

THE CARIBOU OR REIN DEER.—It is somewhat curious that the early French settlers in Canada, in the strange names they gave to animals, while they called the Moose *Vache sauvage*, a name now supplanted by the Algonquin *orignal*, styled the caribou or reindeer, *ane sauvage*, wild ass. The appellation given to the skunk was *fil du diable*, while the humming-bird was more poetically styled the flying-flower.

A CONNECTICUT REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOT.—Mr. Nathaniel Ames, a native of Connecticut, died recently at Rome Corners, Wisconsin. The *Wisconsin State Journal* says of him:—

“Nathaniel Ames was born in Killingly, Connecticut, April 25, 1761. His grandfather was from Scotland. At seventeen years of age he served a month as a guard on the Stonington and Groton shore, and helped build Fort Griswold, on Groton Bank. The following year, 1779, he entered the Continental service. He was with the main army at Morristown, New Jersey, through the winter of terrible suffering that followed, and used to relate how Washington would come to the barracks and cheer up the men with words of sympathy and kindness, adding, ‘We told him we hoped we should live till spring to fight our country’s battles.’

“In the autumn of 1780, while stationed near Tarrytown, Mr. Ames witnessed the execution of Andre. At the close of the campaign that year he left the service and went on board of a privateer, a sixteen gun brig, built at New London, and called the *La Fayette*. He continued on this vessel till the close of the war, assisting in the capture of several prizes. After the war he married and settled near Albany, New York, and engaged in farming. At the age of thirty he became a preacher in the Wesleyan Methodist church, and soon after removed to Steuben, in Oneida county, where he preached until he reached the age of seventy-five. In 1840, with three of his children, he removed to this State, and settled in the town of Oregon, where he continued to reside up to the time of his

death. He was one of the last survivors of the Revolution, and it is probable there is not another west of the Alleghanies.”

NUMISMATIC NOTES.—*Pine Tree Money*.—A few weeks since Geo. Wilber Reed, a little son of Geo. P. Reed, Esq., of this city, when climbing up a bank, through which a new street has been recently cut, to aid his ascent put his hand into a crevice by the side of a rock; on withdrawing his hand his attention was attracted by a piece of metal, which on examination he found to be a Pine Tree Shilling, with two other coins adhering. The boy of course continued “prospecting” till the “lead” was exhausted, and at the conclusion of his digging was rewarded by finding in his possession no less than twenty-eight pieces, comprising all the denominations of the Pine Tree money, all of the common types with a single exception.

Many persons have busied themselves in constructing theories as to how and when the coins came there. The small amount of the deposit (only two dollars and a quarter in value) precludes the probability of its having been purposely buried, and points to this reasonable solution of the question. Some person in passing through the woods, “long ago,” happened to drop a purse; the contents being of too trifling value to warrant any extended search, the recovery was reserved for the lucky lad above named.

That the coins were not lost prior to 1662 is proved by the fact that several two-penny pieces of that date were found amongst them, while the fine condition of the pieces, coupled with the circumstances that no Spanish or other coins were with them, indicate that they were lost when the mint was in its palmy days, and when the Pine Tree money was almost or quite the only currency in circulation in New England, say between 1662 and 1685.

It was a superstition of the period, that he who carried in his pocket a crooked piece of money would never be molested by the witches. We find in this collection a sixpence bent nearly in the form of an S, and bearing as plainly as though made to