

THE

KEYNOTER

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS CONSERVATORS



American Political Items Collectors
 P.O. Box 55
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September 20-21, 2013 Mid-west Regional -- Ramada Inn East, 6990 East 21st Street, Indianapolis, IN. Rooms contact hotel 317-359-5341. Mention The Bandwagon for \$59 APIC convention room rate. Room hopping Thur & Fri, Bourse Sat (9am-3pm). Admission: \$3 Tables: \$50/\$45 per wall table, \$45/\$40 interior tables. Tables Bob Coup, PO Box 348, Leola PA 17540, phone 717-656-7855, email polbandwagon@aol.com

September 28, 2013 New England Chapter, Sat, Sept 28, 2013 9am-2pm (set-up 8 am) V.F.W. Post 1012, 114 Mystic Avenue, Medford, MA (exit 31 off I-93). Adm, \$2; tables, \$25 for first and \$20 each additional. Info: contact Bob Colt 781-729-6066, politicalguywin@comcast.net or Barry Mushlin barrybuttons@comcast.net.

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November 3, 2013 Chicago new venue: Waybight Student Center Trinity International University, 2065 Half Day Road, Deerfield, Illinois. 12-3pm. Adm & Pkg free. TIU is two blocks east of the all-direction exits of the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294) Meeting will focus on President Clinton material. Display tables are \$5 for six feet, and reservations are suggested. For tables, or map, contact Dottie at ddpbuttons@aol.com or 847 432-0957.

November 7-8-9, 2013 Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention Langhorne PA 43rd anniversary show Sheraton Bucks County Hotel, 400 Oxford Valley Rd.. Room Hopping Wed & Thur (Nov. 6-7) two full days of bourse Fri (Nov 8: 9-5) & Sat (Nov 9 - 9-2:30). Contact hotel directly for APIC \$98.00 room rate (single or double) before Oct 16, 2013. Phone 215-547-4100 or 800-325-3535. Table rates: Wall & foyer tables: 1st-\$59, 2/\$110, 3/\$160 if available; Interior tables: 1st-\$53, 2/\$99, 3/\$145 if available. Mail table requests with checks payable to MID-ADLANTIC APIC to Ed Stahl, 8-F Somerset Hills Court, Bernardsville NJ 07924. Adm \$5 adults, \$3 students, Children 12 & under free. Infor: Ed Stahl eve: 973-241-5106 or email collectorstuff@msn.com. To consign to the Friday evening Member's Auction, contact Harvey Goldberg at 732-382-4652 or email heg1@verizon.net.

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THE

KEYNOTER

THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS CONSERVATORS



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THE LATINO VOTE**



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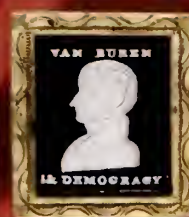
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FROM THE APIC PRESIDENT

One of the great things about our hobby is having the opportunity to visit with fellow collectors who share your passion for history. It is always more than just the accumulation of material, but rather understanding the history behind the item, not only how it was made but also why it was made. From coast to coast in the United States, APIC members have graciously welcomed me into their homes and shared their collections and stories about the collections. Our authors, like those in all our Keynoter issues, are very giving in their knowledge of the items we preserve and we owe them a debt of gratitude for researching and providing us with their knowledge of our unique hobby.

I have also had the opportunity to travel abroad, including England, Ireland, and even a tent in war-torn Bosnia where I discovered a fellow APICer. Each time it has been a wonderful experience and I always came away with the most interesting stories about why people collect and their shared knowledge of the items.

This spring I was lucky enough to meet our primary author in this issue Mark R. B. Cottrill and his wonderful wife at their beautiful home in England. Mark did not really know me or *Keynoter* Executive Editor Robert Fratkin from Adam before we met, but he picked us up at the train station and drove us to his house and shared the better part of a day talking about and showing us his collection. He agreed to share his knowledge and understanding of political silks with the rest of our hobby and the culmination of that effort is the lead article in this issue. Mark has been collecting since he was in college and like most of us his hobby has been an important part of his life. I could see when talking to Mark how important it was to research and record the background information about the silks and their significance not only in political terms but also in sociological/economic terms to the region and people where these items were produced. Interestingly, like the Whitehead and Hoag Company, for a short time, the W. H. Grant & Company had offices on both sides of the Atlantic. They manufactured some of the most prized woven ribbons ever produced.

Many of our authors are repeat authors whose knowledge covers the entire country, and without them, we might never know the background or true identity of some of our political candidates pictured on these items. Dave Quinton has always been willing to share his knowledge of locals, and I must say every locals collector I have met over these so many years of collecting has always been willing to share their knowledge of who these many unidentified and forgotten politicians were. Our political heritage is much richer for their efforts.

Of additional interest is the article about pursuing one of the fastest growing political dynamics in politics today – the Hispanic vote. In the past, too often their contributions were marginalized in their commitment to the United States through their participation in the political process; however, the Hispanic vote has now played a significant part in our last two Presidential contests as well as deciding numerous local elections. Their influence continues to grow and play an even more important part in the political destiny of our country.

All the articles in this issue, no matter how long or short, were written with the understanding that our members truly enjoy sharing information. There are other hobbies where this is not the case, where knowledge is kept too close to the vest and not shared. But not in the APIC. Ours is a very special hobby that celebrates its diversity in the types of articles we include and the overall membership we maintain.

I look forward to continuing sharing stories with you all when I see you at many of our future APIC gatherings.

All the best,



Chris Hearn, President



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

My collecting began in 1964 while I was attending Georgetown Preparatory School just outside of Washington, DC. The town was full of presidential campaign headquarters then, ranging from the elaborate Lyndon Johnson operation to the modest Draft Bill Scranton office. In those days, headquarters still had bowls of free buttons on the table and those Rockefeller and Scranton buttons still have a certain magical quality for me, despite their modest value. Later on I linked up with classmate Steve Ackerman to explore antique stores from Virginia to Pennsylvania where amazing items were to be seen. Of course, back then a Richard Russell or Estes Kefauver button counted as amazing. Things like Seymour-Blair ferrotypes were beyond imagining.

Mark Cottrill's article on the woven textiles carries us into the realm of the amazing, even for a veteran collector. Once again, *The Keynoter* is able to bring APIC members some serious research to build our knowledge base and strengthen our mission to preserve and explain these wonderful objects that have survived from our past. In this issue, our lead article points out several areas where a particular ribbon is thought to exist but is unknown to the author. Please send us a scan of any ribbons you may have that would fill the gaps. David Quintin's article on what he considers the rarest item for each state, is an open challenge to other locals collectors to provide us with scans of your favorite item from several (or all 50) states, or a few of your personal favorites if you are a single state collector.



Michael Kelly
Editor

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FRONT COVER-- A woven ribbon produced for Lincoln's second inauguration, manufacturer unknown.

SUBMISSIONS-- *This is your publication. Please feel free to share your ideas, suggestions, illustrations and stories. The Keynoter is delighted to share pictures of interesting political Americana with its readers. When submitting an illustration, send it as an .eps, .jpg or .pdf file to mkelly@mcc.edu. Illustrations should be in color and submitted in digital format with at least 300 dpi resolution (preferably higher). Files must be created at 100% of actual size or larger (smaller risks losing clarity). Digital electronic images should be saved to a minimum of 300 dpi as TIF, GIF, JPEG or EPS files, preferably in Adobe Photoshop.*

If you don't have access to a scanner or high-resolution digital camera, you can take your items to graphic service bureaus, such as Kinko's, and have them scanned in the specification mentioned above. You can then send the file by e-mail, on a CD or on a zip disk. If sending by zip disk, please supply return address.

ILLUSTRATIONS-- The editor wishes to thank the following for providing illustrations for this issue: Al Anderson, Germaine Broussard, Mark Cottrill, David Dent, Tom French, David and Janice Frent, John Gingerich, Mark Gelke, Theodore Hake, Heritage Auctions, David Quintin and Phil Shimkin.

