THE PENNY OF PASES.

Pasetis semiobolus.—Ex Erasmi Adagiis.

Tradunt Pasetem quendam præstigiarum et magiæ peritiå primum nomen meruisse.—Emebat autem frequenter, pretiumque rei numerabat: verum mox nummus, non apud venditorem, sed apud Pasetem, reperiebatur.—Sic etiam apud Suidam vo. Pases.

AIR-Abraham Newland.

When condemned to be poor,
Doesn't need to be told in fine phrases;
Nor how matters would mend
Were a Fairy our friend,
Who would give us the Penny of Pases.
O! for the Penny of Pases!
The miraculous Penny of Pases!
When he paid it away,
Ere a word you could say,
It was back in the pocket of Pases.

It is certain that many
By turning a penny
Get wealth that all people amazes:
And so We might grow rich,
To a wonderful pitch,
Just by turning the Penny of Pases.
The astonishing Penny of Pases!
I can never enough sing its praises;
No figures could count
The prodigious amount
We might raise by the Penny of Pases.

But I wouldn't as yet
Pay the National Debt,
Which I think one of Stuart Mill's crazes;
Nor in luxury wallow,
And guzzle and swallow
All I got from the Penny of Pases.
When I think of the Penny of Pases,
My breast with benevolence blazes:
Such good I would do,
Such fine projects pursue,
When possessed of the Penny of Pases.

Men of wit and of worth,

The true salt of the earth,

Then should ride in their coaches and chaises;

All moneyless merit
Should freely inherit
A share of my Penny of Pases.
With the help of the Penny of Pases,
The beef of yon bullock that grazes
Should soon fatten all those
Who walk loose in their clo'es
For want of the Penny of Pases.

I would lavish my dollars
On Poets and Scholars;
I'd put Art on a liberal basis:
Scientific Inventors
Should hold some debentures
To be paid from my Penny of Pases.
The Church, too, should profit by Pases
(If it shun all Papistical phases):
Poor Curates with charges
Should taste of my largess.

Enriched by the Penny of Pases.

I would portion young girls
Who would keep their own curls,
And who wouldn't wear chignons or jaseys;
And, in spite of their dads,
I would teach little lads
Some things well worth the Penny of Pases.

If I had but the Penny of Pases,
I would strew life's hard pathway with daisies:
The Saturnian reign
Should be brought back again,
By the help of the Penny of Pases.

But a voice seems to ask,

"Are You fit for this task?"

And a delicate question it raises;

For I freely confess

One might make a sad mess,

Misapplying the Penny of Pases.

If we look at life's intricate mazes,

Perhaps he who piously gazes

May a Providence see

That is wiser than We,

And that needs not the Penny of Pases.