

west and regarded by the receivers as binding them to fight for King George, as they were bound by their Catholic medals to pray to their tutelar saints. Tecumseh wore one round his neck when killed in 1813 at the Thames. It was several years ago in the mint at Philadelphia. It was No. 14 in the case of miscellaneous medals, its material silver, and three inches in diameter.

During our Civil War, when it was thought England might side with the South, our Indian agents were ordered to search for foreign medals among the tribes, demand the surrender of them, and give American medals in their stead. There now lies before me a medal, one of the several thus obtained in pursuance of orders from Washington, from Menomonee chiefs, by Indian agent, Hon. M. M. Davis. Those aboriginal leaders, in their own view, did not exchange allegiance till they exchanged the tokens of it. It is an odd coincidence, that the silver disk before me is identical in all points with that worn by Tecumseh at his death, and described in Snowden's work on *American Coins and Medals*. Our State Historical Society already has a nucleus of such numismatic memorials, and if those who ignorantly hoard them here and there, will send them in, at least for inspection in the center of historic studies, we need not despair of seeing an outline history of Wisconsin written in medallie memorials.

In view of the considerations now presented, there seems to be verity, or at least verisimilitude, in my opinion that the Spanish medal came from the Spanish governor to the aboriginal chieftain who visited him, and that it lay in his mound-marked grave, or that of his next friend, till in our days it re-appeared for giving us light and delight as well. Yet I am ready to surrender this theory for one better, as the Menomonee exchanged the likeness of King George for that of Abraham Lincoln.

MARCH 3, 1882.

The Hispano-Wisconsin Medal

Regarding this disk of silver, dug out of an Indian mound at Prairie du Chien, and bearing a legend of Charles III, king of Spain and the Indies (1758-88), I held in my paper of March 3d,