American Political Items Conservators is the educational division of the American Political Items Collectors Inc., a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. APIC seeks to encourage and support the study and preservation of original materials issuing from and relating to political campaigns of the United States of America and to bring its members fuller appreciation and deeper understanding of the candidates and issues that form our political heritage.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The Hancock issue reminded me yet again why I look forward to each issue of the Keynoter. There's more to our hobby than just what we each collect, and the Keynoter lets us see the vast array of items representing the collecting interests of our fellow members. The depth of material displayed in the lead articles, and the articles themselves, are always interesting and informative. The smaller articles often take me into collecting areas I had never even considered. Thank you so much providing the Keynoter as part of our APIC membership.

Don Rosen (APIC #10534)



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All correspondence about content should be addressed to:

Editor

Michael Kelly
1901 Montclair Avenue
Flint, MI 48503
michael.kelly@mcc.edu

Executive Editor

Robert Fratkin
coxfr1492@gmail.com

Illustrations Editor

Germaine Broussard
watwitch@erols.com

Locals Editor

David Quintin
dqtexas@aol.com

Design & Production

Michael Tews
michael.tews@mcc.edu

All correspondence about mailing and obtaining copies should be addressed to:

Member Services

Mark D. Evans
P.O. Box 55
Avon, New York 14414
MemberServices@apic.us

Advisory Board

Robert Fratkin
Harvey Goldberg
Michael Kelly
Brian Krapf
Al Salter

Contributors

Mark Cottrill
David Dent
David Quintin

Advertising Director

Mark D. Evans
AdDirector@apic.us

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Political Silk Weavings In America

By Mark Cottrill

Could an English weaver influence the political motivations of voters in the USA? In the late Victorian era, US Customs certainly thought this was a possibility. Silk woven election-eering ribbons, made in Coventry and exported to the United States, were seized at the port of entry and the weaver was in deep trouble. The event almost paralleled the Boston Tea Party! We do not know the outcome but it is likely that the weavings were destroyed and possibly a large fine followed.

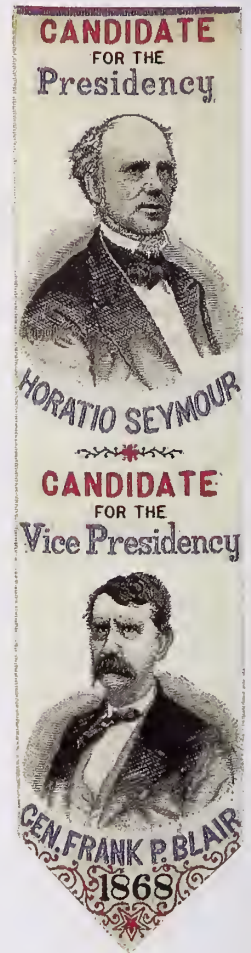
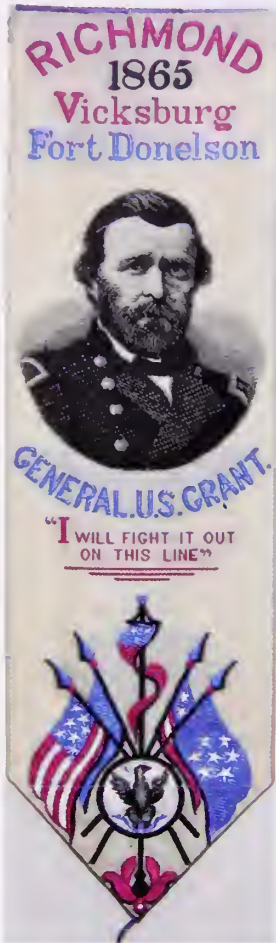
The best known Coventry weaver was Thomas Stevens. He was born in 1828 in Foleshill, then a village but now incorporated into the City of Coventry. Coventry had, for many centuries, been a centre of silk weaving in England and its importance was considerably enhanced by a vast influx of Huguenot weavers from France who came to escape the religious intolerances they suffered towards the end of the 1600s. Stevens described himself as an engineer but he was much more than that; he was an innovator and an inventor. In his teens he was an apprentice at the silk weavers Pears and Franklin and, at the tender age of 24 years, he started his own weaving business. The jacquard loom had been invented in 1801 by a Frenchman, Joseph Marie Jacquard. To understand the mechanics of the loom an understanding of the weaving process is necessary. Parallel threads (the 'warp') are stretched across a rectangular frame. To weave a plain cloth, every other warp thread is slightly raised. A thread (the 'weft') is then passed between the space between the upper and lower threads. The raised and lowered (warp) threads are then reversed and the weft passed through in the opposite direction. By raising different warp threads during weaving more complex patterns could be produced but when colored threads or complex patterns were woven manually, the process became slow, complicated and mistakes were common. The jacquard loom mechanized the process using punched cards, each card corresponding to one row in the design. In France, highly complex and detailed woven pictures (in black and white silks) were being produced on jacquard looms by the 1830s, perhaps the most famous being 'A La Memoire de J.M. Jacquard' depicting the great man sitting at his desk, a design that required 24,000 punched cards to create. By the time of the Great Exhibition in 1851, some of the Coventry weavers had incorporated colored silks into their designs. Stevens improved, adapted and refined the loom by a series of inventions so that he could produce highly detailed silk items in multiple colors with exquisite detail giving an almost three-dimensional effect. The first products from his company were book-marks which were advertised as 'illuminated' silk bookmarks.

Stevens's new business venture could not have started at a worse time. In 1860, a free trade agreement removed the protective import tariffs on silks, brocades and ribbons from continental Europe. In Coventry, where around 40% of the population was employed in silk weaving, the effect was devastating. During a two year period 9,000 people emigrated to seek alternative employment - many to the United States. Fortunately for Thomas Stevens and his family, his newly designed silk bookmarks were an instant success being praised by the press and bought by the public in large numbers. Sales were also augmented by the marketing skills of Stevens; the bookmarks were sold through booksellers, stationers, agents and directly from the factory. In 1862 there were just nine designs available but by the mid 1870s there were over nine hundred. Stevens was not prepared just to be a producer of bookmarks. He diversified. By the 1870s he was producing all manner of novelties - Christmas cards, Valentine cards (with a padded insert that was perfumed), fringed cards, needle cases and even britches! By the end of that decade he was producing silk pictures which would be mounted in a cardboard mat and sold at 6 pence (for the portraits) or one shilling (for the scenes and views) - about the same cost as three or six copies of a prominent newspaper at the time. The word 'Stevengraph' came later - perhaps in 1874 when Stevens had built a spanking new factory in Coventry which he named 'The Stevengraph Works.' To cope with demand, he subsequently built another factory in London.



The bookmark 'Candidate for the Presidency Horatio Seymour' with Blair as the Vice Presidential candidate is dated 1868 and is probably the earliest election weaving made by Stevens for the American market. A 'favor' (like a very small bookmark) has been seen just depicting Blair so there is likely to be one also for Seymour. Seymour and Blair lost the election to General US

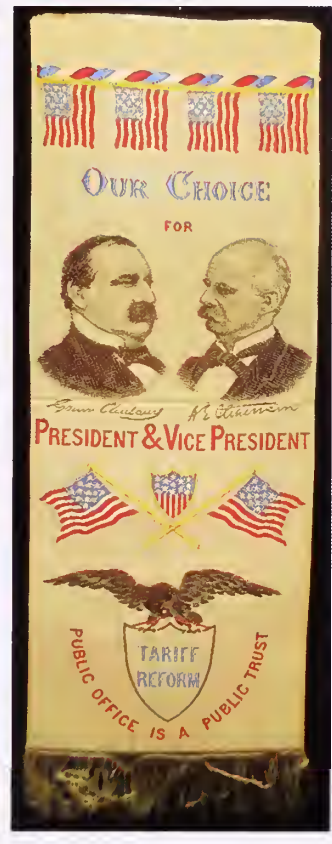
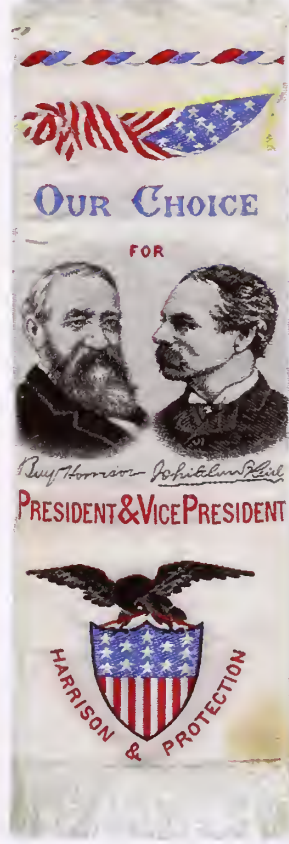
Grant and his running mate Schyler Colfax. Although Stevens featured designs for Grant as President and headed 'Richmond 1865', a weaving of Grant and Colfax has not been recorded. There is a set of four rectangular election silks titled 'Our Choice for President & Vice President'. Two are dated 1892 and feature Cleveland with Adlai Stevenson and Harrison with Whitlaw Reid. The other two are undated and feature Cleveland and Harrison with their running mates. They were perhaps designed as a souvenir rather than a bookmark. There is no manufacturer's identification on the silk but three of the designs appear in the original Stevens pattern book held at the



