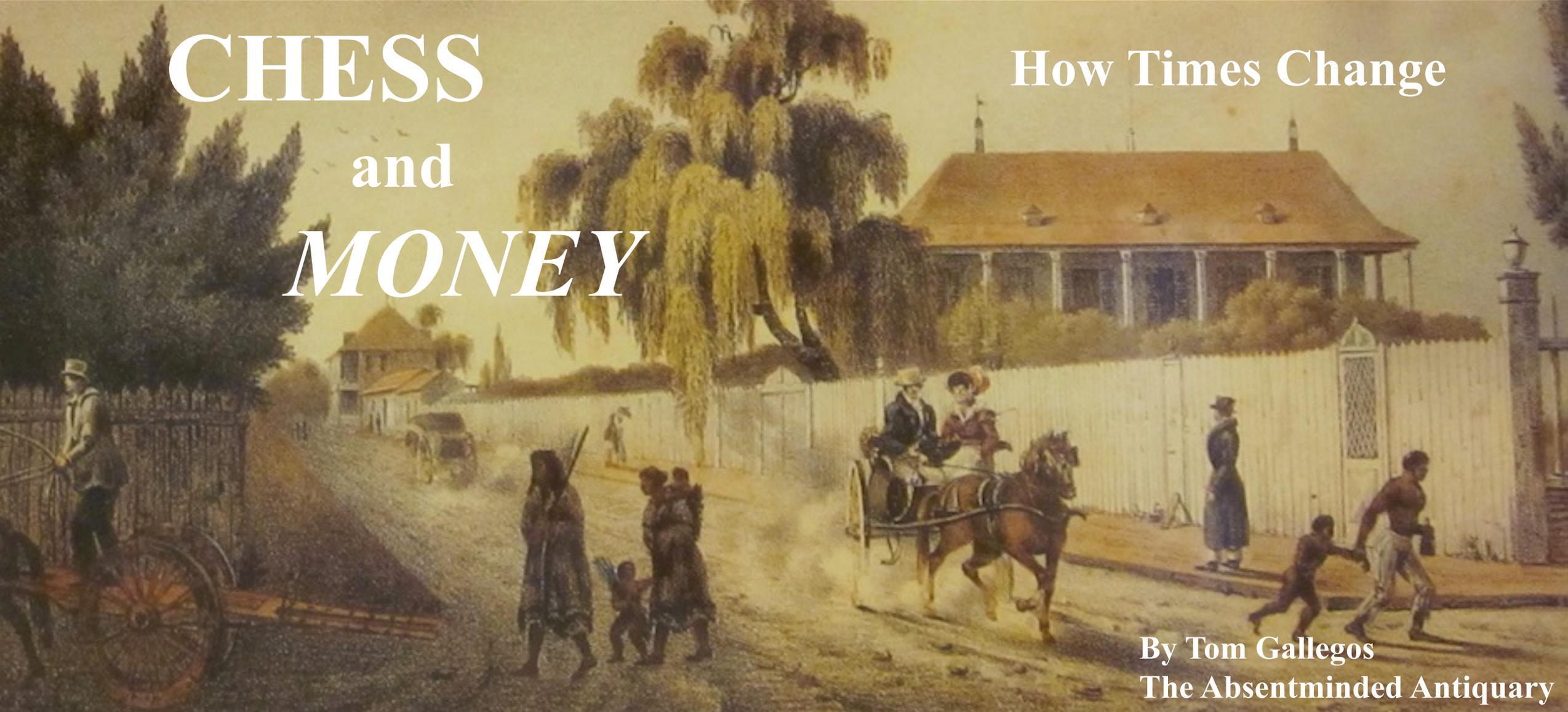


# CHESS and *MONEY*

How Times Change



By Tom Gallegos  
The Absentminded Antiquary

**Early Street Scene in Faubourg Marigny**, just downriver from the French Quarter, by artist Felix Achille Beupoil de Saint Aulaire, 1821. (Wikimedia Commons.) A city on the verge of booming.

**“The almighty dollar, that great object of universal devotion throughout our land, seems to have no genuine devotees in these peculiar villages; and unless some of its missionaries penetrate there, and erect banking houses and other pious shrines, there is no knowing how long the inhabitants may remain in their present state of contented poverty.”**

**Washington Irving, from *The Creole Village*,  
published in *The Knickerbocker* magazine, Nov. 1836.  
(This is the source of the phrase, “*the almighty dollar*”.)**

