

J. E. Reynolds.

that there is a considerable difference in the sp. grs. of the two medals, the small one fairly agreeing with that of an  $\frac{11}{12}$  th Au-Ag alloy, but the large one being distinctly under the standard. They could then offer any explanation they thought proper, always recollecting that its validity

further.

The above facts are interesting, I thought you would like to know them, as, your recollection of the effects of Ag on gold may now be dim.

Very faithfully  
J. E. Reynolds

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July 9<sup>th</sup> 1900

Dear Fitzgerald,

Since I saw you today I happened to find an analysis of a sample of Au-Ag alloy by Church. This contained

Au - 90.055 & Ag - 9.947%

Direct estimation, or a 10% alloy. Its specific gravity was 17.6.

Now an  $\frac{11}{12}$  th Au-Ag alloy should contain only 8.34% of Ag, or 1.66% less Ag than the above.

Assuming that the sp. gr. falls regularly from 19.3 to 17.6 as the percentage of Ag increases, the sp. gr. of the  $\frac{11}{12}$  th Au-Ag should be about 17.9. Our value for the

smaller, or 1895; gold medal  
was 18.01.

I am therefore right in concluding  
that the smaller of the two  
medals is fairly within the  
limits of contract, tho' under the  
~~theoretical sp. gr.~~  
On the other hand the large,  
or 1899, medal, if Au-Ag  
alloy (only as specified in  
Johnson's Letter), is sensibly  
deficient in gold, as its  
sp. gr. was 17.01.

While the effect of silver on  
gold is little greater than  
that of an indifferent diluent,  
as indicated above, copper  
appears to form a feeble

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compound with the precious  
metal, and this evidently  
occupies a greater volume  
than the mere mixture..

The  $\frac{1}{2}$  t<sup>c</sup> coin alloy, where  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  t<sup>c</sup> is wholly copper has,  
I find, a sp. gr. of practically  
17.2..

If, however, Cu was used  
instead of Ag, or the alloy in  
the large medal material,  
the colour of the latter should  
certainly be rather deeper than  
that of the small medal; where  
you will easily note that it  
is sensibly lighter

The proper course obviously  
is to point out to Mess<sup>d</sup>. I. Blo-