Herbert Museum and Art Gallery in Coventry, confirming their authenticity. One of these designs has been seen with a paper backing paper with the printed words 'Woven in pure silk by Stevengraph Mfg. Co. J.J. Mannion & Co., Sole Props, Cincinnati, O.' Various members of the Stevengraph Collectors Association have spent a great deal of time trying to learn more about Mr. Mannion. Although he gives a Cincinnati address, and he operated a loom at the Centennial Exposition in 1888, producing a picture of the exhibition buildings, there is no evidence that he had premises or looms in that City. Also he pops up in Pittsburgh, New York and Chicago (at the 1893 Exposition) although all the addresses seem to be only temporary - a mysterious man! The most likely explanation is that he was an agent for Stevens, operating loaned or rented looms at various exhibitions and using designs made by Stevens. It is probable that Mannion wove the 1888 election silks at the Ohio Exposition and, as his was an American company, he would have been free from the political restraints that would have affected any English producer.



He probably also avoided some taxes (which were around 30-40% for foreign goods). Ribbons to commemorate G.A.R. Encampments were also produced by Stevens for Brigade or Regiment reunions. One such ribbon 'Twentieth National Encampment, San Francisco 1886' bears both a Stevens and a J.M. Litchfield credit, suggesting that others were weaving designs by Stevens. Some bookmarks just have printing on the silk to commemorate an event, such as the Washington Souvenir bookmark printed with 'P.O.S. of A.'

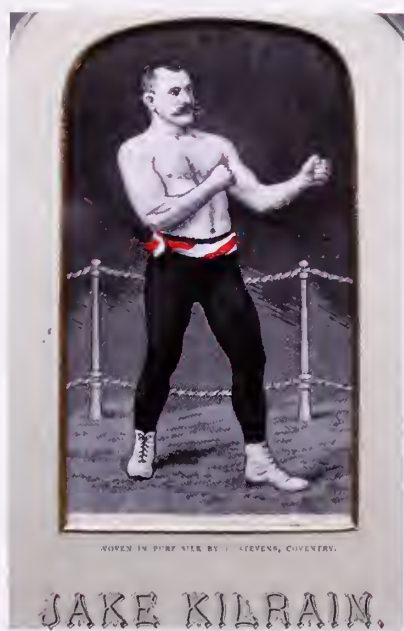


Current and past presidents were popular subjects for Stevens with Lincoln, Grant, Cleveland and Harrison all being well represented - Cleveland and Harrison also appear on book-marks, portrait silks, ribbons and even incorporated into a handkerchief box! The Stevens company was present at several American Expositions, producing silk weavings from a portable loom shipped from England. For the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia he produced three different versions of bookmarks depicting George Washington. A bookmark in my collection is attached to a printed card that includes the wording 'Permanent Exhibition Building, Philadelphia' suggesting that the loom was operating after the Exposition closed (in England, Stevens was known to have working looms in the Crystal Palace and Black-pool Winter Gardens). George Washington's portrait appears on other Stevens designed book-marks, including one design that was marketed in at least twelve different color variations. A similar design was used for Stonewall Jackson. For Stevens, the 1893 World Fair in Chicago was very successful. Stevengraph pictures were produced of Columbus Leaving Spain, the Landing of Columbus and the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, as well as many portrait silks including Grover Cleveland (and Mrs. Cleveland), Benjamin Harrison and George Washington. Stevens also produced around twenty different designs of souvenir ribbons - mainly depicting exhibition buildings, Columbus and scenes relating to American history.



Although collectors tend to view these elaborate woven textiles as ribbons to be worn, it appears that many were designed to serve as bookmarks, to be carefully kept protected between the pages of a book rather than carried on a coat.

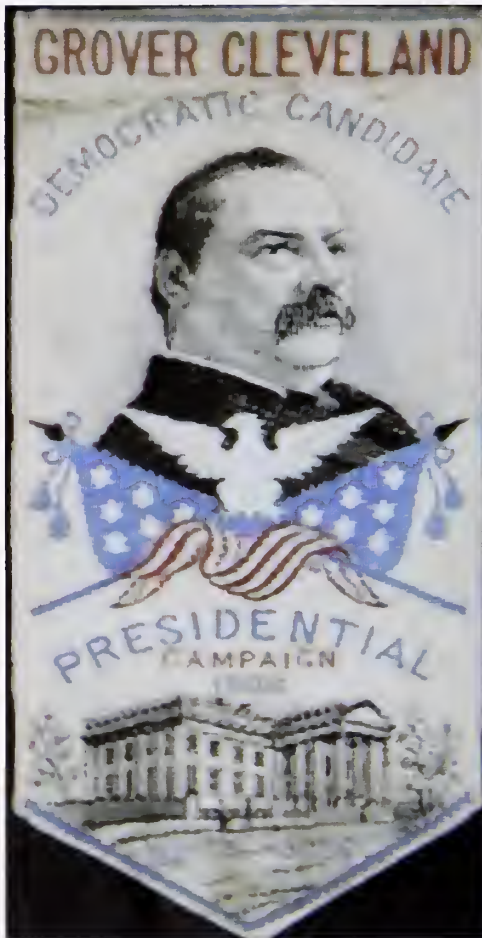
As well as the exhibition weavings, the Stevens Company produced a range of pictures and portraits with American themes. These included a splendid view of Niagara Falls and sporting scenes of baseball ('The First Innings') and trotting ('The Home Stretch'). Bare-knuckle fighters Jake Kilrain and John L. Sullivan were immortalized in silk as was Sergeant G.H. Bates 'The American Standard Bearer.' There were two designs of Buffalo Bill, one a portrait and the other with Mr. Cody surrounded by the Indian Chiefs who were a part of the 'Wild West Show.' Both designs are rare. Although it is possible that these were made with American customers in mind (and the Wild West Show ran alongside the Chicago Exposition), they have been made in Coventry specifically for Buffalo Bill's first European tour in 1887. Queen Victoria attended the London show in her golden jubilee year.



A competitor to Thomas Stevens was William Henry Grant. Grant was born in 1858 - a generation after Stevens - in the same village just outside Coventry. There is evidence that he apprenticed with Stevens and around 1880 he set up his own weaving business, aged 24 years. Unfairly, Grant has been called an imitator of his famous neighbor. By the time he started his weaving company, Stevens had over 900 bookmark designs registered so Grant looked for other strategies. Rather than compete, he innovated. His modus operandi was to sell at exhibitions. A skilled operator would work the loom and the resulting weavings were sold to the captivated exhibition visitors. Grant's ideas included the first portrait silks, multi-view silks, books of silk weavings and a whole list of other novelties. It is likely that Grant produced the first woven silk postcard in England. One specialty was 'silk woven name handkerchiefs' where a name or motto of the customer's choosing could be woven into the design.

Grant saw the possibilities of an American market very early in his weaving career. He was also exhibiting at the 1893 World Fair but, by that time, he had already established an office in New York and a weaving company in Paterson, New Jersey - 'The Grant Woven Silk Novelty Company.'

Grant did not produce many bookmarks and, of these, most were made as souvenirs for exhibitions specifically showing buildings or local landmarks. To date there are only two election silks that have been identified: Benjamin Harrison 'No Free Trade' Republican Candidate and Grover Cleveland, Democratic Candidate. I am unable to confirm that the Cleveland ribbon was a product of the Grant factory. Although the two designs are similar, there are differences (note the weaving of the bald eagle above the flags for example). The Harrison design was also used for the Presidential ribbon. These ribbons are probably not designed to be bookmarks but as 'favors' - a small ribbon that could be pinned to clothing. Grant was quite prolific in producing favors in the UK for all sorts of events - hospital fund raising (Hospital Saturdays), Life Boat funds, local parliamentary elections and even for the company's annual employees outings!



