useful area of comparison. Similarly to the portrait, the vignette of the facsimile, on the right, lacks the finely engraved detail of the genuine note. As with Hunter's portrait the scene of the horse-drawn cannon with riders featured just below on the replica note at the top of the picture, does not stand out like that on the original note pictured at the bottom of the image. The fine detail and more vivid appearance of the original come from the use of finely engraved plates.



(Comparison of CSA 1864 \$10 note's vignette on a facsimile at top and genuine at bottom)

Another sign of authenticity is the fact that the signatures and serial numbers on genuine 1864 notes of denominations One to Twenty Dollars are never printed but always individually handwritten. Sometimes, the ink bleeds through the paper so as to be visible from the back of the note (in reverse, or course).

Stamped serial numbers (SNs) appear on some, but not all, of the Fifty Dollar and higher denominations of the 1861 First Issue notes. Then, stamped SNs seem to have been replaced with handwritten SNs until the April 6, 1863 Sixth Issue Notes, when, again, only Fifty Dollar and higher denominations displayed stamped SNs, along with the small Fifty Cent note. This Fifty Cent note always had printed signatures, probably because so many were printed.

The second distinction which I notice about a CSA note is the paper. Such an up close study requires carefully handling the note. The student need look at only a few genuine notes in order to recognize how thin the paper feels to the touch. A well circulated note is apt to tear with the slightest mishandling. A note with little or no circulation has the feel of thin paper which has not yet been weakened through handling.

Replica (or "facsimile") notes are, generally, printed on a variety of paper styles, none of which feel remotely the same as a genuine note. Some of the fake notes which I have encountered and collected are printed on a stiff, parchment paper colored so as to appear aged. There are a variety of facsimile notes which are printed on non-parchment-like paper which feel about twice as thick as that of genuine notes. To the touch, the paper is too heavy, not unlike a common sheet of paper used in copy machines.



(Most of a CSA Treasury validation seal on the lower left corner of a genuine 1864 \$50 note)

The reverse of some genuine CSA notes will exhibit a portion of a red Confederate Treasury Seal at one of the corners. The purpose of the seal was as an anti-counterfeiting measure, identifying the note as genuine. To save time, the seal was stamped onto the corners of 4 notes prior to cutting the sheet therefore every note which was stamped has only a portion of the seal. Sometimes, only ¼ of the seal is visible. As the majority of CSA notes lack this red seal, a slight premium may be added to the value of any note which exhibits any portion of it.

My word of advice to those who encounter Confederate notes: listen to and learn from the mistakes of other. Speaking from my own experience, we need each other since there are so many fake / facsimile notes out there and none of us will live long enough (or have enough disposable income) to make the discoveries all by ourselves.

Upcoming Collector Opportunities

American Numismatic Association's National Money Show – March 8 – 10 . . . Irving Convention Center – 500 Las Colinas Blvd W., Irving, Texas

Texarkana Coin Show – March 30 – 31 . . . Texarkana Convention Center – 4610 Cowhorn Creek Dr., Texarkana, Texas

Cowtown Coin Chow – April 6 – 7 . . . Forest Hill Civil and Convention Center – 6910 Wichita St., Forest Hill, Texas (Also June 29 – 30)

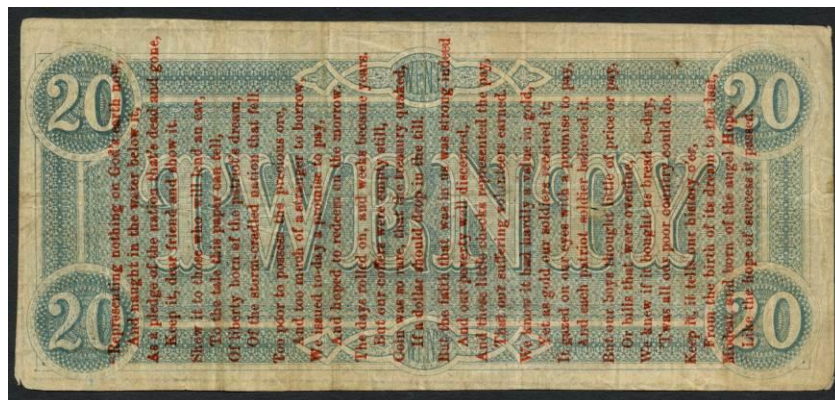
Texas Coin Show – April 20 – 22 . . . Grapevine Convention Center – 1209 S. Main, Grapevine, Texas (Also July 20 – 22, September 28 – 30, November 16 – 18, December 14 – 16)

Tyler Coin Club Show – June 22 – 23 . . . Harvey Convention Center – 2000 West Front Street, Tyler, Texas (Yes our show – thanks to Barry for many great shows – welcome David as new director)

Our Next Time Together

The Tyler Coin Club will meet again on Tuesday, February 13. See you at 7:00 p.m. See information on the first page for a map to the meeting location on the University of Texas at Tyler campus.

A Visit to Your Editor's Coin Cabinet



(Hard to discern in a small space is the red printing above on the back of a genuine Confederate 1864 Twenty Dollar Bill. The printed inscription can be read in its entirety in italics following. The wording is that of the famous “poem” which was said to have been found handwritten on the back of a piece of Confederate currency just following Lee’s surrender to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia in 1865.)

I am thinking that through the years many of you have come across, or at least heard of, what is known in Civil War enthusiast circles as “the Poem.” Even though no one can verify the fact, this “poem” is reported to have been found handwritten on the back of a piece of Confederate currency as former Confederate soldiers and officers were on their way home following Robert E Lee’s surrender to U.S Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia.

