THE NEW GOLD DISCOVERIES
ON THE Isthmus of Panama.

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"GOES OF THE STEREOGRAPHIC DISPLAY."-

THIS period in which we live may be
counted the Age of Gold. The time seems to have
returned when the riches of all the earth are to be
disclosed and yielded up. We can no longer
look to the golden mountain worn out to drive into its preg-
nant bowels, or the golden river to wash out its
yellow sands.

The last, though perhaps not the least interesting
of this great discovery, and the last in the dis-
covering age, has just occurred on the Isthmus of
Panama. On a day in the latter part of June last
at one of the swamps of Bugalosa—a spot in the town
of Boqueron, in the province of Chiriqui (New
Saragossa)—while wandering through the swamps
at the vicinity of his cabin, he uncovered a tree which
had been protruded by a recent tempest, and un-
denominating its uprooted trunk, there fell a small
earthen jar. Upon examination this proved to
contain, wrapped in swathing of half-decayed
dried leaves, a number of coronet-shaped pieces
of gold, and of so yellow and shining a metal that he at
once suspected them to be of the true, and he was
more than confident to be, were they to be in the midst of
an ancient Indian "Jewel," or burial-ground, he immediately commenced an
excavation among the little heaps of the half-buried treasure, and, on every side, very shrewdly suspecting that they
also might contain treasures of a like character.
The result was, that in a very short time (three of
four days) he succeeded in excavating no less than
seven or eight pounds' weight of these images.*

Not one successful, however, or more valuable of
the metal, he disdained to his neigh-
boors for Discovery; and only a few days after a thousand people were at work, having dug up "more than nine arrobas" (350 pounds')
worth of images, must be considered the greatest
of the finest gold. This is the substance of the In-
formation, in regard to the discovery of these un-
cut treasures, brought to us by the very person of the two
natives of Bugalosa, who substantiated their state-
ments by bringing also wonderful images of fifty,
seventy-five pounds' weight of golden images for sale.
They also reported that there had been so great an excitation among the natives that to any miles around the house, that towns and flourish-
ing estates were wholly deserted; and that, in consequence of so great a thorough going, no tax into that region, that had already come to be a region of flourishing development, and considerable suffering had been the consequence.

The reports of the natives were confirmed by numerous letters received by us, from the City of David, the capital of the province of Chiriqui, which is distant about thirty miles from Bugalosa, and two leagues from the Pacific Ocean. Among these was one to the Governor of Panama from the Governor of Chiriqui, in which he stated that considerably more than 50,000,000 worth of images had been taken up; that over four thousand grains of gold had been piled; and that as there were immemorial treasures in the vicinity still un-
touched, there was little doubt but that immense wealth would be eventually excavated from it. That portion of the treasure which had been re-
covered at Panama consisted of small images of gold, which had evidently first been cast in moulds, and afterward hammered to the requisite degree of surface. The workmanship was not bad, but possessed no mechanical ingenuity and skill. Quite a large proportion were of virg in gold, while others varied in purity from fifty to ninety per cent, owing undoubtedly to the actors being ignorant of the art of separating the lesser metals from the gold in its native state. The metal that was most of copper. In size these images varied from the quarter-penny weights to one pound, representing wild beasts, birds, fish, reptiles, and semi-human monsters hideous to the last degree; in every way, if all the grains were laid together, the amount of gold, from three to twelve inches in diameter, each placed near the centre by two bowls. The accompanying sketches will give a fair idea of these from the original I in the possession of Messrs. But, the French banker, who purchased them, has, he courteously offered every convenience and fa-
cility for their execution. But little reliable in-
fornnation could be gathered relative to the nature of the images, and their contents were found, except that on the back side of every grain, being toward the East, the workman was supposed to use one or more golden images. It is reserved for some intelligent visitor to the country, who has the means to observe and communicate to the scientific world any data which may tend to throw light upon the prehistoric antiquity of these deposits. They that date back to a very early period there seems but little doubt, not only from the fact that the ancient Indian tribes had no knowledge of such images, but from the state of the "History of New Granada," by Colonel Janes-

* A large number of these images are on exhibition at the U.S. Mint, State, &c., corner Broadway and Murray Street.
GOLDEN IMAGES FOUND IN INDIAN GRAVES IN THE PROVINCE OF CHIRIQUI, NEW GRANADA.

In the Province of Antioquia, New Granada, in the vicinity of the city of Medellín, a collection of gold images, relics of Indian artistry, has been found in graves in the province of Chiriquí, New Granada. These images, which are believed to have been imbued with religious significance, were discovered during the excavation of ancient graves. The area around the city of Medellín has been an important archaeological site, revealing rich cultural heritage from the pre-Columbian era.

The images were intricately crafted, depicting various deities and symbols of nature. They were found in contexts that suggest they were part of funeral rites, likely used to accompany the deceased to the afterlife. The materials used in these artifacts were pure gold, indicating the high value placed on such items in the culture.

The discovery of these artifacts has shed light on the artistic and religious practices of the indigenous peoples before the arrival of the Spanish. The gold images, with their detailed representations of animals, mythological creatures, and human figures, offer a glimpse into the ceremonial and cosmological beliefs of these ancient societies.

The significance of these finds lies not only in their historical and cultural value but also in their potential for understanding the material and spiritual practices of these communities. The study of such artifacts provides insights into the social structures, trade networks, and the exchange of ideas and goods that existed among different populations in the region.

These discoveries underscore the importance of continued archaeological research in the Americas, as it continues to reveal the rich tapestry of pre-Columbian cultures and their contributions to human history.