

Collections

Culture

H.H. Allen is the owner of one of the largest and most valuable collections of coins and curiosities in the northwest. It was formerly the property of the late L.H. Adkins--Yakima Herald, February 5, 1891.

Mr. Matt Bartholet has a Half dollar of the date of 1809, which he prizes highly, not for its age as much as that it was the first piece of money taken in when he started in business in Yakima City in 1883--Yakima Herald, February 5, 1891.

Historical

W.Z. York has added to his collection of curios a cartridge shell that must have been contemporaneous with the domination of the Hudson Bay company in the Northwest.

It was recently found up the Natcheez in the vicinity where other relics of earlier days had been previously unearthed.

The shell is of iron and the end against which the hammer falls is deeply concave, welling up in the center in the form of a nipple upon which the cap is placed. It shows the ravages of time and the elements but is perfect in shape--Yakima Herald, February 18, 1892.

D.W. Owens of Kennewick has a unique collection of Indian relics and various other curios that would be well worth a place in some pretentious city's museum.

As a collection of arrow heads, bows, quivers, pipes and other articles of Indian manufacture, it rivals the famous York collection that was for many years a leading attraction in Yakima.

But Mr. Owens' collection is more general in character. You will find colonial money dating back as far as 1690, money from Japan Egypt. There is a Buddhist idol, a flexible stone and specimens of the scanty garb of the South Sea Islander.

Hats hang from the ceiling and wild beasts of various species have contributed an assortment of rugs and foot rests.

There is a fine collection of minerals, and the most complete collection of Indian pestles or corn grinders that I have seen, containing specimens from all portions of the west and as far south as Mexico.

The latest addition to Mr. Owens' museum is a pair of whale ribs that he secured on his last trip to the Sound some weeks ago.

If you ever come to Kennewick the trip will be quite complete if you call on Mr. Owens--Kennewick Courier, September, 1902.

Mrs. Jay Lynch of Fort Si coe will probably exhibit at the state fair a collection of Indian baskets and curios which she has accumulated in the last decade. Her display will be quite a feature as the collection is both interesting and worth considerable money--Yakima Herald, Sept. 23, 1902.

Collections

The finest collection of ivory fashioned into matchboxes, lighter boxes, pens, pencils, etc., was gotten together by A.E. Larson during his trip to Alaska this summer.

So keen and persistent was Mr. Larson on the chase for fine bits of carving of cho ce pieces of old tusks and that the Indians soon had him spotted. They called him "Old Ivory," and not a day passed without their bringing things for him to buy. That he did buy early and often and that his purchased mounted up into the dollars fast is evident from the large assortment of trinkets and quaint piec s he is showing to his friends.

the old ivory takes on a beautiful tint of yellow or brown and is much more expensive than plain white both for its greater beauty and because the supply is pretty well exhausted. Every once in a while an Indian will find a horn or tusk which has been buried for long years" while in Nome some Indians brought in a complete piece of mastodon ivory weighing 150 pounds. The piece was worth two or three thousand dollars. The mastodon ivory has a different grain from the walrus and is rich in color, polishing beautifully.

Mr. Larson got most of his bits of ivory at Nome through a few were purchased at St. Michael's. The Indians are clever workmen and do their carving for the most part with primitive tools though they sometimes use a wheel for polishing with a last rubbing over with bon ami or quinine to give just the right shine. They are quick, too, to

see what will appeal to their customers and are carving Billikens these days.

The Larson collection includes a number of interesting things such as a pick and shovel, a saw and hammer, a paper knife with

While excavating for the ditch at the Municipal Light & Power plant several days ago D.E. Parmeter unearthed the barrel of an old-time flint lock rifle, the age of which is estimated at least 75 years.

It was found three feet under ground and entwined around it were the roots of a pine tree. Parmeter and others believe that the gun was placed in a stump by one of the first whitemen in the valley, probably a Hudson's Bay fur trader, who was surprised by the Indians and killed. The ~~Lewis and~~ gun is of the type carried by the Lewis and Clark expedition. The barrel alone weighs nearly 10 pounds. It is on exhibition in the record office--Ellensburg Record, Sept. 1912.

the thinnest of blades, napkin rings. He has too, several

of the task cribbage boards and bits of ivory fashioned into mxtth
match boxes, mallets or paper weights. Quite as interesting are
the pieces which have no special use but are beautiful for

their soft colors.

he women who see the collection find the most attractive piece
is a primitive needle case. There is a ring at one end large enough
to slip the tip of the finger through. This is marked with
depressions and is the timble. A piece of skin
connects it with another ring and in the piece of skin, which is
rolled into a cylinder are three of the outest ivory needles
imaginable.

A piece which has interest for its antiquity is a green
slender rectangle about eight inches long with
primitive pictures etched on the face. It was used,
it is thought, as a handle to some sort of carrying basket,
there being two holesthrough which sinews might have been run.
Ivory spears such as were used for spearing the walrus are to
be seen; there are scrapers for tanning the skins and practically
all the tools of the far north race in the primitive days.

Some beautifully polished bits, rounded and made into buttons
show the possibilities of these lines. There are several
samples of mastodon. Some especially choice specimens of the old
ivory have been made into brooches. He also has a fine collection
of photographs he took, incl ding one taken at 2 o'clock in
the morning-Yakima Herald, Sept. 20, 1911.

The larger collection includes a number of interesting things
such as a pick and shovel, a saw and hammer, a paper knife with