FROM MINE TO MINT.

JOURNEY OF A \$20 GOLD PIECE FROM BULLION TO COIN.

How Golden Bricks are Turned Into Golden Engles-A Walk Through our Biggest Money Factory-And a Talk by an Enterialning Talker who fixplains the Processes and Wonders of Money Making.

Frank G. Carpenter in St. Louis Republic.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 22.—In my letters from the Booky Mountains I have described how the atoms of gold and sliver are dragged forth from the rocks, and by means of chemicals and fire are turned into bullion. I have come to Philadelphia to tell you have the bullion in the public of the property of the public of the publi have come to Philadelphia to tell you how the bullion is turned into dollars. The Philadelphia Mint is the largest and oldest of the United States. It is said to be one of the finest mints of the world. It coins millions of dollars' worth of gold and silver every year. worth of gold and silver every year. It has, since its beginning, during the presidency of George Washington, purchased more than a billion and a half dollar's worth of gold. Its vaults now contain almost \$200,000.000 in gold and silver, and its wonderful machinery is turning golden bricks into golden eagles. It is coluing silver at the rate of thousands of dollars a day, and a walk through its towages. day, and a walk through its treasure chambers would lead you to think that the United States has a wast surplus of coin, rather than being, as our stamp speakers say, in the midst of a money

Let us take a walk through this great money factory and see how Uncle Sam buys gold and silver builion and turns it into coin. The mint, you know, is in the heart of Philadelphia. It is only a block or so from the City Hall and park more than and park It is only a block or so from the City Hall, and not more than a store's throw from John Wunamaker's big store. Thousands of hungry-eyed, empty-atomached people go by it avary day. Fortunes are being carried in and out of it continually, and a few blocks of stone and a plate or two of steel are all that separates its trassures from the hungry mob. It has a single vault which contains more than fity million standard silver dollars. The money is tied up in bags and stacked million standard silver dollars. The money is tied up in bags and stacked against the wall like so much corn, and yet the precious metal is so near the hungry crowd above that, as you stand in the vault, you can almost hear the tread of the passers-by upon the pavement. Another vault which I visited had great piles of golden bricks. In one corner of it there was a cord of golden cakes, each of about the size of the ordinary cake of soap, and this pile was big enough to fill the largest dry goods box. I lifted one gold brick, which weighed about 40 pounds, and which the metter and refiner told me was worth \$10,000.

It was not bigger than the average clay brick used in house building, and under it there were were a score of boxes filled with bricks of the same metal, some of which were almost twice as leave.

boxes filled with bricks of the same metal, some of which were almost twice as large. I was taken into a silver vanit, where great quantities of silver bullion were stored, the white metal, it seemed to me, being thrown about like so much lead. I walked through room after room, in which these two precious metals were being cut and shaped in various ways, now boiling like water amid the fire of the furnaces, now fashioned like steel under the enormous weight of the furnaces, now fashloned like steel under the enormous weight of the told the colling wills, until at last they came forth in the shape of the wonderfully beautiful come of the United States. And, with it all, not an atom of gold or silver was lost. These are the processes we shall see in our trip through the Mint.

HOW UNCLE SAN BUYS GOLD

Our first visit is to the cashler's We shall go to the deposit or weighing-room, where all the gold and silver first comes, and where it is weighed and notually tested before it is paid for. The room is only a few is paid for. The room is only a few steps from the front door of the Miot. We follow an express measenger, who is carrying a golden brick from the mines of Montana. There he stands at the door. He lifts the brick through a little window like a teller's window at the bank. We can see through the grating into the room where it goes. The deposit clerk takes it and lays it on one side of a pair of heavy brans scales. The scales do not seem to be delicate, but they will weigh down to the thousandth part of no once, and the weight of the brick to the one-hundredth part of an ounce. to the one-hundredth part of an ounce is ascertained. The deposit clerk now writes out a receipt, stating the weight, and bands this back to the expressman. The gold brick is now in the hands of The gold brick is now in the hauds of the officials of the Mint. It will not be paid for, however, until it is known just how fine is the gold of which it is nade. Gold is never found pure in the state of nature; it always contains more or less silver, and it is sometimes mixed with copper and lead.