**“Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.”**

**William Bruce Cameron**

**(*NOT* Albert Einstein)**

# INTRODUCTION

**You Can Never Go Back  
to that Little Grass Shack**

*(Et in Arcadia Ego)*

# PAUL MORPHY

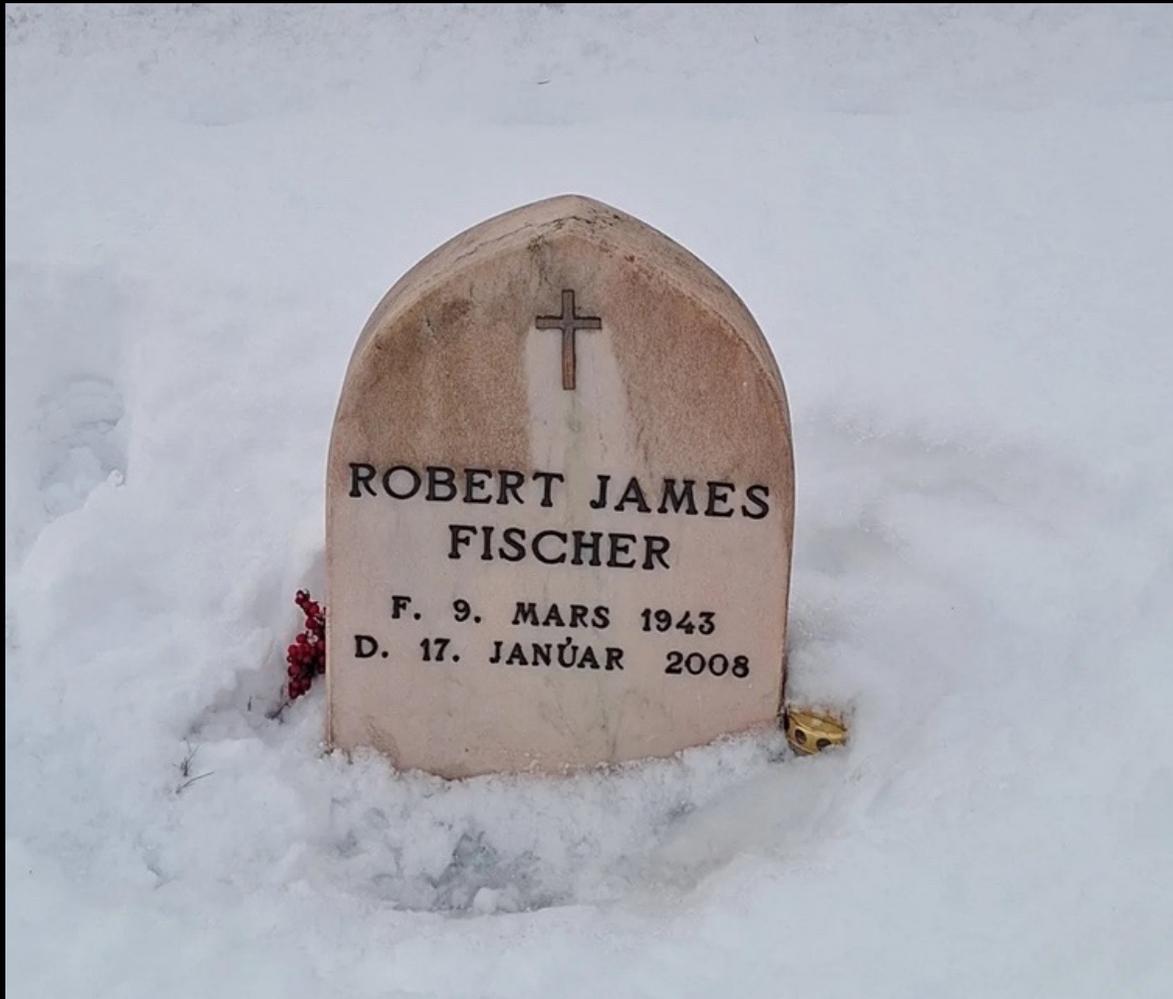


Morphy in 1859 (Wikipedia).

# BOBBY FISCHER



Fischer in 1972 (Wikipedia).



**Cable of June 27, 1974:**

**As I made clear in my telegram to the FIDE delegates, the match conditions I proposed were non-negotiable. Mr. Cramer informs me that the rules of the winner being the first player to win ten games, draws not counting, unlimited number of games and if nine wins to nine match is drawn with champion regaining title and prize fund split equally were rejected by the FIDE delegates. By so doing FIDE has decided against my participation in the 1975 World Chess Championship. Therefore, I resign my FIDE World Chess Championship title.**

**Sincerely, Bobby Fischer**

# JUDE ACERS



**Sir Jude, the Red Knight of the French Quarter, greets a constant stream of friends and well-wishers (and fish like me!) at his world-famous World Chess Table, anchored firmly in the heart of the *Vieux Carré*.**

# JUDE ACERS



**The Author (left) takes on the Red Knight of the French Quarter, June, 2025. And yes, I lost this game, and all the other games.**

# CHESS & GAMBLING

Faust (right) plays Mephistopheles or, a man plays chess with Satan, according to some narratives.

A famous 1799 painting by Friedrich Moritz August Retzsch (1779-1857) originally titled *Die Schachspieler* (the Chess Players), more recently known simply as *Checkmate*. The pieces represent virtues (white) and vices (black).

An early version, collection of Dr. Thomas Thomsen of CCI. (Detail.)



# CHESS & COLLECTING

The Auctioneer whips up a frenzy of bidding over a set of novelty chess costumes, modeled by their consignor, the late, great Floyd Sarisohn.

Boca Raton meeting, 2008.