There are no Grant weavings of standing presidents as far as I am aware but George Washington is depicted on several bookmarks woven at the Chicago World Fair. A '10th National Encampment 1893' ribbon was produced by the Paterson branch and there are likely to be others. A portrait weaving of 'The Late Henry Ward Beecher' is listed on an advertisement back label but not a single example of this silk has been seen. Another listed but unseen silk is 'The Great Bartholdi Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor.' The only American subject that has been seen as a picture is a very dramatic weaving entitled 'The Burning of Chicago' showing the Great Fire of Chicago in 1871. This was probably made for the 1893 Exposition. The design was also used for a postcard.

There is an interesting connection between the Grant Company and the French weaving firm of Neyret Freres in St. Etienne. In a catalogue of Grant's products various Neyret silks are included and there is at least one postcard (of Lloyd George) which was published as both a Grant and Neyret silk. Neyret is known to have published cards of British and American politicians including one of President Wilson.

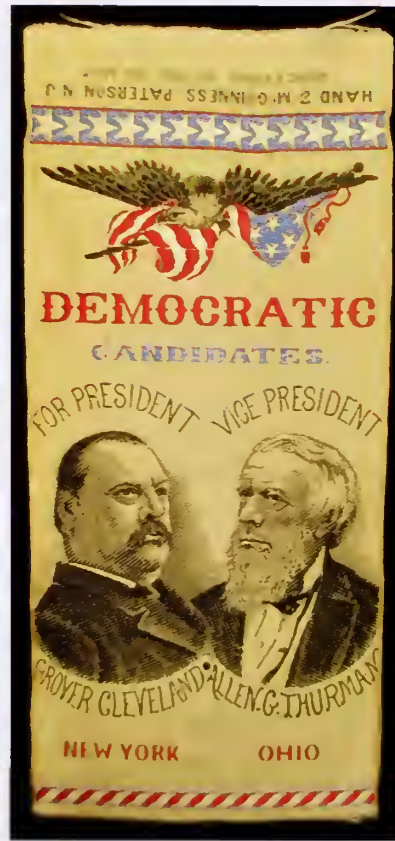
The Grant company was family owned through three generations but eventually was sold to a well established Coventry weaver, J & J Cash, who are still operating today. At one time this company had a weaving factory in New York State. Cash is well known to the British as name-tape weavers; generations of schoolchildren (or, more accurately, their parents) have been able to identify lost clothing from the personalized sewn-in name tags.



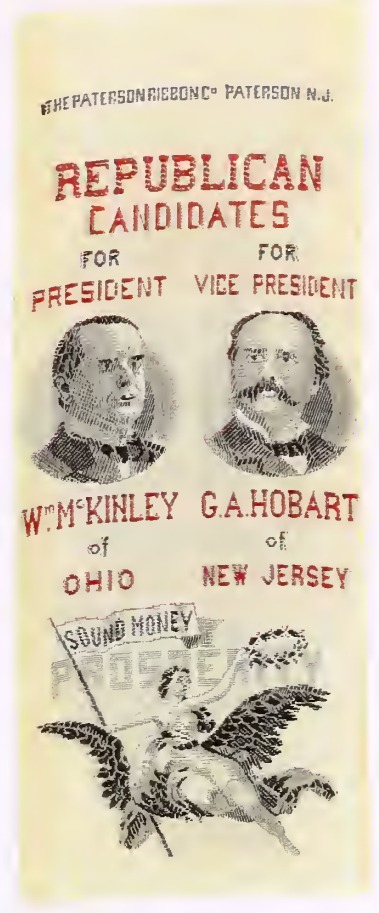
“Throughout human history and across the globe, whether as intimate artifacts of interpersonal relations or state-level monumental works, textiles have been imbued with political importance. Textiles can communicate and construct status, ethnicity, gender, power, taste, and wealth, and have functioned at the nexus of artistic, economic, and political achievement in human culture. As trade goods, creative medium, and social artifact, textiles have been instrumental in generating, supporting, and challenging political power.” – Textile Society of America

It is interesting to note that, for Stevens and Grant, the production of silk pictures, bookmarks and postcards was not the core business. The mainstay of both companies was silk fabric weaving and producing labels for clothing and both had lucrative contracts with the Army and Navy for woven insignia and hat bands. However, it was the novelty items that saved

the companies and kept their employees in work. In the 1860s many Coventry weaving firms failed. Paradoxically, it was the American weavers who were the beneficiaries. Silk weaving was concentrated in Paterson, New Jersey and the power to work the mills was provided by harnessing the Passaic Falls. Already protected by high import tariffs (as much as 40%) on silk goods, the city had the pick of (the now unemployed) skilled weavers from England who were queuing up to emigrate. Also, good quality British made looms, now redundant and gathering dust, could be bought for just a few dollars and shipped to America. In large factory buildings, space could be rented, often for just one or two looms. By the 1880s, more than 400 silk weaving companies operated in Paterson which now earned the name 'Silk City.' Many companies - John Best, B.B. Tilt, Phoenix, Warner (later Warner Artex) - turned their attention to producing political weavings and souvenir items. Many of these weavers exhibited at the 1893 World Fair in Chicago. One such was John Best, whose family came from Germany in 1842, and started a Brewery in Milwaukee. It was then the 'Best and Company' and subsequently became the 'Pabst Company' in 1889 while another branch became the Miller Brewery. The weaving part of the family produced a range of bookmarks and woven silks including some election items. In Paterson, there appears to be a close link with another weaving company, Hand & McGuinness who produced an election ribbon for Harrison and Morton. Best also produced designs for standing presidents, notably Lincoln and McKinley. It is likely that President Cleveland was included (they produced two versions of Mrs. Cleveland) but none has been seen. Best also produced an inauguration ribbon in 1893 for Cleveland and Stevenson complete with views of the Capitol, a tiger and a Native American. Their designs also included a series of ribbons for G.A.R. reunions and many depicting the Passaic Falls which were made for various events.



B.B. Tilt produced an election ribbon for the 1876 Republican candidates R.B. Hayes and W.A. Wheeler. An election silk for the 1884 Republican candidates J.G. Blaine and J.A. Logan was produced by the company Schweitzer & Kaetz from Malborough, Connecticut but I have not seen any other item from this weaver.



For collectors, it is a blessing that many of the souvenir bookmarks were used as bookmarks or were squirreled away in attics and basements only to be discovered by relatives several generations later. It explains why many are found in good bright condition often with their original backing papers. The dyes then used in the manufacture were light sensitive and prolonged sunlight would cause considerable fading. The electoral ribbons seem not to have fared so well. Often these were pinned to clothing during the campaign and exposed to the air and damp. They are also much rarer and I suppose that this would be explained by them not being available for so long, and these were probably, horror of horrors, disposed of after the event. In these circumstances it is difficult to value particular items but the adage 'quality always sells' means that it is worth seeking out good examples wherever possible.

Dr. Mark Cottrill [markcottrill@talktalk.net] has been collecting and trading Stevengraphs and other silk weavings for more than 40 years - starting as a student and continuing past retirement. He has compiled two books: *Stevengraphs in Colour* and *The Silk Weavings of William Henry Grant*. Both books are published by Blurb Books (www.blurb.com) and can be found in their bookstore. A preview is available for both books and they can be ordered on line. A third book - *The Bookmarks of Thomas Stevens* - is in preparation.

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“What England Thinks of It” – A Textile Tea Party in 1888

By Michael Kelly

As Mark Cottrill explains in the main article of this issue, woven textile ribbons played a visible role in American politics of the late 19th century. Yet few could have foreseen that those handsome little pieces of cloth could themselves become a campaign issue.

The year was 1888. Grover Cleveland was in the White House, the first Democrat elected President after almost a quarter century of Republican rule. Cleveland was in a tight re-election race with Republican challenger Benjamin Harrison, grandson of President William Henry Harrison.

