

Subject: coin collection valuation

Nies, S.A.

1926

[St. Thomas, Virgin Islands]

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W.I.

January 8 1926

To the Curator of The American Numismatic Society

Dear Sir-

About a year ago I came into possession of a collection of coins and medals which have been in the process of accumulation for at least a hundred years by a family of old residents down here whose family or heirs disposed of them to me. I am not a numismatist and have no books which will help me determine the rarity or value of these coins & medals of which there are about three hundred and fifty

There are some Roman and
Greek coins, some from the West
Indies and South America some
French English and America
and some French Revolutionary
paper money.

Can you inform me the best
manner of determining their
value and to dispose of them
should I so decide -

I would be quite willing to
send them on to you by Express
at my own expense if you
care to examine them -

My late brother The Rev Dr
James B Nes was a member of
your Society

Hoping that you will
pardon my intruding on
your time. I am,

Very sincerely yours

S. A. Nies

January 18th, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
Castle Bluebeard
St. Thomas
Virgin Islands, W.I.

Dear Sir:

In response to your letter of January 8th, probably the best way in which to dispose of your collection would be through the coin dealers, a list of whom I take pleasure in enclosing.

Elder and Mehl are the only ones who hold frequent auction sales - the remainder of them would buy outright.

Medals do not bring very much as the demand for them is limited.

Roman and Greek coins bring good prices provided they are in fine condition and are rare.

Coins of the West Indies and South America are apt to bring good prices for rarities. We are interested in this series, and would like to see them - especially the West Indian pieces which have been counterstamped, cut into segments or have had holes pushed in them.

The French paper money has next to no value.

If you would care to do so, you could send your collection here, and we should be glad to advise whether you would do better to place the pieces in auction sales, or get what you can through coin dealers.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

Curator

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W. I.

Jan'y 29/26

Howland Wood Esq,
Curator Am. Museum of Nat. Hist., N.Y.

Dear Sir -

Thank you for your prompt
reply to my letter -

I am sending the collection parcels
post and await the pleasure of
your reply.

This collection was in the hands of
the Moron family, old residents of
St Thomas and part of it, marked
25 D, was bought in Brussels March
1866 and cost at that time 3550 francs

Very Sincerely yours

S. A. Mies

P.S. I should like to dispose of the collection
in its entirety unless you advise otherwise

February 11th, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
Castle Bluebeard
St. Thomas
V.I., W.I.

Dear Sir:

The box containing the coins just at hand
and I have locked them over.

I am sorry to have to inform you that there
is nothing in the lot which is rare. The bulk of
the pieces would simply bring the old metal value;
and for the most part, this would be very little as
a large number are worn German coins of inferior sil-
ver.

The few medals are really worth but very lit-
tle.

The package containing the coins bought in
Brussels are worth a little more - but, even then, very
little.

Whoever paid over three thousand francs for
them was certainly cheated.

I will have one or two people look at the
lot and see what offer they would make, and will then
write you again.

Very truly yours,

Curator

March 2nd, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
St. Thomas
Virgin Islands

Dear Sir:

I have had two people look at the collection of coins which you sent here, and I regret to inform you that the best offer I could get, is \$22.50. I realize that this will prove very disappointing to you, but there is not a rare coin in the lot, and unfortunately most of them are in poor condition.

Very truly yours,

Curator

cost 118
to send up

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W. I.

Howland Wood Esq
Curator, A.N.S.

Dear Mr Wood -

I am in receipt of
your letters of February 11th and March
2nd and thank you for the trouble
you have taken to help me dispose
of the coin collection -

Naturally I am greatly dissapointed
in finding they are worth so little
but have no one but myself to blame
At 22⁵⁰ or even more I would
prefer to keep them and next
Christmas make a present of them

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W. I.

to my grandson, a schoolboy
interested in coins -

If you will consent to take
the trouble of sending them
back to me I shall be greatly
obliged -

The postage, I believe, was
two dollars and sixty cents -

I am inclosing three dollars.
The balance if any may be
returned to me in postage
stamps - Thanking you once

more for your efforts in my
behalf I am very sincerely yours
D. A. Nies

March 26th, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
St. Thomas
Virgin Islands, W.I.

Dear Mr. Nies:

I have just received your letter and appreciate your position in regard to the coins about which you wrote. I will return them to you. Possibly you have discovered that the three dollars were not inclosed in the envelope, as mentioned in your letter.

Very truly yours,

Curator

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W. I.

April 8/26

Mr Howland Wood, Curator
Am. Museum of Nat. Hist.

Dear Mr Wood -

Your letter of Mar 26
received - Please excuse the over-
sight - This time the check will
be enclosed - Thank you ever
so much for the effort you
have made in my behalf -
My only consolation is that
the money I spent for the coins
went to some one who needed it
very badly and did not know the
value any more than I did -

Very Sincerely S. A. Mies

April 30th, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
Castle Bluebeard
St. Thomas, W.I.

Dear Mr. Nies:

Thank you very much for your cheque which has come safely to hand. I find that our man returned your package by parcel post; and although he cannot recall the amount of postage, he knows that it was less than three dollars. If you will kindly let us know what we owe you, we shall be very glad to send you our cheque to cover same.

Very truly yours,

Curator

CASTLE BLUEBEARD
ST. THOMAS
VIRGIN ISLANDS, W. I.

May 10/26

Mr Howland Wood -
Am. Numismatic Rev. N.Y.

Dear Mr Wood -

Thanks you very much
for your letter of April 30th
The amount of postage on the
returned package was one dollar
and sixty cents -

Very Sincerely yours
S. A. Nies

300
~~160~~
140

May 26th, 1926

Mr. S. A. Nies
St. Thomas
Virgin Islands, W.I.

Dear Mr. Nies:

Your letter of May 10th just at hand.

I am enclosing, herewith, our cheque for
\$1.40 to cover difference between your cheque
and the postage expended.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

Curator