Before Uncle Sam buys it he has to know to a cent just how fine it is, and the desagt of the des

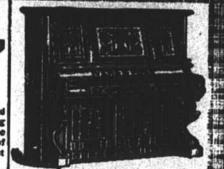
the deposit clerk sends the brick off to be meited. He puts it into an iron box and locks the same with two keys, and it is carried to the deposit melting room. We have letters from the Director of the Mint at Washington to Major Erets, the superintendent, and through these the officials admit us, and we fellow the brick. We enter a room which looks like an immense kitchen. Into its sides are built four great ranges, the tops of which slope npward at the back at an angle of about 45 degrees until they meet the walls. In the center of each top there is a square hole covered by an iron lid which slides back and forth. Some of is a square hole covered by an iron lid which sildes back and forth. Some of the holes are open and we see the coal fire blazing below them. Sunk deep into the coals of each range is a pot as large as a four-gallou crock and of much the same abupe. These are the vessels in which the gold is melied. They are made of black lead, but when not in use they are the color of clay, and they look not unlike lumeness flower pots. In the fires they soon become red, and the one is which our gold brick is placed is already at a little more than a foot long and two inches in

Gastonia, N. C., November 12, 1896.



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The gold brick is now turned over to

The gold brick is now turned over to the melter and refiner. This man is one of the most important of the officials of the mint. He must separate the silver and gold, and must see that the gold and silver are of the requisite flueness for coin. It is he who manages the 16 to 1 business, and if the political parties could agree upon a method of controlling him there would be no room for discussion. According to our law our gold coin must be 800 parts fine; that is, in every coin 900 out of the 1,000 parts of which it is made must be pure gold. In order to accomplish this result the melter and refiner must have the pure gold to begin with. He must take all the gold out of the brick, but in such a way as to leave no silver or other metal in it. His method is an odd one. He takes the gold brick and melts it with a lot of silver. He does this because the noid which is to take the silver out of the gold will not work well. the gold will not work well without there is plenty of silver in the mixture. He knows just how much aliver is necessary for the right combination, and he aids this amount to our gold brick. The combined metals are next thrown into a warmle state and the silver into a warmle state. thrown into a vessel containing nitric acid. This acid has a peculiar affinity for silver and for the baser metals. It has no effect upon gold, but it sucks all of the other metals out of the mixture and combiner with them all of the other metals out of the mixture and combines with them, turning them into a liquid which looks not unlike water. The pure gold drops to the bottom of the vessel, while the silver or other metals are left in the solution. The liquor is now drawn off, and the melter and refluer has a lot of margarithms and refluer. has a lot of pure gold, out of which he makes another brick or bar. This metal, however, is too pure for our coins. We find it so soft that we can coins. We find it so soft that we can soratch it with our finger nails, and we are told that coins made of pure gold would not hold their own for a year and that a wedding ring made of pure gold would hardly outlast the honeymoon. It is therefore pecessary that the metal be one tenth alloyed with sliver and copper. The alloy hardens the coins and makes them wear. The melter and refiner knowe just how much is needed, and he pute this amount with our gold. He takes more gold and more copper in the same proportion, and weights out enough for what is know as a melt or the amount to be melted at one time.

IN THE MELTING BOOM

white heat. A cover is put upon it the coals are banked about it, and the lid of the fornace is pulled to. In a short time the metal of the hylek has become one liquid mean, which the furnace man stirs to and fro until the material within is thoroughly mixed. He then lifts the pot out of the fire with a pair of pinehers, and runs the flaming metal into iron molds. As soon as it is cooled it is re-weighed, and a small piece is cut from each bar and sent to the assayer. The assayer tests the sample and tells Uncle Sam just how much gold, silver and copper the brick contains, and upon this estimate the depositor is paid.

PREFARING THE GOLD FOR COIN.

The gold brick is now turned over to the contains and the gold or wedge. It is twelve the contains to the mown turned over to the sold or wedge. It is twelve the molds are observed with a pair of pineers and plunged isto cold water. They come out steaming hot, but soon cool, and later on we have a chance to handle them. We find that each of them looks like a chisel or wedge. It is twelve the contains the contains the color of the moles are frust laid open ingots are thus molded at one them. We find that each of them looks like a chisel or wedge. It is twelve inches long, half an inch thick, and about two inches wide. The width is graduated according to the size of the coin to be made from the ingots. Those we see moided are for twenty-dollar gold pieces, and each ingot is worth, we are told, about \$1,400.

LITTLE CHANCE FOR THIRVES IN THE

which is covered with an iron network of a honeycomb pattern, the cells of which, an inch in diameter, are raised about haif an inch above the floor, so that every bit of gold which falls drops down within them.