One of the key issues of the campaign was the emerging conflict between Protection and Free Trade. The issue has never completely left American politics and is still active today between those who believe that we should have Free Trade agreements with most of the world (such as the NAFTA agreement that opened trade between the USA, Canada and Mexico, resulting in thousands of US manufacturing jobs moving to lower-cost Mexico) and those who believe we should close markets and protect American jobs and businesses from foreign competition. Today, Democrats tend to favor Protection while Republicans tend to back Free Trade. In the late 19th century, the party positions were reversed with Democrats supporting Free Trade to lower prices for consumers while Republicans supported Protection for American business and labor to keep prices and wages high.

In 1888, concerns were not about competition from Mexico or China. No, it was England – then the manufacturing powerhouse of the planet – that caused worries for American manufacturers and labor.

During that era, the two most popular illustrated weeklies were *Judge*, which leaned Republican, and *Puck*, which leaned Democratic. The October 6, 1888 issue of *Judge* featured a new scandal to throw at the Democrats exactly one month before the election. With the caption “The Pauper Labor Badge!” on its front cover, the magazine gleefully proclaimed how the Cleveland campaign had ordered a shipment of handsome woven ribbons from prominent manufacturer W.H. Grant in dreaded England rather than ordering them from a good, honest, local American manufacturer.

Emblazoning the cover with not one but two pictures of the traitorous ribbon, *Judge* went on to quote British newspapers about how British interests were hoping for a Cleveland victory in November. The cover’s caption proclaimed, “Enormous quantities of this English Silk Badge passed the Custom House, June 5th – Cleveland was nominated June 6th. The English knew whom they wanted!”

The obvious implication was that President Cleveland was serving the interests of a foreign power rather than those of honest Americans.

It is not clear how much of an impact the issue had, but Cleveland did lose the election to Harrison a month later.



VOL. 14 NO. 364

OCTOBER 6 1888.

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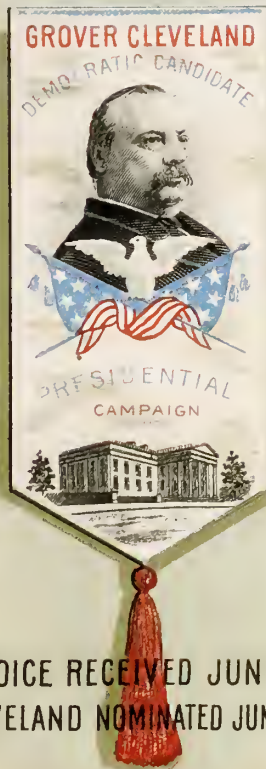
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MEDALS & DIPLOMAS.



London, 1885.
W. H. GRANT,
Sole Inventor and Manufacturer,
FOLESHILL, COVENTRY.



INVOICE RECEIVED JUNE 5TH
CLEVELAND NOMINATED JUNE 6TH

WHAT ENGLAND THINKS OF IT.

The main question at issue is English free trade against the continental system of protection.—*London Sunday Times*, July 15.

The American election is infinitely more important to Englishmen than their own internal politics just at this juncture.

The result of the American election will help to decide many important issues in Great Britain.—*LONDON SUNDAY TIMES*, JULY 15.

From "THE LONDON DAILY NEWS,"
President Cleveland shows that he is the Free-Trade candidate in everything but name. The reservation is an important one for American party purposes. The President feels compelled to characterize the attempt to brand him as a Free Trader as deception, but for all that **THE ELECTORAL CONFLICT NOW IN PROGRESS IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION AND NOTHING ELSE.**

Huddingstonshire Courier: We may look to an impetus being given to our home trade that will go far to make up for the depression of late years.

London Globe: Mr. Cleveland has taken his stand on free trade. * * * And on that broad question Mr. Cleveland's candidature naturally and necessarily carries English sympathy.

London News: The electoral conflict now in progress is a conflict between free trade and protection and nothing less. The stone now set rolling will not stop until it has broken the idol of protection to pieces.

It may be admitted that large reductions in the duties on imported manufactured goods would produce great distress in many parts of the United States. The free importation of iron, coal and wool would be a great boon to British producers. * * * If once the United States finds herself on the road to free trade she will hardly know where to stop.—*The Scotsman*, Dec. 10.

If President Cleveland should be able to carry out his plan for admission into America free of duty, one of the first effects which would be produced on the English iron trade would be the transference of much of the enormous stocks of pig iron in the Scotch and Cleveland markets to United States ports. Shipments of hematites from Scotland and from the west coast of England would also increase. The iron-ore mines of Lancashire and West Cumberland would be certain to do a greatly enlarged trade with the United States. The future course of events will be watched with considerable interest by the British iron trade.—*London Colliery Guardian*, December 16, 1887.

AWARDED 7 HIGHEST PRIZE
MEDALS & DIPLOMAS.



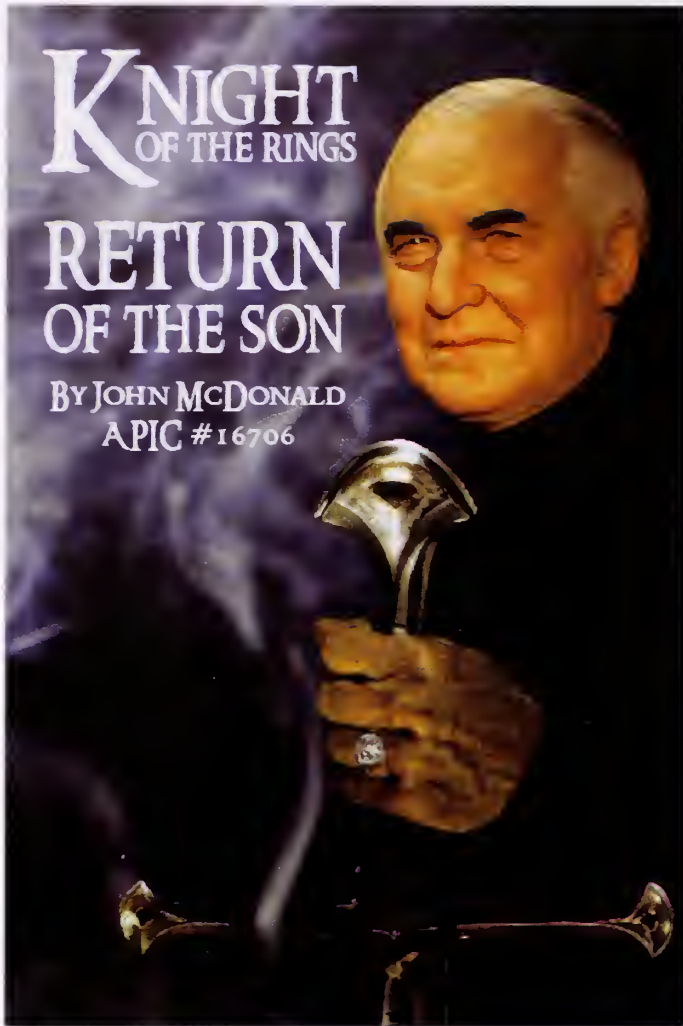
London, 1885.
W. H. GRANT,
Sole Inventor and Manufacturer,
FOLESHILL, COVENTRY.



INVOICE RECEIVED JUNE 5TH
CLEVELAND NOMINATED JUNE 6TH

THE PAUPER LABOR BADGE!

Enormous quantities of this English Silk Badge passed the Custom House, June 5th.—Cleveland was nominated June 6th.
The English knew whom they wanted!



In 2007 I learned of the existence of two pieces of fine jewelry that had once belonged to President Warren G. Harding. Two rings, one a woman's and another Masonic, were given to my late mother-in-law as keepsakes. For more than ten years, she had been caregiver to an Ohio man named John James Owen, Sr. Jim had a fascinating personal history that he confided to her. He claimed to be the illegitimate son of Warren Harding, born in 1900, and these were rings that his father had given to him.