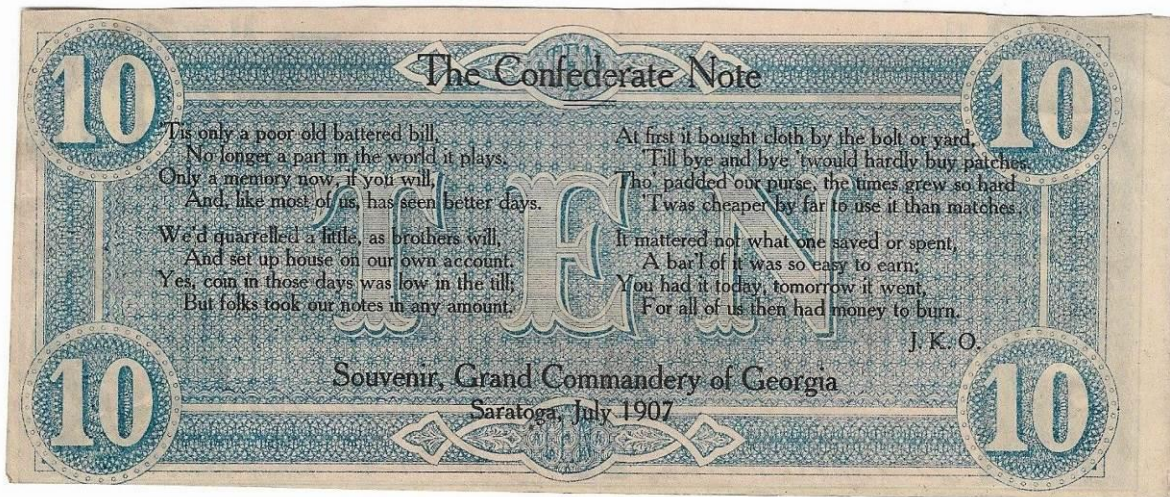
Almost immediately following the discovery and publication of the original, piggy back copies began to appear. The Poem became well circulated in the form of souvenirs presented to veterans groups and in whatever other way the story could be told, and generally on the back of an original Confederate note, or on a facsimile of the same. With the exception of the smaller fifty cent note, your editor has copies of “the Poem” on every denomination of 1864 currency and also on several 1862 interest bearing “Train Notes.” Here are the words or remembrance which touched the heart of many a Confederate:

*Representing nothing on God’s earth now and naught in the water below it,
as a pledge of the nation that’s dead and gone, keep it dear friend and show it.
Show it to those who will lend an ear to the tale this paper can tell,
of liberty born of the patriot’s dream, of the storm – cradled nation that fell.
Too poor to possess the precious ore, and too much of a stranger to borrow,
we issued today a promise to pay, and hoped it redeem on the morrow.
The days rolled on, and weeks became years, but our coffers were empty still,
coin was so rare, that the treasury quaked, if a dollar should drop in the till.
But the faith that was in us was strong indeed, and our poverty well discerned,
and these little checks represented the pay, that our suffering volunteers earned.
We knew it had hardly a value in gold, yet as gold our soldiers received it.
It gazed on our eyes with a promise to pay, and each patriot soldier believed it.
But our boys thought little of price or pay, or bills that were overdue.
We knew if it bought us bread today, ‘twas all our poor country could do.
Keep it, it tells our history o’er, from the birth of its dream to the last.
Modest and born of the Angel of Hope, like the hope of success it passed.*

Through the years your editor has seen a variety of poems which share the story of the Confederacy in one form or another however, up until just a few weeks ago, your editor had never located a “poem” which, as the famous one above, was inspired by currency.

It was back during late November of last year that I saw a listing on eBay for what the seller called a piece of “facsimile” Confederate currency. (I trust you all read Allen’s article to discern how to know a genuine Confederate from a “facsimile” copy.) The eBay listing also noted that there was a poem printed on the back. Owing to the proliferation of copies of the original poem, the one shared just above, I expected the same. What I read instead, printed on the back of an original Confederate Twenty (the seller was incorrect on his listing) was another poem. After a bit of research I found that this poem was written and printed to be distributed at the “30th Triennial,” of a Masonic conclave which was held at Saratoga Springs, New York from July 9 to 11 in 1907. After doing a bit of reading I located the group which created this souvenir which was to be passed out to participants at the 1907 “Grand Encampment.” This authentic piece of Confederate currency with the original poem printed on the back, was gifted by the “Knights Templar of Georgia” to participants at a Masonic conclave in 1907 held deep in Yankee Land.

Following is the back of the before mentioned Confederate note, an 1864 Ten Dollar bill. The poem, albeit different from the honored original, passes on inspiration representing the “lost cause.” The Georgia poem is penned by someone with initials “J.K.O.” Anybody have any idea of who that would be?



(Back of an original Confederate 1864 Ten Dollar bill featuring "another" currency inspired poem.)

*'Tis only a poor battered bill, no longer a part in the world it plays.
Only a memory now, if you will, and, like most of us, has seen better days.
We'd quarrelled a little, as brothers will, and set up house on our own account.
Yes, coin in those days was low in the till; but folks took our notes in any amount.
At first it bought cloth by the bolt, or yard, 'till by and by 'twould hardly buy patches.
It mattered not what one saved or spent. A bar'l of it was so easy to earn;
You had it today, tomorrow it went, for all of us then had money to burn.*