Says he: "No one could plek up a grain of gold ont of that network withquit lains says. Home years were well."

out being seen. Some years ago we had only bare floors, and in of one the mints we found that we were losing gold. The leak could not be discevered, until at last the detectives gold. The leak could not be discevered, until at last the detectives noticed that one of the furnace men was spending more money than his wages warranted. He was buying real estate and was living at an extravagant rate. He was watched, and it was fought that he was in the habit of putting shoemaker's wax upon the siles of his boots. Whenever he saw abit of gold or sliver upon the thor hewould carelessly step upon it. The pectous metal would sink noto the wax and stick to his fact. That night he would scrape it off, get out the gold, and come back the next day with a fresh coat of wax for more. With this floor such a thing is not possible. The rooms are swept every day, and the sweepings of this mint amount to about \$40,000 a year. We save every bit of the ashes. Our oldpots are broken up and remeted, and every bit of the ashes. Our oldpots are broken up and remeted, and every bit of gold gotten out. We have, in fact, a record of almost every atom of gold which comes into themint, from the time it enters the depoit room until it goes out in coin or billion."

BAKING GOLD RAFIER.

But let us follow the olden ingote we have just seen drop from the molds. They are of the right sandard of floreness for gold double agies, and it would seem that the process of turning them into money would be simple enough. We have the idea, held by many, that our coins are made by easting, the gold and silve being melted and turned into molds just as in the making of bullets, san that, when the

MAKING GOLD RAILER.

molds are opened, out drop gold dollars and sliver dollars, instead of balls of take. Our coins are a greater mistake. They are stamped out of cold metal, and an enormous pressure puts upon their faces the beautiful images of the Goddese of Liberty and the American eagle. The gold ingots, gold chiels, wedges or whatever you choose to call them, are just rolled between cylinders of steel, so graduated that the ingots grow smaller and smaller and smaller as they are pulled through them, until at last they reach the thickness of the twenty-dollar gold piece. They also grow longer and longer and they have now been stretched from one foot to between three and four feet in length. As they come from the rolling machines they look like so many strips of boop iron, save that they are yellow. They are next carried to what might be called the punchers by which cookies, spignal crackers, and gingerbread men are made of dough. Well, it is ou the same principle that the yellow disks, so that in the cisk, so that in the revolution the the disk, so that in the revolution the the disk, so that in the revolution the the disk, so that in the revolution the class. They thus classed as the disk, so that in the revolution the the disk, so that in the revolution the the disk, so that in the revolution the class, and and an enormous pressure pout of the disk, so that in the revolution the class, and and an enormous pressure pout of the disk, so that in the revolution the class, and and an enormous pressure pout of the disk, so that in the disk, so that in the reliation. The sudges. They thus closed the and in the disk, so that in the reliation of the disk, so that in the reliation of the disk, so that in the reliation of the disk, so that in the revolution the thus class, and the washine. As they come from the logot pour of the disk, so that in the reliation. The cold say of the disk, so that in the reliation the disk. They disks, so tha As we watch the workmen ladling out gold like so much water we notice that now and then a bit of the presious metal splashes out and falls to the floor, and we wonder whether there is not some way by which the employes might steal themselves rich. We ask the melter and refiner whether thefts of small amounts of gold are not common. He replies that such a theft would soon be detected, and shows us how every day this reom is charged with every bit of gold that comes into it, and how it must give back as much as it grts. He points to the floor, which is covered with an iron net work of a honeycomb pattern, the cells of of gold out of them at the rate of about 50 a minute. or at the rate of \$30 worth of gold every second. As the disks are cut out they fail down through a hole into a box below, and the remainder of the yellow strip out of which they are cut is taken away to be melted up to make more ingots. As we look we note that the box under the machine is now filled with these round gold blanks. They have, my yet no marks upon them. They are not milled, and there are a number of processes through which they must go before they can be turned into money.

EVERY COIN WEIGHED. In the first place every one of those gold disks or thanks must be weighed by hand to see that it is of just the right weight before it is stamped. This is done with blanks of both gold right weight before it is atamped. This is done with blanks for the sliver dollars being handled again and again to be sure that they are accurate before they are sent to be made into coins. We follow the box of these round pieces of gold to what is known as the adjusting room. This is an immense half, in which there are a number of long tables covered with piles of gold blanks. About the tables sit 100 women, each having one of these piles before her. Each woman has a pair of small scales, so sensitive that a breath of air would affect their accuracy. With these she weighs each blank. If the balance is perfect, the gold blanks is dropped into a box comtaining those ready for coining. If it is a trifle too heavy, or much too light, it is thrown out to be melted again. This process goes on until every disk in the box is weighed. The perfect disks are now ready for coinings.