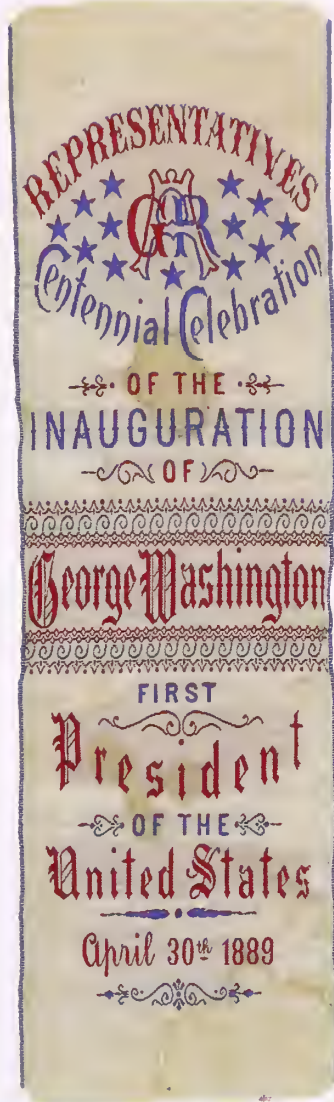
It seemed to good to be true. I took the rings to a gemologist and got his opinion. I was told that these diamond rings were the best that money could buy in Harding's time. A second gemologist told me the same thing. The Masonic ring was custom-made to reflect Harding's degrees and honors as a Mason.

Thus began six years of research. I examined hundreds of Harding photographs and paintings and compared the rings with those visible on Harding's hand, many of which appear to confirm Jim's claim. The Harding rings were part of a larger Harding memorabilia exhibit that I displayed at the 2012 APIC National Convention in Columbus.

Jim led a very private life as an oil salesman in Youngstown, Ohio. He passed away in 1997 at the age of 97.

Warren G. Harding was a member of the Knights Templar, a Masonic Order. I call this story "Knight of the Rings: Return of the Son." I am advertising here to briefly introduce this project to the membership. My research continues and I am hard at work on a forthcoming book which will present a complete account of Jim's story, with supporting evidence and documentation. Please contact me if you'd like to see photos of the president wearing these rings and to learn more about Jim's story. HARDINGSRINGS@YAHOO.COM





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U.I. “Chick” Harris

A Memorial to the Man Who Rescued APIC from Oblivion

“We are not just collectors of the most interesting collectibles but we are preservers and researchers of our American political and historical past.”

- Chick Harris (on serving as first APIC historian)

Udell I. Harris - known to all APIC members as “Chick” - passed away March 16, 2012 at the Faith Countryside Nursing Home in Highland, Illinois. He was 89 years old and had been collecting political pins since he was thirteen. When his grandfather, a local politician, died in 1936, his meager collection of lodge pins and political pins was found attached to a small rag doll in the family’s attic. With the passing of his grandfather, Chick asked his mother if he could have the pinned-up doll and she gave it to him. It was the start of one of the most notable APIC political memorabilia collections known.



As a young adult, Chick attended St. Louis University night school, about 35 miles southwest of his home in Madison County, Illinois, where he received his Bachelor’s degree in business. During that time he met his wife to be, Cecelia, who urged him to continue purchasing political memorabilia while she eventually started her own collection of women suffrage items.

Chick met Walter Sanders (APIC #4), a friend of his father, who let him know about a group interested in political memorabilia called the American Political Items Collectors. The organization, started in the 1940s, was a decade later virtually non-existent, with its members spread across the country, trading political buttons by mail. The roster was printed on one sheet of 8 x 11” paper. Chick and Ceil took their vacations touring the country to meet some of the first APIC collectors, with the roster as a guide. They met Joe Fuld (APIC # 1) in Idaho, Charlie McSorley in New Jersey, and Monroe D. Ray and Agnes Gay (APIC #7) in New York, among others. It was Agnes Gay who was responsible for Ceil’s interest in women’s suffrage.

In the 1950s, there were no political auctions and no catalogs but there was Chick Harris attempting to collect at least one political item for each presidential candidate: the man who won and the man who was beaten. The price for a Lincoln ferrotype in those years was \$5.00 and they were not scarce. A few individuals who were the first dealers, in almost every case, had other resources. No one considered it a full time operation. In 1952, before the national election, Chick placed a display in the lobby of the largest bank in St. Louis. By 1956 he was recognized as a leading collector of political memorabilia wherever he was known.

Ralston Purina, where Chick worked as an accountant, featured Chick and his collection in its in-house publication, Check-R-Links. “He’s as Bright as His Buttons” in 1956 the headline told us. The lead-in read “Our nomination for one of the most interesting and certainly the most unusual hobby is that of U.I. (Chick) Harris who is Assistant Manager of Sales Payroll. His collection of political items is one of the most complete in the country.”

In 1960 Monroe D. Ray, writing the handful of APIC members left, told them that his poor health made it impossible for him to continue serving as the Secretary- Treasurer of APIC. He had put aside 40 cents for each member, which covered the balance that remained in the treasury.

Chick seized the moment to contact members Joe Brown, Ed Puls and others who felt as he did about revitalizing APIC and expanding its reach across the nation. A questionnaire was drafted and sent to every member left on the aging roster, asking each one if he wanted to help rebuild APIC. The answer was a rousing, “Yes!” Thirteen members attended a dinner and reorganization meeting at the Williams restaurant in Chicago in July, 1960. The idea of member auctions was born, research projects were outlined, and Chick Harris was named APIC president. Chick wrote and published what would become *The Keynoter* to confirm the gathering of those who realized the importance of collecting the images of political history.

In 1964, Chick with Ceil, now involved as much as her husband, convened APIC’s first national convention in Hartford, Connecticut, attracting 65 members. In 2014, the 27th National Convention will be held July 27-August 3 in Denver, Colorado with hundreds expected to attend. Chick served seventeen of those early years as editor of *The Keynoter*, the publication he founded, then as the first historian for APIC and a long time member of the board of directors. He was also named to the APIC Hall of Fame. One imagines that he will attend the Denver convention in spirit, perhaps surprised, but joyous at what those vacation trips to Fuld, McSorley, Monroe D. Ray, Agnes Gay and other founders inspired him to do after he had the rag doll with his grandfather’s pins in hand.

Albert G. Salter, Jr. June 29, 2013

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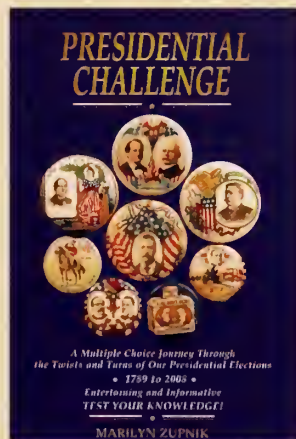
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With gratitude for the men and women of APIC who keep history alive.

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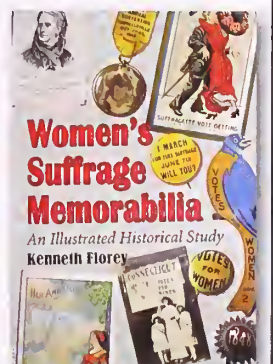
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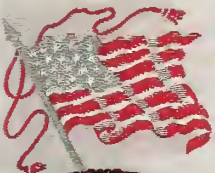
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The "Holy Grails" of U.S. Senate and Governor Items

By David Quintin

Most collectors are familiar with and identify the Cox-Roosevelt jugates as being the "Holy Grail" of presidential political collectables. A recent *Keynoter* article identified only ten different Cox-Roosevelt jugates with quantities of each type ranging from 1 to 35.

That rarity is the basis for the value of these items. Webster defines holy grail as "the object of an extended or difficult quest." As a collector of U.S. Senate and governor items for over forty years I have been privileged to know many collectors and view their collections. That, coupled with conducting a political auction, viewing items almost daily on eBay since its inception, attending local and national political shows and participating in auctions, has given me a keen sense of the rare and unusual. I thought it would be interesting to select one U.S. Senate or governor item from each state that would deserve the title of the "Holy Grail" for that state. The first thing that influenced my selection process was how many times over the years of collecting had I seen a given item.

As noted in the accompanying key many of the items selected are the only known copies. Granted there may be additional copies but in my years of collecting I have not seen another or am aware of another copy. So enjoy seeing some of the rarest U.S. Senate and governor items in the hobby. Perhaps a follow up article may be in the offing as I know of at least another 50 or so that would fit into the "holy grail" category.



Alaska



Alabama



Arkansas



California



Arizona



Georgia



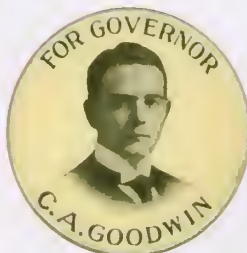
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Delaware



Florida



Connecticut



Iowa



Idaho



Hawaii



Kansas



Massachusetts



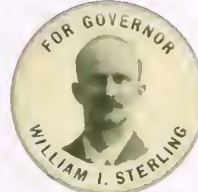
Michigan



Maryland



Maine



Minnesota



Missouri



Illinois



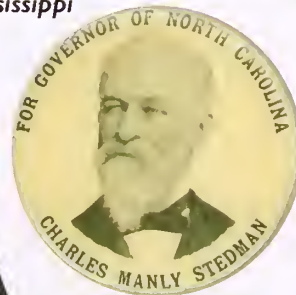
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Mississippi



Montana



North Dakota



Louisiana



New Hampshire



Nebraska



Indiana



Nevada



New Jersey



New Jersey



New York



New Mexico



Ohio



Ohio



Oklahoma



Oregon



Pennsylvania



Rhode Island



South Carolina



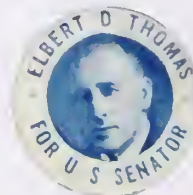
South Dakota



Tennessee



Texas



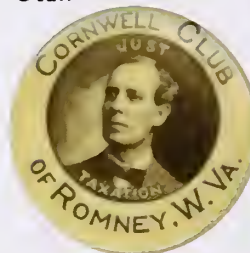
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The "holy grails" of U.S. Senate & Governor items

	Candidate	Office	Date	Scarcity *	Size	Manufacturer
1 Alabama	Gov Wm C. Oates	USS	1896	A	7/8"	Unknown
2 Alaska	Keith Miller	Gov	1970-'78	B	1 1/4"	Unknown
3 Arizona	George A. Olney	Gov	1916	B	7/8"	National Eqpt Co
4 Arkansas	Carl E. Bailey	Gov	1937	A	2 1/4"	St. Louis Button Co
5 California	Franklin K. Lane	Gov	1902	A	1 1/4"	Unknown
6 Colorado	Alva Adams	Gov	1884-'06	B	1 1/4"	Unknown
7 Connecticut	C. A. Goodwin	Gov	1910	B	1 1/4"	Boston Bros Co
8 Delaware	John Hoeffcker (Gov) Willis (USC)	Gov/USC	1896	B	7/8"	Whitehead & Hoag
9 Florida	Albert W. Gilchrist	USS	1914-'22	A	7/8"	Whitehead & Hoag
10 Georgia	Herman Talmadge	Gov	1948-50	A	1 1/4" on 2 1/4 ribbon	Unknown
11 Hawaii	John A. Bruns	Gov	1959-'70	B	1 3/4"	Unknown
12 Idaho	Charles C. Gossett	Gov	1938-'54	A	7/8"	St. Louis Badge
13 Illinois	W.C. Croluis	Gov	1904	A	1 3/4" on 4" ribbon	Unknown
14 Indiana	Winfield Durbin (Gov) McKinley(Pres) (VP)	Gov/Pres	1900	B	1 1/4"	Simpson Ewash
15 Iowa	A.U. Coates	Gov	1901	B	1 1/2"	Unknown
16 Kansas	Bryan (Pres) Briedenthal (Gov)	Gov/Pres	1900	A	1 1/4"	Whitehead & Hoag
17 Kentucky	James P. Tarvin	Gov	1901	B	7/8" on 4 1/4" ribbon	Pettibone Co
18 Louisiana	Huey P. Long	Gov	1928	A	2 1/4"	Unknown
19 Maine	Willima Sterling	Gov	1912	A	1"	Whitehead & Hoag
20 Maryland	Lloyd Lowndes	Gov	1895-'99	A	5/8"	Unknown
21 Massachusetts	Taft (Pres) Draper (Gov) (Ltg)	Gov/Pres	1908	A	1 1/2"	Boston Badge Co
22 Michigan	H.S. Pingree	Gov	1898	A	1 3/4"	Whitehead & Hoag
23 Minnesota	Bryan (Pres) Lind (Gov) (MN st sen)	Gov/Pres	1900	A	1 1/4"	Shepherd Photo Co
24 Mississippi	Theodor G. Bilbo	Gov	1915-'27	A	1 1/2"	Unknown
25 Missouri	T.R. (Pres) Walbridge (Gov) Sligo, Mo	Gov/Pres	1904	B	1 3/4"	St. Louis Badge Co
26 Montana	James E. Murray	USS	1934-'54	A	1 3/4"	Chicago 232 Union Bug
27 Nebraska	William G. Hastings	Gov	1898	B	1 1/4"	Unknown
28 Nevada	D.S. Dickerson	Gov	1910	A	7/8"	Walter N. Brunt Co
29 New Hampshire	G.A. Ramsdell	Gov	1896	B	7/8"	Whitehead & Hoag
30 New Jersey	George Brunner	Gov	1940's	A	1 1/4"	Unknown
New Jersey	John W. Wescott	USS	1912-'16	A	7/8"	J. H. Shaw Co
31 New Mexico	Holm Bursum	Gov/USS	1911-'24	B	1"	Unknown
32 New York	Charles E. Russell (Socialist)	Gov	1910 - '12	A	1 1/4"	Unknown
33 North Carolina	Charles M. Stedman	Gov	1904	A	1 1/2"	Whitehead & Hoag
34 North Dakota	Hanna (USS) Hall (USC) Hanley (Gov)	Gov/USS	1926	A	7/8"	St. Louis Button Co
35 Ohio	Asa S. Bushnell (matching pair ad spinners)	Gov	1897	A	7/8"	Unknown
Ohio	Horace L. Chapman " " "	Gov	1897	A	7/8"	Unknown
36 Oklahoma	Lee Cruce	Gov	1910	B	1"	Unknown
37 Oregon	R.R. Ryan (Socialist)	Gov	1902	A	7/8"	Unknown
38 Pennsylvania	Palmer (USS) McCormick (Gov)	USS/Gov	1914	B	1 3/4"	J. H. Shaw Co
39 Rhode Island	William T. Wardwell	Gov	1892	A	7/8"	Unknown
40 South Carolina	Cole L. Blease	USS	1914 - '32	A	1 1/4"	Unknown
41 South Dakota	Taft (Pres) Vessey (Gov) Crawford (USS)	Gov/Pres	1908	B	1 1/4"	Brown & Bigelow
42 Tennessee	Bryan (Pres) Stevenson (VP) McMillin (Gov)	Gov/Pres	1900	B	1 1/2"	Rudolph Liebmann Mfg Co
43 Texas	Joseph Bailey	Gov	1920	A	1 1/4"	Dallas Badge & Button
44 Utah	Elbert D. Thomas	USS	1932 - '50	B	1"	Salt Lake Stamp
45 Vermont	J. Henry Jackson	Gov	1896	B	7/8"	Whitehead & Hoag
46 Virginia	J. Hoge Tyler	Gov	1897	A	1 3/4" & 8 1/2" ribbon	Whitehead & Hoag
47 Washington	Roland H. Hartley	Gov	1924 - '36	B	2 3/4" oval	Cruver Mfg Co
48 West Virginia	John J. Cornwell	Gov	1904, '16	B	1 1/4"	Baltimore Badge
49 Wisconsin	Bryan (Pres) Bohmrich (Gov)	Pres/Gov	1900	B	1 1/4"	Geraghty Mfg Co
50 Wyoming	Alger (Gov) Arnold (USC)	Gov/USC	1898	A	7/8"	Whitehead & Hoag

* A= only known copy, B= one of five or less known



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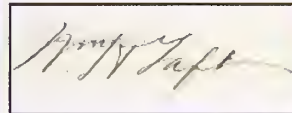
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Campaigning for the Latino Vote in Presidential Elections

By David W. Dent

Latinos, the largest sub-group of minority voters in the United States, are a growing force in presidential elections and currently present a real challenge to the two-party system. Whether Cuban, Puerto Rican, Mexican, Central American or other, those with cultural or human ties to Latin America and the Caribbean constitute 15 percent of the U.S. population and form the second-largest Spanish-speaking “country” in the world after Mexico. Those states with large Latino populations—Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Texas, New York, Illinois, and New Jersey—now have the electoral strength to determine the outcome of presidential elections.