HOW THE MILLING IS DONE. The milling of the coln is the first operation. By this is meant the making the little raised edges which you find around all our noin. The process is a singular our. The blanks are dropped into an apright tube, whence they fall into a groove in a steel table, and are carried ulong between the rim about the edge of the table and a rapidly revelving horizontal wheel. The distance between the wheel and the

After the coins are dumped in it is made to revolve by machinery, and, as the disks become dry, they are thrown out into a barrel of wire netting, through the meshes of which the sawdust drops, and from which the golden disks, now of a beautiful pure yellow, flaw on into a box, in which they are earried upstairs to be coined.

IN THE COUNTED BOOM.

IN THE COINTED ROOM.

Now comes the stamping of the hianks with the impressions which term them from disks of gold into gold engies. This work is done by what is known as the coluing machine. The golden blanks are fed through a tube, which drops them down one at a time on what might be called a little brass table. As the yellow disk drops a steel dinger and thumb comes out from the machine and gramps it and places it between two dies, which move up and down between enormous steel arms. The apper die bears the picture of the Goddens of Liberby, and the lower that of the American engle and the lettering of what might be called the tail side of our gold places. As the disk comes between these two dies an enormous pressure is exerted. The dies squeeze it and a second later they drop it, with the perfect impression of one of our gold double engles upon it. At the same time the machine carries it off and drops it into a box provided for the purpose, while the steel feeders have placed another blank between the dies. The gold coins are now handed over to the counters. They are separated into two classes—known as lights and heavies—for some weigh just a trid; more than others. The light ones and the heavy ones are mixed to gether and then stored away in little hags ready for shipment to the bunks in the United States or to the Esbtreasuries, as may be demanded.

There is no loy in this world equal to the happings of saidspression health healt

THE EAGLE IN TENNESSEE.

WHERE THE KING OF AMERICAN SIRDS BUILDS HIS MEST.

Compels this Young to mitt to ives Without Proporutory ng-Rinks Young Mountainer Run to Capturing Mint-The Rieds Valued as Pete and Mascots.

Choismail linguiser.

There are many eagles in the Tennesses mountains, and there are mountainers who are expert eathers of the young anglein, who reap rich rewards in return for their purious risks and adventures. Eagles make the eyries among ite shells and cross of the highest mountains of the Natar. They are found on the Stone Mountains, the great Bonne, 2.200 feet high; the Hald, 5.550 feet; the Great Smoky Bange, 6,636 feet; the Hallbead, 5.412 feet; on the Umain, the Big Stone, and others, none of them less than 5.000 feet above the level of the country at their feet.

The American yacht Defender, which defeated the English yacht Valkyries it. In the famous international race last year, carried as its manous two yachts. Captains of hig woman finers, and the steambout men of the hig rivers of America are very partial to expense as pets, and the negle catchers of it this chass of new among their best customers. There is a well-grounded superstition in agent he king of bords for its manout will never go down. The superstition and the sile king of bords for their imperial standard, recarded it as the favorite messages of Jupiter, and that the bird held communion with heaven. Oriental people, too, thought that the fautorite messages of superstitions of East Tennesses venerated the earle as their war bird, and values its feathers for benddresses and to decorate their pipes of passe. The eagle upon the American silver dollar seems to indicate an abiding faith in the bird as an emblem.

Value of Tourse mages.

VALUE OF TOUNG MAGLES.

YALUE OF TOURG MAGLES.

Young eagles bring from \$40 to \$80, econsionally \$100. Eagles that are of some age and of a great size (such are rarely exptured, however.) bring as high as \$500 and \$500. Eagles which have to be killed while trying to capture them are valuable to taxidermists, yiq. Algara flad, an easy market for a supecially the wing and tail feathers, are sold for good prices.

The ragic builds its nest upon the top of a mighty tree growing far up on the mountain, among the myrad of twining vines, or in the thickest and almost inacceptible growth of bushes and shrubs, or on the summit of a high rock. An eagle's nest is a large one always, and is strongly and comfortably built. Large eticks and branches are laid together, nearly flat, and bound with twining vines. The appelous inside is covered with hair and mosses, so minutely woven together that no wind can enter. The mother bird lays two eggs, which are curiosities. The long and tapers down to a point. The culor of the agg is a ground of brownish red, with many dots and spots upon it. The egg itself is proof of the wild and savage parentage.

MAGLES LONG LIVEL.