The major sources of immigration have changed since the post-World War II period (1945-1960) when the largest category of immigrants was from Europe. During the Cold War the United States experienced a large influx from Asia, the Caribbean (particularly Cuba), and Central America. Beginning in the early 1970s, immigrants from Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean far surpassed the predominant Northern European source of immigration that had once dominated the electoral landscape. Those who have come to El Norte (“the North” as the United States is known in Mexico) have been motivated to leave their homelands because of revolutions, corruption, civil war, drug trafficking and criminal violence, and economic hardship.

Presidential candidates have recognized the electoral power of Latinos and used a variety of campaign strategies during the election to capture the important Latino vote in key states. Cuban-Americans who fled Castro’s Revolution in Cuba gravitated to the Republican Party, angered at the Kennedy administration’s failure to defeat Castro at the Bay of Pigs and other efforts to rid the island of Castroism. Mexicans who became citizens and eligible to vote in the United States moved toward the Democratic Party beginning with the Bracero Program in the 1940s (it was terminated in 1964).



Campaign buttons don't tell the whole story of how Latino voters choose their favorite candidates, but they do reflect the growing importance of immigration policies and the role of immigrants in determining public policy. President Obama's less hostile position on illegal immigration in the 2012 campaign and Mitt Romney's gaffe that the solution to illegal immigration is "self-deportation" help explain why Obama won with 71 percent of the Latino vote. Nevertheless, some Republicans—Arnold Schwarzenegger and George W. Bush---have managed to win large segments of the Latino vote in California and Texas. President Bush, for example, tried delivering campaign speeches in Spanish, donned a sombrero, solicited campaign contributions from wealthy Cubans and Mexicans, and celebrated Cinco de Mayo at the White House. The president's brother, Jeb Bush, married a woman of Mexican heritage and speaks decent Spanish. These attributes helped him become governor of Florida. George P. Bush, son of Jeb Bush, is currently planning to run for office in Texas, a large state where the Bush family has deep roots.

The language found on campaign buttons typically includes convincing rhetoric, Latino symbols, words that rhyme, cross-over words and messaging the campaigns feel will attract Spanish-speaking voters. The earliest campaign button in my collection circulated during the 1952 election of Dwight D. Eisenhower, frequently known as Ike. This campaign brought forth many buttons, from "I Like Ike" to "Ike and Dick". The large button with "Mi Piace Eisenhower, Viva" combines some Italian "Mi Piace" (I Like) and Spanish ("Viva"), a strange button designed to capture both the Italian and Latino vote at the same time. The use of "Viva" (translation: "Long Live" or "Hooray for") is the most

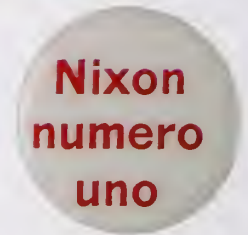
common word used, and one can find several buttons going back to JFK that say simply "Viva Kennedy" adorned with a sombrero. The 1968 Robert F. Kennedy button ("Viva Kennedy") is superimposed on the Aztec calendar stone representing Mexican heritage. While not specific to any one political party, the large "To Hell With Fidel" appeared in 1962 and clearly aimed at capturing the anti-Castro sentiment at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis.



George McGovern's 1972 button tried to portray the mood of the Latino movement with "Unidos con McGovern"—United with McGovern) The use of "para" (meaning "for" in English) is a rather straight forward way of indicating support for a president as in "Nixon para Presidente" or the urgent message on the button reading "Presidente Nixon, ¡Ahora Mas que Nunca!" (President Nixon, Now More than Ever). The use of "numero uno" conveys a strong preference for a candidate while the Michael Dukakis button in 1988 takes "fiel" (faithful, honest) and creates a play-on-words with "Soy fiel a Miguel" (meaning "I will always be with Michael") instead of Miguel para presidente or Viva Miguel. The use of "adelante" came out for the 1996 campaign with "Adelante con Clinton Gore '96" (meaning "Forward with Clinton Gore in 1996").

Some of the Latino-focused buttons tried to match the rhythmic "H H H" with "Si Si, Si" (HHH; Yes, Yes, Yes) while others tried more abstract language such as the Reagan/Bush button from the 1981 inauguration: "Esta es nuestra época" ("This is our time"). It's hard to say whether the diversity of Latino-focused buttons in the successful 2008 and 2012 elections catapulted Barack Obama into the presidency, but they were very popular and prevalent in Colorado and California.

Obama's buttons tried to capture his message with "Cambio, Podemos Creer En" (Change, We Can Believe In), "Si Se Puede" (Yes We Can), and for his reelection "Cuatro Mas Años" (Four More Years) and probably the most clever combination of words "¡Obámanos!" (Let's Go With Obama). The small button combines Obama's last name with the Spanish word vámanos which is similar to adelante. Given the growing number of Latino voters and Latino members of Congress, it won't be long before we see a Latino/Latina on the presidential or vice-presidential ticket, or a Latina like Sonia Sotomayor who sits on the Supreme Court. Adelante!



Hispanic voters have never supported just one party. Most Cuban-Americans and Venezuelan-Americans tend to vote Republican, while Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Salvadoran-Americans, and Dominican-Americans tend to vote Democratic.

Early Hispanic Campaign Item



Although Hispanic and Spanish language political items have become increasingly common since the 1960's, the ribbon shown here is a remarkable early example of Latino political involvement. Dated 1900, it boosts the "Club Democrata" showing "Hispano Americano" support for the Bryan/Stevenson ticket. The club appears to have been created on September 28, 1900 in Phoenix, Arizona. Of course, Hispanics lived in Arizona long before that land became part of the USA. Arizona was taken by the USA from Mexico in the Mexican-American War (1846-1848). Arizona voters of any ethnic origin wouldn't have been able to vote in 1900 as statehood did not come to Arizona until February 14, 1912. That year, Arizona's 3 electoral votes went for the Democratic ticket of Wilson/Marshall and the state leaned Democratic until the Eisenhower era when it became a reliable Republican state and produced two GOP presidential nominees; Barry Goldwater in 1964 and John McCain in 2008.





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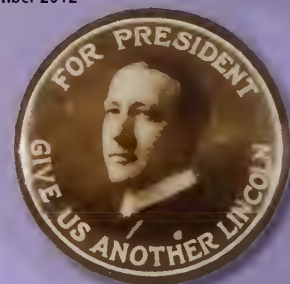
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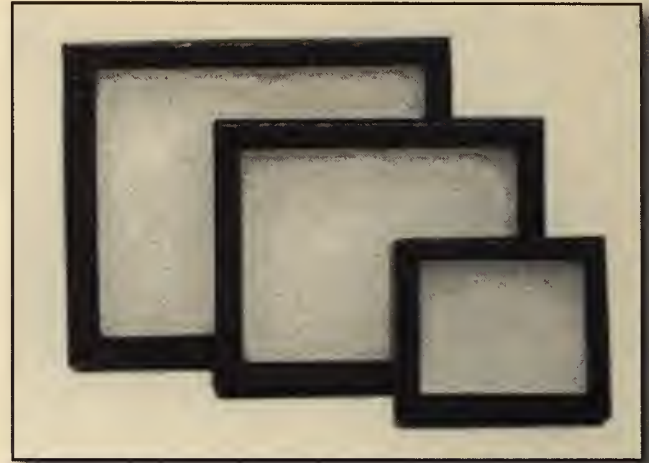
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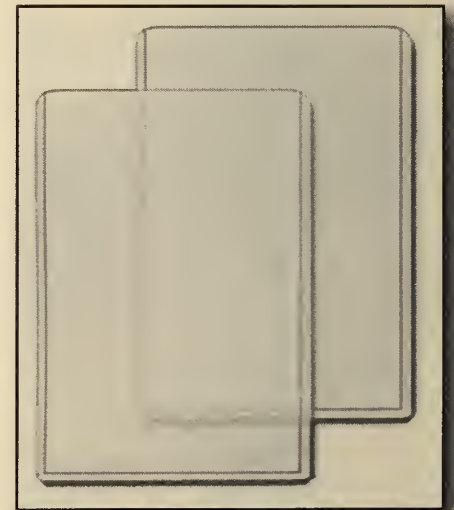
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