BAGLES LONG LIVEL

An eagle lives from 80 to 180 years. The young birds are driven forth by their savage parents to scratch for themselves as soon as they are able to fly. No training is given them by the old bird. That is left to their wild instincts, which hunger and necessity develop. There is no going "back to the aid home" for the young eagle. The mother bird tears up every vestige of the nest where they have thriven slose birth, and while they call plaintive shricks the old bird darts at them and pushes them off the crags or rocks, and to prevent fulling they must take to thair wings, and this is how they learn to fly. It takes three years for a young eagle to gain its fell and complete plumage and for the development of its strength.

A way up in the mountains the eagle finds it as hard to gain subsistence as do the grunnilers of the spilen. The preseriousness of his esistence and the, wild manner in which food is gathered seems to give the bird more ferceity as it grows older. They range among the mountains and valleys in pairs, their young never following, but doing the best they may. The stere, annealist tyranny, beginning with the homeless outcast eaglet, is continued in later years with their mates.

WHO TAKES THE PREY?

WITO TAKES THE PREY

years with their mates.

WHO TAKES THE PRRY?

If the male bird be the stronger, the most of the prey belongs to him, and he allows the female to est a pairty share between jerce thrusts of his beak at her. If the female is the stronger, (and she generally is,) the male bird dowers and winces under many a fierce blow from his unfeeling wife, no matter how small the morest he gets. But when danger threatens, no human pair can battle so deposity for such other as can two engles. The breading assuon begins about March, and each male has but one mate derting his entire life. If the female is killed or expured, the surviving male becomes an early bermit and fiercer than ever.

They are often seen near their nests together, and when the sun is shining take their majectic flights straight toward that great ball of dra, suttli they disappear from sight. Sitting upon the mountain side, their vision is so keen that they can see far down the ralley a sheep or young must, a big tarkey or rocater, a small pig, rabbit, or large bird, and almost in the twink-ling of an eye they descend auddenly upon their victim. One mighty graps and a twist of their talons and the victim is dead long before the engle lays it down for a repeat. An engle

Woman's Di one to her h Female

them will units and carried off, four or sit them will units and carry off the case, when they will immediately be to fight it out to see which of these entitled to the choloset bits, and i truly a survival of the fitted in a combate as these.

KNOW THEIR STRENGTH,

An eagle is always fully confider his strength, and raway overces huntelf in his repealous desire prey. The minuteness of their vision they can take in at a marrial content of the presence of desirable in a radius of many miles, on mount valley, forest, awamp, or field, hur ty cannot comparhead. With wonderful power of sight is could a swiftness of flight equally as we ful. In a single night and in a full-grown eagle can fly a thouse the fight of an eagle prey is like a flash of lightning, a cushes past like a falling meter seeding with fearful force up violin, which is staggered at the of its cruel talons. Oftentiage of its cruel talons. Oftentiage violitor in the Tennesses more visitor in the Tennesses more can just see him like a little as the aky, moving in majestic about the curst of a far-away. The sight-seers and mountainess love to watch them always should be to watch them always choose break of down or a calm sunset. Wheel in dreles and glide about on a day's bent or in settle out on day's bent or in settle out on day's bent or in settle.

herizontal sweeps just before startions on a day's best or in settling the night.

When lipsering by the promise sweet him a lipsering by the promise will dispend on their natural shrewdows. They are from opposite directions upon fowl, which tries to escape by divisioned could outwit one eagle, but sidely, as the few comes to the a face of the water, the second each poizes him.

HOW THEY ARE CAUGHT. proach, for it fares ill with the daring rother who attempts to necure the young birds with none to product but tilmed. In this way are many of the old birds killed for the tandermists or for feathers, while the eaglets are torne a way and eaged for a good sale. An eagle captured at first is an animorecating prisoner. Frequently they siter contracted at first is an animorecating prisoner. Frequently they siter contracted and favored while. Their eyes dart first, their low trows and flat forebeads are contexted into hateful expressions. They will dart fleroely at the hars of their free cages and, finding themselves unable to reach their hated captons, draw themselves up and utter terrille pleints and whines. They are always restless while in captivity, due, of course, to their natures. Rarely an eagle is captured in a high trap beined with a small lamb. Attempts have been made, too, in the Tennames Mountains to capture them in nets, but this is impractivable, or eise the mountaineers prefer to capture them when young by visiting their meets.

New York Times.

Whenever the first symptoms on my wife gives her Chamberts Cough Remordy, and the result is ways prompt and ministratory, "I remody is used by theremads of most throughout the United Makes and many foveign countries, and also with purfect success. It is only uneasy to give it freshy when the cities on the crospy cough appears and all gy tone of croup will disappear, asie at 35 and 50 cents per lettle J. E. Curry & Co., Draugista.